



Day by Day

Sent Into The World: Mission & Vision

In January, the church year shifts its focus from that advent of Jesus, first and second, to the revelation of Jesus and the purpose for which the Father sent him into the world. January 6th starts the season of Epiphany and we are reminded by the seeking of the Magi for the one born king of the Jews that Jesus was sent for the purpose of redeeming the world. The revelation was largely first shared with the Jews, but such a narrow focus would not accomplish God's purpose, so the gospel spread from Jerusalem into the world through Jesus' disciples as He instructed. He sent the Apostles to bear witness to the salvation He won for us through his life, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven and the sending of the Holy Spirit.

The Apostles were sent as witnesses of the things Jesus taught and did. We call the following instructions he gives to his disciples *The Great Commission*.

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Through their sending and obedient witness fulfilling this *Great Commission* we believe in and follow Jesus as his disciples in this day and age. The *Great Commission* wasn't just a mission Jesus gave to his first disciples. It was a great commission given to his church for all the age. The "age" has not ended so the commission endures for us as his disciples today. Today, we are sent to make disciples as his church as well.

The commission it encompasses must be God's mission and focused vision in our church. Today, as God's church, we focus on the mission given to us by Jesus with the following:

Our Mission – We joyfully and intentionally make disciples who make disciples through baptism and nurturing.

Our Vision – Engage people through significant relationships that draws each person to the wonder, love, and hope found only in Jesus unto salvation by faith.

Both the mission and vision must be driving forces in our church. What does this mean? We will be spending the months ahead praying for God's will and direction in our church and personal lives as well. We will ask the hard questions:

1. Does this ministry help us to fulfill our mission?
2. If not, can it be shaped to do so in light of our vision?
3. If so, what does that look like and what needs to change?

4. Is it worth the investment of time, energy, resources, and money?
5. If not, how do we celebrate its past work and let it go?
6. What should we be doing/adding to fulfill God's mission and vision for our church in this place and time?

What does this mean for you? God has gifted you for the sake of His mission. Pray that God would help you to fully realize your giftedness and how you can use those gifts to further His mission. Join us in this exciting time of transition by dreaming the dreams only God can give for his church. Growing forward in and through Jesus is God's call on your life first and foremost and as you do so, so will his church.

*Growing Forward In
& Through Jesus Together,
Pastor Glenn*





**ABIDING SAVIOR
Lutheran Church and School**
23262 El Toro Road
Lake Forest, California 92630
Church 949.830.1460

Church Staff

Reverend Glenn Lucas, Pastor
Kyle Salesky, Youth Director
Chris Vick, IT Specialist
Janet Calhoun, Church Secretary
Robin DeLong-Hanrath, Office Manager
Karen Galas, Accountant
Laura Lyons and Jennifer Kranawetter, Admin Assistants to Pastor
Lori Beniche, Director of Communications
Linda Bo, Editor of Day by Day

Church Officers

Hank Hellfeld, President
Steve Wichmann, Vice President
Erika Volz, Secretary
John Egley, Treasurer
Lynnette Siler, Congregation Liaison

School Staff

School.....949.830.1461
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Keigh Lee Horn, School Secretary
Sharon Fischer, School Secretary
Extended Care.....949.837.4289
Deana Gonzales, Extended Care Director

Preschool Staff

Preschool Center949.837.4292
Pam Howard, Preschool Director

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday | 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

School Office Hours

Monday through Friday | 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

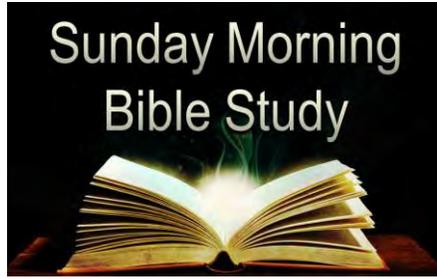
Preschool Office Hours

Monday through Friday | 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Visit us on our website at
www.abidingsavior.com



[abidingsaviorlakeforest](https://www.facebook.com/abidingsaviorlakeforest)



Sunday Morning Bible Study meets each Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. in the Adult Ed Room. Come and spend some time in the Word of God with one of our pastors.



Angus Day Bible Passage

BIBLE PASSAGE — LUKE 2:15-21
— When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

THANK You SO VERY much



Folks, I will forever be in your debt for the magnificent “send off” to retirement. Being surrounded by all you faithful and loving

people made it obvious to me how blessed I’ve been to be privileged to serve you all these years. Events as wonderful as that one take lots of time and effort to put on so “Thank You” to the committee that planned the celebration and to all of you for coming. I will never forget that incredible day. May the Lord Bless you all and always.

Love and Thanks,
Pastor Tom



After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.





