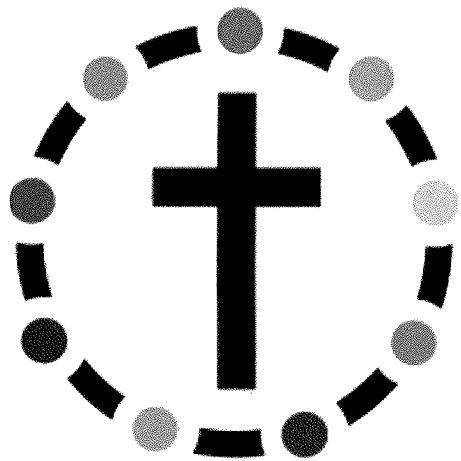


Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

801 Charlotte Highway

Fairview, NC 28730



Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

United in Christ. Welcoming All.

- Ability ● Age ● Ethnicity ● Gender Identity ● Language
- Life Circumstances ● Marital Status ● Race ● Sexual Orientation

2016-2017
Annual Report

ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
801 Charlotte Highway, Fairview, NC 28730

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
July 23, 2017

The following slate is presented for election to the Church Council:

OFFICERS

President	Harold Sweitzer
Vice-President	John Corkran
Secretary	Jennifer Ownbey
Treasurer	Bob Lierman

MISSION TEAM LEADERS

Stewardship	Tom Radle
Family Life	Sue Hebb
Outreach	Kay Doverspike

NOTE: Mission Team leaders, along with the Officers and Pastor, comprise the Church Council. The office of Treasurer is voted on by the Council on an annual basis. Bob Lierman currently serves as Treasurer and Toni Corkran serves as Financial secretary.

Congregational Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2016

Members Present: Jennifer Ownbey, Harold Sweitzer, Sue Hebb, Lawson Hebb, Doris Wright, Leah Usedom, Jim Usedom, Stan Endlich, Vicki Roome, Mark Bolick, Susan Bolick, Pam Radle, Tom Radle, Bob Lierman, Dawn Lierman, John Corkran, Toni Corkran, Kay Doverspike, Linda Butera, Leanne Cunningham, Pastor David Eck

Quorum is represented by members present.

Meeting called to order at 12:09pm. The purpose of today's meeting is to review the minutes from the July Congregational Meeting and to approve/adopt the budget for 2017.

Meeting Minutes: The minutes from the July meeting were read and reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by John Corkran. The motion was seconded by Stan Endlich. The motion approved unanimously.

Budget: Sheet presented shows Annual budget for 2016, The actual and budgeted amounts, and the projected budget for 2017.

Pledges stand about where they were last year. We would like to note, however, that up through 2nd week of December, members who have pledged in 2016 have actually given more than pledged last year. On behalf of council, we really appreciate the support our members have provided. \$89,516 has been given so far.

Motion to approve the budget as presented was made by Lawson Hebb. Motion was seconded by Mark Bolick.

The meeting adjourned at 12:13pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Ownbey
ASLC Council Secretary 2015-16

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

RECEIVED IN 20156

WHEN

HOW

CONFIRMED MEMBERSHIP ROLL

Michael Dawn Martoccio	10/16	Transfer from non-Luth cong.
Seth Crooke	10/16	Transfer from non-Luth cong.
Seth Larson	10/16	Transfer from non-Luth cong.
Jeanette Larson	10/16	Transfer from non-Luth cong.

BAPTIZED MEMBERSHIP ROLL

Sean Larson	10/16	Transfer from non-Luth cong.
Chris Larson	10/16	Transfer from non-Luth cong.

REMOVED IN 2016

CONFIRMED MEMBERSHIP ROLL

Jan Eckert	4/16	Death
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STATISTICS AS OF 12/31/2016

Baptized: 130 Confirmed: 103 Associate: 4 Average Worship Attendance: 39
[Report to ELCA = 134 members total]

President's Report

The past year has been a blessing to our congregation as we have seen a wonderful growth in attendance, especially the influx of families with children. This resulted in the expansion of some of our programs while we continued our traditional programs and activities. I am hopeful that the growth will continue in the future and that said growth will result in increased revenues. Our financial well-being continues to be a concern as it has been for many years. I would hate to think of where this congregation would be if not for "angels" in our midst that have contributed monies to cover this years unexpected expenses such as the heat pump and hot water heater.

