

The Good News

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church



The 2012 Mid-Week Lenten Drama Series

John 1:5 - The Darkness Did Not Overcome

written by Sharon Silcox and Pastor Jeffrey Ingold

A man in a car stuck in traffic, late for work; A woman in a hospital room holding the hand of her very ill child; A school aged boy and girl each sitting alone in a school cafeteria; A man exercising on an elliptical machine; and A woman paying her respects at the graveside of a friend. Each episode will portray these very real situations from the perspective of being able to listen in on the persons' thoughts. You won't want to miss a single episode of this series built around the theme from John 1:5, "The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." The broken cross will stand as a symbol of how God is at work picking up the pieces of our broken lives and putting them back together, as portrayed in the drama series. Worshippers will be led to remember in faith that even through the brokenness of the world and our lives, the light of Christ continues to shine in us.



Cross built by
Ian Wilson, Dan Stamm and
Pastor Jeffrey Ingold

Wednesdays in Lent:
February 29th through March 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday – Why Ashes?

On Wednesday, February 22nd we will gather together on this first day of the season of Lent to receive the imposition of ashes. Receiving the ashes on one's forehead is a sign of repentance at the beginning of this season of penitence. Being penitent means that we are sorry for having done wrong and are willing to atone. Have you ever wondered why ashes are a sign of our repentance or perhaps from what are the ashes made? Some of your questions may be answered within an article on the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's website under the Frequently Asked Questions section. Some points are listed here:

- The early Christians adopted the use of ashes from Jewish practice as an external mark of penitence.
- Using ashes as a sign of repentance is an ancient practice, often mentioned in the Bible (e.g., Jonah 3:5-9; Job 42:6; Jeremiah 6:26; Matthew 11:21).

Ashes are made from the palms used to observe the Sunday of the Passion. After the Palm Sunday worship, a few of the palms branches are saved to be burned into ashes. A bit of olive oil or mineral oil is added when they are used for Ash Wednesday. For more information about Ash Wednesday, go to www.elca.org. Click on the heading Growing in Faith and then under that, click Worship. From there, click on Learning Center and then Frequently Asked Questions or simply click on this link: <http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Worship/Learning-Center/FAQs/Imposition-of-Ashes.aspx>

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February 2012

Special points of interest:

- Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 — OWLS, Koinonia Wednesdays!
- Feb 2 — Men's BLB, SWFCA Meeting
- Feb 3 — Mustard Seeds
- Feb 5 — Super Bowl Party and Envelope Stuffing
- Feb 6 — APPLE Seeds Open House and Spaghetti Dinner
- Feb 7, 14, 21, 28 — Bible Study
- Feb 8 — Dove Love
- Feb 11 — Via De Cristo, Altar Guild Team
- Feb 17 — Church Work Day
- Feb 17-19 — Family Beach Retreat
- Feb 19 — NYG Meeting
- Feb 22— Ash Wednesday Worship
- Feb 24-26— LYO Assembly in Greensboro
- Feb 29— Lenten Worship and Drama Series begins

Inside this issue:

The Darkness Did Not Overcome	1
Pondering Pastor	2
Souper Bowl of Caring	3
Youth Group Events	4
The Dream Continues	5
Dove Love	6
Church Calendar	7

Pondering Pastor

At our Annual Congregational Meeting held on Wednesday, January 25th, the council submitted the 2012 APLC Goals and Platform for Abiding Presence Lutheran Church:

2012 Burning Platform:

(The label "Burning Platform" connotes a sense of urgency)

To fully embody our mission statement: "We are the Church, growing in faith, reaching out, inviting in, and serving the needs of all of God's children."

2012 Goals:

Growing in Faith ~ Encourage members to be disciples, who learn the ways of Jesus, and empower them to become leaders through expansion of our small group ministries, faith programs, and worship experiences.

Reaching Out ~ Expand the presence of APLC by increasing involvement beyond our church and opening our doors to the community.

Inviting In ~ Foster a sense of inclusiveness, both internal and external. Explore creative ways to invite new people into APLC and provide a place for service within the individual AIM teams.

Serving the Needs of All God's Children ~ Strengthen our AIM teams and the AIM structure so we can better serve the needs of our church family and the needs of our neighbors. Finding and appointing a volunteer coordinator to better assist our AIM team efforts.