Kyle Salesky, the Director of Family and Youth Ministries, will present information on our



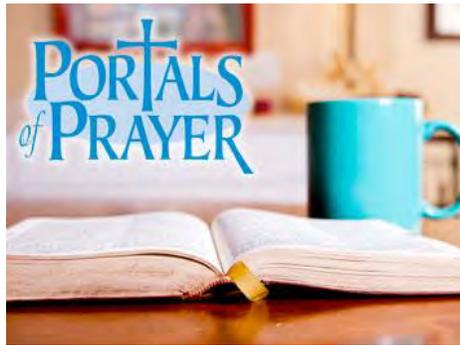
ANGEL TREE GIFTS APPRECIATED!

Thank you to all who purchased Christmas gifts for Bethesda residents of Ferrocarril, Hartog, Mithra and Mosquero homes! All residents were excited to receive their gifts! A special thank-you to Lori Beniche who coordinated the 2018 Angel Tree project! Thank you, Lori, and “elves” who helped in wrapping gifts. God bless you all!

CPR Training is scheduled for Saturday, January 5, 2019 beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Adult Ed Room.

This class is FREE for the first 20 people who sign up, which may be done on the bulletin board outside the Adult Ed Room. If you have questions, please contact Audrey Henry at 714.832.8585.

Vacation Bible School at Abiding Savior, and how it has changed and grown during his four years at Abiding Savior. Last year, our VBS was filled to capacity within two weeks of registration opening. Come learn more about our VBS and why we are so popular with families in our community, and why kids and parents tell us every year that we are their favorite VBS. What an opportunity to reach out to our community and welcome families to our church!”

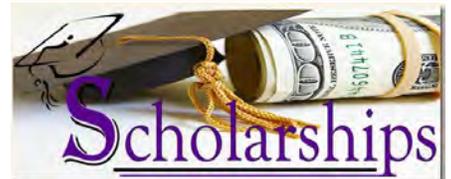


Health Ministry



The presentation at Health Ministry’s “First Thursday” of the New Year will be about being prepared for a disaster. What should you have ready? What do you do first? Susan Trant is an expert in disaster preparedness and would love to share her expertise with us. Come Thursday, January 3rd at 10:00 a.m. in the Adult Ed Room.

Portals of Prayer is great for personal devotions and can be used to open church meetings or Bible studies. Published quarterly, authors change each month. Pick up your copy of Portals of Prayer for January, February, and March months located in the Narthex on the counters next to the mailboxes.



The Ladies Guild Scholarship will again be offered for school year 2019-2020. Thanks to the November Boutique for providing money to supplement the scholarship fund. Students who will be studying to enter church careers at LCMS colleges, universities and seminaries and are members of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church are encouraged to apply.



ASLC Seniors

Join us this new year as the ASLC Seniors meet on Thursday, January 3, in the Adult Education Room. We start with coffee and conversation at 11:30 a.m. and then enjoy a catered lunch. The lunch costs \$9 per person. Please call Vi Flum at 949.859.3512 for reservations. We welcome all ASLC members and friends.

Applications are available in the church office. **The deadline to apply for a scholarship is March 3, 2019.**



CHURCH DOCTOR MINISTRIES

A Penny Saved

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1



On Saturday, December 1, Alan Chandler of Church Doctor Ministries reported to those assembled at that the congregation stands ready to capitalize on the momentum generated by their Diagnostic Consultation. As a result of survey data, our pastor, congregational attendees, staff and volunteer leaders have the degree of spiritual readiness for a spiritual movement in our church. We are to pray about having Church Doctor Ministries return and present a two-hour evening session entitled: “Introducing the *Healthy Churches Thrive!* Spiritual Movement in Your Church.”

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2



On Sunday, December 2, Alan Chandler of Church Doctor Ministries said a lot! He provided detailed statistical information from surveys and interviews which CDM conducted. He also made a multitude of recommendations. A video recording of the entire proceedings is available by contacting the church office; also, a document of his report can be checked out for a personal review. The next step is to develop and implement, in consultation with CDM, comprehensive action plans.



January 2 is known as “Thrift with Flair Day.” Bet you didn’t know that there was a day to celebrate being thrifty! The First Annual National Thrift with Flair Day was created in 2000 to help families who had spent too much money on stuff they didn’t need to make a fresh start on getting control of the family budget.

Actually, that’s not a bad idea. How are you doing in the money department? Maybe you get a weekly allowance. Or maybe you just received some money as a Christmas gift. Whatever your financial situation, this is a good time to consider how you spend your money. Consider the following questions: What was the last item you purchased? Did you really need it? How much money do you save? How much do you give to God as offering?

