



King of Glory
... a Place to Grow

The Messenger - January 2022

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From Pastor Ruth Ann



It's a New Year!

We see it on the advertisements, hear of it most everywhere. 2022 is a new year. All the talk about New Year's resolutions have driven years of data on just how long the average person will keep that resolution. For many people, it's not very long.

I love this passage from the prophet Isaiah; words from the Lord.

Isaiah 43:18-21

¹⁸*Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.*

¹⁹*I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

²⁰*The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert,*

to give drink to my chosen people,

²¹*the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.*

God can make rivers in the desert? Yes, God can! God's creatures, the jackals and the ostriches will praise God? Yes, they will!

God can do all things. We, as humans can't. In fact, there is also a wealth of data about just how difficult it is to change a behavior or a long-held habit. I learned recently that personal coaches are one of the fastest growing vocations in the United States. Why? Because it takes intention and work to change human behavior.

I've struggled changing habits that aren't really healthy for me. Perhaps you have as well. But this I know. When I invited God into the process, when I ask God to help me change and grow, true change happens. It might seem very slow and almost imperceptible at times. Yet, if God can make a river

spring up in a hot, dry, desert, then, yes, God can change us. When that growth comes, *all the praise goes to God, not myself.*

As your pastor, I invite you to do this. Instead of making a resolution you might feel guilty for not keeping past the month of January, why not ponder the following question? *How am I doing loving God, loving myself and loving my neighbor?* Then if one of those areas is in deficit, ask God what God would like you to do about it.

God bless our New Year!

Pastor Ruth Ann

Messenger...to be or not to be.....

The staff and I are having conversations about whether to continue a monthly Messenger or not. Due to low reader numbers, we are wondering if the weekly announcements in the bulletin are sufficient to let people know what is happening. We realize we mail the Messenger as well, to people who are not online.

Is this publication achieving the objective we hope for? Perhaps we do a quarterly newsletter instead? If you have opinions or feelings about this, please call the office to share with Kathy Gustad, or either of the pastors. Thank you!

Pastor Deb's Faith Formation Notes



January 2022

As this new year begins some people will make New Year's resolutions. Instead of making resolutions this year I'm going to choose a word for the year ahead. I have done this for several years and enjoy picking one word to focus

and reflect on.

Last year I chose the word "kind" as it felt like a year where we needed to be kind to ourselves and each other. This year my word is going to be "grow." In 2022 I think we will all be called to grow into new ways of being individuals, community and the church. I pray that God will help me to grow in faith, love and service to others.

I invite you to choose a word for 2022. It might be that one word will come to you or even a whole phrase. Or it might take some brainstorming. Choose a word that you need to hear throughout this year ahead. Perhaps you need a word that brings comfort or maybe you need a word that

challenges you to some new practice or mindset. Ask God to give you a word and then put it in a place where you will see it every day.

May God bless you on your faith journey in this New Year!

Pastor Deb debabbottkog@gmail.com
970-817-4407

Confirmation Learning Experience

Confirmation classes in January are on Sunday, January 9 and 30 at Zion, 12:45-2:00pm. Please bring your Bible and notebook.

Girl Talk

In January Girl Talk will meet beginning on January 11. Youth in 6th – 8th grade are invited to Girl Talk every Tuesday. Conversations are led by trained high school leaders and supervised by adult advisors. Meets every Tuesday, 6:30-8:00pm at King of Glory.

Urban Plunge in Denver for Middle and High School Youth

January 21-22, 2022

Cost is \$10 per youth (scholarships available)
Join us to learn about people experiencing homelessness in Denver. There will be educational and service opportunities. Sign up with Pastor Deb by January 9!

Synod Youth Retreat for Middle and High School Youth

February 18-20, 2022

YMCA in Estes Park

Cost is \$60 per youth (scholarships available)
Join with youth from around our synod for worship, a great speaker and plenty of free time and fun activities in the mountains. Sign up with Pastor Deb by January 16!

Thank You for Christmas Gifts!

We had an incredible response to the request for toys, coats and gift cards for children and youth! Thank you for your generous contributions that gave so many children and youth a wonderful Christmas! December 14 we delivered a car packed full with gifts to Realities for Children for their Santa's Workshop program. To learn more about Realities for Children please visit their website www.realitiesforchildren.com. Thank you!



Senior Ministries

Remember last fall, we asked you to fill out a survey about Senior Ministries? That was because some of our previous Stewardship Initiatives focused on children and youth. Now the Leadership Team wanted to give some funds and intention to programs for seniors. You spoke and we listened!

The most voted for option was exercise classes here at church where you could be with friends. Our own member, Pam Phifer, certified instructor, has offered to teach. Some of you know Pam as you took classes from her here in town. She is excited and is finalizing her schedule. Watch for more information coming soon with dates and times!

Personnel Update

A/V and Social Media Position: As you know we've had two individuals hold this position. We've interviewed several more folks but will renew our efforts in January. It is unique in its part-time nature and two separate skill sets. *Please stop by the sound booth to thank Eric Backsen, Scott Whitney and Ed Young who are keeping us hearing during worship!*

Pianist/Organist: Due to the organ being in decent condition, we are looking for an organist who can also play piano in worship and accompany the choir. Our job description is out in the community, and we'll continue to search. *We thank Michael Millan and Ginny Gingrich for their skills to accompany!*

The Sonrisers Christian Men's Reading Group is looking for men who like to read Christian/ spiritual books, meet on a weekly basis, and engage in discussion about the reading and their experiences.



