

Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, October 27, 2023

Rev. Cody Mills Email: pastor@abidingword.org

Rev. Mills Cell Phone: 218.405.0710

Office Email: admin@abidingword.org

Office Phone: 979.836.5921

Website: 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

Troop TX-0777 Trail Life USA Update

Rev. Cody Mills

We have a complete board! Troop TX-0777 has a signed charter and can accept individuals into the troop. We can always use donations to help the troop get started. We are excited to see the board completed in October as planned. With the October goal completed, we thank God for answering prayer. We now hope to begin meeting as a troop in early spring.

I give thanks to Abiding Word Lutheran Church and those in the community for praying and continuing support for this ministry. I also want to explain why I am excited about this new adventure.

Many mischievous individuals target young males who do not have a strong male role model to influence their lives. These individuals are vulnerable to people around them who are willing to give them attention. Unfortunately, the individuals offering attention use vulnerable male children as scapegoats. Often this type of behavior is a vicious cycle without escape. Their identity is lost, and they have nowhere to turn.

With Trail Life USA, they get to have a support system and gain new friends. We hope to provide a positive influence and teach them to work with one another.

I look forward to helping these young males to learn their identity is not lost. Trail Life USA introduces purpose by teaching them about God. I ask Abiding Word Lutheran Church to continue to pray for these children and families. Please pray that those who may not have the ability to bring their child to Trail Life USA for some reason, that the troop can work with the family to make it happen.

I hope you can share with the community this unique opportunity to train disciples and give them the confidence they need in the world to navigate issues. Let us help create them into the person God created them to be so they continue to mentor others faithfully in God's name.

Thank you and God Bless!



We are sad to announce that Robert “Gene” Eugene Stanford, 93, joined his heavenly father on October 22, 2023. A visitation for Gene will be held on Thursday, October 26, 2023 from 5pm to 7pm at Brenham Memorial Chapel located at 2300 Stringer Street, Brenham, Texas. A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, October 27, 2023 at 11am at Brenham Memorial Chapel followed by a luncheon for those attending.



You can read Gene’s obituary on Brenham Memorial Chapel’s website

<https://www.brenhammemorialchapel.com/obituaries/robert-gene-stanford>.

Online condolences may be shared with the family at www.brenhammemorialchapel.com.

Please keep the family in your prayers.

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**Reminder, the Congregational Meeting is Scheduled for This Coming Sunday, October 29, 2023 at the church following the service**

This is the agenda for the October 29, 2023 Congregational Meeting that will take place immediately following the Worship Service. It is typically a short meeting, but very important to the ongoing health of our congregation. Please remember to come and be a part of the meeting. Agenda items include:

1. Call to Order, establish quorum
2. Opening Prayer, Bill Rankin
3. Approve Minutes of January 29, 2023, AWLC Congregational Meeting\*. No motion needed.
4. Vote on nominee, Tom Insley, for Church Council to fill a vacancy for a remaining 1-year term.
5. Vote on nominees for the 2024 Church Council each for 3–year terms: Ken French; Roger Hibbs; Marilyn Watts
6. Vote on nominees for the 2024 Nominating Committee: Donna Kelling; Pat Lueckemeyer; Ronnie Lueckemeyer; Lloyd Quebe; Patti Swenson; John Watts; Wayne Winkelmann
7. Update on our Church Finances - Mike Swenson
8. Adjournment and Lord’s Prayer

*\*January 2023 Congregational Meeting Minutes will be sent along with this newsletter.*

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This Sunday:
Wear your Red for Reformation Sunday
No Children’s Sunday School or Adult Bible Study since it is the 5th Sunday.



Potluck Lunch following the Congregational Meeting, October 29. Bring a main dish, veggies, or dessert. Or just come for the food and fellowship.



BASKET BRIGADE BASKETS DUE AND A HUGE THANK YOU!

Reminder: Filled Baskets due THIS SUNDAY!

We think we've used the word "awesome" every year to describe our congregation! So, we were looking for a different word to use instead, but we couldn't really find one that was as good as saying "You are an awesome congregation!" We challenge you and you respond! Our goals have been met! Once we receive all of the baskets that have been checked out, we'll have enough baskets and/or funding to fill remaining baskets and purchase the gift cards for each basket!

