

ABIDING PRESENCE LUTHERAN CHURCH



Living in God's amazing grace

MARCH



CHECK IT OUT
Monday, March 8

Buffalo Wild Wings—
20% of purchases will
be donated to Abiding
Presence to support
Guatemala Habitat for
Humanity trip.

Pick up your flyer in the
Narthex or at www.abidingpresence.org.

NEED A GOOD READ?—
The Abiding Presence
Book Corner is open for
business. We have
brought some books out
of their hiding places so
that all can borrow them
for as long as you wish.
If you have a good book
that you would like to
share (appropriate, of
course!), we welcome
your donation.



Euchre
FELLOWSHIP

Euchre — for card sharks and rookies
Saturday, March 20 at 7:00 p.m.

At the home of Marcia and Chuck Russell
3800 Basswood court
Oakland Township, MI 48363

Hosted by the Russells and Chris and Sandy Altemann
Bring an appetizer or dessert to share and join in the fun!

Cash donations or super market gift cards welcomed to contribute to Caring
for Others Ministry.

RSVP so we can have enough tables and decks of cards to Chris or Sandy at
saltmann@sbcglobal.net.

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

(March 3, March 10, March 17, March 24)

Lenten Supper at 6:00 p.m.

Worship at 6:45 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES—MARCH 28

8:30 a.m.—Traditional

11:00 a.m.—Contemporary

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

APRIL 1—MAUNDY THURSDAY—7:30 p.m.

APRIL 2—GOOD FRIDAY—7:30 p.m.

APRIL 4—EASTER SUNDAY—8:30 a.m. Traditional
11:00 a.m. Contemporary



Richard Schroeder, Pastor
pastor@abidingpresence.org
Cell (517) 404-0709

The best mathematical equation I have ever
seen: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given

Office Hours: 9:00am-3:00pm
Monday—Thursday
(248) 651-6550
office@abidingpresence.org

From Pastor Dick



In the name of our crucified Lord and Savior,

We are going to be talking about wax and filling the cracks in our lives in many of our **Lenten messages. It's the season! It's also** a necessary and helpful experience for us to get in touch with the unvarnished nature of our hearts and actions. The only way we can experience the real power of forgiveness is to fully understand our need for it.

The power of God's forgiveness not only fills the cracks in our lives, it is the glue that holds congregations together. One very

important component of this glue is personal relationships. For without them, our faith remains a private affair and the church is nothing more than a weekly meeting of strangers.

As I shared at our annual meeting, my vision for Abiding Presence is that of a church where people can belong, grow, and serve God. The vehicle for this will be a small group ministry that feeds off our desire for meaningful relationships and being better connected to God. This will become the glue that translates our faith into viable, meaningful ministries.

Over the next couple of months the staff will be working with the Board to identify the details of this effort with the objective of bringing the plan to the congregation this spring. September will be the kick-off for an exciting new ministry!

Please keep this work in your thoughts and prayers. We want to hear from you about this journey.

Blessings,

Pastor Dick

LIVING WATER MINISTRIES FISHING RETREAT

Join us in worship and fellowship and in our true love, fishing! Benefit from the expertise of local Michi-Lu-Ca fishing legend and yanner, George Conner, as he baits you with his fish tales and tips. Fish in our camp lakes or on the AuSable River. Be sure to bring your own fishing equipment, flies, lures, and bait to this fulfilling and fun retreat. No fishing license required for on camp fishing. Led by Pastor Doug Ogden.

April 23-25, 2010 at Michi-Lu-Ca

Cost: \$100.00 per father/son team and \$20 for each additional son.
(includes meals and lodging)

To register, send your payment to Living Water Ministries at the address listed below. Payments by credit card can be made by calling between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm weekdays.

3506 Garling Road • Fairview, MI 48621

(989) 848-2230 • Fax: (989) 848-5797 • www.elcalivingwater.com

Events:

Watch weekly announcements for March Youth Events.

April 17-18—30 Hour Famine—Put on by LYO. 6:00 p.m. Friday to
6:00 p.m. Saturday at St. John's in Farmington. FMI—
www.facebook.com/event.php.

August 6-9—Bass Lake at Michi-Lu-Ca Sign up on bulletin board. FMI, ★ *Events* ★
www.elcalivingwater.com/basslake/index.html

Other Youth Events from Around the Area:

March 7—Lost and Found Concert—Time: 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Good Hope Lutheran Church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City, MI

March 13—Boogie..Groove..Dance Fundraiser—Time: 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 30650 Six Mile Road, Livonia, MI

March 26—Dinner and Movie Night Fundraiser—Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, MI

Volunteer Opportunities—If you are interested in volunteering in the AP Office or doing craft prep work for the preschool, please contact Janet McBride.





GOD'S GREAT GET-TOGETHER

Gather under the Baobab tree in the African Savannah and become part of a welcoming, engaging, happening community.

