Pastor's Corner September 2024

On Sunday, September 8, King of Kings will hold a special call meeting for an Associate Pastor to serve with us here at our church and school. Six pastors have served this congregation since she was planted in the early 1960s. There are only a few of us who remember them all, but all of them have helped to shape this Christian community as they have served with us in the name of Jesus Christ.

First of all, we need to thank our Call Committee. These men and women have waded through mountains of material to determine who they think might best serve our congregation. There have been lots of discussions, prayerful considerations, interviews. It has been a challenge. There are not as many workers as there have been in the past. This is also true in the field of principals, teachers, DCEs, etc. While there is a lot to be said for long stays and stability, there is not as much willingness to move as there was in the past. The obituaries of pastors used to list many more places of service than they would today. The men and women on our call committee have had good conversations about what they hope and expect from our next pastor.

Second, we pray that everyone comes to this meeting. While voting members are the only ones who may actually vote, any member is invited to attend. When a congregation calls a worker, it should be done unanimously. This is true even when a candidate may not have been our own personal "first choice."

Third, we recognize that every pastor or called worker brings different gifts to the parish they serve. The Church is the Body of Christ! Each member brings distinct gifts to our community. We all work together. (continued...)

Weekly Sunday Services

2330 Dale Street North | Roseville, MN 55113 Church 651-484-5142 School 651-484-9206

8:30 am – Classic Worship
9:45 am – Adult Bible Study
Sunday School (Sept. 8)
Confirmation (Sept. 22)
High School Bible Study
11:00 am – Alternate Worship

Live Stream Worship

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



Weekly Office Hours
8AM to 4PM Monday – Friday

The office will be closed on Monday, September 2nd in observance of Labor Day.

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.

Pastor Braun was better at some things than I am; some people can't tell the difference between me and Pastor Lee. On Sundays when I would preach, someone would come up to him and say,

...every pastor or called worker brings different gifts to the parish they serve.

"That was a good message, Pastor!" and vice versa. We would just smile and say, "Thank you!" (Mike Aumann understands this. When Andy Moldenhauer sings, Mike has gotten the compliment more than once!)

The good news is that the strengths and "areas for improvement" of each pastor balance out over the years. Administration. Preaching. Teaching. Visitation. Finances. Relationships. Encouraging. Staff issues. Worship planning. Conflict resolution. There are a lot of things to juggle, and like everyone else, never enough hours in the day. We pray that our next pastor will have gifts that complement the staff that we already have.

In the past eleven years in the St. Paul Metro Circuit, I have probably attended more ordination and installation services than in all my previous years combined. When our past MN South District President, Rev. Dean Nadasdy, would preach, he would always find a way to work this one in, no matter his text: "When our parishes contact us for a Call list, they always want dynamic preachers. But we need to remember that the Church also needs dynamic listeners!"

Pray for our staff here at King of Kings. We are trusting you to do that for us! Pray for the pastor that we will call to serve with us. We pray that he accepts, but even if a call is declined, it is never wasted. It gives everyone on both sides time to stop and think and pray about the ministry that is happening in those places. Pray that the Holy Spirit continues to direct us as we seek God's will for the future service to Christ and this community which lives in His name.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Steven Bielenberg



A Special Voters' Meeting will be held on September 8th at 12:30 pm in the sanctuary. Calling a new associate pastor with a vote will be the only agenda item. All voting members should please plan to attend.

Thank you to our Call Committee, and please keep them in your prayers as we seek God's will for the next pastor to serve with us here at our church and school. Chelsea Lee, Gina Maltese-Preciado, John Mitsch, Paul Reineck, Christian Schiller, Adam Schutte, and Tara Wirth serve on the committee with Pastor Bielenberg and Principal Schutte serving ex-officio.