Over the next weeks and months council along with all leaders of groups and teams will flesh out specific ways to pursue these goals with the urgency of a Burning Platform. So, as you read over these goals do you have any specific ideas about how we, as a congregation, may do that? Do you have ideas and suggestions about ways we may, indeed, encourage members to be disciples; expand our presence in the community; foster a sense of inclusiveness; and strengthen our AIM teams as efforts toward embodying our mission statement? We want your ideas and creative suggestions.

You will notice a "Ideas and Suggestions" box located on the table outside the main office. I urge you to share your ideas and helpful thoughts with council about ways you can envision, and help with, fulfilling our mission in very real and practical ways that we may, indeed, mean it when we state, "We are the Church." Council will read these ideas and suggestions as a part of their monthly council meetings.

Peace,
Pastor Jeffrey Ingold

Family Beach Retreat

February 17th to 19th, 2012 at Kure Beach, NC.

There are currently one and a half rooms available for this fun event. A full room sleeps six, a half room sleeps 3 and shares a shower stall with another 3 bed room. This is an action packed weekend full of fun and adventure for the whole family. For further information contact Murney Rinholm at bgr@nc.rr.com or Deb Worden at apexdebbie@aol.com.

Help Us Get From Here To There Campaign

The 19 students and 4 adults preparing for the ELCA National Youth Gathering taking place in New Orleans in July need your help. This unique opportunity for youth to gather with other youth from across the nation gives the students a greater sense of the vastness of our church, yet our connectedness in mission and purpose. You can help our students get from here to there by supporting these upcoming fund-raiser events:

**Sunday, Feb 5th —
Superbowl Sunday Sub Sale**

**Thursday, Feb 9th —
Assaggio's For Dinner**
Come to Assaggio's Pizzeria Ristorante located at 941 East Broad Street (in the Kroger shopping plaza next to Blockbuster on the Sunset Lake Road side of the stores) for lunch or dinner and encourage everyone you know to join you. Tom and Amy will donate 15% of all the receipts that are put into our receipt box at the checkout counter that day.

**Tuesday, Feb 21st —
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at APLC, (price to be determined)**

**Sunday, March 25th —
Zumba Marathon at Clubworx,
2:00-4:00pm, \$5.00 per person.**

Loose change and stray bills can be donated by placing them in the jar at the ELCA National Youth Gathering display outside Pastor Jeffrey's office. There will be more fund-raiser opportunities and we will keep you up-to-date. Thanks!!!

FROM
HERE
TO
THERE

S.T.O.R.M. CENTRAL

Service To Others Resource Ministry



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Food Pantry

On the first Sunday of each month through the remainder of the year, the Sunday School children will bring in and collect food to be donated to the Fuquay-Varina Food Pantry. On February 5th, please bring canned juice. (Jo-Ann Spaits (919) 557-2107 or ispaits@earthlink.net). The third Sunday of the month is still for the congregation donations of non-perishable items.



Food Pantry
Donations Needed

The STORM Team meets the first Saturday of the month at 9:30 am in the church work room. Our next Meeting is February 4th.

Souper Bowl of Caring 2012

On Sunday, February 5th Abiding Presence will be holding the annual Souper Bowl for Caring. During both morning worship services the Youth of APLC will be taking up a special collection of dry and canned goods along with cash. Donations this year are going to the Fuquay-Varina Emergency Food Pantry. The Emergency Food Pantry is "...a faith-based organization whose mission is to help as many area families as possible to ensure that they are not handicapped by hunger." Please bring in your donations on Sunday morning February 5th and help the youth of our church to make this a great year for the Souper Bowl of Caring. All of your donations are greatly appreciated.



"Dove Love 2012"

Share the Dove Love! You are invited to come share your love of hot cocoa and apple cider February 8th as we join to celebrate the month of love and share our ideas of how APLC should move into the future and evaluate how we've done since we envisioned our future five years ago.

See page 6 for more details.



