



# The Pacific Hills Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF  
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

OCTOBER 13, 2023  
VOLUME 8 NUMBER 41

## The Third Commandment

Let's have a look at Luther's Small Catechism, at least a small portion of it. Third commandment... "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it Holy."

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

How do we despise and neglect God's Word? By failing to gather in worship to receive God's Word and Sacraments.

I do hope those who read this and do not regularly make it to a Divine Service would be moved to do so. Hearing and learning God's Word is something that I greatly cherish. Why is that? The Holy Scriptures are the most important thing we have on this side of Heaven. It is a sword to defend us from the adversary (the devil and his biggest ally, our sinful nature). We learn from the Scriptures that when Jesus was tempted by satan, Jesus always replied to the temptation with the Scriptures. "For it is written...". When we fail to hear and learn the Scriptures, it is much easier for satan to deceive us, that is what he does; he is a deceiver. I suspect one of satan's favorite deceptions is, "You do not need to go to church to be saved, go ahead and do what you'd like to do, church isn't that important. You can be a Christian without going to worship services."

What happens when we fail to attend services? Well one thing I love about Pacific Hills is we have communion every Sunday. By not attending, we fail to receive the true body and blood of our Savior for the forgiveness of our sins.

For it is written... (John 6:53-55 NKJV)

<sup>53</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>55</sup> For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. <sup>56</sup> He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

Another way we learn God's Word is by attending Bible studies. We have Bible study between services virtually every Sunday (save for some special event). Here we get further understanding of the Scriptures with Pastor Drebes' leading.

See you in the Divine Service, where God comes to us, to be God for us!

Jon Wilshusen (redeemed sinner)  
Vice President

## Church Events

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

9:00 am Church Clean Up Day

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

8:00 am Eucharistic Worship

9:15 am Choir Rehearsal

Sunday School

Education Hour with Pastor Bryan

10:30 am Eucharistic Worship with Choir

11:45 am Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:00 pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)

6:30 pm Youth Group (Aulner's House)

### MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

6:30 pm Quilters (Quilting Room)

### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

7:00 pm Pray, Knit, Crochet (Narthex)

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:30 am Devotional (Zoom)

12:30 pm First Ladies AA Meeting (Room 114)

6:00 pm Youth Confirmation Class

6:30 pm Wednesday Women's Group (Narthex)

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

6:30 pm Tai Chi (Acker Hall)

Board of Trustees Meeting (Room 114)

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

8:00 am Eucharistic Worship

9:15 am Choir Rehearsal

Sunday School

Education Hour with Pastor Bryan

10:30 am Eucharistic Worship with Choir

11:45 am Bell Choir Rehearsal

6:00 pm Adult Bible Study (Zoom)

## FALL CLEAN UP DAY

This Saturday, weather permitting, we are planning a Fall Cleanup day on October 14, 2023 from 9am - 12pm. We will be focusing on the courtyard - trimming bushes down, raking leaves, trimming the tree by the main entrance and anything else that is needed.

If you can spare even just 1 hour, we would love to see you helping!



## PASTOR ON VACATION

Pastor and Cheryl are on vacation this week, returning October 21. If there are any general care concerns that arise, please contact your Elder, Bob Glissmann, Marilyn Wegehaupt, or the church office. If there are pastoral emergencies of immediate concern, please contact Pastor Caleb Kruse at Lord of Life Lutheran, Elkhorn (314) 619-9754.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TABITHA HOSPICE

Tabitha Hospice is a faith based, non-profit, Nebraska based company providing care to patients (and their families) with terminal illness. They are looking for volunteers to help provide patient companionship and support for families. They provide extensive training and support for all of our volunteers. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Kimberly Belken at (402) 819-4949 or email [Hospice-OmahaVolunteer@Tabitha.org](mailto:Hospice-OmahaVolunteer@Tabitha.org)

## EXPERIENCE CONCORDIA DAY

All prospective 6th-12th graders are invited to Experience Concordia Day on October 27 from 12:30 - 3:30.



Scan the code to register or contact Dawn Cooksey at [cookseyd@concordiaomaha.org](mailto:cookseyd@concordiaomaha.org) or 402-990-9444.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND TURKEY DINNER

Please mark November 12, 2023 on your calendar for our annual congregational meeting and turkey dinner, beginning immediately after the 10:30 service. The 2024 budget will be presented, discussed and voted on at this meeting. BOD elections will also occur at this meeting. The turkey dinner is a fundraiser for our youth, for the next LCMS Youth Gathering. Thousands of youth and adults from all 35 districts will join together in New Orleans from July 19-23, 2025. This will be the 16th triennial LCMS Youth Gathering. Plan now to come and support the work of our church and youth.

## OCTOBER IS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

The Mission of the Month focus for October is Pastor Appreciation. Please take time to show your gratitude to Pastor and other church workers you know and appreciate. October offerings designated for missions (mark on your envelope) will go to support Nebraska students at St. Louis Concordia Seminary as well as our own Andrew Aulner, who is studying for the pastorate through AALC. Your gifts are greatly appreciated.

## 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](http://www.pacifichillslutheran.org)

## BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

Dr. Bob Vandervort and a bible study group are studying the Book of James via ZOOM every Sunday evening from 6:00 — 6:45 pm. Please email him at [rsvod@cox.net](mailto:rsvod@cox.net) or 402-350-0872 for more information.

## CAR NEEDED!



A PHLC family is in need of a used car. If you have a car to sell or donate or know of someone who has a used car, please call Marilyn Wegehaupt at 402-334-2896. Thank you!

## THE DIVINE SERVICE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The *Kyrie* is the first prayer of the congregation as we worship with all the company of heaven. It is a cry for mercy that our Lord hear us and help us in our needs and troubles. The word “*Kyrie*” is a shortened form of the Greek words, “*Kyrie, eleision,*” which mean, “Lord, have mercy.” Few words summarize all our prayers to the God who has the power to help. At the time of the Roman Empire, “*Kyrie, eleision*” was a shout that people used along public roads when an important person passed by. The phrase asked that the powerful one have mercy, that is, be merciful in his heart. It was the plea of a helpless person – something like the plea of a convicted person asking the state governor for a pardon. Mercy is more than can be expected; it’s a gift.

*Next time we will highlight the Hymn of Praise.*

## SENIOR TRANSITIONS LUNCH & LEARN

If anything is certain in life, it is change. We go off to early elementary school, then middle school, high school and college. Many of us get married, have children, and move into our first home. Change continues to occur throughout our lives. Anniversaries and milestones are celebrated and before long we are at the door of retirement. The question is have you thought about the changes that will occur at this stage of life? Lakeside, an Immanuel Signature Community, will be at Pacific Hills on October 26, 2023 in order to share information about things seniors may want to keep in mind as they move throughout retirement. When should you consider moving into a facility that offers levels of care from independent to assisted living and nursing home care? The luncheon will begin at 11:30 in Acker Hall and the presentation will follow. Lakeside will not attempt to “sell” anything. This is an informational luncheon and meeting only.