The Messenger - March 2020



Count Us In...AGAIN -- It's More than Food!!

ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving is a special opportunity for us to come together and lift up our church's hunger and poverty ministry during Lent.

Since Lent is King of Glory's traditional time to emphasize the hunger appeal and prepare for the Second Offering on Easter, the Hunger Team once again said "YES" to the invitation to participate in this challenge. Our goal is to collect \$12,000 through Easter Sunday!

During the season of Lent, we invite you to study, pray and give with us during ELCA World Hunger's 40 Days of Giving --- for the good of our families, our neighbors, and communities around the world. Lent is a time of reflection and repentance, of sacrifice and self-examination. But Lent is also a season of hope – hope in the work God is doing in the world, even in the most challenging times. Safety and stability for refugees and migrants. The renewal of the earth. Sufficient livelihood for all. These are just a few of the things of which we dream, fueled by the Holy Spirit.

Look for information and handouts coming your way later this month. Plan now to consider saving for something very specific from the new Good Gifts catalog...something that supports one of the areas of hope identified in this year's world hunger materials. The work of ELCA World Hunger is astonishing and addresses many ways for people to live sustainable lives... It's More than Food!!



ELCA World Hunger

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



Watoto Thanks You!

Pr. Ruth Ann and the entire KOG family, Thank you for hosting us, and for showing us such kindness and generosity. May God bless you and continue to use you to bless others. Love, Paul - Choir 102

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From the Pastor - Wondrous Love -



On Ash Wednesday when you come to worship, you'll hear the familiar invitation to enter into the disciplines of Lent.

"I invite you to the discipline of Lent: self-examination and repentance.

prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love....strengthened by Word and Sacrament." We enter into these disciplines to remember the sacrificial acts of Jesus' life. We take them on in order to become more like our Lord. We follow and

It is fairly common for Christians to 'give up something' for Lent. Why not take something on? Giving up candy might seem difficult, yet the spirit of Lent calls us to something much deeper. We give up a meal in order to spend that time in prayer for those who have no food. We use the time praying God might make us hungry for God.

I'd invite you to reflect upon these disciplines. Don't set yourself up for failure! Choose one thing that stretches your discipline which will take prayer and sacrifice. Then try to practice that discipline a little at a time. As you do, *invite* God into the space. Listen for God's still small voice. Wonder about how this discipline is changing your inner self, your soul, your faith.

Finally, rest in the Wondrous Love our God has for you; for each of us. Rest in God's love that undergirds our every attempt at following; and that which rejoices in our desire to come close! Walking it with you, Pastor Ruth Ann

Pastor Deb's Faith Formation Notes



In the 14 years I have served as a pastor in the ELCA there is one question that has not ever changed. "Pastor, what do you do all week?" The work of pastors is a mystery to many people! We are communicating and checking in with

people about pastoral care issues and the ministries of the congregation. We are working with staff and volunteers to plan worship, fellowship events, service and spiritual formation opportunities. Some days we fight with our computers and copiers and phones. We study scripture, pray and listen for God's voice as we prepare to preach and teach.

It is my honor to serve KOG as Associate Pastor working ¾ time. That breaks down to me working out of the office or having appointments and meetings three days a week in addition to my responsibilities on Sunday mornings. When I am preaching I lead worship on Saturday night and then there are other events on Saturdays and Sundays and weeknight evenings that keep me busy as well. I think there will be about six weekends a year that I will be with youth, women or families on retreats, mission trips or at camp - which means I will not be in worship on those weekends. Pastors also take vacation and I have 6 weekends off throughout the year so from time to time you will notice that I'm not in worship because I'm on vacation.

Many of you have asked when my position will move to full-time. I began serving at KOG in August of 2019 and agreed to serve ¾ time for one year. After the incredible response to the Worship, Grow, Serve Initiative #1 to make my position full-time, the Leadership Team and Pastor Ruth Ann and I have agreed to re-assess where we are in early summer 2020. We are still living into having me serve full-time and what that means financially.

