

Tuesday, May 5, 2020

Dear Members, Friends, and Guests of Desert Hills Lutheran Church,

Happy Cinco de Mayo! Did you know that this day is not really celebrated much in Mexico? Many think it is Mexican Independence Day, but it is not. The day celebrates the Mexican Army's victory over the French Empire at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862. It is more of a Mexican-American culture celebration and gained momentum in the 1980's from beer and wine companies. I thought you might be interested to know that Cinco de Mayo generates beer sales on par with the Super Bowl.

Today our executive staff met with Council President John Martin to plan out the next 8 weeks. We can now bring people back to work and we will have staff at the church Monday through Friday. We have begun to look at all the things we will need to do to re-open worship services. There is no date set for this but perhaps it will be sooner than expected. We are also looking at some live streaming possibilities for the future. In the meantime, we are still in lockdown and the church building is closed to all meetings.

The loan we received is a great benefit to us as a congregation. The staff, council and I are so thankful for your generosity during these shutdown weeks. When we do re-open, we hope to be in the strongest position we can to move forward with our mission of celebrating grace, making disciples, and making a difference.

One final note – yesterday I had a Zoom conversation with my brother-in-law Robin and my brother Bruce. Bruce was at his cabin near Duluth where it snowed yesterday morning. I thought: “Lord, thank you for places like Green Valley, Arizona.”

Blessings,

Pastor Martin