



King's Quill

December 2023 Issue 337

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

December 2023

Advent is a time for us to prepare for Christ to come –not only as the infant of Bethlehem but also as our King of kings at the end of time. It is a repentant season, but also a season of great hope for God's people. The colors in our sanctuary will turn to blue to reflect the confident hope that Christ brings to us! More good news? Pastor Lee will be joining us throughout the month of December!

The apostle Paul was a native of Tarsus of Cilicia, located near the eastern Mediterranean coast of modern Turkey. He described himself as "a Hebrew of Hebrews," a Pharisee and well advanced in Judaism beyond many of his peers (Philippians 3:5–6). His initial reaction to the newly formed Christian movement was to zealously persecute it (Acts 8:1). Paul's dramatic conversion while on the road to Damascus was clearly a life-altering event, changing him from being one of early Christianity's most ardent persecutors to being one of its most fervent supporters (Acts 9). Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus was a faith story he would tell over and over again in his ministry. (*"Hey! Didn't you used to be Saul of Tarsus? I thought you looked familiar, even though your message isn't!"*)

We begin Advent with Paul's very first letter, 1 Thessalonians, whose main theme is Christ's Second Coming. (continued...)



Weekly Sunday Services

8:30 am – Classic Worship
9:45 am – Adult Bible Study
Sunday School
Confirmation
High School Bible Study
11:00 am – Alternate Worship

Advent Suppers & Services

Dec. 6, Dec. 14, Dec. 20
Dinner 5:30 PM
Service 7:00 PM

Christmas Services

Dec. 24 8:30 and 11:00 AM
Family Christmas Eve Service 4:00 PM
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 9:00 PM
Dec. 25 Christmas Day worship with Holy Communion 9:30 AM

Live Stream Worship

<http://www.kingofkingsroseville.org/online-worship.html>

December Office Hours

Weekly Office Hours

8AM to 4PM Monday – Friday

The office will be closed 12/25 & 12/26 for Christmas and 1/1 & 1/2 for New Year's.
The office will be open reduced hours from 9am-12:30pm 12/27-29 & 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.

I invite you to prepare for the season through the words of the apostle, as he points us to the sure and certain hope that Jesus will come again “with clouds descending!”

“Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending!”

- Dec 6 Advent 1 Our Two Minute Drill (1 Thessalonians 1:1–10)
Dec 13 Advent 2 Praying Like Paul (1 Thessalonians 3:10–13)
Dec 20 Advent 3 You’ve Got a Ticket to Ride! (1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

Christmas Services

Dec. 24 8:30 and 11:00 Sunday Morning

Family Christmas Eve Service at 4:00 P.M.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 9:00 P.M.

Dec. 25 Christmas Day worship with Holy Communion 9:30 A.M.

“...his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end.” (Isaiah 9:5-7)

Many Thanks!

College Care Kit Thank Yous!

“[My son] just called me and sent a picture of the awesome care package that he picked up today! How encouraging, personal, and special. Please pass on a thank you from our family to your youth and also others that put it together.”

“Hi Mrs. Schuster, I just got the package you and the King of Kings people sent me. Thank you so much for putting that together, it means a lot!”

“This was so sweet! Thank you so much!!”

Dear Pastor Bielenberg,

Thank you (and thank the youth group) very much for the care package -- it is greatly appreciated right now. It's the last week of classes, and the week before Finals, and every term paper is coming due all at once for the entire college, and treats from home are in short supply, so it means rather a lot for me :)

Watch for an opportunity to donate again in February. Clearly, your donations make an impact!

Banner Thanks The new Advent banner was donated by the Aumann, Betterman, Preciado, Schiller, and Tolzien families in thankfulness for King of Kings and in anticipation of our coming Savior.

Christus Chorus Thanks A big thanks to everyone who supported the Christus Chorus from Concordia University, St. Paul when they sang here in October. The freewill offering that morning was \$791.85. There was at least one King of Kings Lutheran School graduate among them. Your kindness and welcome was noticed!



News and Notes



Upcoming Voters' Meeting and PPC Meetings

The next voters' meeting will be held on **December 5 at 6:30pm**, and the next PPC meeting will be held on **January 11 at 6:30pm**.



