



King of Glory ... a Place to Grow

DECEMBER 2017

December 24, 2017—Joy to the World!

...with a slight change in the schedule! Yes, we will celebrate Jesus' birth at 4:00pm, 7:00pm, and 10:00pm on Christmas Eve, December 24th. Yet...December 24th is a Sunday. We're guessing that most worshippers will attend the evening services. Therefore, we will have only one worship service on Sunday morning at 10:00am, December 24th. (Saturday night worship will remain unchanged at 5:30pm, December 23rd.) Sunday morning, it will be the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Then within hours, we'll skip weeks and a couple of months in the story, to kneel at the manger of our Lord, Jesus Christ.



Christmas Eve 4:00pm: An interactive live nativity service where children will get to dress up as shepherds, angels, wise people and sheep! Worship will include carols, Holy Communion with hot chocolate and candy canes after worship. It will be perfect for young families or grandchildren!

Christmas Eve 7:00pm: This service will be like Christmas dinner with all the fixings. A more traditional worship with Glory Singers Choir, trumpet, God's Word, Holy Communion and candles with Silent Night. Come all ye faithful to worship baby Jesus!

Christmas Eve 10:00pm: If you want a quieter service to end the day, consider the 10:00 pm. There will still be carols and Holy Communion, but a more reflective message to carry us into Christmas Day. The candles and singing of Silent Night will usher us out under the stars the shepherds once gazed at.

New Year's Eve Worship: Ring in the New Year with praises to God at the regular schedule of 8:30 and 10:45am!



The Longest Night Worship – 7:00pm, December 21, Thursday Trinity Lutheran (3333 Duffield Ave)

Are you feeling the Christmas blues? Not simply because you might not get the present you wanted, but all kidding aside, you are grieving? There will be an empty place at the table. It's the first holiday without her. He won't be carving the turkey or telling his old familiar jokes. Not everyone is 'jolly' at your house. Come and worship with others who are feeling similar things. Invite a friend who has lost a loved one. Pastor Ruth Ann will preach a message of comfort. It may take courage to show up, but God who knows the dark valley meets us there. "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted." (Matthew 5:4) Join us, on the Longest Night of the year.

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The Messenger

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FROM THE PASTOR



Wait for It!

Ready for Christmas? Well, of course not. Advent comes first! Advent is a version of the Latin word *adventus* meaning coming. We all anticipated the *advent* of the eclipse last August. For we Christians advent is also a season of waiting and anticipation. Waiting for what? The second coming of Christ. And while we wait, we remember Christ's first arrival as a babe in Bethlehem.

Let's back up. During 4th and 5th century in Gaul and Spain, Advent was the season of preparation for Epiphany. Epiphany tells the stories of Jesus' first miracles; the wedding at Cana, the visit of the Magi, His own baptism. So those wanting to be baptized during Epiphany spent 40 days fasting, doing penance and preparing for their own baptisms. In the 6th century, Roman Christians began linking this season to the coming of Christ. But it wasn't Jesus' birth, it was His second coming. In the Middle Ages, it was then Advent was more explicitly tied to preparation for Christ's birth.

Now when I was a kid, like most kids, waiting could be difficult. My parents had to explain the length of the wait in things I understood: two cartoons, three more sleeps. Those were concrete lengths of time. Waiting for Jesus' Birthday could be a very long wait. Thus, the church has also made the wait more concrete. We light four candles in Advent – one each weekend. But you already know this. We put up creches, but without baby Jesus...yet. But you already know this.

None of us know the advent of Jesus' second coming. So we sing – praying with hope and trust that Christ will redeem this broken world:

*O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appears.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel. (ELW 257)*

We might find ourselves doing a fair amount of waiting this December. Waiting in shopping lines. Waiting for a package to arrive. Waiting for the turkey to bake or the timer on the cookies. Waiting for children to go to sleep so we can wrap gifts! I encourage us, when we find ourselves waiting this Advent season to pray...

*Come, Lord Jesus come. I will wait for you with eager longing....
to celebrate on earth December 25th and to celebrate in heaven one day,
forever more with you. Amen.*

Waiting and praying with you,
Pastor Ruth Ann

Prayer Chain

If you have a special prayer request please contact the church office and indicate whether you want the prayer to be public or only for the confidential prayer chain.

