



# **King of Kings Lutheran Church**

**Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center**

**Bringing the Light of Christ to our Neighbor!**

**Volume 39 Issue 4**

**April 2026**

## ***PASTOR'S THOUGHTS***

April 15

The old cliché says there are two things that are certain: Death and Taxes. Even during the time of Jesus the topics were often tied together. Recall Jesus' final week in Jerusalem when the religious leaders were trying to trip Him up with their questioning? What do they ask about? Death and Taxes.

“Then they sent to Jesus some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said. And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality, but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it right to pay taxes to Ceasar, or not? (Mark 12:13-14)

It seems these topics have been and will always be struggles for us this side of heaven. But should they? I never really thought about it until this year. Maybe the real struggle is not the question but who is asking the question. During Lent we reflected on the struggles and temptations Jesus fought and overcame for us. Good Friday is called Good because through Death Jesus paid the taxes required for our sin and rebellion. Easter is our most precious celebration because Jesus defeated Death and the Devil through His resurrection. We celebrate as His children that our tax bill is paid in full. That's why we respond with offerings of our time, talents, and treasure instead of a bill to somehow pay God back or buy our forgiveness.

So as you send in your check to the IRS, do it with joy and thanksgiving for the blessings received from our government. The old cliché can take on a whole new meaning this April 15. Humanly speaking, death and taxes will always be a part of our lives. Divinely speaking, Jesus took care of both of them on what we celebrate this April 15.

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dan  
2 Peter 3:18

P.S. Please say a special “Thank You” to all who helped to make this Lenten Season a reflective one including our mid-week drama cast, Kody, Tamiaka and our choirs and soloists, and the youth, parents, and soup preparers for the wonderful mid-week meals, Easter Breakfast, and egg hunt.



***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 deepens 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? 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.
- 9) Did you know that.....When you carry the Bible, Satan has a headache. When he sees you reading it, he faints. Let's read the Bible every day so he keeps on fainting. Maybe one day he'll have a stroke and never wake up.

The following is the next two months readings.



### APRIL

1/Joshua 16-18  
2/Joshua 19-21  
3/Joshua 22-24  
4/Judges 1-3  
5/Judges 4-6  
6/Judges 7-9  
7/Judges 10-12  
8/Judges 13-15  
9/Psalms 41-44  
10/Judges 16-18  
11/Judges 19-21  
12/Ruth 1-4  
13/1 Samuel 1-3  
14/1 Samuel 4-6  
15/1 Samuel 7-9  
16/1 Samuel 10-12  
17/1 Samuel 13-15  
18/Psalms 45-48  
19/1 Samuel 16-18  
20/1 Samuel 19-21  
21/1 Samuel 22-24  
22/1 Samuel 25-27  
23/1 Samuel 28-31  
24/2 Samuel 1-3

25/2 Samuel 4-6  
26/2 Samuel 7-9  
27/Psalms 49-52  
28/2 Samuel 10-12  
29/2 Samuel 13-15  
30/2 Samuel 16-18

### MAY

1/2 Samuel 19-21  
2/2 Samuel 22-24  
3/1 Chronicles 1-3  
4/1 Chronicles 4-6  
5/1 Chronicles 7-9  
6/Psalms 53-56  
7/1 Chronicles 10-12  
8/1 Chronicles 13-15  
9/1 Chronicles 16-18  
10/1 Chronicles 19-21  
11/1 Chronicles 22-24  
12/1 Chronicles 25-27  
13/1 Chronicles 28-29  
14/1 Kings 1-4  
15/Psalms 57-60  
16/Proverbs 1-3  
17/Proverbs 4-6

18/Proverbs 7-9  
19/Proverbs 10-12  
20/Proverbs 13-15  
21/Proverbs 16-18  
22/Proverbs 19-21  
23/Proverbs 22-24  
24/Psalms 61-64  
25/Proverbs 25-27  
26/Proverbs 28-31  
27/Song of Solomon 1-4  
28/Song of Solomon 5-8  
29/Ecclesiastes 1-3  
30/Ecclesiastes 4-6  
31/Ecclesiastes 7-9

### JUNE

1/Ecclesiastes 10-12  
2/Psalms 65-68  
3/1 Kings 5-7  
4/1 Kings 8-10  
5/1 Kings 11-13  
6/1 Kings 14-16  
7/1 Kings 17-19

# Faith at Work - Spring Hill

Saturday, April 25th

9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

800 S. Webster Street, Spring Hill



**Come!**

All KC circuit congregations are invited.