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



Holiday singers & ringers wanted! If you're interested in participating with the Rejoice Choir or King's Ringers for Christmas or beyond, please let Bekah Jorgensen know (rjorgensen@kingofkingsroseville.org) or just come to practices, **Thursday evenings at 6:15/7pm in the sanctuary**. We'd love to have you, even if you can't make every rehearsal.

Attached to the Quill are *Barb's Bulletin*, from King of Kings supported missionary Barb Rebentisch and an update from Jim & Sue Kaiser. Please keep them and all missionaries in your prayers!



Meals on Wheels Thank you to everyone who supported this program this year. The recipients of the hot meals and visits were very appreciative! ~ Board of Stewardship



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 Concordia's International Student Ministry program. For more info or to sign up, please contact Anna Gruen Associate by email gruen@csp.edu. More info the flier attached to the Quill.



Or visit: [Friendship Family Sign Up](#)

Sunday School Program Join us as the children tell the Christmas story through word and song next Sunday, **December 10 at the 11 am worship service**. They have been working hard to learn their parts. Please come support their efforts!



Thank You!

Thank you to all who contributed to the mites collection in November! A total of \$100.41 was collected in pennies, quarters and dollar bills to go towards the LWML mission goals for this year. Thank you for supporting mission grants all across the country and world! ~ King of Kings Women's Ministry



Membership Updates:

In by baptism: Avery Jo Moldenhauer (daughter of Austin & Maddi)
In by Adult Instruction: Tina Liu
In by Transfer: Clara Heislen



North Parking Lot LCEF Loan Update: The Lutheran Church Extension Fund loan balance for the north parking lot project is down to \$39,034.41. 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!

Education and Youth News

Men's Bible Study Opportunity - Men's Bible Study meets every other week on **Saturdays at 9:00AM** at King of Kings. The next date is December 2. 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/lowes, 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.
 - **3rd Sunday of the month:** Game and Snack Night – bring your favorite board game and a snack to share.
 - **SPECIAL THIS MONTH!!!** December 17 will be our CHRISTMAS PARTY!!! Watch the bulletin and Weekly Update for more details. There will be NO Youth Night on December 24 or 31!
- **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:** @27c366
 - **HS 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 6th-12th graders. If you are not receiving it or have any questions, please contact Sally Schuster at sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org, 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 News and Notes



Sideline with Schutte

The month of December is an important time for my family as many of our special dates fall within the month. When we combine birthdays and an anniversary with the regular December busyness, it is like a tidal wave (or a blizzard) of excitement throughout the month. The energy is high, especially when our daughter starts to bake her favorite Christmas treats for the family. This month can easily distract us from the true reason for the season. By continuing to fix our eyes on the baby in the manger (Hebrews 12), our hearts will be filled with excitement. Not just during the month of December, but for the whole year.

November and December is the season of giving. From all of us at King of Kings, I want to say **“THANK YOU”** for being a community with a giving culture. Our **60 + 60 Campaign** is off to a great start which is encouraging to know as we begin our admission process for next year. More excitement is surrounding this place which is leading us to have another full kindergarten class next year. The demand for Christian education is greater than ever and I am so thankful for being part of a community that enjoys helping to make it a reality for more children to attend our school. As we look forward to achieving our campaign goals in the coming months, please consider attending **Royals Night on March 2, 2024**. This is our main fundraising event and we would love to see our attendance reach 200 people.



As you start to gather with family and friends this month, invite them to attend our gala event with you. Tickets are at a discounted price until the end of December and can be purchased online at <https://givebutter.com/kok60>. Payments can be made online or at the office. We know the number one reason why people come to check out our school is through word of mouth. What an easy Christmas gift to give to others who would be supportive and understanding of our mission **to make known the love of Christ by word or deed, within our church, community, and world.**

Principal Jay Schutte



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 \$21,211 as of November 21!** Funds raised will go toward current needs (scholarships, sports equipment, etc.)

