



Connections:



King of kings Lutheran Church

Office: 586-566-8660; Fax: 586-566-8263; E-mail: office@koklc.org; Website: www.koklc.org

Holy Week Is Upon Us

Holy Week is fast approaching and now is the time to get ready! Holy Week is the culmination of our Lenten journey and the highpoint of our worship year in the church. In Holy Week (April 5-12) we trace the last week of Jesus' life in a series of worship services: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. I hope and pray that this year Holy Week may be a blessing to you and that you may feel God's loving presence in your life.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on April 5th. This service remembers Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem where he was greeted as the Messiah and King with the waving of palm branches. In many ways, Palm Sunday is the pinnacle of Jesus' popularity with the crowds of people who so often accompanied him in his ministry travels. Ironically, it is precisely because of his popularity with the people that the religious authorities and governing officials became deeply concerned about the rebellion and revolt of the people. Palm Sunday is a day of celebration of Jesus as King of kings, but it also anticipates Jesus' betrayal, arrest, and death.

Maundy Thursday is the beginning of the "Three Days" which also includes Good Friday and Easter Vigil. Maundy Thursday or "mandate" Thursday is the time when we remember Jesus instituting the Lord's Supper and the ritual of foot washing. It was on Thursday night before the Passover that Jesus gathered with his disciples for the last time. As they enjoyed a meal together, and as Jesus offered final teachings and instruction, he asked the disciples to remember him by celebrating holy communion when they gathered. He then offered himself in humble service through the washing of feet. This year we will again celebrate communion and participate in a ritual foot washing during our Maundy Thursday service.

Good Friday is perhaps the most difficult, yet most important, day during Holy Week. On Good Friday we remember Jesus' death on the cross. As we gather for worship at noon and 7:00 p.m., we will read together the story of Jesus' passion and reflect upon what his death means for us and for the world. I have always found Good Friday to be an emotionally and spiritually moving experience each and every year.

Our Holy Week remembrance concludes with Easter Sunday. Easter is a celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead, when he defeated death and the devil, opening

up for us the gift of eternal life. Easter is the most joyous day of the year and one deserving of an outpouring of praise and thanksgiving. But the power of Easter is magnified when we participate fully in the Holy Week experience. I encourage you to take the time and experience each day of Holy Week. I pray that this most holy of weeks may be a blessed one.

God's Peace,

Pastor Ben

April 2009

Special points of interest:

- Easter Extravaganza (Easter Egg Hunt)
- Women's Spring Breakfast
- Adopt-a-Road Clean Up

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Want to dig deeper?

Make your Holy Week experience more meaningful by following along each day in Scripture. Meditate on these scriptures and take time for personal prayer.

- Sunday, April 5: Matthew 21:1-11
- Monday, April 6: Mark 14:1-9
- Tuesday, April 7: John 12:20-36
- Wednesday, April 8: John 13:21-35
- Thursday, April 9: John 13:1-20
- Friday, April 10: John 18:1-19:42
- Saturday, April 11: Romans 6:1-11
- Sunday, April 12: John 20:1-18

Lenten Worship Schedule

You can still join us during this Lenten season with one remaining worship opportunity on Wednesday, April 1st, as well as special services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Wednesday services have been highlighting special 'faith stories' from some of our members.

All Wednesday Lenten worship services are preceded by a Soup Supper beginning at 6:00 p.m. Spend an hour before the service sharing soup and fellowship. Sign up sheets are posted on a bulletin board in the hallway with the drinking fountain. You can sign up to bring to a pot of soup to share. Please plan to bring your own bowl and utensils.



5th Wednesday in Lent ~ April 1st

Soup Supper @ 6:00 p.m.