I want to thank those members who contribute their time and talents to help sustain our church, its upkeep and mission. Also, special thanks to Pastor Dave for all he does, many of which are not in his job description.

Remember to pray for our church every day, be involved in our activities, and contribute to the best of your ability.

Harold Sweitzer

PASTOR'S REPORT 2017

A few weeks ago we had a visitor who was a priest from an Episcopal Church. He was on vacation and had looked at the web sites of the churches in Asheville and chose us as his place to go for Sunday worship. Our Reconciling in Christ designation was an important factor in making this decision. After worship I got the chance to speak with him and he said that our worship was the most spiritually led service he had attended in a very long time. I take this as the highest of compliments, and you should, too.

What I think he meant by this is that our worship is authentic and powerful. The liturgy honors the traditional structure of Lutheran worship, yet also uses more contemporary language and images. The sermons are practical and relevant. The music is lively and we are so blessed to have Anne on piano and Jen and Susan helping me with the guitar-led songs. There is a synchronicity the four of us have because we are spirit-led musicians. Worship is never a performance for us. We are there to help people connect with God on a deeper, more intimate level. We understand that music is one of the easiest ways to accomplish this.

The other factor that makes our worship powerful is the folks who gather here every Sunday. The children bring a wonderful, infectious energy that is filled with joy and love. People welcome each other warmly and sincerely, and engage visitors with the same warmth. We also know how to raise the roof when we sing and, believe it or not, this does not always happen in churches much bigger than us. Worship is a participatory experience for everyone at Abiding Savior and I think visitors like the Episcopal priest can sense this rather quickly.

When doing reports like this, it's tempting to focus on the challenges we have as a church, but I think you know them already. I simply wanted to remind everyone what a joy it is to be a part of this faith community. Not a Sunday goes by that I'm not grateful for all of you and the gifts you share to make our ministry happen. From bringing the snack to feeding the homeless at Pritchard Park, from weeding the garden to mentoring our youth, we all play a part in the success of our congregation. Thank you for your support as, together, we look forward to what God has in store for Abiding Savior in the coming year.

Blessings, Pastor Dave

Family Life and Outreach Committee Annual Report June 2017

2016-2017 committee members: Sue Hebb, Kay Doverspike, Jenn Ownbey, Tom Radle, and Pastor Dave.

August- Prichard Park breakfast for the homeless on 8/14/16 fed approximately 80-90 people. A \$250 Thrivent Go- Team Action Grant was acquired for the Rescue Mission Summer Picnic. Confirmation of the picnic occurring never happened but the money would be used in a productive manner.

September- Fall schedule resumed 9/11/16. A new liturgy was used this month "Season of Creation". The idea originated in Australia. The 4 weeks were titled Ocean, Fauna, Storm and Cosmos. The adult Sunday school sessions tied into the sermon series. A new curriculum was started for the Children's Sunday school. On 9/17/16 a hike to Max Patch near Hot Springs occurred with 5 participants. Lunch was at the Smokey Mountain Diner in Hot Springs. On 9/25/16 we had our Anniversary Pot Luck Lunch. It was our 30th anniversary. Pictures were sent to people that once belonged to our congregation that moved away or had family members that passed away.

October- On 10/16/16 a sloppy Joe lunch was held after the service. Then Altered Playing Cards were made. On 10/22/16 the WNC Mission Coat Drive took place. Cookies and hot chocolate were served to clients.

November- On 11/6/16 was All Saints Day members brought in pictures of departed family loved ones to be displayed in church. On 11/13/16 was Pritchard Park breakfast for the homeless, approximately 100 were fed. On 11/20/16 after church starting with a quick lunch of white and red chili and dessert we started our Christmas craft- making angels from card stock. Advent began on 11/27/16, our theme this year- Angels Among Us.

