

October 2018 – Issue 275

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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"

Fighting the Galatian battle over (and over and over...)

October 2018

Paul wrote his letter to the churches in Galatia because there was a group of Jewish Christians (sometimes known as Judaizers) working among these new Christians, encouraging them to return to their Jewish laws and traditions even after they had received the good news of Jesus Christ. Paul can't help but respond! "...yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Christ Jesus, so we have also believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified."

Jew or Gentile? Makes no difference. Paul says, "God shows no partiality." My works of the law or the Gospel of Jesus Christ? Christ, and Christ alone, Paul assures us! "For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me."

How is it that we can receive this free gift and then decide it isn't enough? That happened in the first century, in Luther's time, and even our own. Like pre-Reformation era believers, we may want to believe that there is some way we can cooperate with God to bring about our own salvation. People went on pilgrimages, bought their way out of purgatory, and inflicted all kinds of punishments upon themselves to earn their way into the kingdom of heaven. As Luther proclaimed Jesus Christ and Christ alone, he wrote, "The Epistle to the Galatians is my epistle, to which I am betrothed. It is my Katie Von Bora" (American Edition 26:ix). Luther would no sooner part with the letter to the Galatians than he would part from his beloved wife. He proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus over and above the law at every opportunity.

Can modern Christians be seduced into thinking we can save ourselves? Are we guilty of taking Jesus down from the cross by thinking that we can help God save us by our good deeds? When we think too highly of ourselves? When we think that we are sinless (or, at least, it seems that way when we compare ourselves to others)? By Chapter 3, Paul tells us that anyone who relys on "works of the law are under a curse." In fact, "no one is justified before God by the law, for 'The righteous shall live by faith.'"

When we despair of our sin, the law offers no comfort. It only condemns us further. We can only take refuge in Jesus Christ. "For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me."

Join us on Sunday morning as we study this life-giving letter of Paul!

In Christ,

Pastor Steven Bielenberg

King of Kings Lutheran Church

Service Times:

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



7:00 PM - Lent/Advent Services (seasonal)



AUGUST GIVING INFORMATION

Regular offering – \$40,514.56; Roof – \$591.00; other specified offerings - \$749.40 Joyful Response – General \$11,875.00; Building \$1,345.00

From the Window View of Pastor Lee

Galatians 3:1—You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified.

It's October again, a time where all the stores are full of Halloween decorations and sale. It's time of ghosts, monsters, goblins, and witches. Speaking of witches, Paul is pretty blunt to the Galatians church. Paul asked them, "Who has bewitched you or who has put an evil spell on you." We are no different in terms of our sinful nature that of the Galatians church. If we were smart, we would not repeat history but history has convinced me that we're not all that smart. I'll use the row boat example. When you row the boat, the future is behind you and the past is in front of you. You can almost determine where you're going by seeing where you came from. The past tells us a lot about our future.

Every church in the New Testament went astray somehow. The Galatians church thought that their work could somehow help save them. Paul reminds them that its faith alone brings them to receive God's promise of salvation in Jesus.

I want us to imagine this: if an artist finished painting a masterpiece, would you go and try to add more paint to it? If you look at the picture of Jesus on the cross, do you think you can add anything else to it for salvation?

Do not be bewitched this season my brothers and sisters. It is by Faith that you have received the promise of God's salvation in Jesus. What you do after that is a result, response, and the actions are out of joy that you are a redeemed child of God.

Now go and show someone the masterpiece of Jesus!!!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Vue Lee

Eggrolls, Eggrolls, come and get your eggrolls! Hmong ministry will be selling delicious eggrolls again. These will come frozen so that you can enjoy cooking and eating them. If you would like cooked ones, they will be available at the Fall Fair, Oct 13th. Pick up will be at the Fall Fair or after church in the freezer if you can't make it that day. The proceeds will help future missions. Order forms will be on the table in the narthex. If you'd like to order by email, send order with Name, Phone Number and Quantity to vangs40@yahoo.com. If you'd like to order by phone, call or text with Name and Quantity to (651) 528-9589. Deadline to place an order will be Oct 8th. Thank you for your support of missions and your stomach also thanks you. ☺



Education & Pouth News

Volunteer Opportunities

Are you interested in making a difference in the lives of children and youth? There are many hands-on and behind-the-scenes openings in the children and youth ministries. Some are short term while others are for the entire school year. Contact DCE Sally Schuster (sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org or 612-540-0714) if you are interested in finding out more!

