

*How To
Avoid Being
Prejudiced*

Abiding Faith Lutheran is a gathering of people growing in generosity, discipleship, and outreach.

WORSHIP

How can we avoid being prejudiced?

Today Pastor Kruck will share God's powerful Word from James 2 on how we can avoid being prejudiced and live & love like Jesus calls us too.

- The color **Green** pictures growth through trials and troubles.

CONNECT

Sunday

Sunday School @ 915 for all ages

Worship @ 1030, Livestream on Facebook, YouTube, & Twitch

Daily Devotions

2 minutes of Christ's comfort connected with today's topics on our YouTube, Facebook, Instagram & Rumble.

Small Groups

Meet monthly with food, faith, and fellowship for Men (Grill Kings), Women (WINGS), and Teens (Teen Night).

Service Opportunities

Help the hungry, homeless, and hurting in our community by collaborating with Nourish Food Bank, Doors of Hope, and Rutherford County Jail to provide food, faith, and fellowship. See today's opportunities posted outside Pastor's Office and signup to serve!

Free Church Library

Free resources including devotionals, children's books, commentaries, and music. Take what you need and return when finished. Thanks.

PASTOR

Hi, I'm Keith Schleis (pronounced Sh-lice).

I enjoy birdwatching, basketball, and smoking BBQ.

Please call/text me on my cell @ 615.692.4343 or email Keith.a.Schleis@gmail.com if I can be of any help to you.

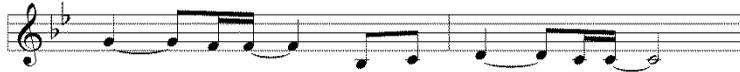
May God bless your day!



HYMN: #735 SPEAK O LORD



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To re -
 2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, Ho - ly
 3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



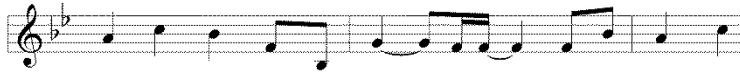
ceive the food of your Ho - ly Word,
 rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty.
 grasp the heights of your plans for us.



Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and
 Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes In the
 Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, That will



fash - ion us in your like - ness That the
 ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our
 e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to - day In our acts of
 faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic
 grace we'll stand on your pro - mis - es, And by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
 love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
 walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, as your



fill in us All your pur - pos - es for your
 nev - er fail, Let their truth pre - vail o - ver
 Church is built And you fill the earth with your



glo - ry.
 un - be - lief.
 glo - ry.

Last time

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin,
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

Christ, have mercy.

For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

Amen

1 All glo - ry be to God on high!
 2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,
 3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
 4 You, Christ, are ho - ly— Lord a - lone;

Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;
 For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,
 You take all hu - man sin a - way.
 The Fath - er's glo - ry you made known.

We praise you for your peace and grace,
 For all, O Fath - er, you have done
 Have mer - cy, Lord; re - ceive our prayer;
 We by your Spir - it sing a - gain:

Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.
 Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.
 From God's right hand, your mer - cy share.
 "All glo - ry be to God!" A - men.

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we pray that your mercy will always be with us, that loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ISAIAH 50

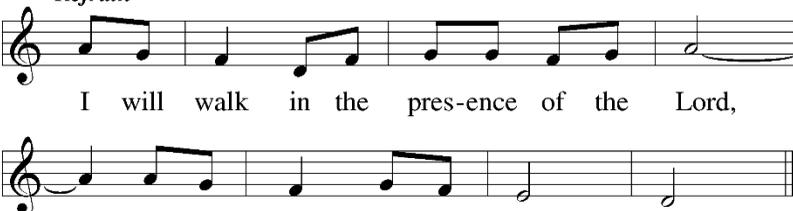
⁴ The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught. ⁵ The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back. ⁶ I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting.

⁷ Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. ⁸ He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me!

PSALM 116

Verses are sung responsively. Refrain sung in unison after musical introduction to the refrain.

Refrain



I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord,
in the land of the liv - ing.

Psalm tone



*

I love the LORD, for he heard my voice;*
he heard my cry for mercy.

Because he turned his ear to me,*
I will call on him as long as I live.

The LORD is gracious and righteous;*
when I was in great need, he saved me. *Refrain*

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

How can I repay the LORD*
for all his goodness to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation*
and call on the name of the LORD.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son* and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain*

JAMES 2

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. Alleluia. (Romans 15:4 cf. NIV)



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the



mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ. Al - le -



lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

MARK 8

²⁷ Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" ²⁸ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ." ³⁰ Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

HYMN: #767 THE LORD IS MY LIGHT

Refrain

The Lord is my light and my sal - va - tion. The Lord is the
 strong-hold of my life. Since the Lord is my light, my
 strength and my all, Whom then shall I fear?

Verses

1 There is one thing I ask of the Lord:
 2 Do not hide your face, O Lord,
 3 Teach me, Lord, and keep me on your paths;

To dwell in his house for - ev - er,
 Ev - 'ry day I will seek your face.
 Guide me, Lord, a - long a lev - el way.

