

Friday, August 7, 2020

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

I took some vacation days and so it has been a whole week since I checked in. I was going to take a long cycle trip but changed my mind. I wanted badly to finally get the garage emptied so I could get both cars in and foil the packrats. Last Saturday I was successful. I got rid of stuff and moved stuff and piled stuff and finally eased the cars in. However, I'm not sure I could get dental floss between my car and junk, but it was in the garage. Then came the moment on Monday when I didn't listen to my wife Julie and how God was speaking through her, but you will see that I ignored that.

Julie came home from work on Monday and parked on the street. I needed to move a motorcycle and some stuff to have her car in the garage. She said a couple of times, "Maybe we should put my car in the garage." I said, "It looks like rain, so I'll do it right after." The rain started and then became heavy. Then the hail started, and it was small, then the hail and wind got much bigger. I could have run out to bring it in, but I waited too long. Now the hail was even bigger. All the screens on the west side of the house were ripped apart.

Thursday late afternoon I had Julie's car at an auto body shop, getting an estimate for hail damage. They circle each dent with a marker to keep count. There were 400 dents on the roof alone. Julie was very kind about it, and I was very humble and contrite. I actually believe that God didn't send the hail on my neighborhood, but God did give a warning. It came through Julie and I was just too lazy. I think often we get warnings from God. They can seem to be just common sense or sometimes we are invited to do things differently. This is just a reminder that we always must be listening and watching.

Next, we start the Wednesday Bible Study on August 19 at 9:30 am. We will hold only the morning class until we see how it goes for us. I'm still working on Philippians and so that letter from Paul will be our start. Please use the west entrance and wear a mask when entering, moving around and when exiting the church. We will have physical distancing and areas for people with and without masks.

Have a blessed weekend,

Pastor Martin