

# Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, January 26, 2024

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

Rev. Mills Cell Phone: 218.405.0710

Office Phone: 979.836.5921

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

## Doctorate of Ministry Opportunity

*Reverend Cody Mills*

The Institute of Lutheran Theology president invited me to attend the Doctor of Ministry program which focuses on reaching the unreached in a secular age from a Lutheran perspective. Required courses consist of five online courses, two independent projects, and a final thesis project. This would allow me to help teach and equip upcoming pastors at the Institute of Lutheran Theology. There will be no need to travel for this program which allows me to continue to serve you at Abiding Word Lutheran Church.

I ask that you pray about this opportunity with me to determine if it is the correct course. If I decide to teach courses at the Institute of Lutheran Theology in the future, I will be able to do so online.

## Trail Life Initial Open House

*Reverend Cody Mills*

Trail Life Troop TX-777 had an informal open house on the 18th of January, 2024. This open house was extended to families who already expressed interest in Trail Life. We had close to 40 individuals in attendance which was close to our expected numbers. We were able to communicate to the families what Trail Life is about and its expectations. We will be hosting another open house on the 8th of February, 2024. The February open house will be publicized on the KWHI community calendar and we hope to have more in attendance.

Several families that attended the meeting on the 18th were excited to hear their children were excited and wanted to engage more in the troop. We are certainly excited about this opportunity and ministry.



## WE ASKED, YOU RESPONDED

to the call for baby wipes to stock the Brenham Pregnancy Center! THANK YOU for the amazing response within just a few hours of the call. This picture shows just a small amount that was donated. Thank you for supporting this ministry. You are an amazing congregation!

**The Congregational Meeting is this coming Sunday, Jan. 28 directly after the service.**



**Please join us for an important announcement.**

**The 2023 Congregational Report will be available at the meeting (one per family).**

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Dennis Penkert went to his heavenly home on Tuesday morning the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please keep Dorris and the family in your prayers. We will share

funeral arrangements when they are finalized.

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### **Choir Practice**

**Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 PM**

The choir will sing in the February 4<sup>th</sup> service.

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### **Flowers for the Sanctuary**



The flowers for Sunday are provided by the Hills in honor of Ian's Gotcha Day.

The first 2 Sundays in February are open. If you'd like to provide flowers, please sign up on the list on the bulletin board or contact the church office.

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### **NALC Seminar – February 10th**

You are invited to Sack Lunch Saturday at Peace Lutheran Church in Rosenberg with Pastor Brad Hales!

Date is **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**. This event is not just for pastors, it is for everyone, even YOU! Come learn about aging & rural ministry! Does a rural and aging church mean a destiny of decline, or can there be something different?

Pastor Brad Hales, Director of Church Planting & Aging for the NALC will be sharing about the vitality of these congregations and how these churches already have the assets and gifts for renewal! Bring a sack lunch for the break. Water, tea and coffee will be provided. It's a free event! Please RSVP or contact with questions to:

Michael Dittrich: [michael.patd@gmail.com](mailto:michael.patd@gmail.com),

cell: 281-381-5588 or Pat Dittrich:

[pdittrich.wnalc@gmail.com](mailto:pdittrich.wnalc@gmail.com), cell 713-254-0044



**Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at Smitty's Café**

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The Fellowship committee is planning a **"Souper Bowl" Lunch on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>** after the service. A Mardi Gras theme will also



be incorporated as this is the last Sunday before Ash Wednesday. A sign-up sheet for soup and sides is on the bulletin board.

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### **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**

**February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**

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### **THE SEASON OF LENT**

**February 21 & 28**

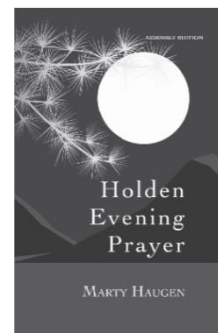
**March 6, 13, 20**



We will begin with a **LENTEN MEAL** of soup and sandwiches at 5:15 pm. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board for those who would like to contribute.

Our **LENTEN SERVICES** will begin at 6:00 pm following the meal.

This year for our Lenten Services we will be using the Holden Evening Prayer Service. The Hibbs will be providing another sneak peak of this service on Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>



## Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

### Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Responsive Reading: Psalm 111

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Gospel Reading: Mark 1: 21-28

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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, January 28

### Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills  
Musician: Debbie Heidemann  
Lay Minister: Cathy Johnson  
Reader: Charlotte Smith  
Greeters: Gary Hind & Mary Ann Schulte  
Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Tom Insley  
Audio/Video: Bill & Lois Rankin  
Ushers: Sheila Demery & Larry Stark  
Little Lambs: Charlotte Smith  
Sunday School: Cathy Johnson  
Altar Guild: Bill & Lois Rankin

## Our Servants the Following Sunday, Feb 4

### Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills  
Musician: Debbie Heidemann  
Lay Minister: Wade Seidel  
Reader: Susie Seidel  
Greeters: Betty Dove & Ken French  
Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Wade Seidel  
Audio/Video: Roy & Jan Kelm  
Ushers: Robert Mikeska & Lottie Tegeler  
Little Lambs: Wade Mills  
Sunday School: Cathy Johnson  
Altar Guild: Darlene & Berrie 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\*