To gaze on the beau - ty of the Lord
 Though my fa - ther and moth - er may for - sake me,
 I will gaze on the good - ness of the Lord

To Refrain

All the days of my life.
 The Lord will re - ceive me.
 In the land of all the liv - ing.

SERMON: JAMES 2

How To Avoid Being Prejudiced

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER AND OFFERING

- **Text2Give** Text the amount to 615-490-0996
- **PayPal** Visit abiding-faith.org/give
- **Swipe Debit/Credit Card** Login to iPad near Coffee with PIN 1041
- **EFT** Set up recurring withdrawals from your bank. Contact Ted Ewald, Treasurer

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S SUPPER

We prepare to receive a heavenly meal called the **Lord's Supper**. Depending on your preparation (1 Corinthians 11:27-29), this Meal can either bring forgiveness or judgment to you. We invite members of Abiding Faith or other WELS and ELS congregations to eat and drink. Other guests are asked to speak with Pastor Schleis before eating/drinking so you can be properly prepared. Thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the LORD.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord who on this day poured out his promised Holy Spirit to testify to the truth and to remind his followers of everything he had said to them. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is



might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In
he Who in God's name is com - ing To



count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -



save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -



in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.
liv - er us from bond - age— Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

LORD'S BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON

1 O Lord, now let your serv - ant De - part in peace,
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All glo - ry to

as - sured: For I have seen your prom - ised In -
the Son, All glo - ry to the Spir - it, For -

car - nate, sav - ing Word— A Light that will en -
ev - er three in one; For as in the be -

light - en All gloom where Gen - tiles dwell; The bril - liant,
gin - ning, Is now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une

crown - ing glo - ry Of those in Is - ra - el!
name re - sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

OPPORTUNITIES

BUILD FAITH TODAY: Would you like to join our church family? Pastor Schleis teaches a Faithbuilders class that builds faith through the basic teachings of the Bible. We meet for class around your schedule – evenings, weekends, daytime, etc.

Interested? Text Pastor Schleis @ 615.692.4343 or email Keith.a.Schleis@gmail.com

MINISTRY SUPPORT UPDATE: Thank you for your generous support of our ministry. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure allow us to fulfill God’s mission and vision for us.

Honor the LORD with all your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing and your vats will brim over with new wine. Proverbs 3:9-10



HELPING THE ISOLATED INCARCERATED: Men and women in jails and prisons may be the most impacted by Covid-19 limitations. There have been and still remain in many places limitations on visitors and Bible studies. Our national church body’s prison ministry, WELS Prison Ministry, has produced new materials to serve via mail and pen pal programs.

For more information and to refer someone, visit www.wels.net/prison-ministry

COUNSELING: In addition to private, pastoral counseling, our congregation has partnered with Christian Family Solutions to provide confidential, Christian counseling using secure, online video technology with men and women of our fellowship.

Visit www.christianfamilysolutions.org to learn more regarding the providers and options. We currently have multiple members using this service at discounted rates through the congregation.

Contact Pastor Schleis for more details.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Youth, ages 4-14

Bring your children and grandchildren to hear the stories of Jesus love.

- Age appropriate lessons
- Small class sizes
- Fun crafts
- Dedicated teachers
- Stories that last a lifetime

Jesus loves me, this I know Youth Sunday School

9/5 Saul is King

9/12 David and Goliath

9/19 David is Kind to Saul

9/26 David and Bathsheba

Teens, grades 9-12

Our godless world celebrates everything but God. Where can we go for support, guidance, and strength?

- Pastor-prepared lessons
- Teen-led discussion
- Christian ethics
- Biblical values
- Real friendships

God's Guidance in Godless World Teen Sunday School

9/5 Grounded

9/12 Witnessing Tips

9/19 Christian View of Anxiety

9/26 Being Prepared

Adult

Our society seems to be falling apart, but this is nothing new.

Thousands of years ago, God's people suffered under sinful leaders & rampant immorality in a godless age.

See God's grace then and now in these ancient stories fitting for today.

Stories They Didn't Teach You in Sunday School

9/5 Peer Pressure

9/12 Witnessing Tips

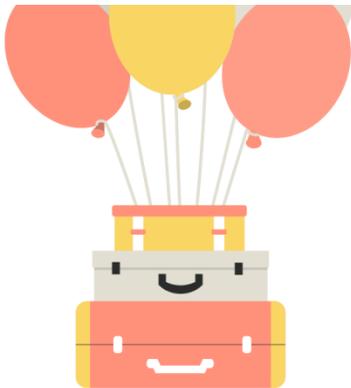
9/19 Christian View of Anxiety

9/26 God's Purpose, Our Pain



God has richly blessed with us with a wonderful property to enjoy. Can you help us fertilize and seed the lawn?

Join us for 2 hours of work on Saturday morning, October 2nd
Contact Luke Nasgovitz or Pastor Schleis with questions.
Bring your spreader, please, if you got one.

