

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Church office hours are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Announcements for the bulletin are due by Thursday at 5 p.m.
Small Groups meet various nights in homes and at the worship center.

MONDAY NIGHTS

Please participate in our weekly men's and women's gatherings at ALC **every Monday at 6:30 p.m.** Childcare is provided.

WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT!

Join us every Wednesday for your mid-week spiritual refill! Before the service, join the ALC church family for dinner from 5:00-5:30 p.m. The service starts at 6:15 p.m. with praise & music followed by a mini sermon to get you through the rest of the week. There are classes for children grades 1 – 8 following praise and worship. Senior High students leave the sanctuary and go to youth group after the praise & music.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

Middle School (Grades 6-8) meets on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Senior High (Grades 9-12) meets on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

- † 7:10 – 7:30 a.m. Radio Program on WMBS 590 AM
- † 8:45 – 9:00 a.m. Refreshments & Fellowship in the lobby
- † 9:00 a.m. Worship service in the sanctuary
- † 9:00 & 10:45 a.m. **ROOM 5 - NURSERY (ages 0 – 3)**
- † 9:15 a.m. **ROOM 6 – 1st & 2nd Grades**
ROOM 7 – Preschool and Kindergarten
ROOM 9 – 3rd thru 5th Grades
ROOMS 8, 10 and 11 – Adult Sunday School Classes
- † 10:20 – 10:45 a.m. **BREAKFAST CLUB** for grades 6 – 8 in Room 14 and grades 9 – 12 in rooms 12-13
- † 10:20 – 10:45 a.m. Refreshments & Fellowship in the lobby
- † 10:45 a.m. Worship service in the sanctuary
- † 11:00 a.m. **ROOM 7 Preschool thru 1st Grade**
ROOM 9 2nd thru 5th Grade

Watch us on **Cornerstone Network** Pittsburgh Faith & Family Channel WPCB DT 40.2 or **Atlantic Broadband Channel 119** on Saturday at 12:01 a.m., Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Abundant Life Church

Week of August 1, 2021, A.D.

Abundant Life Church exists to exalt Jesus (**worship**), to teach the Bible (**grow**), to share the gospel (**reach**), to love one another (**connect**), and to serve the Lord (**serve**).

An Unholy Exchange

“They exchanged the truth of God for a lie.” (Romans 1:25)

That’s what idolatry is: the exchange of a truth for a lie. Whatever takes God’s place in our hearts is a travesty of unspeakable proportions. When we engage in any kind of worship other than a God-exalting, Christ-honoring kind of passion, we have substituted the profane for the holy, the cheap for the priceless, the finite for the infinite, a curse for a blessing, and, like Esau of old, our birthright for a bowl of soup. It’s a foolish exchange, but we do it all the time. It’s our nature.

Sixteenth-century reformer John Calvin said we were, even from the moment we were born, “master craftsmen of idols.” He was right. We seek things to make us whole and then pursue them with a passion. Some people seek sex or food, others seek profits or possessions. Some people feed themselves with status and accolades, others with interests and knowledge. And while nothing is wrong with any of these things in themselves, we use them wrongly. We put them on the throne of our heart, where God belongs. We fall in love with unlovely things. We exchange truth for a lie.

That’s a painful assessment, but it’s entirely biblical. The history of humanity, according to Scripture, is a fall followed by a desperate search for meaning. We crave fulfillment because our sin left us unfulfilled. We thirst for self-esteem because the esteem of being God’s special child of creation, made in His image, was forsaken. We exchange the truth for a lie because we had a falling out with the truth and lies are the only options left. Until we come face to face with the truth again—in the person of Jesus, who declared Himself to be the truth—we are getting the raw end of a bad, self-inflicted deal.

Know your heart. Understand its tendencies. Learn to recognize when you are enthroning unworthy substitutes in place of your Lord. His rule is not as easy as theirs, but it is infinitely more worthwhile. So, choose what’s worthwhile. Daily exchange your lies for the truth.

Taken from the July 29, 2021 reading in INDEED.

Quote of the Week

“People with some degree of knowledge can be found everywhere. But, our culture has a desperate shortage of people who have wisdom.”
—Michael Quoist

Announcements

COMMUNION WILL BE CELEBRATED today at 10:25 A.M. Please remain after the 9:00 a.m. service so that we may share communion together as the body of Christ.

MONDAY NIGHT GROUP STUDY: Who is the Holy Spirit, and exactly what does He do? Many people find the Holy Spirit mysterious and confounding. Why is the third person of the Godhead—the one Jesus said would be the believer’s ultimate source of truth and comfort—the source of such confusion? Join us on Monday at 6:30 p.m. for this current study which clearly explains that the Holy Spirit’s chief desire is to enjoy a personal relationship with each of us - to offer us the encouragement and guidance of a trusted friend. You can sign up in the lobby or on our website by visiting <https://www.myabundantlife.org/signups/>.

TUESDAY VIDEO GROUP Will be starting a new series from Robert Morris called “Living in His Presence” on August 3rd at 6:30 p.m. here at ALC in room 10. In this 8-week study you will discover the power of living in His presence by changing the way you think about your relationship with God and how powerful His presence can be in your life. Everyone is welcome to attend.

THE LADIES LUNCH BUNCH will meet on **Tuesday, August 3rd** at 11:45 a.m. in the back room at Shoney’s. All women are welcome to attend.

CHURCH HOUSEKEEPING CREW Volunteers are needed for weekly rotation teams for church housekeeping. There will be an organizational meeting in August (the date & time will be announced soon) to assign the teams/days. Please sign up in the lobby or online at <https://www.myabundantlife.org/housekeeping/>. Please call Sandy Thorpe, 724-557-1450, if you have any questions or need more information.

ALC’s ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC will be held on Saturday, August 21, 2021 from noon to 4:00 p.m. Hotdogs, hamburgers & beverages will be provided. Feel free to bring your favorite dessert, salad, or side dish for others to enjoy! **Please sign up in the lobby so that we know for how many to plan! Many volunteers are needed for recreation activities or to help set-up, serve, or clean-up afterward. Sign up in the lobby or online!**

CHRISTIANITY 101 – “Discovering Church Membership” – will be held on Thursday, August 26th at 6:30 p.m. This class is required if you wish to become a member of ALC. However, if you attend the class, you are not required to become a member. Please sign up in the lobby or call the office if you plan to attend.

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available from the information booth during both Sunday worship services. Please speak with the info booth volunteer to request a device if you need one.

Prayer Chain: 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Cindy Dawson Home: 724-564-5893 Cell: 724-208-5437
Email: prayerchain@myabundantlife.org