Herman Aschenbeck	Kathleen Insley
Geraldine Johnson	Barbara Lighter
Ronnie Lueckemeyer	Wade Mills
Doris Penkert & Family	John Porter
Ray & Ethel Sanders	Stanley Schneider
Blake Shedd	Judy Weatherly
Patsy Wegner	

## Prayer Concerns Beyond Our Church Family\*

Amy O'Malley Brink	Lindsey Eckert
John Jensen	
Matthew, Aislinn & Thomas Kelling	
Otto Kemper	Lucreacia
Lila Miller	Manuel Perez
Joetta Raylots	Kim Sauer
Donna Stump	Rita Werner
National and local government leaders	
Military and first responders	
Those affected by the war in Ukraine & Israel	
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.

## NOTE: REVISED Pastor's Schedule

Monday: Off  
Tuesday: Church Office – 10 am - 8 pm  
Wednesday: Church Office – 7 am – 1 pm, 5 pm- 8 pm  
Thursday: Church Office – 9 am – 2 pm, 2:30 - 7 pm  
Friday: Church Office – 8 am - 4 pm  
Saturday: Off  
Sunday: Worship – 8:30 am – 11:30 am  
Emergency Calls: 218-405-0710  
Schedule subject to change. Please call to arrange an appointment or home visit.

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## Admin's Core Office Schedule

Monday: (frequently a few hours in the afternoon)  
Tuesday: Church Office – 8 am – 3 pm  
Wednesday: Church Office – 8 am – 3 pm  
Thursday: Church Office – 8 am – 3 pm  
Friday: Church Office – 8 am – 11 am  
The Admin is part time though often works additional hours. Please call ahead if stopping by at lunchtime.

## January/February 2024

| Sun                                                                                                                                           | Mon                                                         | Tue                                                                                                                 | Wed                                                                                              | Thu                                                                       | Fri                         | Sat                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>21</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>New Member Reception</b>   | <b>22</b><br>Paul & Jan<br>Koska                            | <b>23</b><br><b>MAKE UP DATE</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible Study<br>10:00 am<br><br>Dennis Penkert        | <b>24</b><br>Charlotte Smith                                                                     | <b>25</b>                                                                 | <b>26</b>                   | <b>27</b><br>Jan Koska<br><br>Westen Muske<br><br>Wayne<br>Winkelmann                                                  |
| <b>28</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>Congregational Meeting</b> | <b>29</b><br>Lloyd & Pat<br>Quebe                           | <b>30</b><br>Jean King                                                                                              | <b>31</b><br>Choir Practice<br>6:00 pm<br><br>Kim Bosse                                          | <b>February 1</b><br>Sue Mahoney                                          | <b>2</b>                    | <b>3</b><br>Men's Breakfast @<br>Smitty's 8:30 am                                                                      |
| <b>4</b> Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Choir & Worship 10:00 am<br>Eden Swansey              | <b>5</b>                                                    | <b>6</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible Study<br>10:00 am<br><br>Worship Committee<br>5:30 pm<br>Sandra Becker | <b>7</b>                                                                                         | <b>8</b><br>Trail Life Open<br>House 6:30 pm<br><br>Arline<br>Schlaudraff | <b>9</b><br>Rev. Cody Mills | <b>10</b>                                                                                                              |
| <b>11</b> Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am<br><b>"Souper Bowl" Lunch</b>       | <b>12</b>                                                   | <b>13</b><br>Raising Arrows<br>Homeschool<br>Gathering 10:00 am<br><br>Outreach<br>Committee 5:30 pm                | <b>14</b><br>Ash Wednesday<br>Service 6:00 pm<br>Valgene Horak<br>John & Gayle<br>Hill           | <b>15</b><br>NALC Ladies'<br>Bible Study 1:30<br>pm<br>Sheila Demery      | <b>16</b>                   | <b>17</b>                                                                                                              |
| <b>18</b> Coffee & Connection<br>9:00 am<br>Adult & Children's Bible<br>Study 9:00 am<br>Worship 10:00 am                                     | <b>19</b><br>Dorothy Gibson<br><br>Dwayne &<br>Laurie Muske | <b>20</b><br>Journey Together<br>Ladies Bible Study<br>10:00 am<br><br>Church Council<br>Meeting 5:45 pm            | <b>21</b><br>Lenten Meal<br>5:15 pm<br><br>Lenten Service<br>6:00 pm<br>Roger & LilaJan<br>Hibbs | <b>22</b><br>Wade Seidel                                                  | <b>23</b>                   | <b>24</b><br>Roy & Jan Kelm<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. Link on the Home page or click on "Worship" > then "Livestream" - <https://www.abidingword.org/live-stream>

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 end of day the Wednesday before. Thank you.

## Happy Birthday

**Jan Koska, January 27**  
**Westen Muske, January 27**  
**Wayne Winkelmann, January 27**  
**Jean King, January 24**  
**Kim Bosse, January 31**  
**Sue Mahoney, February 1**

## Happy Anniversary

Lloyd & Pat Quebe, January 29