

Wednesday, September 2, 2020

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

I just finished recording my sermon for the weekend. The sermon is about conflicts and resolving them the Jesus way in church. What?! Conflicts in a church???? You will have to go online to see if that is really true. Hint, it is. But conflicts also happen outside the church and I'll be talking about that also.

This morning we continued our Bible Fellowship. It is online now at <https://vimeopro.com/dhlc/bible-fellowship>. I am also starting the Wednesday 5 pm Bible Study. We meet for an hour and we are studying Philippians together. Come and see.

I love to read, and I've kept track of every book I've read since 1965. Sounds very nerdish I know. I also pick a favorite book of the year. In 2017 it was Martin Luther by Eric Metaxas. I am currently reading what I suspect will be my favorite book of 2020, Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy by Eric Metaxas. It is a fascinating book on his life at a very tumultuous time in world history and especially Germany and the rise of Adolf Hitler. Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran Pastor who saw who Hitler really was, years before others. He was a Dr. of Theology at age 21. He was a classical pianist, spoke many languages, and fought to keep the Nazi's out of the church. He was not successful. He was executed on Hitler's orders just before the end of the war because of his part in an assassination attempt of Hitler's life. I am seeing many similarities between his time and ours, but it won't be what you think. I'm two thirds of the way through but I find I'm reading slowly so as not to finish; it is that good. I read my first two books by Bonhoeffer in High School, Life Together and The Cost of Discipleship. As I have grown older, I am appreciating all his writings more and more.

That is all for this Wednesday. I continue to look forward to our soft opening on September 19, 2020 and seeing some of you again. But know that we will have services continue online.

Blessings,

Pastor Martin