Email address: Alan Holasek - alanholasek2@gmail.com In by Transfer: Jasmine Anderson, Autumn, Norah, Penny,

Bjorn from Abiding Savior Lutheran Church & School, Lake Forest, CA (Jasmine is the new principal at Concordia Academy)

Out by transfer: Neil Manninen (son of Thomas & Keeli)

WHEN WE REACH OUT TO OTHERS, OUR LIVES ARE HEALTHIER AND MOF FULFILLED.

"For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13).



Rews and Rotes



Barb Rebentisch Offering: The freewill offering for LCMS Missionary Barb Rebentisch totaled \$2,015.00 last Sunday. Thanks to everyone who supports our brothers and sisters in the harvest field! You may still leave an offering in the narthex today. (Checks may be made out to King of Kings Lutheran Church.)

Thank you for your support of Barb and other missionaries at home and around the globe who bring Jesus Christ to the nations!

Barb's latest update is attached to the newsletter.



Sunday School begins on September 8th and goes from 9:45-10:45 am every Sunday. Register your child here: https://kingofkings.wufoo.com/forms/20242025-sunday-school-registration/ If you would be interested in helping teach or serve behind the scenes, please contact Director of Christian Education, Sally Schuster at sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org.



Ukraine urgently needs quilts and blankets. Please consider:

- 1. Donating 60"x 80" cotton fabric (2 1/4 yard) or sewed pieces of any cotton fabric in the same size.
- 2. Dropping off clean gently used sheets.
- 3. Dropping off twin size blankets.

A tying event has been scheduled for October 19 from 12 – 4pm. Contact Deb Schultz for more info.

Thank You!

Like BLTs? A new Basic Lutheran Teaching class is coming soon! Would you like to know more about what Lutheran Christians believe and teach? A new class will start in September and usually runs 8 to 10 weeks. We will cover basics like the 10 Commandments, Baptism, Lord's Supper, The Creed, etc. and how they apply to our daily 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 an hour and a half each Thursday. If you are interested, please let Pastor Bielenberg know or fill out the form on the back table in the narthex.

LCMSFoundation

https://www.lcmsfoundation.org/

LCMS Estate Planning Information Kurt Fuhr is our regional Gift Planning Counselor of the LCMS Foundation. You can contact Kurt at kurt.fuhr@lfnd.org or at 952-270-5878.

Come Join The Band!! If you've ever thought you might like to sing or play with the worship band at the 11 am service, please contact Laura Fritz (651-325-7287 Ifritz@kingofkingsroseville.org) (www.kingofkingsroseville.org/music). Guitarists, vocalists, drummers, instrumentalists are all invited!! Practice is at 6 pm Wednesday nights and 10:15 Sunday Mornings.

Now is a great time to join!



King's Ringers We will be starting Thursday night practices this week, **September 5th at 7:00 in the sanctuary**. We're always looking for new ringers. Anyone who can read music can play bells, and it's a great way to contribute to the worship service. Can't make every practice? That's ok – we need a good list of substitute ringers as well. Middle school aged students are also welcome, as long as they have prior experience with band, bells, or piano and strong music-reading skills.

Rejoice Choir We will be starting weekly practices this **Thursday**, **September 5th at 6:15**. We need voices! Music reading experience isn't necessary, as long as you can pick up tunes by listening. While weekly commitment is ideal, there can also be opportunities for smaller groups or special occasions that would be a shorter-term commitment.

If you're interested in learning more about either group, connect with Brian Gustafson in church, or by email or phone: briang4968@gmail.com 651-242-0709.

St. Paul Outreach Center News



The International Potluck is almost here! All are welcome to the 2nd Annual International Potluck on Friday, September 13 at 6:30 pm at Jehovah Lutheran Church, 1566 Thomas Avenue in St. Paul. This year's event will again feature a free feast of Ethiopian, Hmong, and American cuisines. This is the kickoff event for the second year of the St. Paul Outreach Center (SPOC), a collaborative ministry of 14 St. Paul area churches and three schools of the LCMS. The International Potluck will also offer door prizes, games, and displays of the many outreach ministries that SPOC and its partners are doing to serve the community. For more information, please contact spoc@jehovahlutheran.org.

