



The Pacific Hills

# Messenger

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Some people worship on Saturday. Some people worship on Sunday. There are many denominations in the world. By far, in this country the biggest denomination is football.

Does God sometimes think I was raised in a two-religion family: Christianity and Husker Football. It was definitely in that order, but we need to make sure our past-times (any past-times) are not always our most passionate times.

Think about how much time, effort, money, even our very lives are spent on football. Tickets...Breaking bread with tailgating or watch parties...Buying team shirts...This week there are 76 college football games on television. Pro sport are even bigger.

We might get anxious if our church worship service goes over an hour. An average professional football game lasts 3 hours and 12 minutes. It is even deemed a great game if it goes into overtime.

Over 100 commercials...A team of commentators...The Wall Street Journal once calculated that there was only 11 minutes of action during a professional football game. Yet people talk all week about the game to many people they encounter. Some people and sports media talk about the season all year.

Do we ponder and talk about an 11-minute sermon in the same way? Do we talk about our encounters with Jesus to people? Do we invite our friends over to watch a Christian movie or a Bible study? Do we celebrate attendance streaks in church? Do we celebrate wins in confirmation?

### **We're #1 versus God's #1 "You shall have no other gods before me" Exodus 20:3**

Research through Gallup in 2020 showed that the NFL (National Football League) commands a massive following across all generations. In fact, 73% of American men and 55% of American women watch NFL games regularly.

Gallup's data finds that church membership is strongly correlated with age: 66% of American adults born before 1946 belong to a church, compared with 58% of baby boomers, 50% of Generation X and 36% of millennials.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25 **"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. <sup>25</sup> Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever."**

*Dear Triune God, may we study YOUR play book—the Bible and may we all be fans of Your will and other people. May the Passion of our Christ stir in us the passion FOR our Christ. Help us to always see You as our Coach and join in Your Spirit squad which lasts forever. Amen.*

- Dan Irvin, Contributor

### **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 Sunday School & Small Group Staff Installation
Sep 12 <sup>th</sup>	9:15 am	Rally Day Kickoff 2021 Sunday School Education Hour Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Eucharistic Worship with Choir Sunday School & Small Group Staff Installation
	11:30 am	CYF Board Meeting Music & Worship Meeting
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)
Wed	9:30 am	Eucharist (ZOOM)
Sep 15 <sup>th</sup>	12:30 pm	First Ladies AA Group
	6:00 pm	Youth Confirmation Class
	6:30 pm	Wednesday Women's Group
Thur	6:00 pm	Trustees Board Meeting
Sep 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 pm	Tai Chi
Sun	8:00 am	Eucharistic Worship
Sep 19 <sup>th</sup>	9:15 am	Sunday School Education Hour Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Eucharistic Worship with Choir
	11:30 am	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	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](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."

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.**

## CARE MINISTRY CARDS

All cards are \$1, money goes for expenses for shut-in mailings, meals and more. Please stop by and see our new sections in room 115.

## 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](mailto:bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org). Once we have identified the 12 people, we will begin this journey together.

## RALLY DAY KICK-OFF/TEACHER INSTALLATION

Sunday School and Small Group staff will be installed at both services. Rally Kick-off at 9:15 with Sunday School to follow. Parents, please respond to Pam Hafsaas [phafsaas@icloud.com](mailto: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!

## SEPTEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

Lutheran Family Services whose "mission is to express God's love for all people by providing quality human care services that build and strengthen individual, family, and community life. Our vision is safety, hope, and well-being for all people." Thank you for considering a mission offering this month which will assist LFS in helping many in need of Christian care and compassion.

## BIBLE VERSE of the Week

"[The tongue] is a restless evil, full of deadly poison."

James 3:8b

## ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

PHLC website: [www.pacifichillslutheran.org](http://www.pacifichillslutheran.org) for more information.

## LESSONS OF THE DAY STUDY

Please join Pastor in between Worship services on Sunday for a Study of the Lessons of the Day. Classes meet in Acker Hall.

## SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Dr. Bob Vandervort is offering a Bible Class on the book of Hebrews via Zoom every Sunday evening from 6:00—6:45 pm. Please email him at [rsvod@cox.net](mailto:rsvod@cox.net) or call 402-350-0872 for more information. Everyone is welcome!!!

## DIRECTORS MAIL BOXES

Mail boxes are located in the NEW Church Work room 119 marked with labels for Board and other individuals. If you have any notes or documents for the Church Office—Please use the mail boxes labeled Administrative Assistant (Kim) or Office Assistant (Kelly). Thank you!

## NEW MEMBER SUNDAY 2021

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 3rd. New Member Sunday this will also include transfers.

## "MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK"

**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.

## 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](mailto:bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org).

## TRUNK OR TREAT WITH THE PANCAKE MAN

On Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 5:00—7:00 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.

## 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](mailto:laura.troutman@concordiaomaha.org).