Worship @ 7:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday ~ April 5th

Contemporary Praise Worship

10:00am & 11:30am*

(*featuring First Communion)

Maundy Thursday ~ April 9th

7:00pm

Good Friday ~ April 10th

12noon & 7:00pm



Easter Sunday ~ April 12th

Contemporary Praise Worship

10:00am & 11:30am

No Evening Worship on

Monday, April 13th

Easter Extravaganza ... (Easter Egg Hunt)

Please bring your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews and join us for this year's **Easter Extravaganza** on **Saturday, April 11th** beginning at **10:00 a.m.** The event is being geared towards children up through 5th grade. The festivities will include an Easter Egg Hunt; we encourage all children to bring a basket or bag to collect their eggs in. Following the egg hunt, children and their parents are welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall for cookies and crafts. There will be approximately 5-6 crafts and a visit by the Easter Bunny.

Parents are welcome to bring their cameras to capture a picture or two. Once the children are finished with their activities, they are welcome to leave.

If anyone has any specific questions, please contact Leanne McNally at 586-466-3824.



Once again this year, we will need your help with the **Easter Eggs**. All plastic eggs must be taped and filled with **'wrapped peanut-free' candy**.

We have a collection bucket for the eggs in the church lobby by the Welcome Desk.

Please let the church office know (by phone or email jmeyers@koklc.org) how many children you plan to bring so that we can plan accordingly.



An Update On Worship

A few subtle changes will be taking place in worship during April. In addition to offering 2 contemporary services at 10:00 & 11:30 a.m. on both Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, beginning Sunday, April 19th "The Edge" service will be moving to its new and improved location in the Fellowship Hall. The Edge will still take place on Sundays at 11:30 a.m.

The Fellowship Hall will create a warmer and more intimate feel for this interactive worship experience.

At the same time, we will be able to offer additional seating capacity in the Worship Center for Contemporary Worship.

**'The Edge'
Is
Moving ...**



3rd Grade Bible Giveaway

King of kings would like to present your 3rd grade child or older with a special kid-friendly Bible on Sunday, May 3rd at the 10:00 a.m. worship service. If you would like your child to receive this "gift", please contact the Church office with your child's name no later than April 17th. For

more information, please contact Diane Kraabel, Interim Sunday School Coordinator, at 586-731-6684

Youth Bible



Family Christian Store - Ministry Stickers

First Communion and Easter will be here soon and many of our members and friends shop at the **Family Christian Store** on Hall Road and Schoenherr (southwest corner). Every time you make a purchase from the store, ask the cashier for **Ministry Builder Stickers**. One sticker is given for every \$5.00 of merchandise that is purchased. For every 20 stickers saved, \$5.00 worth

of new store products can be redeemed by King of kings. The King of kings' library uses these stamps to purchase new books, videos and music for the library.

You can put your stickers in Laura White's mailbox in the lobby. We thank you for your ongoing support!



A Spiritual Crisis By: Pastor Ben Sandin

More and more each day it seems the news gets worse and worse. Our economy continues to struggle, our country continues to be at war overseas, families are wondering if they will make it through. As we struggle putting together our "own house" and restoring order to our lives, the lives of many in our world have gone from bad to horrible. We are currently experiencing a new level of hardship that many in our world have always known. Many, now for the first time, live with uncertainty about the basic needs in life: food, shelter, safety, employment. The "American Dream" has taken a severe hit and for many it has become an American nightmare.

For those of us who look for positive developments and opportunities in the midst of difficulty and crisis, these days have been particularly difficult. As Christians however, we do have resources to help us understand and deal with any situation that arises. When we learn to place and re-place our trust in the Lord, when we learn to keep our priorities in order and focus on God, the struggles of life may not all go away but we do learn how to endure.

Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell - and great was its fall! Matthew 7:24-27

Perhaps our current economic situation is like the man who built his house on sand, when the crisis hit - the whole system fell apart. Our economy was built upon credit we didn't have, expenses we couldn't afford, and the illusion that we could have it all. The system broke down and exposed its true self and its priorities. A house of sand cannot withstand the storms of life. Unfortunately for a great many, those who perpetuated this situation suffered little compared with countless people who unknowingly became victims of an immoral and unsustainable situation. While families and individuals worry about losing a job, a home, or a retirement, the corporate executives receive bailouts and

bonuses. What is wrong with this picture?

