



# **King of Kings Lutheran Church**

**Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center**

***Bringing the Light of Christ to our Neighbor!***

**Volume 38 Issue 3**

**March 2025**

## ***PASTOR'S THOUGHTS***

### **The Jerusalem Journey of Lent**

*“Then Jesus took the twelve aside and said to them, ‘See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. For he will be handed over to the Gentiles; and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again’ (Luke 18:31-33 NRSV).*

Although it has been several years since I have watched “The Passion of the Christ” I can still see those opening frames of Jesus in the Garden with the Devil stealthily watching and waiting for an opportunity to tempt Him to be less than who He is. It is a strategy that did not work on Jesus, but often times works on His followers. Not an outright confrontation, but inward confusion and contemplation.

This month we begin our annual journey of Lent. We walk with disciples of past and present as we journey to Jerusalem, the garden, the cross, and the empty tomb. This Season pulls us away from the every day stress of daily life and draws us to ponder bigger things of life now and eternally. It also helps us keep our focus on the central purpose of King of Kings, that is, Bringing the Light of Christ to our Neighbor. Our Lenten journey allows us to walk along the road with Jesus and to sit at the feet of our Master so that we may hear His plan and purpose for us collectively and individually.

This is a wonderful time to reflect upon God’s grace and gifts granted to you and new ways to put them into service in His kingdom. This is also an opportunity to invite those individuals God has placed in your life to discover or rediscover Jesus’ loving call and purpose in the lives of each and every one of His forgiven and precious children.

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 2+ months readings:



## READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

### 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 22-24  
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

### APRIL

1/Joshua 16-18

2/Joshua 19-21

3/Joshua 22-24

4/ Judges 1-3

5/ Judges 4-6

6/ Judges 7-9

7/ Judges 10-12

8/ Judges 13-15

9/Psalms 41-44

10/Judges 16-18

11/Judges 19-21

12/Ruth 1-4

13/1 Samuel 1-3

14/1 Samuel 4-6

15/1 Samuel 7-9

16/1 Samuel 10-12

17/1 Samuel 13-15

18/Psalms 45-48

19/1 Samuel 16-18

20/1 Samuel 19-21

21/1 Samuel 22-24

22/1 Samuel 25-27

23/1 Samuel 28-31

24/2 Samuel 1-3

25/2 Samuel 4-6

26/2 Samuel 7-9

27 /Psalms 49-52

28/2 Samuel 10-12

29/2 Samuel 13-15

30/2 Samuel 16-18

### MAY

1/2 Samuel 19-21

2/2 Samuel 22-24

3/1 Chronicles 1-3

4/1 Chronicles 4-6

5/1 Chronicles 7-9

6/Psalms 53-56

7/1 Chronicles 10-12

8/1 Chronicles 13-15

9/1 Chronicles 16-18

10/1 Chronicles 19-21

11/1 Chronicles 22-24

12/1 Chronicles 25-27

13/1 Chronicles 28-29

14/ 1 Kings 1-4



## Worship Services Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 PM

Lent is a time of special devotion to the most sacred of all stories---the story of Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. We come face to face with why we need a Savior and what Jesus, the Son of God, accomplished for us and for the whole world.

### “The Secret Journal of James the Less”

March 12: “The Healing of the Paralyzed Friend”

March 19: “What the Rich Young Man Lacked”

March 26: “Teaching in Parables”

April 2: “The Feeding of the Hungry Crowds”

April 9: “The Misguided Disciples”

Sunday, April 13 Palm Sunday

Thursday, April 17 Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 18 Good Friday

Sunday, April 20: Easter

Easter Breakfast at 9:15 am - Easter Egg Hunt at 9:45 am

During our Lenten journey this year we will look at the life and teachings of our Savior through the eyes of a lesser known disciple of our Lord. The series is based on a sermon series originally written by Pastor Roger Timm. Special thanks to our faithful and fun drama team, Jackson Dwyer, Lyle Miller and Allison Weaver for sharing their drama skills and strengthening our faith journey.

Thank you to LWML ladies, Sunday School teachers, LLL/King’s Men, Elders, Musicians, and the Bible Study Group who provided and served our Lenten meals.

Music practice in March will be on the following days:

**March 4th** Handbells - 5:30 PM  
Choir - 6:30 PM

**March 25th** Handbells - 5:30 PM  
Choir - 6:30 PM

The two groups plan to play at on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Bells will play on March 16th and Choir will sing on March 30th. We would love to have you join us on a Tuesday evenings. No experience needed.

Questions?