Join in a week of high-action games, awesome music, wacky skits, Bible stories and cool crafts while making friends and sharing God's message.

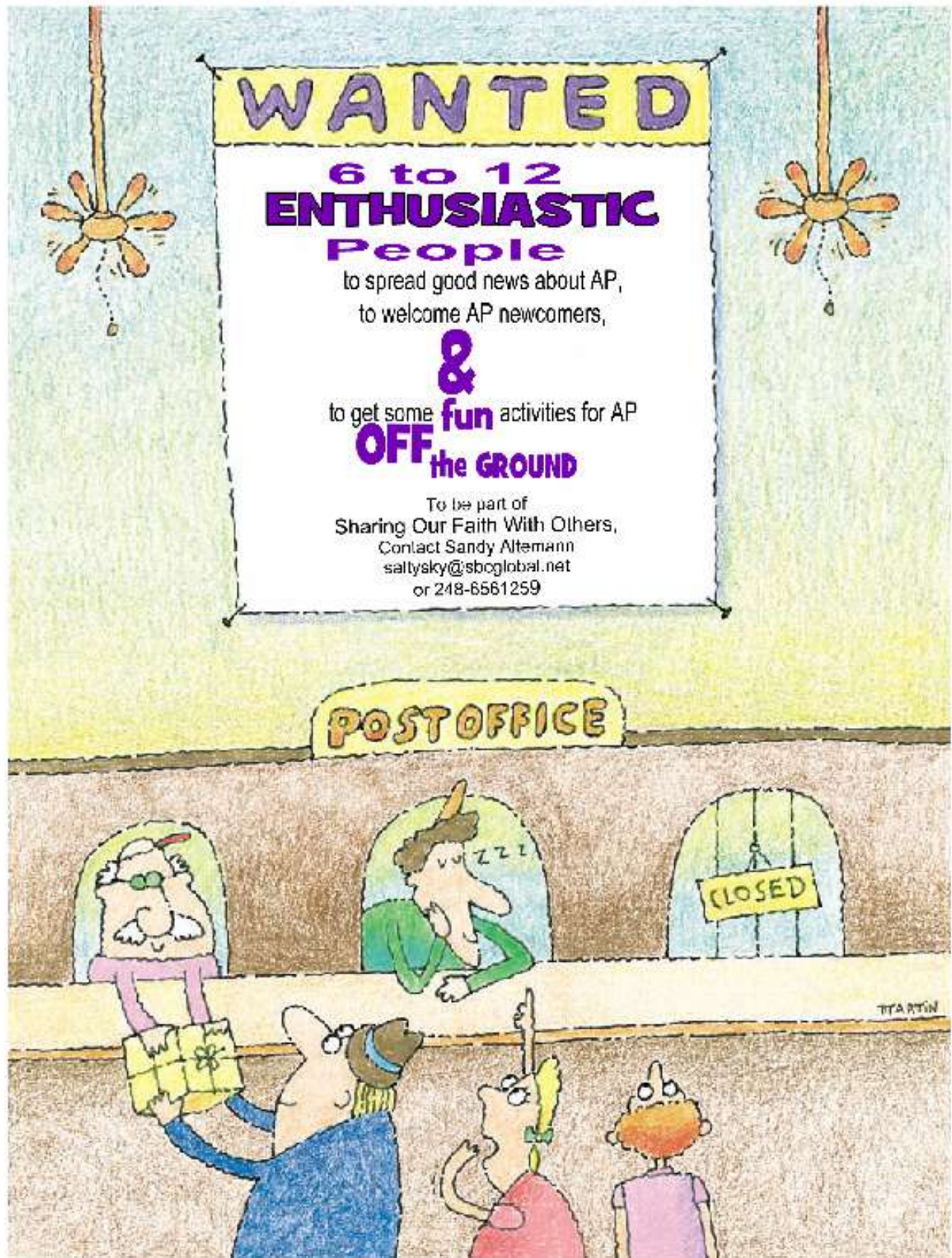
Baobab Blast is happening this summer here in Rochester Hills at Abiding Presence Lutheran Church. There's a place for everyone at Baobab Blast beginning with a delicious dinner at 5:30pm followed by children and adult programs.

For more information contact the church office (248-651-6550) or Laura Sneary at lsneary@wowway.com. Registration begins April 11.

Sign up soon! Bring a friend!

Abiding Presence Church
Vacation Bible School 2010
June 21-24
Dinner 5:30 pm
Baobab fun 6-8:30 pm





SNIPPETS FROM PRESCHOOL

Outside it is cold, cloudy, and dreary, but inside Abiding Presence Preschool it is warm **and cheery!** **As children's laughter fills our rooms we can't help but feel like the sun is** shining down on us in spite of what we see outside. We even had a picnic! Our teddies joined us as we sat on a picnic blanket. After feasting with our fuzzy friends we all danced and marched with them. The following day the Three Bears emerged from their "den", and, later that week, we went on a Bear Hunt!

