



King of Kings Lutheran Church

Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Center

Bringing the Light of Christ to our Neighbor!

Volume 38 Issue 8

September 2025

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

“Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.”
(1 Thessalonians 5:11)

This past month I have had the joy of talking to fellow faith family members discussing current ministries and dreaming about future possibilities. The conversations are a reminder that Summer is over and ministries are returning to full speed. It is truly amazing the number of ministries, meetings, events, and organizations that fill our campus and classrooms each year.

More amazing to me is the number of individuals which make up the many ministries we undertake. This made me stop and reflect upon our Lord's work in and through His people. What a blessing we have at King of Kings! What a blessing you are to King of Kings!

So often my time is spent preparing for the present and planning for the future. Every once in a while I have to step back and thank God and His people for the past. With the recent opportunities and discussions of new activities, new Open Arm staff members, new members, I sometimes forget the blessings already surrounding me. I think all of us lose sight at times of the daily blessings already surrounding us in the pressures and possibilities of the future.

One of those possibilities becoming real is the “Touch A Truck” (public and private vehicle) outreach opportunity. We are again inviting the Gardner area community to come visit our faith family for an afternoon of food, games, inflatables, prizes, and fellowship. This is also a great opportunity to reconnect with our own faith family from both of our services and Summer travels. Please help make this an exciting and enriching event with your support and service on September 7th. A volunteer sign up is in the fellowship area, or just give my lovely bride a call (913-375-2480) and ask, “How can I help make this event a success?”

Thank you. Keep up the great witness. Continue serving our Lord as together 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 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.



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

SEPTEMBER

1/Ezekiel 10-12
2/Ezekiel 13-15
3/Ezekiel 16-18
4/Ezekiel 19-21
5/Ezekiel 22-24
6/Ezekiel 25-27
7/Ezekiel 28-30
8/Psalms 105-108
9/Ezekiel 31-33
10/Ezekiel 34-36
11/Ezekiel 37-39
12/Ezekiel 40-42
13/Ezekiel 43-45
14/Ezekiel 46-48
15/Daniel 1-3
16/Daniel 4-6
17/Daniel 7-9
18/Daniel 10-12
19/Psalms 109-113
20/Ezra 1-3
21/Ezra 4-6
22/Haggai 1- 2

23/Zechariah 3-6
24/Zechariah 7-10
25/Zechariah 11-14
26/Esther 1-3
27/Esther 4-6
28/Esther 7-10
29/Psalms 114-118
30/Ezra 7-10

OCTOBER

1/Nehemiah 1-4
2/Nehemiah 5-7
3/Nehemiah 8-10
4/Nehemiah 11-13
5/Malachi 1-4
6/Matthew 1-4
7/Matthew 5-7
8/Psalms 119
9/Matthew 8-10
10/Matthew 11-13
11/Matthew 14-16
12/Matthew 17-19
13/Matthew 20-22
14/Matthew 23-25

15/Matthew 26-28
16/Mark 1-3
17/Mark 4-6
18/Psalms 120-123
19/Mark 7-9
20/ Mark 10-12
21/Mark 13-16
22/Luke 1-3
23/Luke 4-6
24/Luke 7-9
25/Luke 10-12
26/Luke 13-15
27/Luke 16-18
28/Psalms 124-127
29/Luke 19-21
30/Luke 22-24
31/John 1-3

NOVEMBER

1/John 4-6
2/John 7-9
3/John 10-12
4/John 13-16
5/John 17-19

Touch-A-Truck



Touch A Truck and Country Carnival

**Sunday, September 7, 2025
12 pm - 3 pm**

Games, Prizes, Food, free fun for all

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors



Any questions,
please call
Rachel Wehmeier
at 913-375-2480



Make a Joyful Noise!



King of Kings Singers and King of Kings Ringers will be starting rehearsals on Wednesday, September 10th for the upcoming fall. If you would like to participate in either choir, we would welcome new musicians. Bells practice at 5:30pm and Choir at 6:30pm on Wednesdays but are not every week. Come as you are, when you can. All musical levels are welcome! For more information please reach out to Kody@Willnauermusicworks.com or leave a note in the music mailbox at King of Kings.

Thank you for sharing your talents with the congregation!



Lutheran Laymen's League- KINGS MEN

Reminder the August meeting is cancelled due to the craft fair conflict. Next meeting is September 13th.

The group had breakfast and bible study on August the 9th with various charities and needs discussed along with donations voted on and approved. Support needs for the Paola craft fair on Sept. 13th were discussed, and we really appreciate the volunteers planned for the morning and afternoon. September 21st was confirmed to have a Honey Sunday. The Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch has confirmed, and the details are being worked out with the ranch personnel and Pastor.

