



King of Kings Lutheran Church

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

Koklutheran.org | 5501 SE Thiessen Road, Milwaukie, OR 97267 | 503-659-0990

May 2019

Pastor's Message



He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluias and celebrations are the heart of our worship in this Easter season. Jesus comes through locked doors to bless us, breath on us and give us his peace. (read John, chapter 20)

We have had the season of Lent to get acquainted, you and I. Now in this Easter season I am hoping to visit many of you – in your homes, or at a local coffee shop, in a park or on a walking trail. Monday is the day of the week that I am setting aside for this. If you don't hear from me soon enough, feel free to contact me and we will find a mutually convenient time.

We also begin a new stage of this Intentional Interim process. The time has come to consider creating a Transition Team. This will be a specific team that will have no other agenda than to help the Interim Pastor and the congregation to use our transition time well. The Transition Team will be made up of 5 to 9 people who will be raised up by the congregation. The Congregation Council will decide the final number of members for the Transition Team of King of Kings.

You are an important part of the process of organizing the Transition Team. You are now encouraged to pray about the creation of this Team, and to pray about the person you might like to recommend for the Team.

The Transition Team needs to consist of a good cross section representing the congregation. For the first few months of their work, they will meet a couple of times each month. Here are some criteria for you to consider as you pray about this. The Transition Team needs to include:

- People of trustworthiness and integrity;
- Those who are regular in worship attendance;
- Those who are faithful in their financial support of the congregation;
- Those who are willing and able to invest their time in the process;
- Those with a sense of creativity and an openness to change;
- Those who are willing and able to listen to all perspectives without becoming defensive or anxious.

There will be a Sunday in June – to be announced well in advance – when each of you will be invited to submit a name to be considered for the Transition Team. Those names will be prayed over by the Mutual Ministry committee and the Pastor. Those nominated will be contacted by the Pastor, seeking their agreement to serve. When a group has been selected, their names will be submitted to the Congregation Council, and with their approval, announced to the congregation.

You are invited to spend some time in prayer and discernment, watching, listening for the movement of the Holy Spirit as we enter this exciting process together.

Pastor Hughes



New Email Addresses

We have new email addresses for the church!

For the church office: Office.KOKLutheran@gmail.com.

For the pastor: Pastor.KOKLutheran@gmail.com

Do you have any contact changes? We are in the process of publishing our annual church directory so be sure to let Susan know.



Sunday Servers

Please check out the sign-up sheets on wall of the Social Hall ((just inside the doorway). Margaret and Gary Noble have taken over the task of scheduling the helpers needed for worship. They invite you to choose your dates so that they won't have to! All empty spots will be assigned according to the preferences you indicated on the annual Time and Talent brochure. Please don't be shy and be sure to ask questions if you would like to learn a new activity.



Save the Date!!!

KOK has reserved 5 campsites at Milo McIver State Park for the nights of **Friday, Saturday & Sunday, June 21-24**. Cost is \$30/per night for a trailer/RV/Camper, and \$10/per night for each tent camping car. Campsites have a maximum of 8 individuals per site and trailers and tent campers will be paired up to share sites.

We can have 40 folks camping this year - please reserve your space as soon as you are able.



King of Kings Sunshine Service and Campout!

Milo McIver State Park Willow Picnic Area

Sunday June 24 at 11 am

Celebrate with outdoor worship, fellowship and good cheer for both the young, and young at heart. Please bring a dish to share. Hotdogs, burgers, buns and condiments provided. Reserved picnic area is ADA accessible, paved and near restrooms. Proceed to picnic area to receive Day Use Parking Pass. Look in the social hall for the clipboard to sign-up to carpool.



thank you to Bob Seymour!

For coming to the church on a moment's notice to take care of whatever is the current "crucial" building maintenance issue. For meeting tradesmen and repairmen and directing their efforts. For taking the minutes at the Property Team meetings. For ushering and greeting on Sunday mornings. For always being willing to help, thanks for all you do, Bob!



Stewardship Action Core (SAC)

The Stewardship Action Core has selected "Learning Joyful Generosity" as our theme for 2019. You will be seeing and hearing more about this throughout the year. Commitment Sunday will be October 27, 2019.



Stewardship Reflection from Sylvia Hornych

“Giving to God,” by Mark Allan Powell

Stewardship is not just a way of life; it is a good way of life. In fact, for many, it is a way to a better life. Think of it this way: Stewardship means belonging to God. It means allowing God to rule our lives, putting God in charge of everything, including our time and our money. I can understand why that might sound threatening—surrendering control does not come easily to any of us. But God is good at ruling people’s lives. If we really do belong to God and if we really do put God in charge of everything, we will not be the worse for it.

