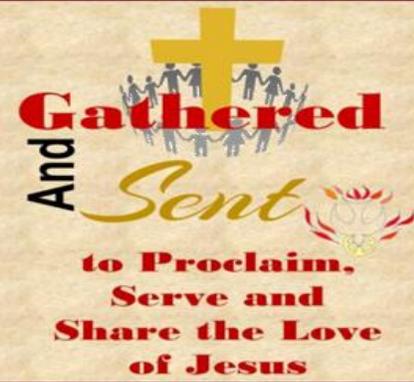


# CHURCH OF THE ABIDING SAVIOR LUTHERAN

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

○ ISSUE SEPTEMBER

○ YEAR 2018



## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

*“Every community has values, often unarticulated and taken for granted. These values articulated, serve as Guiding Principles.”*



*It is God's purpose not our purpose that is to be defined and discerned. Purpose for the congregation is always related to God's purpose for the world. The church is an instrument for God's work.*

*-Dave Daubert*

*LIVING LUTHERAN Renewing Your Congregation*

## DEVELOPING A VISION

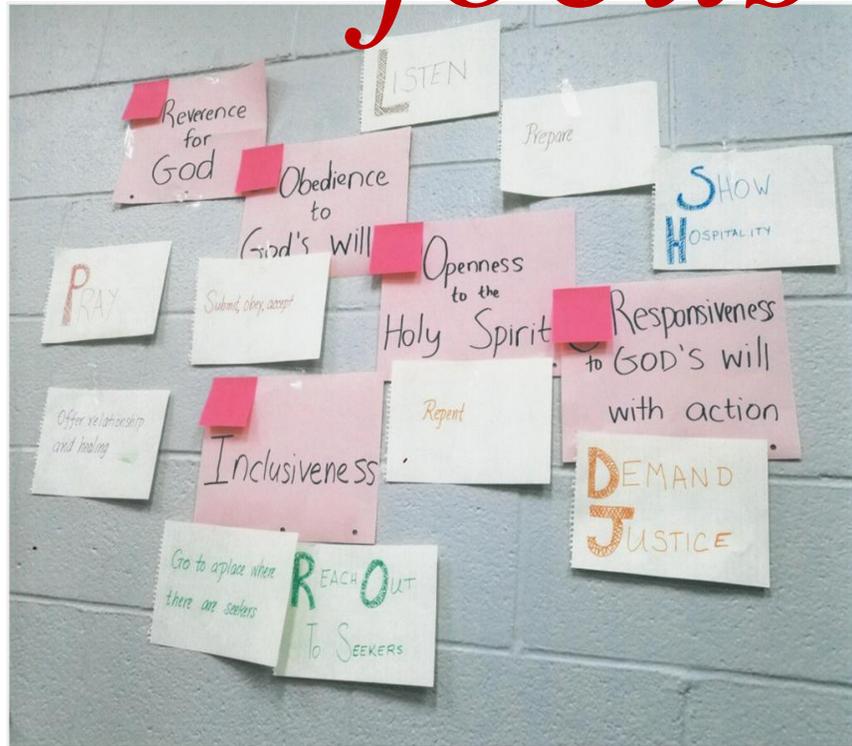
Annually, the congregation council meets in retreat with a focus on ministry for the upcoming year. In August, the 2018-2019 congregation council began the initial work of developing a vision for the congregation. The last vision document was created in 2007. Earlier this year, the congregation approved a new mission statement or our purpose: “We are Gathered and Sent to Proclaim, Serve and Share the Love of Jesus”.

The next step in the process is to be clear about how we live out our mission-or articulating our guiding principles.

The council prepared by reading the book “LIVING LUTHERAN *Renewing your Congregation*” by Dave

Daubert and studying scripture by reading the book of Acts. During the retreat, the Pastor, Vicar and council members worked together and in groups to discuss and identify Biblical guiding principles. Worksheets from the retreat are posted in the Narthex. Using the pre-work of the council, the congregation will get involved in the work of developing guiding principles. There will be a Lunch Bunch on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> following worship.

# Mission *focus*



## VISION

*God's Hopes and dreams for our future (VISION) = Purpose+Guiding Principles +Time*

**Join the Lunch Bunch on September 23<sup>rd</sup>**



### *The Vicar on Visioning...*

Knowing and telling our stories is an important part of the visioning process. Our stories tell us who we are and what matters to us. If you have a good sense of our congregation's history, and have a talent for spinning a good yarn, then you might be our congregation's Storyteller! The Synod is looking for folks to participate in a synod-wide storytelling effort. If that sounds like your cup of tea, speak with Pastor Margaret or Vicar Jen.

## FROM PASTOR MARGARET



"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." "This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people." - Jeremiah 31:33

This is the promise which God gives to us. However, it does not appear by magic. God's Word comes to us through many ways: by singing, by reading, by listening and by sharing the Word with one another. That's why we learn it as children and as adults that's why we study it together. The experiences that we have as adults can open God's Word to us in new and profound ways; that is way Sunday Church School is for all of us.

Together we can find new meaning in those old stories and together we can find strength in the Word God has written on our hearts and in our minds.



## Gathered to Share the Love of Jesus

Starting in September  
Each Sunday morning at 9:45 there will be Sunday School for all ages.

**Youth Classes** provide activities that help youth to grow and explore faith, discover the Bible and learn about Jesus with fun activities that creatively engage youth with scripture.

**Adult Classes** include insightful lessons and meaningful discussions that inspire participants and help them see how scripture relates to their daily lives by exploring current topics in the news.

**WE ARE SENT TO SERVE:**  
Dinner at Urban Ministries of Durham



Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

**CONGRATS! PATRICIA!**  
Patricia Bass, who is working on a PhD at Duke, has received a fellowship to study in Italy from September 23<sup>rd</sup> until the end of the year. She will be working on a writing and research residency at the University of Padua in Padua, Italy. Our thoughts and prayers go with her.

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 13<sup>th</sup> ALL MINISTRY 9:30 am–Noon and CLEAN UP DAY 12:01-2:00 pm**  
Abiding Savior's Church Clean-up Day: Please mark your calendar for Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:01 pm – 2:00 pm, (after the All Ministry Meetings). All Members are needed to help clean the church and the shed. Additional details will be provided prior to the clean-up day. Snacks will be available.

## GROWING YOUNG



Churches across the country are both shrinking and aging as more young people disengage. However, there are scores of congregations that are bucking this trend and developing cultures that welcome, empower, and engage teenagers and young adults.

All churches grow old, but strategic churches are growing young. The Fuller Youth Institute (FYI) has conducted groundbreaking research with over 250 of the nation's leading congregations to learn what they do right.

**Growing Young** provides a strategy any church can use to involve and retain young people. It profiles innovative churches engaging 15 to 29-year-olds that are growing – spiritually, emotionally, missionally, and numerically. Packed with ideas, *Growing Young* shows ministry leaders how to position their churches to reach younger generations in a way that breathes life into the whole church.

"*Growing Young* demonstrates how prioritizing the young is a church-changing strategy, not a youth ministry-changing strategy...and how pursuing Jesus by 'growing young' fundamentally changes the ways congregations interact with their communities, their leaders, as well as with youth and adults."

-Dr. Kenda Creasy, Dean Princeton Theological Seminary