<https://dakotaranch.org/honeysunday/>

There is no Men's night out dinner in August. The next monthly Men's night out dinner will be in September (Fourth Thursday (25th) at 6:00pm).

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

God Bless,
Brian Blank



Lutheran Early Response Team- LERT

September is upon us and on Sunday the 7th, we'll have the LERT trailer out for the second Touch-a-Truck from 12-3pm. Then on the following Saturday, the 13th, we'll have the Paola Craft Fair on the Square in Paola. LERT will be selling food as a fundraiser for our group. If you are available to help out, please go to the www.lcms-lert.org/ page to sign up for the 13th. Keep an eye out for upcoming training events later this fall in case you know of anyone interested in joining LERT. For more information, please reach out to Dale Melancon.

THANK YOU!

"Thank you very much for your gift of \$235.46 to support the mission of Metro Lutheran Ministry (MLM). We are blessed by your generosity and desire to help the people who turn to us when they have nowhere else to go. It is donors like you who allow MLM to continue to make such a significant impact."

Scott Cooper, Executive Director, Metro Lutheran Ministry

"Thank you for your donation of quilts and lap robes to Orphan Grain Train Inc.—Wichita Branch. Your donation is sincerely appreciated by the branch volunteers and will assist in keeping Orphan Grain Train's wheels rolling towards those who need God's mercy. An additional thanks for the LLL group for the \$200 donation to help defray our next shipment costs.

John Evans, Branch Manager, Orphan Grain Train Inc.—Wichita Branch

Thrivent is excited to share that a deposit of \$3.00 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: Pastor Dan Wehmeier

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



Lutheran Women Missionary League (LWML)-

LWML-Our ladies were very busy in July. At our meeting we decided to put some of our mission money to work. We voted on the following missions. Heart to Heart was given \$300.00. We gave \$300 to Hands to Hearts, their mission is backpacks, clothes and handing out books. They needed to get a different van to transport their books for book fairs; they are located in Merriam. They also put books in backpacks. It was decided to give our youth group \$300 for the gathering in New Orleans.

Pat Hymer is our leader for quilting. We have a very busy group working on quilts. We made 101 quilts that went over to Our Savior by KU Med. Their leader there took them to homeless on the Blvd, Happy Bottoms and veterans. We then regrouped and made 61 more to take down to Orphan Grain Train in Wichita. Rachel Wehmeier and Pam Popp put together 40 school kits and they were taken down there also. Our LLL group gave us a \$200 check to help pay for freight for the quilts and kits.

Our annual picnic on August 17 was a total success; there were 71 people that attended. The grill was very busy that day, and we thank the cooks, Dale Melancon, Brian Mead and all their helpers. The burgers and hot dogs were delicious. I personally want to thank Kathy Stevens, Tana Melancon, and all the helpers that helped set up. It couldn't have been done without them. We had so many people that took time to help clean up, a true blessing. Also, a big thank you to Richard Ahrens for always bringing and setting up the cornhole games. Brian and Makenzie were our big winners this year.

Our LWML September meeting will be held at Perkins, Monday, September 15th at 6:00pm. We need to elect new officers. Please prayerfully think about taking over one of these positions, President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer. I will always be at hand to guide you through one of these positions.

Yours in Christ,
Judy Anderson-President



OUR SUPPORT OF THE LORD'S WORK

KING OF KINGS

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Baptized	601	600
Confirmed	386	382
Family Units	265	263
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>		
July (Avg.) *in-house & virtual	125	172
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
<u>JULY</u>		<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$17,497	\$195,059
Budget	\$26,854	\$187,978
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$23,051	\$169,832
Budget	\$26,827	\$187,789
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	(\$5,554)	\$25,227
Budget	\$27	\$189

July was a five-week revenue month, so revenue and thus net is higher. August has three payroll periods, so there will be net losses for the month, but still net gains for the year.

OPEN ARMS

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>JULY</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Actual	\$92,618	\$584,406
Budget	\$85,249	\$596,743
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Actual	\$74,674	\$554,527
Budget	\$81,912	\$573,384
<u>NET</u>		
Actual	\$17,944	\$29,879
Budget	\$3,337	\$23,359

King of King's Elected 2025 Officers/Parish Planning Committee

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Neal Brockschmidt
President – Elect:	Phil Gehrt
Treasurer:	Dale Melancon
Support/Admin. Leader:	Dan Popp
Worship Ministry Leader:	Pam Gartner
Youth Ministry Leader:	Kim Hayes
Family Ministry Leader:	Tana Melancon
Head Elder:	Allen Snyder
Open Arms Director:	Shonda Williams

