



November 2018

# King of Kings Lutheran Church

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

[Koklutheran.org](http://Koklutheran.org) | 5501 SE Thiessen Road, Milwaukie, OR 97267 | 503.659.0990



## Pastor's Message

*"But you must return to your God, maintain love and justice, and wait for your God always."* Hosea 12:6

### Greetings Saints of King of Kings!

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's (ELCA's) Social Statement on The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries was adopted in 2013 by a more than 2/3 vote. Here is the full text of the statement:

[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Criminal\\_JusticeSS.pdf?\\_ga=2.69018136.860328576.1540493492-1327333110.1516923940](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Criminal_JusticeSS.pdf?_ga=2.69018136.860328576.1540493492-1327333110.1516923940)

The Social Statement affirms some important principals of the U.S. Criminal Justice system like due process and presumed innocence, however points out the need for urgent and dramatic reforms in public mindset, policies, and practices. Because of serious deficiencies including a punitive mindset, budgets, and race and class inequalities. In all areas of life, our worldly justice falls far short of God's vision of justice and peace, as revealed in Scripture, and the criminal justice system is no different. As Christians we confess that we have often not responded to injustice as we should.

The ELCA feels compelled to speak and act because of those who are suffering and crying out in despair, including victims, the imprisoned, families of people incarcerated, those wrongly convicted, communities, and those employed by prisons.

The ELCA is called to minister to victims and their families, the incarcerated and their families, affected communities, those employed in the system, and many others by hearing the stories, hospitality, accompaniment, and advocacy. Many professionals employed by the criminal justice system do their work with compassion and competence.

The ELCA is in favor of positive reforms such as emphasis on victims' rights, restorative justice, alternatives to incarceration, reduced sentences for certain offenses, specialized courts, and supports for reentry.

The ELCA recommends the following reforms: Closely scrutinizing national drug policy, reform sentencing laws, addressing racism in the system, recognizing the special circumstances of juveniles, stopping the privatization of prisons, and supporting reintegration of ex-offenders into the community.

Each person in the criminal justice system is a beloved child of God and worthy of compassion, while still needing to be held accountable.

We remember the scripture *"For what does the LORD require of you, but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God."* Micah 6:8

*Pastor Aimee*



# Upcoming Worship Schedule

- **November 4** All Saints Sunday—we will remember those who have died
- **November 11** Blended Worship
- **November 18** Blended Worship
- **November 20** Community Thanksgiving Worship  
7 pm at KOK
- **November 25** Christ the King Sunday, Traditional Worship
- **December 2** First Sunday in Advent



## Bible Study Readings

In our continuing quest to read every word of the Bible we expect to cover the following:

† November 7 Finish I Corinthians, then the Introduction to I (& II) Kings.

The first half of I Kings describes a man who had it all! The son of King David and Bathsheba, Solomon received from God the special gift of wisdom. He astounded others with his talent for songwriting and natural history. I Kings tells of Israel's golden age when King Solomon brought peace and prosperity to the nation. But, what went wrong??? Read along with us to find out, either at home or here at KOK on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 am.

† November 14 I Kings 4-8

*We will not meet on Wednesday of Thanksgiving week*

† November 28 I Kings 9-13



Indoor/outdoor clean-up will be November 17th from 9-12.



# Stewardship Action Core (SAC)

The **Stewardship Action Core (SAC)** is a committee of church members who are called to educate ourselves in the careful and responsible management of all things entrusted to our care and to share that vision with the congregation.

## Gratitude

Thank you to all who have returned their Spiritual Gifts and Estimates of Giving (EoG) cards. For those who have not yet completed one we would really appreciate your participation! Extra cards are available in the office. Together, we can increase our ministry in our community and in the world through joyful giving.

Thank you Thank you



## To SAC

**(The Stewardship Action Core):**

**Barry & Ellen Burns, Penny Charman, Kevin & Sylvia Hornyk, Kathy Pearsall, Greg & Sandy Peterson, and Bob & Marlene Seymour for planning and organizing the Commitment Sunday Program.**

Thank you Thank you



## Thanksgiving Fellowship

### Community Thanksgiving Service

**Tuesday, November 20 at 7 pm**

**at King of Kings**

Come join us, Milwaukie Lutheran, St. Paul UMC, and Clackamas UCC in giving thanks to God at this special worship service. There is always such good music, friends to visit with, and delicious desserts to eat.

In this service, we are reminded of God's generosity and that we have partners in ministry in Milwaukie that are doing God's work just like we are!

*Pie Social to follow. Bring a dessert to share!*





# Committee of the Month

## Worship Team



Kerin Lommen Mike Brooks, Jeanie DuPere, Karen Corbett, Lonnie Cline and Mike Foley.  
(not pictured: Pastor Aimee)

The Team is a collaboration between the pastor, choir director, organist and interested members of the congregation. They work to bring to you worship that includes many ways of experiencing the presence of God. The visual, musical and oral arts are blended to enhance our worship. The hymns, the liturgy and choir anthems are chosen to support the message. The sanctuary is filled with color, flowers, and candles to bring visual inspiration. Input from the congregation is always welcome. You can share your ideas by talking to a member of the team or by attending one of the meetings. The meetings are always posted in the calendar.

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## Spirits & Theology

**Time: Tuesday, November 14 @ 6 pm**

**Place: Flying Pie Pizza, 16691 SE McLoughlin Blvd.**

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. The topic this month is The Path to Citizenship; Gary Noble will lead the discussion.

Fellowship abounds and ideas about spiritual matters are exchanged in an informal and public setting. Come when you can. Bring friends. All are welcome.





