

# Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, March 17, 2023

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Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.; Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.



Dear congregants of Abiding Word Lutheran Church. Please remember that the nave and sanctuary is a place for those that want to reflect and pray before worship begins. I uphold those that wish to be in the worship area for this time of reflection and solitude before worship. Time for reflection and prayer is an opportunity to come before God and a great practice for all individuals. Please respect those individuals, and please keep conversation in the fellowship area. ~Rev. Cody Mills



## VBS 2023: You are God's Masterpiece June 27-29<sup>th</sup>

It is with great delight that I have been asked and accepted the opportunity to coordinate AWLC 2023 VBS. You may know me as the "Pastor's wife", although I was born with the name, Mia spoken My-a. A bit of background on me. I was raised in a small town (pop. 476) in MN. I went on to receive my BS degree in Elementary Education and 3 years later began my MDiv. During my time in seminary, I did two units of Clinical Pastoral Education in Good Samaritan Society facilities. This year for VBS I have chosen to utilize resources that are available by different companies to mash together to form our own theme. This will accommodate our 3-day evening VBS. Our mission is that children in attendance will know at the end they are God's masterpiece, saved through Christ Jesus, and they are chosen to share the gospel. Our main takeaway will be Ephesians 2:10, *For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.*

Please join me in prayer as I begin to prepare a team for such a time as this. Pray that the Lord send leaders and children and that their time of serving and being served glorify the Lord. For anything we do in our own name is done in vain, but everything we do in the name of the Lord, glorifies Him.

Peace, Mia Mills

## NALC Gathering

Rev. Cody Mills

Greetings!

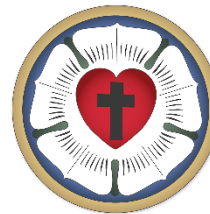
The NALC this year will be electing persons for the following areas:

- Executive Council, 4-year term (Clergy; one position open)
- Executive Council, 4-year term (lay; one position open)
- Court of Adjudication, 4-year term (lay or clergy; two positions)
- Bishop, 4-year term (Clergy; one position open)

If you desire to nominate somebody for these positions or are interested in the duties of each position, please speak with Rev. Cody Mills. The NALC gathering is called "Lutheran Week" and is held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, from August 7-11, 2023. The NALC requests that each congregation send a delegate in the ratio of 1 for every 75 baptized members. If you are interested in attending, please inform Rev. Cody Mills. More details will be released from the NALC next week.

### Location:

Omni Oklahoma City  
100 West Oklahoma City Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73109



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

### When:

August 7, 2023 – August 11, 2023

## LCMC Gathering

Rev. Cody Mills

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ's Annual Gathering is a four-day event featuring keynote speakers, worship and Bible study, breakout sessions, vendors and plenty of opportunities for fellowship and networking. Whether you're new to LCMC, just checking us out for the first time, or a long-time member looking to make new friends and reunite with old ones, the Annual Gathering is the place to be if you're looking to get inspired, get informed, get trained & equipped and get connected with other LCMC-ers!

### Location:

Saint Charles Convention Center  
1 Convention Center Plaza  
St. Charles, MO 63303



### When:

October 1-4, 2023

## Easter Lilies

Pre-order Easter Lilies on a sign-up sheet on a table in the foyer at church. Cost is \$10. Orders and payment needed by **March 22**. You can also call the church office to order.



We will be welcoming New (and returning) Members, **Sunday, March 26!**

\*Betty Dove

\*Betsy Faske

\*Roger and LilaJan Hibbs

\*And returning members, Tom and Kathleen Insley

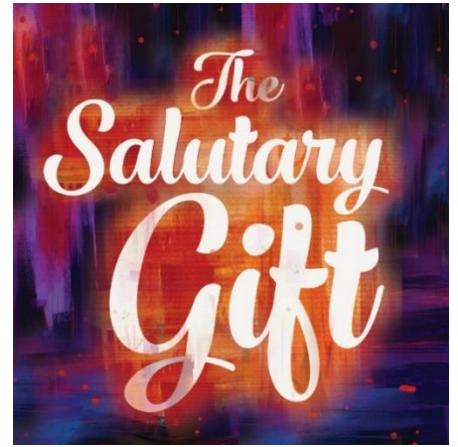


**Wednesday Lenten Meals  
and Services  
March 22, 29  
Lenten Meal 5:15 pm  
Lenten Service 6:00 pm**

We will have meals each Wednesday during Lent starting at 5:15 pm.

March 22 the meal will be spaghetti and garlic bread provided by the Fellowship committee. If you would like to bring a green salad there is still space on the sign-up sheet.