December- We decorated the church for Christmas on 12/3/16. The Potluck Christmas Feast was on 12/11/16. After the Christmas Eve service, we had a cookie and coffee social on 12/24/16.

January- Room in the Inn was canceled this year. On 1/22/17 we had a game day following the service with lunch including BBQ chicken, potato salad, side and dessert.

February- on 2/3/17 the Jewish Secular Community of Asheville started having their services on the first Friday of each month. On 2/12/17 We fed the homeless at Pritchard Park, about 60 – 75 folks were fed. On 2/19/17 church members met at the Asheville Mall food court for lunch after church. Then a bowling party was held at AMF lanes near the Mall.

March- The Lenten services began 3/1/17 with Ash Wednesday. The weeks to follow there was a social time of dessert and coffee after the Lenten services. On 3/5/17 we had a craft session after church with lunch. We made paper towel crosses from paper towel rolls. On 3/26/17 went to see "The Shack" in the afternoon. Then out to supper at Zapper's Pizza place.

April- This month we had a Spring cleanup on 4/8/17. The next day Holy Week started with Palm Sunday. On 4/16/17 we had our Easter breakfast and Easter egg hunt for the children before the Easter service began. Goodie bags were given to all the kids that participated. On 4/29/17 our yard sale took place. Profits raised were greater than \$1000.

May- On 5/14/17 we fed the homeless at Prichard park, less than 100 fed. The Summer schedule began on 5/28/17, no Adult Sunday school and children's Sunday school ends 6/4/17. The Summer Sunday services began at 10 am.

June- The Laurel River hike was canceled due to lack of participation on 6/3. A recent activity involving the children of the church was started on 6/9/17. It is called Parent's Night Out. There will be one outing every quarter giving parents a few hours to have times for themselves. The activity went well. There were 5 participants. The kids enjoyed a movie, music and pizza with Pastor Dave and Jenn. Our year ended with a Picnic at Pastor Dave's on 6/25/17.

Abiding Savior July 2017 Congregational meeting, Stewardship Team report

Stewardship – After our Fall, 2016 appeal, we received pledges for 2017 of \$90,507, virtually the same total as in 2016. So far this year, we are at about a breakeven point in our annual budget. We thank the members, both pledgers and non-pledgers for their continuing generosity. This has been the difference, since we have experienced a decline in non-member giving and the loose offerings compared to last year. We are also grateful to Linda Butera, Pam and Tom Radle and Lynn Barrett and their helpers for the income generated by the Rummage Sale the past several years.

Accounting – Treasurer Bob Lierman has increased the number of online accounts with our suppliers. This enables us better to manage cash flow, avoid late payments and improve our tax records for reimbursement purposes. We have now added the building and property value to our balance sheet, which gives a better picture of our financial condition and guidance regarding proper insurance coverage. After salaries, our mortgage payments are our largest expenditure. Because of the members' consistent support, we have made good progress in reducing our mortgage balances, with virtually all of our payments on the Home Mission note going toward principal.

Facilities – Both of the HVAC units in the doublewide are inoperable. After looking at alternatives, with Pastor's leadership, we replaced these units with window fans and thermostatically controlled infrared heaters. This has kept the building comfortable and safe at far less cost than replacing the HVAC units.

We were unable to avoid replacing the oldest HVAC unit in the sanctuary when its compressor failed. With the congregation facing a \$5,608 bill, two donors provided gifts totaling \$10,508 covering the replacement and creating a \$5000 emergency reserve! The reserve came in handy when the water heater in the doublewide started leaking. A new heater and improved plumbing connections were installed promptly, avoiding damage and insuring the continued use of the building.

Facilities use - Making sure the doublewide is fully functional enables Abiding Savior to serve a variety of community organizations. We are home to a couple of AA groups and a Girl Scout troop. The Board of Elections rents the facility for primary and general elections. The sanctuary is used by a violin class and a new "tenant" is the Jewish Secular Community of Asheville which rents it for a monthly Shabat service.

We are grateful to all who volunteer their services to clean the sanctuary and work on the grounds. Special thanks to Pastor who does a great deal of "grunt" work in addition to normal pastoral responsibilities. We also thank those who volunteer to serve as worship and nursery assistants, prepare communion and coffee hour and assist with the music. We are especially blessed to have Anne Schwabland as our accompanist.

