

KOG Connection—April 2021

Pastor's Corner

Dear KOG Family and Friends,

I adopted the following from a devotion created by Rev. Lisa Rotchford of Seal Beach who based her a devotion on a poem with the original title "What Cancer Cannot Do." Rev. Lisa replaced "Cancer" with "Covid". It reminds me of Paul's words to the churches in Rome where he wrote in chapter 8, *"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."* In this season of the Resurrection, we are reminded that neither death, nor darkness, nor violence, nor illness, nor any of the evils of this world (including COVID-19) is a match for the power of our God. As we are hopefully coming to the end of this pandemic and are starting to be able to celebrate and worship together, I wanted to share these encouraging words with you as there are still many among us that are experiencing grief and isolation, lasting effects of COVID, continued fear for loved ones, or "re-entry" anxiety. Though COVID-19 has done much to change our world, remember it is no match for the grace and love of our God in Jesus Christ.

**Covid cannot cripple love.
It cannot shatter hope.
It cannot corrode faith.
It cannot destroy peace.
It cannot kill friendship.
It cannot suppress memories.
It cannot silence courage.
It cannot invade the soul.
It cannot steal eternal life.
It cannot conquer the spirit.**

Remember . . .

You are loved. "...neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8: 38-39)

There is reason to hope. "Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

God is faithful. "Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations." (Deuteronomy 7:9)

Peace comes from God. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27)

The future is in God's hands. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)

Eternal life cannot be stolen. "...the Son of Man will be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:14-16)

God is with you always. You are never alone. "And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:20)

On a very different note, I also wanted to let y'all know of some recent changes for KOG, which I briefly mentioned in our eblast earlier this week. Our staffing structure and makeup have changed, and God has provided, as always, exactly who we needed. Last month our bookkeeper, Jera, retired, so she and her husband could do some long-anticipated traveling. After a tearful goodbye, she assured us she will remain just a phone call away should we need her, for which we are grateful. We pray for travelling mercies for her and her husband as they embark on this once in a lifetime opportunity. Jera stayed long enough to train our new bookkeeper, Toshia DuBois, who will be introduced at worship later this month. Toshia has been doing a great job learning the position and getting to know our staff.

A second staffing change is that we have split Deacon Leah's position into two separate roles of Deacon for Pastoral Care and Campus Administrator, as it used to be. We are excited to announce that we have hired our own congregant, Nikki Busch, to serve as our new Campus Administrator. Nikki is a newly retired teacher and coach, and we are elated to have her join our staff! Deacon Leah will continue to serve as our Deacon of Pastoral Care along with assisting regularly in worship with occasional preaching. Changing her call to ¼ time will, however, allow her to travel more with Carl, whose work has him residing in various locations in California throughout the rest of this year. Thank you to Deacon Leah for her amazing work as our Campus Administrator during this difficult time. She did a phenomenal job helping our church, preschool and campus groups handle the COVID-19 crisis and all of the challenges, regulations, and other various needs that came with it.

Lastly, we have altered the position of Catherine Marcum, with her blessing. 😊 She has graciously agreed to go from serving as our Office Secretary to the upgraded role of Office Administrator, taking over all communications. Her computer, website and general office and word processing skills have been and continue to be a huge blessing. If you have questions regarding any of these changes, please don't hesitate to contact me or anyone on Council. We look forward to making a formal introduction in worship some Sunday this month for Nikki, Toshia and our Preschool Director, Kelly, who has been with us since August, but

not “met” you all yet. It is a wonderful gift to have such a complete and incredibly gifted staff as we begin looking toward the end of this pandemic and the return to a full slate of in-person ministry opportunities. Please join me in welcoming them all whenever your paths cross.

Blessings,
Pastor Kinndlee

Pastor’s Corner

Dear King of Glory friends,

Happy Easter! He is Risen! He is risen, indeed!