Bible Study about Marriage - Sunday Mornings

Home Grown Faith is sponsoring a Bible Study about Marriage on Sunday mornings in the Media Center (Room 104) using the book His Needs, Her Needs. There is also a participant guide if you like to write and utilize for further study and conversation at home. It will be led by a few different couples of different generations, making it applicable to all ages and stages! The main book is \$10 and the participant guide is \$5. A limited number of books are available now. Contact Sally Schuster at sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org or 612-540-0714 to sign up.



MS Youth Night and HS Hangout

The MS and HS Youth will alternate weeks with HS on 1^{st} and 3^{rd} weeks from 7-10 PM and MS on 2^{nd} and 4^{th} weeks from 3-6:15 PM. See the youth ministry section for more details!

Childcare

There is childcare offered in the gym every week from 6:20-7:45 PM. They have some free time, but also participate in large group games like soccer or floor hockey! This service is provided by the youth and a few adults.

LifeLight

LifeLight will be studying part one of Exodus this fall. It is a personal Bible Study with daily readings and questions. The group meets at 6:30-7:45 pm in Room 104 (Media Center). There is a lecture and discussion that will be led by Al Wassermann. Books are \$10 and are available in the office.

Home Grown Faith – Wednesday Nights – Still Time to Join! This study is for people who are passionate about passing along their faith to the next generation, whether that includes your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, or any child in your life! Childcare is provided with a drop off time of 6:20 PM in the gym so that Bible Study can begin at 6:30 PM in Room 103 on Wednesdays. This year, we will have two books running concurrently: Raising a Modern Day Night: A Father's Role in Guiding His Son to Authentic Manhood by Robert Lewis and What a Girl Needs from Her Mom by Cheri Fuller. Both books are \$10 to purchase and a limited number are available to pick up now. Contact Sally Schuster at sschuster@kingofkingsroseville.org or 612-540-0714 to sign up.

Youth Ministry

- Middle School (6th-8th Grade)
 - Youth Night every 2nd and 4th Wednesday: Next meeting is October 10th and goes from 3:00 to 6:15 PM. Please sign in at the Jerusalem Room when you arrive. Here are the schedule changes:
 - 3-3:30 PM Free time electronics allowed
 - 3:30 PM Small Group Time
 - 4:45 PM Dinner
 - 5:15 PM Small Group Time
 - 6:15 PM Pick up (unless you want to stay at do childcare until 7:45 pm)
 - Youth will only be part of one small group, but we know that some are available right after school while others aren't available until later on because of after school activities. If they were a part of the first small group time, they will be able to work on homework, play outside, etc. during the second small group time.
- High School (9th-12th Grade)
 - **Hangout every 1st and 3rd Wednesday:** The Youth Room will be open from 7-10 PM. There will be time to work on homework, play in the gym, study God's Word in small groups, and of course, EAT! Next meeting is October 3rd.

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.





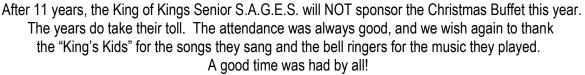
Thank you to everyone who sent in their updated info! The updated directories are now available in the narthex.

*Please note: the church has updated its information too! To better coordinate with other staff, we have changed the church office email to the following:



churchoffice@kingofkingsroseville.org Please use this address to contact the office/secretary.

This Too Shall Pass:





Stewardship Minute Message:

Love One Another

God's nature is love. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Jesus tells us to love others as He has loved us (John 15:12). Love is the heart of the Gospel. The Apostle Paul, who wrote much of the New Testament, wrote again and again about Christ's love for us and our need to love Him by loving others. In his letter to the people in Corinth, Paul devotes a whole chapter to describe love (1 Corinthians 13).

