

# *The Pacific Hills* **Messenger**

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER — PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH — JULY 31, 2020 — VOLUME 5 NUMBER 30

## **Supporting the Foundation Means Supporting Our Ministries**

I recently visited with a Pacific Hills member, who informed me that after he and his wife pass, the Pacific Hills Lutheran Church Foundation would be included in their estate. Their gift would be designated to help pay for our building renovation. I was floored. What a generous gesture. He told me that God had blessed his family and he wanted to share those blessings. Pacific Hills has been a part of their lives – and it was only natural to include our congregation in his will. We joked that we hoped the gift would be a long time in coming.

I hope to follow their example. I've been thinking – and talking with my wife – about what to do with our estate. Our children are getting older and are self-sufficient. We'll have more conversations about this in the coming years.

I would like to encourage you – members of Pacific Hills Lutheran Church – to do the same. Here are some ways you can support our congregation through the Pacific Hills Lutheran Church Foundation. It was established decades ago as a way to support our congregation and its ministries. Members of Pacific Hills serve as foundation trustees.

- The foundation provides tuition support to Lamb of God Preschool, Concordia Lutheran Schools of Omaha and Concordia system colleges and universities. Designate a gift to fund this tuition assistance.
- Instead of giving your spouse a birthday or anniversary gift, make a contribution in his or her name to the foundation. We'll acknowledge that gift.
- Leave the foundation in your estate. There are many ways to do so – please contact your financial adviser for suggestions. Craig Stirtz, LCMS Foundation gift planning counselor, can assist. Contact Craig at (402) 616-0312 or [Craig.stirtz@lfnd.org](mailto:Craig.stirtz@lfnd.org)
- Visit with your families about how you would like memorials, when you pass to be designated for Pacific Hills. By sharing your wishes, your loved ones won't have to speculate as to where you would have wanted memorials sent.

The foundation recently has supported our building renovation with two pledges. We've also designated funds for courtyard improvements.

This is your foundation. Please consider supporting it – and by doing so you support your congregation and its ministries.

Kevin Warneke  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
Pacific Hills Lutheran Church Foundation

## **Church Events**

**August**, guideline changes continue relating to coronavirus distancing: Families to stay together distancing 6 feet from others.

Sundays	<u>August 2, 9, 16, 23</u>	8:00am Eucharist
		10:30am Eucharist
Tuesday	<u>August 4</u>	9:00am Care Ministry Committee
Thursday	<u>August 6</u>	6:30pm Tai Chi
		7:00pm Gamblers
Sunday	<u>August 30</u>	9:00am Eucharist

**Sunday Worship Notes** -- The Elders and Pastor recommend that everyone wear some kind of face covering in worship. Also, there are no children's messages on Sunday mornings, due to social distancing requirements. Thank you.

#### **OUR SOCIALLY DISTANCED COMMUNION PRACTICE**

The Ushers will dismiss one pew at a time, alternating between the pulpit and the lectern side, so that there are only a very small number of people present for Communion at any given time to maintain social distancing. When you come forward you will take a prepackaged communion kit from the center of the chancel. Pastor will be standing in the center at the spot marked with a P. You will then proceed until you are in position in front of the altar rail, again no kneeling or touching the rail. Once you are in position you will be instructed to "take and eat" and "take and drink." Once you are dismissed you will dispense with your used cup and depart down the side aisles to your seat. Those seated in the transepts will be ushered up from their respective sides.

**Tai Chi: No Tai Chi August 13th. Rally Day: Sunday, September 13, between services.** The plan is to have a short session outside for social distancing. Have a treat and learn about the plan for fall Sunday School. We will also celebrate the Bible and the Lord's Prayer milestones. Questions call Sandra Glissmann #402-616-3446.

#### **Looking for owners if items left in the narthex coatroom?**

Child's purple fleece jacket, long navy blue raincoat, teal short jacket, navy blue sweater. Please claim soon or call the church office.

**Care Ministry Card Rack** is now located in room 115. Rack is restocked with cards (\$1 per card).

**Directors mail boxes and Church mailboxes** are now located in room 115.

**Mission and Social Ministry:** Mission offerings were sent to Mission Central to support Sandra Rhein, a Deaconess providing music ministry in Taiwan (\$500) and Kip and Tammy Beaudoin, the first LCMS missionaries serving in the Ukraine (\$1500). Please continue to pray for our missionaries as they serve around the world.

Due to the church remodeling the Board of Social Ministry WILL NOT COLLECT DONATIONS OF FOOD AND TOILETRIES. If desired members can contribute to the Yahweh Fund. HyVee gift cards are purchased for those who seek assistance for food or gas.

**See the Renovations Online!** You can see what's happening with the facility renovations, on the Pacific Hills web site. On the top green menu bar, there is a Renovation Update selection. (There is also a link under About Us.) Click on that to see the latest -- with photos -- on the progress. No hard hat required.

## *BIBLE VERSE of the Week*

"Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks."

(Matthew 14:19b)

### **For those worshipping with us in August: Please Enter through our East Door (Eastern Gate)**

Jewish literature says that when the Messiah arrives, he will enter Jerusalem through the Eastern Gate. Christianity says that Jesus passed through this same gate on Palm Sunday, giving the gate messianic importance. The Eastern gate gave the most direct access to the Jewish temple.

### **Due to removal of asbestos in our normal entry way, the only access to OUR temple (the Sanctuary) will be through our East door.**

Our Pacific Hills address is based on our East door. Most people never use that door, but starting August 2, we all will need to use that door to get to the sanctuary for worship services. Those needing restrooms will need to go downstairs during that time.

Matthew 7 tells us to "Enter through the narrow gate; ... 14 For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it. We hope you find your way to worship with us as we follow God's way.

### **Returning to God, Tithes and Offerings During the Pandemic**

As you know the church's ministry and expenses continue even though services and programming are a bit different. You can still give your tithes and offerings by mail. You can set up your bank account to give electronically or you can utilize MyEOffering. There is also a link to MyEOffering on our web page, on the top menu. Our web page is: [www.PacificHillsLutheran.org](http://www.PacificHillsLutheran.org). You can sign up at <https://members.myeoffering.com> Your church needs people like you to continue their regular patterns of giving despite virus-related closures to maintain current ministry. Consider the following passages: **2 Corinthians 9:7** - Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **Malachi 3:10** - Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. **Proverbs 11:24** - One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. **Luke 6:38** - Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."