Open Arms Team

Team Leader: Erin Schrepel

Team Members: Sharlot Ahrens, Penni Blank,
Heather Petit and Lyle Miller

Board of Mission Directors

Pastor:	Dan Wehmeier
President:	Neal Brockschmidt
President– Elect:	Phil Gehrt
Support/Admin. Leader:	Dan Popp
Head Elder:	Allen Snyder
Open Arms Administrator:	Shonda Williams
Open Arms Team Leader:	Erin Schrepel

2025 Elders:

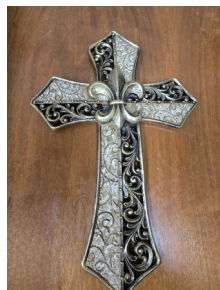
Allen Snyder (Head Elder), Richard Ahrens, Ryan Berens, Ryan Church, Greg Enserro, Greg Gartner, John Klein, Herb Klemp, Kevin Kufeldt, Dale Melancon, Chadd Schrepel, and Roger Zimmerman



Fall Bazaar and Craft Fair
Paola Park Square
Saturday, September 13th from 9am - 2pm

YOUTH GROUP News

The youth did a recap of their National Gathering trip during service on August 24th and did a wonderful job. Then they celebrated back to school with their annual lake party on August 24th at Hillsdale Lake. The kids had a lot of fun. Coming up the youth are going to be helping out at Touch a Truck, and then at the Paola Craft Fair. Looking ahead we are planning on having music bingo again in October, and possibly a holiday music bingo in December.



CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

Don't forget to take the survey that was emailed out to the congregation August 21st. If you have already completed it, thank you! The overall results of the survey will be shared with the congregation, but your input will be anonymous. If you are unable to fill out the electronic form, there are paper copies in the fellowship area. However, please only fill out a paper copy if you were unable to submit the electronic survey. We will close the survey on September 7th. Please let me know if you didn't receive my email, and I can send it again, secretary@kingofkingsks.org

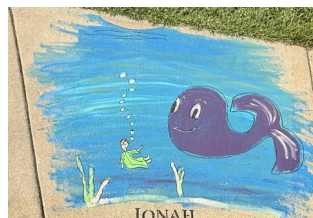
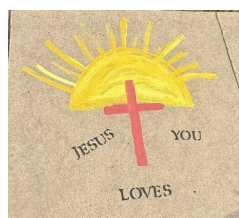


It's been a great start to the school year. Kiddos have been enjoying their new classrooms and teachers. As the school year starts, let's take a second to pray for a great year and above all our staff and students!

One of our infant teachers, Ms. Liesl, is now our third Pre K teacher. She has a degree in education and many years in day care: at home and here at Open Arms. She's excited for the school year.

If you haven't seen the new art on the playground be sure to check it out. Ms. Charolette painted some Bible stories around the play set for the children to color over with chalk and enjoy. It's always fun seeing all the gifts God has blessed our teacher's with!

There are a few things to look forward to this month. First, Open Arms will be closed September 1st in honor of Labor Day. We pray everyone has a safe and fun holiday celebrating. Second, King of Kings is hosting Touch a Truck September 7th from 12-3pm. There will be lots of fun activities and big trucks! Lastly, Grandparent's Tea is September 12th from 9-10am. We can't wait to show off our school to the grandparents.



September Calendar of Events

September 1 Labor Day—Church office closed
September 2 6:30 PM Touch a Truck Meeting
September 7 12 PM to 3 PM Touch a Truck
September 8 6:00 PM Bible Study at Fronteras
6:30 PM Parish Planning Meeting
September 10 5:30 PM Kings Ringers
6:30 PM Kings Singers
6:30 PM Elder Meeting
September 13 9 AM to 2 PM Craft Fair in Paola
September 18 6:00 PM Open Arms Team Meeting
September 22 6:00 PM Bible Study at Perkins
September 25 6:00 PM Men's Night Out at Crazy
Good Eats in Olathe

Every Tuesday 1:30 PM Bridge

Every Wednesday 9:30 AM Chapel for Open Arms

Every Thursday 9:00 AM Quilters



**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

**King of Kings Lutheran Church
306 East Madison
P.O. Box 364
Gardner KS 66030-0364
Daniel Wehmeier, Pastor
Paul Helmer, Pastor Emeritus
Paul Hoppe, Pastor Emeritus
William Postel, Pastor Emeritus
Phone: 913-856-2500
Email: info@kingofkingsks.org
Open Arms Lutheran Child Dev. Ctr.
Email: openarmscdc@kingofkingsks.org
Phone: 913-856-4250**