We then moved onto Valentines. This is a wonderful time to talk about emotions: how can we identify them and what can we do to handle our own and to help others cope with theirs. Naturally, love is a powerful and ever present emotion at this time of year, **especially God's love for us.** **Of course, this theme culminated in Valentine parties** complete with Valentine mailing, cookie decorating, and games.

Our begindergarteners are beginning to recognize popcorn words. These are simple words that keep popping up! They continue to have a letter of the week as does the pre-K. Pee Wee Penguin and Queeny Quail have been seen in begindergarten. Letter R was particularly exciting as rockets were launched!

Speaking of visitors, we had a wonderful time with our Dads on Daddy and Me Day! We feasted on brownies, gave our Dads a shave, created art projects, enjoyed a rowdy game of musical chairs, and finished with a cozy story time. This day is certainly a pre-school highlight for our little ones.

Registration for the '10-'11 school year is underway. **With Mom & Tot, 3's, pre-K and** Begindergarten we have a program for your little ones aged two to five. Bring your child for a visit. We love company!

Miss Karen & Miss Michelle





Women's Ministries

MARY CIRCLE

A ministry by and for women

Mary Circle continues the study Passport to Prayer, a Journey of Compassion, with a focus on Bolivia. The next meeting is March 9 at 7:30pm in the church lounge.

During the Lenten season, Mary Circle is sponsoring and serving the supper before the Wednesday services on February 24 and March 3 at 6:00pm. Any donations received will be given to the Haven, the service focus for the year. A list of items needed for the donations to Haven appears on the box marked Mary Circle in the church lobby. Urgent needs for this month include Body Lotion, Deodorant, Cereal and Juice Boxes.

Also, Mary Circle is supporting the pillowcase dresses ministry at Abiding Presence. A demonstration on making the dresses will be held on Tuesday February 24 at 7:00pm in the church lounge. Everyone, male, female, young or old, is invited to learn how to make these dresses, to be sent to Africa, or to donate pillowcases and supplies. Sue Hoffman will demonstrate her pillowcase project for R.O. Beaumont pediatric unit, as well. For more information on this project, contact Terri Finch at 248-656-8383.

Middle School Youth Event!!

We have been invited to a lock-in at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Bloomfield Hills on Friday March 19th. The lock-in will feature Captive Free from Youth Encounter.

Dynamic music: relational ministry: experiential worship

Beginning 5:00 with a concert, dinner, worship, games, and bible study as you have **never experienced it before...Bring Friends!!! \$5.00 each**

THRIVENT NEWS

When was the last time you had a *financial* checkup?

Your finances need regular checkups just as much as your body does.

Most financial experts recommend you get a financial checkup at least once a year. The experienced and knowledgeable financial representatives at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans can help.

Thrivent Financial offers simple ways to deal with changes in your life that naturally lead to changes in your financial needs. For example, if you have a new grandchild, money you invested in a CD two years ago may now make more sense in a college savings plan. Or a **recent job promotion may mean it's finally time to start saving for retirement.**

For a financial checkup or to discuss how Thrivent Financial can help you achieve your financial goals, contact Elizabeth Kaniarz, CFP® at 248.227.3419 or Elizabeth.Kaniarz@Thrivent.com today, or visit thrivent.com.

Has your life changed?

I see it every day. A person who has never needed financial guidance walks through my door right after a significant life event, seeking advice for important decisions. Those events include:

Marriage. About two-thirds of married people say they disagree with their spouse about money.

Birth or adoption of a child. Adjusting your budget is important. So is evaluating your need for additional disability income and life insurance coverage, as well as considering college savings plans.

Inheritance. Many people plan for their deaths, but often overlook the fact that they might **receive a loved one's legacy.**

Retirement. **Both financially preparing for retirement and appropriately tapping one's financial assets in retirement are key needs.**

Whatever life changes you've experienced, talking with a financial professional about your values, goals and needs can help secure your financial future.

To learn more, contact Elizabeth Kaniarz, CFP® , FIC at 248.227.3419 or Elizabeth.Kaniarz@Thrivent.com, or visit thrivent.com.

