



King of Kings Lutheran Church

Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center

Bringing the Light of Christ to our Neighbor!

Volume 35 Issue 1

January 2021

A Look Back in Order to Look Ahead

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. (Jeremiah 29:11-12)

Believe it or not, I actually enjoy reading the traditional Christmas letters sent by family and friends. I know, sometimes their “family highlights” during the year seem a little more like bragging than sharing, but most of the stories and recapping of events are informative.

Reading some, and putting the final touches on our own after Rachel finishes the draft, got me to thinking. Why do we send out only the highlights of the past year? Why not add a few goals and dreams for the coming year?

The more I thought about it, the more uncomfortable I became. Sharing New Year resolutions makes me accountable to someone besides myself. If I fail myself, which I usually do by the end of January, is one thing. But, to confess my failure to the world is something entirely different.

The joy of a New Year is for new opportunities, the new life granted by the Babe of Bethlehem and proclaimed in the Christ of Calvary. A New Year is an opportunity to lay our fears and failures of the past year and years at the foot of the cross. A New Year is an opportunity to pick up our cross (God’s plans, promises and power) and begin anew on the journey of faith.

How do I begin in this New Year of new opportunities? How about the 2021 Bible Reading Guide. Dedicating a small amount of time, fifteen minutes, a day can not only start off your day with God’s guidance, but can walk you through the entire Bible in one year! Also, join your brothers and sisters during weekend worship either in person or online. Keep in contact with your brothers and sisters and ask what goals and dreams they see in you and the many opportunities to put them into practice. The only way to connect others to Jesus is first being connected ourselves!

Reflecting on the past year Rachel and I thank God and you for all the gifts, words, and kind actions shared among us. Looking to the future we pray for God’s protection and providence as we continue “Bringing the light of Christ to our neighbor ”

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dan

2 Peter 3:18

Open the storehouse of your praise today. Let your heart rejoice and be glad!

Read Through the Bible in a Year Calendar

Scripture reading suggestions:

- 1) It's important to find yourself a regular time and quiet place to read the Bible; reading Scripture regularly and habitually gradually deepens your relationship with God. Remember, keep it simple. This is only a guide, not a rule. Use this to help hear and study God's Word.
- 2) Begin by praying. One very simple and good prayer to use is Psalm 119:18 "Open my eyes, so that I may see the wonderful truths in your Word."
- 3) Take some time to be quiet with God, to think about what you read yesterday, and to think again about what you learned from that reading.
- 4) Read the passage for the day. Think what the passage tells you. Some questions worth asking yourself are: 1. Does this passage tell a story? Or is it a prayer or a poem, or perhaps part of a letter? 2. What is it mainly about? 3. Does it tell me something about what God is like? Does it tell me something about how to live in response to God's love and plan for me?
- 5) Try to summarize what you have learned from the passage.
- 6) Is there something here that I don't understand, that I need to think about a lot more, or talk to someone else about, or perhaps even look for more information?
- 7) Take some more time to be quiet with God-don't just ask these questions once over, but think about them for a while. Think again about yesterday's reading-how do the things you learned yesterday fit with what you learned today?
- 8) Keeping a notebook of what you learn can be very helpful.
- 9) Did you know that....When you carry the Bible, Satan has a headache. When he sees you reading it, he faints. Let's read the Bible every day so he keeps on fainting. Maybe one day he'll have a stroke and never wake up.
The following is the next three months readings.



JANUARY

1/Genesis 1-3
 2/Genesis 4-6
 3/Genesis 7-9
 4/Genesis 10-12
 5/Job 1-4
 6/Job 5-7
 7/Job. 8-10
 8/Job 11-14
 9/Job 15-17
 10/Psalms 1-4
 11/Job 18-20
 12/Job 21-24
 13/Job 25-27
 14/Job 28-30
 15/Job 31-33
 16/Job 34-36
 17/Job 37-39
 18/Job 40-42
 19/Psalms 5-8
 20/Genesis 13-15
 21/Genesis 16-18
 22/Genesis 19-21
 23/Genesis 22-24

