

KOG Connection—August 2021

Pastor's Corner

Dear KOG friends and family!

Welcome to August! It's always hard to believe how quickly summer goes by, and time in general, however, I feel as though time has sped up even more so during this pandemic. Do you feel that way too? Or maybe it's just that I'm getting older. ☺ Well, whatever the reason, fall is almost upon us, and that means school is starting up again. So we need to have our Back To School Sunday!!!! We are trying to make this an extra special one this year by planning some great stuff. During worship we will do our usual blessing of the backpacks and teachers, and we will get to meet and bless our preschool staff, which is important as many new folks have come onboard since the pandemic started. We have a team working on a theme as I type. After worship, we will have the usual bounce house and fun activities but this year we are having something new too: a FOOD TRUCK! Yep, we have arranged for a food truck to come and serve hamburgers, cheeseburgers, grilled cheese, French fries, etc. and the expense will be covered by dedicated funds. Due to COVID safety considerations, we can't do a typical potluck and barbecue, but a food truck should allow us to stay safe and still share a meal together. (Plus, no one has to do the cooking or dish washing! Woohoo!) Since KOG is covering the cost, we will need an accurate head count, so we ask that you all reserve a ticket one of the Sundays this month before or after church. Deacon Leah should be out there his first Sunday, Aug. 1, to start the signups. And don't forget, if you have any backpacks, lunch bags, briefcases, etc. that you would like blessed, bring them along to church on Sunday, August 29.

Also coming up in September is God's Work. Our Hands, the ELCA's National Day of Service. We have had such a fabulous time volunteering around our community in previous years that we hope you will join us once again on Sunday, September 12 for another day of service. At this point we are planning on a couple potential volunteer activities which will be outdoors, including visiting our partner organization, the Huntington Beach Youth Shelter, to help them do some of their annual sprucing up of their grounds, so stay tuned!

On a different note, I would also like to thank everyone for their considerateness toward one another throughout this pandemic. You all have shown such love and care, not only for KOG, but for the whole community, during this difficult time. It has been frustrating with the various surges and loads of contradictory information out there, but I think that we as a church have kept Christ front and center as we strived to love one another and the world by wearing masks and distancing and abiding by regulations meant to keep everyone safer. We are now seeing a new surge in cases due to the Delta variant, which has been shown to be more deadly (though the severity is greatly diminished with a vaccine) and equally transmissible amongst both vaccinated and unvaccinated folks. Such news can feel disheartening. Seeing mask requirements returning to certain sectors of our state and nation is frustrating, just as we were glimpsing light at the end of the tunnel. I know. But please remember, there are still many people who are vulnerable to this virus in our population. Children under age 12 cannot yet be

vaccinated. Many people in our congregation are currently undergoing treatment for cancer or other illnesses which leaves their immunity compromised, even with the vaccine. And some have been unable to be vaccinated at all due to other health reasons. For these reasons, KOG staff and Council members are continuously monitoring the situation and abiding by CDC, State and County regulations. We will do our best to keep you informed of any changes that occur to our church and campus policies around COVID 19. Thank you for your patience and understanding. And please continue to be caring and considerate toward one another, putting the welfare of your neighbors ahead of the comfort of yourself. If everybody does their part, we will reach the end of this trying and traumatic time.

Lastly, remember to keep your heart and your hope focused on God. We are a people who live to love and serve the Lord, but we do so knowing that there is more to this life than meets the eye. We are promised life abundant as well as life eternal. Let us keep this in mind, just as Paul and the early churches did when they faced times of difficulty. As 2 Corinthians 4 says,

¹⁷ For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸ because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

How might the pandemic and all that we have experienced and learned actually prepare us to do God's will and participate in Christ's kingdom more fully? Can we use this time of affliction to focus the vision of our hearts on the things that truly matter, the things that are eternal? Let our eyes be opened to see the ways God's love, joy and peace are still at work in the world, and how we can join our hands and hearts to that effort.

Serving with you in Christ,
Pastor Kinndlee

From the Deacon

How can it be August already!? Despite the challenges, the year is flying by. As we continue to deal with a new surge in the COVID pandemic, I thank you all for continuing to protect yourselves, each other, and those we love beyond the walls of KOG.

A wonderful demonstration of care was organized by our 2021 "Press Play" VBS. I want to thank Amanda Pulos and Krissie Ellson for supporting KOG's Care Ministries as this year's outreach mission. To me this speaks volumes about KOG's love for neighbor, which includes those both near and far. The VBS children raised \$264 for care ministries which will be used to purchase meal ministry supplies, meal gift cards, and children's grief materials. My sincere thanks to our amazing VBS organizers and all of the VBS children who have demonstrated that they are known, that they belong, that they are forgiven, that they can change, and that they can make a difference because of Jesus.



THANK
YOU!

Please feel free to contact me any time you need care and support. Our team is here to walk beside you through all of life's ups and downs. How can we help?

Deacon Leah Lind
deacon@kogchurch.org or 949.295.6228

Youth On The Go, Grow & Know

#kogkids August 2021

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 second Monday of the month and our next Board meeting is Monday, September 13 at 7 pm in Little Ed. We do not meet in July and August.



Events and Dates to Remember:

Joy Circle: Does not meet in July and August. Please contact Gwen TeGantvoort for more information.

Faith Circle: Saturday, August 7 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

Current Financial Standing

Thank you to everyone who has diligently supported King of Glory Lutheran Church and Preschool! Here is a snapshot of our financial standing at the end of June 2021.

