



King of Kings Lutheran Church

Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center

Bringing the Light of Christ to our Neighbor!

Volume 39 Issue 2

February 2026

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).'"

This month we respond to our Lord's call to "take up your cross and follow me" as we begin the spiritual journey to Jerusalem called Lent. It seems only days since we have celebrated our Lord's birth and yet, Lent reminds us vividly why our Savior was born. The Babe of Bethlehem came to be the Christ of Calvary. He came to shine God's love and God's plan for us, His chosen creation. He came to lead His children through word and action beyond the cross and out the doorway of the empty tomb.

Lent is also that time when we reflect upon our calling as modern day disciples. The Season pulls us away from the every day stress of daily life. 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.

Lent provides the opportunity to invite our family, neighbors, co-workers and classmates to walk and sit with us as well. Not only during our weekend celebrations, but also during our Mid-Week services. It is 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 two months readings.



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

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 28-29
25/Deuteronomy 30-31
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



Lent is a season that calls us to repentance—to look honestly at our lives and to turn again toward the mercy of God. Marked with ashes, we are reminded that we are dust, and that apart from God we cannot give ourselves life. In this midweek series, we will reflect on the Seven Deadly Sins: pride, envy, wrath, sloth, greed, gluttony, and lust. These name not only our actions, but the deeper patterns of the heart that distort our love for God and for one another. Yet Lent is not only about naming sin; it is about turning toward grace. Each week, as we confront these sins, we will also

hear God’s call to repentance, healing, and new life in Christ. As we walk this Lenten path together, may the Spirit lead us in humility, honesty, and hope, trusting in the mercy of the God who calls us from dust and promises resurrection. Special thanks to our faithful and fun drama team Samantha Boring, Jackson Dwyer, Kevin Kufeldt, Lyle Miller, and Allison Weaver for sharing their drama skills and strengthening our faith journey.

+ 2026 Mid-Week Lenten Journey “*Salvation from the Seven*” +
(Fellowship meal served buffet style 5:30-6:30pm. Family worship 7pm)

February 18: “*Pride*”
February 25: “*Greed*”
March 4: “*Wrath*”
March 11: “*Envy*”
March 18: “*Lust*”
March 25: “*Gluttony*”
April 2: “*Sloth*”
April 3: “*‘D’ - All the Above*”

LWML will be preparing the meal for Ash Wednesday; however, after that we will be doing soup, salad, and dessert for Lenten meals beginning Wednesday, February 25th. There will be a signup on the bulletin board by the restrooms. Please prayerfully consider helping provide for one of these meals. Our Youth Group will be setting up, serving, and cleaning up each of these weeks.



Don’t forget the less fortunate; donate nonperishable food, paper products and cleaning supplies to The Hope Market. Items they are currently needing: Canned black beans, kidney beans, and mixed vegetables, flour, sugar, chicken broth, canned fruit, stuffing, graham crackers, canned chili, spaghetti sauce, ramen noodles, SpaghettiOs, muffin, brownie, and cake mixes. Regular size cans work best. The donation box is in the hall across from the church office. Thank you to Kim Hayes for dropping our donations off to them.

In January we donated a total of 107 lbs!



Continuing in our Valentines Day tradition, we are asking members of the congregation to bring in a photo from their wedding. We will display the photos in the Fellowship Hall in February. We ask that you drop off your photo on **Sunday, February 8th** and pick up Sunday, February 22nd. It is always fun seeing our friends’ photos from yesteryear.



Lutheran Early Response Team- LERT

Well, we tried to get the King of Kings LERT group together for a meeting but with the weather no one really wanted to get out in that stuff. So, we'll be working on a new date to get everyone who is in LERT and are still interested in participating together. Plus, for those that are interested in being a part of LERT and wanting to go through the Basic training.

We are also working on trying to get a mini front loader with a grapple for our group. Our group has been picked as we have been one of the more active groups with our chainsaws, and it seems to be the best place to have it. So, we are hoping that all works out and that we are able to see this happen later this year. We know that our Kansas President Panzer is very excited to obtain one of these loaders for our state. So watch your emails for our rescheduled meeting for getting everyone together for current and future members.

Dale Melancon



LWML Kansas City CrossRoads Zone Spring Event

March 7, 2026

Risen Savior Lutheran Church

14700 Leavenworth Road, Basehor, KS

Registration 8:30 a.m. Registration Fee: \$5.00

A light breakfast will be served. Lunch will be sandwiches, salads, and desserts. Risen Savior will furnish the sandwiches and dessert.

Groups will bring salads. Mission Speaker to be Announced.

Gifts from the Heart: Baby supplies for Sparrow Women's Clinic in Lansing, KS. Suggested items: LUVS Diapers, Size 6, 144 Count; Pampers Swaddlers Diapers, Size 6, 108 Count; Huggies, Size 6, 108 Count; Aquaphor Baby diaper rash cream; Boudreaux's Butt Paste, maximum strength; Eucerin baby body lotion; Eucerin unscented baby body wash and shampoo; Aveeno baby moisture; Aveeno baby Gentle body wash and shampoo; Fischer-Price baby-toddler bathtubs; Any Little Golden Books,, biblical themed, Lansinoh washable nursing pads.



Lutheran Women Missionary League (LWML)

Alleluia, we had a total of 18 ladies at our January meeting for LWML. Our meeting was after second service at 11:30. We had a wonderful lunch of several soups made by, of course, Rachel Wehmeier, a BIG THANK YOU.

I hope you noticed our large bulletin board by the kitchen window. We will be putting all notices on the board for meetings, events, missions and a thermometer to show how much money is collected for mites and given for National missions. We have a very large mite box by the mail boxes.