24/Genesis 25-27
 25/Genesis 28-30
 26/Genesis 31-33
 27/Genesis 34-36
 28/Genesis 37-39
 29/Psalms 9-12
 30/Genesis 40-42
 31/Genesis 43-45

FEBRUARY

1/Genesis 46-48
 2/Genesis 49-50
 3/Exodus 1-4
 4/Exodus 5-7
 5/Exodus 8-10
 6/Psalms 13-16
 7/Exodus 11-13
 8/Exodus 14-16
 9/Exodus 17-19
 10/Exodus 20-22
 11/Exodus 23-25
 12/Exodus 26-28
 13/Exodus 29-31
 14/Psalms 17-20
 15/Exodus 32-34

16/Exodus 35-37
 17/Exodus 38-40
 18/Leviticus 1-3
 19/Leviticus 4-6
 20/Leviticus 7-9
 21/Leviticus 10-12
 22/Leviticus 13-15
 23/Psalms 21-24
 24/Leviticus 16-18
 25/Leviticus 19-21
 26/Leviticus 22-24
 27/Leviticus 25-27
 28/Numbers 1-3

MARCH

1/Numbers 4-6
 2/Numbers 7-9
 3/Psalms 25-28
 4/Numbers 10-12
 5/Numbers 13-15
 6/Numbers 16-18
 7/Numbers 19-21
 8/Numbers 22-24
 9/Numbers 25-27
 10/Numbers 28-30

11/Numbers 31-33
 12/Numbers 34-36
 13/Psalms 29-32
 14/Deuteronomy 1-3
 15/Deuteronomy 4-6
 16/Deuteronomy 7-9
 17/Deuteronomy 10-12
 18/Deuteronomy 13-15
 19/Deuteronomy 16-18
 20/Deuteronomy 19-21
 21/Deuteronomy 22-24
 22/Psalms 33-36
 23/Deuteronomy 25-27
 24/Deuteronomy 28-30
 25/Deuteronomy 31-34
 26/Joshua 1-3
 27/Joshua 4-6
 28/Joshua 7-9
 29/Joshua 10-12
 30/Joshua 13-15
 31/Psalms 37-40

A Prayer For The New Year

A whole new year is mine today; May I be wiser, Lord, I pray.
To strengthen friendships old and true, And learn to cherish new ones, too. To keep on learning and to grow
a little stronger as I go. To cast aside each grudge and grief, And hold fast to a firm belief.
That life is joyous, gracious, good, when lived in terms of brotherhood. Amen



LWML

Dear friends in Christ, - I hope everyone had a nice Christmas and those that got to share the day with family were truly blessed. Paul and I were so impressed with the Candlelight service this year. I hope if you were not able to attend that you were able to see it on line.

Our daughter in law and son gave us the FIVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS. We tell them every year no gifts but we truly had a lot of fun opening up a new gift each morning. Of course, we took turns opening the gifts and it was questioned every day who opened the day before??

In December we had a brief meeting this year with the gift exchange and voted on two items. Trinity Lutheran in St. Louis has a soup kitchen, pantry and clothing bank for the local homeless and families in the downtown area. Again, we worked with LLL and purchased hats for them to give out. Then Pat Hymer, Sandy Gould and I made Christmas stockings and put health items in them for the residents at Spring Hill Nursing home. Because of such a good year for our annual craft sale we purchased everything for these two missions. God has blessed us here at King of Kings and these two missions are what LWML is all about.

We have not received our notice when we will get our COVID-19 shot but plan to get it. I personally would like to get back to a some what normal life. We truly miss our family and church family. May God bless everyone in the New Year.

Our next LWML meeting will be January 10th after second service, hope to see everyone then.

Yours in Christ.

Judy Anderson, President





Lutheran Laymen's League- The Kings Men

The men of King of King's enjoyed our annual Christmas gathering at Perkins on December 12th. At this meeting we voted to donate over 50 winter knit caps to Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Saint Louis. Trinity is located in the Soulard section of St. Louis. They have wonderful outreach ministry to the underserved population in their community. In addition to serving hot meals, providing clothing and a host of other social services provided, there is a need for winter coats/gloves and hats for the people served. When sharing this information with our local LWML group, they enthusiastically jumped in. Together we were able to double our initial target of 50 winter caps and was able to send Trinity 100 caps. We always appreciate our LWML for enthusiastically partnering with us on our social ministry goals.