February Events

- 2/1: Koinonia Wednesday! Regular AoB class at 7:00pm. High School youth will meet in God's House of Rock to watch the 2nd installment of movie "The Encounter"
- 2/5: Super Bowl Party and ACE Education Envelope Stuffing at 6:00pm in God's House of Rock. All ages are welcome to participate. Come and watch the game with your friends and do a service project at the same time. Bring your sub sandwich from the National Youth Gathering fundraiser, a snack to share and a can of soup for the food bank.
- 2/7: Koinonia Wednesday! APE Kids, Middle and High School will meet for regular youth group activities. What is going to happen to yellow and stripe, the caterpillars?
- 2/15: Koinonia Wednesday! Regular AoB class at 7:00pm. High School will meet in God's House of Rock.
- 2/17-19: Family Beach Retreat at Kure Beach.
- 2/19: National Youth Gathering Meeting at 12:15pm.
- 2/24-26: Lutheran Youth Organization statewide assembly in Greensboro, NC.

Summer Camp at Agapé Kure Beach Ministries



Ride horses, shoot off rockets, take a night hike, learn to surf, try out the new zip line or mud pit, make crafts, engage in Bible study and build friendships. All this and more is available through Agapé † Kure Beach Ministries' summer camp programs. Brochures are available in the Narthex. Don't miss out on the fun and faith building opportunities this summer!

Fun, Faith and Fellowship

If you are starting to plan some summer activities, have we got something for you.....



On June 10th, join your APLC family on a trip to the Durham Bulls for a Sunday evening game 5:05pm against the Toledo Mud Hens (part of the Detroit Tigers). The tickets are \$8 a piece (for children two and under there is no charge but they are NOT assigned a seat; if you want them to have a seat, it is \$8). We will depart from APLC at 3:45pm to arrive in time for the 5:05pm start. We will have a sign up starting in April.

Put it on your calendar and plan to enjoy a beautiful evening at a great American pastime. Contact Tad Doering (thetaddoerings@aol.com or 919-772-3441) if you have any questions.

Council News

The annual congregational meeting was held on January 25th as part of the Koinonia Wednesday weekly activities. We were very pleased to be able to obtain quorum at this time slot as historically meetings apart from those held between services are poorly attended. Thank you to everyone who attended.

The meeting agenda consisted of presentation of annual reports which are available to view online at <http://groups.abidingpresencelutheranchurch.org/viewtopic.php?f=12&t=139> and includes Constitutional and Bylaw amendments (it is noted that the final bylaw amendment was not passed due to a conflict with the implementation timing); presentation of the council burning platform and annual goals ; and a presentation by the memorial garden committee.

In addition to the regular business portion of the meeting, Greg McGee was presented with a plaque as a thank you to his past two years of service as council president. The council and congregation are truly grateful for his dedicated service.



Respectfully submitted,
Murney Rinholm
Vice President

APPLE Seeds Update

Happy New Year! We are having a lot of new beginnings this New Year here at APPLE Seeds. With the start of a new Two Year Old Class, we have new friends and a new teacher joining our APPLE Seeds Family.



Next month we will begin our registration process for the next school year. APLC members may register on Tuesday, February 7th at 9:00am. Open registration will begin on Tuesday, February 21st. APPLE Seeds will also be hosting an Open House / Spaghetti Dinner on Monday, February 6th. If you or anyone you may know are looking for a wonderful, Christ-centered preschool come on by to see us and enjoy a delicious dinner as well! Ticket information and order forms are available on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

So, what has been going on fun at APPLE Seeds you ask? Well, the kids were excited to wear their pajamas to school and listen to stories told by Mother Goose herself. They also enjoyed eating popcorn as they watched a special movie. Pastor Jeffrey taught the kids that even Jesus was a kid just like them and that He loves ALL of the children of the world. Check out the school website to see all of the fun stuff we do and get more information on the upcoming registration. Hope to see you all on Spaghetti Dinner night!



Policy Spotlight

The Policy Spotlight will highlight one APLC policy each month. Featured this month is the [Policy on Sabbaticals](#). APLC is supportive of the national church and synodical guidance to integrate sabbaticals into the life of a congregation and its rostered leadership.

Lutheran congregations have long been encouraged to provide time and financial assistance to its leaders to enable them to maintain and improve their skills through continuing education.

