

The Pacific Hills Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
MAY 15, 2020
VOLUME 5 - NUMBER 20

“For such a time as this...”

“For such a time as this...” is a phrase I’ve been thinking about lately. In the Bible that phrase is used by Mordechi in the book of Esther. Esther was a beautiful Jewish girl who became queen and through her position saved her (God’s) people by exposing the wicked plot of Haman. Esther’s uncle Mordechi suggests that the chain of events that led to her becoming queen were “for such a time as this” when their people needed help. I’ve been thinking about this phrase as I’ve been at my sewing machine making masks. My grandmother taught me to sew. When I was young we made doll clothes and pillows together. As I got older I moved on to sewing clothes for myself and quilts. I have quite a stash of fabric in my basement, and I have some extra free time on my hands. Those sewing lessons that started over 30 years ago, those projects that left me with leftover scraps of fabric, those requests to stay home all came together in a way that I can help others in “such a time as this.” We never know how God will use us in trying times. Maybe you have the gift of gab and can call fellow PHLC members on the phone to check on them and let them know that they are not alone. Maybe you have been blessed with financial acumen and resources and can share your abundance with those individuals and organizations that are in want right now. Maybe you have memorized many Bible verses and hymns and have that Truth in your heart and mind to give comfort and peace. God is sovereign; He knows all things and is ruling over all things. He can see the entire picture from beginning to end. We may not understand why things like pandemics, unemployment, and other challenging life circumstances happen, but we can trust that God is working all things out for our good and His glory. During this difficult time we, as Christians, can be the hands and feet of Jesus. We can share His love and message of salvation, even from a distance. We have a wide variety of gifts and abilities, experiences and backgrounds that we can use in service to God and others “for such a time as this.”

Kay Storck

Lamb of God Preschool Director

Church Events

In May, new guideline changes relating to coronavirus distancing: Families to stay together distancing 6 feet from others.

Facebook Livestreaming will continue at 9:00am

Schedule:

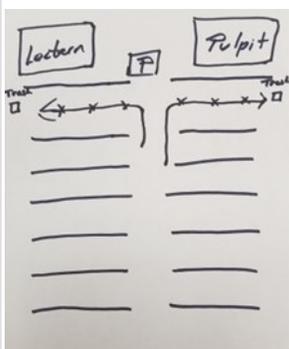
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| May 17 — 9:00am | Eucharist in church
and Livestreaming |
| 10:15am | Foundation Meeting |
| May 24 — 9:00am | Eucharist in church
and Livestreaming |
| May 31 — 9:00am | Eucharist in church
and Livestreaming |

Livestreaming available on website:
www.PacificHillsLutheran.org

Sunday's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Matthew and Kay Storck in honor of Nathan's 7th birthday.

Sunday's baptismal altar flowers are given to the glory of God by the Board of Missions and Social Ministry in honor of Armed Forces Sunday.

May is National Military Appreciation Month with both Armed Forces Sunday, May 17, and Memorial Day, May 25. We give thanks to God in honoring the men and women in our congregation who faithfully answered the call to serve in our nation's military. We ask for prayers for our veterans and those who currently serve our country - Andrew McCoy, Jacob Osborn and Tim Vogel. The Sunday bulletin insert shares the many programs that LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces provides to servicemen/women, their families, and training/ support of chaplains. Mission offerings have previously supported this LCMS ministry.



OUR SOCIALLY DISTANCED COMMUNION PRACTICE BEGINS MAY 17, 2020

The Ushers will dismiss one pew at a time, alternating between the pulpit and the lectern side, so that there are only a very small number of people present for Communion at any given time to maintain social distancing. When you come forward you will take a prepackaged communion kit from

the center of the chancel. Pastor will be standing in the center at the spot marked with a P. You will then proceed until you are in position in front of the altar rail, again no kneeling or touching the rail. Once you are in position you will be instructed to "take and eat" and "take and drink." Once you are dismissed you will dispense with your used cup and depart down the side aisles to your seat. Those seated in the transepts will be ushered up from their respective sides.



Ring Those "Bells" – Participate in Omaha Gives!

Mark your calendar for May 20 – the date of Omaha Gives! Omaha Gives! is an online giving platform organized by the Omaha Community Foundation that helps local nonprofits, including religious organizations such as Pacific Hills, raise funds to support their operations and missions. This year, support given to Pacific Hills will help defray the cost to have the carillon in our bell tower repaired. For years, the carillon rang out to our area calling us to worship. Our carillon was damaged and requires extensive repair. To support Pacific Hills, go to www.Omahagives.org. Scroll down and type in "Pacific Hills" in the "Find Your Cause" frame.

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

"I will not leave you as orphans."

(John 14:18a)

Pacific Hills has four 4-drawer file cabinets available to anyone who wants them and can haul them away. They are in great shape. Take any number of them. No charge, but donations accepted, if desired. Talk to Jim Mueller or Kay Storck if interested.

Things to remember with Coronavirus: Remember to practice good health. If you are not feeling well, have a cough, elevated temperature, or feel flu-like symptoms then please stay home. Please know you can always tune into 850 AM for KFUCO programs and worship services. You can go to www.LHM.org for devotions and the Lutheran Hour program. You can go to www.IssuesEtc.org for LCMS programs and blog posts. You can even access www.CPH.org for their numerous resources. Just please do whatever you can to stay in the Word. I would remind you to like our Facebook page. By doing this you will see current posts and be reminded of upcoming sermons and services. **Remember we are live-streaming Sunday Services via Facebook at 9am.** Finally make sure you stop by our website www.pacifichillslutheran.org where you will find a wealth of information including past sermons. At times such as this we need to be extra vigilant about looking out for each other. So pick up your directory, call a fellow member and let them know that you care about them as does the entire church.

A note from the Missions and Social Ministry Board.

PHLC has been blessed to have a benevolent fund called the Yahweh Fund for many years. Special offerings, even change placed in the collection box in the narthex, provides funds to help with emergency needs of rent, utilities, gas cards, food, medical bills, etc. for members of PHLC and those who seek assistance at our doors. Just last week we were able to prevent an eviction and cancellation of OPPD services. Due to the pandemic of Covid-19 in our country, anyone of us may face financial distress or have special needs. As brothers and sisters in Christ, PHLC is here for YOU and your family! Contact Marilyn Wegehaupt, Parish Nurse and Board Chair (402-334-2896) or Pastor with any requests for Yahweh assistance. Requests are kept confidential. We have also established a list of volunteers who are available to shop and provide transportation for those who need help. During these days ahead let us remember PHLC's mission statement: Share Christ-Serve Others!

GIVE BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY!

Concordia Jr.-Sr. High School—156th and Fort St. Campus

1 John 4:19- We love because he first loved us.

Dates and Times: May 18, 19, and 20 at 9am to 12pm

Donate: Boxed Dinners, Peanut Butter, Canned Fruits, Veggies, and Granola Bars

Support:

- *Concordia Academy's Blessing Box
- *YES (Youth Emergency Services)
- *Open Door Mission