

# Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter

Friday, August 25, 2023

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Website: [www.abidingword.org](http://www.abidingword.org)

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

## Trail Life USA – Update

*Rev. Cody Mills*

Abiding Word Lutheran Church is approved for the charter. Trail Life USA recognizes us as a charter and Troop in Brenham, Texas. I reached out to the American Heritage Girls Troop here in Brenham, and they have approximately 80 girls in their Troop this year. This is excellent news, and I have extended a hand to build a relationship with this Troop. The leader of the AHG troop said they have families asking about a Trail Life USA troop in Brenham. She has sent our information to the families seeking a place for their sons.

I emailed individuals who expressed interest in serving on the board, helping however they can, and desiring more information. I stated in the email that we would meet in the Abiding Word Lutheran Church Library on September 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. I am extending this invite to the congregation and asking people to join us to form the board. Please see the list below of duties that we need to be filled. Please pray and help us establish a board to set the Troop in motion for the time being. My goal is to get the board established in the next two months. We will also need to build some money for the organization, and I thought we could have a pie-in-the-face fundraiser. Perhaps the highest donation gets first dibs. I will work that out shortly.

September 6, 2023, Meeting Goals:

1. Decide what position you would like to serve on the board.
2. Decide what position best fits your skills and talents. I hope that we find the most appropriate place for you.
3. Decide how we should reach the community and surrounding churches.

Positions are as follows with descriptions.

\*Senior Ministry Leader – SML – Reverend Cody Mills

1. \*Chaplain – CHAP – Reverend Cody Mills
2. \*\*Troop Ministry Liaison – TML – Somebody that is the relay between Trail Life USA and the Troop at Abiding Word Lutheran Church, “Gopher.” About 10 hours per month
3. \*\*Treasurer – TREAS – Self-explanatory -about 5 hours per month commitment
4. \*\*Committee Chair – CC – oversees qualified committee members who each carry out their own specific tasks for overall troop success – 10 per month commitment
5. \*Troop Master – TM – Most involved Oversees the “Direct Contact Leaders” (those who work directly with boys each week) and understands all program operations of the Troop. He is the face of the Troop to parents, youth members, and the community. Most dedicated and approx. 15-20 hours per month

\*Male only

\*\*Male or female roles

# CHURCH COUNCIL

## HIGHLIGHTS

- A potluck lunch will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the semi-annual congregational meeting.
- Plans continue for National Night Out event to be held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>; suggestions for activities welcomed.
- Date for “Make It, Take It” project set for August 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Youth Sunday School will start in September with Cathy Johnson as teacher.
- After several months of discussion, a motion passed to offer Communion at each Sunday morning worship.
- Date for October Congregational Meeting set for October 29, 2023. Agenda to include but not limited to election of council positions and approval of constitution updates.
- Committee Chairs are asked to get the 2024 budgets recommendations to Gary by the end of October.

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### MAKE IT / TAKE IT - Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

You are invited to be a part of this hands-on project. Church members will be preparing casseroles in the church kitchen, and they will be stored in the freezer. They will be given to our members and others in the community who have needs.

Lottie Tegeler and Kathleen Insley will co-chair this program. Our church members will be hands-on in the preparation and delivery of the casseroles. We will benefit from fellowship during the preparation of the casseroles. Recipes will be selected by the chairs. Abiding Word will be serving our members and the community.



Our chairs will set up workstations for assembly line preparation of the casseroles. Those present will enjoy lunch together. Because of the preparation needed for this event, please notify Kathleen or Lottie if you plan to attend.

Kathleen Insley 281-468-5289 [kathleen\\_insley@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleen_insley@yahoo.com)  
Lottie Tegeler 979-251-4982 [liltteg2002@yahoo.com](mailto:liltteg2002@yahoo.com)

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### Membership Pictorial Directory

Jan Kelm, our admin Pat, and Pastor Cody have worked together and discovered a way for Abiding Word to have a pictorial membership directory that we can update and maintain ourselves. To fully implement this will take some time, but it is certainly good news as many members have been asking for this. Jan will be sharing more details in future newsletters. We certainly appreciate their efforts and look forward to having this available.

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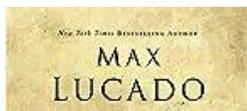


Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at Smitty's at 8:30 am

Starting Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> we will have communion every Sunday. Please contact Rev. Mills if you have any questions or concerns regarding this.



## Journey Together Ladies' Bible Study



LIFE LESSONS FROM REVELATION



We will begin a new study on Revelation, Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am. You can order your book on Amazon or other booksellers - *Life Lessons from Revelation* by Max Lucado.

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### Singers Needed!

The AWLC choir would like to present a Christmas Cantata on Dec 10th. To do this we will need more singers! If you are interested, please come to a Choir Meeting/Practice on **Wednesday, September 6 at 6:00 pm.**

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**Basic First Aid/CPR/AED Free Training Class Saturday, September 16, 10:00 a.m. at the Church**



With 20-25 participants, the class will last 1 to 1 ½ hours. Sign up on the bulletin board or contact the church office. This is NOT a certification course. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Insley.

