

Abiding Word Lutheran Church

464 Oak Tree Crossing Dr., Brenham, Texas 77833

Weekly Newsletter Friday, September 1, 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

Education Sendoff

Rev. Cody Mills

Prayer for all in the education arena will be held on September 4, 2023, after the announcements during worship service. If you are a full-time teacher, substitute teacher, bus driver, substitute bus driver, administrator, support staff, camp leader, camp helper, Sunday school teacher, Sunday school helper, homeschool teacher, etc., we will pray for you at the beginning of the service. So please show up if you are able. God's blessings to you, as these areas are undoubtedly difficult and demand a lot of time and energy.

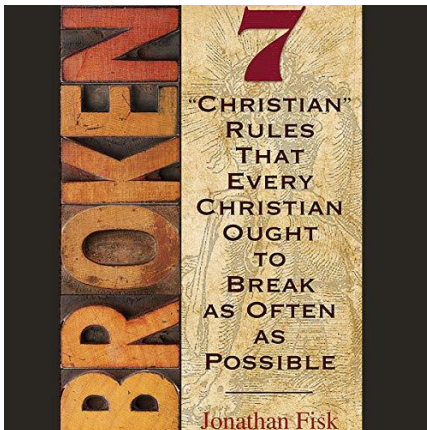
First Communion Classes

Rev. Cody Mills

September 9, 2023, Saturday, at 9 AM, I will teach first communion to those interested in sending their child through the course. We should be able to complete the course in about 6 weeks. Please let Rev. Cody know if you are interested in attending.

Book Recommendation

Rev. Cody Mills



There are only two kinds of spirituality in the world. One is false, and one is true. One is the manifestation of the old evil foe who has sent many false spiritualities out into the world, and the other is the holy spirituality found only in faith in the one true God. One is a lie, and one is real.

But which is which? There is a cultural perfect storm shredding the spiritual landscape of the United States. It travels on the wind of a growing ignorance of both history and the Bible. Christians are losing faith because the kind of Christianity they are trying to believe is Broken. This book examines seven of the most common spiritual traditions and how they use speculation, mysticism, and moralism to break Christianity. Author Jonathan Fisk calls them the seven "counterfeit Christian rules that every Christian ought to

break as often as possible," because they are seven myths that have infiltrated the churches in our age, seven teachings taught as if they were doctrine, but which are nothing more than the traditions of men.

The dark secret of Christianity in America is that we are losing. We hide it with light shows, Christian dance and music, and video games, but it's true. And it's not new.

If you wish to read the book, please ask Rev. Cody Mills.

Gratitude From Rev. Cody Mills

I am thankful for every individual in this congregation! We are starting to move outward towards the community. We have great events and support for our neighbors starting to brew and manifest. The Holy Spirit is truly working at Abiding Word Lutheran Church.

We've Made It...Now It's Time to Take It!

The casseroles are ready! We are thankful to Lottie Tegeler and Kathleen Insley for organizing the preparation of casseroles by the women and men of our congregation.

Now the outreach is up to us as a congregation. If you know of someone in the congregation or community who is experiencing difficulties and would appreciate a visit and meal, please avail yourself of a meal prepared by the "Make It and Take It" project of Abiding Word. Simply call the church office and let our admin, Pat Weeks, know to whom you plan to give a casserole and the date. There is also a sign-up sheet on the admin's desk where you can put your name, recipient, and date. Then you can pick up a container from the freezer with the chicken spaghetti. By keeping track in the church office, we can eliminate duplications in the same week.

The Committee is hopeful that this will assist you in visitation to those in need.



~~~~~

## Update on the Membership Directory

The Membership Committee met Wednesday to approve the plans for our Membership Directory. Our first step will be to provide a Phone App Directory which can be used only by those who are listed in the directory. We still have to tweak a lot of things so we're not ready to supply all the info for this yet. We're having meetings to work out all the bugs. Please be patient with us as we work toward this goal!



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



~~~~~



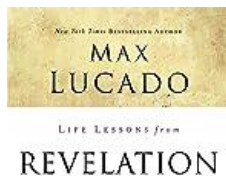
This Sunday,
September 3rd, there
will be a time of prayer
for all those in the

education arena.

Children's Sunday School starts back up
Sunday, September 10th! Cathy Johnson
will be our Sunday School teacher.

~~~~~

### Journey Together Ladies' Bible Study



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



~~~~~



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.**

~~~~~

### 2024 Budgets Due, The End of October

Committee Chairs, please get your 2024  
committee budgets to Gary Crocker, Treasurer by  
October, the 29th. Thank you!

### Trail Life Meeting

Wednesday, September 6  
6:00 pm, Church Library

For those interested in serving with our Trail  
Life Charter. Contact Rev. Mills for more  
information.

~~~~~



First Communion Classes begin
Saturday, September 9th at 9:00 am for
six weeks. Contact Rev. Mills if
interested.

~~~~~

**! We still have room for more !**

**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.

~~~~~

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
Thank You!