We are requesting readers and our A/V servants from the previous Sunday to also serve during the following Wednesday Mid-Week Lenten service or find a replacement and let the church admin know. Thanks so much for your service during this special season!



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**Maundy Thursday  
Service**

**April 6, 6:00 pm**  
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**Good Friday Service  
April 7, 6:00 pm**  
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**Easter Sunrise Service - 7:00 am**

**Easter Breakfast**

**Easter Sunday Service - 10:00 am**

**More details to come**



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*Congratulations*

*John and Marilyn Watts on your 60<sup>th</sup>  
wedding anniversary, March 17!*

*They have provided the Altar Flowers this  
Sunday, March 19, in honor of their  
anniversary.*





## Outreach Committee At Work

Abiding Word's Outreach, Mission & Education Committee has many responsibilities of which can be noted in the committee's name. It is a daunting responsibility to make appropriate decisions in 2023 (12 meetings) without the Holy Spirit to guide us. We also pray for the support and enthusiasm of the congregation at each meeting.

With the guidance of Pastor Mills we are hoping to choose several areas in our outreach and mission to have a greater impact rather than spreading ourselves thin over many area. With that we have put our youth ministry as a primary focus. This involves both member youth and youth and their families from the community. We have made progress by working on our Sunday School program with our volunteer teachers and have decided on a curriculum. In addition, our Vacation Bible planning is underway with new approaches to involve the students. We will announce this education information in April so that the congregation is aware of the curriculums and volunteers who serve so willingly.

The Committee is responsible for advertising and has spent time evaluating the need, costs and impact that we have made through the Banner Press, radio stations and Chamber of Commerce.

The church constitution gives us the following duties:

- Working with the Finance and Stewardship Committee by teaching the use of money, inform this congregation of ministries that lead to higher levels of giving for the Lord's work.
- Promote the Gospel to all people, encourage and motivate members to actively participate in the life and ministry of the congregation and inspire members to make disciples of all people through personal witness and support of mission work around the world.
- Promote programs to present Jesus to all the community and those not currently involved in a congregation.
- Provide public relations which includes media and public signage both on and off our property.
- communicate ideas and programs with other committees that will provide hospitality and welcome guests
- Organize visitation, prayer, food delivery, home and yard assistance for non-members who have need, be with them as they spend time in hospitals, nursing homes, rehabilitation and homes.
- Organize compassion ministry for college students and soldiers.
- Prepare and oversee a budget to accomplish this ministry.

Please pray for the committee as we do the work of our Lord. Please join us to share your ideas. If you wish to comment or make suggestions, contact Geraldine Johnson.



## Mission Offering Collection This Sunday, March 19 For Adult/Teen Challenge

**Adult/Teen Challenge**, houses men, ages 20-42

- \* All paper products (plates, utensils, napkins, toilet paper, paper towels, etc.)
- \* All cleaning supplies small sizes (disinfectants, laundry & dishwashing)
- \* Body wash, shaving supplies for the men



**Ladies' Day Bible Study  
Tuesday, March 21,  
10:00 am at the church**



**We are getting the carpets cleaned in the sanctuary March 30<sup>th</sup>. We need help to move chairs out of the Sanctuary after the Wednesday Lenten service March 29! Please consider helping with this BIG project!**

**Volunteers needed to help with set-up for the Easter Sunrise Service, April 9. Please let Rev. Mills or the church office know if you can help with this.**



A special thanks to Ronnie Lueckemeyer and the Property & Technology committee for their work to get the air handler replaced on time!

## Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

### Fourth Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Isaiah 42:14-21

Responsive Reading: Psalm 142

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel Reading: John 9:1-41

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*Thank You*

*To all our faithful servants every Sunday.  
The church couldn't function without you.*

## Our Servants This Sunday, March 19

### Fourth Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills  
Musician: Debbie Heidemann  
Lay Minister: Becky Bosse  
Reader: Jan Koska  
Greeters: Karen Johnson & Jean King  
Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Becky Bosse  
Audio/Video: Bill & Lois Rankin  
Ushers: Gary Crocker & Berrie Etzel  
Little Lambs: Susie Houston  
Sunday School: Cathy Johnson  
Altar Guild: Melody Perry, Darlene Etzel, Pat Quebe

## Our Servants Next Sunday, March 26

### Fifth Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills  
Musician: Debbie Heidemann  
Lay Minister: Charlotte Smith  
Reader: Marilyn Watts  
Greeters: Mary Ann Schulte & Gary Hind  
Audio/Video: Bill & Lois Rankin  
Ushers: Roy & Jan Kelm  
Little Lambs: Charlotte Smith  
Sunday School: Cathy Johnson  
Altar Guild: Melody Perry, Darlene Etzel, Pat Quebe

\*Please notify the church office if you have arranged for someone to fill in for you.