This month as we enter into the season of Lent our Confirmation students are entering into mentor relationships with adults in our congregation. Hopefully they will learn from each other about what students and adults do during the week, apart from when we see each other in worship. Through these relationships they will learn more about each other as people who have unique personalities, vocations, experiences, thoughts and feelings. Our life as Christians is not only about the hour that we are in worship each week. After all, we follow Jesus every day. This month I invite you to get to know one person in our congregation a little bit better. Find out what they do all week! *Peace, Pastor Deb*

Wednesday Night Lenten Worship

Our Wednesday night theme will be 'Wondrous Love' after the Augsburg Fortress devotionals. After a light soup supper, we'll worship God who, in wondrous love, journeyed to the cross for our sake. This love opens us, changes us, and transforms us as we gaze in wonder at Jesus' love for every individual and the whole world. Worship will be thirty minutes long, with songs and short reflections; stories about how love has changed people's lives. Won't you join in as part of a Lenten Discipline?

Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1. Soup Supper 5:30 - 6:15pm - Fellowship Hall Worship 6:15-6:45pm - Sanctuary

Teams <u>or</u> individuals who would like to provide soup for a supper can sign up in the concourse. Thank you!

Sunday School

Every Sunday morning we have opportunities for people of every age to learn about the Christian faith and grow in God's love. Preschool – 5th grade gathers together for music 9:40-9:50am in the Sunday School classroom and then have class 9:50-10:30am in the Sunday School classroom and Classroom A. Middle School and High School Youth meet in Classroom B for conversation about current events and the gospel reading. Adult education meets in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

Middle School News

Confirmation Class this month will be on Sunday, **March 8 and 29**, 12:15-2:00pm at KOG in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you to all of our Confirmation students and adults who are meeting together throughout Lent in our Lenten Mentors program. Students and adults will meet each week to share a devotion and learn from each other. We give thanks for these caring mentoring relationships!

<u>L2F2 Potluck & Service Project</u> Friday, March 27, 6:00-8:00pm

All ages are invited to bring a dish to share as we gather together for a meal and service project. We will be assembling Care Kits for Zion and KOG members to share with members of our community experiencing homelessness. These bags will be filled with snacks, water bottles, and other practical

items to share with our neighbors. We will be collecting the items listed below throughout Lent at both churches. Items can be dropped off in the collection box outside the Sanctuary beginning Sunday, March 1. We will have a Thrivent Action Team to purchase additional items to complete the kits. L2F2 = Loveland Lutherans Faith Formation

- -Beef Jerky (individual-size bags or beef sticks)
- -Chewing Gum
- -New socks (Men's and women's adult sizes)
- -Flavored water packets
- -Fruit snacks
- -Gift card for fast food restaurant
- -Individual tissue packets
- -Cracker packages with peanut butter or cheese
- -Individual hand wipes packets
- -Soft granola bars
- -Chapstick
- -Cough drops
- -Sunscreen (travel size)
- -Band-aids
- -Feminine hygiene items
- -Nail clippers
- -Applesauce pouches
- -handwritten encouraging notes

New this year! Easter Vigil with KOG, Trinity and Zion! 6:00pm on April 11th at Zion.

If you've never attended an Easter Vigil, it is a night to remember! "This is the night!" A Vigil has four parts: Fire, Word, Font and Meal. A new Christ candle is lit. We listen to the great salvations stories of our faith. In ancient times, this was the night when new catechumenates (new disciples: those who had studied and prepared) were baptized. Easter arrives as we celebrate the Risen Christ around His Table. This year, youth will be creative in presenting the stories. Won't you join in from 6:00-7:30pm? It's great fun!

<u>High School Service Retreat</u> <u>& Middle School Spiritual Gifts Retreat</u> Friday, April 24 – Sunday, April 26 Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp

This is a joint retreat weekend with separate tracks for middle school and high school youth.

High School youth will help get Sky Ranch ready for summer programming and also break for group sessions and devotions.

Middle School and Confirmation youth will gather to learn and explore their Spiritual Gifts.

