

# The Pacific Hills *Messenger*

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF  
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 3, 2021  
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Advent marks the beginning of a new church year. After a tumultuous couple of years, even with the new omicron variant, it's a good time to remind ourselves that nothing is beyond the control of God. He has been and always will be **Emmanuel, God with Us**. With the new year comes a renewed sense that there is always a reason to hope. Galatians 4:4-8 says: "But when the set time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are His sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are His child, God has made you also an heir."

Paul, the writer of Galatians, articulates so perfectly the great hope we celebrate at Christmas! Without God's intervention, we would all be lost dealing with things far worse than COVID. Paul reminds us that we were all slaves...bound up by our sin and hopelessly headed to destruction. Because of God's great love for us, He came down and rescued humanity by sending His Son as a sacrifice for our sin—so we could be free from the chains of sin and become fully part of God's glorious eternal family.

So, as we prepare our hearts to celebrate Jesus' arrival as a gift to all humanity; let us stir up in our hearts and homes a sense of anticipation. Join us this Advent Season. It's a season of digging deep into the reality of what it means that God sent His Son into the world to be **Emmanuel, God with Us**.

Blessings,



## Church Events

<b>Sun</b> <b>Dec 5th</b>	<b>8:00 am</b> Eucharistic Worship <b>9:15 am</b> Sunday School Education Hour Choir Rehearsal <b>10:30 am</b> Eucharistic Worship w/Choir <b>11:30 am</b> CYF Christmas Practice Bell Choir Rehearsal <b>6:00 pm</b> Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)
<b>Tue</b> <b>Dec 7th</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> Care Ministry Board Meeting <b>10:30 am</b> Mission & Social Ministries Board Meeting <b>7:00 pm</b> Pray, Knit & Crochet Group
<b>Wed</b> <b>Dec 8th</b>	<b>9:30 pm</b> Eucharist (ZOOM) <b>12:30 pm</b> First Ladies AA Meeting <b>2:00 pm</b> Worship Service <b>7:00 pm</b> Holden Prayer Service
<b>Thur</b> <b>Dec 9th</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b> Tai Chi <b>7:00 pm</b> Elder's Board Meeting
<b>Fri</b> <b>Dec 10th</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b> Omaha Philatelic Society Meeting
<b>Sun</b> <b>Dec 12th</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> Advent Lessons & Carols Worship (No Communion) <b>11:30 am</b> Bell Choir Rehearsal <b>6:00 pm</b> Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)

### MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

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

## PHLC FINE ARTS SERIES - - PIANO CONCERT

**Dr. Mei-Hsuan Huang, Concert Pianist**

**Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 3PM**

Open to Public | Free-Will Offering

For more information visit [pacifichillslutheranchurch.org](http://pacifichillslutheranchurch.org) or contact Zach Hastings ([music@pacifichillslutheran.org](mailto:music@pacifichillslutheran.org))

## 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](http://www.PacificHillsLutheran.org). You can sign up at <https://members.myeoffering.com>. Your church needs people like you to continue their 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, say 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 recover from the pandemic, PHLC offers Walmart and HyVee gift cards that are purchased for those who seek assistance for food or gas.

## CYF CHRISTMAS SERVICE

CYF is excited to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Our children, youth, and families will lead the 5 pm service, "Symbols of Salvation:" A children's Christmas service for all ages. We are looking for readers, musicians, and most of all singers. Parents are invited to participate too. We will conduct practice and rehearsals after the 10:30 service on December 5, 12 and 19.

## DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH



PHLC is collecting winter woolies, scarves, hats, gloves and socks. Collection begins Wednesday, December 1st and ends January 6th. So while you're shopping, pick up a few items! Place unwrapped items by the tree that will be set up in the narthex.

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW INFORMATION BOARD LOCATED BY THE OFFICE DOOR!!!**

## BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him'."  
(Luke 3:4b)

## ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

PHLC website: [www.pacifichillslutheran.org](http://www.pacifichillslutheran.org) for more information.

## LESSONS OF THE DAY STUDY

Please join Pastor in between Worship services for a Study on the Lesson's of the Day. Classes meet in Acker Hall.

## BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM SUNDAY EVENINGS

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](mailto:rsvod@cox.net) or call 402-350-0872 for more information. Everyone is welcome!!!

## 2022 ALTAR FLOWERS CHART

The 2022 Altar Flower Chart is now located on the bulletin board in the coat room.

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](mailto:assistant@pacifichillslutheran.org) or leave a note in her mailbox. The cost is \$25. Please mail or place your payment in Kim's mailbox.

## VOLUNTEER NEEDED!!!

Please contact Kevin Warneke for information on scheduling readers for Worship services each Sunday. This involves recruiting readers and providing the appropriate scripture. Kevin's contact information: [kwarneke6593@cox.net](mailto:kwarneke6593@cox.net) or 402-612-9151. Thank you!

## KNITTING FOR THE HOMELESS, SICK & SHUT-INS



Join us Tuesday evenings at 7 pm. 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.

## FIRST FRIDAY FUN NIGHT!

Join us in Acker Hall 6:30 pm Friday evening for game time. Bring friends, family, your favorite game(s) and a snack to share.



## BEAUTIFUL SELECTION OF CARE MINISTRY CARDS

A large and beautiful selection of cards are available for only \$1 in room 115. The money goes for expenses for shut-in mailings, meals and more. Stop in and take advantage of this opportunity.

## 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 due to water damage. We apologize for this inconvenience and will notify everyone when it is back in operation. Thank you!