Our very first project this year is putting together boxes, called Put together boxes. It will contain family activities for the children and families in our congregation and Open Arms to do during Lent. We will gather for breakfast, fellowship and putting boxes together on **Saturday, February 14th at 7:30am**. Of course, you are invited even if you do not have children!

It is our custom to serve the Lenten dinner on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. We have plans to make several soups, salad and desserts.

Other projects we have planned are: Have a family faith night with a movie, a Women's Bible Study, put together School Kits, Make some more casseroles, work with Open Arms doing a Trunk and Treat day, Have a paint party and the list goes on.

EVENTS that are coming up with LWML are on March 7th we are having a Spring Event at Risen Savior in Basehor, also our District convention is in Manhattan on April 17-19th, I will post these events on the board. Please call me if you have any questions.

Yours in Christ,
Judy Anderson-President



Lutheran Laymen's League- KINGS MEN

The group kicked the year off with breakfast and bible study on January 10th. The 2026 men's breakfast and monthly dinner schedules are posted for the year. Both old and new business items were discussed with most staying to help take down Christmas decorations. Remember to bring in your wedding photos for our Valentine's table display (drop off 2/8, pickup 2/22). We have sent out a survey to the men of the church to get their input and suggestions for LLL. We will hopefully have some results by our next meeting.

Reminder the next meeting is 7:30am, February 14th, and we always appreciate seeing some new faces.

Please reference the LLL bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for the latest events and information.

God Bless,
Brian Blank

OUR SUPPORT OF THE LORD'S WORK

KING OF KINGS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Baptized	601	598
Confirmed	383	380
Family Units	265	263
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>		
Dec. (Avg) *in-house & virtual	158	170
<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$27,035	\$305,120
Budget	\$26,854	\$322,248
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$40,746	\$316,914
Budget	\$26,827	\$321,924
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	(\$13,711)	(\$11,794)
Budget	\$27	\$324

OPEN ARMS

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$84,427	\$959,130
Budget	\$85,249	\$1,022,988
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$73,020	\$958,162
Budget	\$81,912	\$982,944
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	\$11,407	\$968
Budget	\$3,337	\$40,044

King of King's Elected 2026 Officers/Parish Planning Committee

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Phil Gehrt
President – Elect:	Rick Hughey
Treasurer:	Dale Melancon
Support/Admin. Leader:	Sharlot Ahrens
Worship Ministry Leader:	Pam Gartner
Youth Ministry Leader:	Penni Blank
Family Ministry Leader:	Tana Melancon
Head Elder:	Allen Snyder
Open Arms Director:	Shonda Williams

Open Arms Team

Team Leader: Erin Schrepel
Team Members: Pam Enserro, Heather Petit,
and Cary Prothe

Board of Mission Directors

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Phil Gehrt
President– Elect:	Rick Hughey
Support/Admin. Leader:	Sharlot Ahrens
Head Elder:	Allen Snyder
Open Arms Administrator:	Shonda Williams
Open Arms Team Leader:	Erin Schrepel

2026 Elders:

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



**We're Updating
Our Church Directory**

We're going to be updating the church directory soon,
so please check the contact info we currently have,
and let us know if it needs updated.

If you have any questions, please contact Erin at
secretary@kingofkingsks.org or 913-856-2500

THANK YOU!

Thrivent is excited to share that a deposit of \$91.00 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:

Kathleen Berry

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



As the KOK Youth Group heads into 2026, they are planning for more time of fellowship, community outreach and fun!

The Youth Group will be planning more opportunities for fundraising as they plan to fly to the National Youth Gathering in 2028. With this in mind, our Youth Group will be serving soup and salad for our Lenten Meals this year. They will be posting a sign up in the church for donations of soup, bread and deserts. The sign up will be posted on Sunday, Feb. 8. They thank you for your support!

Please keep an eye out for more fellowship and fun to come!



In January, we celebrated National Lutheran Schools Week with a spirit week and lots of joyful noise to the Lord! This month we have Jo Ho, the Storyteller coming to read to the kids. Her theme is "Snuggle up and Read." Donuts with Dad (or men who matter) will be Friday the 6th before the school day starts here at OA from 7am-8am in the gym. Have breakfast with your child then please take them to their classroom. Watch on brightwheel for Valentine's Day party information for each classroom. Sign ups are hanging in the hallways too. This month we celebrate Ash Wednesday. We will be hosting a service for the kids, and they shall receive an ash cross on their foreheads. If you have any question please reach out to the office or your teacher. King of Kings would like to invite everyone to their Ash Wednesday service the 18th at 7pm, with dinner provided before service by LWML at 5:30-6:30pm. We are also hiring here at Open Arms. We are looking for teachers with early childhood backgrounds! If you know anyone who is interested please reach out to our office staff for more information.



February Calendar of Events

February 1 Congregational Meeting
February 2 Parish Planning Meeting
February 4 5:30 PM Kings Ringers
6:30 PM Kings Singers
6:30 PM Elders Meeting
February 8 9:00 AM Youth Group Meeting
February 9 5:30 PM Bible Study @ Perkins
February 14 7:30 AM LLL Men's Breakfast
7:30 AM LWML Breakfast/Meeting
February 18 5:30 PM Lenten Meal
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service
February 19 6:00 PM Open Arms Team Meeting
February 23 5:30 PM Bible Study @ Perkins
February 25 5:30 PM Lenten Meal
7:00 PM Lenten Service
February 26 6:00 PM Men's Night Out @ Asian
Moon Bistro

Every Tuesday 1:30 PM Bridge

Every Wednesday 9:30 AM Chapel for Open Arms

Every Thursday 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.
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

**King of Kings Lutheran Church
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Daniel Wehmeier, Pastor
Paul Helmer, Pastor Emeritus
William Postel, Pastor Emeritus
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