When Sir Ernest Shackleton, An Irish-born British explorer of the Arctic, was asked to describe his most terrible moment in the Arctic, he said it occurred one night when he and the other members of his expedition were huddled together in a barren hut, trying to sleep. They had divided up the last of their food rations. There was nothing more to divide.

Then in the cold darkness, Sir Ernest heard a quiet movement. He turned and saw one of the men reach over and pick up the provision bag of the man beside him. Shackleton said he lived through an eternity of suspense the next few moments. He would have trusted his life to this man. Was he now turning out to be a thief who would steal his comrade's last morsel of food? Then Shackleton saw the man open his provision bag, take out his last biscuit, and place it in the bag of his sleeping friend. Shackleton said, "I felt I had witnessed a secret moment between that man and God."

Because God has first loved us (1 John 4:19), each of us can be that person who gives away the last of our food. We can show love to one another in such a way, openly or in secret, that we are raised above the level of mere mortals to become more like our Creator. That is truly the imitation of God. As Jesus loved without expectation of that love being reciprocated, so we can learn to love not caring if we receive love in return. We can demonstrate our love by what we say and do. As we love others, we will become "little Christs." As Paul tells us: "Love one another with brotherly affection" (Romans 12:10). May Christ's love in us overflow to others.

"Joy is a State of Mine"

Joy is a state of mind and an orientation of the heart. Joy is unaffected by circumstances. It is a settled state of contentment, confidence, and hope. Joy is something we all long for, but it often seems difficult to grab hold of. As Christians, joy ought to be a characteristic of our lives. People around us should know of our joy. Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit produced by God's work in us, and it is part of God's will for us. Joy is placed in us by the Holy Spirit through faith in God's Word. Jesus says that one of the reasons He came is so that His joy may be in us (John 15:11).

The Apostle Paul wrote, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice" (Philippians 4:4).

School News & Notes

Principal call committee The call committee for a new principal has met several times. Please remember the call committee as they continue their work. Thanks to those of you who submitted names for our consideration.

King of Kings Collections & Savings:

Now that school is back in session, we can keep collecting those recyclables, box tops, rewards, and proof-of-purchases. These items bring in several hundred dollars to the school each year. Items can be dropped off in the collection center or school office any time. We currently collect:

- Box Tops from over 240 products participating in General Mills' Box Tops for Education program
- UPC Proof-of-Purchases from any Country Hearth or Village Hearth product participating in the Loaves 4 Learning program
- Empty printer cartridges accepted by the FundingFactory Recycling Program

Keep "Liking" Us on Facebook!

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

October Events

10/1 4:00PM - Cross Country @ TCLAC Meet

10/3 School Picture Retakes

10/6 8:00AM – 4:00PM 7/8 Soccer Tournament 8:00AM Non-Public School Marathon

10/12 Scholastic Book Fair

10/13 Scholastic Book Fair 9:00AM - Fall Fair

10:00AM - Cross Country @ State Meet

10/14 Scholastic Book Fair

10/15 Scholastic Book Fair

10/16 Scholastic Book Fair

10/17 Scholastic Book Fair

End of First Quarter

Grandparents' Day

Noon Dismissal

10/18 Education MN - No School

10/19 Education MN - No School

10/20 12:00рм - National Lutheran School Cross Country Meet @ Concordia University - Wisconsin

10/22 Start of Second Quarter

6:30PM - Board of Education Meeting

10/25 6:30PM - Fall Concert (PK-8)

10/29 8:45AM - Windy City Players "Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Accredited Parochial School (Preschool - 8th Grade)

"It's Still All About Jesus"

www.kingofkingslutheranschool.org kingofkingsschool@kingofkingsroseville.org

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

Please Keep the Endowments at King of Kings Lutheran Church and School in mind:

Linda ZumHofe Endowment (Tuition Funding); King of Kings Elementary Endowment (Tuition Funding); Member Hardship Endowment (Unemployment Assistance)



Open Prayer Tuesday nights The Board of Lay Ministry will be hosting Open Prayer in the sanctuary on the first three Tuesdays of October from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. We will supply some devotional prayer starters and you may pray individually or invite us to pray for you.

