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Christmas Eve Worship!

December 24th at 4:00pm and 8:00pm

Only 35 days until Baby Jesus arrives at 4 and 8 pm, 2919 N. Wilson Ave. Isn't it amazing how He is always on time?! Mary is a miracle worker. 4:00pm will be traditional worship with Holy Communion, Candles and our Glory Singers. At 8:00pm we will worship the Newborn King with Communion, Candles and our bell choir, the Glory Ringers. Due to the very low attendance the last three years, there will be no 10:00pm worship. If you're looking for a late night worship, both Zion and Trinity have service at 10:30pm. *Come and worship, come and worship, the Newborn King!*

Christmas Bazaar Report



The Christmas Bazaar proved to be an outstanding event for King of Glory again this year. In this 10th year, the Bazaar set two new records:

1. Over 1,300 people entered our church to shop, and 2. We raised over \$18,000 – the most ever.

The bazaar team brings together nearly 60 vendors from around Colorado selling handmade items, as well as several tables of boutique items and quilts made by King of Glory members, a bake sale, lunch, silent auction, and a children's craft room. The silent auction this year in its own room generated its highest amount of donations yet.

The bazaar's tremendous success happened only through the dedicated work of many members of the congregation as well as people from the community who help make it a premier holiday event for Loveland. It's a wonderful opportunity for the congregation to show its constant willingness to pitch in and help a great program. Thanks so much to all who helped and participated!!

From Pastor Ruth Ann



As I write this, it is only a week until Thanksgiving. This season my heart is full of gratitude for you the people of King of Glory. When we embarked on the Worship Grow Serve Appeal, we didn't know how you would respond. Having never tried such an ambitious stewardship appeal the Generosity Team and I wondered aloud how it would be received.

You responded above and beyond what I could have imagined. You answered prayers. In receiving 113 Statements of Intent we are delighted to project \$50,000 increase in giving. While creating a budget for 2020, we were able to more closely align the ministry allocations with your projected gifts. Thank you! Thank you! I promise that we will continue to be transparent with the finances you give us to change God's Kingdom. I promise we will be faithful in how we spend your money. Thank you, thank you.

In addition, we also held our 10th Annual Bazaar! The team that puts this fantastic event on, led by Leo Salazar, worked tirelessly for months getting ready. In Leo's words, "another glass ceiling was shattered" by the number of people that walked through our doors and the money raised. 1342 guests entered our building and were met with God's hospitality and lovely gifts. They were fed delicious soup, bought home baked goods and gave us over \$18,000 in return! Wow! God's grace was evident to all. Thank you, thank you for every single person who participated whether you moved a chair or baked cookies. My heart is filled with praise. Blessed Thanksgiving to all! *Pr Ruth Ann*



Pastor Deb's Faith Formation Notes



During this Advent season Christians all around the world prepare for the coming of Jesus! We invite you to find a moment each day for prayer and devotion by yourself or with your friends and family. To help you on your

Advent journey please pick up a devotional booklet at KOG. We will have devotions for every age, families and individuals!

Midweek Advent Worship

This year we are offering a special time of reflection and worship on **Wednesdays, December 4, 11 and 18 from 12:00-12:30pm** in the KOG sanctuary. We will worship with *Holden Evening Prayer* and reflect on Advent readings. Please join us if you are able!

Longest Night Worship – 7:00pm, Saturday, December 21 at KOG

Are you feeling the Christmas blues? Missing that special someone? 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 Sonja Pancoast 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. *(We will still have the regular 5:30pm worship service that evening.)*

A Christmas Treasury



Children and Youth will present their **Christmas Program on Sunday, December 15** during the 8:30am service with a reception following! **Rehearsals are Sunday, December 1 and December 8 at 9:40am.**

NO Sunday School on Sunday, December 22 and 29. We will gather together again for an Epiphany Celebration on Sunday, January 5 at 9:40am in the Fellowship Hall! Classes for all ages resume on Sunday, January 12.

Middle School News

Confirmation Class will be Sunday, Dec. 15, 12:00-2:00pm at Zion Lutheran Church followed by Loveland Laser Tag from 2:00-4:00pm. We will meet at LLT after Confirmation Class. No cost and please **RSVP to Pastor Deb by Sunday, December 8.**

High School News

Thank you to our 14 L2F2 youth and adults who attended the Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp Senior High Retreat in November!