You can still donate by scanning the QR code, visiting <https://givebutter.com/KOK60> or by dropping your check/cash in the office. Please consider any matching gift options through your employer as well. Questions? ontact boosterclub@kingofkingsroseville.org. 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**.

Purchase your tickets before January 1st to get \$10 off! The Booster Club will be selling tickets between services on December 10th and 17th or you can visit <https://givebutter.com/KOK60> to buy your tickets today.

KOK Community Booster Club

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 November 9. Parkway Pizza is located at 1909 Lexington Ave N, Rv 651-493-4360



King of Kings Holiday Concerts The King of Kings School Preschool concert will be Dec 7 at 4:30 PM and the K-8 Christmas Concerts will be held on the evening of **Thursday, December 14th (K-4 at 5:30, 5-8 at 7pm)** Please join the kids as they share their gifts in a celebration of Jesus' birth!

UPCOMING DATES

- Dec. 7 - Grade Check, PK Christmas Concert
- Dec. 8 - Returning Families Enrollment Due
- Dec. 10 – Sun. School Christmas Program, 11:00am
- Dec. 12 - Office Staff Meeting
- Dec. 14 - K-8 Christmas Concerts (5:30pm/7:00pm)
Parkway Pizza Night
- Dec. 23 – Jan 5, Christmas Break
- Jan 8 – School Resumes



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

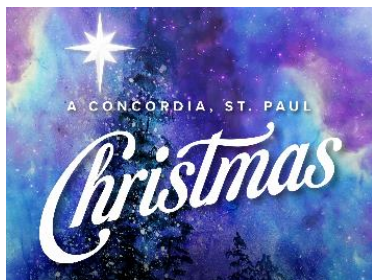


Gift Cards – Thanks to those who donate gift cards throughout the year for families in need. If you would like to donate this year, gift cards may be dropped off in the church office. (Please be aware that we will never ask for gift cards or monetary gifts via emails or text messages. The scammers are busy this time of year, too. When in doubt, check with the church office.)

SAVE THE DATE:

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

Concordia Academy Christmas Concert Join Concordia Academy's Chamber Orchestra, Concert Band, Choirs, His People, and art students at CA's 2023 Christmas Concert, "Glory to the Newborn King." **Performances are Saturday, December 9, at 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 10, at 3:00 pm.** Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens. Go to www.concordiaacademy.com/christmas to order tickets online and select your seats.



Concordia University St. Paul Upcoming Holiday Events:

Annual Christmas Concerts (Free, but tickets must be reserved.)

December 8 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

December 9 @ 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

December 10 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

A Festival Service Featuring The Choral And Instrumental Ensembles Of Concordia University, St. Paul Buetow Music Center Auditorium 300 Hamline Avenue N, St. Paul, MN

Tickets: www.csp.edu/tickets | 1.866.488.4849

Vox 9 Vocal Jazz Ensemble Concert

December 16 @ 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

The E.M. Pearson Theatre, 312 Hamline Ave N, St Paul, MN 55104, USA



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



Barb's Bulletin November 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus,

After I was able to spend time with Jenna in early November and do some work on deaconess classes in my office...at about 1:30 a.m. November 7th Taiwan time, my phone rang waking me up, and my dear 24-year-old daughter, Mae, spoke with a shaky, tearful voice, "Mom, I just got a call from the sheriff's office. Luke (her older brother) shot himself." I said, "What?! Did he die?" She said, "Yes, he committed suicide." I messaged all of my colleagues, and our business manager immediately came over to my place. Sam helped me get stuff from my office, ordered me a plane ticket and a taxi, and got me on the way back to Minneapolis.



In Loving Memory of **Luke Rebentisch**
November 22, 1995, to November 6, 2023

Our family rejoices in the knowledge that because of Jesus' work on Luke's behalf, Luke is in heaven with his Uncle Russ, his grandmas, and his Savior, Jesus. We miss his smile, his hugs, and his humor here, but we know we will meet again when Jesus takes us home. Heaven has gained another treasure! Until we meet again, son.

