

The Pacific Hills Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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The Last Word

Sometimes things happen in life, and it's so tempting to think darkness has had the last word. I'll be the first to admit it sometimes seems that way:

The door gets slammed.

"I'm sorry, we've got to let you go . . ."

"The test results aren't good . . ."

The casket is lowered into the ground.

There's no hope left. There's nothing left to say, no chance to say it, and we know the happy ending we were hoping for, even praying for, isn't coming. The story is over. Evil has had the last word. Sin has had the last word. Death has had the last word.

Except that it's not over. The last word hasn't been spoken yet, but it belongs to a good and loving God who gave his life to redeem his creation.

Good-bye is not the last word.

Unemployment is not the last word.

Cancer is not the last word.

Death is not the last word.

There is a God in heaven who specializes in bringing light in the middle of great darkness, hope in the midst of despair, and life in the grip of death. The last word is His and His alone. It's a word of hope. A word of peace. A word of love.

Pastor Bryan Drebes

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

If you desire to continue to wear a mask and social distance from others, please do so.

Church Events

Sun	8:00 am	Eucharistic Worship
Sep 5 th	9:15 am	Education Hour NO Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Eucharistic Worship
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)
Mon		LABOR DAY (Church office will closed.)
Sep 6 th		
Tue	9:00 am	Care Ministry Board Meeting
Sep 7 th	10:30 am	Missions & Social Ministries Board Meeting
Wed	9:30 am	Holy Communion (ZOOM)
Sep 8 th	12:30 pm	First Ladies AA Meeting
	6:00 pm	Youth Confirmation Meeting
	6:30 pm	Wednesday Women's Group
Thur	6:30 pm	Tai Chi
Sep 9 th	7:00 pm	Elder's Board Meeting
Fri		(Church office will be closed.)
Sep 10 th		
Sat	9:00 am	Storage POD Cleanout with
Sep 11 th	-12:00 pm	Our Gracious Volunteers— "Many hands make light work"
Sun	8:00 am	Eucharistic Worship
Sep 12 th	9:15 am	Rally Day Kickoff 2021 Education Hour Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Eucharistic Worship with Choir
	11:30 am	CYF Meeting Music & Worship
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)

Returning to God, Tithes and Offerings

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. 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."

Members can contribute to the Yahweh Fund to address community assistance. During this trying time recovering from the pandemic, PHLC offers **Walmart** and **HyVee gift cards that are purchased for those who seek assistance for food or gas.**



Remember Your Offerings

BIBLE VERSE of the Week

"So faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

James 2:17

Online Worship Services: Go to our website www.pacifichillslutheran.org for more information.

-Please join Pastor in between services for a **Study of the Lessons of the Day**. Classes meet in Acker Hall.

-Bob Vandervort is offering a **Bible Class on the book of Hebrews via Zoom every Sunday evening** from 6:00 – 6:45 pm. Email him at rsvod@cox.net or call 402-350-0872 for more information. Everyone is welcome!

-**Directors mail boxes** are now located in the new Church Workroom 119!

-For any notes/documents for the Office: Please use the new **Administrative Assistant Inbox for Kim** and **Office Assistant Inbox for Kelly** in the Workroom.

WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S GROUP BEGINS! Join us September 8th at 6:30 pm in the narthex. The first podcast we will be listing to features Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller with "What I Wish My Non-Lutheran Family Understood About: The Bible". For more information call or text Kathy Brashear 402.670.0500, Brenda Whealy 402.201.1106 or Sandy Frazier 402.333.1766. (Let us know if you need a ride.)

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY will be October 3, 2021. This will include transfers.

WEDDING COORDINATOR NEEDED

After many years of faithful service, Joan Workman has decided to step down as our wedding coordinator. All of us at Pacific Hills would like to thank Joan for her service over the years. Thank you, Joan. With Joan's departure, this means we are looking for a new wedding coordinator. This is a volunteer position, but a small honorarium is paid by the couple. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Pastor Drebes at bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org.

TRUNK OR TREAT WITH THE PANCAKE MAN on Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 5 pm to 7 pm in Acker hall. Prizes for best trunk will be picked by all that come join us in Acker hall. The Pancake Man will be serving pancakes and sausages. Mark your calendars and look for more information in the weeks to come.

Volunteers are needed on 9/11/2021 from 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon at the church to help clean out items from the last storage POD in the church parking lot. Any questions can be directed to Jim Mueller phone 402-968-0050. Thank you. **"Many hands make light work"**

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE JOB OPENINGS

We are looking for caring individuals to serve K-5 students in our Learning Center, before and after school program, at the Concordia Academy campus (1821 N. 90th St).

- One adult care giver (19 and older) two afternoons a week, 2:45 pm—6:00 pm
- High school assistants (16-18 years old) in the afternoons, two to three days a week

If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Laura Troutman at 402-212-7145 or laura.troutman@concordiaomaha.org.

CARE MINISTRY CARDS—in room 115. All cards are \$1, money goes for expenses for shut-in mailings, meals and more. Please stop by and see our new selections!

PRAYER PARTNERS—Do you realize prayer is one of the most important things we do as a congregation? I am looking for 12 leaders to join me as prayer partners for this congregation. What does a prayer partner do? They meet with me and others, on a "regular basis," (TBD) to pray. No agenda, other than to pray. If you are interested in serving as a prayer partner, please contact me at: bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org. Once we have identified the 12 people, we will begin this journey together.



Rally DAY Kick-off Sunday 2021 on September 12th at 9:15 am. Sunday School to follow. Parents, please respond to Pam Hafsaas phafsaas@icloud.com to register for Sunday School.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The storm we experienced on August 24th caused damage to one of our Elevator Mechanical rooms. The room suffered water damage and the elevator currently is out of order. This elevator is in the Educational building and goes to Acker Hall and the 2nd floor of the Educational building.

We apologize for this inconvenience and will notify everyone when it is back in operation. Thank you!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION— Classes begin on Wednesday, September 8th at 6:00 p.m. in Acker hall. If you have any questions, please call Pastor Drebes or the church office. Looking forward to seeing you there.