



MAY 12, 2024

Abiding Presence

Lutheran Church

Connecting people to Christ through Community

Sharon Downs
Financial Secretary &
Food Ministry Coordinator
and

Melody Light
Office Assistant

ARE CELEBRATING

15 YEARS



ON THE ABIDING
PRESENCE TEAM

**Anniversary
Reception**

**Celebrating the
Ministry of Sharon &
Melody**

**During the Abiding Table
Next Sunday, May 19
10:05-10:50 a.m.
Bailey Hall**

Volunteer to help with the reception by
contacting Heather Pace in the church
office at Heather@abidingpresence.net

The altar flowers this morning are
given by Joe and Karen McGavin in
celebration of their 40th anniversary.

The Wide Continuum of Mothering

By Amy Young at MessyMiddle.com

To those who gave birth this year to their first child – we celebrate with you.

To those who lost a child this year – we mourn with you.

To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stains – we appreciate you.

To those who experienced loss through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away – we mourn with you.

To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment – we walk with you. Forgive us when we say foolish things. We don't mean to make this harder than it is.

To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms – we need you.

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children – we celebrate with you.

To those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance with your children – we sit with you.

To those who lost their mothers this year – we grieve with you.

To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother – we acknowledge your experience.

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood – we are better for having you in our midst

To those who have aborted children – we remember them and you on this day.

To those who are single and long to be married and mothering your own children – we mourn that life has not turned out the way you longed for it to be.

To those who step-parent – we walk with you on these complex paths.

To those who envisioned lavishing love on grandchildren – yet that dream is not to be, we grieve with you.

To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year – we grieve and rejoice with you.

To those who placed children up for adoption – we commend you for your selflessness and remember how you hold that child in your heart.

And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising – we anticipate with you.

This Mother's Day, we walk with you. Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst. We remember you.



**Outdoor Worship & Bagels
One Worship Service at 9:45 a.m.**

The outdoor worship service is a favorite Abiding Presence summer tradition. We'll worship outside together. Bring a lawn chair, blanket and/or popup tent, if you have one. We will have plenty of chairs and tents up as well. Following the service, we will have an epic bagel bar with all the toppings. The church will provide the bagels and beverages. We will invite you to sign up to bring a topping or use your creativity to bring something to share you think would taste great on a bagel. We also need help with set up and clean up. Signup at tinyurl.com/MayBagelBar.



Thrivent Action Teams Needed

We've got BIG plans this summer! One of the ways you can support those plans is by sponsoring a Thrivent Action Team. All Thrivent members have access to two \$250 Thrivent Action Teams per calendar year. If you are a Thrivent member, we would love to help you put those action teams to use. Contact Pastor Keseley, Senior Pastor, for more details.



**OLDER
WISER
LUTHERANS**

OWLs welcomes all older, wiser Lutherans and friends. Ages of people who gather range from late 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s+.

RSVP to heather@abidingpresence.net or call the church office 703-455-7500.

May Monthly Luncheon
Tuesday, May 14 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Join us in Bailey Hall for lunch and "Conversation Across Generations." Our college-age interns will join us for lunch and discussion at each table.

May Offsite Excursion
Tuesday, May 21 from 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Meet at Abiding Presence and carpool 20 minutes to Pohick Episcopal Church for a private tour. The home church of George Washington and George Mason, Pohick Church was established prior to 1724 as the first permanent church of the colony north of the Occoquan.



Abiding Table
Sundays through May 19
10:05-10:50 a.m. in Bailey Hall
Gather at tables with coffee and snacks for faithful conversation. Simply show up to participate!

Sunday Morning Adult Fellowship
Table Top Games Group
Sundays, through May 19
10:05-10:50 a.m. in Classroom #5

A low key small group of adults gathers each Sunday for conversation and games. Grab a cup of coffee in Bailey Hall on your way to join the group. They play a variety of tabletop games for which no experience is necessary. Group Leader: Thomas Saddington.

BIG FAITH FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

Be Part of the Excitement at Abiding Presence this Summer

THANK YOU to those of you who have already participated in the *BIG Faith for a BRIGHT Future*. So far, we have received gifts and commitments for \$20,000. As the number of participants in our high school Abiding Fellows and college-age intern program grows, your donations are what makes our investment in these young people possible. Thank you!

Our first group of college-age interns started this past week. They helped with food pantry and summer prep tasks around the church. This month during morning prayer we are reading from the book of psalms and talking about how we can turn to the psalms in various circumstances. More interns start this week and will keep arriving over the next few weeks.



Michaela Putnam-Kwon Children & Family Minister
michaela@AbidingPresence.net
AbidingPresence.net/Kids


Next Sunday, May 19 is the last Sunday of our Sunday School classes/workshops. They will all resume on Sunday, September 8. Next up, summer camp!



Tuesdays
5:15-6:00 p.m.

Open to Kindergarten - 4th Grade
Register at AbidingPresence.net/kidsmusic

Elementary children sing, play, move and pray each week with Dr. Dave and Ms. Nicole. New friends are always welcome to attend!



THE TODDLER CREW

The Toddler Crew
Sundays at 10:05 a.m.

Calling all 2-year-olds and newly turned 3-year-olds for a special Sunday School class just for you! Ms. Michaela and her Abiding Fellow helpers are ready to engage our littlest kiddos in faith. We will sing songs, read a story, pray and play.

Babies & Grown-Ups
Sunday School Class
Sundays at 10:05 a.m.

This class is geared toward engaging our littles in faith and supporting their grown-ups. No sign-up required, just come as you are. Grownups stay with their little ones during this class.

Preschool Sunday
School

Ages 3 by January 31, 2024
through Pre-K

We can't wait to learn about Jesus through Bible stories, activities, and play.

