



The Pacific Hills Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH - VOLUME 07, NUMBER 22 - JUNE 10 2022



What Is a Pastor's Job?

Last week we looked at the question, "What's a lay minister?" I thought this week we would look at the pastoral office. What's a pastor and what does his job (*or more correctly his Calling*) entail? Most

people only see their pastor on Sunday mornings, so they conclude that the pastor must only work 4-5 hours a week. Could that be accurate?! As a child, growing up, I remember people joking with my pastor about this very thing. But this is far from the truth. The work of a pastor does not begin and end with what happens on Sunday morning. To be sure preaching and teaching are very important, and to be able to preach and teach, means that pastors must prepare for these tasks by writing sermons and bible studies and these things take time. But before any of this happens most pastors spend time in prayer, praying for the congregation, the needs of the community and our country and world.

Pastors call on the sick and homebound, sometimes this means making a 10:00 PM or 3:00 AM visit. Some pastors offer services throughout the week. We offer a brief midweek service on Wednesday. Pastors often teach adult instruction classes and many also teach youth confirmation. We just confirmed three youth who went through two years of confirmation instruction. They counsel for marriage and offer marriage counseling as well as individual counseling. Pastors visit with prospective members. They attend meetings. Here are Pacific Hills that means CYF, Music and Worship, Board of Missions and Social Ministry, Trustees, the Board of Elders and Board of Directors and other ad hoc meetings as needed.

Pastors counsel the parents of the soon to be baptized. They write countless e-mails and go through correspondence. They plan weekly services and special services throughout the year. At Pacific Hills these would include our Advent and Lenten services. They review the bulletins and newsletter. Pastors visit and pray with those seeking emergency assistance. Pastors deal graciously with people who call the church and need a listening ear.

Pastors supervise and review staff. Pastors are available anytime a member wants to schedule a time to visit and talk about whatever is on their mind. Pastors also visit with walk-ins, whether members or not. They attend Pastoral Conferences, District Conventions and read the prevailing literature on church leadership.

Perhaps, most importantly, pastors shepherd God's children through the valley of the shadow of death. From the moment human beings are born, pastors are preparing them to die. Pastors are curates. The Germans call them seelsorgers, as they care for the souls entrusted to their care. They spend time with the dying, preparing them to meet their Lord and Redeemer. They also spend time comforting those who are left behind.

Pastors celebrate with people who are celebrating various milestones, from birth to confirmation to birthdays and marriage anniversaries. Pastors pray with members as they face surgery and, if possible, most try and make pre-op visits, if they are aware of the upcoming operation and surgery.

Pastors are not perfect. Pastors make mistakes and bad decisions. I make mistakes and bad decisions. Pastors are human, but they love the Lord, and they love His people ... and I love all of you!

Hopefully, you can see that a pastor's role is not one that fits within a 9-5 mold, nor would most want their pastor to be only available during a set time each day. This is one of the reasons a pastor is issued a "Divine Call" and is not simply "Hired." Most pastors see their whole life as a Calling. Personally, I have viewed ministry this way all my 21 years as a pastor.

Lastly, as I was reminded last Sunday during Bible class, pastors are not called to be successful but faithful. Churches come and go, so do pastors, but God's Word and His Church remain forever. Soli Deo Gloria!

Blessings,
Pastor Bryan E. Drebes

CHURCH EVENTS

SUNDAY, JUNE 12

8:00 am Eucharist Worship

9:15 am Sunday School

Education Hour with Pastor Bryan

10:30 am Eucharistic Worship

6:00 pm Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)

TUESDAY, JUNE 14 FLAG DAY

11:30 am Lunch Bunch – Farmhouse Café

5:30 pm Al-Anon District / Monthly

7:00 pm Pray, Knit & Crochet Group

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15

12:30 pm First Ladies AA Meeting

6:30 pm Wed's Women's Group

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

7:00 pm Trustees' Board Meeting

SUNDAY, JUNE 19 FATHER'S DAY

8:00 am Matins Worship

9:15 am Sunday School

Education Hour with Jim Mueller

10:30 am Matins Worship

6:00 pm Adult Bible Class (ZOOM)

7:00 pm Courtyard Jazz with Susie Thorne Band -
Vocals from the Great American Songbook



ONE NATION UNDER GOD

Masks & Social Distancing: If you desire to continue to wear a mask and social distance from others, please do so.

PASTOR AND VACATION

Pastor and Cheryl will be on Vacation from June 15-23 and will be returning to the area on 6/24 for the District Convention in Kearney on 6/24 and 6/25. If you need immediate assistance, please contact your Elder, Bob Glissmann, or Marilyn Wegehaupt, our Parish Nurse. If you need emergency pastoral assistance, please contact the church office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2022

Plan now to join us this summer, July 11-15 from 6-8 pm for Rocky Railway VBS. Come for dinner and let's power our way through some exciting Bible adventures and learn about how Jesus' power pulls us through. To register your interest, please email Pam Hafsaas @ phafsaas@icloud.com. Please register online at pacifichillslutheran.org.



JOIN US FOR LUNCH BUNCH

Mark your calendars. On June 14, Flag Day, we will be re-suming our Lunch Bunch group. Due to COVID, it's been over two years since this group last met, so some of you may be asking, "What is Lunch Bunch?" Lunch Bunch is a group of senior, or semi-senior PHLC members, who gather for fellowship, conversation and lunch. So, please join us at Farmhouse Cafe & Bakery, 3461 S. 84th St., at 11:30 AM. Good times are here again!

BIBLE VERSE OF THE WEEK

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."

(Isaiah 6:3b)

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

PHLC website: www.pacifichillslutheran.org

ZOOM...BIBLE STUDY ON THE PARABLES OF JESUS

Dr. Bob Vandervort and a bible study group are studying the Parables of Jesus via ZOOM every Sunday evening from 6:00–6:45 pm. Please email him at rsvod@cox.net or 402-350-0872 for more information.

2022 NE DIST. LCMS CONVENTION



The 2022 Nebraska District LCMS Convention will be held June 24-25 in Kearney.

Our district theme for the coming triennium is Growing + Building + Reaching in Christ with theme verses from Ephesians 4:15-16, "Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love."

The candidates for Nebraska District President are Rev. Brent Kuhlman, who serves Trinity, Murdock; Rev. Robert Schilling, who serves St. John, Pender; and Rev. Richard Snow, who is currently serving his second term as District President. A full list of candidates for all positions can be found at <https://ndlcms.org/convention-nominations/>.

Pray for Pastor Drebes and President Sandy Frazier as they venture to Kearney to do the work of the larger church in convention. Pray also for Rhoda Storck who will also be attending the convention as an advisory delegate.

JUNE MISSION OF THE MONTH

Mission offerings this month will be sent to **Youth Emergency Services (YES)**. Did you know Omaha has a growing homeless youth and runaway problem and teens are living on the streets, in abandoned buildings or "couch surfing from friend to friend? YES assists youth age 16-21 experiencing homelessness and near homelessness in the metro area by providing critically needed resources of food, shelter, case management services, and vocational counseling which support them in their desire to be self-sufficient. Over 700 youth were served last year. YES Street Outreach workers hit the streets of Omaha nightly providing youth crisis intervention. The Street Outreach Drop-in Center is a warm place to receive an evening meal and supportive services. Additional YES services include a transitional housing program and a maternity home for pregnant teen mothers which provides long-term stability for youth.