It’s tempting when you have some money in your pocket to pick up the latest CD of your favorite band, or to buy another pair of jeans before your old ones are worn out. But what happens when you really need something, or the offering plate comes around on Sunday, and you have nothing left?

The fact is God has given us everything that we have or own. How we spend our money reflects how we feel about God. If we put God first, then we will try to honor him with the way we spend and use our money. That means making good decisions

about what to buy and when, how much to save, and how much to give back to God. But if we spend money as if we love it more than God, watch out! We’ll be joining the ranks of those people who inspired Thrift with Flair Day in the first place!

As Jesus put it, we can’t love God and money equally. Who do you love?

Scripture – Luke 16:13: “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.”

To Do – Celebrate Thrift with Flair Day by making a budget (or spending plan) for yourself. Here’s one simple way to do that. Take three envelopes and mark one SAVE, mark another one SPEND, and mark the third GIVE. Then decide how much you plan to put into each envelope on a weekly or monthly basis.



Rock of Aging



Rock of Aging will meet on **Tuesday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m.** We serve a light dinner and then share about seniors that we visit. Come join us and see what we are about. Families are welcome. This small group is dedicated to visiting the elderly shut-ins that are not able to make it to church on a regular basis. We bring our church family to them. Meetings are just once a month, and we ask you visit for about 1/2 hour each month, and perhaps make a phone call or two.

The Holy Land: Visiting Nazareth

Laura Lyons

Nazareth today is a thriving, modern city, hard at times to connect with the descriptions in the Scriptures and my own memories of Sunday School illustrations of the life of Jesus.



Nazareth of Jesus’s day was a small, sleepy village, and one that apparently didn’t have a great reputation in Israel. In John 1, as Jesus is calling his disciples, the Bible tells us:

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” John 1: 45-46

Later in his ministry, Jesus returned to his hometown – and did not exactly get a warm welcome:

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to

the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, “Physician, heal yourself.” What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away.” Luke 4:16-30

We visited the cliffs near Nazareth, now known as the Three Faiths overlook, and our guide pointed out how much the young Jesus could have seen from that place. The cliffs overlook the Jezreel valley. From there, the young Jesus could see Mount Tabor, where Gideon defeated the Midianites, (Judges 3) and the battlefield where David fought the Philistines in 1 Samuel chapter 30

where King Saul lost the battle and his life to Israel’s longtime foe.



Geographically, the Jezreel valley is the only major east-west trending valley to cut through the mountains that dominate Israel. It was strategically vital and saw many, many battles during its long history. Today, it could be called the breadbasket of Israel. Wheat, corn, and a variety of fruits and vegetables are grown in the valley, and cattle graze in the fields.



Mount Tabor dominates the western part of the valley, rising in splendid isolation from the valley floor. Besides its connection with Judges, Mount Tabor is believed by many Christians to be the site of the Transfiguration, where Jesus appeared to Peter, James and John in His full divine glory.



The Holy Land (continued)

While in Nazareth we visited Mary’s well, the only ancient well in the area. Doubtless Mary, the young Jesus in tow, visited there every day to draw water for the family. The Eastern Orthodox church built on that site also commemorates the Annunciation, where an angel told Mary she would bear the Messiah.



Nazareth might not have been an impressive zip code in Jesus’s day, but today it is one of the most famous sites in the world – the home of Jesus of Nazareth.



We have changed the timing of our Sunday School to better accommodate families who want their children to

attend Sunday School but find that the hour before or after church and church make the day too long for their children. We now offer Children’s Church during the 10:15 a.m. service after the Children’s Message. Children will be dismissed to go to an age appropriate gathering and lesson.



Elementary School

*Donna Lucas,
School Principal*



THE SPIRIT OF GIVING



Our 2nd Grade Class donated 25 pairs of pajamas to Families Forward. This was their Christmas gift project. Our students have hearts of service. Some of our classes made Christmas cards for our shut-ins and the military.

Our school year resumes on Monday, January 7th. During the month of January, we will be preparing for registration for the 2019-2020 academic year. Please watch for information to share with friends, neighbors and family members that may be interested in attending an excellent school that establishes a strong Christian foundation. Remember through our scholarship program, we can make this affordable. Registration will begin February 1st.

On January 31, will have the opportunity to showcase our school

and what it has to offer at our School Information Day. Please let anyone you may know that would be interested in learning more about our school to come on that day from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Preschool

*Pam Howard
Preschool Director*



Happy New Year!! Registration for the new 2019-20 school year will begin at the end of this month. On Thursday, January 31, 2019, we are having our annual School Information Evening from 5:00 to 7:00pm. If you know of anyone who is looking for a preschool, please let them know about this information filled evening. We also have a tuition incentive if they come on January 31st and register their child by February 28th. If you have any questions about this or our preschool in general, please contact Yesi Naber at either 949.830.1460 x2113 or ynaber@abidingsavior.com. As a reminder, we have a referral program where anyone you refer and they enroll, you will receive a \$100 scrip gift card.



