

KING'S NEWS

PUBLISHED December 15, 2024

Christmas

AT KING OF KINGS

CHRISTMAS EVE
10A | 3P | 6:30P

Each service will offer special
choral offerings, hymns,
Holy Communion and
a candlelit *Silent Night*.

COMING UP AT CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 8:00am Worship with Holy Communion
9:00am Coffee & Fellowship: Gym & Welcome Center
9:30am Sunday School for 3yrs-5th grade
Jr. Youth Confirm. Class // Sr. Youth Study
Adult Bible Study // Parent Study
10:30am Worship with Holy Communion + livestream
4:00pm Sr. Youth Christmas Party
6:15pm Confirmation Classes

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 6:00pm Handbell Choir
7:00pm Evangelism Meeting

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 10:00am ELC Puppet Show
12:00pm Tuesdays@Noon

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 9:30am ELC Chapel
5:00pm Jr. Youth Fun and Fellowship
5:45pm Midweek Dinner - Pork Loin & Brats
6:10pm Children's Christmas Choir Practice
6:15pm Confirmation Small Groups
7:00pm Advent Midweek Worship
8:00pm Adult Choir

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 9:30am ELC Chapel
10:00am ELC Christmas Party

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 10:00am ELC Christmas Party

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 8:00am Worship
9:00am Coffee & Fellowship: Gym & Welcome Center
9:30am Adult Bible Study Only
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL preschool-12th grade
10:30am Worship + livestream
6:15pm Confirmation Classes

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

- 10:00am Worship with Holy Communion
3:00pm Worship with Holy Communion
6:30pm Worship with Holy Communion



MID-WEEK ADVENT WORSHIP

HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED

December 18 is our final midweek in Advent. The Tuition Committee will be offering pork loin and brats for dinner from 5:45pm-7pm. Pastor Joe from St. Stephen's will lead us in worship, beginning at 7pm.

5:45PM DINNER BEGINS

6:10PM CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE

6:15PM CONFIRMATION SMALL GROUPS

7:00PM WORSHIP

NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 31 AT 7PM

Join us on New Year's Eve as you close out 2024. This intimate service focuses on staying vigilant for Christ's return. We hope you will end your year at church.

KC YOUNG ADULTS EPIPHANY WORSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

JANUARY 6, 2025 AT 7PM

Kansas City Young Adult Lutherans invite you to celebrate Epiphany together on January 6, 2025 at Calvary Lutheran Church in Kansas City, MO. The worship service will begin at 5:45 PM, followed by dinner and fellowship at 6:45 PM. This young adults ministry is for all KC twenty- and thirty-somethings to connect in faith and fellowship.



CHRISTMAS AT KING OF KINGS

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Women of all ages gathered on the first Sunday of December for Advent by Candlelight, an annual favorite that sets the tone for the Christmas season—putting Christ at the center of it all. As attendees entered, they made their way to an open seat, met new friends and connected over coffee and tea. The tables were beautifully decorated with live greens and advent candles. The wonderful program was led by Renée Lutzen, Chris McElroy and Debbie Brunkhorst, with accompaniment by

Emily Rowland. The theme of the event was *God's Purpose of Christmas*: expectation, hope, joy, love and light. *Silent Night* was sung as the final song, with candles lit and raised proclaiming the Light of the world has come as we celebrate the birth of Christ. After, women delighted in a full spread of delectable desserts and fellowship.

A very special thank you goes to the ladies of the LWML for planning and hosting this beautiful event each year.



Long-time member and artist, Kathy Cunningham created the cover of the programs. Original artwork done in watercolor pencils.



CHRISTMAS AT KING OF KINGS

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



BEANS & RICE SERVICE EVENT

Earlier this month, many in our congregation stayed after midweek service to help repackage 1000 pounds of rice and beans into family-size portions to serve those less fortunate in our community. After a prayer over the food, the repackaged bags were delivered to Immanuel Lutheran Church in Kansas City, KS, and Jesus El Buen Pastor in Kansas City, MO. These meal bags are a sign of hope and will provide **approximately 2000 meals** to local Kansas Citizens. Thank you to Dennis and Alice Sommerfeld for organizing this event—a tradition for more than 40 years. This year's project was made possible through Thrivent Action Team grants.



ANGEL TREE DONATIONS FOR PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

Our Angel Tree will be providing donations to TWO local organizations this year. Simply take a tag, purchase listed item and return unwrapped goods under the Angel Tree by the end of December. Donations will be delivered in the new year. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support of our community.

LUMA: Focused on the needs in the urban core, LUMA supports many single parent families, elderly, and grandparents raising their grandchildren. They have requested household items and gas gift cards. Learn more about Lutheran Urban Mission Agency at www.lumakc.org.

LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS: Bell Prairie, Fox Hill and Nashua have requested clothes that can be used by school nurses and resource officers when there is an accident or need for students.



CHRISTMAS AT KING OF KINGS BREAKFAST IN BETHLEHEM

Our Early Learning Center students and King of Kings children kicked off Christmas at our annual Breakfast in Bethlehem in early December. A wonderful morning of fun and fellowship emphasizing the true meaning of Christmas. Children and families arrived in their Christmas jammies and were treated to hotcakes, made fresh by our own Pancake Brigade. Face painting and tattoos applied by our youth volunteers were a top activity for all, as well as craft stations of jeweled crowns, nativity cups and

pillow making handiwork. Smiles and laughter filled the Fellowship Hall as everyone celebrated the birth of Jesus.

