

King of Kings Lutheran Church and School
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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

August 2019

What’s a Faith Family Reunion?

As a sinner who lives under the constant love and forgiveness of my Savior, it is no wonder that the parable of the prodigal son is one of my favorite passages in Luke, if not the entire Bible. As we hear Jesus tell the story, we may relate to different characters or events or attitudes as we go through life ourselves. The parable continues to unfold each time we read it. As the oldest child in my family, I first related to the self-righteous older brother who was miffed that his little brother got away with everything. Then, to make things worse, their father even had a party to celebrate his homecoming when sonny-boy came home with his tail between his legs!

Later on, I realized I was the prodigal himself. I knew what I wanted and no one could tell me differently. *“Prone to wander, Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love.”* (If it’s in the hymnal, it has to be true, right?) Even so, as a Christian, I knew that even when I had really messed things up, I could always come home to a Father who loved me and would forgive me and welcome me.

As we get older, there are times we may feel like the father looking down the road, waiting for his son to return home. (And I don’t just mean after curfew.) We raise our children in the faith. Many of them wander off for a while and return home. But some wander off and stay there. Even then, it continues to be our hope that those sons and daughters will one day come home. Another hymn verse ends *“and grace will lead me home.”*

If this is a burden you bear as a mother or father, a brother or sister, even as a son or daughter, you are not alone. How can a child who was raised in the faith, perhaps attended a Lutheran school, settle for what the world has to offer? Or quite frankly, what the world doesn’t have to offer? Maybe you have an adult brother or sister who turns away from you if you talk about your faith in Jesus. To have a family member leave the faith can be frustrating and confusing. It may be incomprehensible to you. It may bring pain, embarrassment, guilt or even shame. It may be your best kept secret.

Faith Family Reunion may be the place for you. It was founded by a woman who was raised in a loving Christian home and then fell away.

By the grace of God and the power of the Holy Spirit, she has returned. Faith Family Reunion provides encouragement and provides resources for parents who raised their children in the Lutheran church but whose children have left the church and their faith (prodigals). You may find them online at www.faithfamilyreunion.org. I think they offer some great resources for families. *(Continued...)*

King of Kings Lutheran Church

Regular Service Times:

Sunday

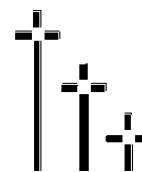
8:30 AM – Classic Worship

9:45 AM – Sunday School and Bible study classes

11:00 AM – Alternate Worship

12:15 PM – Hmong Sunday School and Bible Study

1:30 PM – Hmong (language) Community Worship



Let's continue this discussion as brothers and sisters in Christ. Let's pray for the prodigals and the families that pray for them. What could be better than a family reunion like this?

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Steven Bielenberg

(P.S. If you find this article or web resource helpful, please let me know!)



From the Window View of Pastor Lee

Summer is a time for family vacation and relaxation. For me, my summer schedule was booked way ahead of time and I will not have any time for family vacation until October. Sometimes that's just the way it is. This is me confirming that the harvest is plentiful.

In June we had Vacation Bible School where over 150 children attended and learned about the God of Creation who sent us Jesus. What an honor it is to train up disciples at such a young age.

In July, we started off with our outreach event at the Hmong Freedom Festival at Como Park in St. Paul where we talked to more than 200 children about Jesus. What a blessing it is to share Jesus with children that have never heard of Him.

The Twin Cities hosted the National Youth Gathering this year in Minneapolis where over 22,000 youth came and learned about their identity in the eyes of God and not by what others say who they are. These youth will go back to their own towns and be on fire for the gospel. My hope is that their excitement and flame does not lose traction.

I attended the LCMS National Convention in Tampa, FL for seven days as the pastoral delegate for our circuit. There I met hundreds of people from all over the nation to make decisions for the future of our church body.