2021 BUDGET AND FINANCIAL TOTALS				
General Fund & Preschool	June Actual	June Budget	Year to Date Actual	YTD Budget
Income \$	131,892*	70,856	473,217	425,125
Expense \$	85,969	73,262	443,491	439,569
Income-Expense \$	45,923*	(2,407)	29,726	(14,444)

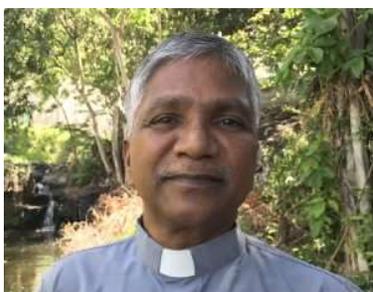
*The church income number is skewed high due to ERTC credits we have received to the amount of \$48,570. Without these credits, KOG would have a spending deficit this month of about \$2000 and a year-to-date deficit of about \$30,900. These numbers do not reflect the first and second Payment Protection Loans we have received through the SBA.

Just a reminder, church members are welcome to view finance reports. If you wish to have a copy of the monthly financial reports after they have been approved by Council, submit your name and email address to the Office Administrator (office.assistant@kogchurch.org). Thank you!

Pacifica Synod News

The Pacifica Synod has a new Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership Development, the Rev. JP Sabbithi. Here is a short write up from him.

FEELING CALLED TO SERVE?



If you are already discerning to serve the church in a pastoral or deacon role, great! Let me know how I can assist you in your process. If you are not yet discerning but have the desire, I am here to journey with you. If others tell you that you would make a great pastor or deacon and you'd like to learn more, I am also here to journey with you. I know some of you would make great rostered leaders!

This is Pastor JP, and I am a new Assistant to the Bishop, caring for the candidacy process. The Lutheran church needs you. Please contact me at jpsabbithi@pacificasynod.org or let me know how I can contact you. Thank you.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me or Rev. JP Sabbithi.

Wanna Help KOG Save \$\$ and Look Good?

We're looking into using court-ordered community service workers to work on the KOG campus on a weekly basis. It's likely we'll choose Saturday, either the morning or all day.

If you could serve as a supervisor for the group, on a regular or regularly recurring schedule, we welcome your involvement! That would entail getting tools ready for the group to use, signing them in and out, and closing afterward. The facilities team would prepare the "to do" list, which would primarily be yardwork or inside cleaning. If we fail to get enough supervisors, we'll pass on this opportunity.

If you're interested, please contact Gerry Marecek at 310.977.8486 or gerry.marecek@gmail.com.

From the Prayer Warriors:

Busyness and stress can heat up quicker than the summer sun. But it is possible to stay cool on the inside. God's strength and peace can ensure a less stressful

summer. Yes, we can receive God's calm, even in a busy and sometimes stressful time of year.

Try these out:

1. focus on all the good things God has done for you so far this year.
2. take daily mini vacations. Try to set aside at least five minutes every hour to stretch, take a break, and stay committed to your time and God's word each day.
3. when you take time off from your daily routine, unplug completely, meeting no phone or emails, for your kids too.
4. do something for yourself once a week like read a good book, spend time outdoors, or take a nap.

Blessings to all from the prayer warriors!!

Property Upkeep:

The pampas grass at the south end of the parking lot has been dug up and we are in the process of placing them in the dumpster at intervals to allow for the normal amount of trash.

We didn't get to installing the drip emitters in the north Patio planter. We hope to continue with the weed removal from the parking lot islands. As usual, the patio and parking lot needs some sprucing up.

If you aren't available that day, but have other available times, please let me know. Thank you again for all you do to keep our facility beautiful and ready for use. Hope you can join us for our next Property Workday on Saturday, August 14 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:

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!

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.

Scam Warning:

This is a friendly reminder about SCAMS. Here is a link to a document prepared by the Federal Trade Commission you can read to help recognize and avoid phishing scams.

[**FTC - How to Recognize and Avoid Phishing Scams**](#)

Other Upcoming Events

Happy Hands—August 11:

Our June gathering was such a success that we are excited for our August meeting! Wednesday, August 11 at 10:00 am in Big Ed.

At the meetings we tie the quilts that have already been assembled. If you can tie a knot, you can tie a quilt and we’d love to have you join us. It’s fun to visit with old friends and make some new ones too!

Please RSVP for the meeting 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! Everyone is welcome.

Property Workday—August 14:

Property Workday will be on Saturday, August 14, 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.

KOG Connection Deadline—August 18:

The deadline to submit articles for the **September** KOG Connection is Wednesday, **August 18**. 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—August 19:

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.

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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.

August Birthdays...

Betty Jacobsen	1
Bea Rea	7
Teresa Blackburn	9
Nikki Busch	12
Chuck Balo	12
Victoria Bise	14
Alan Marcum	15
Edward Buerk	15
Alissa de Koning	16
Wayne Schleicher	19

Dan Hytrek	21
Tom Rasmussen	23
Steve Chakos	25
Paul Wallace	26
Angela Jaeger	27
Richard Martyn	28
Trevor Poteet	29
Dan Pulos	31
Jeanne Steinebrunner	31

Happy Birthday!

...and Anniversaries

Michele and Jeff Elvander 23 years on August 01
Christy and John Borack 25 years on August 04
Letitia and Don Johnson 40 years on August 09
Darlene and Edwind Gould 61 years on August 12
Lisa and Todd McCrory 19 years on August 17

Vicki and Richard Bandurian 33 years on August 20
Judy and Roger Doty 34 years on August 22
Cynthia and Doug Thornburg 43 years on August 26
Alene and Rod Patterson 61 years on August 27

Happy Anniversary!

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