



# **King of Kings Lutheran Church**

**Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center**

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

**Volume 37 Issue 5**

**May 2024**

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

### **“April Showers bring May Flowers”**

How many times have you heard this cliché? Why do we keep using the worn-out phrase? I remember L.L. Miller, my college Freshman English professor's reply, “A cliché is a cliché because, even though old, it still carries some long-held truth.” I think we can carry that thought even further. Each year around this time we pull out this little phrase to somehow get us past the wet cool days of early Spring in eager anticipation of the warm outside days of Summer.

I also have a feeling that this cliché is speaking about more than physical flowers. These past months we have walked through the Season of Lent. This was a time of reflecting on the spiritual showers of sin in our lives that brought about the death of our Savior. It was a dark and gloomy time as we eagerly awaited the glorious Season of Easter.

The April Showers do bring the May flowers. Now, we join in another cliché: **Christ is risen! (He is risen indeed!) Alleluia!** It is a transforming phrase we celebrate on Pentecost when we join the disciples turned apostles of every generation in confessing our Triune God through word and witness. It is also a transforming phrase we celebrate with our Confirmands as they confirm and confess our Triune God through their words and witness on May 19<sup>th</sup>. And finally, it is a transforming phrase as we celebrate our graduates as they take new steps in their journey of faith.

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dan  
1 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:



### 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  
15/Psalms 57-60  
16/Proverbs 1-3  
17/Proverbs 4-6  
18/Proverbs 7-9  
19/Proverbs 10-12  
20/Proverbs 13-15  
21/Proverbs 16-18  
22/Proverbs 19-21  
23/Proverbs 22-24

24/Psalms 61-64  
25/Proverbs 25-27  
26/Proverbs 28-31  
27/Song of Solomon 1-4  
28/Song of Solomon 5-8  
29/Ecclesiastes 1-3  
30/Ecclesiastes 4-6  
31/Ecclesiastes 7-9

### JUNE

1/Ecclesiastes 10-12  
2/Psalms 65-68  
3/1 Kings 5-7  
4/1 Kings 8-10  
5/1 Kings 11-13  
6/1 Kings 14-16  
7/1 Kings 17-19  
8/1 Kings 20-22  
9/2 Kings 1-3  
10/2 Kings 4-6  
11/Psalms 69-72  
12/2 Kings 7-9  
13/2 Kings 10-12

14/2 Chronicles 2-4  
15/2 Chronicles 5-7  
16/2 Chronicles 8-10  
17/2 Chronicles 11-13  
18/2 Chronicles 14-16  
19/2 Chronicles 17-19  
20/Psalms 73-76  
21/2 Chronicles 20-22  
22/Obadiah 1-21  
2 Chronicles 23-24  
23/Joel 1-3  
24/2 Kings 13, 14  
2 Chronicles 25  
25/Jonah 1-4  
26/2 Kings 15  
2 Chronicles 26  
27/Amos 1-5  
28/Amos 6-9  
29/2 Kings 16, 17  
2 Chronicles 27  
30/Psalms 77-80



**Annual City-wide Garage Sale  
Friday & Saturday, May 3 & 4  
Sponsored by King of Kings Youth**

**Danny & Nina Wahl's home  
650 South Juniper Street Gardner, KS**

The sale will open at 8am both Friday and Saturday. We will have hot dogs, burgers, chips and drinks available for sale on Saturday.

Thank you to Dan & Jinhala Wahl for opening their home for this event.  
Monies raised from this sale will go to support the many activities of our Youth including the upcoming National Convention.

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

Thank you very much for your gifts of \$195.45 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

-----  
Thrivent is excited to share that a deposit of \$190.00 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:

Sharon Appel, Kathleen L Berry, Scott P Kuehl,  
Sue Ann J Kuehl, and Michael Wallen,

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.

 **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®  
Let's thrive.®**

-----  
Thank you to Judy Anderson for the wonderful Girls' Night Out on April 10th. A great time was had all who attended and we will plan more of these in the upcoming months. Thanks to Zoe Cooper for our dessert.

Also, Wow!!! Ladies, The Quilting Group made 101 lap quilts to be donated to Orphan Grain Train. Pat Hymer and Judy Anderson took a full car load to the National Convention in Wichita on April 12-13.