# Church Council Highlights

King of Kings Council Meeting

October 16, 2018

Those in attendance: Pres. Mike Foley, Kathy Pearsall, Jamie Sandness, Sharon Konsa, John Pederson, and Pr. Aimee Bruno. Kathy led Devotions. During the Relational Meeting, Council reflected on our hopes and concerns relating to proposed parking lot homes to help address our community's housing shortage. Minutes from the last Council meeting on September 18 were read and approved.

Committee reports were given:

- † Adult Forum is on-going on Sunday morning before service, Halloween Party is upcoming on October 27, and kids will also be going to a corn maize on October 21.
- † The 'petty cash policy' was still being addressed. Council also discussed/voted on two items of New Business, unanimously approving a new pay rate for our Church Secretary, as well renewal of our Gold+ health insurance plan.
- † Social Justice -see written report.
- † Movie Night was cancelled, but Jaimie reports that campsites have already been booked for next summer's church campout at McIver Park.
- † SAC-see written report.
- † Worship Committee reports that KOK will host this year's multi-church Thanksgiving service on Tuesday, November 20 at 7pm. There will also be a special commemoration for Phyllis Borge during service on the last Sunday in October.
- † Pastor's Report- There will be a Cluster meeting this coming February 2 to learn what to do about Vitality Survey results.
- † Old Business-Reminder: we need committee pictures. Nothing new on potential use for KOK downstairs space, but Art Guild has been meeting there when upstairs space is in use. Council goals were each reviewed with progress noted. Some discussion of resource people for developing a new website.



## Angel Tree



This will be the fourth year that King of King members participate in the Angel Tree Program. This program provides meaningful gifts to children who have a parent in jail or prison. The contact with Angel Tree is initiated by the incarcerated person who wants to stay connected with their children during the Christmas Season.

We have 10 children on our list for 2018. The Angel Tree Program Sponsor buys a gift in the \$25 range, contacts the care-giver/parent caring for the child, and delivers the gift around Dec 25. Presently, King of King Sponsors participating will find in their mailboxes at the church on Nov 5th, the information necessary to move forward.

If you have questions please contact:

Gene Zaharie at [zaharie@comcast.net](mailto:zaharie@comcast.net)





## It's (almost) time to make the Graham Cracker Houses!

**December 1, 10:00 am**

Adults and Teens are invited to come and learn how to put the houses together. Come for the fun and help prepare for the **Super Saturday on December 9.**



Tools to bring: Pastry bag and a broad tip, such as a star tip, cookie sheets or trays

## Decoration of the Graham Cracker Houses

**December 8, 1-3 pm,**

Kids of all ages are invited to come and decorate their own special house for Christmas. All supplies will be provided. All are welcome! *P.S. – Even adults have been known to decorate a house or two!*



Join Us at  
Advent Worship



## Advent begins December 2

Come join us for our mid-week Advent Holden Vespers Services. Soup & Bread @ 6:00pm, Worship @ 7:00 pm. We have three churches this year to share soup and worship.

- December 5** King of Kings
- December 12** Milwaukie Lutheran, 3810 SE Lake Rd., Milwaukie
- December 19** St. Stephen Lutheran, 290 W Gloucester, Gladstone

## Clackamas County Warming Center Volunteers Needed

The faith community and Clackamas County collaborating together to both love and serve our neighbors marginalized by houselessness and under-sheltered circumstances amidst extreme weather... Please join us as together we can make a difference!

Clackamas County has a number of churches and service centers that are open when the weather is 32 degrees including wind chill. There is enough room in these places to provide warm sleeping space for anyone who wants to come. But volunteers are needed. There are many things you can do without spending the night, but everyone needs some training.

The first training will be on November 15th at 7:00 pm at Hillside Christian Fellowship, 6460 Glen Echo Ave, Gladstone, OR 97027. The second training will be on November 27th at the Providence Educational Building 519 15th St., Oregon City, OR 97045 (time TBA)

This is a great opportunity to help our houseless neighbors. If you have questions see — Pastor Aimee, Mary & Gene Z, Ellen Burns.

Here is a link about being a volunteer: <https://youtu.be/eiEsuJvjvVI>



## Let's Celebrate!

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

## November Birthdays



- 1 Bobbe Backman
- 1 Diane Verdoorn
- 9 Ruth Hesselstine
- 9 Ron Peterson
- 19 Dan Peterson
- 19 Martin Schmidt
- 21 Don Trotter

## November Baptisms

- 1 Adonica DeVault
- 19 Mary Zellharie
- 23 Susan Brooks
- 30 Charlie Pearsall
- 30 Jamie Sandness
- 30 Kasen Sandness
- 30 Kamryn Sandness



If we miss YOUR special day, PLEASE let the church office know, we may not have the information. THANKS!



## Prayers & Thanksgivings. . .

Family and Friends of Nadine Pence *Kerin Lommen's aunt*

Chris Noble *Gary and Margaret's daughter-in-law; recovering at home from complications of surgery*

Steve Estes *Acute COPD exacerbation, recovering from septicemia*

Mike Brooks *Recovering from lung surgery*

Kiernan Hartwell *Grandniece of Bonnie Cowden; ulcerative colitis*

David Schmitz *Larry & Donna's son; bone marrow transplant @ OHSU*

Amanda *Tom & Lisa Hiller's niece; young mom with cancer*

Charlie Pearsall *MS*

Carolyn Potter *Multiple health concerns including dialysis treatment*

JR Potter *Life threatening autoimmune disorder*

*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.*

