

# *The Pacific Hills* Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF  
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MAY 29, 2020  
VOLUME 5 - NUMBER 22

## SHARE OUR JOY WITH OTHERS!

We have just had some birthdays in our house, so I've been thinking about balloons. A balloon isn't very useful and we can't do much with it when it's flat in the bag. We have to put air in the balloon and blow it up before we can do anything with it. This Sunday is a special day — it is Pentecost. It's the day when we remember how Jesus' followers were given the gift of the Holy Spirit. He filled their hearts with the Holy Spirit, and they couldn't help but tell everyone about Jesus and what He had done for them.

We have that gift too. It didn't happen with drops of fire on our head like the original Pentecost account. It happened with drops of water at the baptismal font. When we were baptized God filled our hearts with the gift of the Holy Spirit in faith. Without Him we are like a flat balloon---walking around with no purpose. But since our hearts have the Holy Spirit, we have joy in knowing Jesus is our Savior. And that joy fills us up, and we have a purpose---telling others about Him. In this time of social distancing we may have to find creative ways to do it, but we can call our friends or neighbors, we can do something kind for someone else, we can donate to a philanthropic cause, all in the name of Jesus. Let us all find ways to share our joy with others.

Kay Storck

Lamb of God 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  
Livestreaming available on website:  
[www.PacificHillsLutheran.org](http://www.PacificHillsLutheran.org)

### Schedule:

Sunday May 31 — 9:00am Eucharist in Church and Livestreaming

**In June**, guideline changes continue relating to coronavirus distancing: Families to stay together distancing 6 feet from others.

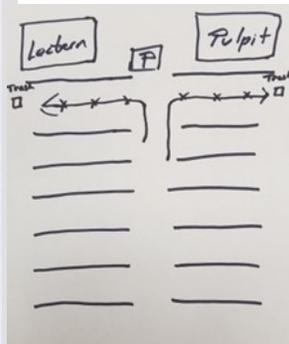
Sundays	<u>June 7, 14, 21, 28</u> 8:00am Eucharist 10:30am Eucharist
	<u>June 7</u> 11:30am Outreach Board Meeting
	<u>June 14</u> 11:30am Worship & Music Comm.
Thursday	<u>June 11</u> 7:00pm Elders Board Meeting
Wednesday	<u>June 16</u> 7:00pm Directors Board Meeting
Thursday	<u>June 18</u> 6:30pm Trustees Board Meeting

Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Tom and Rhoda Storck in thanksgiving for all our blessings.

**Sunday Worship Notes** -- The Elders and Pastor recommend that everyone wear some kind of face covering in worship. Also, there are no children's messages on Sunday mornings, due to social distancing requirements. Thank you.

**Our "Celebrate 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" schedules for Sunday, June 14 has been cancelled.**

### OUR SOCIALLY DISTANCED COMMUNION PRACTICE BEGAN MAY 17



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.

### Returning to God, Tithes and Offerings During the Pandemic

As you know the church's ministry and expenses continue even though services and programming are a bit different. You can still give your tithes and offerings by mail. You can set up your bank account to give electronically or you can utilize MyEOffering. There is also a link to MyEOffering on our web page, on the top menu. Our web page is: [www.PacificHillsLutheran.org](http://www.PacificHillsLutheran.org). You can sign up at <https://members.myeoffering.com> Your church needs people like you to continue their regular patterns of giving despite virus-related closures to maintain current ministry. Consider the following passages: **2 Corinthians 9:7** - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **Malachi 3:10** - Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. **Proverbs 11:24** - One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. **Luke 6:38** - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

## BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

"If anyone is thirsty let him come to me and drink."

(John 7:37b)

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 KFUE programs and worship services. You can go to [www.LHM.org](http://www.LHM.org) for devotions and the Lutheran Hour program. You can go to [www.IssuesEtc.org](http://www.IssuesEtc.org) for LCMS programs and blog posts. You can even access [www.CPH.org](http://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](http://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.

**Note from the Board of Missions and Social Ministry:** Mission offerings collected during April and May have been sent to agencies providing emergency services related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

- Our Mission of the Month for April was Orphan Grain (\$500) from Norfolk, Nebraska. OGT provides disaster relief and distributes food, clothing, and medical supplies to those in need in the US and throughout the world. During the Covid-19 pandemic they have collected and distributed personal protective equipment and food to rural areas and around the world.
- Westside Schools Food Pantry (\$200) has been providing breakfast and lunches for students in the district during this time of school closures. PHLC has supported our neighborhood food pantry for many years through the collection of nonperishable items donated to our food bin in the narthex. Food donations will now be welcomed to our food bin.
- Food Bank for the Heartland (\$200) distributes food items to small food pantries throughout Omaha and Nebraska.
- Stephen Center (\$200) homeless shelter has experienced increased expenses caring for those in the shelter who contracted the Covid-19 virus.
- Siena Francis House (\$150), Omaha's largest homeless shelter, has provided extra meals and personal safety items for their residents.

Thank you for your Mission offerings which makes it possible to support agencies serving those in need!