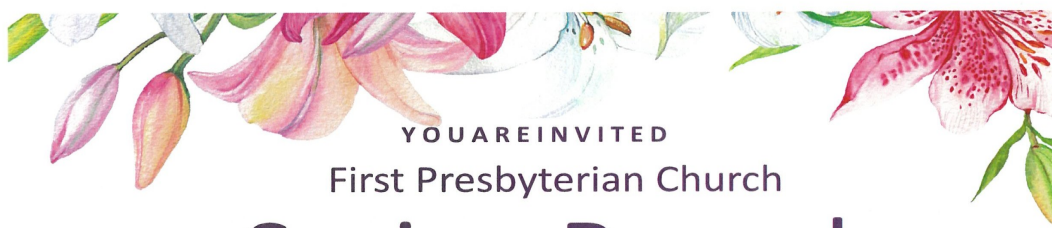
**See!**

Visit the newly acquired property.

**Serve!**

Join with others to spruce up the landscaping.

Scan the  
QR code to  
learn more!



YOU ARE INVITED

First Presbyterian Church

## Spring Brunch

The Women of Gardner First Presbyterian Church cordially invite the Women of your Church to our Annual Spring Brunch.

Speaker from "Johnson County Christmas Bureau" & free-will offering to benefit their mission. Please come & join us in sharing Fellowship, Fun, Friendship, & Food.

**SAT. APRIL 25, 2026 AT 9:30 AM**

FPC FELLOWSHIP HALL 138 E SHAWNEE, GARDNER KS



IN CHRIST'S LOVE, FROM

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
OF GARDNER

Shana Devlin, MODERATOR & Connie Neneman, SECRETARY

Please RSVP to the Church Office 913-856-4099 by  
Monday, April 20. Child Care provided upon request.



# THANK YOU!

Thrivent is excited to share that a deposit of \$145.00 is coming in the next few days to King of Kings. We hope this gift on behalf of Thrivent Choice® helps to further support your important work. Thrivent clients directing Thrivent Choice Dollars® are:

Neal Brockschmidt

Scott Kuehl

Michael Wallen

Daniel Wehmeier

**Congratulations! In 2025, King Of Kings Lutheran Church received \$843 through the Thrivent Choice® program — and that's worth celebrating!**

**Your work strengthens communities, and we're grateful for the impact you make every day.**

If you have any questions about Thrivent Financial or Choice Dollars, please contact [mail@thrivent.com](mailto:mail@thrivent.com) or Jean Germer 913-484-7502.

*"Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among the peoples." 1Chronicles 16:24 (NASB).*



Please join us for a **PRAYER SERVICE** on

Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 7 pm at

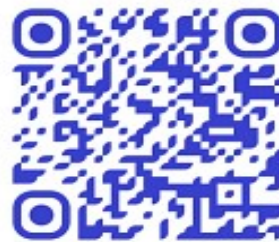
**Redeemer Lutheran Church**

920 South Alta Lane | Olathe, KS

Lifting our hearts, hands and voices in prayer, Rev. David Kahle will lead the prayer service, together with guest preacher, Rev. Mark Frith, director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty's (LCRL) Champions for Liberty Network.

Following the prayer service, Kansas State Representative Timothy H. Johnson will be our guest speaker. Tim represents the 38th Kansas House District in southern Leavenworth County and parts of Wyandotte County. He is completing his third term in the legislature.

You are invited to join a multi-church choir singing the "First Song of Isaiah" by Jack Noble White. One rehearsal on Thursday, April 30 at 7 pm at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Warm-up on Thursday, May 7 at 6:30 pm. Scan the QR code to register.



