

Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, March 3, 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

Book of the Month

Rev. Cody Mills

We are officially out of February and into March. This means it is time to once again reveal a book of the month to the congregation.

Excerpt:

Work can be a daily grind—a hard, monotonous set of thankless tasks. In the midst of the ongoing toil, many are plagued by a lack of purpose, confused as to what to do and who to become. And while some of our vocations may seem more overtly meaningful than others', the truth is that most of us work because we have to. It is a means to an end—survival.

Given the enormous amount of time each of us spends working, we would do well to understand our callings and how God works through them.

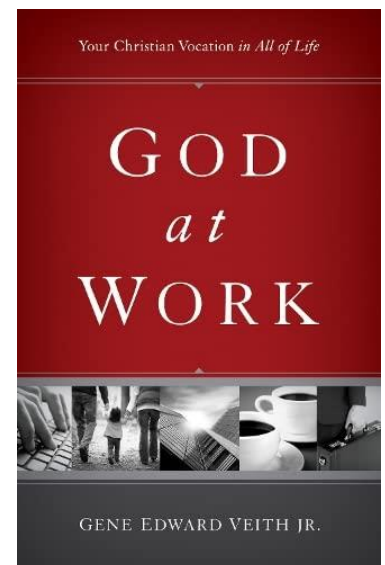
Here culture expert Gene Veith gives us more than a simple understanding of work—more than a catchy slogan to “do all things for the glory of God.” He outlines a spiritual framework for answering questions such as:

What does it mean to be a Christian businessperson or a Christian artist or a Christian lawyer, scientist, construction worker or whatever?

How can I know what I am supposed to do with my life?

What does it mean to raise a Christian family? And what if I don't have kids?

Unpacking the Bible's teaching on work, Veith helps us to see the meaning in our vocations, the force behind our ethics, and the transformative presence of God in our everyday, ordinary lives.



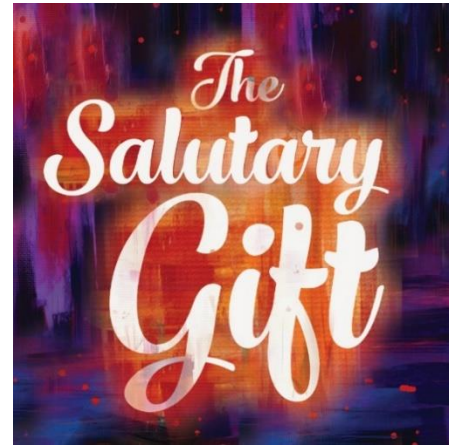
Update on Pastor's Grandpa

February 28, 2023, Rollie Hansen died in Elk Horn, IA. I will be leaving Sunday evening, March 5, 2023, to Iowa for the funeral. I will be back in Houston on March 7, 2023. I ask for prayers as the weather has not been overly lovely for flying as of late. Thank you for the prayers and support.

PRAYER
REQUEST



**Wednesday Lenten Meals
and Services
March 8, 15, 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. There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway if you would like to help with this by making soup, sandwiches or desserts. March 8 the Fellowship Committee is providing hot dogs. The dessert sign-up is: Sue Anderson

A/V servants – If you work A/V on a Sunday during Lent, please plan to work A/V for 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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## **A Message on Blinn Blessings**



In our newsletter two weeks ago, Pastor Cody shared information about the discontinuation of our weekly Blinn Blessings meetings at this time.

Prior to Covid, as many of you know, we were feeding and working with between 15 and 25 students each week. Since we returned to this ministry last fall, we never regained the attendance we had previously had.

Even to this day, we are in contact with a couple of students who are either now graduated from college or members of our military. This ministry HAS had a positive effect on students' lives.

This was a hard decision to make and we are grateful for the opportunity we have had to work with members of our congregation and this ministry to Blinn students. In the article, Donna and I were mentioned by name, but we want the congregation to know that, although we took a leading role in this work, we were **MOST CERTAINLY NOT** the only ones.

Blinn Blessings was the idea of Geraldine Johnson when we built our sanctuary so close to Blinn. She recruited us to work on this project. Many of you came each week to meet with the students, provide food, wash the dishes, etc. This was certainly not a mission that was a two-person program. We won't attempt to list names here for fear we would overlook someone. We know that the entire congregation supported this outreach through your prayers, the money that was allocated for this program and the physical hours you gave each week.

We praise God for the opportunities we had and the blessings both we and the students received. As we pray now for wisdom and guidance for other ways we might reach out to our Blinn neighbors, we ask you to pray as well. God knows the needs that we might be equipped to meet and we are confident that these needs and avenues for meeting them will be shown to us in His time.

Thank you again to everyone who has served in any capacity in this ministry and we pray for continued outreach from our Abiding Word congregation to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in our world.