Contact Pam Gartner

[allape6@gmail.com](mailto:allape6@gmail.com)

or Kody Willnauer

[kody@willnauermusicworks.com](mailto:kody@willnauermusicworks.com)



### Attention Thrivent Members:

If you haven’t used your 2024 Thrivent Action cards yet or have any plans for your 2024 Action Cards and would like to donate it to help out several upcoming events, please let the church office know. Several opportunities this time of year present themselves. Such as the Easter Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunt, Youth Garage Sale, LERT, etc. Please note that the 2024 Action Cards will expire on March 31st.

Contact Pastor Dan at 913-856-2500 for more information.





## ***SPRING ZONE EVENT***

**When: Saturday, April 5th**

**Registration 8:30 AM**

**Meeting starts at 9:00 AM**

**Where: Hope Lutheran Church  
6308 Quivira Road  
Shawnee, KS 66216**

**Cost: \$5.00  
Lunch will be served.**



*Women  
of Our Church*

### **LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE (LWML)**

Thank you to everyone who participated in "The Great American Baking Contest". The baked goods were beautifully presented and delicious. Thank you to Rachel Wehmeier for organizing this event. Congratulations to the winners who will be announced on Sunday, March 2nd. Our tip jar raised \$335 for our Missions.

Thank you to the Ladies who donated, prepared and served the enchilada supper for our Lenten meal on Ash Wednesday, March 5th.

The Quilting Ladies meet every Thursday morning at 9:00 AM to make quilting kits, cut squares, sew and share fellowship. The quilts are donated to local, national and international organizations that help people in need. Any questions regarding the Quilting Group, contact Pat Hymer.

All women of King of Kings are invited and encouraged to attend the Spring Zone Event at Hope Lutheran Church on Saturday, April 5th. It is a great opportunity to meet women from other Lutheran churches, hear a great speaker and enjoy a good meal. We can carpool from the church, just let Connie know if you are interested in going.

The next **LWML meeting** will be on **Sunday, March 9th** immediately following the second service. All women of King of Kings are encouraged to attend to help plan our spring and summer activities.

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

“Thank you very much for your gift of \$326.31 to support the mission of Metro Lutheran Ministry. We are blessed by your generosity & desire to help the people who turn to us when they have nowhere else to go.”

Scott Cooper, Executive Director  
Metro Lutheran Ministry

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Thrivent is excited to share that a deposit of \$194.00 is coming in the next few days to King of Kings. We hope this gift on behalf of Thrivent Choice® helps to further support your important work. Thrivent clients directing Thrivent Choice Dollars® are:

Jean M Germer and Richard L Hughey ,

If you have any questions about Thrivent Financial or Choice Dollars, please contact [mail@thrivent.com](mailto:mail@thrivent.com) or Jean Germer 913-484-7502.

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“As we look back at the completion of 2024 we do so with thankfulness towards you. Through your support, LUMA was able to share the compassion and care of Christ with hundreds of people. Thank you for your gift of \$3,159.63 in 2024.”

Pastor Phil Cook  
Executive Director  
Lutheran Urban Mission Agency (LUMA)



During the season of LENT we will be collecting fun, cartoon bandages for the Noah's Bandage Project. These band aides will go to the young children who are hospitalized at Children's Mercy. The fun bandages provide the kiddos with a little joy, a conversation piece with family and friends, as well as taking a little of the sting away from getting a shot. We will have large collection container in the fellowship hall to collect the band aides.

For additional information on the Noah's Bandage Project, please visit [Noah's Bandage Project \(noahsbandageproject.com\)](http://noahsbandageproject.com)





## Lutheran Laymen's League- The Kingsmen

The men met this month on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February for the group breakfast and Bible Study. All wedding photos should have been picked up on Sunday 2/16 from the Valentine's Day photo display. The collection bins for Noah's Bandage Drive will be dropped off a week prior to Ash Wednesday and Carey Prothe will assist with modifying the bins to collect fun band aides for Children's Mercy Hospital.

The group confirmed having flags out front on Holiday's and will work with the Kiwanis Club.

The monthly breakfast and meeting schedule was revised to cancel the June and July dates due to low historical attendance. All should reference the LLL bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for the latest events and information. The men will be serving dinner during LENT on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tom Steven's will help lead this effort. The group voted to donate and help a couple of church members and their families currently experience some unplanned events. The men will next meet for their monthly Saturday morning meeting at 7:30AM in the Fellowship Hall on March 8<sup>th</sup>. All men are welcome.

The men also met in February for the monthly Men's Night Out dinner at Frontera's. We will meet at Red Crow Brewing in Olathe on Thursday, March 27th at 6:00 PM (new time).