*Speaking the truth in love  
with humility and grace.*





## Lutheran Women Missionary League (LWML)

LWML met on Saturday, March 14th. We had 11 ladies attending. We voted to mark Bible verses in the donated Bibles, and we completed this project. Jake Hayes delivered them to the detention center here in Gardner. We discussed the convention on April 17-19 in Manhattan, and also decided to have our 1st responders get together for a BBQ on the lawn here at King of Kings on June 27. Also, we voted on doing a Advent Candlelight at King of Kings on December 6th between 3 or 4 o'clock.

We now are collecting hygiene items for Orphan Grain Train. Erin has put an item list in the bulletins. Pat reported that we sent 26 quilts to our friends at Our Savior to distribute to Luma, the homeless and Happy Bottoms.

Our next meeting in on Saturday, April 11th at 7:30am . Our hosts are Judy, Pat, and Sandy. If enough items are gathered, we will put the hygiene kits together. Please join us at this meeting. All of the ladies of the church are welcome.

Yours in Christ,  
Judy Anderson—President



## Lutheran Laymen's League- KINGS MEN

The group had breakfast and held bible study on 3/14 with a nice turnout.

The men's group survey results were reviewed with some really good actionable items that we will be following up on. We appreciate the 19 male members who took the time to complete the survey.

The needs of our members and list of church projects were discussed with the church's list of projects to be posted. Appreciate the pastor taking the time to remind our congregation to include any needs in the comment section of the attendance insert so we can support where we can

We have been in contact with Noah's Bandage Project related to our annual bandage drive support, but there have been some leadership changes, and we haven't heard back.

The challenges of the Olathe Starfish Project needing to move were discussed, and a couple of men are following up on any help needed with their future move.

The renewal of the holiday flags at the church was discussed to review and vote on next month.

Craft show planning was briefly discussed for volunteers needed in the morning and afternoon (List of volunteers from the group will be determined in April).

Next meeting is 7:30am, April 11<sup>th</sup> (Paul is our Chef), and we always appreciate seeing some new faces. Men's night out is Thursday, April 23rd at 6pm at J's BBQ in Olathe.

Please reference the LLL bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for the latest events and information.

God Bless,  
Brian Blank



## PRAYER VIGIL

Thursday, May 7, 2026

6:30 am to 6:30 pm

30-minute time slots

More details to come



Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church  
13145 Blackbob Road  
Olathe, KS

## OUR SUPPORT OF THE LORD'S WORK

### KING OF KINGS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>
Baptized	601	597
Confirmed	381	379
Family Units	265	262
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>		
Feb. (Avg) *in-house & virtual	173	169
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$25,475	\$50,199
Budget	\$28,500	\$57,000
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$22,780	\$46,480
Budget	\$28,097	\$56,194
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	\$2,695	\$3,719
Budget	\$403	\$806

### OPEN ARMS

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$67,837	\$136,236
Budget	\$84,200	\$168,400
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$79,447	\$171,101
Budget	\$83,961	\$167,922
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	(\$11,610)	(\$34,865)
Budget	\$239	\$478

### King of King's Elected 2026 Officers/Parish Planning Committee

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Phil Gehrt
President – Elect:	Rick Hughey
Treasurer:	Dale Melancon
Support/Admin. Leader:	Sharlot Ahrens
Worship Ministry Leader:	Pam Gartner
Youth Ministry Leader:	Penni Blank
Family Ministry Leader:	Tana Melancon
Head Elder:	Allen Snyder
Open Arms Director:	Shonda Williams

#### Open Arms Team

Team Leader: Erin Schrepel  
 Team Members: Melissa Berens, Pam Enserro,  
 Heather Petit, and Cary Prothe

#### Board of Mission Directors

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Phil Gehrt
President– Elect:	Rick Hughey
Support/Admin. Leader:	Sharlot Ahrens
Head Elder:	Allen Snyder
Open Arms Administrator:	Shonda Williams
Open Arms Team Leader:	Erin Schrepel

#### 2026 Elders:

Allen Snyder (Head Elder), Richard Ahrens,  
 Ryan Berens, Ryan Church, Greg Enserro,  
 Greg Gartner, John Klein, Kevin Kufeldt, Dale  
 Melancon, Chadd Schrepel, and Dan Wahl



## Spring Cleaning?

We would love to have those treasures to sell!  
 Save those unused items for our Huge **GARAGE SALE!!!**  
**FRIDAY, MAY 1st & SATURDAY, MAY 2nd**  
**650 E Juniper Street, Gardner**  
 All proceeds benefit the Youth Group. Any questions, contact Penni Blank.



