King of Kings Lutheran Church and School 2330 Dale Street North | Roseville, MN 55113 Church 651-484-5142 School 651-484-9206

## Pastor's Corner January 2024

One year I began my Christmas Day sermon with a line to this effect: "We don't begin celebrating Christmas at our house until it is over for everyone else." A visiting daughter of a pastor just about fell out of her pew laughing. But there is some truth to it. We spend so much time preparing for it and it is over in a flash. To the surprise of some, the Twelve Days of Christmas don't precede Christmas - they follow it! We are in the season of Christmas until Epiphany. As the first half of the Church Year celebrates the life of Jesus, we are in a whirlwind of the early events of his life.

December 26: We take a moment to recognize St. Stephen on December 26<sup>th</sup>. You can read about his testimony and martyrdom in Acts 6 and 7. Chosen to help serve in the daily food distribution to the widows in Jerusalem, Stephen is noted as "a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit." When Stephen testified, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God," it was too much for his opponents to take. They took him outside the city and stoned him. His last words were close to the words of Christ on the cross: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit," and finally, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." This event also marks the first appearance of Saul (soon to be known as Paul) in the New Testament. A saying from the Early Church: "Yesterday Christ was born in the world, so that today Stephen would be born in heaven."

(continued...)

## Weekly Sunday Services

8:30 am – Classic Worship
9:45 am – Adult Bible Study
Sunday School
Confirmation
High School Bible Study

## Live Stream Worship

11:00 am – Alternate Worship

http://www.kingofkingsroseville.org/ online-worship.html Use the above link to access the live stream of all services (recordings available)

# January Office Hours

Weekly Office Hours 8AM to 4PM Monday – Friday

The office will be closed 1/1 & 1/2 for New Year's. The office will be open reduced hours from 9am-12:30pm 1/3-5

In grateful response to God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament, making known the love of Christ by word and deed within our church, community and the world.

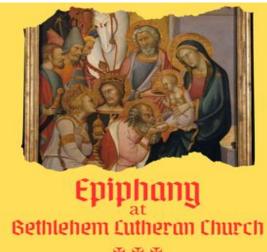
Dec. 28: More martyrs! December 28th is the feast of The Holy Innocents. When the Magi left Bethlehem and "departed another way," King Herod was furious. He ordered the execution of all male children in and around Bethlehem who were under the age of two. Matthew goes back to the prophet Jeremiah and likens Jacob's wife Rachel, who died in childbirth, to the sorrow of Bethlehem: "Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more." Even as a newborn, Christ is persecuted by evil men.

January 1: The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus. On the eighth day after his birth, the Christ Child is circumcised and "was called Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb." Jesus begins to fulfill the Law for us as his parents follow the ancient covenant first given to Abraham in Genesis 17.

January 6: Epiphany! Always celebrated as the Twelfth Day of Christmas, bringing the Christmas season to an end. In the season of Epiphany, we celebrate the arrival of the Magi from the East, the boy Jesus in the Temple, and His baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. This year, our circuit will gather at Bethlehem Lutheran in St. Paul on Saturday January 6th to celebrate the arrival of the Magi.

God's blessings to you as we continue to celebrate the life of Christ this January! Yours in Christ,

Pastor Steven Bielenberg



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Join us in celebrating the Epiphany of our Lord with a festive Divine Service.

The Rev. Scot Missling (Pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran) will preside and the Rev. Dr. Joshua Miller (Pastor of Jehovah Lutheran) will preach.

All are welcome!

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#### Circuit Divine Gervice

January 6 2024

6:30 PM

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

### Celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord at

Bethlehem! Bethlehem Lutheran Church (655 Forest Street, St. Paul. MN 55106) invites you to join in celebrating the Epiphany of our Lord with a festive Divine Service on Saturday, January 6, at 6:30pm. The Rev. Scot Missling (Pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran) will preside and the Rev. Dr. Joshua C. Miller (Pastor of Jehovah Lutheran) will preach. All are welcome!



#### Like BLTs?

A new **Basic Lutheran Teaching** class will start on Thursday, January 18. We will cover basics like the 10 Commandments, Baptism, Lord's Supper, The Creed, etc. and how they apply to our lives as Christians in the 21st century. This class is intended for those who want to know what Lutherans believe, those who want to join King of Kings, or members who would like to review. Everyone is welcome! We usually meet from 7:00 to 8:30 PM but can adjust the time depending on the participants. If you are interested, please contact the church office or Pastor Bielenberg.

# Rews and Rotes



A Parish Planning Council (PPC)

Meeting is scheduled for January 11

at 6:30PM.





