



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE
WWW.ABIDINGPRESENCE.ORG**

Welcome to Abiding Presence!

Thank you for worshiping with us! January 17th, 2010

ANNUAL MEETING AND VISION

PRESENTATION - Next Sunday - Jan. 24 in the sanctuary between services. 2009 Annual Reports are available in the narthex.

BOARD ELECTIONS - This is the last week to vote. Please get a ballot and vote today.

SHIELD'S PIZZA FUNDRAISER – Support the Guatemala Group by eating at Shield's Pizza on Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010. 25% of your check will be donated to help fund the Thrivent Builds with Habitat trip to Guatemala. You must have a flier to hand in. They are available in the narthex.

AP PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2010-11 BEGINS- Early registration for congregation members and returning families begins **Wed. Jan. 13 at 9:15 am.** The registration fee is waived for members of Abiding Presence. Call Miss Karen or Miss Michelle at 248-678-APLC for additional info.

AS WE RING IN THE NEW YEAR- with new expectations on what Caring for Others Ministry can do next, we would like to thank everyone who has donated money or gift cards at Euchre, Feast Groups, or Progressive Dinner. The Ministry is planning a meeting to decide what we should do with the generous gifts. We would like to start with AP members. If you are a member of AP or you know somebody in need please contact Pastor and we will do what we can to help.

FORMER AP MEMBER - Marilyn Christiensen (residing in AZ) passed on Dec. 20, 2009. Marilyn and Max were charter members of AP. Max died in 2008. Daughters Cindy and Jill reside in the Mesa AZ area. The memorial service will be in Greenville, MI on Jan. 18, 2010.

BAKE SALE- The Guatemala Bake Sale Continues Today! Thank you for your support- The Guatemala Team.

BLOOD DRIVE - will be held on Monday, Jan. 25, 2010 from 1-7pm. Sign up for your time at www.givelife.org or on the bulletin board. Red Cross is changing their procedure - donors with appointments will have first priority and those without appointments will be accommodated as soon as possible after those with appointments.

2010 FLOWERS - Only two dates remain - August 22 and August 29. Sign up today!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL- Save the date: June 21 - 25 6:00pm - 8:30pm (dinner at 5:30).

BOOK CLUB - This month's book is Finding My Voice by Diane Rehm. See Lesa Reynolds or Janet McBride to get your copy. We will meet to discuss the book on Tues. Jan. 26 at 7:30pm in the AP Lounge.

A HUGE THANK YOU- To all who donated to Neighborhood House food baskets and gift cards. Another successful year for AP.

FAIR TRADE COFFEE- New order has arrived- check it out.

FOOD COLLECTION- Still in full force. The next delivery will go to Lighthouse, they are in need of powdered milk and cereal. Also any other donations are greatly appreciated.

THE MITTEN TREE- Thank you to everyone who donated to the mitten tree, everything was donated to Close Closet. It was greatly appreciated. At this time they have enough mittens etc... but they are in need of socks and underwear for children and adults. There is a wood box under the coat rack for all donations.

VALENTINE BUNKO - Save the date: February 13.

NOISY OFFERING - Jan. - March 2010 will go toward the Thrivent Builds with Habitat trip to Guatemala.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES - Feb. 17, 7:30pm at AP. Pastor will also be leading the ecumenical service at Oakland University. All are invited to attend. It takes place at noon in the Lake Superior A Room, lower level of the Oakland Center. Both services will feature the imposition of ashes.

MIDWEEK SOUP AND WORSHIP FOR LENT- Wednesdays, Feb. 24 - March 24, 6pm soup supper and 6:45pm worship. The worship services will feature skits performed by our catechism students.

THANK YOU - to those who helped to retire the Christmas greens: Bob, Elaine and Emily Uhlig, Charlie Martin, Laura Sneary, Ray, Kristin, Ethan and Karoline Newer, Marisa Iaderosa, Beth and John Raynor, Jerry Skellenger, Eric and Ginger Ketelsen.

FOURTH ANNUAL KURT KETELSEN MEMORIAL BIRTHDAY BENEFIT- Friday, Feb. 5, 6-9pm in the AP Fellowship Hall. Come for a lasagna supper and a fun family game night. Make a contribution to AP in memory of Kurt. Donations will go to the Thrivent Builds with Habitat Trip to Guatemala. Invite your friends! Sign up on the bulletin board or RSVP to Ginger Ketelsen at 248.651.1368.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY- As a reminder to everyone, the Habitat ReStore at 150 Osmun Street in Pontiac is always willing to accept used appliances, furniture, cabinets, and building materials as well as volunteers to operate the store. Volunteer sign up is easy to do at www.habitatoakland.org.