Can you bring a dish to share? Register here: https://forms.gle/74ArFVWY9zYGdz8E6

SPOC Pickleball continues! We had a fantastic opening session of pickleball in the gym at the SPOC summer social & sampler! More opportunities to grab a racket and get on the court will be **Friday**, **September 6 from 6:30 – 8:30 and September 13 beginning at 6:30pm** at the International Potluck. No experience required, equipment provided. More times and days are in the works! Stay tuned for more information to come. Email spoc@jehovahlutheran.org for more info.



Life Match Grant Initiative Great news! Life Match Met! The SPOC partners have already exceeded the \$4,500 LCMS Life Match Grant with \$5,230 in pledges and gifts, more than meeting the \$9,000 total to support the three women in their pre-natal care at Options for Women East. We also continue to seek mentors to connect with the three women clients. Please contact David Mennicke at spoc@jehovahlutheran.com if you are interested in this mentorship.



Hospitality Opportunities with SPOC partner, Concordia University St. Paul (CSP)

Chai Dosti (Tea & Friendship) Chai Dosti is a program of conversation and fellowship with international students at Concordia University, St. Paul. The group meets two Wednesdays a month during the academic year. Everyone is welcome to stop by and meet students and be a welcoming presence during their time in the US. Meet on CSP's campus in the Buenger Education Center (BEC) at 4:30pm or sometimes outdoors on the Knoll. The upcoming September dates are the 11th and 25th. Contact Anna Gruen (gruen@csp.edu) with questions or visit the CSP hospitality website for more details: www.thehospitalitycenter.org/events

Bear Buddies – New Opportunity to connect to International Students! CSP invites you to befriend an international student by becoming a "bear buddy" this year. Be paired with an incoming international student at CSP. Foster lasting friendship by sharing meals, exploring state parks, and attending festivals together. Share your life and the love of Jesus with them as you support their adjustment to MN. **Ready To Connect?** SIGN UP! thehospitalitycenter.org/volunteer-signup.



Contact Ministry Associate Anna Gruen (gruen@csp.edu) for more info. Details on the poster on the bulletin board in the narthex



SPOC Partner – St. Stephanus Monthly Food Distribution Continues // 3rd Thurs. of the Month

Thank you to those who came out over the summer to partner with St. Stephanus to distribute food! One of the biggest hurdles the community continues face today is food insecurity. In cooperation with Second Harvest Heartland, this group is able to keep food distributions happening year round. Currently, distributions on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

When: 3rd Thursday of the Month, 4-6pm

What: Our items changes each month but typically you'll find

- Shelf Stable Box (a mix of things like peanut butter, rice, beans, tuna, etc.)
- Seasonal produce (apples, carrots, onions, potatoes, etc.)
- Bonus items like chicken, milk, and bread

Where: 739 Lafond, St. Paul, MN 55104.

How: Drive-up! During the winter months we're switching to a drive-up method. Just pull up into line along Lafond Ave (please be mindful of our neighbors) and we'll come out to greet you and place your food in your vehicle for you.

Who: Open to everyone! No requirements.

SPOC volunteers are welcome! Watch for sign up information for the fall coming soon!



Save the date! Proclaiming Christ 2024: Let Us Sing Of Jesus St. James Lutheran Church (460 Annapolis St. W., West St. Paul, MN 55118) would like to invite you to join them for a conference celebrating 500 years of the first Lutheran hymnals and the Lutheran chorale. Entitled "Proclaiming Christ 2024: Let Us Sing of Jesus," the conference will begin at 7:00 PM on Friday, October 25 with A Hymn Festival of Reformation Hymns. On Saturday, Oct. 26 presentations will be offered from 9:00-3:00 PM on various aspects of the Lutheran chorale by Dr. Martin Dicke, Rev. Kantor Richard C. Resch, Rev. Dr. Lowell

Sorenson, and Rev. Kantor Timothy Frank of David's Harp.