I will be attending the LCMS Hmong annual conference from Aug 1st-4th in St. Paul. This is the gathering of Hmong LCMS churches to encourage and learn about God in their native language and in English. When you are a small group, you must continue to gather to lift each other up.

Two days after that, we will have our Night out to Unite at church to fellowship with our neighbors. This will be a chance to share God's love and possibly conversations about Jesus.

Two weeks after that school will start at King of Kings. Man, don't I get a break?

I am not boasting or complaining. This is the everyday life of a Christian, especially someone who loves mission work. My life as a missionary doesn't involve me going overseas. My mission work is in the daily life that I live and how I impact all those around me. I want people to see and feel God's love when they are with me. I fail at times. I ask for forgiveness and I continue on. My rest will come one day when God calls me home, but until then I want to bring as many people as I can to Christ. My hope and prayer is that you live your life in a way that brings more people to Christ and glory to His name. Even when you're on vacation, you don't stop being a Christian. Share God's love as you go.

Blessings,

Pastor Vue Lee

August Office Hours

August 1 to 16:

Monday – 12 to 4 Tuesday – Pastors Only, Secretary Off, Wednesday – 12 to 4, Thursday – 12 to 4, Friday – 9 to 1

August 19 and following:

Monday – Friday 8AM – 4PM, Friday, August 23 – 8 to 12 (No School), Friday, August 30 – 8 to 12 (No School)
Monday, Sept. 2 – Closed (Labor Day Observed)



LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS WITH THE ROSEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Pastor Lee recently reached out and asked what Roseville PD's greatest needs are and how we, the church, can help. The department said, "When our officers get calls about people on the streets, such as veterans and families with children, their hearts go out to them. Most of the time the officers end up buying them food or giving money out of their own pocket." I know we as the church can help. I'd like to start a care package ministry. How can you help? It's so easy, donate any of the following items and drop them off to Pastor Lee: 1-gallon zip top bags, fruit snacks, granola bars, water bottles, socks, hand wipes, chap stick, tooth brushes/paste, Cub/Target Gift Card of any amount, and a hand written note. If you don't feel like shopping, you can make a monetary donation and Pastor Lee will buy it on your behalf.

We will package these into the 1-gallon zip top bag and deliver them to Roseville PD. As the weather changes we will add different things, for this will be a year-round, continuous ministry.

Luke 10:27: He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

*You have fixed all the boundaries
of the earth; you have made
summer and winter. Psalm 74:17*



June GIVING INFORMATION

Regular offering – \$43,515.08; Parking Lot – \$6,902.00; Other specified offerings - \$3266.09

Joyful Response – General \$13,330.00; Parking Lot - \$1,130.00

Hmong Freedom Festival Update: The outreach event we had on July 6th-7th was a success and I'll tell you why. I have a couple of stories to tell. While the children were coloring bible stories, we told them the story they were coloring. One grandmother came the first day and on the second day she brought more of her grandchildren; about nine of them total. On the second day while the grandchildren were coloring she was telling them about the story of Noah and Jesus. We asked her if she went to church and she answered, "No." We asked her how she knows about the stories. She answered, "I heard you guys telling the story yesterday." I was so excited to hear that she heard the gospel while we were telling it to the children. Second story comes from a child. We asked him if he knew who Jesus is. He said, "Of course I know who he is. "How do you know? "Google," he answered. Even Google is doing outreach.

We handed out over 200 bags filled with pencils and sharpeners, scissors, crayons, Thrivent T-Shirts, and information about our church and school. All this wouldn't be possible without the generosity of and volunteers from the members of King of Kings. We may never see the results of the gospel in these children or the parents that brought them but maybe one day one of them will be a Christian. Maybe one of them may be a pastor just like your own Pastor Lee who received the same kind of love when he was not yet a believer.

GARDENING ASSISTANCE REQUESTED I will be travelling to Michigan this week, and I will be living and working on my cousin's dairy farm for the entire month of August. If you have a few minutes and would be willing to pull a few weeds in the flower beds that would be much appreciated. Any questions, please contact Tommy Murdock (tomdimurdock@gmail.com, 612-715-2361).

