



King of Kings Lutheran Church

Centered in Christ, we love all, welcome all, and pursue justice and peace”

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MAY 2018

Pastor's Message

Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.
Psalm 82:3

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Social Statement: Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All was adopted by the churchwide assembly in 1999. The full statement can be read here: http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Economic_LifeSS.pdf. It was adopted



in the context of the **Jubilee 2000** campaign, an international coalition movement that called for cancellation of third world debt. Economic justice is certainly a prominent biblical theme. Jesus' mission is to "bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of Jubilee." Luke 4:18-19. In the Bible, God lays out a vision of the health and well-being of all Creation, including humankind, but not neglecting the earth and all its creatures. The Biblical understanding of stewardship is that all that we have belongs to God and we should use what God has entrusted to us to pursue God's values of abundant life for all.

Economy refers to how we manage our money and resources as individuals, households, churches, employers, employees, and governments. We are fallen creatures, who forget our connection with others and the earth. We are prone to worship of idols, including money and material things and use them in selfish ways.

Since God shares with us the vision of balanced, healthy, life-giving world, we have a responsibility to look toward that vision to speak up when the systems of our world fall short. Martin Luther reminds us that we violate the commandment "Thou shalt not kill" when we don't help people meet their basic needs.

We stand in tension with the values of the world when we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." This prayer reminds us we depend on God and others for our livelihood, reminds us not to stockpile for the future, and expands the idea of who "us" includes, especially to those around the world without the food they need.

It is easy to get overwhelmed by world economies and forces outside our power to change, however because of God's generosity to us, we are invited and compelled to respond to injustice in our own lives, in the church, in the workplace, in the nation, and in the world. Some possible steps we can take toward economic justice include the following:

1. Address the complex causes of poverty
2. Scrutinize the policies and practices that affect the poorest people and nations
3. Increase the participation of poor people in political and civic life

4. Support community-development projects that can empower low-income people
5. Give generously to the poor
6. Hire without discrimination and adequately compensate workers including church workers.
7. Call for government enforcement of regulations
8. Oppose lotteries because of their adverse effect on those who are poor
9. Resist consumerism
10. Advocate for accountable, just corporate structure and practices
11. Use less, reuse, recycle, and restore natural resources
12. Use church properties in sustainable and responsible ways
13. Call for just work conditions for farm workers
14. Call for companies to pay the social and environmental costs of what they produce
15. Integrate social values into our investment decisions

God made this world good and gave us responsibility for caring for it and using it in ways that lead to abundant life for all creation. This Social Statement can help guide us when we consider how we use what we have and how we hold our systems accountable to the values that promote life.

Pastor Aimee



Upcoming Worship

May 06: Interactive worship

May 13: Blended Worship

May 20: Pentecost Sunday ~ Wear Red

May 27: Traditional Worship

Interactive Worship usually includes: A more informal worship setting, it's up to you whether to sit or stand, repeating the words for the Lord's Supper after the pastor, and an interactive way of engaging the Bible readings for the day.

Traditional Worship usually includes: Confession, the Kyrie and Hymn of Praise, the Psalm, the Creed, preaching from the pulpit, and kneeling for communion.

Blended Worship includes a sermon, prayer of the day, readings, Holy Communion, prayers of the people, and may include some aspects of Traditional Worship, as well.

Healing Service: Blended Worship with special healing activities usually including lighting candles, giving our burdens and anxieties to God, prayers at the altar, and anointing.



Tone Chimes for Pentecost

We will be rehearsing to chime the prelude for Pentecost Sunday. We will meet the next three Wednesdays, May 2, 9, & 16 at 5:45 p.m. All are invited & welcome to join.

All previous chimers especially invited.

Welcome North Clackamas Arts Guild

We welcome Artist/teacher Billy Beaulieu who will be giving art therapy classes on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. This is in addition to the Art Guild meetings and classes that are already on our schedule. The Art Guild is a registered non-profit and they all appreciate being able to use this space and continue to be good stewards of our building. This endeavor helps us to fulfill one of our Council goals: to open the church to more community groups.