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**Children's Sunday School starts back up Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>!**

## NALC MAUI FIRE RESPONSE

The devastation in Maui from the fires is extensive. Many people lost everything they had. If you or your congregation want to help our neighbors in Christ, here is what you can do. This information comes from Mary Bates, NALC Disaster Response Coordinator.

All gift cards and donations of funds are to be sent to the national disaster response warehouse in Ohio. Please label everything for the Maui Fire. Mary is working with her contacts in Hawaii to get supplies & funds where it is needed most.

Address for warehouse:  
NALC Disaster Response  
16500 Noble Ave  
Caldwell, OH 43724

Please keep these folks in your prayers. If you have any questions, please contact me.

God Bless You!

Michael Dittrich, cell: 281-381-5588

Serve each other through love--Galatians 5:13b

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*The flowers for Sunday are given by Sandra and Ralph Becker in honor of their 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.*

*We have 2 openings in September. Please sign up on the bulletin board or contact the church office if interested.*

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### Needed: Updated Email Addresses

Every week our emailed newsletter does not reach some of you. Help us update our records. If you have email and are not receiving the emailed newsletters and would like to, please email [admin@abidingword.org](mailto:admin@abidingword.org)  
Thank You!

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**To watch Sunday services online, go our website at [abidingword.org](http://abidingword.org).**

**Click on "Worship" > then "Livestream"**

**<https://www.abidingword.org/live-stream>**

**National Night Out  
Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>,  
6:00 pm**



Excitement is brewing for Abiding Word’s National Night Out on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm. We will reach out to the neighborhoods behind the church and across the road. You are needed to welcome guests that come and run the booths and activities that we will have. Mark your calendar and plan to participate. You are a church neighbor!

Please share your ideas with Berrie Etzel and Wayne Winkelmann, and let them know if you would like to participate.



**2024 Budgets Due, The End of October**

**Committee Chairs, please get your 2024 committee budgets to Gary Crocker, Treasurer by the end of October, the 29<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!**



- ❖ Wed. Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am – Make It/Take It
- ❖ Sat. Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8:30 am - Men’s Breakfast
- ❖ Tues. Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am-Ladies Bible Study
- ❖ Wed. Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm – Christmas Cantata Choir Practice
- ❖ Wed. Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 pm – Trail Life USA Meeting, open to those interested
- ❖ Sun. Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – Children’s Sunday School Restart
- ❖ Wed. Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>–Ladies’ Evening Bible Study
- ❖ September 14-17 – Via de Cristo Weekend
- ❖ Sat. Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am - Basic First Aid/CPR/AED Free Training Class
- ❖ Tues. Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6:00 p.m. - National Night Out Community Event
- ❖ Sun. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> - Congregational Meeting and Potluck Lunch
- ❖ Sun. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>-2024 Committee Budgets Due



**Texas Gulf Coast  
Via de Cristo Weekend  
Camp Lone Star - Pines Campus  
Tomball, TX  
September 14-17**

If interested, contact Sheila Demery, Mia Mills, or Geraldine Johnson

**What is VIA de CRISTO?**

VIA de CRISTO is a Spanish phrase meaning "Way of Christ." VIA de CRISTO is a highly structured three-day weekend designed to strengthen and renew the faith of Christian people and bring them to a new awareness of living in God's grace. It is a combined effort of lay people and clergy toward renewal of the church.

**Purpose of VIA de CRISTO**

VIA de CRISTO is based on the fundamentals of Christianity, concentrating on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. The focus is not on VIA de CRISTO itself, but on the environment of the community of believers. The objective of the movement is to inspire, challenge and equip people for Christian action in their homes, churches and communities.

**What happens on a VIA de CRISTO weekend?**

A VIA de CRISTO weekend is three days in length, beginning on Thursday evening and ending the following Sunday afternoon. The participants live, study, worship, and commune together daily.

The focus of the weekend is a series of talks, given by both clergy and lay people, that present a method of self-discovery and self-reflection based on the person and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Some of the areas of study include Christian ideal, grace, laity, piety, study, apostolic action, leaders, and your environment.

VIA de CRISTO gives those attending a living understanding of basic Christian truths. There is music and singing, food and fellowship, a time for laughter and for prayer.

