



The Pacific Hills **Messenger**

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER — PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH — AUGUST 7, 2020 — VOLUME 5 NUMBER 31

The Bible is Alive

Our family enjoys doing jigsaw puzzles. During this time of staying home we have done quite a few puzzles. Some puzzles are easier than others. Even if they have a lot of pieces, they may have sharp colors and distinctive lines and shapes that make it fairly simple to figure out what goes together. Then other puzzles are much more difficult. They have blurred lines, many similar colors, repeating patterns, etc. I have discovered with these difficult puzzles, the more I sit with them and focus on certain aspects, the more I notice little details which help me put the pieces in the right spot. Isn't that the way the Bible works? It is living and active. Every time we open God's Word He speaks to us, and the more we sit with it and "soak" in it, the more He reveals to us. It's amazing that no matter how old we are or how many times we've read certain passages of the Bible, we can gain a new insight, see a verse in a different way, or come to a new, deeper understanding of our faith. The Bible is the only book we can open day after day, year after year and find something new and personal every time. Martin Luther said, "The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me." May we open our Bibles every day and marvel at the great love our Father has for us, soaking in His grace, mercy, and salvation.

Kay Storck, Director/Teacher
Lamb of God Preschool

Church Events

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

Sundays, August 9, 16, 23

8:00am Eucharist

10:30am Eucharist

11:30am Worship & Music Comm.

Thursday, August 13

7:00pm Elders Board

7:00pm Gamblers

Sunday's altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Paul and Kristen Karl in honor of Patrick and Ryan's birthday.

Movers Needed! On Saturday, August 15, we will be moving the church office upstairs into its temporary space during construction. We need strong helpers to move furniture and boxes. We will begin at 9am. Please consider helping with this project. Thanks!

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.

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.

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 Mail boxes are now located in room 115.

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.

Mark your calendars: Courtyard Jazz Concert, August 16, 7pm, featuring "The Steve Raybine Quintet". Mobile Grace Food Truck at 6pm.

One Way to Support Pacific Hills' Foundation

If you are required to take a required minimum distribution (RMD) from your IRA, you might not like the taxation associated with that. One option would be to use a provision by the IRS that allows you to make qualified charitable contributions (QCDs) directly from your IRA to a ministry (up to \$100,000/year), such as the Pacific Hills Lutheran Church Foundation. Being smart about which asset you use from which to make your contributions can save tax dollars, possibly allowing you to increase your gift. Do you want to know more? Craig Stirtz, a gift planning counselor who has assisted our congregation and the foundation, can help. Contact Craig Stirtz at 402-616-0312 or craig.stirtz@lfn.org.

BIBLE VERSE of the Week

"Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

(Matthew 14:27b)

Pacific Hills Lutheran Church has teamed up with St. Mark Lutheran Church Ministries to revive Campus Ministry, along with other ministries. A new lease agreement using the Gathering Place has been signed with St. Mark Lutheran Church for a 1 year period, beginning August 1. We pray that God will richly bless this partnership and ministry. Jim Mueller, Pacific Hills Lutheran Church LMA

New Adult Confirmation Classes will begin Monday, September 14, at 7pm in Room 115. Please indicate your desire to participate with Pastor directly or with Jackie in the church office. Classes meet for 6 weeks and lead to membership at Pacific Hills.

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. 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."