

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

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

Last weekend was our soft opening. We had 407 in attendance along with over 500 online. That is just over 42% of the same weekend a year ago. My thanks to Troy and Ben for making sure both days went well but also for getting the recording of the service out quickly on both Saturday and Sunday. Thanks to all our musicians and ushers at all five services. It was so nice to see so many of you after all these months and we hope and pray for a continued opening not only of churches but businesses and recreation. I counted seven guests or first-time worshippers this last weekend so that too was very encouraging. Remember you may enter the building on the weekends at any entrance, just wear a mask.

This weekend we will be welcoming twenty new members. It is a stellar group. They will be welcomed in at the service of their choice. We will all stand and declare our intention of growing in our own discipleship along with our newest members.

We are starting another group of new members on Thursday, October 1, however we also may wait to the New Year if the group is too small. One of the strengths of our new member classes is helping people get to know other new people.

I have another house story. About a week ago Julie and I came home in the dark and were carrying some groceries into the house when Julie spotted a tarantula ambling into our garage. I heard from Julie, "get the broom and sweep it out!" In my mind I heard, "Run for safety." Then I heard the spider say, "Go ahead, make my day." I was too slow. It went under the car. I went to get a flashlight and I could see it crouched under the car. I knew if I got down on my hands and knees, it would swing into action. Live and let live I say. I figured I'd just find it in the morning and sweep him or her out. You know what happened. Morning came, the cars were moved and no sign of Terry the Tarantula. So, now, I look very closely where I step in the garage and leave the door open any chance I get.

That is all the news for now. Keep our church and our country in your prayers.

Blessings,

Pastor Martin