Reformation Lecture Series - Telling It Like It Is: The 500th Celebration of Luther's Heidelberg Disputation of 1518. At Heidelberg, Martin Luther spelled out what it means to be a "theologian of the cross." In vivid language, his theses rehearse some of his most important themes. In the process, the Disputation changed the course of Luther's life, the Reformation, and all subsequent theological history. The Rev. Dr. Steven D. Paulson will speak on this topic on this Tuesday, October 2 at 7:00 PM in the Graebner Memorial Chapel on the campus of Concordia University, St. Paul. Free and open to the public.

Concordia Academy Homecoming Friday You're invited to Concordia Academy's Homecoming on Friday, October 5. A carnival with plenty of fun kids' games starts at 5:30 PM, followed by the football game vs. Humboldt at 7 PM. Admission is free for all children, as well as CA alumni. Admission for other adults is \$6. Join in this great celebration of CA's 125 years "In The Light!"

Marathon for Non-Public Education This year's Marathon is **Saturday, October 6th from 8AM-1PM** at Central Park in Roseville. This is one of our school's primary fundraisers and 100% of the proceeds go directly to King of Kings. It's a fun event where King of Kings students get pledges for how many laps they bike, walk or run around Lake Bennett. Last year we raised ~\$13,000 for playground improvements, including a new gaga ball pit. This year we are hoping to raise \$20,000 for tuition assistance, after-school enrichment programming and new athletic uniforms.

If you'd like to support our school and sponsor a student, there will be a Marathon Pledge Table in the coffee/fellowship area after both services today. We also need volunteers to help with a number of different tasks on the day of the marathon. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Christina Gjelhaug (cgjelhaug@hushmail.com or 651-233-6686). Thank you for supporting King of Kings Lutheran School!

S.A.G.E.S. Nothing new under the sun? Pastor Bielenberg will be leading a two-session study on highlights from the book of **Ecclesiastes** at our meetings on October 10 and November 14 (Wednesday afternoons at 1:00). If you are free in the afternoon, come and join us!

Dementia Care & Coping Series: After the Diagnosis – Thursday, October 11, 1:00-3:00, Ramsey County Library, 2180 N Hamline Ave.

Coordinated by Women Alive in Christ (WAIC) Women's Ministry, **King of Kings (KOK) 42nd annual Fall Fair** is open to the public and people of all ages. KOK church & school come together for this community event & mini-fundraiser for classrooms and church ministries. We open our doors on **Saturday**, **October 13th from 9AM-2PM**. Join us for a day of fun, fellowship, food, crafts, kids' games & activities. Many come for the **FOOD** & stay for the **FELLOWSHIP!** Free admission! Kid's activities, food, vendor & craft items available for purchase.

Calling all Crafters, DIY-ers, & Vendors! Concordia Academy in Roseville is hosting their third annual Holiday Craft Fair on November 10th from 9AM-3PM. If you are interested in selling your unique, hand-crafted items, or are a direct sales consultant, this is an event for you! With over 800 shoppers and 70+ vendors in last year, the 2018 craft fair is gearing up to be even bigger and better! If crafting isn't for you, shopping may be! This is a great time to get your holiday shopping done by supporting local crafters, vendors, and business owners. You can visit www.concordiaacademy.com/craftfair for registration information. Registration closes Oct. 15th. If you have any questions, you can contact us via email at CACraftFair@concordiaacademy.com.

Ryan and Kari Maser 3 Founders Way, Unit D St. Louis, MO 63105

August 28, 2018

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The first two days of classes are in the books! I can hardly believe that my second year of Seminary is already here. While I would appreciate a few more days to relax and soak in the freedom of summer, I do know that God has called me to this place for a reason, and that is to study, prepare, and be formed into a servant leader, a pastor, one who cares for people and ministers to them the saving Gospel message. And that is what I am most looking forward to this upcoming year – the opportunity to learn more about the awesome God that we serve and worship in His Word, to grow in understanding and applying the disciplines of theology, and obtaining skills in which I can effectively serve and come alongside His children. Concordia Seminary's theme this year is precisely this, from the words of the prophet Isaiah: "Here Am I, Send Me!" (Isaiah 6:8). I will unpack this more in the "Devotional Thought" section.