For those interested in learning more about the construction process, volunteer crew leader training will be given from 8am - noon on the following days at 150 Osmun Street in Pontiac. If you are interested in learning more and helping other volunteers during the build process, please consider attending.

Class #1 - January 21 & 23 - leadership skills/job site operations and safety/house plan reading

Class #2 - January 28 & 30 - decking & walls

Class #3 - February 4 & 6 - trusses/sheathing/roofing

Class #4 - February 11 & 13 -wrapping the house/windows/exterior doors

Class #5 - February 18 & 20 - siding/air sealing/insulation

Class #6 - February 25 & 27 - porch decks & stairs

Class #7 - March 4 & 6 - interior doors & trim

Class #8 - March 11 & 13 - painting/cabinets/countertops

Contact Glenn Campbell (gcampbell624@comcast.net) or Matt Reynolds (lmreynolds@comcast.net) with questions regarding opportunities for service in this ministry. Plans are underway for the 2010 Rochester Coalition building activities. Additional questions can be answered by going to the affiliate website www.habitatoakland.org.

RUMMAGE SALE - Yes! AP will hold a rummage sale in late May - early June. It is being organized by the Guatemala group. Please save your 'good junk' for us.

THRIVENT BUILD WITH HABITAT TRIP TO GUATEMALA- 21 people from AP have signed up to go to Guatemala July 10-19. We are ecstatic that so many people are enthused about this ministry. The previous trip was a life changing event. The trip is not full - if you are interested in going, please talk to Janet McBride or Matt Reynolds.

FRIENDS, FOOD, AND FUN- WHO DOESN'T LOVE ALL THREE?- To add more Friends, Food and Fun to your life, become part of a **FEAST** group (Friends Eating and Sharing Together). These small groups of 7 - 9 adults get together for fourth monthly activities that **they** plan. There is always food involved. The fun happens as friendships are formed or enhanced. Sign up in narthex by the end of January. Chris Altemann is the coordinator who forms the groups. He can answer your questions at 248-656-1259 or at saltemann@sbcglobal.net

Valentine Dinner Saturday, February 13, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. -Good Samaritan Lutheran Church 517 W. Walton Blvd., Pontiac (between Silver Lake and Telegraph Roads). Entertainment by local praise group "150" Dinner prepared by Chef Rabb includes: Choice of Chicken Breast or Sliced Ham special mashed potatoes, vegetables, tossed salad, cake, coffee, and tea (*bottled water and soda are available for \$1. each to benefit youth group activities*). Tickets \$10. at the door or \$8. in advance. Children \$4. (ages 3-12) For more information, call the church office at 248-335-9881.

MINISTRY PRAYER GROUP-A weekly prayer group focused on supporting Abiding Presences' leaders and ministries in prayer. Co-Leaders are Cathy Evans and Kathy Dork, meet Wednesdays 10:30 -11:30 am in the Sanctuary. We will be praying for Pastor Schroeder, the board members, the preschool directors, all staff and all of the ministries of Abiding Presence. We will focus our prayers on A.P. ministries needs which are ongoing or unique to a specific challenge they are facing. We will follow the A.C.T.S. format of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication. First we will begin each session with a brief devotion of adoration/praise of who God is. Then we proceed to silent confession. Next we will offer prayers by group members in thanks for the works Christ is doing at and through Abiding Presence. Finally we will end with group prayers of supplication/requests supporting the specific A.P. ministries and leadership. Anyone who feels led to join this important prayer ministry please join us on Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Sanctuary. Prayer requests for A.P. leadership and ministries can be placed in the new Ministry Prayer mailbox or you can contact Cathy Evans or Kathy Dork. This prayer group is in addition to the prayer ministry for individuals which will continue to be managed via the office.

