

# Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, October 13, 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

## Without Flesh by Rev. Jonathon Fisk

*Rev. Cody Mills*

This month's book recommendation is another book written by Rev. Jonathon Fisk. The book title is *Without Flesh*.

The "church" – the gathering of saints around sacrament and scripture – has always been at war against the impeding forces that work to silence God. Surprisingly, the force that always works to silence God is our own sinful being. Original sin is in all of us. Throughout the Bible, we see the struggles of the faithful and unfaithful. Part of that nature seems to want to think "outside the box" and give up some or all traditions for a presentation that lacks flesh. What is that flesh? None other than Jesus Christ!

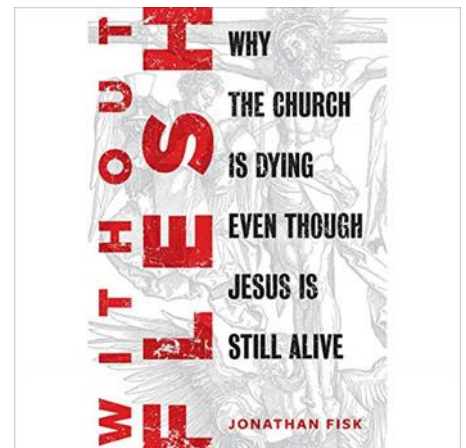
Rev. Jonathon Fisk challenges us to rethink what out-of-the-box means. Many churches buy boxed ideas, and innovation with buzzwords and ideas. All of them lack sustenance. The boxed services, stage sets, lighting, etc. may have a lot of substance and material but lack the most important thing. There is always something new being added to church worship, but it chips away at the part that is necessary for spiritual health and community.

Amazon Excerpt: "Church congregations all across the United States are searching for the magic bullet, the secret to attracting people, growing their membership and their cultural relevance. They are looking for the right program, or the right environment, or the right features to help bring people back into the pews. With all of this searching for the right answer, they're missing what's right in front of them: Word and Sacrament."

He looks deeply into the traditions that built the church in the first place. Prayer, communion, baptism, lament, bondage to sin, and the freedom that only Christ offers.

Entertainment is added to attract people, and eventually, that is the only sustenance people want. They call it "out-of-the-box thinking" even though it is a "boxed set." These types of turn-key worship services left the original word and sacrament for something new. We don't need to look to what is new and innovative but remain in the steadfast Word. He hits a point that we should all think about. Perhaps we need to go to in-the-box thinking and remain in the flesh of Christ. There is no need to go to the out-of-the-box pre-made light show and current bandwagon catchphrases. Instead, we need to remain in the Flesh of Christ.

Please find the book on Amazon. There you can hear an audio sample. You can also check the Church Library.



## ITS BASKET BRIGADE TIME AGAIN!!

Basket Brigade is off to a great start! Stop by our table this Sunday to pick up a basket or two! The Thank Yous that we've received in the past tell it all. From a simple "I appreciate your thoughtfulness" to "thank you for your overwhelming love and thoughts. It came when I was going through some difficult times." We think these represent every recipient - our Senior Citizens who are going through some difficult times. Let's show them how much we care about them!! See you Sunday at the Basket Brigade Table!! Our goal for 2023 is 70 baskets.



This year will be much like the last year and you can choose the way you'd like to help:

- Pick up baskets to fill with items you shop for from our list - **Filled Basket: Due Sun., Oct. 29**
- Contribute money to help us buy gift cards (designate on your check or on the envelope that it is for Basket Brigade) - **Cash or individual items from our grocery list Due Sunday, Oct. 22**
- Help us fill and decorate the baskets
- Help us deliver baskets to the Senior Center; their drivers will deliver the baskets to seniors.



## Time and Talents Due the 22<sup>nd</sup>!

Pick up your 2024 form from the Welcome Table, fill it out, and return it to the folder or to the Admin's desk **by Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>**! Or you can scan your completed form and email it to the admin.

For those of you new to Time and Talents this is an opportunity to indicate where you would like to be involved in service at the church. This information is shared with Committee Chairs. **Please fill out a form even if you have done so in the past!**



**First Communion Class** continues, Saturday, October 14th at 9:00 am at the Church.

NO class on the Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>. Classes will continue on Oct. 28, Nov 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

**2024 Budgets Due - Committee Chairs, please get your 2024 committee budgets to Bob Rankin or Gary Crocker, Treasurer by the end of October. Thank you!**



## Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>

Congregational Meeting with election of Council Members and the 2024 Nominating Committee Members. Potluck Lunch will follow the meeting.

### Nominees for Church Council:

- Ken French (3-year term, 2024-2026)
- Roger Hibbs (3-year term, 2024-2026)
- Marilyn Watts (3-year term, 2024-2026)

### Nominees for the 2024 Nominating Committee:

- Donna Kelling
- Ronnie Lueckemeyer
- Pat Lueckemeyer
- Lloyd Quebe
- Patti Swenson
- John Watts
- Wayne Winkelmann

## Journey Together Ladies' Bible Study



Meets Tuesday, October 17th at 10:00 am at the Church



**Choir Practice  
Wednesday,  
Oct. 18, at 6:00 pm**



*We still have open slots for flowers through the end of the year and into 2024. There is a sign up on the bulletin board or call the church office.*



**Thank you to Bob Smith for providing our lovely piano music this past Sunday.**

**We appreciate all our talented musicians who share their talents with us!**



### Reminder: Make It/Take It Casseroles

are still available. Grab one from the Church freezer. Write your name on the signup sheet on the admin's desk (or call the church office). And take a meal to someone in the congregation or community who could use a friendly visit. Make a difference in someone's life!



