



The Pacific Hills Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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A Message from Our Pastor

"O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods." (Psalm 96:1-4)

Our Easter faith teaches us that we are called to serve our neighbor. Easter begs us to ask the question: "How will I now live for the Christ who died, rose, and now lives for me?" This is not always an easy question to answer and sometimes it can be hard to tell if our work is worthwhile. It may feel like the problems of this world are too much to overcome -- natural disasters, poverty, war, prejudice, and a whole host of other things. Our individual lives and collective ministries can sometimes seem small in the face of such incredible brokenness.

I suspect the ancient Israelites sometimes felt the same way. They lived in places where three continents connected, and different cultures intersected. In fact, their own kingdom was just a tiny speck compared to the other powerful nations around them. How could their faith stand in the face of such impossible odds? Would they survive into the future? Could they make a difference?

The author of the above Psalm confronts all of this as he writes, "Declare [God's] glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all peoples." Even though the ancient Israelites might have felt small compared to the powers around them, God was still overseeing the entire world. God is still huge. God is still the Lord of all. Although they were tiny, God made it clear that He is not.

The same could be said for the ministries that we facilitate today. Even if it feels like we are only making a small difference, we should remember that we worship a big God who does big things. Our work might touch the lives of people in ways that we will never see. When we care for our neighbors, perhaps God is using us to set up a line of dominos that will continue into the future. You are God's hands in the world, and the effect of His love working through you expands outward. Sometimes we might not see the big picture, but God certainly does. Do you make a difference? Absolutely! Because God is working through you -- His redeemed and chosen child.

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Bryan E. Drebes

Church Events

SUNDAY, MAY 1

- 8:00 am Eucharistic Worship
- 9:15 am Sunday School
Education Hour with Pastor Bryan
Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Eucharistic Worship with Choir
- 6:00 pm Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)

TUESDAY, MAY 3

- 9:00 am Care Ministry Mtg
- 10:30 am Missions & Social Ministries
- 7:00 pm Pray, Knit & Crochet Group

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

- 9:30 am Eucharist (ZOOM)
- 12:30 pm First Ladies AA Meeting
- 6:00 pm Youth Confirmation Class
- 6:30 pm Wednesday Womens Podcast and Conversation

THURSDAY, MAY 5

- 6:30 pm Tai Chi

SUNDAY, MAY 8

- 8:00 am Eucharistic Worship
- 9:15 am Sunday School
Education Hour with Pastor Bryan
Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Eucharistic Worship with Choir
- 6:00 pm Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING:

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

WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S PODCAST

**WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S PODCAST
AND CONVERSATION**
6:30 pm in the narthex
All women welcome!



MESSAGE FOM CYF BOARD

The First Annual Easter Egg Hunt was a splendid success! In addition to visiting with the Easter Bunny, there was the Egg Hunt, face painting and much fun and games. The CYF Board would like to extend their thanks to everyone that donated Easter decorations, plastic eggs and goodies; especially Bob Siffring with OTC (Oriental Trading Co), Samantha Hafsaas, Lily and Joanna Hafsaas, Bonnie Johnson & family, Pastor Bryan and Cheryl, Alice, Donna DeWitt and Church Office staff. Special Thanks to Leland Johnson for stepping into being the Easter Bunny for all—he was a fabulous Easter Bunny!

EASTER BREAKFAST THANKS

So many to thank for all the donated food and hard work with the Easter Breakfast! Heartfelt appreciation to Cheryl, Samantha, Lily, Joanna, and Bonnie for the preparations the day before! What a blessing we have for all those who participated and donated! CYF Board would like to express their gratitude to everyone in our congregation that made this possible!

Last, but not least, there were funds raised to send Lily and Luke to July's Youth Gathering in Houston TX.



OFFERING ENVELOPES



Vern Cornish would like to remind members to **please** utilize your PHLC Offering Envelopes when you donate! The Envelopes have the required information imprinted on them to ensure the church member will receive credit for their donation!

BIRTHDAY, THINKING OF YOU, SYMPATHY CARDS AND MORE

A large and beautiful selection of assorted cards are available for only \$1 in room 115. The money goes for expenses for shut-in mailings, meals and more. Stop in and take advantage of this opportunity.



ALTAR FLOWERS



The altar flowers are given to the glory of God "in thankfulness for forgiveness, life, and salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ ."

Mike & Brenda Whealy

CPH READS

What is it? It's a CPH summer reading program that encourages kids to read. Interested kids can pick up a card at the back table in the narthex and mom and dad can register their kids to participate at www.cph.org/reads



BIBLE VERSES OF THE WEEK

"Jesus said to them,
'Come and have breakfast'.....
They knew it was the Lord."
(John 21:1-4)

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

PHLC website: www.pacifichillslutheran.org

STUDY ON ANGELS VIA ZOOM



Dr. Bob Vandervort and a bible group are studying **Angels** via ZOOM every Sunday evening from 6:00 - 6:45 pm. Please email him at rsvod@cox.net or 402-350-0872 for more information

MAY IS

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

May has been recognized nationally as Mental Health Awareness Month to raise awareness and advocate for mental health. Although one in five people will experience a mental illness during their lifetime, everyone faces challenges that can affect their mental health. After the past two years of Covid-19 pandemic living, many people are realizing that stress, isolation, and uncertainty have taken a toll on their mental health well-being.

We invite you to join us in spreading the word that mental health is something everyone should care about. Pacific Hills Lutheran Church is pleased to host a Mental Health Matters Forum on Tuesday, May 10 at 7 p.m. presented by the Kim Foundation. The Kim Foundation has played an active role in policy, outreach, education, and funding the past 20 years in all aspects of mental health care in Nebraska. They serve as a strong voice for all lives impacted by mental illness and suicide. Come and learn about mental health! Please share the below attached information in your agency or newsletter.

MAY MISSION OF THE MONTH

May Mission of the Month: May is Mental Health Awareness Month to raise awareness and advocate for mental health. Although 1 in 5 people will experience a mental health illness during their lifetime, everyone faces challenges that can affect their mental health. The Board of Missions/Social Ministry is partnering with the Kim Foundation to host a mental health forum. Mental Health Matters on Tuesday, May 10 at 7 pm in Acker Hall for PHLC members and the community. The presentation will include how to maintain mental health, information about mental illness and suicide prevention, and community resources. Mission offerings this month will be directed to local mental health providers: the Kim Foundation, Lutheran Family Behavioral Health Services, and Community Alliance. Thank you from the Missions Board.

ROSES FOR MOTHER'S DAY FROM EPS

Essential Pregnancy Services (EPS) will have roses for purchase after services on Mother's Day with a donation of just \$5.00. Your donation will help to support EPS and give women, who are facing unexpected or unplanned pregnancy, loving care, support, and education about life affirming options.