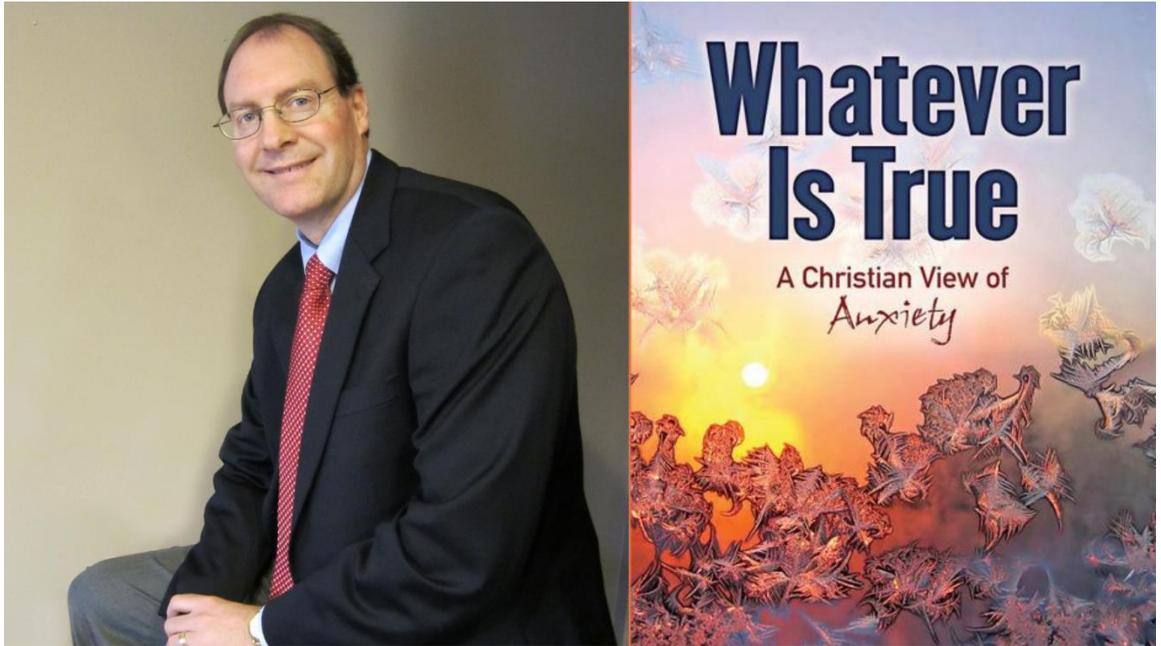


**BARB MERTIG
FAREWELL**

SUNDAY 9/26

Barb Mertig is moving closer to family in SC and this is her last Sunday with us. Let's say farewell and wish her God's blessings on her travel! I've had many a new member comment to me about Barb's gentleness, kindness, and friendliness. We will miss her greatly. Let's laugh and cry a little bit together and say farewell.

Barb has been a member of our church for the last 17 years.



Christians suffering from anxiety often struggle with Jesus' command not to worry. What happens if you believe in Jesus but can't stop worrying?

Most books on anxiety preach self-help and coping mechanisms. That may work for a while. But those who suffer from chronic anxiety learn that we cannot be our own savior.

William Woodington, successful entrepreneur and businessowner, was diagnosed with chronic anxiety many years ago.

He will be presenting on *Whatever Is True: A Christian View of Anxiety*, a book he wrote and released through our Northwestern Publishing House www.nph.net. As a Lutheran Christian, William is eager to share his own experiences and Bible-based wisdom to help you captivate your thoughts on Christ and God's love for your anxiety.

William believes his anxiety is a blessing, as God used it to deepen his faith and reliance on the only Savior, Jesus Christ.

Please join us for this informative presentation and Q&A on Sunday, September 19th @ 9:15 in the Sanctuary. All are welcome.

2021: EXPANSION

Abiding Faith Lutheran | Smyrna

MORE PEOPLE

We've added 12 new brothers and sisters to our church family already in 2021, with more to come.



MORE STAFF

We need additional staff to serve our growing church family and community.

MORE ROOM

We need to expand our worship space so everyone can gather safely together.



BUILDING MINISTRY

We have created a Building Ministry Fund for our expansion.

READ MORE @ [BIT.LY/EXPANSION 2021](https://bit.ly/expansion2021)

BUILDING EXPANSION GIVING OPTIONS



PayPal

Visit
abiding-faith.org/give
and specify donation
for Building Ministry
Fund

Text amount to
615.490.0996 and
specify donation for
Building Ministry
Fund



Specify amount in
your weekly
envelope for
Building Ministry
Fund

All donations will be
matched up to 15K.

Doors of Hope

Empowering women to break the cycle of addiction, homelessness, and incarceration

Can you help provide a meal to women looking to break the cycle of addiction, homelessness, and incarceration?

Signup Sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please contact Kim Irwin for more information.

Shop and Bake: able to shop for all supplies to bake dinner. Prepare 3 lg pans of lasagna (each pan to feed 10-12), 3 bags of salad, 3 loaves of bread and option for dessert.

Deliver: able to deliver dinner to Doors of Hope office located at 428 E Bell Rd in Murfreesboro between 4p-5p on specified date.

Monetary Donation: to pay for supplies to make dinners.

Date	Money	Shop & Bake	Deliver
Sep 20	X		
Oct 18	X		
Nov 15	X		
Dec 20	X		
Jan 17	X		
Feb 21			