- **Please keep the church office updated regarding your prayer concern.**



You may call or email the church office (970-669-5983); office@aplace2grow.org, or Pastor Ruth Ann at Ruthann@aplace2grow.org

Are you having trouble hearing the service?

Grab a hearing unit at the sound board or a printed copy of the sermon from an usher!



DECEMBER EVENTS

Giving Tree



The Christmas Giving Tree!

It's not too late, there are still a few names left! The gifts are for Larimer County Children experiencing poverty & traumatic family situations. To equalize gifts between siblings, please limit your spending to \$50 per child. Case workers request that gifts be placed in GIFT BAGS instead of wrapping them. Please place your gifts under the Giving Tree near the church office **by Sunday morning, December 10.** Thank you for your generosity to these children!



The Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers are having their **Holiday concert** here at KOG on **December 10 at 3:00PM.** Come join us for a fabulous afternoon of music!



A Christmas Story: the Musical is our Bridge Ministries outing for December! KOG & Zion are getting a group together to attend the **Dec. 16th Matinee** (Saturday Noon) at Midtown Dinner Theatre in Fort Collins. Tickets are \$56.54. We have only 16 tickets for KOG folks. **Sign up in the concourse now for an afternoon of Christmas laughs!**



KOG is hosting "137 Connection" homeless people on the week of **12/24-12/31.** Please bring a donation of warm socks for a Christmas gift. We also want to provide **dinner for them on Christmas Eve.** Watch for sign-ups!

Annual Meeting – 2017 Annual Congregational Meeting is this **Sunday, December 3, 2017** between services! Plan to join in! We will approve the 2018 budget and new council members.

You're invited to
Lunch Bunch!



Lunch Bunch December 10

We will have Lunch Bunch on **December 10, 12:15pm** at the **Golden Corral.** Do you normally eat alone? Join us!





Joe's Corner Faith Formation News

Bridge Ministries Christmas Event- A Christmas Story – The Musical, December 16th at Noon,

our Bridge Ministries group will be going to the Midtown Arts Center in Fort Collins for a Christmas Dinner Theater "A Christmas Story – The Musical". This will be a combined event between King of Glory and Zion Lutheran. Sign up in the Concourse! The cost is \$56.54 in cash, or a check made out to Pastor Ruth Ann. Sign up soon so that spots don't run out!

Middle School Christmas party!- Saturday, December 9th 6-8:00pm at King of Glory

All middle schoolers! Please come to our annual Middle school Christmas party! There will be food, games, and a White Elephant gift exchange (So please bring a small gift that is wrapped!). It will be a super fun time, hope to see you all there!



High School Christmas party!- Sunday, Dec 10th 6-8:00pm at Lily Patrick's house

All High schoolers are welcome to go to our annual High School Christmas party! This year it will be located at Lily Patrick's house. There will be food, games, and a White Elephant gift exchange (So please bring a small gift that is wrapped!). Let Joe know if you are interested and he will get you directions to the house.

Young Adults Dinner- Friday, December 29th 6-8:00pm at McGraff's American Grill

Last year we started a annual tradition of getting our young adults together for a dinner over Christmas break. Please join us at McGraff's (1602 E Eisenhower) for a fun time with other young adults from Zion Lutheran. And if you are wondering if you are a young adult or not, you are! Please join us.

Joe is beginning Student Teaching- January 1

Our Faith Formation/Cross generational Minister, Joe, will be leaving us for 16 weeks to complete his student teaching for the University of Northern Colorado. Please direct any questions about our ministries to Pastor Ruth Ann, and we will work to make sure our ministries continue to go on during this time. Please wish Joe the best of luck next time you see him!

Christ's peace,
Joseph Jedrzejewski, Faith Formation Minister

Show your appreciation for King of Glory's staff by contributing to the Staff Appreciation Fund!

The Administrative Council invites you to contribute to a special Staff Appreciation Fund which will be used to provide gifts of cash to all of our staff members. Please put "Staff Appreciation Fund" on the memo line of your checks or mark the outside of an envelope if you opt to give cash.

