



*BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO OUR NEIGHBOR!*



KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH AND OPEN ARMS LUTHERAN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Volume 25 Issue 1

The King's Herald

January 2012

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

**The party's over, and the bills have come due. "But there is hope for your future," says the Lord.**

With the possible exception of April 15, January 2 is probably one of the more dreaded days of the oh-so-new year. From the fourth Thursday in November through the first day of January, most of us watch our wallet shrink and waist-line swell as we frantically go from present-buying panic mode to party mode to post-holiday mode. And what do we end up with? January 2.

The month of January takes its name from the Roman god Janus -- a two-faced being, with each visage facing the opposite direction. Janus/January is a hinge time -- a vantage point from which we can still see back into the past year and yet can also face forward and look eagerly at the year ahead.

January 2 isn't just a day to sigh over "how far" we've got to go to lose that weight or pay those bills or see the spring flowers again. January 2 is also a vantage point from which we can plot the course of the New Year. Janus does look backward to the past, but he also looks forward to the future. January 2 must become the start of the hope month, not just the end of the party.

Part of the problem with this year's January 2 is that we still carry last year's baggage into the new year without any definite plan of where to and how to leave it behind. If this January 2 finds you still searching, relax, Our Lord has great news for the New Year! The Savior is born and His Spirit provides the answer! St. Paul helps us look both, backwards at the joys and sorrows of 2011, and forward to God's plan in 2012. "We who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory" (Ephesians 1:12, RSV).

It is January 2, but the coming year promises more than just dieting and dues-paying. Use this January 2 to reflectively and repentantly leave our sins and failures behind and begin creating a future built on our hope in Christ. It is the first day of living a faith that looks backward to the evidences of God's great gift to us in Jesus Christ and forward to the day when God's plan "to gather up all things in Him" will become a reality. Each of us have been given another New Year. May each of us use it wisely, to the glory of God.

This is why I urge everyone to pick up the Portals of Prayer devotions handed out at church with extra copies located on the usher's table. Start reading or rereading God's Word outlined in our Bible reading guide printed each month in the Herald. Fifteen minutes a day can not only start off your day with God's guidance, but can walk you through the entire Bible in one year! Also, join your brothers and sisters for discussion and dialog of God's plan for King of Kings and each of us each during weekend worship and Bible study groups! The only way to connect others to Jesus is first being connected ourselves!

Reflecting on the past year Rachel, Laura, Rebecca, and I thank God and you for all the gifts, words, and kind actions shared among us. Looking to the future we pray for God's protection and providence as we continue "Bringing the light of Christ to our neighbor."

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dan

2 Peter 3:18



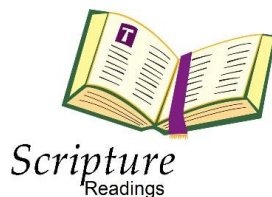
*Open the storehouse of your praise today.  
Let your heart rejoice and be glad!*

## Read Through the Bible in a Year Calendar

### Scripture reading suggestions:

- 1) It's important to find yourself a regular time and quiet place to read the Bible; reading Scripture regularly and habitually gradually deepen your relationship with God. Remember, keep it simple. This is only a guide, not a rule. Use this to help hear and study God's Word.
- 2) Begin by praying. One very simple and good prayer to use is Psalm 119.18– "Open my eyes, so that I may see the wonderful truths in your word."
- 3) Take some time to be quiet with God, to think about what you read yesterday, and to think again about what you learned from that reading.
- 4) Read the passage for the day. Think what the passage tells you. Some questions worth asking yourself are: 1. Does this passage tell a story? Or is it a prayer or a poem, or perhaps part of a letter? 2. What is it mainly about? 3. Does it tell me something about what God is like? 4. Does it tell me something about how to live in response to God's love and plan for me?
- 5) Try to summarize what you have learned from the passage.
- 6) Is there something here that I don't understand, that I need to think about a lot more, or talk to someone else about, or perhaps even look for more information?
- 7) Take some more time to be quiet with God—don't just ask these questions once over, but think about them for a while. Think again about yesterday's reading—how do the things you learned yesterday fit with what you learned today?
- 8) Keeping a notebook of what you learn can be very helpful.

See below for the first three months of the year's readings.



