

Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, October 20, 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

Crisis in Israel

Rev. Cody Mills

What are you doing pastor? We need to separate church and state! What are you doing pastor? You should stay out of politics! Yes and no to both statements. This article is not about making a stance either way in politics.

When a pastor is asked not to speak about certain aspects deemed "political," it is a spiritual attack. Pastors are told not to speak about the mind and body. It seems that pastors are asked to only speak on the spiritual part. Yet, St. Paul and Scripture, reveal mind, body, and soul are all one entity. You can't separate them. Speaking about the soul only removes the spirit from the body and mind and creates hostility in our lives. Essentially, we remove the Christian Worldview allowing a secular view to creep into the Christian Worldview. Here is the truth.

We recognize war continues to devastate Ukraine and Russia while another war breaks out in Israel. An old dispute in the region is long-lasting and centuries old. No matter where a person lands in this issue, we need to recognize there are demonic entities at play.

Remember the Christian Worldview recognizes life as precious and has a purpose. Demonic forces are in motion to destroy what God created. He created life regardless of what stage of life or the person's belief. We need to pray for all life that is involved in this conflict. We also pray that God uses the instruments necessary to bring an end to the devastation. The enemy would like to remove such wonderful news.

The conflict between Russia and Ukraine, and the conflict between Israel and the terrorist groups, continue to create wakes in surrounding countries and the entire world. There is most certainly a giant battle that is going on right now. Devastation is from evil and sin in the world. We are reminded of Romans 5:6, "For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly."

We are indeed weak and we are still weak during these events. With Christ, we find the value of life is despised by the enemy. The enemy attacks the heart of the Creator by shedding the blood of others even in the name of salvation and justice.

We hold to Scripture as truth and light. As Christians we cannot see Scripture as though it is about the lives of people in the past, but our current life. We bring soul, mind, and body together as sacred. God is speaking in Scripture. His voice is a powerful thing and we need to continue to pray for mercy and His Kingdom to continue to come with or without us.

Psalm 139:13-14: "13 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well." God Bless.

BASKET BRIGADE - HOMEBOUND

"HOMEBOUND" -- What a sad word. But many senior citizens in Washington County are homebound! And they don't see a future where they will NOT be homebound. Just think of how they will feel when they see our gift basket & gift card as part of the Senior Center meal delivery in early November! Just imagine how it might brighten their day....and even their week and beyond. Just to know that someone cares!



We still have 2 Sundays to meet our goal for this year of 75 baskets plus a \$25 Brookshire Brothers gift card for each basket. We're asking for your help in meeting this goal!

\$110 more needed for gift cards
42 more baskets to be filled/or \$700 to fill them

All of this needs to be received by next Sunday, Oct 29. Stop by the Basket Brigade table after Worship Service this Sunday and let us know how you can help! Thank you all for your generosity through these 7 years! See you Sunday at the Basket Brigade Table!!

Cash or individual items from our grocery list: Due Sun., Oct. 22; Filled Baskets: Due Sun., Oct. 29

Time and Talents

Due this Sunday the 22nd!

Pick up your 2024 form from the Welcome Table, fill it out, and return it to Admin's desk.

Time and Talents 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!

NO First Communion Class this Saturday. Class will continue Oct. 28, Nov 4th and 18th.



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



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

Support our children! See you at the fair!

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

Sunday, October 29th



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

October 29th is the 5th Sunday, so NO Sunday School or Adult Bible Study



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



The flowers for Sunday are given by Jon Hill in memory of his father.



These items were left at the church last Sunday. If they are yours, please claim them from the admin's desk.



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!



- ❖ Sat. Oct. 21st, 10-noon Children's Business Fair, event taking place in our community
- ❖ Wed. Oct. 25th, 6:00 pm – Choir Practice
- ❖ Sun. Oct. 29th - Congregational Meeting and Potluck Lunch
- ❖ Sun. Nov. 19th – Choir Singing in Church Service
- ❖ Sat. Dec. 2nd – Downtown Christmas Stroll and Lighted Parade, details to come
- ❖ Sun. Dec. 10th – Christmas Sing-a-Long before Service; Choir Singing in Church Service
- ❖ Fri. Dec. 15th – NALC Ladies' Luncheon, 11:00 am at the Cannery; \$15 tickets available in Nov.

Community Announcement: Xylophonic Pops

Seniors Mallet-Keyboard & Rhythm Band

Some retired music teachers and the WCHLA Senior Center are working together to develop a seniors music group. The "Xylophonic Pops" will rehearse weekly at the Seniors Center, do education programs in area elementary schools, and perform at senior's events.

Phase 1 will involve retired music teachers, church musicians, and other skilled keyboard players who want to play the mallet-keyboards.

For information or to sign-up, contact call Duane Dippel at 832-596-5197 or the WCHLA Senior Center at 979-836-6552.

Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

Responsive Reading: Psalm 96

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-22

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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 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 & Sheila Demery

Little Lambs: Rev. Cody Mills

Sunday School: Cathy Johnson

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson & Darlene Etzel

Our Servants Following Sunday, Oct. 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

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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.

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## 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

*Men's Breakfast, 1st Saturdays, November 4 at 8:30 am at Smitty's Café

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

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

October/November 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------|---|
| 15 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Malancthon Mills Susan Davies | 16 | 17 Journey Together Ladies Bible Study 11:00 am Church Council Meeting 5:45 pm | 18 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Bob Rankin | 19 | 20 | 21 Children's Business Fair 10-noon Bob & Charlotte Smith |
| 22 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Time & Talent's Due | 23 Linda Wellmann | 24 Constitution Committee Meeting 3:00 pm | 25 Choir Practice 6:00 pm | 26 | 27 | 28 First Communion Class 9:00 am Wade Mills |
| 29 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Congregational Meeting & Potluck Lunch Budget's Due! | 30 Susan Winkelmann | 31 | November 1 Choir Practice 6:00 pm | 2 Pat Lueckemeyer John Schaeer | 3 Becky Bosse | 4 Men's Breakfast Smitty's 8:30 am First Communion Class 9:00 am Herman Aschenbeck Quinn Bosse |
| 5 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Cristina Gomez Daylight Saving Time Ends | 6 | 7 Journey Together Ladies Bible Study 11:00 am Worship Committee Meeting 5:30 pm Bill & Barbara Lighter | 8 Choir Practice 6:00 pm Ladies Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm | 9 Susie Seidel | 10 | 11 Hollie Mills  |
| 12 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sandy Starnes | 13 | 14 Outreach Committee Meeting 5:30 pm Arno Jahnke Preston & Melody Perry | 15 Choir Practice 6:00 pm | 16 | 17 Michael Kelling | 18 Red = Adult's Birthday Blue = Child's Birthday Green = Wedding 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

Linda Wellmann, October 23

Happy Anniversary

Bob & Charlotte Smith, October 21