Of course, how this plays out in practice may be difficult to determine. Faithful stewardship can be a struggle and I don’t want to give an unrealistic, rosy picture that suggests otherwise. Still, we must begin with this basic vision: our goal is to find the life that God wants us to have, in confidence that this will be the best life we could possibly have. Most of us know that the Bible contains a lot of commandments, a lot of dos and don’ts regarding how God wants to live. We also may know that quite a few of these pertain to how we use our money and, even without seeing a list of those commandments, we may suspect that we are not doing an adequate job of keeping them.

Indeed, we may remember that Jesus told some people to sell all of their possessions and give the money to the poor and we may have heard stories of special saints who did just that. We may figure that God’s expectations for what we should do with our money are so high that we will never be able to measure up. We are tempted to conclude that the best thing to do is avoid paying too much attention to this topic and just accept our imperfection with varying degrees of denial and discomfort.

What we might not realize is that the Bible also contains a great many promises designed to inspire our confidence rather than arouse our guilt. As is often the case, the teaching of the Bible includes both law and gospel: the law tells us what we are supposed to do for God while the gospel reveals what God does for us. We ought not to ignore the “stewardship laws” of the Bible, but we should be even more concerned with learning the stewardship gospel, with understanding the broad concept of what it means to belong to God. And what does that mean? It means we are in a relationship with a God who loves us, guides us, guards us, and blesses us.



Spirits & Theology

Each month the group reads a chapter of *Faith in Action: A Handbook for Activists, Advocates and Allies*. Each reading is 2-3 pages which can be accomplished quickly before the discussion begins, if you don't have your own copy of the book. There has been lots of good information and discussion. Bonnie Warren will lead the discussion on "Suicide" at our May gathering.

Time: Tuesday, May 14 @ 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

We are still reading 11 Chronicles; I got a little ahead of our reading plan in last month's newsletter. By the middle of the month we should get to go to the New Testament and Galatians!

Galatians is a battle cry for freedom, written by Paul. Paul is angry, you can almost see his face, flushed red, with lines of tension working in his jaw. Yet, when you read a few chapters, you may wonder why the apostle is so upset. After this brief foray, we continue in the Old Testament with Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther and Job.

Want to find out more? Read along with us at home or better yet, come join us Wednesdays at 9:45am.

Happy Anniversary to North Clackamas Arts Guild: Art Therapy classes

We welcomed Artist/teacher Billy Beaulieu one year ago to lead art therapy classes on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. She has been a delight to work with, very respectful of our space and very accommodating to our need to sometimes use the space at the same time. 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.



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.



King's Cupboard News & Updates



We can always use the following items:

- Canned meats (chicken, tuna, corned beef, etc.)
- Peanut Butter
- Jam/Jelly
- Boxed pasta, rice or potato side dishes
- Canned fruits & vegetables

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!

Committee of the Month



Safe Overnight Shelter Team

*Back row left-to-right: Jon Sherman, Caring Contact Peer and Makaila Smith, our Providence Outreach Specialist, Ellen Burns, Sylvia Hornyach, Gene Zaharie, Mary Zellharie
Front row: Kerin Lommen, Jeanie DuPere, Patty Hess, Sharon Konsa*

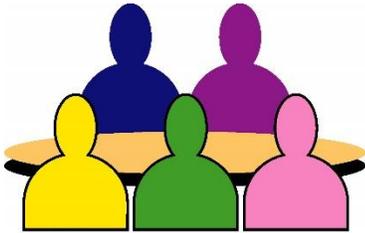
(Not pictured: Pastor Jesse, Mary Cromer, Mike Foley, Tom Hiller, Winston Kurth, Margaret Noble, Don Trotter)

Many of these same people are also on our Social Justice Committee. Since last fall we have been working to see if KOK was committed to having a Safe Overnight Shelter on our property. As you should know, we are committed and in fact have submitted an application to Clackamas County. The County accepted our application. We sent postcards about this project to neighbors living within 300 ft. of our property. Ellen, Gene and Mary have talked to 18 neighbors about this project — as has Susan Carder. At our recent meeting, Makaila Smith, our Providence Outreach Specialist agreed to provide us with Mediator Training. We will have a team of people — Patty, Ellen and Gene have volunteered — *but we need several additional people* — to serve as mediators should problems arise with our guests and or guests and neighbors. These mediators will be on call for a week at a time, will have a flip phone that guests and/or neighbors would call if assistance is needed. Please talk with Mary or Gene or Ellen or Patty — if you are interested in helping us in this way. We won't be able to start until we have additional mediators. We will also be meeting with someone from the Sheriff's Dept. prior to the arrival of our first guest. BUT that won't be for a while— the county sent a letter to the neighbors about this project (as we did first). They will have 20 days to respond. Planning and Zoning will decide if the project can go ahead. If Planning and Zoning approves the application, and the neighbors don't like the decision, they can file an appeal and a hearing from a land use judge. Then that person decides.