Elementary
Sunday School
Kindergarten -
6th Grade
10:05-10:50 a.m.

- Club K-1 Art**
(Kindergarten-1st Grade)
- Club K-1 Games**
(Kindergarten-1st Grade)
- Create Like Jesus**
(2nd-5th Grade Art)
- Play Like Jesus**
(2nd-5th Grade Games)
- Minecraft Like Jesus**
(2nd-5th Grade)
- Confirmation Kickstart**
(6th Grade)

Mainly
Music
Wednesdays
through
May 22
10:30-11:30 a.m.

Mainly Music is for children birth through pre-K and their parent or caregiver. Each week we have a 30-minute music session followed by a time for snack and play.. The drop in cost is \$5/family.



Rev. Kelsey Kresse
Associate Pastor for Youth & College-Age
PastorKresse@AbidingPresence.net
abidingpresence.net/youth

SPRING

Wednesday Night Music & Youth Group (7th-10th grade)

Join Dr. Dave for Youth Music at 5:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Youth Music & Youth Group overlap from 6:30-6:45 p.m. for devotions. Then Youth Group kicks off with pizza, relationship building and a project, wrapping up at 8:00 p.m.

SUMMER

Amazing Race Camp (rising 7th-12th grade)

July 29 - August 2 from 9:00-4:00 p.m.

Amazing Race Camp will be a week long experience racing through Washington D.C. Each day will center around a service project or faith formation adventure across the city. Drop off and pick up at the Springfield Metro Station. Cost: \$70/person. More information and registration at AbidingPresence.net/amazingrace.

Abiding Fellows (rising 10th-12th grade) Stipend Summer Program

Abiding Presence offers high school students paid summer internships through our Abiding Fellows program. Fellows will be summer camp counselors, gather every morning for devotions, experience weekly faith formation, build relationships, and develop their leadership skills. For more information and an application visit abidingpresence.net/abiding-fellows-application.

CIT Camp Week (rising 7th-9th grade)

Rising 7th-9th graders are invited to be Counselors in Training during one of our weeks of camp this Summer. For all the details and a sign up visit tinyurl.com/APCIT2024.



Sharon Downs
Food Ministry Coordinator
Sharon@AbidingPresence.net
abidingpresence.net/food

Get Involved

Volunteer on a Saturday

Food Pantry distribution (2nd & 4th Saturday)

tinyurl.com/APFood2024

Volunteer on a Thursday

Food Pantry setup Email Sharon Downs
sharon@abidingpresence.net

OR

Kids Pantry Night

Thursdays before the 2nd & 4th Saturday

Food Pantry Donations

Guests who come to the Abiding Presence Food Pantry receive produce, meat, dairy, eggs, snacks and assorted other items. We feed roughly 200 households at each pantry distribution.

Meat, dairy and eggs are purchased with financial donations. Make a financial donation at AbidingPresence.net/give and choose "Food Pantry."

Snacks are donated in-kind. Drop off at the church anytime individually prepackaged snacks and one gallon Ziploc bags. We are always in need of more snacks!



Preschool Camps 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Come for one week or for all three! Open to children age 3 by the first day of camp through rising kindergarteners. Children should be potty trained before the start of camp, which is to say, we understand accidents happen but our staff isn't able to change diapers.

Registration is **LIVE!**

Each week of camp is \$70/camper

(Preschool Camp 1 is \$60).

Scholarships are available.

Camp fees are due at time of registration and are non-refundable.

**May 28-31 Preschool Camp 1:
Time Travelers**

**June 3-7 Preschool Camp 2:
Bug Camp**

**June 10-14 Preschool Camp 3:
Color Camp**

Elementary Camps 12:00-3:00 p.m.

For more information and to register visit
AbidingPresence.net/camp

Come for one week or for all five! Open to rising kindergarten through 5th grade. Rising 6th graders can sign-up for our new Counselor-in-Training Camp.

June 17-21 Camp 1: Bible Doughnuts

June 24-28 Camp 2: Camp "Do Justice"

July 8-12 Camp 3: Space Camp

July 15-19 Camp 4: Camp Underdogs

July 22-26 Camp 5: Bible Olympics

Questions?

Reach out to our
Children & Family Minister,
Michaela Putnam-Kwon, at
Michaela@AbidingPresence.net

Joseph AND THE Amazing
Technicolor
Dreamcoat

**MUSICAL THEATER DAY CAMP
for RISING 6th-12th GRADERS**

July 15-19 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Performance: July 19 at 4:00 p.m.

at Abiding Presence

6304 Lee Chapel Rd., Burke, VA 22015

Tuition: \$125/student (need-based scholarships available)



Sign up at AbidingPresence.net/joseph

BIG FAITH FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE

Be Part of the Excitement at Abiding Presence this Summer



BE EXCITED

*Summer is the most exciting time of the year at Abiding Presence. We invest in faith formation in **BIG** ways because we believe the future of the church looks **BRIGHT** with these young people leading the way.*

GET INVOLVED

*The whole congregation is invited to help create opportunities for **BIG** faith this summer. Sponsor a teen or college-age young adult for a day, a week or even the whole summer. You can be the reason their faith takes root as they form faith in our summer day campers.*



WATCH THEM SHINE

Sponsor a Day: \$115 (college-age)
\$70 (High School Abiding Fellow)
Sponsor a Week: \$575 (college-age)
\$350 (High School Abiding Fellow)
Sponsor the Summer:
\$4,500 (college-age)
\$1,750 (High School Abiding Fellow)

LEARN MORE & SIGN UP TO BE A SPONSOR AT [ABIDINGPRESENCE.NET/BRIGHTFUTURE](https://abidingpresence.net/brightfuture)