## Prayer Time for Servants Before Worship Service

Note for all those involved in the worship service: Rev. Mills would like to meet for prayer in the church office with all those involved in the worship service, 5 minutes before the service starts. Please join if your duties permit.

## Prayer Concerns Within Our Church Family\*

Betsy Faske Douglas & Marilyn Heckmann  
Valgene & Linda Horak Cathy Johnson  
Jan Koska Barbara Lighter  
Ralph Martin & family Marita Mikeska  
Dennis & Doris Penkert John Porter  
Ray and Ethel Sanders Don Schlaudraff  
Stanley Schneider Larry Stark  
Patsy Wegner

## Prayer Concerns Beyond Our Church Family\*

Carol Crosby The family of Steve Broussard  
Cherryl Durrenberger Sonya Graham  
Will Hibbs Dawson Lee Jasinski & family  
Matthew, Aislinn & Thomas Kelling  
Rita Werner Taylor Wick  
National and government leaders  
All those in the military and first responders  
Those affected by the war in Ukraine  
Our Community, Nation, and World

\*AWLC respects the right to privacy. Please verify that we have permission to add a family member or friend to our prayer list.

\*Names of loved ones outside our church are posted during the month of request and the following month unless we are asked to remove or extend them.

\*You may request that names be added to or removed from our list by emailing them to: [admin@abidingword.org](mailto:admin@abidingword.org) or by calling the church office.

## Pastor's Schedule

Monday: Off  
Tuesday: Classical Conversations Tutor all day;  
Church Office – 5 pm - 10 pm  
Wednesday: Church Office/Appointments/Continuing  
Education 9 am-5 pm  
Thursday: Church Office/Appointments 5 - 10 pm  
Friday: Home visitations through the day  
Saturday: Off  
Sunday: Worship - 9 am - 11 am  
Emergency Calls: 218-405-0710  
Extra time is spent with committees, classes, and other events.  
Schedule subject to change.

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## Looking Ahead

\*Journey Together Ladies Bible Study 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Tuesdays, March 21 at 10:00 am at the Church  
\*Men's Breakfast, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays, April 1 at 8:30 am  
at Brenham Grill  
\*Ladies' Evening Bible Study 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays, at  
6:30 pm at the Church, April 12

## March/April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>12</b> Coffee & Connection 9:00 am  Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am  Worship 10:00 am  <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Outreach Committee Meeting 5:30 pm  Dwayne Muske	<b>15</b> Lenten Dinner 5:15 pm Lenten Service 6:00 pm  John & Dottie Schaer  Gerry Hartstack	<b>16</b> NALC Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm	<b>17</b> John & Marilyn Watts  	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Mission Offering Coffee & Connection 9:00 am  Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am  Worship 10:00 am	<b>20</b> Roger Hibbs  First day of 	<b>21</b> Journey Together Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 am  Church Council Meeting 5:45 pm  Betty Dove	<b>22</b> Lenten Dinner 5:15 pm Lenten Service 6:00 pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Coffee & Connection 9:00 am  Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am  Worship 10:00 am	<b>27</b> Pat Meyer	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Lenten Dinner 5:15 pm Lenten Service 6:00 pm  Blaine Bosse	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>April 1</b> Men's Breakfast 8:30 am
<b>2</b> First Fruits Coffee & Connection 9:00 am  Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am  Worship 10:00 am	<b>3</b> Berrie & Darlene Etzel	<b>4</b> Journey Together Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 am  Worship Committee Meeting 5:30 pm  Sandra Aschenbeck	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Maundy Thursday Service 6:00 pm  	<b>7</b> Good Friday Service 6:00 pm  	<b>8</b> Jeremy Reimer
<b>9</b> Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 am  Easter Worship Service 10:00 am   Harrison Sommer	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Outreach Committee Meeting 5:30 pm	<b>12</b> Ladies Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm	<b>13</b> Ronnie Lueckemeyer	<b>14</b> Ralph Martin	<b>15</b> Cameron Roehling   Red = Adult's Birthday Blue = Child's Birthday Green = Wedding Anniversary

*Happy Anniversary*

*John and Marilyn Watts, March 17*

**Happy Birthday**

**Roger Hibbs, March 20  
Betty Dove, March 21**



**Happy St. Patrick's Day**