



The Pacific Hills Messenger

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)

Easter is the time 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 lives are making a difference. It may feel like the problems of this world are too much to overcome: diseases, natural disasters, poverty, war, prejudice, addictions, broken families, not to mention concerns about job loss, our retirement and the tanking economy. 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 the 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 our individual lives and 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!

Blessings,
Pastor Brian

Alleluia. Christ is Risen. He is Risen Indeed. Alleluia.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL 12, 2024
VOLUME 09 NUMBER 15

Church Events

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

- 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
- 11:30 am CYF Board Meeting (Narthex)
Worship & Music Committee (Rm 115)
- 3:00 pm Lincoln Lutheran Choir Concert
- 6:00 pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

- 9:30 am Devotional (Zoom)
- 12:30 pm First Ladies AA Meeting (Rm 114)
- 6:00 pm Youth Confirmation Class
- 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study (Narthex)

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

- 6:30 pm Tai Chi (Acker Hall)
- 7:00 pm Board of Elders Meeting (Rm 115)

FRIDAY, APRIL 12

- 7:30 pm Omaha Philatelic Society (Acker Hall)

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

- 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)

WERBLOW MEMORIAL SERVICE

There will be a memorial service for Dwayne and Joanne Werblow on Friday, April 19th at 11:00am with a light lunch to follow at Saint Michael Lutheran Church, 13232 Blondo Street Omaha, NE 68164.

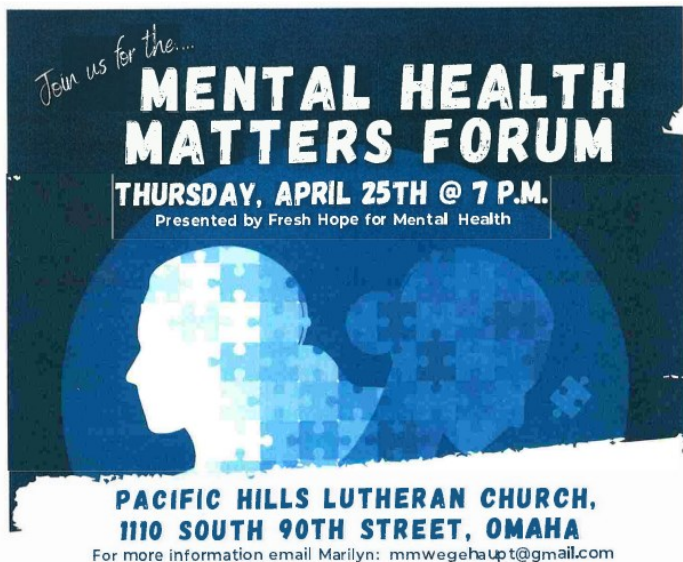
HOPE LODGE DAY OF SERVICE

Join PHLC in "Cooking Up Hope" at Hope Lodge at 8030 Farnum on April 20, 2024, 11am-2pm.

We need 6-10 volunteers to help prepare a meal. Hope Lodge is a place cancer patients can go to find lodging, food, and care while undergoing treatment. All 34 Hope Lodge locations throughout the United States are funded through donations made to the American Cancer Society. Staying for free at Hope Lodge can help ease the financial burdens of cancer patients and remove the stress while going through treatment.

For questions or to sign up to volunteer please contact Pastor Drebes at bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org or Marilyn Wegehaupt at mmwegehaupt@gmail.com.

If you have not yet taken home your Easter Lilies, please do so this week!



Join us for the...

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS FORUM

THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH @ 7 P.M.
Presented by Fresh Hope for Mental Health

PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH,
1110 SOUTH 90TH STREET, OMAHA

For more information email Marilyn: mmwegehaupt@gmail.com

Come hear from those living with a mental health challenge to learn coping strategies, seek advice, and learn how to support others living with a mental health challenge. Fresh Hope empowers those affected by mental health challenges with faith-filled hope through mental support groups, hope coaching & other resources.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Your Mission offerings in March & April will be sent to support the work of Rev. Roberto and Deaconess Katie Weber serving in the Dominican Republic and Rev Jordan and Alison Andreasen starting Lutheran congregations in Romania and the Balkan countries. Our Mission Board goal is to provide \$2000 to each family to support their missionary work. Thank you for your prayers and financial support for these families!

BIBLE VERSE of the Week

"They asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?'"

(Luke 24:32)

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

PHLC website: www.pacifichillslutheran.org

BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Dr. Bob Vandervort and a bible study group are studying 2 Peter 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.

HOLY LAND TOUR

Join Pastor, Cheryl, and Rev. James Haack as they lead a tour to the Holy Land with optional extensions to see Egypt, the Great Pyramids, and sights in Jordan. Dates are after Easter next year (April 21-May 1, 2025). Contact Pastor Drebes at bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org for more information.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The National Day of Prayer Breakfast will be at King of Kings, 11615 I Street, Omaha NE 68137, on May 2 from 7:00-8:30am. Nebraska State Legislator Brad von Gillern will be the keynote speaker. The morning also will feature worship leaders and speakers from across the city. Breakfast includes make-your-own breakfast burritos, yogurt parfaits, coffee, and juice. Looking for at least 6 men to join me for this event. RSVP to pastor. \$10.00.

MAY LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch on May 14th will be a catered meal at church with a wonderful presentation called, "Thirteen Steps to the Gallows." It is the story about LCMS Chaplain Henry Gerecke who was assigned to the Nuremberg War Criminals. A wonderful story of forgiveness and grace unfolds during this one-man dramatic production. There is no cost for attending the performance. A free-will offering, however, will be taken.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION

Sunday School families will be partnering with the Missions Committee to support the work of two LCMS missionaries. We are asking children to bring offering money on Sunday mornings for this collection. Marked boxes will be in each Sunday School classroom.