A special choir is being convened for the hymn festival. Singers from partner churches, schools, and the community are invited to join. For more information and a Registration Form, please call (651) 457-9232, write to us at stillc@saintjameslutheran.com or visit www.saintjameslutheran.com.

Learn more about the SPOC by contacting coordinator David Mennicke or checking out the SPOC website. Our website is current under construction, so check back often for new information! You can also add the SPOC google calendar to your own to stay current on events!



Education and Pouth Rews

Youth Ministry

We have events for Middle School (MS), 6th-8th Grade, and High School (HS), 9th-12th Grade.

- Alaska Trip Presentation: On September 8th, those who attended the trip to Alaska will be sharing about their experience in the Adult Bible Study. 7th-12th graders are invited to join us too.
- **High School Bible Study** will return starting September 15th from 9:45-10:45 am in the Youth Room.
- **Confirmation Orientation** will be on September 15th at 10 am in the sanctuary. This is for 7th and 8th grade students and their parents to learn all about Confirmation this year. Confirmation classes will begin the following week.
- Youth Night is on Sunday evenings from 6-8 pm and will begin on September 15th. The gym entrance will be open.
- **LCMS Youth Gathering** is next summer, July 19-23, 2025. Those in 8th-12th grade will be eligible to attend. Registration forms are on the youth bulletin board and church website. Form and deposit are due by October 13th!
- 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

o 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.



School Rews and Rotes

On August 19, we opened our doors to another year of record-breaking enrollment. These past few months have been quiet in the building so the return of the energy and smiles of 173 students was very much welcomed.



Like many, my summer was packed with a busy schedule that ended all too fast. The challenge of balancing fun times with the family while getting ready for another school year was something that was expected. What was unexpected this summer was the number of people that I met who all gave a similar comment after learning what I do for a living. When asked the question, I started to secretly enjoy their reaction when I told them I am a principal at a school. All too often, a similar response was given about how challenging it must be to work in a school. Yes, we have challenges, but there is more to our story that I learned to love sharing and their question opened the door for me to do just that.

This year's school theme comes from Hebrews 12:1-3 - "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

In reading this passage, try reading verse 2 and then go backward. To me, it says something like *while looking at Jesus as our prize, we now have the endurance to run the race because we gave up that sin that was holding us down.* We are so blessed at King of Kings and I am thrilled that 33 new students get to experience what many others have been experiencing for many years. Thank you for your support. Thank you for your prayers. And thank you for being a **Royal!**

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

Special Guest!

8th Grade teacher and King of Kings member, Mrs. Hannah Incitti gives the children's message on a recent Sunday at the King of Kings church services. Mrs. Incitti has been a called worker serving at King of Kings since 2012.





King of Kings Tailgating Party Everyone is welcome to kick off the school year at this fun event on Friday, September 20 at 5 PM. Come to the King of Kings parking lot to enjoy some food, fellowship, face painting and more before Concordia Academy's football game at 7pm. If you are able to volunteer or donate items, please sign up using the QR code. We appreciate your help in making this annual event a success!

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 September 12.** Parkway Pizza is located at 1909 Lexington Ave N, Rv 651-493-4360.

Enrollment Is Still Open! Families can <u>apply online</u> or by <u>contact principal Schutte</u> to set up a tour. For over 60 years King of Kings has provided this community, and beyond, with a school filled with a loving staff who cares about each child who steps through these doors. Help make it possible for more families to enjoy this Royal experience by talking to family, friends, neighbors, and others about King of Kings. Our school and church families are our #1 recruiters and I would love to set up a time to meet those who you are talking to us. All of this is done as we continue to fulfill our mission.

UPCOMING DATES

Sept. 2 – No School – Labor Day

Sept. 12 - Dine Out For Schools @ Parkway

Sept. 20 – Tailgate Party!