March 2010 Birthdays & Anniversaries

Mark Ellis	03/01	Megan Larivee	03/18
Hannah Tremont	03/01	Karoline Newer	03/18
Steven Dork	03/03	Cathy Evans	03/19
Mary Howarth	03/04	Richard Ries	03/19
Timothy Gray	03/05	Joel Gruber	03/20
Spencer Ingamells	03/05	Cassie Hoffman	03/20
Kiersten Pfeifer	03/05	Ron Robbins	03/20
Kristin Wing	03/05	Michael Kilpatrick	03/21
Maggie Berwick	03/07	Megan MacKenzie	03/21
Alice Tremont	03/08	Niko Therkildsen	03/21
Colin Crusoe	03/09	Brenson Watters	03/21
Hanna Hunstad	03/09	Allison Gruber	03/22
Tom Sacoman	03/09	Ellyn Gray	03/23
Dan Brunet	03/10	Stephen Ball	03/24
Matthew Czaplicki	03/10	Kalen Rimar	03/24
Jennifer Barr	03/11	Gust Ilkka	03/26
Katelyn Gullen	03/13	Susan Arrigo	03/27
John Crusoe	03/14	Paul Jenkins	03/27
Alyssa Long	03/14	Lauren Rimar	03/27
Oliver Minton	03/14	Miriam Amundsen	03/28
Ines Arndt	03/15	Jill McKinney	03/29
Marisa Iaderosa	03/16	David Hunstad	03/30
Dan Klepp	03/16	Laura Klepp	03/30
Zachary Soldan	03/16	Maggie Reynolds	03/30
Elizabeth Evans	03/17	Jeff Garlick	03/31
Haley Evans	03/17		

HOUSEHOLD	DATE OF ANNIVERSARY	YEARS CELEBRATING
Al & Mary Travsky	3/1/1952	52
Bruce & Susan Pierik	3/7/2009	1

 Congratulations!

READINGS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP FOR MARCH 2010



DATE	CHURCH YEAR DAY	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
March 7	3 Lent	Isaiah 55:1-9	Psalm 63:1-8	1 Corinthians 10:1-13	Luke 13:1-9
March 14	4 Lent	Joshua 5:9-12	Psalm 32	2 Corinthians 5:16-21	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
March 21	5 Lent	Isaiah 43:16-21	Psalm 126	Philippians 3:4b-14	John 12:1-8
March 28	Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 22:14-23:56 <i>or</i> Luke 23:1-49
March 29	Monday in Holy Week	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalm 36:5-11	Hebrews 9:11-15	John 12:1-11
March 30	Tuesday in Holy Week	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 71:1-14	1 Corinthians 1:18-31	John 12:20-36
March 31	Wednesday in Holy Week	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 70	Hebrews 12:1-3	John 13:21-32



2009 Congregation Board

President

TBD

Vice President

TBD

Treasurer

Karl Geisler

Secretary:

Gary Berwick*

Members at Large (3):

Diane Ingamells
Barb Nelson Worth
Jim Wratkowski

Pastor:

Dick Schroeder

Program & Operations

Director:

Janet McBride

Preschool Representative:

Kristin Newer

*Non-voting Members

Key Ministry

Coordinators:

Encountering God In

Worship:

Sandy Altemann &
Cathy Evans

Living the Word of God

Kim Birmingham &
Charlie Martin

Sharing our Faith with

Others:

Open

Caring for Others in

Need:

Bob Bevier &
Terri Finch

Fund Balance Report January 2010

FUND BALANCES

	Balance 1/1/2010	Y T D Receipts	Y T D Disb.	Balance 1/31/2010
General Fund & Preschool	69,116	39,505	51,541	57,080
Memorial	7,046	100	0	7,146
WELCA (Mary Circle)	1,174	50	0	1,224
Pastor's Discretionary	0	0	0	-
Pass Thru Accounts (net received - disbursed)	12,991	(150)		12,841
Total Fund Balances	90,327	39,505	51,541	78,291
My Offering to date	18,078		Budget YTD	26,400
Own the Bricks to date	3,335		Budget YTD	7,400



**ABIDING PRESENCE
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1550 Walton Blvd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48309

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America, Sister Congregation
with Balangdalalu Lutheran Church,
Katesh, Tanzania

Phone: 248-651-6550
Fax: 248-651-8312
Website: www.abidingpresence.org

VISION:
A COMMUNITY CENTERED IN CHRIST

MISSION:
SHARING THE ABUNDANT LIFE WITH
OTHERS

AP Staff

Pastor

Richard Schroeder
Email: pastor@abidingpresence.org

Director of Operations

Janet McBride
Email: jmcbride@abidingpresence.org

Organist

Carolyn Smith
Email: csmith_88@msn.com

Adult Choir Director

Sean Galloway
Email: choir@abidingpresence.org

Administrative Assistant

Jean Grande
Email: jgrande@abidingpresence.org

Bulletin & Announcement Prep

Carolyn Berwick
Email: bulletin@abidingpresence.org

Finance

Karl Geisler
Email: finance@abidingpresence.org

Questions for the office?

Email: office@abidingpresence.org

Worship Schedule

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:45am Sunday School All Ages
11:00am Contemporary Worship

Input deadline is the **15th** of the month.

Please send your articles to
office@abidingpresence.org