However, from time to time a rostered leader may desire, and the congregation realize the need for, an extended period of time away from the parish or job for study, and personal growth and reflection. Recognizing the importance of this extended time period, the ELCA and NC Synod recommends that congregations consider sabbatical leaves as a privilege to be granted.

A complete set of APLC policies can be found by visiting the Organization & Policy AIM team page at

<http://www.doveandcross.org/ministries/aim/organization-policy/>.

Mark Your Calendar – Upcoming Worship Opportunities

As the Time after Epiphany comes to a close, we look ahead to our penitential Lenten journey that leads to our resurrection joy of Easter. Please take note of upcoming special worship days/times and plan to attend these worship services:

Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday Worship: 7:00 pm (*the beginning of Lent*)

Wednesday, February 29 – Lenten Wednesday Worship: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 7 – Lenten Wednesday Worship: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 14 – Lenten Wednesday Worship: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 21 – Lenten Wednesday Worship: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 28 – Lenten Wednesday Worship: 7:00 pm

HOLY WEEK:

Sunday, April 1 – Palm Sunday: 8:30 am, 11:00 am

Thursday, April 5 – Maundy Thursday, Stripping of the Altar: 7:00 pm

Friday, April 6 – Good Friday Tenebrae: *time to be determined*

Saturday, April 7 – Easter Vigil, Baptismal Festival: *time to be determined*

Sunday, April 8 – Resurrection of Our Lord: 8:30 am, 11:00 am



What will APLC be like in three years?

The Dream Continues



The Congregation's Strategic Visioning Team is off and running in its task to update the original Master Plan in a new "Future Vision Revisited" study to provide a modern-day look at dreams and goals for the future in the year 2015.

In their effort to create an updated dream as to what the future holds, the team will be working on several major aspects that continue to focus attention on the church's mission as a strategic plan to continue an overall approach to live out God's vision for the church.

To kick off their activities, the Team will hold a "Dove Love" evening to be held at 7 p.m., Wednesday, February 8th at the church for those interested in taking part in a discussion session", Strategic Visioning Team Leader Phillip Fleming announced. The dove is the APLC's symbol of God's love and descending presence to earth, he explained. The theme is most fitting because it is also a reminder of God's eternal love as we approach Valentine's Day, he added.

Beverages of hot chocolate and apple cider will be served to warm up the gathering to help kick off this important endeavor to plan our future together. The team will use this time to introduce many members of the congregation to the report generated back in 2008, bring an update to where we are and proceed to lay the groundwork for revisiting our potential future from this point forward. No other food will be offered.

The program will also explain the process to be used and to give everyone an opportunity to discuss several preparatory questions. Child care will be available. The meeting will go no later than 8:30 p.m.

The plan will involve fortifying the church's Mission Statement based on God's word, establishing goals based on that Mission Statement, and developing an action plan to reach those goals. The "Future Vision Revisited" plan will allow us to live into the future with clearer direction.

The Congregation's Mission Statement is the single driving force to help us discover God's call to us. It is the core belief that serves to guide, direct and challenge us in our everyday lives. APLC's Mission Statement is a familiar one. *"We are a church growing in faith, reaching out, inviting in, and serving the needs of all of God's children."*

Questionnaires have already been developed to send to individual members, AIM teams, Congregational Council and church staff. Feedback will also be sought from the community. Survey forms will allow participants to share their thoughts, desires, wishes and dreams as to what the congregation should try to accomplish by 2015. All voting members of APLC will be encouraged to take part by filling out the questionnaires. The forms need not be signed as the team seeks confidentiality to encourage an open dialogue.

Members will be asked to participate in the survey at two levels. First will be responses seeking their own personal viewpoint while the second will occur if they are a member of a ministry group that will be sharing feelings of the group as a whole.

The new "Future Vision Revisited" study also has two sections. First is the open ended questions contained in the "Congregational Members Questionnaire." The second section is 'Current Reaction to Earlier Dreams Listed for 2015.' Here members are asked to rank Previous 2015 Goal Statements in a modern-day reality check.

Members are asked to return the questionnaires by **March 24, 2012** by dropping them in a specifically marked box in the Narthex. Extra copies of the survey forms will be available from the church office.

