

# *The Pacific Hills* Messenger

Weekly Newsletter of — Pacific Hills Lutheran Church

December 20, 2019 — Vol 4 No 51

## Pause and Remember

Have you made your list and checked it twice? Are your stockings hung with care? Do you have all the ingredients for the homemade pumpkin pie? Are the pretty packages all wrapped up under the tree? At this time of year we often find ourselves hurrying around making sure everything is ready for the big day. We make many stops—the mall, the grocery store, the post office to name a few. With all that running around we can forget the real reason why we celebrate Christmas.

Let's take a moment and pause and remember. The most important place to stop is at the stable in Bethlehem, so that we, like the shepherds, can kneel before the manger and worship our newborn king, the baby Jesus who came to be our Savior. Oh, come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

God's richest blessings to all of you as we celebrate God's amazing gift of love.

In Christ,

Kay Storck

## Church Events

|                  |         |   |
|------------------|---------|---|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 8:00am  | <b>Eucharist</b>                            |
|                  | 9:15am  | Choir Rehearsal                             |
|                  | 9:15am  | Education Hour                              |
|                  | 9:30am  | Adult Bible Study                           |
|                  | 10:30am | <b>Eucharist</b>                            |
| <b>Monday</b>    | 9:00pm  | Preschool begins                            |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 9:30am  | Alanon                                      |
|                  | 12:00pm | Church Office Closes                        |
|                  | 5:00pm  | <b>Family Service</b>                       |
|                  | 7:00pm  | <b>Candle Light Service</b>                 |
| <b>Wednesday</b> |         | <b>Merry Christmas</b>                      |
|                  | 9:00am  | <b>Eucharist</b>                            |
|                  |         | Church Office Closed                        |
| <b>Thursday</b>  |         | Church Office Closed                        |
|                  | 7:00pm  | Gamblers-12 Step                            |
| <b>Friday</b>    | 8:00am  | Church Office Open                          |
|                  | 7:30pm  | Omaha Philatelic Society                    |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 9:00am  | <b>Eucharist</b>                            |
|                  | 10:15am | Special Congregation Meeting and Fellowship |

**Fifth Sunday is Coming:** Mark your calendars as a reminder that we have just one Sunday service—at 9am on December 29 to continue our practice of having a single service anytime we have a fifth Sunday in a month. Fellowship time will follow in Acker Hall. Please plan to attend.

**Special Congregation Meeting, December 29, 2019**

There will be special Congregation Meeting at 10:15am on December 29, immediately following the 9am Fifth Sunday service. The purpose of the meeting is to update the entire congregation on the building campaign and to share the updated renovation vision developed in consultation with our architects. The meeting will also include a discussion on funding that will be needed over and above what has been previously pledged. These are exciting times for the congregation. We need everyone's input regarding the revised plans and funding. Please plan to attend so that we can "Move Forward in Faith Together!" Finally, as has been the tradition following Fifth Sunday services, refreshments will be served.

Thank you,  
John Thomas, President

**An Update from Campus Ministry Living H2O:** Campus Ministry Living H2O, at its December board meeting, prayerfully decided to "suspend operations" due to the lack of students participating in the ministry. There are still some administrative things that need to be done before a decision is made to "close the ministry." However, at this time, the ministry requests that future gifts be directed to other ministry choices of our donors.

**Game Day!** Join CYF on Saturday, January 4, 2pm to 4pm for an afternoon of games. Bring a favorite card or board game to share. Snacks will be provided. Everyone is welcome! We hope to see you there!

**Please pick up your 2020 Offering envelopes that have been placed on the table in the coatroom.**

**If you would like to sponsor the Altar Flowers in 2020,** the Flower Chart has been placed on the bulletin board in the coatroom.

**NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY IN GENESIS** starting Wednesday, January 8, 6:30pm or Thursday, January 9, 10am in Room 115. We will be using a book by Nancy Guthrie - "The Promised One—Seeing Jesus in Genesis". Contact Brenda Whealy at [brenda.whealy@gmail.com](mailto:brenda.whealy@gmail.com) or 402-201-1106.

**For your consideration:** The piano in Acker Hall has been replaced. The old one is available for donation to the first person who claims it. You must also be responsible for moving it out of Acker Hall. Call the church office to let them know you would like to claim the piano and will move it. If you have questions or need more information about this instrument, call Sara Young at 402-397-7987.

## Bible Verse of the Week

"Make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

(Isaiah 40:3b)

## Schedule of Events:

**December 24,** Christmas Eve, 5pm and 7pm

**December 25,** Christmas Day, 9am

**December 29,** Fifth Sunday Eucharist, 9am only

**Mission and Social Committee** continues to provide an opportunity to donate warm woolies throughout December. Hats, scarves, gloves and socks are welcome for men, women and children. Place in boxes under Christmas tree, in narthex, or donation bin. Thank you.

**Essential Pregnancy Services "Glow" Banquet.** Please mark February 6, 2020, on your calendar for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual EPS Fundraising Dinner. It will be hosted at the Embassy Suites of Lavista. The keynote speaker will be Shawn Carney, depicted in the inspiring true story, Unplanned, and CEO and President of 40 Days for Life. More details to come.

### Sunday School Classes begin at 9:15am:

Nursery opens at 9am (main floor-south door entrance-canopy extension)

Pre-Kindergarten through 2nd grade students will meet together for opening in Rooms 206/207 and then break into two separate groups for lessons.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students will remain in Rooms 206/207

1st and 2nd grade students will move to Room 212

3rd through middle school students will meet in Room 208

### Adult Bible Study begins at 9:30am in Acker Hall

Topic: A Biblical Study of the End of Times

## Events of Other Congregations and Agencies

**LORD'S LAMBS CHILD CARE** is looking for full and part time staff. Immediate openings for: Toddler Room, Twos Room, Floaters, and Substitutes. If you enjoy working with children in a Christ-centered environment, please contact Denise, our director, at [Director@lordslambselkhorn.org](mailto:Director@lordslambselkhorn.org). Employment application is downloadable at <http://lordslambselkhorn.org/meet-the-staff/>. Or call Denise at 402-289-9291 or [Director@lordslambselkhorn.org](mailto:Director@lordslambselkhorn.org)