# Thank you to...

The many, many musicians who have continued to bless King of Kings this holiday season by the use of their varied musical gifts!

Attached to the Quill are *Barb's Bulletin*, from King of Kings supported missionary Barb Rebentisch. Please keep her and all missionaries in your prayers!



#### **Membership Updates:**

Mark Suter Address: 2055 Bradley St. #103 Maplewood, MN 55117



**500 Cards** Join us **January 12th at 6:00 pm**. Our Hosts for this month are Steve & Janelle Dahl (3104 Hamline Ave, RV) Please RSVP to 651-503-5842. Bring a snack to share. A schedule for Nov – March is posted on the church bulletin board in north hallway.

## Talk & Tie Quilts for Ukraine Refugees

On **Saturday February 3 from 10:00 am -2:00 pm** in the Jerusalem room you and your family have an opportunity to stop by and tie a quilt to help Ukraine refugees who are homeless. They use these quilts for carrying all their personal possessions and keeping warm as they sleep in mostly outdoor conditions. Our goal is to complete 25 quilts. If you can thread a large needle and can tie a knot you can make a difference. A Light lunch will be served from 11:30 am -1:00 pm. This is a Thrivent Sponsored Event. Questions? Reach out to Debbie Schultz.

North Parking Lot LCEF Loan Update: The Lutheran Church Extension Fund loan balance for the north parking lot project is down to \$36,764.62. The original loan was for \$300,000. If you would like to contribute to this project, make out your check to King of Kings and put "Parking Lot" on the memo line or use your Joyful Response online account and click on "Building Fund." Thanks to everyone who has given so generously toward this project!



# Your Hospitality Wanted!

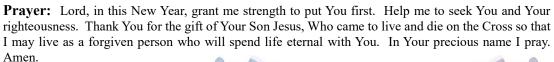
#### **Hospitality Opportunity**

There are more than 56 international students who have requested Friendship

Families in partnership ministry between local LCMS congregations and CSP's incoming international students through Concordia's International Student Ministry program! If you want more info or to sign up, please contact Anna Gruen, Ministry Associate by email <a href="mailto:gruen@csp.edu">gruen@csp.edu</a>. More information is also on the flier in the narthex.

# **Stewardship Corner**

**Let the New Year Begin** Somehow a New Year seems to bring revitalization. We take a deep breath, forgetting all that went wrong in the old year, and start fresh. For the Christian, this revitalization takes place daily as we remember our Baptisms, for God "has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3). Empowered by this knowledge, let us use each day for His glory.







The next SPOC partner event is a winterwear give-away (hats/gloves/mittens/scarves/socks) on **Saturday**, **January 20**, **2024** from **10 am-2pm** at Jehovah Lutheran Church. This is a shared ministry of the St. Paul Circuit LCMS churches and schools. We are seeking donations and volunteers.

Donations can be left at Jehovah Lutheran Church on January Fridays (5, 12, 19) 9:00-11:00 am. Volunteers are needed on January 18, 19 & 20 for set-up and event assistance. Please sign up on the form at this link with donations and times you can help: https://rb.gv/hg4tc0

Questions? Contact David Mennicke St. Paul Outreach Coordinator at spoc@jehovahlutheran.org or 651-636-3271. Thanks for your donations, time, and prayers!



# **College Care Kits**

We will be packing care kits on February 4 and a box for donations will be available in the back of the narthex. Please consider donating items like microwave popcorn, fruit snacks, hot chocolate packets, granola bars, post its, etc. Do you have a college student? Whether they are living at home or on campus, send their address to Sally Schuster at <a href="mailto:sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org">sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org</a> by January 31.

Vacation Bible Study – new date for 2024! Mark your calendars for VBS on June 24-28, 2024. It will still be in the mornings from 9 am to Noon. Watch for registration to come out in February. If you are interested in helping, please contact DCE Sally Schuster at <a href="mailto:sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org">sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org</a>.

**Super Sunday Subs and Egg Roll Sale!** It's back! Pre-order your subs and egg rolls to pick up for the big game on February 11<sup>th</sup>! Foot long subs will be \$15 each and a dozen egg rolls will be \$20. Order forms are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary or fill out this form online: <a href="https://forms.gle/sfFnRFT77PWZCfjJ8">https://forms.gle/sfFnRFT77PWZCfjJ8</a>. All funds will support the youth attending a service and adventure trip to Alaska this summer.



# Education and Pouth Rews

Sunday School resumes on January 8th!



Men's Bible Study Opportunity - Men's Bible Study meets every other week on Saturdays at 9:00AM at King of Kings. Please join us! Contact Ted McArthur with questions.