### JANUARY

1/Genesis 1-3  
2/Genesis 4-6  
3/Genesis 7-9  
4/Genesis 10-12  
5/Job 1-4  
6/Job 5-7  
7/Job 8-10  
8/Job 11-14  
9/Job 15-17  
10/Psalms 1-4  
11/Job 18-20  
12/Job 21-24  
13/Job 25-27  
14/Job 28-30  
15/Job 31-33  
16/Job 34-36  
17/Job 37-39  
18/Job 40-42  
19/Psalms 5-8  
20/Genesis 13-15  
21/Genesis 16-18  
22/Genesis 19-21  
23/Genesis 22-24  
24/Genesis 25-27  
25/Genesis 28-30  
26/Genesis 31-33  
27/Genesis 34-36  
28/Genesis 37-39  
29/Psalms 9-12  
30/Genesis 40-42  
31/Genesis 43-45

### FEBRUARY

1/Genesis 46-48  
2/Genesis 49-50  
3/Exodus 1-4  
4/Exodus 5-7  
5/Exodus 8-10  
6/Psalms 13-16  
7/Exodus 11-13  
8/Exodus 14-16  
9/Exodus 17-19  
10/Exodus 20-22  
11/Exodus 23-25  
12/Exodus 26-28  
13/Exodus 29-31  
14/Psalms 17-20  
15/Exodus 32-34  
16/Exodus 35-37  
17/Exodus 38-40  
18/Leviticus 1-3  
19/Leviticus 4-6  
20/Leviticus 7-9  
21/Leviticus 10-12  
22/Leviticus 13-15  
23/Psalms 21-24  
24/Leviticus 16-18  
25/Leviticus 19-21  
26/Leviticus 22-24  
27/Leviticus 25-27  
28/Numbers 1-3  
29/Day to Review

### MARCH

1/Numbers 4-6  
2/Numbers 7-9  
3/Numbers 10-12  
4/Psalms 25-28  
5/Numbers 13-15  
6/Numbers 16-18  
7/Numbers 19-21  
8/Numbers 22-24  
9/Numbers 25-27  
10/Numbers 28-30  
11/Numbers 31-33  
12/Numbers 34-36  
13/Psalms 29-32  
14/Deuteronomy 1-3  
15/Deuteronomy 4-6  
16/Deuteronomy 7-9  
17/Deuteronomy 10-12  
18/Deuteronomy 13-15  
19/Deuteronomy 16-18  
20/Deuteronomy 19-21  
21/Deuteronomy 22-24  
22/Psalms 33-36  
23/Deuteronomy 25-27  
24/Deuteronomy 28-30  
25/Deuteronomy 31-34  
26/Joshua 1-3  
27/Joshua 4-6  
28/Joshua 7-9  
29/Joshua 10-12  
30/Joshua 13-15  
31/Psalms 37-40



January 2012

Happy New Year! It doesn't feel like it's been a year since I became President of the Congregation. 2011 has gone by so fast and I know it's been an exciting year with our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration this year. We ended the year wonderfully with our last Sunday service having the children perform the Sunday School Christmas play. They did wonderful and so did each of the musicians that played: Dylan on violin, Lauryn on piano, Samantha on organ, Tamiaka on harp, our Family Ringers, King's Ringers and King's Singers. It was a wonderful and busy service and everything came out beautifully. I hope that everyone was able to be there and see the message from the children's play – That everyone is a present!

Everyone is a present to each other! The things you say, do, how you act toward another can be a wonderful present to others. Just saying a kind word to someone can be uplifting and make their day. Many say God's angels are among us and come in many forms. Someone someday might say something to you that can totally change how you're feeling and make you smile. Things you do can make a difference to someone else. If you're able to help someone without being asked and just doing it from the kindness of your heart can be a blessing for another person. It can seem like a small thing you're doing but it can cause a large impact for the person receiving the blessing. I've heard of taking care of another family's utilities as they were struggling which is a big thing because it was a blessing needed for one family. Another thing you can do is hold the door for someone as they enter into church or anywhere else. Something small and helpful can be a big thing.