CLEAN OUT YOUR CLOSET- Laura Rode at the Rochester Hills Public Library is soliciting "Gently Used" purses for use by her cousin, Mary Grant, at the Senior Center for Eastpointe. Mary has noticed her Senior's using purses that are duct taped, pinned and just falling apart. Many of the Seniors said they would like a new purse, but either can't get out to stores or don't have the extra money to purchase one. She is going to set up a swap site for the Seniors at the Center, but needs purses with which to begin. If anyone has "Gently Used" purses to donate, please bring them in and put them in the box in the narthex. Leave your name and I can get you a letter for tax purposes. Mary Howarth

SUNDAY SCHOOL/YOUTH GROUP- We welcome back three of our confirmation students Andrew McBride, Kate Reynolds and Anna Birmingham, who attended the state-wide middle school "Youthquake" in Lansing, Michigan last weekend. If you have a moment, please ask them to tell you about their experience!

On February 7th the Sunday School aged children will be having a special session with Pastor Schroeder on the Bible. We ask that all parents attend at 9:45 on that day with their children.

Second and third grade students who haven't already received a Bible from the congregation will be presented with a Bible during the worship services on Sunday February 7th. Please plan to attend for this special event! If your child is in that age group, please call or e-mail Kim Birmingham and tell her which service you plan to attend that Sunday.

HAITI EARTHQUAKE- Gifts to ELCA International Disaster Response help us to provide immediate and effective support to communities which are in need. Please consider giving to support the needs of this response and others like it. Information on giving is provided in the box on the right "How You Can Help." **100% of your gift will be used in full to bring life sustaining support to this crisis.** Thank you for your prayerful consideration.


- **Check or money orders sent to:**ELCA Int'l Disaster ResponseAttn: Haiti Earthquake ReliefPO Box 71764Chicago, IL 60694-1764write "Haiti Earthquake Relief" on your check's memo line.
- **credit card by phone:** 800.638.3522
- **or online** - www.elca.org/disaster. **Credit card contributions may also be made via mail.**

Habitat in Haiti - Habitat is [addressing shelter solutions](#) for low-income families affected by the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Haiti on January 12, 2010. Habitat's ability to respond effectively to this disaster will require support from donors, corporate partners and other community organizations. To lend support, please [donate](#) today.

Attendance Last Week			
Sun. Service	8:30 AM	85	
	11:00AM	93	
Year to Date		316	

Helping With This Week's Services		
	8:30	11:00
Asst. Minister	R Hoffman	Gary Berwick
Acolyte	Amanda Munn	Maggie Berwick
Greeter	Al & Marion Gibson	Bob & Emily Uhlig
Usher	Gary & Susan Clark	Chris & Laura Sneary
Children's Time	Mary Howarth	Mary Howarth
Communion	Newer Family	Berwick Family

THE FLOWERS AT THE ALTAR



Are given by the Howarth's in prayer for world peace

All of us should work to be fluent in the language of our faith – the Bible – where our God is revealed to us. Please come to one of AP's Bible Studies and work on your Bible knowledge:

Day	Time	Name	Leader	Place
Sunday	9:45a	No Experience Necessary	Janet McBride	AP Classroom 9
Thursday	10:00a	Book of Faith	Pastor Dick Schroeder	AP Board Room
Friday	6:00a	Lectionary – next Sunday's readings	Gary Clark and Rick McBride	Ram's Horn Restaurant

WINTER OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Thursday from 9:00a-3:00p.

Financial Stewardship				
	RECEIPTS		BUDGET	
Week of	12/27/2009	YTD	YTD	over (under)
General Offering	\$ 9,667	\$ 313,486	\$ 340,000	\$ (26,514)
Capital Offering	\$ 1,342	\$ 76,314	\$ 77,500	\$ (1,187)
All General Fund	\$ 11,009	\$ 389,800	\$ 417,500	\$ (27,700)

PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY:
Read Ephesians 3:14-19, Psalm 84, John 21:15-17

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT AP	
Sunday	8:30a Worship—Traditional 11:00a Worship—Contemporary
Monday	9:15a Aerobics
Tuesday	4:30p Yoga 5:00p Shields Pizza Fundraiser
Wednesday	9:15a Aerobics 7:30p Choir Practice
Thursday	10:00a Bible Study 10:00a Scrapbooking
Next Sunday	8:30a Worship—Traditional 9:45a Annual Meeting 11:00a Worship—Contemporary

How to reach AP staff

Phone #: 248-651-6550 Fax #: 248-651-8312
Winter Office Hours: Mon.–Thurs. 9:00a to 3:00p
Office Email: office@abidingpresence.org
Rev. Dick Schroeder, Pastor
Email: pastor@abidingpresence.org
 Emergencies or after hours: Cell: 517-404-0709
Janet McBride, Programs and Operations Director
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