The Pacific Hills
Messenger

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF
PACIFIC HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

JANUARY 2, 2026
VOLUME 11, NUMBER 01

EPS GLOW 2026 Benefit Dinner

Planning is underway for Essential Pregnancy Services' Annual Benefit Dinner, GLOW—Giving Life through Our Works! The event will take place on Thursday, February 19, 2026, at the Embassy Suites Conference Center (12520 Westport Parkway, La Vista, NE 68128). Cocktail hour begins at 5:15 pm with dinner service at 6:15 pm.

GLOW 2026 is sure to be a memorable and enjoyable night! Keynote speakers, Al and Lisa Robertson, members of America's favorite back-woods family and the Duck Commander crew, will share their story of faith and resilience. Together they have authored three books. Al is one of the hosts of the popular Unashamed podcast which shares funny and inspiring stories of faith and family. Lisa speaks at Pro-Life events all over the country. In their down-home way, they will speak candidly about their journey from brokenness to healing, restoration and redemption. You won't want to miss it!

Our goal is to sponsor 2-3 tables at the dinner. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, contact Pastor or email him at bryandrebes@pacifichillslutheran.org. Tickets are $75 per person.

Church Events

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4
- 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 Zoom Bible Study

MONDAY, JANUARY 5
- 1:00 pm Quilting Group
- 6:30 pm AA Meeting (Acker Hall)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 6
- 9:00 am Care Ministry Meeting (Rm 115)
- 7:30 pm Pray, Knit, Crochet (Narthex)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7
- 7:00 am Men's Bible Study (FarmHouse Cafe)
- 9:30 am Devotional (Zoom)
- 6:00 pm Youth Confirmation
- Young Adults Group (Acker Hall)
- 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study (Narthex)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8
- 6:30 pm Tai Chi (Acker Hall)
- 7:00 pm Board of Elders Meeting (Rm 115)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9
- 7:30 pm Omaha Philatelic Society (Acker Hall)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11
- 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 Zoom Bible Study

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS

New Adult Confirmation Classes will begin Monday, January 12, 2026 at 7:00 pm in Room 114. Please indicate your desire to participate with Pastor directly or contact the church office. Classes meet for 6-sessions and leads to membership at Pacific Hills.

NEW YOUNG ADULT GROUP

We're excited to announce the launch of a new young adults group, *Living the Ancient Faith*. Our first gathering will take place on Wednesday, January 7th, 2026 at 6:00 pm in Acker Hall.

This opening meeting will include introductions and an overview of the topics we'll explore together in the coming weeks, including the ancient Creeds and the Lutheran Confessions. All young adults are warmly invited to join us as we begin this journey of learning, fellowship, and faith.

For more information, contact Isaac Dorenkamp (dorenkampisaac@gmail.com).

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

The "*12 Days of Christmas*" refers to the Christian liturgical season of Christmas, which lasts from Christmas Day (Dec. 25) to Epiphany (Jan. 6), marking the arrival of the Magi. But there is much mystery and intrigue around this classic children's Christmas song. The song itself has been interpreted as a "secret catechism" from when faith was suppressed in England, with each gift symbolizing a Christian teaching. The secret catechism part may or may not be true but the song nevertheless remains popular today.

Partridge in a Pear Tree: The partridge represents Jesus Christ, who is salvation and peace.

Two Turtle Doves: The two turtle doves are the Old and New Testament in the Bible.

Three French Hens: The French hens are interpreted as being the virtues of faith, hope and love.

Four Calling Birds: The birds represent the four Gospels in the Bible: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Five Golden Rings: The five golden rings are thought to represent the first five books of the Old Testament, also known as the Torah or Pentateuch.

Six Geese a-Laying: The six geese refer to the six days of creation, as described in the Book of Genesis in the Bible.

Seven Swans a-Swimming: The swans represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.—understanding, wisdom, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

Eight Maids a-Milking: The maids are meant to represent the eight Beatitudes or—blessings like mercy, meekness, and peacemaking, listed by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount.

Nine Ladies Dancing: The ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit, including love, joy, and peace.

Ten Lords a-Leaping: The 10 lords represent the Ten Commandments.

Eleven Pipers Piping: The pipers represent the 11 apostles (excluding Judas Iscariot).

Twelve Drummers Drumming: The 12 drummers are meant to represent the 12 points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

BIBLE VERSE of the Week

"(Herod) said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

(Matthew 2:8b)

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

PHLC website: www.pacifichillslutheran.org

BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

The Sunday evening Zoom Bible Class is now studying the book of Amos. If you are interested in joining please contact Bob Vandervort at rvandervort84@gmail.com.

SENIOR LUNCH BUNCH

Senior Lunch Bunch will be enjoying food and fellowship at the Farmhouse Cafe, 3461 South 84th St. on Tuesday, January 13 at 11:30 am. Everyone is welcome to join us and get to know other PHLC members!

MEMBER UPDATES

If you've recently changed your address, phone number, or email, please notify the church office so we can keep our records current.

Email KimKielty@pacifichillslutheran.org, call 402-391-9625 or check the "New Address or Phone" box on your Worship Card.

Your updated information helps us stay connected and serve you better. Thank you!

VOLUNTEER LAY READERS

We are looking for individuals who feel called to share God's Word by serving as volunteer readers during our worship services. Whether you're a seasoned speaker or simply have a heart for Scripture, your voice can help bring the Bible to life for our congregation. Sign up to be a Volunteer Lay Reader through one of the following methods:

* Fill out and turn in your Time & Talents survey
* Email Bob Glissmann (bob.glissmann@gmail.com), Vicky Vandervort (vicky.vandervort@gmail.com), or the church office (KimKielty@pacifichillslutheran.org)

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2026 Flower Calendar is now available! Please sign up to provide altar flowers on the calendar in the coat room and contact the office to share your dedication.
Due to the generosity of our flower provider, the suggested donation is will remain $25.