Each of you have skills and talents given by God, and if you're willing to give a little time to help the church or one of your church family members then what a gift you have shared. You can also share your talents and skills to those outside of the church as well. They may not be used to having someone help them like that and they may ask why you did what you did. You are able to share the Light of Christ and explain why you did it. Most people do things because they want to and don't look for rewards. Many people won't ask for your help, so if you see a need and can be of help then help them. If you're one of those that are determined to do it yourself then that is a good trait as you aren't lazy and wait for someone else to do it, but sometimes getting help when you don't ask for it can be a blessing as someone else cared enough to help. Just remember to say "Thank you!" and allow that person the ability to give you that blessing.

I thank each and every one of you for allowing me to be the President of the Congregation for the past year and I plan to continue to serve the church in other capacities. I hope that each of you finds ways to give of your time and talents as the church continues to grow with everyone help.

God's Blessings to each and every one of you for the upcoming year!  
Dale Melancon, 2011 Congregation President

Are you ready?

I thank God for the time given me this past year. A year to mentally prepare to be the President of this congregation. Attending meetings, learning procedures, and getting to know our congregation family better.

I cannot keep from thinking of the similarities between this situation and what our Lord's second coming is going to be like. We read that the actual coming will be very quick. Yet he tells us also to be ready and watch.

Being ready means to keep growing our faith. God gives us time to be ready. Let's use it to further our understanding of God and to witness along the way.

I pray that I have what it takes to do the task God has led me to. I know I have all of your support and our Fathers guidance to get me through.

Again, I ask all of you to continue to grow your Faith while supporting each other so we can be ready for not only Christ's return, but for any of the good or bad things that come up before that time.

Have a Blessed New Year,  
Your Brother in Christ,  
Richard Ahrens, 2012 Congregation President



## LWML will meet on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM at the church.

God's Blessings!

We had a great turnout for the Advent by Candlelight at Redeemer on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Seventeen women enjoyed music by Tamiaka Melancon and a men's barbershop choir. We also had great food and the reading of the Christmas story. Thanks to Tana Melancon, Nancy McKay, Susan Beard and Connie Walling for decorating our tables.

Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> was our Christmas party. It was great fun and we all want to thank Carol Borgstahl for opening her house to us.

January will start the new year with election of officers. If you are interested in holding one of our positions, please notify Pam Popp.

Plans for this winter are quilting on Tuesday's and a Bingo party in February. We will also be making early plans for the Mother/Daughter tea.

If you would like to join LWML, please join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month at 1:30 pm. We always need new ideas and helpers for our church.

At this time I would like to thank everyone for a great year. We are blessed to have such a small group with such unlimited ideas and dedication. You are the best!

Pam Popp, LWML President



## LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE (LLL) KING'S MEN

The King's Men will meet for their regular monthly meeting **Saturday, January 14th at 7 AM** for Breakfast and Bible Study. All men of the church are encouraged to come and enjoy the good food, fellowship and God's Word.



...welcome him  
as you would  
welcome me.

*Tips on How to Be a More Friendly Church.*

***"Visitors to Your Church Deserve Your Friendliest Welcome."***

Your visitor has changed his Sunday schedule to be a part of your church. He probably has gotten up earlier and dressed better. He certainly has changed his Sunday routine. He has braved your parking lot, overcome the fear of who he will meet at your door, and faced the uncertainty of knowing where to go into your building. He has faced the uncertainty of understanding your style of worship and your style of singing. He has made a bigger effort and has taken greater risks to be in your church than you have. To him it is a monumental Sunday. He deserves to receive your most positive greeting and your friendliest welcome.

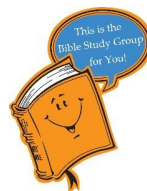
Ideas taken from "How to Be a Master Greeter"  
by Rich Liedtke



We will continue to collect and recycle old cell phones and batteries to benefit:

**SAFEHOME**

A support group for survivors of domestic violence



Was one of your New Year's resolutions to read and hear the Lord's Word more often? Then join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at Austin's for "Bible on Tap". This Bible Study group has grown over the past months and is a relaxing but energetic and pleasant way to review and discuss God's plan for us. We meet at 6:00 PM, but if you want to take advantage of the 1/2 price appetizers come at 5:30 PM. We would love to see you!



As the year has been brought to a close, a lot of exciting things are happening at Open Arms! On December 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> we hosted our Christmas musical, "Counting Down to Christmas". It was a real treat to have our musical hosted at King of Kings Church...but most importantly, the message of Christ was delivered in such a special way!