- ❖ Sat. Oct. 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am – First Communion
- ❖ Sun. Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 pm – VdC Ultreya Mtg
- ❖ Wed. Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm – Choir Practice
- ❖ Sat. Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, 9-noon Children's Business Fair, event taking place in our community
- ❖ Sun. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> - Congregational Meeting and Potluck Lunch
- ❖ Sun. Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – Choir Singing in Church Service
- ❖ Sat. Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Downtown Christmas Stroll and Lighted Parade, details to come
- ❖ Sun. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Sing-a-Long before Service; Choir Singing in Church Service
- ❖ Fri. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – NALC Ladies' Luncheon, 11:00 am at the Cannery; \$15 tickets available in Nov.



*You are invited*

Experience young minds marketing, selling, counting money, and feeling accomplished!

Sat, October 21. 10:00AM - 12:00PM  
301 S Park St, Downtown Brenham  
Eleanor & Elsie Mills and many children from the community will be participating.

[childrensbusinessfair.org](http://childrensbusinessfair.org)

**Come support our children!**

**One of our neighbors from National Night Out has shared her recipe for Cowboy Caviar. Pick up a copy of the recipe from the Welcome Table.**

## Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

### Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

Responsive Reading: Psalm 23

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-13

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:1-14

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*Thank You*

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

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## Our Servants This Sunday, October 15

### Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Lottie Tegeler

Lay Minister: Becky Bosse

Reader: Gary Crocker

Greeters: Gary Hind & Mary Ann Schulte

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Becky Bosse

Audio/Video: Roy & Jan Kelm

Ushers: Robert Mikeska & Berrie Etzel

Little Lambs: Rev. Cody Mills

Sunday School: Cathy Johnson

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson & Patti Swenson

## Our Servants Following Sunday, Oct. 22

### Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Susie Houston

Reader: Marilyn Watts

Greeters: Marita Mikeska & Sheila Demery

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Susie Houston

Audio/Video: Bill & Lois Rankin

Ushers: Robert Mikeska & Lottie Tegeler

Little Lambs: Rev. Cody Mills

Sunday School: Cathy Johnson

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson & Darlene Etzel

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## Prayer Time for Servants Before Worship

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\*

Barbara Lighter

Wade Mills

The Family of Allen Mueller

Dennis & Doris Penkert

John Porter

Ray & Ethel Sanders

The family of Don Schlaudraff

Stanley Schneider

Mary Swenson

Patsy Wegner

## Prayer Concerns Beyond Our Church Family\*

Gary Grantham

Dawson Lee Jasinski & family

The Family of Pastor Mark Groves

Matthew, Aislinn & Thomas Kelling

Lucreacia

Steve Rogers

Kim Sauer

Donna Stump

Rita Werner

Christ Lutheran Church of Brenham

Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Carmine, TX

For rain and those affected by the drought

Those affected by the wildfires

National and government leaders

All those in the military and first responders

Those affected by the war in Israel

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.

## Updated Pastor's Schedule

Monday: Off

Tuesday: Church Office – 12 pm - 8 pm

Wednesday: Church Office / Appointments / Continuing Education 9 am-5 pm

Thursday: Church Office/Appointments 2-6 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, October 17, 10:00 a.m. at the Church

\*Men's Breakfast, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays, November 4 at 8:30 am at Smitty's Café

\*Ladies' Evening Bible Study, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Church

## October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>8</b> Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am <b>Altar Guild Meeting</b> Tom & Peggy Campbell Gary & Angela Crocker	<b>9</b> Angela Crocker	<b>10</b> Outreach Committee Meeting 5:30 pm	<b>11</b> Ladies Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm  Tom Insley	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> First Communion Class 9:00 am
<b>15</b> Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am <b>VdC Ultreya 3-5:30pm</b> Malancthon Mills Susan Davies	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Journey Together Ladies Bible Study 11:00 am  Church Council Meeting 5:45 pm	<b>18</b> Choir Practice 6:00 pm  Bob Rankin	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Children's Business Fair 10-noon  Bob & Charlotte Smith
<b>22</b> Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am <b>Time &amp; Talent's Due</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Choir Practice 6:00 pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> First Communion Class 9:00 am  Wade Mills
<b>29</b> Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Congregational Meeting & Potluck Lunch <b>Budget's Due!</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>November 1</b> Choir Practice 6:00 pm	<b>2</b> Pat Lueckemeyer  John Schaar	<b>3</b> Becky Bosse  Red = Adult's Birthday Blue = Child's Birthday Green = Wedding Anniversary	<b>4</b> Men's Breakfast Smitty's 8:30 am First Communion Class 9:00 am  Herman Aschenbeck Quinn Bosse

### Reminders

- **Check out Rev. Mills' Facebook clips!** You can also find sermons, adult Bible studies, upcoming events and more!  
<https://www.facebook.com/AbidingWordBrenham/>
- Online Giving is available through the Church Website.  
<https://www.abidingword.org/tithe>
- Watch Sunday services online on our website at [abidingword.org](http://abidingword.org). Link on the Home page or click on "Worship" > then "Livestream" -  
<https://www.abidingword.org/live-stream>

## Happy Birthday

**Malancthon Mills, October 15**  
**Susan Davies, October 15**  
**Bob Rankin, October 18**

If you have any announcements, articles, pictures, prayer requests or updates, or corrections for the newsletter, please send them to the admin. Thanks for your help! But please send it to the office no later than Wednesday noon before. Thank you.