Susie and Wade Seidel
September 1st



**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/>



Tuesday, October 3rd, 6:00 pm

Excitement is brewing for Abiding Word's National Night Out on Oct. 3rd 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.



- ❖ Sat. Sept. 2nd, 8:30 am - Men’s Breakfast
- ❖ Tues. Sept. 5th, 10:00 am-Ladies Bible Study
- ❖ Wed. Sept. 6th, 6:00 pm – Christmas Cantata Choir Practice
- ❖ Wed. Sept. 6th, 6:00 pm – Trail Life USA Meeting, open to those interested
- ❖ Sat. Sept. 9th, 9:00 am – First Communion Classes begin
- ❖ Sun. Sept. 10th 9:00 am – Children’s Sunday School Restart
- ❖ Wed. Sept. 13th–Ladies’ Evening Bible Study
- ❖ September 14-17 – Via de Cristo Weekend
- ❖ Sat. Sept. 16th, 10:00 am - Basic First Aid/CPR/AED Free Training Class
- ❖ Tues. Oct. 3rd, 6:00 p.m. - National Night Out for the Community
- ❖ Sun. Oct. 8th after church–Altar Guild Meeting
- ❖ Sat. Oct. 21st, 9-noon – Children’s Business Fair, an event taking place in our community
- ❖ Sun. Oct. 29th - Congregational Meeting and Potluck Lunch
- ❖ Sun. Oct. 29th-2024 Committee Budgets Due
- ❖ December – Downtown Christmas Stroll and Lighted Parade, details to come
- ❖ December – NALC Ladies’ Luncheon, details to come

~~~~~

Intentionally left blank for lost announcements.

### 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  
 \* You can pick up a copy of this letter on the Welcome Table at church.

~~~~~



The Church Office will be closed for Labor Day. Rev. Mills can be reached on his cell phone for emergencies. Have a wonderful and safe holiday weekend.

Lectionary Readings for This Sunday:

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Responsive Reading: Psalm 26

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:21-28

~~~~~

## Thank You

To all our faithful servants every Sunday. The church couldn't function without you.

~~~~~

Our Servants This 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

Our Servants Next Sunday, September 10

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Cody Mills
Musician: Debbie Heidemann
Lay Minister: Susie Houston
Reader: Dottie Schaer
Greeters: Ronnie & Pat Lueckemeyer
Communion: Rev. Cody Mills & Susie Houston
Audio/Video: Gary Crocker & Charlotte Smith
Ushers: John & Dottie Schaer
Little Lambs: Dottie Schaer
Sunday School: Cathy Johnson
Altar Guild: Melody Perry, Pat Quebe & Darlene Etzel

~~~~~

## 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\*

|                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 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\*

Dawson Lee Jasinski & family  
Matthew, Aislinn & Thomas Kelling  
Lucreacia Steve Rogers  
Kim Sauer Rita Werner  
For rain and those affected by the drought  
Martin Luther Lutheran Church of Carmine, TX  
Those affected by Hurricane Idalia  
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.

~~~~~

Looking Ahead

*Men's Breakfast, 1st Saturdays, September 2nd at 8:30 am at Smitty's Cafe
*Journey Together Ladies' Bible Study, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, September 5, 10:00 a.m.
*Ladies' Evening Bible Study, 2nd Wednesdays, September 13 at 6:30 pm at the Church

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Reagan Wegner	28 	29	30 Make It / Take It 10:00 am at Church Ralph & Sandra Becker	31	September 1 Wade & Susie Seidel	2 Men's Breakfast at Smitty's 8:30 am
3 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	4	5 Journey Together Ladies Bible Study 11:00 am Worship Committee Meeting 5:30 pm	6 Choir Meeting/Practice 6:00 pm Trail Life USA Meeting 6:00 pm in the library Jagger Shedd	7	8 Kathy Shedd	9 First Communion Class 9:00 am Lori Wegner
10 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Doris Penkert Ray & Ethel Sanders	11	12 Outreach Committee Meeting 5:30 pm	13 Ladies Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm Marjorie Stark Berrie Etzel	14 Via de Cristo Weekend Darlene Etzel	15 John Porter	16 First Communion Class 9:00 am First Aid Training 10:00 am Barbara Lighter Mia Mills Michael & Donna Kelling
17 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	18	19 Journey Together Ladies Bible Study 11:00 am Church Council Meeting 5:45 pm	20	21 Lottie Tegeler Valgene & Linda Horak	22 Don Schlaudraff	23 First Communion Class 9:00 am Church reserved for private event Mike & Karen Johnson Dennis & Doris Penkert
24 Coffee & Connection 9:00 am Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am	25	26	27	28 Patti Swenson	29	30 First Communion Class 9:00 am Red = Adult's Birthday Blue = Child's Birthday Green = Wedding Anniversary

Reminders

- Children's Sunday School will begin Sept. 10 at 9:00 am.
- **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>

Happy Birthday

Jagger Shedd, September 6

Happy Anniversary

Wade & Susie Seidel, September 1

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 Wednesday noon before. Thank you.