**Who should attend a VIA de CRISTO weekend?**

VIA de CRISTO is intended for lay people from every walk of life, for pastors, for people who live strong and active lives in Christ, and also for those who seek to be renewed and strengthened in their relationship with Christ and the people around them. VIA de CRISTO is open to married couples, and single men and women. For more information check out the website:

<https://www.tgcvdc.org/>

## Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

### Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

Responsive Reading: Psalm 138

Second Reading: Romans 11:33-12:8

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20

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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, August 27

### Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Jan Koska

Reader: Jon Hill

Greeters: Jean King & Ken French

Audio/Video: Bill & Lois Rankin

Ushers: Sheila Demery & Lottie Tegeler

Little Lambs: Rev. Cody Mills

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson, Melody Perry

## Our Servants Next Sunday, September 3

### Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Becky Bosse

Reader: Lottie Tegeler

Greeters: Darlene Etzel & Marilyn Watts

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Becky Bosse

Audio/Video: Roy & Jan Kelm

Ushers: Michael Kelling & Berrie Etzel

Little Lambs: Michael Kelling

Sunday School: Cathy Johnson

Altar Guild: Melody Perry, Pat Quebe & Darlene Etzel

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## 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\*

Tom Campbell

Jean King

Barbara Lighter

Wade Mills

Laurie Muske

Dennis & Doris Penkert

John Porter

Ray & Ethel Sanders

Don Schlaudraff

Stanley Schneider

Susie Seidel & family

The family of Glyn Spies

The family of Alma Turner

Patsy Wegner

## Prayer Concerns Beyond Our Church Family\*

The family of Marvin Bowers Krista Bowers

Family & friends of Carol Crosby

Family of Cole Dismikes Linda Grawunder

Dawson Lee Jasinski & family

Matthew, Aislinn & Thomas Kelling

Lucreacia Kim Sauer

Don Walsh Rita Werner

For rain and those affected by the drought

Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Carmine, TX

Those affected by the wildfires in Maui

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: Church Office – 12 pm - 8 pm

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

Thursday: Church Office/Appointments 9 am - 5 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

\*Men's Breakfast, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays, September 2 at 8:30 am at Smitty's Cafe

\*Journey Together Ladies' Bible Study, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays, September 5, 10:00 a.m.

\*Ladies' Evening Bible Study, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays, September 13 at 6:30 pm at the Church

## August/September 2023

| Sun                                                                                                                                                  | Mon       | Tue                                                                                                    | Wed                                                                                                                     | Thu                                                                           | Fri                                          | Sat                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>20</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br><b>NO Adult Bible Study</b><br>Worship 10:00 am<br>Bill & Lois Rankin                                 | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b><br>Douglas & Marilyn<br>Heckmann                                                             | <b>23</b><br>Rev. Mills back<br>in office                                                                               | <b>24</b><br>Tom Campbell<br>Wayne<br>Lessmann<br>Ronnie & Pat<br>Lueckemeyer | <b>25</b><br>Don & Arline<br>Schlaudraff     | <b>26</b><br>Via de Cristo<br>Team Building                                                               |
| <b>27</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult Bible Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am<br>Reagan Wegner                                        | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                                                                              | <b>30</b><br>Make It / Take It<br>10:00 am at<br>Church<br>Ralph & Sandra<br>Becker                                     | <b>31</b>                                                                     | <b>September 1</b><br>Wade & Susie<br>Seidel | <b>2</b><br>Men's Breakfast<br>at Smitty's<br>8:30 am                                                     |
| <b>3</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult Bible Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am                                                          | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible Study<br>11:00 am<br>Worship Committee<br>Meeting 5:30 pm | <b>6</b><br>Choir<br>Meeting/Practice<br>6:00 pm<br>Trail Life USA<br>Meeting 6:00 pm<br>in the library<br>Jagger Shedd | <b>7</b>                                                                      | <b>8</b><br>Kathy Shedd                      | <b>9</b><br>Lori Wegner                                                                                   |
| <b>10</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am<br>Doris Penkert<br>Ray & Ethel Sanders | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b><br>Outreach<br>Committee Meeting<br>5:30 pm                                                  | <b>13</b><br>Ladies Evening<br>Bible Study<br>6:30 pm<br>Marjorie Stark<br>Berrie Etzel                                 | <b>14</b><br>Via de Cristo<br>Weekend<br>Darlene Etzel                        | <b>15</b><br>John Porter                     | <b>16</b><br>First Aid Training<br>10:00 am<br>Barbara Lighter<br>Mia Mills<br>Michael & Donna<br>Kelling |
| <b>17</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am                                         | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible Study<br>11:00 am<br>Church Council<br>Meeting 5:45 pm   | <b>20</b>                                                                                                               | <b>21</b><br>Lottie Tegeler<br>Valgene & Linda<br>Horak                       | <b>22</b><br>Don Schlaudraff                 | <b>23</b><br>Church reserved<br>for private event<br>Mike & Karen<br>Johnson<br>Dennis & Doris<br>Penkert |
| <b>24</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am                                         | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b>                                                                                              | <b>27</b>                                                                                                               | <b>28</b><br>Patti Swenson                                                    | <b>29</b>                                    | <b>30</b><br>Red = Adult's Birthday<br>Blue = Child's Birthday<br>Green = Wedding<br>Anniversary          |

### Reminders

- Children's Sunday School will begin September 10 at 9:00 am.
- **Check out Rev. Mills' weekly Facebook clip!** 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>

**Happy Birthday**

**Reagan Wegner, August 27**

*Happy Anniversary*

*Don & Arline Schlaudraff, August 25*

*Ralph & Sandra Becker, August 30*