This group of people (and the others) is a very dedicated group of KOK members. They are working diligently to make this project happen.

Council Highlights

April 9, 2019



Those Present: Kathy Pearsall, Mike Foley, Tom Rutger, Mike Brooks, Sharon Konsa, Pastor Hughes

Recording Secretary: Lynda McDowell

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm. Bonnie read a devotion from the magazine Inspire. The chapter was titled "The Wall and

Borders: Setting the Captives free," the article was "I Wonder".

The relational question for the evening was, "What is a good or bad memory you have of Sunday School or confirmation? There was sharing of both happy and some not so happy memories.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pastor's Report: Report attached. Pastor Hughes emphasized that there are new email addresses for the office and Pastor. There are as follows: Pastor.KOKLutheran@gmail.com and Office.KOKLutheran@gmail.com.

Financial Secretary: See report. Loren attended the meeting in order to explain that the report indicates that the giving is currently at over 94%, but that is misleading. A couple of the giving units have given their gifts for the remainder of 2019.

Treasurer's Report: Not available.

Social Justice: See Report. The SOS application has been completed, signed by Mike Brooks and submitted to Clackamas County by Gene and Mary Z.

Property: See Report. It was mentioned that there is no longer a hole in the floor of the Fellowship Hall. The proposed bid from Milwaukie Heating and Cooling was reviewed. There was extensive discussion of the proposed order of the repairs to the roof. Pastor Hughes sent a message to Michael, the contractor with the concerns expressed. Mike Brooks with follow up.

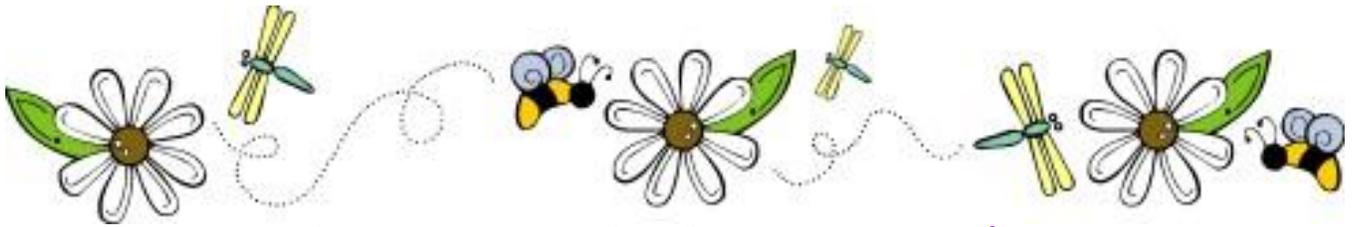
Christian Education: VBS was discussed and it was suggested that it be undertaken with Oak Hills Presbyterian Church. Mike will visit the Church and report back to the Council with details.

COUNCIL REFLECTIONS: What went well? What brought joy? What bogged down?

1. Discussions sometimes get off topic. 2. Making progress on action items.

Next Meeting: May 21st, 2019 at 6:45.

Council Person of the Month May: Mike Brooks



Let's Celebrate!

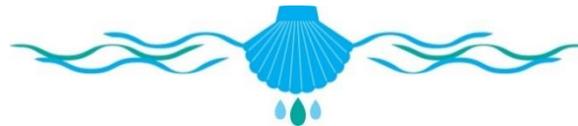
God's Blessing to you as you celebrate...

May Birthdays



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

May Baptisms



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



7 Karen & James Corbett

Prayers & Thanksgivings...

Katie	<i>Young mom with inoperable brain cancer; friend of the Hiller's</i>
Lea Bergman	<i>Upcoming surgery for pancreatic cancer; friend of Kerin Lommen</i>
Bonnie Warren	<i>Relief from chronic back pain</i>
Scott Noble	<i>Multiple fractures in ankle; recovering from surgery</i>
Micki Cline	<i>Cancer treatment</i>
JoAnn Mecklem	<i>Recovering at home from additional surgery</i>
Kiernan Hartwell	<i>Bonnie Cowden's niece; continuing severe colitis</i>
Ed Brock	<i>Slow healing from concussion due to motorcycle accident</i>
Charlie Pearsall	<i>MS</i>
Carolyn Potter	<i>Multiple health concerns including home-dialysis treatment</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 Hughes if prayers are needed for a longer period.*