## Lutheran Laymen's League - The Kings Men

April was a busy month for the Kings Men! Our annual Noah Bandage Project-Band Aide drive was a HUGE Success! We collected over 190 boxes of band aides for the kiddos at Children's Mercy! The men would like to thank the congregation for partnering with us and donating so many band aides! With your assistance we are truly a blessings to those little ones battling cancer.

April was a month of showing off the men's grilling skills. In the beginning of the month, we coordinated a hot dog and burger sale to help raise funds to help offset medical bills for the Capes family. Through the generosity of the congregation and community, over \$1,000 were raised. Later in the month the men provided our grilling skills for the church's annual US Flag Retirement Ceremony.

Men's Night Out continues to be a BIG SUCCESS! This month the men dined at Transport Brewery here in town. Thirteen men participated in the event from four different congregations! In May we will meet for dinner on May 23rd. This month we will have the Texas BBQ Truck at the church. For May all members of the congregation are welcome to join us as well as the community. The food truck will be on the KOK Campus from 6:00pm-8:30pm. Come join us for a great meal!

In April we met for our regularly scheduled monthly meeting on the second Saturday of the month. Great food was served by Paul Anderson and the video Bible Study that followed was very informative and thought provoking. During our business meeting, the men voted to provide a donation to St. Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia Missouri. St. Paul's is the sole Lutheran High School in the United States that offers a boarding option. We are thankful that we are able to partner with this wonderful ministry. The men also voted to provide a love offering to King of Kings former Pastor Craig Boehlke. Pastor Craig retired at the end of April after serving in the LCMS as a Pastor for 39 years. King's Men Ron Borgstahl, Greg Gartner, Bob Lowe, Dale Melancon and Mark Trivilino were able to attend, and represent King of Kings at Pastor Craig's final service at St. Andrews Lutheran Church in Wichita KS.

Our next meeting will be on May 11th at 7:30am in the fellowship hall. Pastor Dan will be our chef, as well as lead us in our Bible Study.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Saturday June 8th we will once again sponsor the 4th annual Craft Fair. The fair will be held both in the multi purpose room as well as outside on our front lawn!

For more information on the Lutheran Laymen's League feel free to contact Pastor Dan, Dale Melancon or Mark Trivilino.



## What is LERT? – Lutheran Early Response Team

The members of LERT are an active bunch!

Members of the training team provided a BASIC LERT Academy class at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Leawood.

We are excited, happy and blessed to share with the congregation that our local LERT Squad has been voted the recipient of a \$4,000 LWML Grant! The congregation should be receiving the funds by the end of 2024. We would be remiss if we did not publicly acknowledge Pam Popp! Pam did a wonderful job of completing the grant application and submitting it for King of Kings. THANK YOU, PAM!! And THANK YOU, Kansas LWML!

Anybody up for Pickle Ball?? If you go into the gym in the Open Arms Child Development Center, you will see freshly painted lines on the gym floor! Thank you LERT members Bob Lowe, Joel Whitmer and Greg Enserro for painting the lines on the floor as part of the KS districts Faith and Works program. It is our understanding that King of Kings now has the ONLY indoor Pickle Ball court in Gardner, KS!

A new training for LERT (and not LERT members are welcome to join us) on Running a Shelter Fundamentals during a disaster will be held on May 11th from 10am to 12Noon. This will be followed by a voluntary “Hands Only” CPR class. The training will be held at BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND School in Overland Park. You may sign up for the training at the LCMS Disaster response website or text Mark Trivilino to reserve your spot. There is NO COST to attend this training. Upon completion of the training, you will receive certification to be able to volunteer at a Red Cross Shelter.

Save the date! June 8th the LERT Squad will be having a Food Booth at the annual King of Kings Craft Fair! Come on down and have a wonderful meal while supporting LERT.

For additional information on LERT, please contact Pastor Dan or Mark Trivilino.

### **SAVE THE DATES:**

#### **Thursday May 23rd 6:00 to 8:30 pm**

TEXAS BBQ FOOD TRUCK on the campus of King of Kings. This is open to ALL members of King of Kings as well as the community. Kick off the Memorial Day weekend in style with some wonderful BBQ. Take it to go and have at home, OR join us in the fellowship hall and visit with your church friends!