High School Christmas Cookie Party Sunday, December 8, 3:00-5:00pm

Wolfe home, 832 Black Maple Drive, Loveland

Join together with high school youth from Zion and KOG to celebrate Christmas! Bring two dozen of



your family's favorite Christmas cookie for a cookie exchange. We will also bake cookies together to deliver to first responders. **RSVP to Pastor Deb by Sunday,**

December 1 if you plan to attend.

High School Winter Retreat at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp & Monarch Mountain Friday, February 28 – Sunday, March 1

All high school youth and friends are invited to register now for our annual ski retreat. We will carpool to Rainbow Trail after school on Friday, then ski on Saturday at Monarch Mountain. We'll return to RTLCL for dinner and group activities and then return to Loveland on Sunday afternoon. The cost for this retreat is \$150 which includes ski/snowboard rental, lift ticket, lodging, meals and transportation. Please contact Pastor Deb for more info or to **register by December 15.**

Christmas Caroling – Sunday, December 22, 12:00-2:00pm

We will meet at Zion Lutheran Church for lunch and then will head out in groups to carol to homebound friends. All are welcome!



Joy to the World!

Brewing Conversations -Thursdays at 7:00pm at Big Thompson Brewery, Loveland

This is a weekly event specifically for those who don't feel comfortable in a traditional church setting. Bring a friend and join us for a night of service and conversation around a spiritual topic. First beverage is free!

More info by contacting Pastor Deb at

brewingconversationsNOCO@gmail.com

or check out our **Facebook** page. **BC will not meet on Thursday, December 26.**



Little Library

Check out our new Little Library cart at KOG. This month there are books and resources for every age to help you journey through this Advent and



Christmas season. Each month there will also be books from two or three authors that we will highlight. And of course, you are always welcome to take books home from our big Library down by the Sunday School classrooms! *If you would like to help*

update the KOG Library join our Library Team by contacting Pastor Deb. Thank you!

Sabbath Days & Pastoral Care

Your pastors are committed to taking days off each week for Sabbath rest. Pastor Ruth Ann's Sabbath day is Monday. Pastor Deb's Sabbath days are Thursday and Friday as she is working ¾ time. Don't ever hesitate to call if you are in need of pastoral care. There is always a pastor on call!

Vibrant Faith Symposium

November 14-16, Pastor Deb and I attended a Faith Symposium in Cherry Creek. It was put on by Vibrant Faith; an organization which studies and coaches churches all over the nation. We looked at best practices of congregations doing excellent work in helping people develop a lifelong relationship with God. We came away with many ideas and models for growing our programming here at King of Glory. Plus it was a benefit to simply have some time together. Thank you for supporting the ongoing education of your pastors!



Thank you for the exceptional response to the Generosity Appeal!

As of November 11th, based on the Statements of Intent received, we project KOG contributions for 2020 to be around **\$413,000**. This wonderful total, which currently projects a tremendous \$50,000 increase in giving for the year ahead, will be extremely helpful to the Leadership Team as they prepare the 2020 budget for presentation to the Congregation at the Annual Meeting. Other exciting data from the Appeal includes:

- A. 115 Households have submitted Statements of Intent -- far more than any recent year
- B. 105 of those households have declared giving plans for next year
- C. 94 intend to give at least as much as 2018
- D. 65 intend to increase by 10% or more
- E. 57 intend to increase by 20% or more
- F. 31 intend to increase by more than 50%
- G. 23 intend to increase by 100% or more

To each and every person who has returned a Statement of Intent, we repeat: Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! If you have not yet had a chance to return yours, it's not too late to bring one to the Church office or mail it in.



King of Glory is a generous group of people! People committed to Jesus. People committed to this church. People who are organizing their lives around God's mission, the Kingdom of God. God bless each and every one of you!

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Angel House - KOG hosts December 15-21.

Realizing how busy this month can be as we all prepare for Christmas. I can't help but wonder what it might feel like to those who don't have a place to call home over the holidays. We have been given this perfect opportunity to demonstrate God's love as we share a bit of our time with our guests.

It is quite easy to:

Share a meal... Have a conversation...

Play games... These families are no different than our own families. These families also need to feel the "Christmas Spirit"

Thank you to all who continue to volunteer each week we host Angel House. Your time, generosity, and kindness are greatly appreciated!