# Youth Ministry



- We have events for Middle School (MS), 6th-8th Grade, and High School (HS), 9th-12th Grade.
- Youth Night is on Sundays from 6-8 pm. It will include gym time and small group time (devotion, highs/lows, and prayers).
  - 1st Sunday of the month: High School Youth invited to arrive at 4:30 pm to cook dinner for the group to be served at 6 pm.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month: Game and Snack Night bring your favorite board game and a snack to share.
- Confirmation (7/8 grade): We meet on January 7, 14, 21, and 28. Don't forget to continue working on sermon notes, memory work, and service project reflections.
- Packing College Care Kits: During the Education Hour on February 4th, 7th-12th grade is invited to join us in the gym to put together our college care kits.
- **Night at the Dome Kickball Tournament:** It's back! We join together with youth from around the area to play Kickball in the dome at Concordia University on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will meet at King of Kings at 5 pm for pizza and then drive over. Please sign up by March 10<sup>th</sup>. End time depends on how far we make it in the tournament (between 8:30 and 10 pm). Bring some money in case we stop for a treat afterward.
- Fundraiser Super Sunday Subs and Egg Rolls: On February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 am, we'll be making subs to fulfill orders. Shifts will happen throughout the morning as people pick up between 9:30 am and 12:30 pm. Please let Sally know if you are available to help.
- **Summer Trip (HS)!** Details will be coming soon, but for this summer, we are getting together details for a service/adventure trip to Alaska in July! We need to hear from you so talk to Sally, Ben Nelson, or Alhrik Schommer about the options we have.
- Sign Up for Text Alerts!!! We use Remind to communicate what's coming up! Text the following codes to the number 81010 to sign up:

MS Youth: @27c366HS Youth: @h8e247

• If you have kids in both groups, please sign up for both! Add your kids to the appropriate group as well!



Our main mode of communication is the Weekly Update e-newsletter that comes out on Wednesdays and is sent to all parents of 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders. If you are not receiving it or have any questions, please contact Sally Schuster at <a href="mailto:sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org">sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org</a>, cell: 651-341-3830, office: 612-540-0714 or check your junk mail. You can also check the bulletin boards by the sanctuary and youth room and the website for information.



Confirmation for 7th and 8th graders meets most weeks in Room 102 (Mrs. Incitti's Classroom)

# School Rews and Rotes

### Sideline with Schutte

National Lutheran Schools Week is January 22-26. This is when Lutheran schools across the country will highlight their school. On Monday of this week, we will take our students over to Concordia Academy to kick off the week with almost 1,000 students from other metro area Lutheran schools. As a partner school with Concordia Academy, King of Kings has the privilege to host about 300 students in our building as we provide a fun and engaging experience for students in grades K-2 to interact with each other. "Connected" is our synod's theme this year. How fitting this theme is as Lutheran schools gather, enjoy, and experience God's love through the connection we have with Jesus.

Blessings to you in 2024!

Principal Jay Schutte



Winter Carnival Open House 2023 Join King of

Kings School for its annual Winter Carnival on **Saturday**, **January 20 from 9am to Noon** Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to a fun filled morning for kids PreK – 8th grade! More information to come. RSVP's are appreciated but not required. Contact Preschool director Amanda Adkins for more information, to volunteer, or to RSVP <a href="mailto:aadkins@kingofkingsroseville.org">aadkins@kingofkingsroseville.org</a> 651-484-9206 or use this link:

https://www.kingofkingslutheranschool.org/winter-carnival.html.

Parkway Pizza Dine Out for Schools Night

The second Thursday of each month is the night in which our school will receive 5% of all sales (no coupon required!). Put it on your



calendar for each month! The next date is January .

Parkway Pizza is located at 1909 Lexington Ave N, Rv 651-493-4360



# 60 Years of Royal Education

We are thankful that God has abundantly blessed King of Kings Lutheran School since the doors opened in 1964. In commemoration of 60 academic years, we are challenging church members to raise \$10,000 to assist in the continued success of the school. A HUGE Thank You to everyone who helped us to reach this goal with a total between church and school of more than \$24,800! Funds raised will go toward current needs (scholarships, sports equipment, etc.)

You can still donate by scanning the QR code, visiting <a href="https://givebutter.com/KOK60">https://givebutter.com/KOK60</a> or by dropping your check/cash in the office. Please consider any matching gift options through your employer as well. Questions? ontact <a href="mailto:boosterclub@kingofkingsroseville.org">boosterclub@kingofkingsroseville.org</a>. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



# Save the Date! Royals Night: Saturday, March 2, 2024

Save the date for Royals Night! Our largest fundraiser of the year will be held on Saturday, March 2nd at Midland Hills Country Club in Roseville, MN. In honor of 60 academic years we are headed *Back to the 60's.* 

Last chance! Don't forget to purchase your Royals Night tickets before Jan. 1 to receive \$10 off! visit https://givebutter.com/KOK60 to buy your tickets.