Luke's Minnesota memorial service is viewable here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlk_vAupNNA

I arrived 26 hours later, and Mae picked me up from the airport and took me to Julie's house where she and my 91-year-old dad were waiting. We had contact with the sheriff's office, the pastor, and the funeral home. We notified Luke's boss and friends and invited them all to the memorial service at King of Kings, Roseville on November 18th. They all came. Pastor Steve Bielenberg preached a powerful gospel message, and after the service at the luncheon, one of Luke's friends shared an essay which I will add below. December 1st, 11:30 a.m. we will have a service also in my hometown, Paullina, Iowa, at Zion Lutheran Church. We will bury Luke in Paullina too, next to his dear grandma to await his Savior's return.

The below essay was written by one of Luke's dear friends, Ashely Edwards, whom he made after beginning his last trucking job in Minneapolis. She did a marvelous job of capturing Luke's personality.

It was the fall of 2018 when Luke walked through the door and into my life. He came in to the local restaurant just down the road from where he was staying. He entered discreetly, alone, and sat in the booth right next to the door. My server came up to me and said her table would like to buy a drink for my customers at the bar. As I went around the bar asking my patrons if they would like a drink purchased by a stranger, I had no idea it would form a friendship that I would cherish and have for the years to come. I approached the table and asked who he was and what he was doing in Andover, especially why he was sitting alone. I found out he was new in town and didn't have any friends. I told him to come and sit

up at the end of the bar and he would make a friend. Luke then told me he was a bit socially awkward but with some reassurance, he came up to the bar. And guess what, he made friends. Luke became the happy face we all wanted to see. The biggest and best hug that none of us knew we needed. In the days and weeks to follow our friendship grew. He became part of my family; he loves my family, and we all love him. As friendships entail, memories came to follow. My family and I took him to the racetrack because Luke couldn't believe that cars could go so fast in a quarter mile, that it would rumble your whole body and they are gone and done in the blink of an eye. He was blown back that day, quite literally. Camping, birthday parties, Halloween parties and parades, walks to my favorite place, concerts, showing him around downtown Anoka, countless weekend morning drop ins with coffee for my zombie self and donuts for the kids.

Through the years we talked I often shared my troubles with him. Luke would always say, pray. I will pray for you and your family. Luke was so happy when I got back into the church.

Luke also had this funny way of making me feel famous, special, accomplished. Every day I accomplished many things I would tell him all I did and how tired I was, he always responded with how I must have superpowers to do it all. Luke thought so much of us plain folks in Andover, that he said he had famous friends. The song Famous Friends was what he compared us too. What I wish Luke knew was that he was a famous friend too.

Thank you, Luke, for walking through that door, listening to me and coming to sit at the bar.... for everything you have done for me through our years of friendship, for becoming a part of my family. You did more for me than you will ever know. I can't wait to hug you again in heaven, but it better be the best one yet!

My plan is to return to Taiwan after Christmas, around December 27th. I remain **profoundly grateful** for your faithful prayers for the spread of the Gospel here, as well as in your neighborhood. Know that you are making a difference. We won't know until Jesus comes back just what difference prayer has made, but God promises that His Word doesn't return empty and that He answers prayer.

Kass is still challenged with her naughty adolescent male students. Continue to join me in prayer for her to be reborn soon and follow the One Who fills our hearts with wisdom and does all things well.

Steve Lin is still caring for his parents. He says his parents have stabilized, and that he is able to return to Chiayi once per month. We hope to visit in January. Please hold Steve and his parents in your prayers, for healing grace, especially spiritually.

Haley has been working a lot, and before I left, our walking was more sporadic due to her workload, and to some rainy mornings. Please continue to pray for our connection, and especially that we can speak more freely about eternal things.

God's presence and peace,

Barb

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Cell Phone # 651-359-5107

Or to:

MISSION CENTRAL
40718 Highway E-16
Mapleton, Iowa 51034
(write "Rebentisch" in the memo line)

Gifts can also be given securely ONLINE
through the LCMS website at
<https://www.lcms.org/rebentisch>

or through MISSION CENTRAL at
<https://missioncentral.us/rebentisch>

Gifts in support of my work can be sent to:

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
PO Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

(write "Rebentisch" in the memo line)