SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL, AND CHILD CARE

Pastor Chris' Weekly Ministry Update

June 1, 2023

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

A blessed Thursday to you! “This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!” (Psalm 118:24)

1. **Flag raising** – Yesterday after chapel was a special moment. The student body was able to participate in a flag-raising ceremony in front of the Family Life Center. As the American flag was raised, the school band, led by Doug Urban, played “The Star-Spangled Banner.” Dave Kottwitz guided student leaders Noah Rogers and Whitney Floyd on protocol and assisted them in raising three flags – the American flag, the Texas flag, and the Christian flag. We then recited pledges to all three flags – our students have these pledges memorized and speak them regularly. We were joined by a special group of seniors who sponsored the flags and poles.

2. **Eighth grade graduation** – Tonight is eighth grade graduation! Congratulations and God's blessings to all of the eighth graders in our school! We will miss you and pray for the very best for you as you begin high school.

3. **Building update** – From Dave Kottwitz: *"The elevator continues to get worked on. While it's install is mostly done, the electrician had to make a specialized electric box for it and the fire alarm people had to add some control boxes. Most of that is done and I'm told final connections will be made when the state does its inspection. The process is moving, but slowly with lots of coordination required between workers and inspectors. The gym got some more dressing up this week, and the tree inspector is scheduled to arrive today. What an honor and privilege for me to take part in the flag raising ceremony this morning!"*

4. **Communion in the pew** – Beginning this weekend, we're no longer offering pre-packaged Communion elements as you enter the Worship Center. For those desiring Communion in the pew, please notify an usher as you enter, and one of the elders will deliver the elements to you in the pew as the congregation is coming forward for Communion.

5. **Father's Day car show** – We're rounding up a few more cars for the Father's Day car show. Have a classic car? Or just a really cool car? Or do you know someone local who does? Please contact Melody to sign up your car for one of the remaining open spots: **melody@shepherdlutheran.com**. The car show will be Sunday, June 18 after both Sunday morning services. It'll be an informal event, allowing people to walk around and admire the cars at their leisure after church.

6. **This weekend** – We begin a new sermon series on the life of Jacob! As part of our six-year journey through the Bible, we studied John's writings for the festival half of the year (Advent through Pentecost). During the season of Pentecost (now until Advent), we'll be studying the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible. The events of Jacob's life will be our Genesis study. This weekend we begin with twins wrestling in the womb and one of the most foolish transactions in history! Read ahead: **Genesis 25:19-34**.

See you at church!

God's blessings,
Pastor Chris

THE BAPTISM OF
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