Breakfast in Bethlehem is a fundraising event for the ELC and supported by the Evangelism Committee. This year, a freewill offering was taken to raise funds toward the purchase of a "buddy bench" for the playground. Thank you to all who attended or volunteered!



CHRISTMAS AT KING OF KINGS CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

A LONG-HELD TRADITION

The Children's Christmas Program has been put on every year for FIFTY-SEVEN years here at King of Kings. This year, the theme was *Jesus-The Greatest Gift* with approximately 25 children and youth participating in the service that offered readings, hymns and prayers by the children.

Special music was provided before, during and after service by four Jr. High youth: Clea Sullivan on piano, Drew Hayles on trumpet, Gage Galutia and Adelyn Wells offered a violin duet and Gage Galutia also played solo violin.

THANK YOU

A very big thank you to the many people who helped make this annual program possible. Thank you to Cindy Twillman for organizing and directing the program, to Laurie Folken for accompaniment and music. To the children for participating and parents for your encouragement and support. Additional thanks to Stephanie Hurt, Kristi Weaver, Libby Fort and Leigh Greene for their leadership.

You can rewatch the program on our Vimeo, YouTube or Facebook channels.



CHRISTMAS AT KING OF KINGS

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

Each year, the Jr. Youth and Sr. Youth groups volunteer for various activities—from Breakfast in Bethlehem to confirmation service projects; decorating the Sanctuary Christmas tree to hosting an Advent meal. After their giving to others, they also have the opportunity to gather for a fun afternoon to celebrate Christmas together at our annual Youth Christmas Parties.

This year, a dozen of the Jr. Youth met at Pizza Shoppe, wearing their ugly Christmas sweaters, to enjoy good food and fellowship. The highlight of the event was the white elephant gift exchange—a gift exchange game. Kids took home a quirky disco reindeer, among other unique gifts. These middle schoolers had a great time continuing to build their Christian friendships in fellowship together.



YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS

All details and registration information are located on the GroupMe App. Contact Cindy Twillman to be added.

JUNIOR YOUTH (6-8)

- JANUARY 10** Faith & Fellowship Friday (5p-7p)
- JANUARY 24** Faith & Fellowship Friday (5p-7p)
- FEBRUARY 7** Quake Retreat - Wichita, KS

SENIOR YOUTH (9-12)

- DECEMBER 15** Sr. Youth Christmas Party (4-5:30p)
Hot Rocks Pizza - N. Oak Trafficway
- JANUARY 19** Sr. Youth Bible Study
- JANUARY 25/26** Prepare/Serve Meal at Our Redeemer



MARTIN LUTHER ACADEMY MLA AUCTION COMING MARCH 1



The 2025 Auction is quickly approaching. This event helps cover the operating costs of MLA. The MLA auction committee is asking for silent auction donations by February 10. Learn more at QR above.

EARLY LEARNING CENTER CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

ELC Programs were held on December 8th with a wonderful afternoon of over 300 parents, family and friends in attendance. Performances can be viewed on YouTube or at KingofKingsELC.org/watch.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

During our upcoming ELC Christmas celebrations, students will take a 2-day trip on the Polar Express, including a movie day with "hot, hot, hot chocolate," popcorn and a movie with friends. The next day they will punch their ticket for a trip to the North Pole for a party with reindeer games and fun. All aboard!

UPCOMING ENROLLMENT

We are anticipating enrollment to fill quickly for the 2025/2026 school year. Early enrollment for next year opens on February 1 for members with open enrollment beginning February 15.

48TH ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER DECEMBER 25 FROM 12-4PM

All seniors 60 and over who are unable to be with family or friends on Christmas Day are invited to attend this annual dinner, hosted by retired KCMO officers Shane Stamm and Richard White.

LOCATION: Solid Rock Bible Church
1501 NE 39th Street (Parvin Road), KCMO
RSVP: Call/text to 816-572-2656 by Dec. 20.
Homebound delivery available.

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC DECEMBER 24 THRU JANUARY 6

Tune into KFUE radio for sacred Christmas hymns that will be played around the clock from Christmas Eve through Epiphany. KFUE is the official radio broadcast of the LCMS. Stream on your computer, tablet or mobile device at kfuo.org, the KFUE Radio app or on your favorite podcast app.

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR

BIBLE STUDIES RETURN

After a short break during Advent and Christmas, our regular Bible studies and classes will resume in January.

TUESDAYS@NOON - Tuesday, January 7

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Wednesday, January 8

MEN/WOMEN BIBLE STUDY - Wednesday, January 8

YOUNG FAMILIES SNOWBALLS & KIDDIE CAR RACES

JANUARY 25 FROM 9:30AM-11:30AM

All families with children 0-7years old (and older siblings) are invited to join the Young Families small group for monthly fun and fellowship as you grow in friendship, support and faith together.

NEW MEMBER CLASS FORMING

FOUNDATIONS: AN INTRO TO THE LUTHERAN FAITH

Are you interested in Adult Confirmation or becoming a member? Join our next Foundations class session, beginning in January (exact date TBD). This 8-week class is an introduction to the Christian faith and core teachings of Lutheran beliefs. For more information or to sign up, contact the church office at 816-436-7680.

NEW CHURCH APP - COMING SOON!

King of Kings will launch a new way for our members to connect to the church and each other. Watch for details coming this winter.