Thanks to everyone who provided items to make the Lent meals a success! The Youth Group plans to make a Lent Cookbook with all of our soup, bread and desserts we enjoyed this Lent season. The Youth Group will sell them for minimal amount to cover production costs. Please email your recipes to Penni at [pesopenni@yahoo.com](mailto:pesopenni@yahoo.com) with "Lent Recipe" in the subject line.

Spring cleaning is upon us! Please remember the Youth Group will be having their annual garage sale on Friday and Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Wahl family has graciously offered to host the event again this year at their home. Stay tuned for drop-off dates and times to offload the items you no longer need. Please contact Penni if you have any questions.

As always, thanks for your continued support of the KoK Youth!

## Got Sneakers?

### Open Arms wants them!

Open Arms is collecting old *Sneakers/Tennis Shoes* that will be sent off for recycling

- Grab your old sneakers that you no longer use
  - Place sneakers in box in the front entrance at Open Arms or King of Kings
- Sneakers will be sent to GotSneakers who will pay Open Arms based on the shoe's condition and size. GotSneakers recycles these shoes to keep the toxic rubber out of landfills
  - Proceeds earned will be used for a new playground



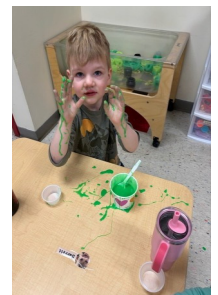
LUTHERAN • CHILD • DEVELOPMENT • CENTER

Spring is upon us; with weather on the fritz its time to check backpacks. Please be sure backup clothing still fits and is weather appropriate. We had parent teacher conferences this past month. Teachers and parents came together to discuss the development of their children! Thank you parents for taking the time to meet with the teachers.

The school carnival is just around the corner and we'd love to have you volunteer. Ask your student's teacher how you or a middle school/high school sibling can be involved.

The Easter bunny will be coming to visit on Thursday, April 2nd, during the egg hunt/party times.

Looking for a job in Early Education? Open Arms is hiring!



## April Calendar of Events

April 1	5:30 PM	Kings Ringers
	6:30 PM	Kings Singers
April 2	7:00 PM	Maundy Thursday Service
April 3	7:00 PM	Good Friday Service
April 5	9:00 AM	Easter Breakfast
	9:45 AM	Easter Egg Hunt
April 6	6:30 PM	Parish Planning Meeting
April 7	6:30 PM	Youth Group Bible Study
April 8	6:30 PM	Elders Meeting
April 9	6:30 PM	Women's Bible Study
April 11	7:30 AM	LLL Men's Breakfast
		LWML Breakfast/Meeting
April 13	5:30 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Church
April 19	11:30 AM	Youth Group Meeting
	5:30 PM	NLSA Dinner
April 23	6:00 PM	Men's Night Out at J's BBQ
April 27	5:30 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Perkins

Every Tuesday 1:30 PM Bridge

Every Wednesday 9:30 AM Chapel for Open Arms

Every Thursday 9:00 AM Quilters

LWML is collecting items to make hygiene kits to donate to Orphan Grain Train.

- 11 Bath Towels (dark colors)
- 16 Washcloths (dark colors)
- 16 Plastic soapbox holders
- 11 Nail Clippers
- 8 Boxes of Band-aids (1/2" or 3/4")
- 35 Small prepackaged facial tissues packs



Walmart has the towels and washcloths for under \$3 each.

Please return items to the church office. If you have any questions, contact Judy Anderson.



**We have two services:**

**8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.**

**9:20 a.m. Bible Class,**

**Sunday School and Confirmation**

**Communion will be celebrated at both services.  
No nursery available at this time.**

**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, Pastor Emeritus

William Postel, Pastor Emeritus

Phone: 913-856-2500

Email: [info@kingofkingsks.org](mailto:info@kingofkingsks.org)

Open Arms Lutheran Child Dev. Ctr.

Email: [openarmscdc@kingofkingsks.org](mailto:openarmscdc@kingofkingsks.org)

Phone: 913-856-4250