Our next meeting will be on Saturday January 9th. We will meet for breakfast, fellowship and Bible study at 0700hrs at church. Our Chef in January will be Greg Gartner- this being the case we will pray before AND after we eat! We usually conclude our meeting by no later than 830am. All the men of King of Kings are welcome to join us. If you have time, stay for an additional hour or two and help take down the Christmas décor. We look forward to seeing you on the 9th!



LERT-Lutheran Early Response Team

December has thankfully been a quiet month for LERT. As of this writing, no local disasters to respond to. If you are interested in learning more or becoming a member of this proud (but not too proud) group please contact Pastor Dan; Ed Bruns or Mark Trivilino. We will hold a basic training in the near future for those who are interested.



National Lutheran Association on Scouting (NLAS)

The NLAS recently attended an Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Gaven Martin. Gaven was baptized at King of Kings. The NLAS presented him with a framed certificate and patch for his achievement. For additional information on the National Lutheran Association on Scouting please visit their Facebook page, web page or speak locally with Mark Trivilino.

Thank you to the following Thrivent Financial members who directed their Choice Dollars to King of Kings in

November: Sharon Appel

If you have any questions about Thrivent Financial or Choice Dollars, please contact mail@thrivent.com or Jean Germer at 913-484-7502.



OUR SUPPORT OF THE LORD'S WORK

KING OF KINGS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Baptized	602	605
Confirmed	375	378
Family Units	264	266
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>		
November (Avg.)	125.2	178
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$23,330.28	\$272,717.32
Budget	\$25,175.00	\$276,925.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$17,264.38	\$245,968.01
Budget	\$25,099.00	\$276,089.00
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	\$6,065.90	\$26,749.31
Budget	\$76.00	\$836.00

OPEN ARMS

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$59,606.14	\$691,524.13
Budget	\$86,354.16	\$949,895.76
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$59,228.92	\$695,899.56
Budget	\$86,072.92	\$946,802.12
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	\$377.22	(\$4,375.43)
Budget	\$281.24	\$3,093.64

Welcome to the men and women who have volunteered to serve as our officers in 2021.

If you would like to give your time and talents to one of these committees, let Pastor Dan or one of the officers know.



Thank you to Deb Evans, Worship Ministry Leader and Rich Webber, Open Arms Team Leader for their service in 2020.

King of King's Elected 2021 Officers/Parish Planning Committee

Pastor: Dan Wehmeier
 President: Tim Van Dellen
 President – Elect: Ed Bruns
 Treasurer: Dale Melancon
 Support/Admin. Leader: Dan Popp
 Worship Ministry Leader:
 Youth Ministry Leader: Ryan Church
 Family Ministry Leader: Tana Melancon
 Elder Chairman: Joel Whitmer
 Open Arms Director: Angela Thrasher

OPEN ARMS TEAM

Team Leader: Erin Schrepel
 Team Members: Jody Church, Katie Doroh, Lyle Miller

Board of Mission Directors

Pastor: Dan Wehmeier
 President: Tim Van Dellen
 President– Elect: Ed Bruns
 Support/Admin. Leader: Dan Popp
 Elder Chairman: Joel Whitmer
 Open Arms Administrator: Angela Thrasher
 Open Arms Team Leader: Erin Schrepel

2021 Elders:

Joel Whitmer (Head Elder), Richard Ahrens, Ryan Church, Greg Gartner, Scott Karr, John Klein, Herb Klemp, Kevin Kufeldt, Dale Melancon, Mike Pegel, and Rich Webber



**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU,
THANKS SO MUCH!**

“Thank you very much for your gift of \$190.20 to support the mission of Metro Lutheran Ministry. We are blessed by your generosity and desire to help the people who turn to us when they have nowhere else to go. We thank the generous members of King of Kings Lutheran Church.”

Scott Cooper, Executive Director
Metro Lutheran Ministry (MLM)

“Thank you so much for your recent donations of food to the Southwest Multi-Service Center. We truly appreciate your ongoing support and generosity. Your donations help so many people in our community and we are very grateful!