Updates/News:

Aside from it being the beginning of the school year for me, Kari has been off to a great start with her first year of teaching at Immanuel Lutheran, Wentzville. So far she has been enjoying her Monday-Wednesday-Friday four year old and Tuesday-Thursday three year old classes, and sharing with them the love of Christ each day. In addition to teaching, Kari is having a blast with her Seminary wives Bible Study group on Wednesday nights, and spending time with the friends that she has made here on campus already. In the midst of a full course load, I continue to work for campus safety, play soccer and intramurals, and keep up with the growing garden.

While we are slowly getting back into the routine of the new school year, we have enjoyed taking time to explore more of St. Louis and the various places that are close-by and fun (and cheap!). Recently we have checked out the St. Louis Art Museum and IKEA, as well as frequent walks around campus and the neighborhood, always noticing things that we never thought existed. Our parents and family recently visited a few weeks ago for Kari's installation, and we had the opportunity to show them some of the local sights – the Arch, Anheuser-Busch, and Imo's pizza! We look forward to an upcoming mini-trip to lowa for a friend's wedding, as well as the beginning of yet another Husker football season. While there is much to do and see and work on, we are slowly realizing the challenge it can be sometimes to maintain balance in our daily schedule. We ask that you pray for us, that God would give us

the discernment and wisdom we need to find balance and time for all of the priorities and responsibilities of life, including rest!

Devotional thought:

"Teacher, teacher, pick me" is a phrase that we often hear small school children say. More than likely, they are eager to do or lead something...like being the 'line leader', going first for 'show-and-tell', or doing a special classroom task. I can remember using this phrase, how about you? We find in Isaiah chapter 6 a similar response by the newly-called Isaiah. However, his task is not an easy one, or one to necessarily get excited about. He was called by God to be a prophet to the rebellious nation of Israel, so that the people might repent, abandon their false gods and aspirations, and be driven back to the only true God. God appears to Isaiah in a vision, bringing his immense glory and power (go back and read v. 1-7...it's absolutely incredible!), and touching a burning coal to Isaiah's lips, God wipes away all of Isaiah's past guilt and shame. Then, in verse 7, Isaiah hears God's voice calling, "Who will I send and go for us?" I can only imagine what is going through Isaiah's mind - seeing the seraphim flying overhead, the glory of God in the smoke, the thundering voice shaking the doorposts of the house. Then there is that burning coal – would that not have hurt? But the coal brought the cool atonement of sin in and through the spoken Word of God. Drawing from this vision and experience, Isaiah boldly and confidently proclaims, "Here am I! Send me." He was prepared in that moment to go forth and proclaim an unpopular message to an unrepentant people. Nevertheless, Isaiah had seen and was convinced that the Almighty God had called him in that moment to do His work. God was ultimately in control, and Isaiah was ready to go.

So it is for us. While we most likely have not been visited by God in an extraordinary vision or been touched by a hot coal, we have been baptized into His Name. In that baptism, God has claimed us as his own through the waters of rebirth by the Holy Spirit and has forgiven us our sins through the suffering, death, and resurrection of His Son, Jesus. Being His Children, God calls each and every one of us to share His good news, and to love and care for our neighbor. While it may be uncomfortable or unpopular or challenging at times, we know that God has prepared us for such a moment to be His witnesses. May we be bold and eager (and even excited!) like Isaiah to answer His call with these simple words, "Here am I! Send me."

Thank you all for your prayers, love, and support. Kari and I have very much appreciated the notes and messages of encouragement we have received over the last few months, and we look forward to always staying in touch with you all. May God bless you and watch over you during this 'back-to-school' season.

In Christ,

Ryan Maser

Think you for all of the prayers of Support. We look formers to Strying in touch with King of Lings!