So now we can start planning for whatever shopping we still need to do and then have a "get-together" for the final preparations and decorating of the baskets.

Wednesday, November 1 at 10:00 am: Final grocery shopping trip. If you'd like to help out with this, join Susan and Marita at HEB.

Thursday, November 2 at 9:00 am: Final preparation and decorating of baskets at AWLC followed by delivery to the Senior Center.

Thursday, November 2 at 11:00 am: Meet at Mariachi's in the back room to celebrate another year of meeting our goal! Call Marita at 979-451-9244 to let her know you plan to attend!

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**First Communion Class** this Saturday, Oct. 28. And will continue Nov 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.



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Choir Practice continues Every Wednesday (except Nov. 22), at 6:00 pm

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**2024 Budgets Due - Committee Chairs, please get your 2024 committee budgets to Bob Rankin, Gary Crocker, Treasurer, or the admin!**

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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.

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### Time and Talents

If you forgot, you can still drop off your filled out form on the admin's desk.

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Christmas Parade Float Planning Breakfast and Decorating November 10th

9 am meet at El Rorro Taqueria for breakfast (old Dairy Queen on S Market)

10 am meet at church for making float decorations for the Lighted Christmas Parade.

All are welcome to help in some way.

Also, we need donations of the small wrapped candy canes that we can throw out at the Parade on Dec 2nd. Please donate no later than Sunday, Nov. 26. Thanks for helping with this fun event!



Toys for Tots Toys Due Sun. Dec. 10th

Toys For Tots—We will have a donation box at the church for toys. New toys are accepted. Nothing used.

Susie Houston is also collecting money (cash or check) to buy toys as well. If you want to write a check -make it out to and give it to Susie Houston who will cash it and buy the toys for the ages that still need gifts. That way the \$ and toys will stay in Washington County.

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Mike Swenson, a 1975 graduate of The University of Texas, has been inducted into the UT Mechanical Engineering Academy of Distinguished Alumni (MEADA) in the Mechanical Engineering Hall of Fame category. The ceremony is on October 27.



*\*If you have an article that you think might be of interest to others to include in the newsletter, send it to the admin.*

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Reminder: Make It/Take It Casseroles

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!



Did you know we have a Church Library?

There is a checkout list on a clipboard located on the library shelf for those wishing to check out a book.

Up to three books may be checked out at one time for 30 days at a time. If additional time is needed, please contact the church office.

When returning a book, please put the book/s back on the shelf and write the return date on the appropriate line on the checkout sheet.

Some have asked to donate books to the library. This is primarily a Bible reference library, along with devotional works, as well as other Christian literature.

If you have a book you would like to donate, please drop it off at the church office or contact Rev. Mills for consideration.

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- ❖ Sun. Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> - Congregational Meeting and Potluck Lunch
- ❖ Fri. Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am Christmas Parade Breakfast & 10 am Decorating
- ❖ Sun. Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – Choir Singing in Church Service
- ❖ Sat. Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> – We will have a float in the Downtown Christmas Stroll and Lighted Parade
- ❖ Sun. Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Christmas Sing-a-Long before Service; Choir Singing in Church Service
- ❖ Sun. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> – Bethlehem in Independence – we need volunteers.
- ❖ Sun. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> – Toys for Tots Due
- ❖ Fri. Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> – NALC Ladies' Luncheon, 11:00 am at the Cannery; \$15 tickets available in Nov.

## Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

### Reformation Sunday

First Reading: Revelation 14:6-7

Responsive Reading: Psalm 46

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

Gospel Reading: John 8:31-36

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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 29

### Reformation Sunday

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Gary Crocker

Reader: Charlotte Smith

Greeters: Darlene & Berrie Etzel

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Gary Crocker

Audio/Video: Bill & Lois Rankin

Ushers: Sheila Demery & Michael Kelling

Little Lambs: Charlotte Smith

NO Sunday School

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson & Patti Swenson

## Our Servants Following Sunday, Nov. 5

### All Saints Sunday

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Susie Seidel

Reader: Jan Kelm

Greeters: Tom & Peggy Campbell

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Susie Seidel

Audio/Video: Benita Schramme & Wade Seidel

Ushers: Roy & Jan Kelm

Little Lambs: Rev. Cody Mills

Sunday School: Cathy Johnson

Altar Guild: Melody Perry, Pat Quebe, 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*

