

King's Quill January 2018 – Issue 266

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"In grateful response to God's grace and empowerment by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, the mission of King of Kings Lutheran Church and School is to make known the love of Christ by word and deed within our church, community, and the world"

Pastor's Corner

January 2018

In these twelve days of Christmas, we celebrate Jesus coming to us as a baby in a manger, a man who lived among us for over 30 years, a Savior who suffered and died for our sins and, through His resurrection, a Redeemer who has conquered death and the devil. Question is, how do all these things affect the way you live your life? Who do we live for? Paul gives us the answer in 2 Corinthians 5:14-15: **"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and He died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him Who for their sake died and was raised."**

As if Christmas doesn't give us enough opportunity to think about ourselves, it is quickly followed by the New Year. Americans will make resolutions by the score, most of which will fall by the wayside by February (the resolutions, that is, not the Americans!). That's because we are human. We have good intentions, but the resolution to follow them through is tough to muster. (It will be easier to use the equipment you want at the gym in just a few weeks!) Last year I heard someone on the radio say that their only resolution was not to make any more resolutions. Their co-hosts quickly pointed out that that was already a resolution.

The great marvel of Christmas is the Incarnation, that Jesus gave up the glory of heaven and became human on that Christmas morning more than 2,000 years ago. As Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 8:9, **"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich."** Because of His great love for us demonstrated on the cross, we are also motivated, as Paul was, to follow a different and better pattern for our lives: God's plan.

It doesn't happen only on New Year's Day! We have the opportunity to start over every day. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we say good-bye to our old lives that were totally focused on what we wanted. With a change of heart, we search for God's will instead of our own. With David we pray, **"Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me"** (Psalm 51:10). When we follow Christ, we leave our old self behind: **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come"** (2 Corinthians 5:17). As baptized and forgiven Christians, we have the unique opportunity to start over and to live for God and for each other each and every day.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Steve Bielenberg

A big THANK YOU to all the musicians who gave so much of their time, energy and musical talents to lead us in praise during this Advent/Christmas season. Many hours went into practicing! Thank you especially to the directors of all the groups for the extra effort to lift up the name of Jesus. We are truly blessed to have so many dedicated and talented musicians at King of Kings!

King of Kings Lutheran Church

Service Times:

Sunday

8:30 am – Classic Worship

9:45 am – Sunday School and Bible study classes

11:00 am – Alternate Worship

1:30 pm – Hmong (language) Community Worship

Wednesday

7:00 pm – Lent/Advent Services (seasonal)



NOVEMBER GIVING INFORMATION

Regular offering – \$45,039.31; Roof – \$3,487.00; other specified offerings - \$2883.13
Joyful Response – General \$9,574.00 Roof - \$1,166.00

A Missourian's Insights of Minnesota

Weather. Oh, the weather outside is frightful – still...everyday! This subject may be getting old, but I always find God's creation fascinating. I find myself looking forward to temperatures in double digits, and rejoice when I go home to 30's! I now dress in layers – many layers. When does spring get here?

Jargon. This cultural difference has always been on top of the surface. As Minnesotans and Missourians, we have our different words or sayings we have on a daily basis. This month's observation is "You're a hoot," and "Duck, Duck, Grey Duck." Even though I have nothing particular to say about "You're a hoot," anytime someone says this, I cannot help but smirk as I am not the only one with my foreign expressions. "Duck, Duck, Grey Duck." What? It's duck, duck, goose! When did a grey duck turn into a goose or vice versa? I'm so confused? In this instance, this is when the teacher becomes the student – though I still have not figured out why it is grey duck instead of goose.

Culture. Driving down to Illinois and Missouri for Christmas reminded me again of how different Minnesota and Missouri really can be. It is really exciting to see the car thermostat go up instead of down and to step out of your car feeling like you are now experiencing a heat wave. I never really appreciated the use of gloves or coats until I got to Minnesota.

Stay tuned for more insights as I happily slog my way through this winter! Happy new year everyone! I'm so excited to see what 2018 holds for both myself and all y'all! – Rebecca Drewitz (Your friendly, Missourian DCE Intern)

SAVE THE DATE

The LWML Winter Workshop of the St. Croix River Zone/ St. Paul Metro Zone is Saturday, January 20, 2018 "Being the People of God in our Broken Cities" Guest Speaker Pastor Mark Koschmann, M. Div., M.A. (Fiechtner Chair in Christian Outreach and Instructor in Theology & Ministry at Concordia University St. Paul) St. Peter Lutheran Church ~ Afton, MN (880 Neal Avenue South) Registration & Light Breakfast at 9:00 am Workshop at 9:30 am. Free will offering.