Should members have questions, they are welcome to talk to any team member. They are Phillip Fleming, Pastor Jeffrey Ingold, Daniel Bland, Jane Nelson, Jocelyn Brummett, Linn Morse, Paul Ugstad, Stacy Kropp and Troy Windom.



February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			10:00am OWLS 5:30pm Koinonia Wednesday!	10:00am Sent Forth 6:30pm Wake Tech 6:30pm FV Women's Group 7:00pm Men's BLB 8:00pm SWFCA	6:30pm Mustard Seeds	9:30am STORM Team
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6:00pm Super Bowl Party and ACE Ed Envelope Stuffing	6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:00pm APPLE Seeds Open House and Dinner 7:00pm Worship, Music and Arts Team	6:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Wake Tech	10:00am OWLS Koinonia Wednesday! 7:00pm Dove Love	10:00am Sent Forth 6:30pm Wake Tech 6:30pm FV Women's Group		7:00am Via De Cristo 10:00am Altar Guild
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	6:30pm Property Team 6:30 Wake Tech	6:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Wake Tech	10:00am OWLS Koinonia Wednesday! 7:00pm Finance Team	10:00am Sent Forth 6:30pm Wake Tech 6:30pm FV Women's Group	Family Beach Retreat	Family Beach Retreat 8:00am Work Day 8:00am Cub Scouts
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Family Beach Retreat 12:15pm NYG Meeting	6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30 Wake Tech	6:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Wake Tech 7:00pm Strategic Visioning Meeting	10:00am OWLS Koinonia Wednesday! 7pm Ash Wednesday Worship	10:00am Sent Forth 6:30pm Wake Tech 6:30pm FV Women's Group	LYO Assembly in Greensboro	LYO Assembly in Greensboro 9:30am ANEW Women's Group
26	27	28	29			
LYO Assembly in Greensboro	6:30pm Wake Tech	6:00pm Bible Study 6:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Wake Tech 6:30pm Memorial Garden Team	10:00am OWLS Koinonia Wednesday! 7:00pm Lenten Worship			



Abiding Presence Lutheran Church

7300 Sunset Lake Rd.
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526
Phone: 919-557-0060
e-mail: office@doveandcross.org
www.doveandcross.org

Ministry Contacts:

Jeffrey Ingold, *Pastor*
Amanda Klusman, *Director of Music Ministries*
Valerie Jones, *A.P.P.L.E. Seeds Director*

Worship Schedule

Contemporary Worship — 8:30 am
Traditional Worship — 11:00 am

Mission Statement

We are the church
growing in faith, reaching out, inviting in,
and serving the needs of all of God's children.

Vision

We, the members of Abiding Presence Lutheran Church,
strive to boldly share the gospel of Christ;
enthusiastically build up the church, the body of Christ;
and joyfully witness to the love of Christ.

AGAPÉ✚KURE BEACH MINISTRIES

UP-COMING EVENTS:

- ✚ Summer is coming! We are searching for quality Christian young adults to serve as counselors on our 2012 summer staff. Applicants must be 19 years old, love kids, and want a fun and exciting challenge. Contact Camp Agapé for an application.
- ✚ Summer brochures will be arriving at your church soon. Contact the office if you need more. Summer Camp information will be available on our web site in early February.
- ✚ Saturday Safari, February 18, 2012. Choose your own topic with 10 people required in your group. Cost is \$8.00 per person \$40.00 maximum per family. Pre-registration is required, see aceed@agapekurebeach.org.
- ✚ Building Youth Groups is for grades 3-5. This is a growing part of our ministry to your church. We have space available this Spring for your church the week of April 13-15th. Contact Katie if you are interested or want more information about this program.
- ✚ We have openings for Summer Day Camps for July 1-6, July 15-20, and July 29-August 3. We also offer Middle School Day Camp. Contact Katie for details.
- ✚ Our ministry is in need of a minivan for Camp Agapé day camp program.
- ✚ The Kure Beach Center still has some summer openings. Call for more information.



Contact Camp Agapé: Telephone: 919-552-9421 E-mail: agape@agapekurebeach.org
Contact Kure Beach Office: Telephone: 910-458-0783 E-mail: kurebeach@agapekurebeach.org
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