Prayer Walk and Night to Unite

Our church's Night to Unite is **Tuesday, Aug 6th from 6-8pm.**

This has been a successful event for our community for the last two years. We need your help. Text, email, or call Pastor Lee on how you can help. Please pray for opportunities for relational conversations that will lead to faith.



Needs?

1. Hot dogs, buns, water bottles, ketchup, relish, mustard, cookies, and chips or monetary gifts. Drop it off this Sunday or by Monday the latest so we know what we'll still need to buy on Tuesday.
2. Volunteers to help set up, serve, or take down.

In order for this to be successful, we will need your help **Saturday, Aug 3rd @ 9am** for 1 hour for the prayer walk. Its fun and a good way to get your exercise in. Walk, pray, tag the door and go. No need to talk to anyone. We hope to see you at both events.

Education & Youth News



Our main mode of communication is the Weekly Update e-newsletter that comes out on Mondays and is sent to all parents of 6th-12th graders. If you are not receiving it or have any questions, please contact DCE 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.

Youth Ministry

- **Camping Trip (HS):** August 8th-11th. Join us for biking, canoeing, and more fun time together! Registration forms and more information can be found on the bulletin boards and church website. **Deadline to register is Aug 4th!**



LCMS YOUTH GATHERING | Minneapolis · July 11-15, 2019

National Youth Gathering Wrap Up

Thank you so much to everyone who helped us prepare for the gathering, whether that meant financial, spiritual, emotional, or physical. It's a long 5 days, but the youth did great and grew so much! There were so many topics that could meet the interest of every participant like the High Cost of Free Love, From Lutheran School to the NBA, Star Wars Spirituality, 321 Improv, What do Luther, Legos, and LeCrae Have in Common?, Guys Only! Straight Talk on Dating, Sex, and Porn, and Next Steps: Preparing for Life After High School. These are just a sample of some of the sessions! The youth learned so much from our theme: Real. Present. God. As our morning session leaders unwrapped Psalm 46, the youth learned how relevant God is with His real presence. **Want to hear more? Join us on August 25 between services in the Jerusalem Room as the youth present all that they learned during this amazing event!**



Volunteer Opportunities!

Are you looking for a place to volunteer? Talk to our Director of Christian Education, Sally Schuster (sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org or office number 612-540-0714)! There are many places to plug in behind the scenes and upfront leading from planning meals to leading Bible Studies for children, youth, and adults! Consider one of these opportunities:

- Sunday School: teaching a class, helping with music or as superintendent, organizing supplies
- Youth Ministry: planning Wednesday night meals, leading games, devotions, or Bible Studies, decorating for events, planning fundraisers, etc.
- Adult Education: planning topics for future studies, leading a Bible Study or devotions, hosting a small group in your home
- Designing bulletin boards

Mission Moments:

Alaska Mission team held VBS in Northway, Alaska June 17 through 21

Mission team to Northway, AK

Pam Collova, Bobbi Reyes, Don Ullman, Sarah Culbert, Shane Conklin, Ray Lentz

The 2019 Alaska Mission team consisting of 3 people from King of Kings Lutheran Church in Roseville, MN (Pam Collova, Sarah Culbert and Don Ullman) and 3 people from St Paul's Lutheran Church in Munster, IN (Shane Conklin, Ray Lentz, and Bobbi Reyes) traveled by air to Anchorage, AK on June 13 and 14. During our time in Anchorage, the team stayed overnight at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Chugiak, AK, located 10 miles north of Anchorage on the Glennallen Highway. Coincidentally, Our Redeemer has among services like King of Kings.