#### **Saturday, June 8th**

ANNUAL King of Kings sponsored **CRAFT FAIR!** Come visit over 65 crafters and see what they are offering for sale. Have a great burger or hot dog at the LERT food stand, and after lunch visit the LWML booth and take home a wonderful cake or other baked goods for dessert.



## National Lutheran Association on Scouting

Last month we held our annual US Flag Retirement Ceremony in front of the King of Kings Flag Pole. Scout Troop 88 did a WONDERFUL job in conducting the retirement ceremony. It was a very somber and reflective event. We appreciate the congregation providing numerous flags to retire. Thank you to King of Kings Volunteers for grilling the hotdogs, Roger Zimmerman, Richard Ahrens, Cary Prothe and Mark Trivilino. The hotdogs were donated by the Lutheran Laymen's League. The beverages were donated by American Food & Vending. We thank Kathy Stevens for coordinating the donation of the beverages!

Copies of the most recent NLAS newsletter may be found on the bulletin board near the coffee machines as well as online at NLAS.org. Membership renewals and new memberships will be in June.



## Lutheran Women Missionary League - LWML

The 40<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention in Wichita, KS April 12-14 was truly a wonderful convention. Our theme was *"Jesus is my Anchor"*, Hebrews 6:19-20.

Pam Popp was the leader of the Young Women group and did a wonderful job leading them into service with their local church at home. The local hostess groups were there to help us find rooms, scheduled events, decorated the tables and were a true pleasure to visit with. The Bible Studies, the entertainment with our song leader, Wendy Sue Fluegge, just added to the event. One matter voted on and approved was to give our Northeast Kansas Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) a \$4,000.00 mission grant to replace stolen equipment.

Our "Girls' Night Out" on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> was attended by 17 ladies. It was a nice evening to visit with ladies from both services. We had a prize drawing, desserts and drinks and discussed things coming up with LWML. Everyone had a fun time and at the end of our meeting we all thought it would be nice to repeat this gathering quarterly.

**Just a reminder: Family Bingo is May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the gym**  
**The next LWML meeting is on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> after the late service. (11:30 am).**

Yours in Christ,  
Judy Anderson



## OUR SUPPORT OF THE LORD'S WORK

### KING OF KINGS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Baptized	593	603
Confirmed	375	381
Family Units	261	264
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>		
March (Avg.) *in-house & virtual	179.75*	163.25*
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$66,975	\$116,104
Budget	\$26,542	\$79,626
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$29,262	\$70,562
Budget	\$26,521	\$79,563
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	\$37,713	\$45,542
Budget	\$21	\$63

### OPEN ARMS

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>MARCH</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$76,834	\$237,325
Budget	\$69,858	\$209,574
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$102,866	\$240,860
Budget	\$68,972	\$206,916
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	(\$26,032)	(\$3,535)
Budget	\$886	\$2,658,593



### King of King's Elected 2024 Officers/Parish Planning Committee

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Phil Gehrt
President – Elect:	Neal Brockschmidt
Treasurer:	Dale Melancon
Support/Admin. Leader:	Dan Popp
Worship Ministry Leader:	Deb Evans
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, Jody Church,  
 Heather Petit and Lyle Miller

#### Board of Mission Directors

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

#### 2024 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

#### 2024 Youth Group Officers:

President: Nina Wahl  
 Vice-President: Danny Wahl  
 Secretary: Natalie Church  
 Treasurer: Megan Church & Mackenzie Sandman



**Food  
Pantry  
Needs**

Please continue to remember the Gardner/Edgerton Food Pantry with your donations.

Non-perishable food items are always needed: canned fruit, beans, either canned or dried, canned soups, vegetables, cereal, basics like flour, sugar, shortening, coffee, tea, hot chocolate mix, packaged dinners, etc.

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

Thank you for helping the needy in our community.



**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 nursery available at this time.**

**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  
Phone: 913-856-2500  
Email: [info@kingofkingsks.org](mailto:info@kingofkingsks.org)  
Open Arms Lutheran Child Dev. Ctr.  
Email: [openarmscdc@kingofkingsks.org](mailto:openarmscdc@kingofkingsks.org)  
Phone: 913-856-4250**