We will also accept text gifts and online gifts. Just access the Donation button on the front page of our website where you can set up a donation through a bank transfer or credit card. You can also use the QR code to access the mobile giving page or text a donation to 970-999-1463 (example: \$100 STAFF).



Donations will be accepted from December 1 through December 17. Thank you for your generosity!





DECEMBER NEWS from Lutheran Campus Ministry

Please pray for students, faculty and staff as the semester comes to a close this December. Consider giving a Christmas or year-end gift to Lutheran Campus Ministry in honor of someone you love. Your gifts provide opportunities for students to experience a faith community, worship, Bible studies, service, retreats and more. For more information about Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado contact Pastor Deb Abbott at lcm.unco@gmail.com. For Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado State University contact Pastor Paul Judson at pastor@lcmcsu.org. Thank you for your support!

King of Glory provides a meal once a month for LCM-CSU Sept.-May. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Jan DesJardin. It is just a few hour commitment that makes a huge impact on a student's life.



Thank you!

We want to thank all of you who donated items for the Bake Sale at the Bazaar on November 11th. We received so many wonderful baked goods of such variety. Thank you to those who helped sell the items during the Bazaar and anyone who came the day before to help sort and wrap the items for display. We depend on our volunteers who create a wonderful Bake Sale with a reputation for its quality. Anyone who would like to help as a co-chairperson for the Bake Sale next year leave your name and phone number with the office at KOG or call Peggy at 679-4677. If you're new to KOG and would like to get involved with the Bazaar we'd love to hear from you!

Good Gifts

display in the concourse...just in time for Christmas shopping!

Americans spend over \$300 billion on Christmas shopping year...that's with a "B"! Substituting one traditional gift with one from the **ELCA Good Gifts** catalog would redirect a significant amount of that money toward the fight against hunger and poverty.



The catalog at the Good Gifts display is brand new this year. Based on the needs of our partners around the world, some gifts have been added and some removed. Pick up your personal copy...good for two years of shopping!

If you want to give gifts represented by an ornament, just pick up the ornaments you want and write a check to King of Glory (indicating on the memo line what good gifts you are buying). We will forward the money to ELCA World Hunger with directions for the use. You can also use the order form inside the catalogs or shop online at ELCA.org/goodgifts.

The display table also contains the 2017 Good Gifts **Advent Calendar**. Each day is a reminder of the reason for the season with hymns, prayers, Bible verses, and stories of how ELCA Good Gifts make a difference in the world. The new **Advent Study** is also available and full of weekly devotions, prayers, blessings and human suggestions.

Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers
Ana S. Banyan, Director

Home for the Holidays

Sunday, Dec. 3 at 2 pm
 Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
 1200 South Tenth Hill Road, Fort Collins

Sunday, Dec. 10 at 3 pm
 King of Glory Lutheran Church
 2319 Wilson Avenue, Loveland

Admission at the door: \$10 adults, \$5 students
www.rockymountainchambersingers.org

STUDIES & GROUP NEWS



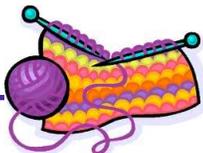
Sonrisers

The men's theological book study group meets at 7:00AM **year-round every Thursday** morning at Perkins on Eisenhower. For more information and the current book title, please contact Bill McDivitt (970-669-4090). New members are welcome!



Peace Circle

Peace Circle will meet at **Noon** on **December 13** at the church for **Christmas potluck lunch** (please bring a dish to share), fellowship, and 1:00PM Bible study. **All ladies welcome.** Please RSVP to Eida Riegel (667-4107).



Prayer Shawl Team

Prayer Shawl will be meeting on **Monday, Dec. 4 at 1:00PM** in the church library. **All levels of knitting and crocheting are welcome!** If you have questions, please contact Barb Brackin-Bartel (970-213-3256)



Adult Bible Studies

Sunday Adult Faith Formation!

December 10—Any more questions about the Apostles' Creed? Let's talk about the Trinity. We'll break for the holidays and begin again in January! Thanks for your participation this fall!

Bible Study on Wednesdays!

