

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

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

I was home on Monday and Tuesday. One thing I don't get used to is the sound of birds hitting the glass. We have quite a bit of glass and at least twice a day I'm startled by the 'whump.' I rush over and sometimes I see the bird. Usually they are just sitting there, motionless, then they might move their head. Then they slowly walk and always fly away. They do leave beautiful art works on the glass, an image of a bird in flight. It must be the oil on their bodies and wings. Is there a lesson to be learned from all this? Watch where you fly? For us, watch where you walk or run. It reminds me of a Halloween night when I was probably twelve and up to no good with a friend. My friend and I were soaping screens and kicking over pumpkins. At one house the door flew up and a woman came running out at us. We sprinted around her garage and across the backyard laughing and yelling, until I hit the clothesline wires chest high. My feet left the ground and I wondered, "huh, how did my feet get up in the air?" I was slammed down and had the wind knocked out of me with a loud 'whump.' My friend ran away because the woman was still in hot pursuit. I laid there, not breathing. I might have moved my head. The woman stood over me and said I was a dumb donkey or something to that effect. She went back in the house giggling as I remember. I had a red mark across my chest for a week. Watch where you are running or flying or driving, immovable objects abound.

We have one more stewardship dinner, this Saturday at 6:15 pm. It is a time to enjoy a great meal and count our blessings as a church. Our theme is from the movie, *The Wizard of Oz*, "*there is no place like home.*" You can call the front desk to reserve a place for the meal. We are practicing distancing at the tables. Come and See.

Julie and I were having coffee this morning and she seemed very casual about getting to work. I didn't say anything. She was on her phone and she looked up and said, "you do know that there is no school today because of Veterans Day." "Of course, I remembered, you told me yesterday." I had forgotten but then my new normal is forgetting things. However, I now write lots of notes and remember about half the time where I left them. I just wonder why I think I always left them in the refrigerator. I mention this because on many Wednesdays, like this one, I forget that I am to write an e update, and Debbie Breuer politely reminds me.

All for now on this Wednesday. We will welcome new members this weekend. Keep praying for the country, the end of the lockdown, and the end of COVID-19.

Blessings and Thank You to all our Veterans,

Pastor Martin