Roy Kelm

Barbara Lighter

Wade Mills

The Family of Allen Mueller

Dennis & Doris Penkert

John Porter

Ray & Ethel Sanders

The family of Don Schlaudraff

Stanley Schneider

The family of Gene Stanford

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 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

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

\*Journey Together Ladies' Bible Study, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays, November 7, 10:00 a.m. at the Church

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

## October/November 2023

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                            | Mon                                 | Tue                                                                                                                                         | Wed                                                                                               | Thu                                                                                                                                           | Fri                                                                   | Sat                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>22</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am<br><b>Time &amp; Talent's Due</b>                                                 | <b>23</b><br>Linda<br>Wellmann      | <b>24</b><br>Constitution<br>Committee Meeting<br>3:00 pm                                                                                   | <b>25</b><br>Choir Practice<br>6:00 pm                                                            | <b>26</b>                                                                                                                                     | <b>27</b>                                                             | <b>28</b><br>First Communion<br>Class 9:00 am<br><br>Wade Mills                                                                    |
| <b>29</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am<br><b>Congregational<br/>                     Meeting &amp; Potluck<br/>                     Lunch</b><br><b>Budget's Due!</b> | <b>30</b><br>Susan<br>Winkelmann    | <b>31</b>                                                                                                                                   | <b>November 1</b><br>Basket Brigade<br>Shopping Trip<br>10:00 am<br><br>Choir Practice<br>6:00 pm | <b>2</b><br>Basket Brigade<br>Prep & Decorate<br>Baskets 9:00 am<br>Lunch 11:00 am<br><br>Pat<br>Lueckemeyer<br><br>John Schaer               | <b>3</b><br>Becky Bosse                                               | <b>4</b><br>Men's Breakfast<br>Smitty's 8:30 am<br><br>First Communion<br>Class 9:00 am<br><br>Herman<br>Aschenbeck<br>Quinn Bosse |
| <b>5</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am<br><br>Cristina Gomez<br>Daylight Saving Time<br>Ends                              | <b>6</b>                            | <b>7</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible Study<br>11:00 am<br><br>Worship Committee<br>Meeting 5:30 pm<br><br>Bill & Barbara<br>Lighter | <b>8</b><br>Choir Practice<br>6:00 pm<br><br>Ladies Evening<br>Bible Study<br>6:30 pm             | <b>9</b><br>Susie Seidel                                                                                                                      | <b>10</b><br>Parade<br>Breakfast 9:00<br>am<br>Decorating<br>10:00 am | <b>11</b><br>Hollie Mills<br><br>               |
| <b>12</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am<br><br>Sandy Starnes                                                              | <b>13</b>                           | <b>14</b><br>Private Event 10:30<br>am<br>Outreach Committee<br>Meeting 5:30 pm<br><br>Arno Jahnke<br>Preston & Melody Perry                | <b>15</b><br>Choir Practice<br>6:00 pm                                                            | <b>16</b>                                                                                                                                     | <b>17</b><br>Michael Kelling                                          | <b>18</b><br>First Communion<br>Class 9:00 am                                                                                      |
| <b>19</b><br>Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Choir & Worship 10:00 am<br><br>Laurie Muske                                                       | <b>20</b><br>Dorothy<br>Schwettmann | <b>21</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible Study<br>11:00 am<br><br>Church Council<br>Meeting 5:45 pm<br><br>Pat Weeks                   | <b>22</b><br>Gary Hind<br><br>Mike & Patti<br>Swenson                                             | <b>23</b><br>Mary Ann<br>Schulte<br><br><br>Office Closed | <b>24</b><br>Office Closed                                            | <b>25</b><br><br><br>Red = Adult's Birthday<br>Blue = Child's Birthday<br>Green = Wedding<br>Anniversary                           |

### 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](https://www.abidingword.org). Link on the Home page or click on "Worship" > then "Livestream" -  
<https://www.abidingword.org/live-stream>

## Happy Birthday

**Wade Mills, October 28**  
**Susan Winkelmann, October 30**  
**Pat Lueckemeyer, November 2**  
**John Schaer, November 2**