Finance Update

In January our congregation adopted a budget that called for giving beyond our estimates of giving for the year. At this time, we have received 101% of what we need to meet our budget. **Thank you for your generosity.** You continue to faithfully give in response to God's love and generosity to you. In addition, we are receiving \$450 a month for one year from the Oregon Synod to reimburse the congregation for Pastor Aimee's time and efforts in Transformational Leadership. Using concepts in community organizing and adaptive leadership, she is leading a cohort of church leaders in Clackamas County to work together to transform our congregations and our world. She and the council have agreed to 4-6 hours a week devoted to Transformational Leadership. The council will be considering how this money will be allocated for the remainder of the year at our council retreat.



A LOOK at the BUDGET

Thank you for your faithful giving and serving!



Stewardship Action Corp (SAC)

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Barry and I just returned from a trip to the Southwest. We viewed many historical sites and were impressed again with the grit and determination that people had to live in such an inhospitable land. The Native Americans, the miners, and the settlers.

Housing was tenuous, as trees for building are few and far between.

Food was scarce. No buffalo here, only small animals and venomous ones, too. Sugar, flour and other basic foodstuffs had to come overland from miles away.

Clothing was handmade, from cloth to finished garment and serviceable, not fashionable.

Indoor plumbing did not exist, and water was a precious resource not to be squandered.

Comfort was elusive, as the desert is cold at night and fuel is hard to obtain. In the summer daytimes the temperatures are scorching, with no fans or air conditioning.

How would we fare in such conditions? We have a sturdy home, a nearby grocery with plentiful choices, inexpensive readymade clothing, water at the touch of a faucet and both heat and air-conditioning. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!" And yet many in the world today live as those early peoples and settlers did. In our abundance, may we remember to give thanks, and to "comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God."

Ellen Burns

Quilt Sunday in June

Coming to a pew near you soon... Quilt Sunday!
Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

All proceeds go toward purchasing supplies for our quilts. Two winners will get to choose their quilts from all the ones on display, but you don't have to be present to win. Quilts are donated to Lutheran World Relief and local charities.



Spirits & Theology or Bible & BREW

Time: Tuesday, May 8 @ 6 pm

Place: Flying Pie Pizza, 16691 SE McLoughlin Blvd.

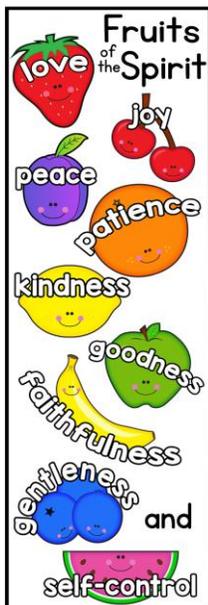
Fellowship abounds and ideas about spiritual matters are exchanged in an informal and public setting. We certainly don't have all the answers, but we sure have plenty of opinions!

Come when you can. Bring friends. All are welcome.



Bible Study

This week we will finally see the last of Judges. We won't be sorry to say goodbye to this book. Next up the book of Ruth. Ruth, brief enough to read in 15 minutes, is a delight! It is a good contrast to Judges—to show that even in this time of wickedness there were some who lived in faithfulness to God. This beautiful short story portrays love's power to triumph over sorrow and hopelessness and to bridge differences in family, race, and religion. Then we will return to the New testament with Romans. Luther called Romans "the chief book of the new testament, the purest Gospel." Whether you're reading along at home or want to join us **Wednesdays at 9:45 am** here is the reading plan for May. May 2: Finish Judges; May 9: Intro and Reading of Ruth; May 16: Romans Intro and first 4 chapters; May 23: Romans 5-8; May 30: Romans 9-12.



Vacation Bible School

To be held July 17, 18, and 19
5:45-8 pm

Dinner, games, crafts, and stories
Ages 3-18

Many volunteers are needed!

Please consider being a teacher, or helping with games, crafts, or food.

Next VBS meeting Sunday, June 3 at 11:45 am. Grab a cup of coffee after worship and join us.

Member of the Month



Gary Bergeron

Photo taken on April 22, the day Gary 'officially' joined KOK.

When did you become a member of King of Kings?

April 22, 2018

Why did you decide to become a member? OR What would you say to someone who is looking at our church?

Following a family disaster, I was advised to find and attend a church in my community. As I was driving past King of Kings I noticed a U of O banner hanging on the wall facing the street (I am a football fan). Therefore I decided to attend a Sunday church service. I was initially warmly welcomed by many of the parishioners and encouraged to continue attending church on subsequent visits. Even during more difficult, recent times I was welcomed. Furthermore after my family disaster pastor Aimee was the first pastor—of several in my community—to patiently listen to my anguish.

