



The Pacific Hills

Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER — PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH — OCTOBER 29, 2021 — VOLUME 6, NUMBER 43

“For we hold that a man is justified by faith apart from works of law.” (Romans 3:28)

On October 31st in the year 1517, a 34 year-old Augustinian monk walked up to the castle church door in Wittenberg and posted 95 theses penned in Latin for the purpose of theological debate. Martin Luther wanted to talk. He wanted to know why the teaching of his church did not square with what he had learned from Holy Scripture. He wanted to know why, if the pope had the power to spring souls from purgatory, he didn't just do so out of the goodness of his heart. He wanted to know how a piece of paper, an indulgence letter, could take away God's punishments, as though God were a crooked jailer who could be bought with a bribe. Luther wanted to know what all this have to do with Jesus who hung dead on a cross one good, dark Friday for the sins of the world. And so began what we now call the Reformation of the western Catholic Church.

When you reform something, you don't start from scratch. You conserve what you can and you fix what you can't. Reformations tend to be conservative. It's like pruning a perennial or trimming a tree. You don't dig out the whole plant and put another in its place. Nor do you whack down the whole tree to the root. You prune selectively, skillfully, carefully. Luther did not intend to split an already fractured church. Nor did he intend to start a new church, as if such a thing were possible. This was not about shaking a defiant fist at the Pope, though he did do a bit of that later on, nor was it about breaking away from the big bad Catholic Church, nor was it, as the radical reformation believed, some pure church emerging from the impure Catholic Church. This was to be, and always is, about reformation. Correcting what is wrong, conserving what is right.

And so it is today. The Church is always and ever being reformed. Happy Reformation Day!

Blessings,

“I lift my eyes unto the Hills” ... Psalm 121:1

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING
If you desire to continue to wear a mask
and social distance from others, please do so.

Church Events

Sun	9:00 am	Eucharistic Worship
Oct 31st	10:15 am	Fellowship Gathering in Acker Hall
	11:30 am	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)
Mon	6:30 pm	Quilter's Group
Nov 1st		
Tue	9:00 am	Care Ministry Board Meeting
Nov 2nd	10:30 am	Missions & Social Ministries Board Meeting
Wed	9:30 am	Eucharist (ZOOM)
Nov 3rd	12:30 pm	First Ladies AA Meeting
	6:00 pm	Youth Confirmation Class
	6:30 pm	Wednesday Women's Group
Thur	6:30 pm	Tai Chi
Nov 4th		
Fri	6:30 pm	First Friday "Fun Night" (Acker Hall)
Nov 5th		
Sat	2:00 am	Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall Back)
Nov 6th	9:00 am	Mosaic Art Work Day
Sun	8:00 am	Eucharist Worship
Nov 7th	9:15 am	Sunday School Education Hour Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Eucharistic Worship with Choir
	11:30 am	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)



OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

Designated Mission offerings during October will be distributed to the 6 Nebraska seminary students attending Concordia Seminary this year. Funds will be deposited in their seminary accounts for tuition and education expenses. Your mission donation is not only an investment in educating men to prepare for the ministry but also in investing in the future of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

RETURNING TO GOD, TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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://member.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."

Members can contribute to the Yahweh Fund to address community assistance. During this trying time recovering from the pandemic, PHLC offers **Walmart and HyVee gift cards that are purchased for those who seek assistance for food or gas.**

CHURCH ARTWORK FOR THE NARTHEX

We have been given a generous gift to beautify the narthex with mosaic art. Saturday, November 6, 13 and 20 from 9-12 noon has been set aside as congregational "mosaic art" participation days.

KNITTING FOR THE HOMELESS, SICK & SHUT-INS

Do you like to knit or crochet? Would you like to learn? A New Small Group is meeting on Tuesday evenings beginning October 5th at 7pm. We will meet in the Narthex to knit or crochet hats, scarves and prayer shawls. We will open with a devotion and then start stitching. Feel free to bring your needles, yarn, or just bring yourself and supplies will be provided. For more info contact: Kay Storck 402-996-0722 or Michelle Steen 206-226-4554.



IMPORTANT NOTICE: ELEVATOR

The elevator in the Educational building that accesses Acker Hall and the 2nd floor of the Educational building is currently out of service from storm damage. We apologize for this inconvenience and will notify everyone when it is back in operation. Thank you!

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

**"Be still, and know that I am God."
(Psalm 46:10a)**

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

PHLC website: www.pacifichillslutheran.org for more information.

LESSONS OF THE DAY STUDY

Please join Pastor in between Worship services for a Study on The Lessons of the Day. Classes meet in Acker Hall.

SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Dr. Bob Vandervort is offering a Bible Class on the book of Hebrews via Zoom every Sunday evening from 6:00—6:45 pm. Please email him at rsvod@cox.net or call 402-350-0872 for more information. Everyone is welcome!!!

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flower Chart is in the Narthex. Altar flowers may be placed for any celebration, remembrance or just to the Glory of God. Please share your request or intention with Kelly at: assistant@pacifichillslutheran.org or leave a note in Kelly's mailbox. The cost is \$25 & is mailed or put in Kim's mailbox.

WEDDING COORDINATOR NEEDED

Pacific Hills is in need of a wedding coordinator, to help facilitate weddings at Pacific Hills. Typically we have 1-3 weddings a year, so this is not a huge commitment, but a necessary one. This is a volunteer position, but a small honorarium is paid by the couple. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Pastor Drebes at bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

A volunteer is needed to schedule the readings for Worship services each Sunday. This involves recruiting readers and providing the appropriate scripture for each Sunday. Please contact Kevin Warneke for more information at kwarneke6593@cox.net or 402-612-9151.

2021 NE DIST MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GATHERING

Attention all Middle School Youth. There will be a Fall Gathering at Embassy Suites, LaVista, NE on November 13-14. If interested, or for more information, please contact bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org.

CHURCH MEMBER IN NEED

Church member with children in need of affordable or donated used car. Contact Marilyn Wegehaupt 402-334-2896 or church office.

BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE JOB OPENINGS

We are looking for caring individuals to serve K-5 students in our Learning Center, before and after school program, at the Concordia Academy campus (1821 N. 90th St).

- One adult caregiver (19 & older) two afternoons a week, 2:45-6 pm
 - High school assistants (16-18 years old) in the afternoons, two to three days a week
- If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Laura Troutman at 402-212-7145. or laura.troutman@concordiamaha.org.

CARE MINISTRY CARDS

All cards are \$1, money goes for expenses for shut-in mailings, meals and more. Please stop by and see our new selections in room 115.

"FUN NIGHT" — FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

Join us for "FUN NIGHT!" All ages are welcome! Bring your family and friends! Bring your favorite game(s). Bring a snack to share! Acker hall at 6:30 pm. Water, Ice and paper goods provided. Participants help with clean-up. Hope to see you all there!!!