This is a free retreat for both middle school and high school youth. Contact Pastor Deb if you would like to register at 970-817-4407 or deb@aplace2grow.org.

Women's Retreat November 6-8 "Learning to Love Yourself"

Location: YMCA of the Rockies at Estes Park **Cost:** \$175 – Includes 2 nights lodging, meals on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. *Financial support available – do not let money prevent you from attending this amazing event!* Please contact Pastor Deb for more information. **Registration Deadline: August 30, 2020.**

Join women from KOG, Zion and Trinity Lutheran in Loveland for a weekend of fellowship and spiritual reflection. Jesus says that the greatest commandments are to love the Lord your God with your heart, soul and mind and strength and to love your neighbor as yourself. In order to love your neighbor as yourself, we must first love ourselves. Our retreat will focus on learning to love the amazing woman God has created each one of us to be

Our retreat leader is Pastor DanaLee Simon. DanaLee Simon has been an Ordained Pastor in the ELCA since 2004, currently serving as a Minister of Spiritual Life through the Rocky Mountain Synod. She received her certification in Spiritual Direction in December 2017 through Shalem Institute. She teaches weekly Self-Compassion classes to high school students, leads several retreats a year, and meets with people in one-on-one Spiritual Direction. DanaLee lives in Salt Lake City, Utah and is also a wife and mother to two wonderful boys. She enjoys getting out in creation including hiking, snow shoeing, paddle boarding or bike riding. She also find joy in meeting friends for coffee, reading to her boys, having friends around the table for dinner, and seeing live music or a movie.

Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp

SAVE the DATES for Sky Ranch camp this summer!

- Middle School youth are invited to attend Confirmation Intensive June 21-26.
- Children who have finished 1st grade-5th grade are invited to a week at camp with Loveland Lutherans July 26-31.
- Family Camp weekend with Zion Lutheran Church on Labor Day weekend, September 4-7.
 Scholarships available! Please see Pastor Deb for more info.

Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp Weekend March 7 & 8

Join us in worship on Saturday at 5:30pm and Sunday at 8:30 & 10:45am to learn about Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp, sing camp songs and meet staff. Between services on Sunday at 9:40am children and youth are invited to a campfire and camp games. Adults are invited to meet with camp staff and learn about opportunities to be at camp this spring, summer and fall!

Little Library

Check out our Little Library cart in the Concourse at KOG. There are books and resources for every age. 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.

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 usually Thursday and Friday as she is working 3/4 time. Don't ever hesitate to call if you are in need of pastoral care. There is always a pastor on call!

Is Church Cancelled or Closed?

This winter we've had more snow than in recent years. So... how would you know if church was cancelled on a Saturday or Sunday due to weather? Here's the answer!

- We would send out an email announcing a closure. (If you normally receive a Friday email from KOG, you are on this email distribution list. If you want to receive one, please let the office know.)
- Look on the local (Denver) TV station Channel 9 and you would see King of Glory Lutheran listed in the cancellations.
- On a week day (Monday-Friday), we typically follow the school district. If school gets cancelled, typically we close. For this instance, please check the same places as above.
- If it is a Wednesday night, Dr. Jane will email the choirs for rehearsal cancellations.
- If someone can get to the church, we'll put an announcement on the answering machine.

STUDY & FELLOWSHIP GROUPS



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 welcomes all levels of crafters. We



meet on the first Monday of the month. March 2, at 1:00pm in the church library. For more info please contact

Barb Brackin- Bartel (970-213-3256).

<u>Peace Circle</u> – Peace Circle will meet at Noon on March 11 for a sack lunch, fellowship and 1:00pm Bible study in the church fellowship room. Please RSVP to Elda (970-667-4107) or Neva Gulliksen (970-669-2371). All ladies welcome!

Glory Readers Book Club - Book Club will meet



on Thursday, March 26 at 12:00pm in the church library. The book selection for B March is <u>Under a Cloudless Sky</u>, by Francine Rivers. For more information,

call Barb Bartel (970-213-3256). New readers are welcome, please join us!

