

# The Pacific Hills Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF  
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FEBRUARY 9, 2024  
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## Only \$20,000 to go!

Pacific Hills' youth group is raising money to go to the LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2025. We're planning to send nine youths and three adults to the five-day gathering, which brings together thousands of Lutherans from across the country. Those who attend will, as the event's website puts it, "come together as a community of God's people to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus Christ and learn about the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity." One of the many inspiring aspects of the gatherings is simply the sight of so many young Lutherans worshipping God at the mass events, which are held in the evenings. After a day of listening to speakers and presentations about various aspects of the Christian life, you'd think the kids would be tired and not at all eager to participate in what amounts to a contemporary worship service. But you'd be pleasantly surprised at the excitement they demonstrate once the music kicks in.

The theme for the 2025 gathering is "Endure," taken from Hebrews 12:1-3: "... Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross ..."

To help the group get to the finish line, we're raising money by holding a spaghetti dinner in Acker Hall on Sunday, Feb. 25, at 6 p.m. We'll have spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread, lettuce salad and ice cream cake. After the meal, we'll have a trivia contest and award prizes.

The suggested donation is \$20 for those ages 12 and older. Those of you who attended last year's Mardi Gras meal know you'll have good food and fellowship.

Come join us!

## Church Events

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 8:00 am Eucharistic Worship
- 9:00 am Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 9:15 am Sunday School  
Education Hour with Pastor Bryan
- 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 am Eucharistic Worship with Bell Choir
- 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)
- 6:30 pm Youth Group (Aulner's House)

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- 7:00 pm Adult Confirmation Class (Rm 115)

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- 11:30 am Lunch Bunch (Charleston's)
- 7:00 pm Pray, Knit & Crochet Group (Narthex)  
Board of Directors Meeting (Acker Hall)

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 9:30 am Devotional (Zoom)
- 12:30 pm First Ladies AA Meeting (Rm 114)
- 2:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship Service
- 6:00 pm Youth Confirmation Class
- 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Worship Service

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 6:30 pm Tai Chi (Acker Hall)  
Board of Trustees Meeting (Rm 114)

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- 8:00 am Eucharistic Worship
- 9:15 am Choir Rehearsal  
Sunday School  
Education Hour with Pastor Bryan
- 10:30 am Eucharistic Worship with Choir
- 11:45 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)
- 6:30 pm Youth Group (Aulner's House)

## NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

New Member Sunday will be March 10 at the 10:30 AM service. This will include transfers and adult confirmands.

## LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Do you regularly engage in devotions? Lent is the perfect time to give it a try or to continue in this spiritual discipline. If you would like a devotional for Lent, please pick up, "Be Gracious to Me," on the table in the Narthex.

## LENTEN WORSHIP

Mid-Week Worship will be held on Wednesdays at 2:00 & 7:00 PM, beginning with Ash Wednesday and Weekly throughout Lent. Join us for our Lenten Series, Hands of the Savior:

Ash Wednesday -- Hands That Discipline (Joel 2:12-19)

Week 2 -- Hands That Heal (John 9:6-7)

Week 3 -- Hands That Provide (Matthew 14:19-20)

Week 4 -- Hands That Pray (Matthew 26:36-45)

Week 5 -- Hands That Resurrect (Matthew 9:19, 23-25)

Week 6 -- Hands That Protect (Matthew 14:28)

Maunder Thursday -- Hands That Consecrate (Matthew 26:26-30)

Good Friday -- Hands That Are Pierced (Luke 23:32-46)

Easter -- Hands That Prove (John 11:25-27)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION

Sunday School children and families may bring in offering money or collect items to support missions in the community. A different opportunity will be provided each quarter. From January to March of 2024 we will be collecting items to create birthday kits for Heart Ministry Center. Items needed to create these kits include cake mix, frosting, candles, paper products (napkins, plates, table cover, banner, etc.), birthday cards, balloons, and disposable aluminum cake pans.



There will be a labeled bin outside the middle level Sunday School classroom upstairs for collection items. Please contact Kay Storck if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your support of this project!

## MISSION OF THE MONTH

January is regarded as Sanctity of Life Month. In February, we are continuing to partner with Essential Pregnancy Services of Omaha in our effort to make a difference in the lives of at risk mothers and their unborn and newly born children. As such, we are collecting diapers for children newborn to age 2. Also needed are baby bottles, diaper cream, onesies, 18-24 mo. long sleeve; pullups, sizes 2T-5T; silicone teething, sippy cups, thermometers and toys for babies and toddlers. Cash donations are also much appreciated.

## BIBLE VERSE of the Week

*"This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"*

*(Mark 9:7b)*

## ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

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

## BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Dr. Bob Vandervort and a bible study group are studying the Books of Jude & 2 Peter via ZOOM every Sunday evening from 6:00 — 6:45 pm. Please email him at [rsvod@cox.net](mailto:rsvod@cox.net) or 402-350-0872 for more information.

## CTSFW KANTOREI TOUR

The Concordia Theological Seminary Kantorei will be visiting St. Paul Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs on March 7 at 7:00 pm. The Kantorei is a men's choir of students studying for the pastoral ministry at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, directed by Kantor Kevin Hildebrand. For more details about the 2024 Spring Kantorei Tour, visit [www.ctsfw.edu/events](http://www.ctsfw.edu/events).

## EPS GLOW BENEFIT DINNER

Registration is still open for Essential Pregnancy Services' 28th Annual Benefit Dinner, GLOW - Giving Life through Our Works! Join GLOW honorary chairs, Pastor Bryan and Cheryl, on Leap Day, Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, at the Mid-America Center (1 Arena Way, Council Bluffs, IA 51501) to hear a life-inspiring keynote address by author and pro-life activist, Toni McFadden.

Notify Pastor of your intentions to join us. If you join our group, you can make your check payable to: Pacific Hills Lutheran Church. We have reserved a block of seats for our guests. For more information, visit <https://one.bidpal.net/glow24/welcome>.

Together we can do better. Together we can help women choose the gift of life.

## SECOND READERS NEEDED!

Please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex.

## ALTAR FLOWERS



The 2024 Altar Flower calendar is now available in the Narthex. Altar flowers may be placed for any celebration, remembrance or to the Glory of God. Please share your request or intention with Kim at: [KimKielty@PacifiHillsLutheran.org](mailto:KimKielty@PacifiHillsLutheran.org) or call the office. The cost is \$25.