If you are interested in volunteering or have questions please feel free to contact Pr Ruth Ann, Linda Bower or Nancy French **or sign up on the board in the concourse.**

137 Homeless Connection – December 22-28

This year we are grateful to once again be hosting men and women who do not have a place to stay. *137 Homeless Connection* has a gathering place during the day at 137 S. Lincoln Ave, every day of the year. When the weather drops below 20 degrees overnight, then clients may stay at area churches. King of Glory has been proud to host *137* during the week of Christmas for many years.

We're expecting about 15-20 guests. We will be making up Christmas gift bags. Please donate warm socks, gloves or hats. Whatever we have left over, we'll donate to the day shelter so more people can receive them! ***We'd also like to serve them a hot Christmas meal at 7:30pm on Dec 24. If you are interested in helping, please talk to Pr Ruth Ann.***

King of Glory is again a collection point for Realities for Children's Christmas toy drive.

If you wish to participate, please place new, **unwrapped** toys in the marked bin in the concourse starting this weekend. Toys for all ages are welcome as well as gift cards for teens. Case workers will distribute the donations to Larimer County children who have suffered abuse, neglect or are at-risk. **The deadline for toy drop off is Sunday, Dec. 15.**

STUDY & FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Adult Faith Formation - Join us each Sunday morning at 9:40am in the Fellowship Room. Bring your coffee and a donut!

Sonrisers – The men's theological book study group meets **every Thursday at 7:00am year-round** at Perkins on Eisenhower. For more information and the current book title, please contact Bill McDivitt (970-988-8962)



Prayer Shawl – Knitting & crocheting group! We welcome all levels of crafters. Meetings are on the first Monday of the month at 1:00pm in the church library. The next meeting will be on **December 2**. For more info contact Barb Bartel (970-213-3256).



Peace Circle – Ladies Fellowship & Bible Study will meet **at 12:30pm (new time!)** on **December 11** for the Christmas Potluck, fellowship and 1:30pm Bible study in the church Fellowship Room. All ladies are welcome! Our hostess will be Sylvia Bevans (970-55-6976). To RSVP or for more info contact Neva Gulliksen (970-669-2371) or Sylvia.



Glory Readers Book Club – Book Club meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 12:00pm in the church library. The next meeting will be on **December 19**. The book for December is Remembrance by Mary Monroe. For more information, call Barb Brackin-Bartel (970-213-3256). New readers are welcome!



2nd Wind – Retired men, this group is for you! We meet at **9:30am on the 3rd Friday** of the month (**December 20**) in the Fellowship Room. This group is open to any retired guy – newly retired or even if you've had the hang of this for years! Snacks and coffee are supplied. Topics are varied and the conversation inspiring! Call Jerome Beckmann for more information. (970-669-0341).



LuMin Campus Ministry Update

Once a month during the school year we serve a meal and enjoy fellowship with the students who worship at Lutheran Campus Ministry at CSU. If you would like to help with the dinner, please contact Jan DesJardin. The next dinner is **December 8**.

For more information about **Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado** visit www.lecmgreeley.org



and for **Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado State University** visit www.lcmcsu.org.

Musical Notes - King of Glory Concert Series

Don't miss the premiere



performance of the newly organized NOCO Singers at King of Glory, this Sunday, November 24, 3:00pm. This group of music professionals is unique in that they do not have just one

director, but instead, everyone in the group can be the conductor; thus, they work together collaboratively, exchanging ideas and leadership. They will inspire and delight you with the joy they have in their singing!

Admission is \$12/adults; \$8/military and seniors; students/donation only. King of Glory is hosting a reception for all following the concert.

Glory Singers with Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers

KOG's own Glory Singers will join the Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers in *Home for the Holidays Concert, December 15, 3:00pm* at King of Glory as part of the King of Glory Concert Series. The two groups will present Heilig (Holy), a double choir work, by Felix Mendelssohn. Performing the work in German, the Glory Singers have risen to the challenge and performed a very successful first rehearsal with the Chamber Singers.

The Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers ensemble is an auditioned acappella choir founded in 1988 by and under the direction of Ann Bunyan. They have performed throughout Colorado and are known for their wonderful blend and diction.

This will be a wonderful holiday event, so come and support King of Glory Singers, the King of Glory Concert Series, and the Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers. You will be inspired!

Admission is \$18/adults and \$5/students.

**Save the Date for the *Watoto Children's Choir*—
Wed., January 29, 2020 - 7:00pm** -- KOG will be sponsoring the Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda in conjunction with Zion Lutheran Church.