The Thursday Bible study has moved days and time. **We now meet on Wednesdays at 11:00AM.** This is a group that has fun! We laugh together and discuss the Scripture lessons for the upcoming weekend. You don't need to know them ahead of time or even understand what they're saying! We discover it together.

Pastor Ruth Ann

Grief Group

Feeling blue? Have you lost a loved one recently? Need a bit of extra support as we head into the holidays? Join Pastor Ruth Ann and others as we learn what grief is and some specific things to do as we 'walk in the valley of the shadow.'

Thursdays: December 7, 14 at 3:00PM
and Wednesdays Dec. 6 & 13 at 7:00PM
in the Library.



KOG Readers Book Club

Noontime Readers will meet on **Thursday, Dec. 21 at 12:00PM** in the church library. The book for December is The Angel of Forest Hill by Cindy Woodsmall. For more information contact Barb Brackin-Bartel (970-213-3256) **New members are always welcome, please join us!**

FINANCIALS

EXTRAS

Financial Update through October 31, 2017

	2016 MONTH	2016 YTD	2017 MONTH	2017 YTD
INCOME:				
GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS	\$29,712	\$273,788	34,313	279,409
BUILDING USE FEES	\$2,055	\$23,613	1,120	15,103
	\$31,767	\$297,401	\$35,433	\$294,512
EXPENSES AND DEBT:				
EXPENSES	\$24,212	\$263,921	25,274	275,559
DEBT PAYMENTS	\$3,560	\$35,284	3,712	36,363
	\$27,772	\$299,205	\$28,986	\$311,922
ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS:				
World Hunger	\$620	\$17,847	\$ 445	\$ 23,436
ELCA Disaster Relief	\$50	\$416	\$ 950	\$ 3,385
Good Samaritan Fund		\$75		\$ 50
Memorials	\$1,905	\$5,445		\$ 100
Christmas Bazaar	\$285	\$2,585	\$ 80	\$ 2,500
Quilters/Debt Retirement		\$1,270		\$ 1,270
Haiti Relief Mission		\$650		\$ 1,635
Rotary Club/Kid'sPak				
	\$ 2,860	\$ 28,288	\$ 1,475	\$ 32,376

Financial Update and Challenge

Through November 15 of this year, we have collected 77% of the income needed to fully fund the budget adopted for 2017.

Expenses have been running higher than income all year...but we still have the rest of 2017 to catch up! Can you help us give \$91,534 to the general budget through the end of December? That funds the ministry we do right here as well as our regular outreach to many organizations.



Food
Collection

Recommended December Donations for HNS

House of Neighborly Services Request for **December is flour and baking mixes**. Please drop off your donations in the "House" in the Octagon.
Thank you!



Thank you for your generous giving to KidsPak on Thanksgiving Eve! We were able to collect \$940.00 for them!

The next Messenger Deadline is December 17



Messenger Assembly is December 21



You can scan this QR code to go straight to our website's giving page!

Thank you!

2017 Church Council

Officers

Bob Bower,
President

Leo Salazar,
Vice-President

Carol McDivitt, *Treasurer*
Linda Nolan, *Secretary*

Members at Large

Joe Asmus
Pat Johnson
Ted Schmidt
Scott Whitney



King of Glory Lutheran Church
2919 N. Wilson Avenue
Loveland, CO 80538-2461

Sermon on the web:
www.kingofgloryloveland.com



The Messenger

*"As God's People, Graced by Differences, Nurtured by the Spirit,
and Gifted to Serve, We Invite and Welcome All to Grow in Faith."*



- December 3—2017 Congregational Meeting at 9:40AM
- December 10—Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers Concert at 3:00PM
- December 16—Bridge Ministries Dinner Theatre Outing at Noon
- December 17—Children's Christmas pageant at 8:30AM
- December 21—Longest Night Worship Service at Zion at 7:00PM
- December 24—Christmas Eve Sunday:
 - Morning Worship at 10:00AM (1 service)
 - 4:00, 7:00 & 10:00PM— Family & Candlelight services

Worship Schedule
Saturday —5:30PM
Sunday — 8:30AM & 10:45AM



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.