Time, talent and treasure willingly and lovingly offered make Abiding Savior a special place.

Thank you all, and Thanks be to God!

The Stewardship Mission Team: John Corkran, Chair, Pastor David Eck, Financial Secretary Toni Corkran, Treasurer Bob Lierman, Joe Langley, Harold Sweitzer, Tom Radle

Financial Secretary Report - July 2017

Dear Members and Friends of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Once again we want to thank you for your commitment to the pledges that you have made and monetary gifts you have given both to our congregation and to the social ministries we support.

I personally want to thank those who take time to share in cleaning the church both inside and out. We have a very beautiful piece of property which needs a lot of labor but it is worth it.

Special Thank You To: All those who have given financially to Abiding Savior;

And those who have been so prompt with their pledges;

And those who have given their time and talents for the many needs we have here at Abiding Savior;

And following is a list of those who have helped with the Sunday tabulating of our financial gifts: Doris & Ray Wright, Linda Butera, Pam & Tom Radle, Dawn & Bob Lierman and John & Toni Corkran. THANK YOU!

Toni Corkran, Financial Secretary

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Stewardship Report
 As of January 31, 2017

Deposits		
Total Deposits Received		\$10,275.51
Less Adjustments		
	Designated Fund	
	Flower Fund	
	Gary's Insurance	
	Telephone	
Total Adjustments		\$0.00
Deposits for General Fund		<u>\$10,275.51</u>

Expenses		
Total Expenses Entered		\$9,715.71
Less Adjustments		
	Designated Fund	
	Flower Fund	
	Gary's Insurance	
	Telephone	
	Accounts Payable	
	Payroll Liabilities	
Total Adjustments		(\$114.78)
Total Expenses		<u>\$9,600.93</u>

Income Adjustments		
	Designated Fund	
	Flower Fund	
	Gary's Insurance	
	Telephone	
	2017 Beginning Adjustments	
Total Adjustments		\$0.00
Net Income		<u><u>\$674.58</u></u>

General Checking Overage/Shortage	(\$3,476.48)
Utility Expense (50532)	\$722.96

Cash Flow Projection		
Checking Account Balance as of January 31, 2017		\$5,369.08
Operating Months Remaining Based on Current Month		(8.0)
Operating Months Remaining Based on Current Year Averages		(8.0)

	Income	Expenses	Net Income	
Averages	\$10,275.51	\$9,600.93	\$674.58	
Income Statement January 2017	\$10,275.51	\$9,600.93	\$674.58	
Income Statement YTD 2017	\$10,275.51	\$9,600.93	\$674.58	\$674.58

General Comments and Information:

Automatic/Online Payments now include:

Asheville Savings Bank
 Church Mutual Insurance Company
 Duke Energy
 Home Depot
 Portico Benefit Services
 Sam's Club

Potential Accounts:

City of Asheville (via Debit/Credit Card-we should look into both for payments and misc. expenses that Pastor pays)
 Staples

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Designated Funds

As of January 31, 2017

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Subtractions	Ending Balance	CD Sales
Flower Fund	\$776.58			\$776.58	
Candle Fund	\$11.84			\$11.84	
ELCA Flood				\$0.00	
Habitat Basket				\$0.00	
Habitat for Humanity				\$0.00	
Heat Pump	\$125.00			\$125.00	
Telephone				\$0.00	
				<u>\$913.42</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Mortgage Balances

As of January 31, 2017

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Subtractions	Ending Balance
Asheville Savings	\$127,893.19	\$655.28	(\$1,334.43)	\$127,214.04
Home Mission	\$62,277.97	\$103.80	(\$1,011.77)	\$61,370.00
				<u>\$188,584.04</u>

Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Banking Balances

As of December 31, 2016

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Subtractions	Ending Balance
Checking	(\$4,082.20)	\$10,275.51	(\$9,669.79)	(\$3,476.48)
Savings	\$8,845.56			\$8,845.56
Total Checkbook				<u>\$5,369.08</u>