I can certainly appreciate Easter in a very new way this year. It was just over a year ago that everything was shut down for the pandemic. Over the last year we have experienced a time unlike any I can remember. We are yearning for a return to “normal,” yet that normal will undoubtedly look different. And maybe that is ok, because our God is unchangeable. Hebrews 13:8 reminds us, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” That promise provides a firm anchor in these unusual times!

I think that promise also allows us as God’s children to be changeable, changed, and always changing. We can allow the potter to shape us and make us into people who love and serve him in newness of life. God continues to do this to me and in my life as well. Because of my husband’s radically changed work schedule, and because my first grandchild is due soon, God has called me to shift my responsibilities and time commitments. To be more available to these people I love, the congregation council has allowed me to reduce my call to 10 hours / week, and I am grateful. I will concentrate on pastoral care, care ministries, worship, and growth groups.

The extra joyful part is that our own Nikki Busch will be assuming the responsibilities of Campus Administrator. Nikki has a great passion for the church. She is smart and talented and fun, and we are blessed to have her join the staff. Please welcome Nikki when you see her and support her with your presence and prayers. Catherine Marcum will also assume new responsibilities that mesh well with her amazing gifts and which reduce some redundancy in workflow.

I look forward to seeing you in person as restrictions ease for worship and as we resume visitation. Please contact me to schedule a home visit, bring communion, or just sit down and talk or pray as we lament and rejoice together.

Wishing you Easter Joy and Peace, Deacon Leah Lind

Youth On The Go, Grow & Know

#kogkids April 2021

It's starting to feel like spring! I'm sure that you and your families are trying to find a new normal and life is getting busier by the moment. It feels we went from not having enough to do to way too much on our plates. Before everyone's schedules start filling up here are some dates to put on your calendar.

Easter Sunday: 10:15 am Egg Hunt and Fellowship on the patio

KOG Kids Ministry Team Meeting: April 25 (time TBD)

Young Adult Retreat: July 17-19

Camp: June 26-July 1

Family Camp: July 10-14

VBS: July 26-30 9AM-Noon

ELCA Youth Gathering Meeting: August 15, Noon-1PM

If you have any questions or desire to be a part of the KOG Kids Ministry please reach out or join us on April 25th!

Amanda Pulos, kogkids@gmail.com, 714-604-3373

For more information about KOG Kids Ministries please visit the website <https://www.kogchurch.org/community/cyf-2-3/> or email me at kogkids@gmail.com!

Preschool News

Please visit our website calendar for future dates and more information about the preschool: <https://kogchurch.org/preschool/>

Kelly Ramirez, Preschool Director



Women of the ELCA Events

(Information regarding Women's Ministry)

WELCA Board Meeting:

Board meetings are held the first Monday of the month and our next Board meeting is Monday, April 5 at 7 pm in Little Ed, the then-current safety rules permitting.



Events and Dates to Remember:

Joy Circle: Monday, April 25 at 9:30 am, on Zoom. Please contact Gwen TeGantvoort for the Zoom meetings details.

Events and Dates to Remember:

Faith Circle: Saturday, April 24 at 10 am, at the home of Linda Arnett. Please contact Catherine Marcum for meeting details.

****The WELCA study magazine is Gather****

The subscription office can be reached by calling 800.328.4648 or

<http://www.womenoftheelca.org/gather-magazine-pages-49.php>

Cost: \$19.95 for 1 year/10 issues (free digital access)

General Ministry News

From the Prayer Warriors:

"He is not here, he has risen!"

What wonderful words!!

The Resurrection of Jesus is the most awe-inspiring event in the history of the world. Jesus overcame death.

Dear Jesus, we praise you for taking control of this world. The world can be a cruel place sometimes. But you are in control of our life and you have defeated death. We praise you! Amen

Blessings to all!

Happy Hands:

We are excited and cautiously optimistic that Happy Hands will be able to have our meeting in April!