KOK Community Booster Club

#### **UPCOMING DATES**

Jan 8 – School Resumes

Jan 15 - No School, MLK Day

Jan 18 – Board of Education Mtg.

Jan 20 – Winter Carnival

Jan 22 – 26 National Lutheran Schools Week

Facebook is a great way to network and keep connected to church/school.

Please find us at the following link and 'like' our page: www.facebook.com/kokroseville

We also are on Twitter! Instagram and Youtube!

MAKE KNOWN THE LOVE OF CHRIST BY WORD AND DEED WITHIN OUR CHURCH, COMMUNITY, AND WORLD

# Other News

**Main Street Living** airs each Sunday at 9 a.m. on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with a special presentation produced by Lutheran Hour Ministries. The weekly topics are listed on a poster in the narthex. More info: www.mainstreetliving.com

Offering Envelopes for 2024 are available in the narthex. If you do not have a box and would like to, please use the sign up sheet on the table in the narthex or contact the church office. Please do not use the new envelopes until January. This is particularly important this year as envelope numbers are changing. Thanks for your ongoing support of the mission of King of Kings!

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

To see the most recent version of upcoming events, visit; <a href="http://www.kingofkingsroseville.org/events.html">http://www.kingofkingsroseville.org/events.html</a>

**500 Cards** Join us **January 12th at 6:00 pm**. Our Hosts for this month are Steve & Janelle Dahl (3104 Hamline Ave, RV) Please RSVP to 651-503-5842. Bring a snack to share. A schedule for Nov – March is posted on the church bulletin board in north hallway.



**CELEBRATE LIFE** Concordia University St. Paul will host the 2024 Life Chapel Service at Graebner Memorial Chapel on **January 22**, **2024 at 10:30 am**. Using the Lutherans for Life theme based on Charlotte Elliot's familiar hymn, "Just As I Am," the service will testify to the sanctity of every human life.

After the Life Chapel Service, worshipers are encouraged to travel to the steps outside the Minnesota State Capitol for the Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) March For Life from 12-1 pm south of the Capitol building. Marches for Life are joyful and hopeful. Come to the party and be an advocate for life!

For further information on the MCCL March for Life or to download the March flyer visit: https://www.mccl.org/march or contact Pastor James Kroonblawd, MNS District Life Coordinator, at Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran Church 651-454-7235.

## **UPCOMING CAMP OMEGA EVENTS**

Summer Camp Registration Summer camp registration begins on January 1st! Check out all the programs that are offered!

Omega Plunge February 25, 2024 Get your team ready for the "Omega Plunge." The plunge will be held at Camp Omega - the first time at this location. For over five years the plunge has averaged 20 teams per year. Teams can be one person or groups of many; youth groups make great teams! If you have ever thought about plunging, this is the year! Check it out on the camp's website.

Man Up! Men's Retreat March 15 - 16 Men from churches in the LCMS Minnesota South District are invited to attend a 24-hour retreat where faith will be strengthened, and spirits renewed by God's Word. This year's speaker, Rev. Dr. Rich Carter, will be speaking on the theme: "My Life Matters?! Freedom in Christ for Service with the Neighbor." At this retreat, there will be time for fellowship and recreational opportunities. Cost includes three meals and lodging. For more information or to register, call 507-633-2253 or go to <a href="https://campomega.org/event/manup/">https://campomega.org/event/manup/</a>

Mn South LLL Convention Mark your calendars for April 13, 2024 and join the Minnesota South LLL District at their annual convention. It will be hosted at St. Michael Lutheran Church in Bloomington. All are welcome to attend. Our guest speaker is Kari Vo, Theological Editor for Lutheran Hour Ministries, focusing on Energizing Mission. Join us for a day of spiritual growth with inspirational presentations to encourage and equip you as partners in His mission. Be on the look-out for more convention details in the new year.

Christ Academy – Summer 2024 Early Registration Applications are open for Christ Academy High School, which will be held on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary June 16–29, 2024. Participants are high-school-aged men and women interested in Lutheran theology, worship, and service to the Church, A \$100 discount is available for returning students who apply before January 1, 2024. Find out more at https://www.ctsfw.edu/ctsfw-events/christ-academy/



# King of Kings Online Giving

You can use the gold button on the King of Kings website homepage set up regular or one-time giving: http://www.kingofkingsroseville.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