

The Pacific Hills *Messenger*

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 10, 2021
VOLUME 6, NUMBER 49

When you think of Lutheran worship, you don't usually picture people dancing, and you for sure don't think you'll see bounce houses or laser tag anywhere nearby.

Last month, six Pacific Hills middle schoolers participated in the LCMS Nebraska District's Middle School Youth Gathering at Embassy Suites in La Vista. In addition to the mass events where participants sang (and danced) and learned about what Jesus does for them, the kids attended breakout sessions on such topics as how to deal with social media and how you shouldn't compare yourself to other people.

The theme of the two-day event was GROW, based on 2nd Peter 3:18 -- "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen!"

Pacific Hills' Lily Hafsaas said she and her 12-year-old sister Joanna made some friends the first day, and they still keep in touch with them. "We learned about how we can grow our faith in God ... how can we show our faith and grow our faith," Lily said.

Nicole Vogel, who served as the adult sponsor for the group, said speakers talked about pruning being a part of the growth process -- how we need to get rid of things that distract us from God.

Like most youth events, the kids also got to play games and eat. Our group didn't stay overnight, partly because the kids didn't live very far away and could be driven back over Sunday morning.

Next summer, Lily and Andrew Swan, another Pacific Hills teen, will attend the National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. That event, from July 9-13, will be similar to the one in La Vista, except instead of hundreds of youths in attendance, there will be thousands. In addition to the nightly mass events and the many available breakout sessions, attendees also will be able to participate in service projects and tour the city. Look for more information about fundraisers for the gathering in future editions of the Messenger.

-- Bob Glissmann

To watch videos from the gathering, go to <https://ndlcms.org/msyg/>



Church Events

Sun	9:00 am	Worship
Dec 12th	11:30 am	CYF Christmas Practice (Time ?)
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)
Tue	7:00 pm	Pray, Knit & Crochet Group
Dec 14th		
Wed	9:30 pm	Eucharist (ZOOM)
Dec 15th	12:30 pm	First Ladies AA Meeting
	2:00 pm	Worship Service
	7:00 pm	Holden Prayer Service
Thur	6:00 pm	Trustees' Board Meeting
Dec 16th	6:30 pm	Tia Chi
Sun	8:00 am	Eucharistic Worship
Dec 19th	9:15 am	Education Hour
		Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Eucharistic Worship with Choir
	11:30 am	CYF Christmas Practice
		Bell Choir Rehearsal

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

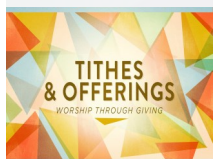
For more information visit pacifichillslutheranchurch.org or contact Zach Hastings (music@pacifichillslutheran.org)

GREAT NEWS! GREAT JOY!

You are invited to hear all about it at the annual "Christmas at Concordia" concerts at Concordia Jr.-Sr. High School on December 16, at 7:00 pm (Jr. High ensembles) and December 17 at 7:00 pm (Sr. High ensembles). Join us as we welcome the Christ Child with offerings of music from instrumental and vocal in Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Orchestra and Handbell Ensembles. While you are here, be sure to celebrate the talents of our visual artists as well at their Art Show in the commons. There is no admission charge—a free-will offering will be taken. Concordia Jr.-Sr. High School is located at 15656 Fort St, Omaha, NE.

Fear not, for behold I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10

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://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.

DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Giving Tree

Helping Those in Need



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.

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!"
(Philippians 4:4)

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 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 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 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 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.

CYF CHRISTMAS SERVICE

CYF is excited to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Our children, youth, and families will lead the 5pm 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 12 and 19.

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!