Also during the month of Christmas, our Pre-K students visited a few of our parents at their place of work and sang Christmas carols. It was a special treat to listen to the children sing. Just their presence meant so much to our parents.

The school is also ramping up for the new year. We will kick start the year off with a new software program that will help us improve our efficiency in our daily operations of the school. A new check-in device was also installed that will help us manage who is coming in/out of the building each day. Finally, room 206 was completely updated with all new equipment and furniture. Truly, we ran into the new year with our sneakers on!!!

January brings with it several things to do as well. It's hard to believe it, but it is during January that we begin to plan for the fall. This is such an exciting time, as we consider how to make Open Arms the child-care program of choice for our area. Also during January, we begin to audit our program and prepare the building for our annual licensing visit.

Are you interested in volunteering at Open Arms? The children just love visitors. Just call the school at 913.856.4250 to see how you can get involved!

Shelta J. Collins, Director



## King of Kings Adult Co-Ed Volleyball League.

This recreational volleyball league will run from Jan 8-- March 4, 2012 (no games Super Bowl Sunday, Feb 5th). Games will be played on Sunday evenings. It is anticipated that games will start at 5pm. If you are unable to play on a team, but can be a sub on some Sundays, please come and fill in where needed.

There will be no child care available this year. All children will need to stay in the gym with their parents.

Youth, age 16 and above, are welcome to participate on their parent's team.

There will be one KOK youth group team for youth confirmation age - high school. With the exception of the Confirmation Class team, players under age 15 can not participate.

For additional information, please feel free to contact either Richard Ahrens 913-708-4936 or Mark Trivilino 913-209-9324.

## OUR SUPPORT OF THE LORD'S WORK

### KING OF KINGS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Baptized	478	441
Confirmed	341	319
Family Units	188	175
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>		
November (Avg.)	175.5	174
<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$17,948.30	\$215,287.79
Budget	\$18,562.50	\$185,625.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$17,095.92	\$210,339.80
Budget	\$18,634.09	\$186,340.90
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	\$852.38	\$4,947.99
Budget	(\$71.59)	(\$715.90)

### OPEN ARMS

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$70,140.83	\$773,803.01
Budget	\$60,781.00	\$668,591.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$76,825.81	\$722,863.79
Budget	\$59,941.00	\$659,351.00
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	(\$6,684.98)	\$50,939.22
Budget	\$840.00	\$9,240.00

### King of King's Elected 2012 Officers/Parish Planning Committee

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Richard Ahrens
President– Elect:	Pam Gartner
Support/Admin. Leader:	Sharlot Ahrens
Worship Ministry Leader:	Traci Boxdorfer
Youth Ministry Leader:	Bill Roelfs
Family Ministry Leader:	Joy Wolfgang
Elder Chairman:	Herb Klemp
Open Arms Director:	Shelta Collins

#### OPEN ARMS TEAM

Team Leader:	Jackie Layton
Team Members:	Ron Borgstahl, Steve Sandman, Lyle Miller and Jenae Karr

#### Board of Mission Directors

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Richard Ahrens
President– Elect:	Pam Gartner
Support/Admin. Leader:	Sharlot Ahrens
Elder Chairman:	Herb Klemp
Open Arms Director:	Shelta Collins
Open Arms Team Leader:	Jackie Layton

#### 2012 Elders:

Herb Klemp (Head Elder), Richard Ahrens, Russ Boxdorfer, Greg Gartner, Scott Karr, John Klein, Dale Melancon, Mark Meyer, and Rich Webber.

Thank you to the Thrivent Financial members who directed their Choice Dollars to King of Kings in November. Your generous donation is appreciated.

Judy Anderson, Jean Germer, John Klein, Scott Kuehl, Sueann Kuehl, and Helen Rieger.

If you have any questions about Thrivent Financial or Choice Dollars, please contact [mail@thrivent.com](mailto:mail@thrivent.com).



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANKS SO MUCH!

“We thank God for you and your gift of \$480 to Haiti Water sanitation.” Rev. Matthew Harrison, President LCMS, World Relief and Human Care.