What activities do you participate in?

Activities include being a Greeter, helping with small tasks around the church, outside & inside cleaning, yard work days, and volunteering to help with the children's summer school (VBS) over the last two years.

What other hobbies do you enjoy? What is your work?

My interests include bicycle riding and exercise, gardening, hiking, family gatherings, the Portland Art Museum, Portland ballet, the study of: computer sciences, art history (including Biblical history), International Relations and events, Political science, and the financial market. In years past I enjoyed a great deal of travel.

I am a retired cardiologist. I attended Willamette University, and University of Oregon Medical School. A three-year Internship and Residency at Rochester Medical Center and the Cornell New York Hospital in Manhattan. A three-year cardiology fellowship at Harvard Affiliated Hospitals in Boston.

Tell a little of your family.

I have a brother, Douglas; daughter Michelle, (granddaughter, Malone); son Zachary and his step-brother Brandon.

What other things would we like to know about you?

I am a fan of U of O football, the New England Patriots, the Portland Trailblazers and the Timbers.

Council Highlights



Christian Education: VBS is in planning stage. It will be held July 17-19th, beginning at 5:30 and will include dinner. The theme is “Fruits of the Spirit”

Financial Secretary’s Report: An audit committee has been formed and consists of John Pederson and Sharon Konsa. Giving is at 101% of the budget.

Social Justice Committee: There will be more emphasis on gun violence prevention, houselessness, and immigration.

The Food Pantry served 102 families consisting 310 people last month. The Pantry received \$118.00 from Pint Night and \$1000 from Oregon Food Bank for participating in the health foods program.

Property: The committee met and discussed the new entry door and whether there should be a key pad or remote for entering. They also talked about roof leaks in the Fellowship hall and entry. Parts have been ordered for the drinking fountain. Next outdoor cleanup will be June 30th, 9:00 to 12:00, inside and outside.

Radical Hospitality: There is room for more campers at the campout June 22-25 at Milo McIver, both tents and RVs.

Council Retreat: At Zion Lutheran Church on May 6th from 12:30 to 4:30, after church.

Council Goals: Basketball hoop: The property committee is not opposed to having a hoop. An anonymous gift has been made for the hoop that needs some matching funds. It will cost approximately \$1100.00. It will be permanently installed, not a movable hoop.

Next Meeting Date: May 15, 2018



Regional Gatherings

What: The OR Synod is having FIVE Regional Gatherings around the Synod. These are Mission and Ministry events to look at local ministry, give us time to worship and pray together, and to imagine the future ahead of us.

Who: These Gatherings are open to any and all members of our congregation, 5+ people would be great! <https://www.justrsvp.me/missional-day-congregations-mt-hood-oregon-trail-plum-mt-tabor-clusters>

How: Please let the office know if you are interested in coming for planning purposes.

How Much: There will be NO registration fee for these events. A donation will be asked to cover the cost of lunch, though.

When/Where: May 5, West Linn Lutheran, West Linn, OR - 9 AM-4 PM.



King of Kings Campout June 22, 23, 24

Milo McIver State Park

The 2018 Church Campout has been reserved! There's a sign-up sheet in the social hall to RSVP. We have paid for and reserved 5 sites in the main campground for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. Each campsite has space for 8 folks and trailers, RVs and tents can share.

We have specifics on parking length if needed.

To confirm your registration for the campout, you can write a check to Jamie: \$10 per adult, per night.

Sunshine Service and Picnic will be held Sunday June 24 - stay tuned for more details.

King's Cupboard News & Updates



Year to Date:

- ◆ We served **1614** families with a total of **4725** people fed
- ◆ Average number of volunteers per month: 45
- ◆ Average volunteer hours per month: 280
- ◆ **13,573** estimated pounds of food donated

Food we could use: mayonnaise, sugar, boxes of cereal, canned chicken, jugs of juice

King's Cupboard is participating in the 2017-2018 Model Healthy Pantry and we received \$1000.00 to support our efforts to continue to provide more healthy foods for our hungry friends.