I believe that our current financial crisis is a spiritual crisis. As a culture we must make critical decisions about how we want to live and what our world will look like going forward. **Will we continue to make decisions based on greed and consumption? Will we be driven to acquire more and more material stuff under the illusion of happiness? Will we move past our insatiable hunger for more power, wealth, and position? Will we reflect upon our current situation and make genuine lifestyle changes? Will we be driven by fear or faith?** These are questions for us all as individuals to take seriously, but even more, these are questions for our society and culture to address. Who is God calling us to be? **What does it mean to be faithful in today's world?**

For me, the spiritual antidote to our current predicament is contentment. **To be content with what you have is a spiritual gift and a true key to happiness.** The opposite of being content is constantly striving for more, and never being satisfied with what you have. This is a deeply

Continued on page -6-

Attention All Women . . .

Spring is just around the corner.

We would like to invite all of the women of King of Kings to attend a 'Women's Spring Breakfast' on Sat., May 9th from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. It will be a wonderful opportunity for you to meet other women at King of Kings.

Babysitting will be provided, if needed.

Watch for weekly announcements where you can sign up to attend.



Women's Spring Breakfast



Are You Ready For Vacation Bible School?

Hey Kids! Get ready to take a romp through the swamp this summer! King of kings is pleased to announce this summer's vacation bible school program:

Crocodile Dock: "Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light"

When: August 3rd - 7th

Your guides for this bayou adventure are:

Director: Deanne Vecellio
248-346-3311

Assistant Director: Robin Klotz
586-323-1366

Preschool Director: Kristen Leach
586-412-3669

Please watch for more details about registration and how you can be part of this ministry in the coming months.



Attn: Sunday School Families

Please note: There will be **NO** Sunday School on both April 12th & April 19th. We hope you have a wonderful Easter and Spring Break with your families. Sunday School will resume, as usual, on April 26th.



Check page 2 of this newsletter for details about the **EASTER EGG HUNT**

on
Saturday, April 11th
at
10:00 a.m.

Confirmation:

April

- 1st Lenten Learning Night
- 8th Fellowship Event - Rough Draft of Faith Papers Due
- 9th Maundy Thursday Worship
- 10th Good Friday Worship
- 15th **No Class (Spring Break)**
- 22nd Servant Event
- 29th Learning Night

Confirmation classes begin at 7:00 p.m.

CHAOS:

April

- 1st Integrity Night
- 8th Introduction to Youth Weekend
- 9th Maundy Thursday Worship
- 10th Good Friday Worship
- 15th **No Class (Spring Break)**
- 22nd Fellowship Event - **WALLYBALL**
- 26th/27th Youth Led Worship
- 29th Servant Event

CHAOS begin at 8:00 p.m.

A Spiritual Crisis *continued from page 4*

embedded cultural value in America - discontent. Advertising, marketing, and our economy are all driven by consumers who buy products they are convinced they "need". When we can learn to be thankful for what we have, when we live within our means, when we learn to say "no" to things we don't need, when we learn to trust that God will provide, then we will know contentment. I pray we all might share Paul's perspective on life.

Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Philippians 4:11-13

MCREST Comes Early This Year and We Need Your Help!

Have you ever thought that you would like to do mission work but can't take the time off, travel ... Here is your chance. **NOW** is the time when you can help people in need, right here, with no travel necessary. **NOW** is the time when you can have a direct, positive impact on some of the homeless in our community. King of kings is once again partnering with Faith Lutheran of Shelby Twp. to provide shelter, food and fellowship to a group of people who have fallen on hard times. M.C.R.E.S.T (Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team) rotates on a weekly basis to many different area churches in our county. We will be sharing responsi-

bilities at Faith's facilities (Shelby Rd., south of 23 Mile).

While we have always helped during the month of September, this year our date has been moved up to **May 10-16th**.