Our new flower calendar for 2019 is now posted in the Narthex. Sign up for several Sundays during the year to commemorate special occasions and to remember loved ones.

Altar flowers are only \$40 and you can pick up an arrangement after the 10:15 a.m. service.

January 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 New Year's Day	2 9:30a-Sr Bible Study 10:30a-Tai Chi 7p-Adult Bible Study	3 10a-First Thursday Presentation 11:30a-ASLC Seniors 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	4	5 8a-Al Anon Parent Focused 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a-German School 9a-CPR Class 5p-Contemporary Worship Service
	6 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 5p-Youth Group	7 8:30a-Large Print Center	8 8:30a-Large Print Center 6p-Rock of Aging 7p-Praises Ring	9 9:30a-Sr Bible Study 10:30a-Tai Chi 12p-Ladies Guild 3p-Girl Scout Troop 3123 7p-Youth Group 7p-Adult Bible Study	10 3:15p-Kingdom Kids 6p- Elder's Meeting 7:15p-Chapel Choir 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	11
13 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 4p-Cub Scout Pack 321 Bridging Ceremony 5p-Youth Group	14	15 8:30a-Large Print Center 6p-Leadership Board Meeting 7p-Praises Ring	16 9:30a-Sr Bible Study 10:30a-Tai Chi 7p-Youth Group 7p-Adult Bible Study	17 3:15p-Kingdom Kids 7:15p-Chapel Choir 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	18 6p-Girl Scout Troop Sleepover	19 8a-Al Anon Parent Focused 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a-German School 5p-Contemporary Worship Service
20 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 5p-Youth Group	21 Martin Luther King holiday Campus & offices closed 8:30a-Large Print Center	22 8:30a-Large Print Center 7p-Praises Ring	23 9:30a-Sr Bible Study 10:30a-Tai Chi 3p-Girl Scout Troop 3123 7p-Youth Group 7p-Adult Bible Study	24 3:15p-Kingdom Kids 7:15p-Chapel Choir 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice	25	26 8a-Al Anon Parent Focused 9a-Altar Guild Prep 9a-German School
27 Worship Schedule- See chart at bottom of Calendar 5p-Youth Group	28	29 8:30a-Large Print Center 7p-Praises Ring	30 9:30a-Sr Bible Study 10:30a-Tai Chi 7p-Youth Group 7p-Adult Bible Study	31 3:15p-Kingdom Kids 7:15p-Chapel Choir 7:30p-Abiding Praise Practice		

WORSHIP | COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Traditional - Sunday 8:00 AM

Contemporary - Saturday 5:00 PM | Contemporary Blended Praise - Sunday 10:15 AM

Growing Disciples Studies & Activities - 9:15 AM

Communion Offered 1st and 3rd Weeks

Communion Offered 2nd and 4th Weeks



Abiding Savior
Lutheran Church and School
23262 El Toro Road
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Return Service Requested
Time Dated Materials

LHM's 69th Year of Participation in the Rose Parade



Last year's Lutheran Hour Ministries Float "Bringing Christ to the Nations" was well received by the one million people on the parade route as they cheered and pointed one way. Additionally, we received great TV coverage on a variety of networks. The LHM Float Committee would like to thank all of you who have generously supported our efforts through prayer and gifts of love. People like you make it possible to witness God's love and joy to more than 450 million people who view the parade worldwide.

The 2019 Tournament of Roses Parade theme is "The Melody of Life" and the Lutheran Hour Ministries float is entitled: "Joy to the World, the Lord is Come."

This hymn proclaims the greatest of life's melodies, the sweet song of salvation – victory over sin, death, and the evil one – and the eternal reign of Christ. Let trumpets sound, let choirs in heaven and on earth rejoice and "repeat the sounding joy!"

This treasured hymn is a summary of the overarching narrative of salvation. In the birth of Jesus, which is prominently displayed in the center of the float, we meet the Promised One of God who comes to undo sin's curse and, by His resurrection, gives us hope of eternal life. For these reasons we sing with the diverse multi-generational choir, "No more shall sin and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground. He comes to make His of blessings known far as the curse is found."

The 2019 Lutheran Hour Float Riders are going to be led by the new Lutheran Hour Speaker. Joining him will be a LHM International Director and members of Southern California LCMS churches. As we begin the Year of our Lord, 2019, Lutheran Hour Ministries invites you to join us in our melody of praise. We pray that the peace, hope, and joy we find in Jesus Christ would be your peace, hope, and joy as well. "Joy to the World, the Lord is come!"