



The Pacific Hills Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
APRIL 19, 2024
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Good Shepherd Sunday

Preparing to Walk through the Valley of the Shadow

For many of her days, the view from the path on which she walked was splendid; by sight one could have said she lacked nothing. Yet, when the path began to lead into the shadows, she had to know that the Shepherd was with her. The path had been gradually descending into the shadows for several years. Once one might have hoped that doctors and medicine could have assisted her, their treatments like sunlight piercing the gloom. But now, having moved from her own bed to a hospital bed at home, it was plain that she had entered the darkest part of the valley. Death, she knew, was a few steps away. "Pastor, how do I prepare for this death?" This sheep was not asking about funeral preparations. And she was not asking because she didn't know. Rather, she asked because she wanted to be reassured, from her under-shepherd, that her Good Shepherd was with her. She wished to be at the table where forgiveness and peace are never lacking; she wanted to listen to the goodness and mercy pursuing her into the Lord's presence (Ps 23). All of us will face the valley of shadow unless our Lord returns first. The question, on this Good Shepherd Sunday, is, "Are You Ready?" The way to prepare yourself for the moment of our Lord's calling is to daily live your life in repentance and faith. May each of us, all of us, do just that!

Blessings,
Pastor Bryan

Church Events

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

- 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)

TUESDAY, APRIL 23

- 7:00 pm Pray, Knit & Crochet Group (Narthex)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24

- 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 25

- 6:30 pm Tai Chi (Acker Hall)
- 7:00 pm Mental Health Matters (Acker Hall)

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

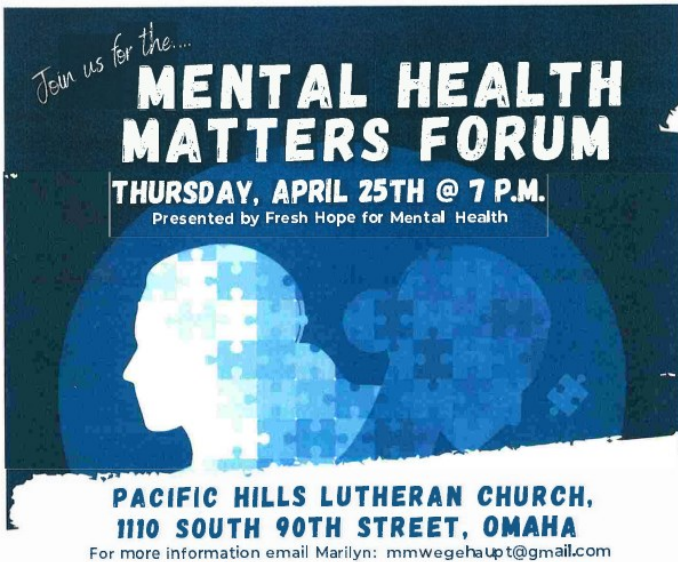
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HOPE LODGE DAY OF SERVICE

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.



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.

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.

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

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

(John 10:11)

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.

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

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 23-May 3, 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.

SECOND READERS NEEDED!

Please sign-up on the sheet in the narthex.

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.