Thanks again,
Southwest Multi-Service Center

Have you noticed the new floor in the entry way and kitchen? A huge thank you to Bob Lowe and his crew: Steve Branch, Phil Gehrt, Paul Anderson and Rick Hughey. King of Kings is truly blessed to have such willing and talented members. The floor looks great!

“Your recent gift of \$190.20 given on December 14th helps Bethesda bring needed holiday blessings to those we serve.”

Lorene King, Vice President of Philanthropy
Bethesda Lutheran Communities



Your talents and voices are needed. No experience necessary. There are many ways that a youth or an adult can contribute to the worship service at King of Kings:

1. **Singing** - participate in a youth choir or adult choir that can be an important part of the worship service on Sunday morning.
2. **Handbells** - Contact Tamiaka for more information.
3. **Playing an instrument** - You have heard several of our members play their instruments in church and have heard how it has added to your worship.

Please email me a response to this invitation to join our music ministry tdmelancom11@gmail.com or call me for more information 913-397-0265.

Blessings,
Tamiaka Melancon, Music Director

Start the New Year off with a resolution to serve the Lord more!

Volunteer!

- * **Ushers** are needed.
- * **Acolytes** to light the candles.
- * **Greeters** to welcome our guests. Bread Delivery volunteers, bakes a loaf of bread to deliver to our new visitors. Prepare a meal for a shut-in.
- * Set-up communion.
- * Love to read the Bible? Then become a **Lector**.
- * Help on Friday mornings to assemble the bulletins.
- * Volunteer to operate the sound system. No experience necessary, we will train you.
- * Join our choir or ringers or if you play an instrument, become part of the musical worship service.
- * Want to be more of a leader in the congregation? Then talk to Pastor Dan about being an Elder or Elder Assistant.
- * Love children? Volunteer to teach or help with Sunday School, Pre-school moments or the Nursery.

Please contact the church office if you are interested in any of these worthwhile duties. There is an opening waiting just for you!



Please continue to remember the Gardner Food Pantry with your donations. Non-perishable food items are always needed:

Canned soups, vegetables, cereal, packaged dinners, basics like flour, sugar, shortening, dried beans, coffee, etc.

They can also use personal care items: toilet paper, Kleenex, paper towels, laundry soap, hand soap, toothpaste, tooth brushes, shaving cream, razors, etc.

Thank you to Ernie Torok who takes the donation to the Multi-Service Center each Monday morning and to you for helping the needy in our community



The new 2021 Flower Chart is on the bulletin board across from the restrooms. Sign-up to bring flowers to decorate the sanctuary in remembrance of a loved one or to celebrate a special event.

Do you enjoy the **treats** during the fellowship time between the services? Please sign-up to bring treats on Sunday morning by going to info@signupgenius.com

**Lutheran Laymen's League (LLL)
KING'S MEN**



The King's Men will meet to share breakfast at **7:00 a.m.**

.....**Saturday, January 9th**
and for their regularly scheduled fellowship and Bible Study.

All men of the church are encouraged to come and enjoy the good food, fellowship and God's Word.

For more information call:
Pastor Dan 913-375-2479



We have two services:
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
9:20 a.m. Bible Class,
Sunday School and
Confirmation

Communion will be celebrated at both services.

No staffed nursery at this time.

Our services are online. Go to our website: kingofkingsks.org and click on Member Info and then Virtual Worship.

Be sure and tell your friends and neighbors about these services.

They need the light of Christ too!



We're on the Web: www.kingofkingsks.org

King of Kings Lutheran Church
306 East Madison
P.O. Box 364
Gardner KS 66030-0364
Daniel Wehmeier, Pastor
Paul Helmer, Pastor Emeritus
Paul Hoppe, Pastor Emeritus
William Postel, Pastor Emeritus
Phone: 913-856-2500
Email: info@kingofkingsks.org
Open Arms Lutheran Child Dev. Ctr.
Email: openarmscdc@kingofkingsks.org
Phone: 913-856-4250
Fax: 913-856-4260

JESUS LIVES FOR

Bringing the Light of Christ to our neighbor!