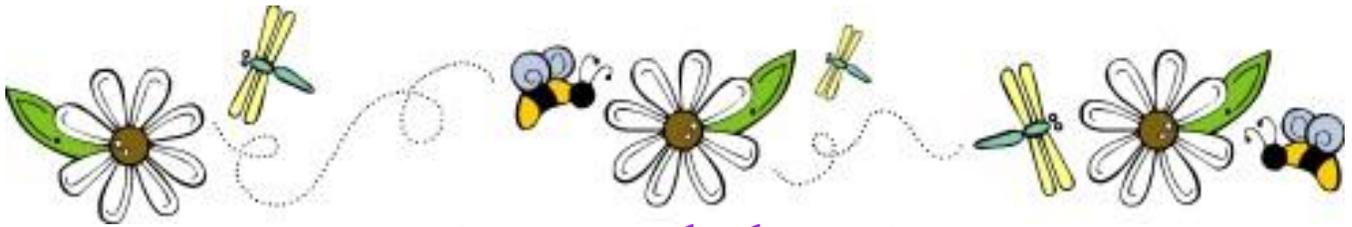
In March, we had a Charity Pint Night at Oregon City Brewing Company. We had a fun time and earned \$1.00 for every pint of beverage. We received a check for \$118.00 from OCB. **Many, many thanks to those who were able to attend.**

Fred Meyer Rewards Cards for the Pantry

Support your favorite nonprofit just by shopping at Fred Meyer with your Rewards Card. All you have to do is link your Rewards Card and scan it every time you shop at Fred Meyer. You are now able to link your Rewards Card to your favorite nonprofit by following the link below.

<https://www.fredmeyer.com/signin?redirectUrl=/account/communityrewards/enroll>

Even if you have signed up in the past you need to re-new it annually. Won't you take a moment right now to sign-up/update? Thank you!



Let's Celebrate!

God's Blessing to you as you celebrate...

May Birthdays



- 5 Bonnie Cowden
- 15 Bob Smith
- 17 Kevin Hornych
- 19 Kasen Sandness
- 23 Mike Foley
- 23 Rita Helmersen
- 31 Margaret Noble

May Baptisms



- 4 Chen En Stolin
- 4 Lynn Lin
- 7 Sharon Holford
- 8 Carolyn Potter
- 10 JoAnn Overen
- 19 Lisa Hiller
- 29 Ruth Griffith



- 7 Karen & James Corbett
- 17 Bethany & Andy Lundgren

Prayers & Thanksgivings...

Pray always for peace, solace and kindness

Margaret Noble	<i>Hip surgery on May 10; that all goes as planned & a speedy recovery</i>
Kathy Nedrow	<i>Pr. Aimee's friend; continuing long recovery from infection</i>
Anton Ray Mortensen	<i>Tony's son recovering from surgery on his leg</i>
Family and friends of Lloyd Young	<i>Linda Schiewe's father; for God to comfort all who mourn & especially be with Linda's mother.</i>
Helen Viles	<i>Harry & Sharon Konsa's friend; Thanks to God for healing from leg surgery for an infection that became gangrenous</i>
Dawn Grey	<i>Sharon Holford's niece; acute pain in her neck, shoulders & back</i>
Casey Jolly	<i>Pantry volunteer, friend of Patty Hess; MS flare up</i>
Family & friends of June Smythe	<i>Friend of Penny Charman; at her death</i>
Family & friends of Marcella Rudolph	<i>Donna Merseth's mother; at her death</i>
Family & friends of Beverly Lambert	<i>Former member; at her death</i>
Family & friends of Dean Sloan	<i>Tony Mortensen's son; at his death</i>
Bill Black	<i>Selma Eckert's son-in-law; treatment for severe anemia</i>
Carol Shelly	<i>LaVern Mortensen's BFF; undergoing chemo</i>
Travis Cavens	<i>Penny Charman's brother; continuing health issues</i>
Sue Trotter	<i>Continuing great recovery from knee replacement</i>
Betsy Quinn	<i>Acute anemia; slowly improving</i>
Mike Brooks	<i>Treatment for mesothelioma</i>
Jenni Carder	<i>Continuing struggle with addiction</i>
Margaret Wittrich	<i>Hospice care</i>
John Konsa	<i>Continuing treatment for leukemia</i>
Dick	<i>Sandy Peterson's brother in law; for continual healing</i>
JR Potter	<i>Life threatening autoimmune disorder</i>



*Prayers will be left on our prayer list for two weeks unless otherwise requested.
Please notify Pastor Aimee if prayers are needed for a longer period.*