



Connections:



King of kings Lutheran Church

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Welcome To The Table!

On Palm Sunday I had the distinct pleasure to offer First Communion to 12 of our young people. For the first time they were able to come the Lord's Table and receive the sacred meal instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ. Coming to the table as God's people and receiving a visible reminder of the gift of God's grace is a powerful and transforming event.

The Lord's Supper reminds us not only of Jesus' last supper, but of the suffering and death he endured for us. As we receive the bread and wine we hear the words: "the body of Christ given for you" and "the blood of Christ shed for you." These words never fail to give me pause to ponder the wonder and beauty of God's amazing love and grace.

As I taught First Communion this year, I shared with the children Jesus' words to the disciples during his last supper.

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." 27 Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Matthew 26:26-28

We also discussed how Jesus told the disciples to "do this in remembrance of me." (Luke 22:19) As we discussed the importance of communion and the power of coming to the Lord's Table to receive the love, grace, and forgiveness of God, I began to reflect on our communion practices at King of kings. At the same time, we had a visitor who had been to worship a handful of times ask me: "do you ever have communion here?" Apparently he had come only on the weeks when communion was not offered.

These experiences got me thinking again about the power of the Lord's Table and the idea of weekly communion. The idea that finally convinced me of a need for change was the idea that a visitor, perhaps coming back to church for the first time, would miss the tangible experience of receiving God's grace at the Lord's Table. Do we believe that we need God's grace in our life? Is there ever a time when we do not need to be reminded of all Jesus has done and is doing in our life? Holy Communion gives us the opportunity to come to the Lord and be filled with God's presence, be reminded of God's love and grace, and be renewed for ongoing love and service. **Can we ever get enough?**

As such, after deep prayer and consultation with church leaders, I am thrilled to announce that **beginning in June we will offer weekly communion at all services.** I am convinced this change will be received well by our congregation and community, and that living together in God's amazing grace we will be blessed abundantly.

In order to make weekly communion a reality we will need to increase our volunteers in our altar guild and communion deacons. If you are not already serving on these teams, please prayerfully consider joining. We will provide all needed training and no previous experience is necessary.

I thank you for your ongoing support of the congregation and our mission and ministry.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Ben

May 2010

Special points of interest:

- MCREST

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The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 31st (Memorial Day).

There will be no evening worship

MCREST Time Is Almost Here

MCREST week is almost here. If you took a donation tag off the bulletin board, please return the needed items to the King of kings' lobby no later than May 3rd. If you are still interested in volunteering your time in some capacity please contact Randy Ross at RandalRoss@ymail.com.

This is a wonderful opportunity to serve and feed God's people. Please give prayerful thought to volunteering some time during the week of May 9th - May 15th.

We look forward to working with you.



MCREST

Habitat for Humanity Build Dates Have Been Scheduled

It's time again to join the workforce and help King of kings build with Habitat for Humanity at the Clinton Twp. site.

Please sign up for the May 8th build date by contacting Mark & Kristen Schultz at 586-726-1718 or at mark24@wowway.com. If you would like to help with this cause without building a house with your bare

hands, contact them anyway.

They have lots of different serving opportunities including serving lunch, kids activities, and fundraising right here at King of kings.

**Want to
lend a hand?**



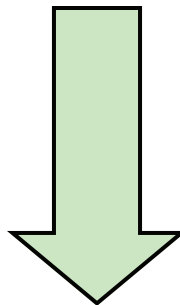
VBS Kick Off - May 9th

Mark your calendars to save the date for our High Seas Expedition this summer at King of kings. The ship sets sail **August 2nd - 6th**. Get ready to splash and make waves through God's Word as we plan to transform our church for this incredible journey. To make this a successful trip we need as many hands on deck as we can get.

We will have a **VBS Kickoff** on **Sunday, May 9th** after both worship services. Stop by the display table to learn what exciting volunteer opportunities are available and have the chance to pre-register your children.

Please visit our website to see the many volunteer opportunities available and sign up today.

Don't forget to register your children for VBS at the website as well.



www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/kok

Sharing Christ With Those Who Are Different

Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people of Samaria. He boasted that he was someone great, and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention and exclaimed, "This man is the divine power known as the Great Power." They followed him because he had amazed them for a long time with his magic. But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.

Acts 8:9-13

Have you ever found yourself in a conversation about faith with someone who believes something totally different than you? Perhaps you have casually stumbled upon faith as a topic of discussion (with someone you don't know particularly well) and someone shares how deeply they feel about being an atheist or Muslim, or a Buddhist, or a Catholic. What do you do? Run? Avoid the discussion? Agree to disagree? Try to convince them they are wrong?