Wednesday, April 14th, 10:00 am in Big Ed

Of course, with Covid-19 there will be some changes and we will follow all protocols.

- Masks will be required
- The Kitchen is off-limits so please bring your own snack and beverage
- There will be a one-way traffic pattern through the room
- Each person will sit alone at a table with a quilt and tables will be separated so everyone will be at least 6 feet apart.
- The doors will be open to facilitate fresh air circulation
- You will be asked to sign the Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Liability form.

Please RSVP with Pat Gordon 714.707.7265 or Lynn Marecek 714.393.6642. We want to have the tables set up and the supplies in place before you arrive!

It will be so nice to see everyone! Remember, if you can tie a knot, you can tie a quilt. Everyone is welcome.

Property Upkeep:

March was a busy month around our facility. We are so grateful for 10 of our dedicated members that volunteered to address a number of projects.

We will start with the newly completed office garden. Karla Bjorklund was determined to see that it was completed by Easter and we did it! There were many volunteers that helped with upgrading the sprinklers, installing electrical, removing Bermuda grass, preparing the soil for planting, installing landscape cloth, constructing a stream bed to handle the rainwater runoff from the roof drain, gathering rocks, purchasing, and installing a fountain, and purchasing and spreading gravel to finish things off. This project was partially funded by a Thrivent Action Team.



We had 7 volunteers participate in our monthly Property Workday. Volunteers installed door stops, lighting timers were adjusted for the start of DST, playground equipment was assembled for the Preschool infant play area, moved desks around in the office, and work continued on the office garden.

The following Saturday, Ed Cotta did the majority of the work replacing the Big Ed water heater. Karla had previously noticed it was leaking, so a new water heater was purchased and installed, along with earthquake straps and a drip pan.

If you are interested in helping out, please contact Alan Marcum. Hope you can join us for our next Property Workday on Saturday, April 10th at 9:00 am.

Alan Marcum

"The King's Kitchen" Community Meals Outreach:

"But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?"

1 John 3:17

KOG serves up a free meal to anyone in need on the third and fifth Thursday of every month. Volunteers gather at 4:30 pm, and our "take and go" dinner is served at 5:30 pm. All are welcome. We are grateful for the support from KOG members who support this ministry with their prayer, service and financial support through Thrivent Action Teams. You can help from home by providing us with 30 PB&J sandwiches, baked goods, fruit, packaged snacks, laundry soap, toiletries or bottled water. Contact Karen Wallace for more details.

Mark your calendar now for these upcoming King's Kitchen Meals:

April 15 & 29, May 20, June 17, July 15 & 29, August 19, September 16 & 30, October 21, November 18, December 16 & 30

John Borack: 714.716.7780 / popdude@aol.com

Karen Wallace: 714.501.2807 / wallacepark@sbcglobal.net

Karla Bjorklund: 714.757.3134 / uccolor2@gmail.com

Peace and Blessings!

Family Promise of Orange County:

Not one, but TWO cars were donated!

As unbelievable as it sounds, we really were blessed to have TWO car donations in February! Long-time supporter of FPOC, **Lynn Gaede**, from our partner and host congregation, **King of Glory Lutheran Church**, moved out of state. Lynn was excited to hear that we had a deserving recipient in mind, so she donated her 2003 Toyota Camry to our program. The brief correspondence between Lynn and the car recipient was uplifting. Upon receiving the thank you from the recipient, Lynn responded, "I am so thrilled you have my car. It was like a friend and I'm glad it is going to a good home." These selfless acts of kindness should inspire us all!



Donate to Lutheran Social Services:

9:00 – 10:00 am, Tuesdays, King of Glory

Want to help others during the COVID-19 crisis? Rich Bandurian will be at the church every Tuesday morning from 9 – 10 am to collect any donations of non-perishable food, diapers, etc. Click [here](#) for a list of needed items.

Thank you to all who continue to care for those in need in our community.