We are now meeting in person at Perkins Restaurant every Friday at 8:00am. In addition, there will still be an option to call in via Zoom. Please contact **Nick Balogh at 970-669-1072** or baloghn@comcast.net for more information and/or the sign-on link. This is a great opportunity for growth and fellowship. We would love to find some new members - Please give us a try!

Worship Volunteers - Sign Up Now!



Take a look at the **SignUp Genius** link (that comes in the weekly emails) for your opportunity to help in worship.

All you have to do is click on the Signup Genius (blue text is the link) and add your name for the service in which you would like to read the Lesson or do the prayers. You will get the lesson

and prayers ahead of time so you may read over the scriptures & prayers and figure out any tricky pronunciations.

Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 8:30am, and 10:45am

Sunday Adult Education – “Have You Ever Wondered?” 9:45am on Sunday mornings!

Coming in January: Have You Ever Wondered?

On Sunday, January 2, we welcome Sarah Gostenik from Lutheran Family Services, Rocky Mountain, to continue our conversation about refugees. She will give us an overview of the exciting things happening in Greeley with refugees. Also, we will learn concrete ways to help our brothers and sisters in God. Come, hear and learn!

Sunday, January 9, will be a time to finalize what we want to do to come alongside those new to our country and community. Some of us are comfortable writing a check and others want to come face to face to help. Every donation of time or gift is welcome. This will be an important conversation.

January 15, we will dive into Luke's Gospel, our Gospel text for preaching in 2022, Year C of the Lectionary. Just as we did with Mark, we will study themes, characteristics, and motivations of Luke to write the Gospel he did.

Here is a teaser.... Unlike the other Gospels, which jump right into the story of Jesus, Luke takes the very first four verses to explain why he is writing his book. We see right away; this Gospel is written for and to a particular person named Theophilus ('lover of God' or 'one whom God loves').



¹Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, ³I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

Luke wants his reader, Theophilus, to be fortified or strengthened by this particular story which is about to be told. In Luke we read the most details about Jesus' childhood and young life. Only in Luke is the parable of the Good Samaritan included. Mary sings her heart out in the Magnificat. Intrigued? You don't have to know it all. Just come and learn with everyone else! *Pastor Ruth Ann*

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Thursday morning Bible study meets each week at **9:30am** in the Fellowship Room, with a ZOOM link as well! We are returning to our study of the upcoming Gospel texts.

Lectio Divina is the prayer practice of engaging God's word. Join us on ZOOM, **Fridays at 1:00pm**. Look for the link in the Weekend devotion email.

NOTE: The church office will be closed

December 27-31 for staff vacations. We will be picking up mail for end of year contributions. For Pastoral care or emergencies, please call Pastor Ruth Ann at 303-854-4737.

2022 Leadership Team

President: Bryan French
Vice President: Mike Dodge
Treasurer: Ron Lamb
Secretary: Lucy Roberts
Jan DesJardin
Randy Pfeiff
Judy Richardson

Important Pulse Update!

It's here! We are now with Pulse for internet and phone. When you call in, you will have a new menu to hear! We are learning the new system as quickly as possible, however, we appreciate your patience as we figure out all the new fast special features!

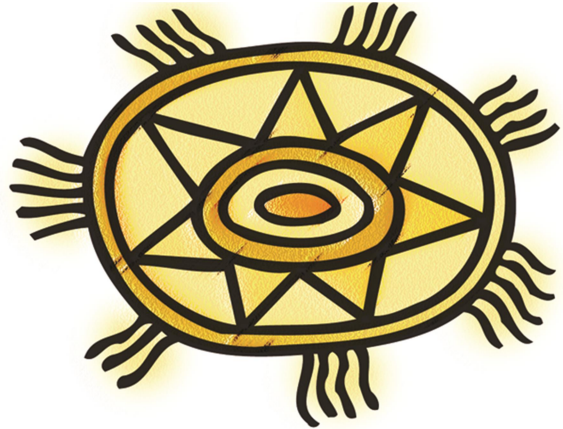


New Member Welcome!

Welcome to Steven and Ann Hersom – they are originally from Iowa, built a home in Berthoud and moved in on October 1st. Steve is a contractor building running tracks, and Ann would like to start up her business, “Tidy Up!” – downsizing and decluttering homes and businesses.

Welcome to Scott & Becky Parkin – recently retired and moved to Loveland from North Dakota! They have 3 adult sons (and a fiancée) living in Arvada.

“The transition to a new locations and life style is more than we expected. We look forward to new relationships with being members of KOG!”





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



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."*

*To see Newsletters, sermons and
worship videos please check our*

January 2022!

Christmas Eve worship

- * **December 24 - 4:00 and 7:00pm**
- * **December 25 - No Saturday service**
- * **December 26 - 10:00am only**

Happy New Year!!

- * **January 1 - No Saturday service**
- * **January 2 - 8:30 and 10:45am**
- 9:45am - Have You Ever Wondered?**

The Messenger