No doubt these kinds of conversations are a major reason for the age-old wisdom about not discussing faith or politics in mixed company. Certainly keeping silent about these matters is often a prudent course of action if relational harmony is a primary goal. But what if we want to move past superficial discussions about the weather, sports, or our children's school activities? What if we want to truly engage in deep, meaningful, and personally relevant discussion on matters of faith, politics, love, and life? Is it possible to have a meaningful discussion about these issues with people we

disagree with or must it be avoided for fear of jeopardizing a relationship? **Is it possible to be an authentic witness for Christ, without resorting to relational violence?**

I believe the story of Philip in Acts gives us great insight into these important questions. Philip is a disciple in the early church who is traveling throughout the region sharing the good news of Jesus. When Philip arrives in a Samaritan town he realizes that a man named Simon, who practices magic, has dazzled the people with his powers. The people were convinced that Simon was a man from God and they had "followed him for a long time." Philip comes to town to share a different message, the gospel of Christ. Philip was able to share who Jesus was, what he did for us, and how it personally made a difference to him. Philip's simple, humble, and personal witness changed the hearts and minds of the people and Simon! Simon actually became a devoted follower of Jesus and stayed "with Philip constantly."

The story of Philip giving witness to a Samaritan town and to Simon is a powerful example of how the gospel has the power to transform lives and overcome differences. Like Philip, we are called to share who Jesus is and what he has done for our lives. We are called to be witnesses when conditions are favorable and when they are unfavorable. When we give witness we honor the work that God has done in our lives. When we keep our story to ourselves out of fear or anxiety or lack of confidence we limit the transforming power of God.

Ultimately, when we give witness to what God has done for us we realize that it is not our words or actions which will touch the heart of another person, but it is God working through our words. When we have the courage to share our story with

This blog directly relates to our current sermon series entitled:

"Everyday Evangelism: GO!"

others, and even those who disagree with us, we make room for God to work within us. So be bold and brave, not for personal glory or with some mistaken and delusional sense of self-importance, but with the knowledge that God will speak through us and God will do the convincing. Conversions like we see in Acts are not human acts, but divine actions. We do however, play a vital role for it is through our actions and witnessing that the transforming power of Christ will be shared with the world. This is God's best plan for the transformation of the world, in fact it is the only plan.

We are the hands and feet of Jesus, so get moving!



Please check out Pastor Ben's blog at:

<http://biblestudyinsideout.blogspot.com/>

King of kings Spring Clean Up

Join us **Saturday, May 22nd** from **9:00 a.m. until 12noon** for our spring clean up. We need to get the church grounds in shape for the season and to get everything done we need your help.

No experience is necessary, just a willing heart with a desire to serve.

For more information contact Julie Domenick in the church office at 586-566-8660.



Would You Like To 'Adopt-A-Plot'?

King of kings has various planting areas surrounding the church that we like to call 'Adopt-A-Plots'. They are groomed areas with shrubs, perennials, or annual flowers. They add to the appearance of our church grounds. While we have a Levite ministry whose purpose is to cut and maintain the lawn, we need other people with a green thumb (but not required) to plant and/or maintain the Adopt-A-Plot areas. We currently have several plots available that need summer care.

Would you be interested in planting a few flowers in an area and then maintaining them for the summer season? You'd just need to stop by every other week and see if any pruning or weeding needed to be done.

For those of you who already have a designated 'plot', please be sure to clean it up and prep it for the season by May 22nd (if possible). That is the date of our King of kings Spring Clean Up. You are welcome to come that day to take care of it or to just help out.

We will have order forms available in the lobby for our annual Pentecost geraniums. They are displayed in

the church on Pentecost Sunday (May 23rd) and can then be planted outside in your Adopt-A-Plot.

If you're interested in acquiring a 'new' plot or have questions about your 'current' plot - please contact Nancy Beitler at 586-247-4702 or by email at nbeitler@yahoo.com.



**It's time to prepare
for the summer season.**

An Update From Sunday School . . .

The children in Sunday School will be learning about Prayer during the month of May and especially focusing on The Lord's Prayer.

**There will be no
Sunday School on
Sunday, May 30th
(for Memorial Day Weekend)**

Sunday School Swim Party

Sat., May 15th

12-3:00 p.m.

at the

Macomb Rec. Center

Please join us for a
splashing good time.
Bring your family, friends
and neighbors too!



CONFIRMATION (7th & 8th grade)

- May 5 ... Learning Night @ 7:00 p.m.
- May 12 ... Learning Night @ 7:00 p.m.
- May 19 ... End of the Year Party @ 7:00 p.m.
- May 23 ... Confirmation Service @ 11:00 a.m.

CHAOS (9th - 12th grade)

- May 5 .. Integrity @ 8:00 p.m.
- May 12 .. Integrity @ 8:00 p.m.
- May 19 .. Guest Speaker
@ 8:00 p.m.
- May 26 .. Fellowship Event

Youth & Children's Programs

Sunday School (preschool - 6th grade)

† Will meet at both
9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. on Sundays

For more information contact
Stacey Lambert
248-561-3473
or the Church office
586-566-8660

Confirmation (7th & 8th grade)

† Meets on Wednesdays from
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Check the schedule for
specific events.

For more information contact
the Church office
586-566-8660

C.H.A.O.S. (9th - 12th grades)

† 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

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

Join us for weekly worship:

We have Contemporary Praise Worship
& Sunday School
at **BOTH** 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. on Sundays

Contemporary Praise Worship, Mondays at 7:00 p.m.



Upcoming Events:

Women's Spring Tea ... May 1st @ 11am

MCREST Week @ Faith Lutheran
May 9th-15th

Confirmation Service ... May 23rd @ 11am