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The following e-mail was received from Pastor Carlos Winterle in South Africa. In part it reads: *Dear Friends, It is time to share the Good News! .*

*With this message we say also THANK YOU for the support you are giving to our family and ministry, and to our Mission Project Mozambique/Angola with your prayers and support.*

*We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. Please, read the message attached (located on the bulletin board) and our Christmas Card with some pictures of our mission in Cape Town and in Mozambique. Sorry that I couldn't send a Card by regular mail. Time was too short again...*

*Pastor Carlos Walter and Lidia Winterle*

*Cape Town, December 2011*

The full letter and postcard are on the bulletin board.

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A letter was received from Rev. Tom Krause of the Lutheran Mission of the Good Shepherd (LUMA). In part it reads: “Your financial support in November of \$100 was a wonderful blessing and we thank you! Working together in God’s kingdom multiplies the blessings. Again, we thank you for your generosity and prayers for our work in urban Kansas City.”

The complete letter is posted on the bulletin board.

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Did you notice the beautiful hand craved wooden nativity scene in the reception area by the double glass doors? The craftsmen who made the set are Wilford and Trean Sinclair, Rt. 1, Osawatomie, KS 66064. The donation was made by John & Jeanette Clark, 139 Shoreline Dr, Louisburg, KS. We thank both of them for blessing our church with such a rare gift.

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Thank you Kings Ringers & Kings Singers for the wonderful dinner certificate. I am feeling so very grateful for all my singers, ringers, and musicians, You all are so wonderful and I am so blessed!! Blessings, Kipp

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Thank You everyone, for your gift of a new secretary’s chair. It is a true blessings to be working here at King of Kings. My wish is for all of you to have a blessed new year. Connie

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A letter was received from Food for the Poor, Inc. thanking us for our kindness and compassion in partnering with their ministry to bring good news to those living in abject poverty. This past year has brought hope and relief to those in need by enabling them to:

- \* Feed two million adults and children year-round, six days a week
- \* Build 6,784 housing units for needy families
- \* Install six new fishing villages in Haiti alone and 30 new aquaculture ponds to harvest fish as a food source and self-sustaining source of income for the communities
- \* Initiate 18 water projects and dig 55 wells with hand pumps for 55 villages
- \* Care for more than 3,200 orphans through the Angels of Hope program
- \* Support over 18,000 schools, clinics, churches and other orphanages in the 17 countries we serve.

Robin G. Mahfood, President/CEO

Start the New Year off with a resolution to serve the Lord more!

### ***Volunteer!***

- \* **Ushers** are needed especially at the 10:30 service.
- \* **Acolytes** to light the candles.
- \* **Greeters** to welcome our guests. Bake a loaf of bread to deliver to our new visitors.
- \* Set-up communion.
- \* Love to read the Bible? Then become a **Lector**.
- \* Help on Friday mornings to assemble the bulletins.
- \* Like electronics? Then volunteer to operate the sound system.
- \* Join our choir or ringers or if you play an instrument, volunteer to become part of the musical worship service.
- \* Want to be more of a leader in the congregation? Then talk to Pastor Dan about being an Elder or Elder Assistant.

Please contact the church office if you are interested in any of these worthwhile duties. There is an opening waiting just for you!



We have two services:  
**8:00 a.m. Worship &  
10:30 a.m. Worship**  
**9:20 a.m. Bible Class,  
Sunday School and  
Adult Bible Study**

**Communion will be celebrated at both services.**

**There is a staffed nursery available  
9:00 a.m.-noon.**

**Be sure and tell your friends and  
neighbors about these services.**

**They need the light of Christ too!**



**We're on the Web [www.kingofkingsks.org](http://www.kingofkingsks.org)**

**King of Kings Lutheran Church**  
306 East Madison  
P.O. Box 364  
Gardner KS 66030-0364  
**Daniel Wehmeier, Pastor**  
**Paul Helmer, Assisting Pastor**  
**Paul Hoppe, Assisting Pastor**  
Phone: 913-856-2500  
Email: [kingofkingsks@earthlink.net](mailto:kingofkingsks@earthlink.net)  
**Open Arms Lutheran Child Dev. Ctr.**  
Email: [openarmscdc@earthlink.net](mailto:openarmscdc@earthlink.net)  
**Shelta Collins, Director**  
Phone: 913-856-4250  
Fax: 913-856-4260

**JESUS LIVES FOR**

***BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO OUR NEIGHBOR!***