On June 15th the team drove to Northway through some very beautiful landscapes along the Chugach Mountains. Northway is a community of 300 people whose population is 90% native Athabascan. It is located about 400 miles north and east of Anchorage. The trip takes about 12 hours with stops for lunch, supper, gasoline and to pick up the key for Northway School. We arrived at about 7 PM at Walter Northway School which we had rented for a place for the team to stay and to hold VBS. Walter Northway was a former chief of tribe who settled the tribe in what is now Northway.

On Sunday the team attended the Northway Community Church of God. We were greeted by Pastor Tom Teasdale and his wife Jean. They were instrumental in arranging for us to come to Northway. The Teasdales have been in Northway for 35 years and are very involved in community planning. Along with the sermon by Pastor Teasdale, several native women sang songs professing their love for Jesus.

After the service we were invited to the Teasdale's house for lunch. There we met some of the local people and some of the Teasdale family who were visiting from Alabama. In native tradition we were given presents made by the local natives. Don was given a dream catcher that is supposed to catch and protect you from bad dreams. A cross was added to the center. I suppose this was to show that Jesus is always with us and protect us from danger in our lives. The rest of team was given hand-made birch bark baskets along with stuffed animals with real fur.

We held VBS Monday through Friday from 5 PM until 7:30 PM. Originally, we had planned to serve the children lunch at noon and hold VBS from 12:30 PM through 3:30 PM. On Sunday we learned that during our VBS week the Gateway School District was holding a summer program in Tok for the children to improve skills, their desire to set goals and work toward them. The dates of this program were not known until after we had made our plans for VBS. Each day the children arrived at the Northway School around 8AM and were bused to Tok, a community 58 miles west of Northway. They returned to Northway about 4 PM. This change required some quick change in plans by the team. Obviously, the children were tired by the time they arrived which made it more difficult to present our program.

During the entire week we had 29 children attend VBS at least once. The daily average attendance was about 20 children. We had been told to plan for 36 children.

The theme for the week was "God is with us in our wild ride through life". I think a better theme was "God keeps His promises." His best promise was that he would send a Savior who would totally redeem us. We used both themes throughout the week.

We began the day at 5PM with a dinner for the children prepared by Pam Collova. This was followed with our opening with a puppet skit where the children were introduced to the theme for the day. This was done using Eddy a Mountain lamb puppet (Shane was the puppeteer) interacting with Ray, a white-water rafter. *(Continued...)*

Sarah introduced the children to the take home point for the day and some songs. Sarah also added some object lessons in the opening that reinforced the day's message. Following the opening, Don told the Bible story for the day. Some days the children were asked to help act out the story but that didn't work well because the children couldn't remember what person they were playing in the story. After the Bible story Shane took the children outside for team games. Some of the younger children stayed with Bobbi and Pam and did sidewalk art or played on the playground. Following games, the children had a water break and were given a snack. Bobbi then led them in making a craft related to the theme for the day. Crafts were followed by music led by Sarah. At this time Sarah taught them the Bible verse for the day and action songs. We ended the day with a closing with Ray and Eddy, the mountain lamb, reviewing the story of the day and emphasizing the theme for the day.

Each day the children were given a "dog tag" keepsake that had the take home point for the day along with the Bible verse for the day. They were also given a leaflet with the printed Bible story. Hopefully when they look at these items in the future, they will remember the Bible story for that day and the take home point.

On Thursday evening we had a community dinner. Our intention was to feed the community and then then tell them what we had done in VBS during the week. Only one family attended, two grandparents and a mother. In talking with the family, we learned her son, Noah, was interested in Science particularly animals and that he read everything he could find on animals.

On Saturday June 15 the team made the long trip back to Anchorage to catch a plane back home. The team thanks everyone for their financial support and their prayers.