 $\underline{2^{nd} \ Wind}$ – Retired men, this group is for you! They meet at 9:30am on the 3rd Friday of the month



(March 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

always supplied. Topics are varied and the conversation inspiring! Call Jerome Beckmann for more information. (970-669-0341).

Glory Crafters

Greetings, Crafty Friends! Here are the 2020 dates



The Glory Crafters for the Glory Crafters, if you would like to add them to your calendar. We will meet in the KOG Fellowship Room on Wednesdays from 10:00am to noonish on these

dates: March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, August 19, September 16, and October 7. For more info. contact Kathy McAllister (970)779-0677.



Pastor's Thursday Bible Study

Thursday morning Bible study continues at 9:30am weekly. We examine the Bible texts for the upcoming week and we laugh a whole bunch! This is an easy Bible study to join. You don't need to know

it all, or any of it! Just come – ask questions – and open yourself up to God who meets us always in God's Living Word!

Prayer Requests - If you have a special prayer request please contact the church office and indicate whether you want the prayer to be public or for the confidential

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

Other News!

<u>Family Promise- formerly Angel House at</u> KOG March 29 – April 4

Look for the signups in the concourse for your chance to help with this mission.

March NEWS from Lutheran Campus Ministry: LuMIN

Hello, Partners in Ministry!

We hope you are enjoying the winter weather. CSU's campus certainly looks beautiful in the snow! Here are the latest happenings at LuMin:

February 9th was Campus Ministry Sunday. Thank you to all who allowed our students to come and preach in your congregation! And **THANK YOU** to all of you for your continued support of Campus Ministry, in this way and others.

THANK YOU, as well, to all who attended our Open House on February 9th! We had the opportunity to show off our new space, laundry machines and all. Our drop-in center to support housing insecure students launched on Monday, and will continue this Thursday. We are looking for volunteers--email pastor@lcmcsu.org if you are interested.

This Spring, we will be celebrating 9 graduates. It is an exciting season at LuMin CSU! More to come on that in next month's email.

We cannot say thank you to you all enough. Your care for our students, generous donations of time and money, etc. are what keeps this ministry afloat. So, thanks again! *Blessings, Kyra*

You can be a part of our ministry by inviting young adults you know to join us. Then please make sure to pass their info on to us so that we can invite them to join our community as well. If you would like to refer a student or bring a meal this semester to feed students please contact us.

For more information about Lutheran Episcopal



Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado

visit www.lecmgreeley.org



and for Lutheran Campus Ministry (LuMin) at Colorado State University visit www.lcmcsu.org.

Once a month during the school year we serve a meal and enjoy fellowship with the students who worship at Lutheran campus ministry. If you would like to help with the dinner, please contact Jan DesJardin. The next dinner will be March 8.

Caring Eucharistic Ministers

Our Caring Eucharistic Ministers are out and enjoying their ministry with our home-centered members each month. Relationships are growing and members are blessed with the Sacrament. Some are even talking daily by phone! What a gift that Church is a living Church, going and growing beyond the walls of 2919 N. Wilson. If you know of a member who might enjoy receiving Holy Communion at home, please let Pr Ruth Ann or Denise Francis know!

2020 Leadership Team Officers

Eric Backsen, President Bryan French, Vice President Mark Francis, Treasurer Judy Richardson, Secretary

Members-at-Large
Lynn Hamilton
Ron Lamb
Roxane Salazar
Ted Schmidt

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Rev. Ruth Ann Loughry, Pastor

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Kathy Gustad, Admin. Assistant/Editor office@aplace2grow.org

Dr. Jane Andrews, Music & Choir Director jea814@gmail.com

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





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





King of Glory Lutheran Church - March Highlights



February 23 – All Ages (L2F2) Mardi Gras Party – 5:00pm February 26 – Ash Wednesday worship – 12:00pm at Zion Lutheran Church Ash Wednesday worship -- 7:00pm at King of Glory

Midweek Lenten Worship and Soup Suppers –Wednesdays: March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1. March 29 – April 4 Family Promise Hosting Week