As you are recovering from the 2017 Christmas and New Years Season, we want to announce that the **Women's Ministry** will once again organize a **2018 Spring Recycle Sale**. As you are cleaning up from the holidays and reorganizing your household, please collect any gently used items for our sale ... clothing, household items, small tools, etc. **SAVE THESE DATES: Friday, April 13 for delivery of your items and setting up the event, and Saturday April 14, 8am – 1pm, for the sale.** You can assist now by gathering up your "recyclable" items, and plugging us into your calendar so you can help those days. But more information to come in the Spring. For now, start gathering those items you can contribute. Thanks to all for supporting this important **Women's Ministry event**.

From the window view of Pastor Lee

Nyob Zoo Xyoo Tshiab is Hmong for Happy New Year

While there are a growing number of Hmong people converting to Christianity in the United States, the large majority continue to believe in both animism (belief that spirits or forces inhabit the natural universe) and ancestral worship.

For traditional Hmong, the New Year celebration actually begins in household, where they give thanks to their ancestors and various spirits. Specifically, this celebration begins by an in-house ritual that calls back the wandering souls of every family member in the past to reunite with the household and to help bless the house. If there is a local shaman in the house, the family will also worship the healing spirits.

As I study scripture and work with many families, I see a danger in the calling of wandering souls. What is the danger you ask? Think about this biblically. The souls of those who have fallen asleep (died) are waiting for the second coming; if that is the case, who or better yet, what are they calling to reunite? I caution this practice because I've seen what happens when you call upon spirits to your home and sometimes into your heart. There are two kinds of spirits, the ones with God and the fallen ones. If you're not calling upon the ultimate Spirit of God, you may be calling something out of the darkness in which you have no idea what will manifest into.

If you want a happy New Year, I'd suggest you keep Christmas in your home and call upon the Name of Jesus not just at the beginning of the year, but every day of your life. If your home and your heart are not with Jesus, who or what else lives there?

Yours in Christ, Pastor Vue Lee

Principal's News & Notes

National Lutheran Schools Week is January 21 – 27. See page 4

Share the good news about King of Kings Lutheran School!

Word-of-mouth is the most powerful source of marketing. Share the good news about our school with your family, friends, and neighbors. Let them know about our upcoming open house: **Thursday, January 25, 5:00-7:00 p.m.**

Feed My Starving Children Service Event: On Friday, December 22nd the sixth through eighth grade students packed meals at Feed My Starving Children in Coon Rapids. The students, teachers, and chaperones had a great day preparing and packing meals, boxing them and praying for the people who will receive these meals. During the two hour session a total of 219 boxes were packed, totaling more than 47,304 meals. The students from King of Kings also raised over \$386 in chapel offerings for FMSC during the second quarter.

2018 Winter Jubilee – Saturday, January 20th 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Can you believe that it is almost time for our Annual Winter Jubilee? Our annual event can't be a success without YOU! We are so excited to kick off our wonderful event on **Saturday, January 20** from 9:30-11:30 a.m. with a lunch to follow. Winter Jubilee is a family fun event for students Preschool - 3rd Grade and their families both in our school and in our community. Bring everyone!! Bring friends, neighbors, family members, coworkers - whomever you can think of to come and enjoy a fun family morning! Please RSVP at our website so we can get the best count for food and supplies: <http://www.kingofkingslutherschool.org/winter-jubilee.html>.

Volunteers Needed: In order to make this event a success, please help us in the following ways:

- Sign up to volunteer! Students in 5th grade and older can sign up to help as well!
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0c4ba9aa2ba6f49-winter>
- Donate! Check out our mitten tree located in the coffee area outside the sanctuary and bring in donations by Tuesday, January 16th.

Thank you so much for helping us make this event amazing again this year! If you have any questions please contact Amanda Adkins at aadkins@kingofkingsroseville.org

Keep “Liking” Us on Facebook!

As most of you know, Facebook is a great way to network and share the blessings we have at our church/school ministry. Please find us at the following link and 'like' our page: www.facebook.com/koklutherschoolroseville Note: this is a separate page from the church.

January Events:

- 5-6 Holiday Classic 7/8 Basketball Tournament @ Concordia Academy
- 8 Classes Resume / Start of 3rd Quarter
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – No School
- 20 Winter Jubilee - 9:30-11:30 a.m.
- 21-27 National Lutheran Schools Week
- 25 Open House – 5:00-7:00 p.m.



Please visit the school website for calendar updates and a complete listing of all school events and activities:
www.kingofkingslutherschool.org

Please Keep the Endowments at King of Kings Lutheran Church and School in mind:
Linda ZumHofe Endowment (Tuition Funding); King of Kings Elementary Endowment (Tuition Funding);
Member Hardship Endowment (Unemployment Assistance)