If we plan to send teams in June or July in the future, it would work best if each congregation sent a team of 6 volunteers. This would make it possible for each team to do planning before arriving in Alaska. To begin this planning process your interest needs to be known by the end of December. This will give us time to determine if there is enough volunteers to form a team and which month, June or July, enough people are available We also need time to raise enough funds to send the team You would not have to make a commitment until we know if there are enough people interested to form a team. If you have questions or would like to be part of a team, contact Don Ullman by calling him (219) 742-4701 or emailing him, donbill14@gmail.com

PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION UPDATE A plywood boardwalk has been built to temporarily allow access to the church and school offices. Curbs were poured this week. For Sunday worship and other events, you will be able to park on Lovell or in the Concordia Academy lot and walk to the north entrance during most of the project. On-site parking will be limited to the south lot. If you are able to walk a bit further than others, please park off-site (on local streets or in the CA lot) for Sunday morning services and other large events.

Donations toward the parking lot project are being gathered. If you would like to make a one-time gift or regular contribution to the project, please contact Aaron Gjelhaug or one of the pastors or use one of the envelopes in the narthex.



School News & Notes

Sideline with Schutte

Ever since accepting the Call to serve as the principal at King of Kings, my wife and I have been amazed on how welcoming King of Kings has been...again. Kim and I want to thank everyone for all of the prayers and wonderful conversations during this whole process. Looking back, it is truly a testament of faith how God puts people in our lives and provides us with valuable experiences to help build His kingdom.

Throughout my career as a coach and athletic director, I have learned how valuable each member is on a team. No matter the role, each person involved is extremely important in helping the team strive towards excellence. After only being in the office for 4 weeks, I have already seen it here and cannot wait to see more.

Throughout the year, I hope I can share bits of pieces of my experiences from behind the lines. Teachers are the coaches. Students are the players. Everyone else are the fans. We all have a role on this team and we are going to win. The beauty of sports is that success does not happen instantly. It takes patience, desire, discipline, repetition and support to make it to the end zone. As you walk in my office, you may see a quote from the great John Wooden “*Success comes from knowing that you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming.*” In less than 3 weeks, the games begin. *Let's Go!*

August Events:

Monday, August 5

6:00pm – Community Boosters Meeting

Tuesday, August 6

6:00pm – Night to Unite

Monday, August 12, 13

Teacher Workshops

Wednesday, August 14

Teacher Workshops
4:30pm – Back to School Night & School Pictures

Thursday, August 15

Teacher Workshops

Monday, August 19

8am to 3pm – First Day of School!
No Busing all week

Friday, August 23

NO SCHOOL

Friday, August 30

NO SCHOOL



Accredited Parochial School
(Preschool - 8th Grade)



www.kingofkingslutherschool.org
kingofkingschool@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

Save the Date

Annual Lutheran Night at the Twins The Minnesota Twins are excited to announce the annual Lutheran Night at Target Field. Join in **tomorrow, August 5, Twins vs. Atlanta Braves at 7:10 p.m.** Great for Lutheran congregations, youth groups, and chapters, Lutheran Night at Target Field has been the largest group event associated with the Twins for over a decade! Ticket prices range from \$15 to \$36. For more information or to purchase individual tickets, please visit the Twins website. See the poster on the bulletin board in the narthex for more information.

Night to Unite - This Tuesday, Aug 6th at 6:00pm will be our 3rd annual night out party for the community. We will provide food, drinks, music, and a bounce house. The fire and police department and McGruff the crime dog will make an appearance. Email Pastor Lee vlee@kingofkingsroseville.org call or text his cell 209-261-0510 to let him know how you can help.

Back-to-School Night for King of Kings students will take place on **Wednesday, August 14th 4:30-8PM.** School begins August 19th.

New Ladies Bible Study group beginning this fall! Join us for "The Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer. We will begin our study on **Wednesday, September 18th** at the home of Pam Collova. Start time is **6:30 p.m.** The format is one week video and the next week discussion. The series will end right before the Advent Season. For information contact Pam at 651-249-3811 or Sherri Pinotti 612-810-9826. The cost of the study workbook is \$15.00.