For additional information on the Lutheran Laymen's League, feel free to reach out to Pastor Dan, Brian Blank or Mark Trivilino.



## Lutheran Early Response Team- LERT

Our squad continue to be an active bunch!

Currently we have 2 members in North Carolina assisting in ongoing work from the devastating storms of a few months ago. Chain saw teams are buzzing!

We also had team member down in Florida doing extended and ongoing chain saw training. The first weekend in March one of our team members was in Nebraska conducting a Chain Saw Basic Training.

A couple of advanced training opportunities are on the calendar to be held at King of Kings. On March 29th we will hold a class for the leadership team of Kansas on how best to navigate the LCMS webpage for conducting a volunteer class. If you are interested in attending, please register on the LCMS web page or see Dale Melancon. In April, on Saturday the 26th we will be holding a class on conducting Assessments at disaster sites. This class will have elements of both classroom and field work. The cost to attend this class is only \$10 and each participant will be provided lunch and their choice of LERT SWAG. You can register for this class online at LCMS.org or see Dale Melancon for assistance in registering. All are welcome to assist. The following day, on April 27th we will be assisting the Lutheran Laymen's league in conducting a freewill offering meal after church. The proceeds from the meal will assist a family in the congregation who is experiencing a medical situation to help offset some bills related to the medical situation.

For additional information on LERT, please feel free to speak with Pastor Dan, Bob Lowe, Dale Melancon or Mark Trivilino.

## OUR SUPPORT OF THE LORD'S WORK

### KING OF KINGS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Baptized	597	603
Confirmed	379	383
Family Units	262	263
<b><u>ATTENDANCE</u></b>		
Jan. (Avg.) *in-house & virtual	150.3*	150.25*
<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$22,115	\$22,115
Budget	\$26,854	\$26,854
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>		
Actual	\$27,658	\$27,658
Budget	\$26,827	\$26,827
<b><u>NET</u></b>		
Actual	(\$5,543)	(\$5,543)
Budget	\$27	\$27

### OPEN ARMS

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$75,465	\$75,465
Budget	\$85,249	\$85,249
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>		
Actual	\$91,193	\$91,193
Budget	\$81,912	\$81,912
<b><u>NET</u></b>		
Actual	(\$15,728)	(\$15,728)
Budget	\$3,337	\$3,337

On Saturday night, **March 8th** before going to bed remember to turn your clocks ahead (spring ahead!) one hour.



### King of King's Elected 2025 Officers/Parish Planning Committee

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Neal Brockschmidt
President – Elect:	Phil Gehrt
Treasurer:	Dale Melancon
Support/Admin. Leader:	Dan Popp
Worship Ministry Leader:	Pam Gartner
Youth Ministry Leader:	Kim Hayes
Family Ministry Leader:	Tana Melancon
Head Elder:	Allen Snyder
Open Arms Director:	Shonda Williams

#### Open Arms Team

Team Leader: Erin Schrepel  
 Team Members: Sharlot Ahrens, Penni Blank,  
 Heather Petit and Lyle Miller

#### Board of Mission Directors

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Neal Brockschmidt
President– Elect:	Phil Gehrt
Support/Admin. Leader:	Dan Popp
Head Elder:	Allen Snyder
Open Arms Administrator:	Shonda Williams
Open Arms Team Leader:	Erin Schrepel

#### 2025 Elders:

Allen Snyder (Head Elder), Richard Ahrens, Ryan Berens, Ryan Church, Greg Enserro, Greg Gartner, John Klein, Herb Klemp, Kevin Kufeldt, Dale Melancon, Chadd Schrepel, and Roger Zimmerman



Maundy Thursday, April 17th 7:00 PM  
 Good Friday, April 18th 7:00 PM  
 Easter Sunday, April 20th  
 8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship Service w/Holy Communion  
 9:10 AM Easter Breakfast  
 9:45 AM Easter Egg Hunt



## March Calendar of Events

Mar. 2 9:00 am Youth Group  
Mar. 3 6:30 pm Parish Planning  
Mar. 8 7:30 am Kings Men Breakfast  
Mar. 12 7:45 PM Elders  
Mar. 16 11:30 am LWML Meeting  
Mar. 27 6:30 pm Men's Night Out

Every Tuesday at 1:30 pm Bridge

Every Wed. through April 9th.

5:30-6:30 pm Lenten Supper

7:00 pm Lenten Services

Every Thursday at 9:00 am Quilters



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.**

**Wednesday 7:00 PM Lenten Service  
5:30-6:30 PM Lenten Supper**

**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](http://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

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Open Arms Lutheran Child Dev. Ctr.

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