Contact Rich Bandurian if you have any questions.

Text Giving Comes to KOG – 714.874.4777:

Text giving is a feature of Breeze, KOG's church management system software. Text giving provides a convenient way to give besides cash or check. Text giving uses either a credit/debit card or an electronic transfer (ACH) from your checking account.

The registration process is easy and once you are setup, a transaction can be completed in seconds. To use this feature, you simply text the word "Give" to 714.874.4777 and follow the prompts. Also, there will be complete instructions available on our KOG website. The contribution can be given to the General Fund, Facility Fund, or other funds selected depending on current church activities.

If you're currently enrolled in an electronic giving (transfer of funds) program with KOG such as Vanco or Simply Giving, there is no need to change over to text giving as there are additional fees associated with text giving.

King of Glory Recycles:

Used ink cartridges, pull tabs and eyeglasses! Please place them in the Welcome Place.

Other Upcoming Events

Single Sisters in Christ Covenant Group:

SSiC is not meeting at this time, they will resume again as soon as we are able to meet as a group in person. The study is "Every Day Deserves a Change" by Max Lucado. For updates and information call Marlys Buckey at 714.746.1224.

Property Workday—April 10:

Property Workday will be on Saturday, April 10, at 9 am. We meet on the patio. Please join us, even if you only have an hour or so. Contact Alan Marcum at wb6rqm@gmail.com if you have any questions or if you would like to be added to property workday email group.

Happy Hands—April 14:

We are excited and cautiously optimistic that Happy Hands will be meeting on Wednesday, April 14th, 10:00 am in Big Ed. Please RSVP with Pat Gordon 714.707.7265 or Lynn Marecek 714.393.6642. We want to have the tables set up and the supplies in place before you arrive! It will be so nice to see everyone! Remember, if you can tie a knot, you can tie a quilt. Everyone is welcome.

Facility Task Force Meeting—April 20:

The Facility Team will be meeting on Tuesday, April 20, at 7 pm and **will be held on Zoom**. If you wish to attend, please contact Alan Marcum for the Zoom link. We are looking at projects, both big and small, that we can accomplish in 2021. Contact Alan Marcum at wb6rqm@gmail.com if you have any questions or if you would like to be added to property workday email group.

KOG Connection Deadline—April 21:

The deadline to submit articles for the **May** KOG Connection is Wednesday, **April 17**. During this time, it is particularly important to inform your ministry participants of any changes. Please submit your articles in a timely manner and please be sure to send your articles regarding ministry events to newsletter@kogchurch.org. Thank you!

"The King's Kitchen" Community Meals Outreach—April 15 & 29:

5:30 pm – 7 pm. Volunteers are needed, so please consider lending a hand, whether it's helping to prepare a meal, shopping, serving, greeting, cleaning up, or, when we return to serve at tables, being a table host chatting with our guests.

Thrivent Shredding Event—April 24:

9:30 am – 12:00 pm in the church parking lot. It's time to clean out those old sensitive papers. For more information, please contact the church office.

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Please visit this link <https://www.kogchurch.org/church-events/google-calendar-2/> on King of Glory's website to view a full listing of calendar events.

April Birthdays...

Heather Murphy	4
Deloris Bixler	5
Bernd Steinebrunner	7
Valerie George	7
Pamela Flowers	8
Hunter Tejada	8
Bethany Jeffrey	10

Mike Gordon	17
Marrissa Garza	18
Shelly Leeson	19
Shery Schwarz	21
Eric Steinmetz	24
Marjorie Talsma	27

Happy Birthday!

...and Anniversaries

Andrea and Doug Martin 30 years on April 06
Gwen and George Woloshun 55 years on April 17

Debora and Alan Luken 45 years on April 24
Susan and Pankaj Saurastri 36 years on April 29

Happy Anniversary!

If we have missed your birthday (25 years or more) or anniversary, please contact the church office.