WE NEED YOU!! There are many opportunities to help. We will need hosts and hostesses, drivers, devotion leaders, meal preparers, medicine dispensers, haircutters, youth to play with the children (yes, there are often children there as well). What would God want you to do? What gifts has He given you?

Please contact the church office with any questions. We'll be happy to put you in touch with the right people.

Sign up sheets for various volunteer positions as well as donation tags for items that will be needed will be available in the lobby beginning Easter weekend. Instructions will be posted as to pertinent deadlines and where to drop your items off.



M.C.R.E.S.T.

Shelby Township Clean Up Day: Adopt-a-Road

Join us by lending a hand on Saturday, April 25th beginning at 8:30 a.m. as we do our part to help clean up the community.

Each year King of kings sponsors a section of roads as part of the annual Adopt-a-Road project.

Pizza and soft drinks will be served

back at the Community Center once the work is done.

If you would like to help out, please contact Brock Schankin at 586-566-0586. He will let you know where to meet.



Things You Should Know . . .

- † For information regarding scheduling a **Baptism** or **wedding** at King of kings, please contact Jennifer Meyers, Administrative Associate at 586-566-8660.
- † The **HIS GANG** quilting group meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please join them.
- † The **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** is held on the 1st & 3rd Saturday mornings of the month at 8:00 a.m.
- † The **BOOK CLUB** will be meeting again on April 16th at 7:00 p.m.
- † **LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICES** are taking place on Wednesdays. A **SOUP SUPPER** will begin each week at 6:00 p.m.
- † **YOUTH LED WORSHIP** will be April 26th and April 27th. Please join us and support the youth.

**ATTENTION
ALL WORSHIP SERVERS ...**

**BECAUSE WE WILL BE HAVING
ADDITIONAL WORSHIP
SERVICES ON BOTH
PALM SUNDAY
& EASTER SUNDAY
PLEASE REVIEW THE
APRIL SERVER SCHEDULE.
(THE SCHEDULE IS ONLINE
AS WELL AS
IN YOUR LOBBY MAILBOXES)**

**YOU MAY BE SCHEDULED AT A
DIFFERENT TIME THAN USUAL
OR
AN ADDITIONAL TIME.
IF YOU'RE UNABLE TO SERVE
AT YOUR SCHEDULED TIME,
PLEASE NOTIFY THE OFFICE
WHO YOUR REPLACEMENT
WILL BE.**

Thinking about joining King of kings?

We personally invite you to join us for our next **New Member Orientation** on Sunday, May 3rd beginning at 3:00 p.m. to find out what it means to be a Christian, Lutheran and a member of the church.

We will take the time to answer your questions and provide you with enough information to make the

right choice for you and your family.

We are able to provide childcare during all of our New Member Orientations for your convenience and peace of mind.

For further information, please contact Bill Bond at 586-731-9635.



Youth & Children's Programs

Sunday School

- † Meets at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays
- For more information contact Diane Kraabel
'Interim' Sunday School Coordinator
586-731-6684

Confirmation

- † Meets on Wednesdays from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
- Check the schedule for specific events.
- For more information contact Cherie Schankin
Ministry Associate
586-566-8660

C.H.A.O.S.

- † Meets on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
- Check the schedule for specific events.
- For more information contact Tim Mackey
586-532-9032



King of kings Lutheran Church
47500 Schoenherr Road
Shelby Twp., MI 48315-4771

Pastor Ben Sandin

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We're on Schoenherr Road, just north of 21 Mile Road

MAIL DATE:
March 23, 2009

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Join us for weekly worship:

Contemporary Praise Worship, Sundays at 10:00 a.m.
'The Edge' Worship, Sundays at 11:30 a.m.
Contemporary Praise Worship, Mondays at 7:00 p.m.



Holy Week Worship Schedule:

Palm Sunday, April 5th

Contemporary Praise Worship @ 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.
(First Communion - 11:30 a.m.)

Maundy Thursday, April 9th @ 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, April 10th @ 12noon & 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 12th

Contemporary Praise Worship @ 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.

*(There will be **NO** evening worship on Monday, April 13th)*