# First FRUIT OFFERING

**This coming Sunday, March 5th**  
Please bring the following items for **Faith Mission this Sunday!**

**Faith Mission**— Items should **NOT** be Family Size.

- \* Canned foods (soups/veggies/ fruit)
- \* Staples (flour/sugar/coffee/rice)
- \* Cleaning supplies (small sizes)
- \* Condiments (jelly/mustard/ mayo/ catsup)
- \* Breakfast foods (cereals)
- \* Men's & Women's hygiene products
- \* Bakery (bread/crackers/buns)
- \* Paper goods
- \* Baby items
- \* \$5 gift cards



Saturday, March 4, Men's Breakfast,  
8:30 am at Brenham Grill



Altar Flowers are provided this Sunday, March 5, by Gayle Hill in memory of her father, Edward Valentine.



- ❖ March 7, 10:00 am Ladies Bible Study
- ❖ March 8, after Lenten service, Ladies Evening Bible Study



Thomas Michael Kelling, arrived safely March 1<sup>st</sup> at 5 lb 3 oz. Please continue to pray for him and his family with the health issues he faces.



A special note of thanks to those who keep the church property looking so nice!

On Sunday, March 12 there will be a special presentation on the Gideons during the service. Please make plans to attend to learn more about this ministry.



Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

~Psalm 133:1

## Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

### Second Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

Responsive Reading: Psalm 121

Second Reading: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17

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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 5

Second Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Susie Seidel

Reader: Jon Hill

Greeters: Tom & Peggy Campbell

Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Susie Seidel

Audio/Video: Benita Schramme & Wade Seidel

Ushers: Sheila Demery & Berrie Etzel

Little Lambs: Rev. Cody Mills

Sunday School: In Need/TBD

Altar Guild: Melody Perry, Darlene Etzel, Patti Swenson

Our Servants Next Sunday, March 12

Third Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills

Musician: Debbie Heidemann

Lay Minister: Susie Houston

Reader: Sandra Aschenbeck

Greeters: Sheila Demery & Ken French

Audio/Video: Charlotte Smith & Gary Crocker

Ushers: Michael Kelling & Berrie Etzel

Little Lambs: Charlotte Smith

Sunday School: In Need/TBD

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 Rev. Mills and his family
Dennis & Doris Penkert John Porter
Ray and Ethel Sanders Don Schlaudraff
Stanley Schneider Lottie Tegeler
Patsy Wegner

Prayer Concerns Beyond Our Church Family*

Carol Crosby The family of Steve Broussard
Cherryl Durrenberger Sonya Graham
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 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 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.

Looking Ahead

*Men's Breakfast, 1st Saturdays, March 4 at 8:30 am at Brenham Grill

*Journey Together Ladies Bible Study 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, March 7 at 10:00 am at the Church

*Ladies' Evening Bible Study 2nd Wednesdays, at 6:30 pm at the Church, March 8 (after Lenten Service)

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	27	28	March 1 Lenten Dinner 5:15 pm Lenten Service 6:00 pm	2	3	4 Men's Breakfast 8:30 am, Brenham Grill
5 First Fruits Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	6 Roy Kelm	7 Journey Together Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 am Worship Committee Meeting 5:30 pm LilaJan Hibbs	8 Lenten Dinner 5:15 pm Lenten Service 6:00 pm Ladies Evening Bible Study (after service) Sam Sommer Alicia Willard	9 Margaret Thielemann	10	11 Mike Johnson
12 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am DAYLIGHT SAVINGS	13	14 Outreach Committee Meeting 5:30 pm Dwayne Muske	15 Lenten Dinner 5:15 pm Lenten Service 6:00 pm John & Dottie Schaar Gerry Hartstack	16 NALC Ladies Bible Study 1:30 pm	17 John & Marilyn Watts 	18
19 Mission Offering Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	20 Roger Hibbs First day of 	21 Journey Together Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 am Church Council Meeting 5:45 pm Betty Dove	22 Lenten Dinner 5:15 pm Lenten Service 6:00 pm	23	24	25
26 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult Bible Study & Children's Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	27 Pat Meyer	28	29 Lenten Dinner 5:15 pm Lenten Service 6:00 pm Blaine Bosse	30	31	April 1 Men's Breakfast 8:30 am Red = Adult's Birthday Blue = Child's Birthday Green = Wedding Anniversary

Pray without ceasing

~I Thessalonians 5:17

Happy Birthday

Roy Kelm, March 6
LilaJan Hibbs, March 7
Alicia Willard, March 8
Sam Sommer, March 8
Margaret Thielemann, March 9

Please Note: If you have an article, announcement, prayer request, etc. to include in the newsletter, please send it to the office no later than the Wednesday morning before. Thank you.