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











Synod and District Highlights

You Get to Tell Them! There are many ways to share the good news of Jesus! Check out the website (https://www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/international-mission) for information from the LCMS office of International Mission about some of the many ways you can be involved in bringing Christ to others. Also see the attached letter from LCMS president, Rev. Matthew Harrison about this joyful mission.

District Mission Spotlight Each month the MN South District spotlights a mission going on right here in our midst. Check out the district mission attachment to find out about new and ongoing missions in our MN South District and watch the bulletins for recurring updates.

Want to know more LCMS and MN South District happenings and news?

LCMS: https://www.lcms.org/email-updates

MN South District: https://www.mnsdistrict.org/ and scroll to

the bottom of the main page

Subscribe to our eNews
email address
Subscribe

NEW Set Apart to Serve is a very exciting, new Synodwide campaign to raise up the next generation of church workers in the LCMS! We all have a role to play in this work of encouraging young people to consider serving as pastors, teachers, DCE's, and other church workers. Each District in the LCMS has its own committee set up to help kick-start Set Apart to Serve on a local level. The leaders of your Minnesota South Set Apart to Serve Committee are Pastor Joshua Miller (Jehovah Lutheran Church) and Sarah Mueller (King of Kings Lutheran School). Please pray for Pastor Miller and Mrs. Mueller as they continue this exciting task throughout the year. Please pray to the Lord of the Harvest that He will continue to send workers into His field!

For more information on Set Apart to Serve, check out the Synodical website:

https://www.lcms.org/set-apart-to-serve



SAGACITY S.A.G.E.S. quarterly newsletter, Sagacity, for July - September 2024 is now available on the table in the narthex or on the district website (https://www.mnsdistrict.org/sages).

SAVE THE DATE:

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



Men's Bible Study will resume in September. Please join us! Contact Ted McArthur with questions.

Concordia Academy Beacon Buddies Registration is now open for fall soccer for boys and girls! The Beacon Buddies program offers athletic camp options on Saturday mornings for kids in 1st-4th grade. More information and registration for Beacon Buddies is available at www.concordiaacademy.com/beaconbuddies.

A Pro-Life Convocation: Speaking Up for Life in Minnesota, will be held in September, sponsored by LCMS Minnesota South District Faribault Circuit. Christian ministry display tables and educational materials/resources will be available.

Saturday, September 21 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 2500 7th Ave NE, Owatonna

Speakers include:

Dr. Robin Goldsmith, Catholic Medical Association Midwest Regional Director and co-founder of St. Gianna Clinic (De Pere, WI); Rev. Fred Hinz, LCMS Public Policy Advocate, MN districts;

Jeff Evans, Minnesota Family Council CEO; and

Rev. Dr. Lucas V. Woodford, LCMS Minnesota South District President

Catered lunch for \$10 with RSVP



Use this link to <u>REGISTER ONLINE</u> or use the QR code to **Register by September 11**.



Vocatio: Retreat Oct. 6-8 Interested in a distinctively Lutheran retreat that offers an introduction to life as a seminarian, time to spend in God's Word and the opportunity to learn from some of the brightest theologians in the church? Concordia Seminary, St. Louis invites you to attend Vocatio: Retreat — a three-day retreat geared toward college students and second-career men and women who are considering serving as a pastor, deaconess, missionary or chaplain. Registration is free and includes lodging and meals. To register, scan the QR code, visit csl.edu/vocatio-retreat or Google "Vocatio: Retreat Concordia Seminary." **Hurry! Registration closes Sept. 25.**

Mark Your Calendars!

Concordia Academy Craft Fair returns on Saturday, November 9, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. This fall, don't miss Concordia Academy's Holiday Craft Fair! This beloved holiday tradition features almost 100 crafters and vendors, a café with delicious treats, hourly prize drawings, and fun for everyone. More information at www.concordiaacademy.com/craftfair. Registration is now open to all crafters and vendors! You can go to the website to register and complete your payment online (preferred method).

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/