Concert Series Committee members:

Dr. Jane Andrews, Jim Brossia, Kathy Gustad, Janet Meadows, Don McDaniel, and Sally Specht.

Sound System Update

Since the November Messenger article, there have been a few tweaks of equipment. The contract with Clearwing has now been signed and equipment will be ordered. We are still hopeful for an installation by the end of December. Thank you to generous households who helped make the first payment!



The Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry provides quality Christian care to a care receiver from a trained Stephen Minister.

A Stephen Minister demonstrates a sincere interest in you and genuinely wants to know, "How are you doing?"

A Stephen Minister has made the commitment to walk alongside of you as you make the journey through this difficult time in your life.

Many find themselves saying, "I want to help" or "I need help." They simply may not know where to start.

A Stephen Minister has completed 50 hours of training. They have been commissioned prior to receiving their assignment.

Stephen Ministry here at KOG matches each Stephen Minister with a care receiver. These are always matched one to one keeping men with men and women with women.

A Stephen Minister meets with their care receiver for an hour each week.

A Stephen Minister is trained to be a good listener. They are aware of how to best deal with the grief the individual is dealing with.

Stephen Ministers are not therapists; however, they are aware of how to be fully present with their care receiver in a professional and confidential manner.

If you or someone you know could benefit from a Stephen Minister we encourage you to speak with Pastor Ruth Ann or one of our Stephen Leaders. This may be the ministry you have been looking for.

Prayer Requests - If you have a special prayer request please contact the church office. You may call or email the church office (970-669-5983); office@aplace2grow.org, or

Pr Ruth Ann at Ruthann@aplace2grow.org

Caring Eucharistic Ministers

We have many home-centered members who are not able to attend worship at KOG. We had two Caring Visitors who took Holy Communion faithfully the last several years. This team has now expanded and changed its name to Caring Eucharistic Ministers. They are excited to serve the Lord and our members in this way. We will bless them and send them from worship on the first Sunday of each month. If you know of a member who might enjoy receiving Holy Communion at home please let Pastor Ruth Ann know.

Marty Mouse

I've been watching what is happening lately at our church. Recently a red plastic basket arrived in the concourse. *I love red!* So I peeked around and overheard Marty Schmidt telling someone that the basket was for toys; toys for boys and girls who wouldn't otherwise get a Christmas present. First my heart sank. Imagine! A little boy or girl who might not get a present! That's terribly sad. Especially when St. Nick was a Christian Bishop who provided for the sick and poor. (*The legends of his works grew into the one we call Santa Claus!*) Then my heart rejoiced. Because I remembered that we as Lutheran Christians, let our lights shine by sharing God's love with others. It comes from our Baptismal call. Christmas lights on houses are great, but God's light in our heart is even better. Shop, shop! Let's fill that bright red tub! (*Gifts are due back on December 17th*)



The recommended Donation item for House of Neighborly Service in December is Baking Mixes! Please drop off your donation in the "House" in the center octagon. Thank you!

Annual Meeting

The 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting will be held **December 15** at 9:40am. Please plan to be there, we will be voting on the **2020 budget and Church Council nominees!** Coffee & donuts will be available!

Team leaders- please submit your report for KOG's Annual Report to the church office **by Dec 2** (office@aplace2grow.org)



2019 Leadership Team

Officers

Eric Backsen, President
Bryan French, Vice Pres
Mark Francis, Treasurer
Nancy Judson, Secretary

Members-at-Large

Lynn Hamilton
Lee Holmquist
Roxane Salazar
Ted Schmidt

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Kathy Pensack-Rinehart,
Worship Accompanist

Kathy Hansen,
Choir Accompanist

Darrell Phelps,
Custodian/Maintenance

Robyn French,
Nursery Attendant



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

Sermon on the web:

www.kingofgloryloveland.com



A Reconciling in Christ
Congregation

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

The Messenger



December 2019

King of Glory Lutheran Church – December Highlights

Dec 15 – 8:30am Children's Christmas Program;

9:40am 2019 Annual Meeting;

3:00pm Rocky Mountain Chamber Singers Concert

5:30pm Angel House Hosting week begins (thru Dec. 21)

Dec 21 – 7:00pm Longest Night worship service

Dec 22 – 7:00pm 137 Homeless Connection hosting week (thru Dec 29)

Dec 24 – 4:00 & 8:00pm Candlelight worship services