

KOG Connection—September 2018

Pastor's Corner...

Dear King of Glory family and friends,

I recently came across a new book by author and entrepreneur, Jack Alexander. He is the CEO of the ReImagine Group, the company that created those wonderful short films on Stewardship called "Living Generously" which we used a few years ago at KOG in worship. Alexander has a new book out called *The God Impulse* where he discusses Jesus' strategy of speaking truth in mercy and love. In a recent post, he encouraged all Christians to lead with mercy. As Jesus says in Luke 6:36, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful." The Greek word in this verse comes from the verb *oiktiro* which can be translated as compassion, mercy, pity, favor or grace. It basically means feeling deeply for another's difficulty or misfortune. Alexander argues that the church's influence and attraction has waned in recent generations for many reasons, but one main one is that the church has become a place of judgement in our society rather than a place of mercy. Jesus, however, always led with mercy. All Jesus did and said came from a place of deep and sincere compassion for the difficulties people faced. He still preached truth but always in the context of mercy. Alexander gives three reasons why this is so powerful:

1. Mercy empowers people to receive truth.

As the psychologist Abraham Maslow pointed out, when we're busy worrying about immediate problems like food, shelter or sickness, we're less able to focus on deeper issues. Mercy creates a womb of protection where people can experience safety and restoration. As their physical or emotional needs are met, their hearts become ready to receive truth.

2. Mercy demonstrates the power of our truth.

In a world where truth is seen as relative, what makes ours better than anyone else's? Jesus said His disciples would be known by their love, and mercy is a beautiful example of love. When we prove we're different through our mercy, we become testimonies of a truth worth listening to.

3. Mercy shows we can be trusted.

When someone is trying to sell us something, be it a belief system or a Buick, our first thought is, "*Does this person have my best interests at heart?*" In a world of scammers, that's a reasonable question, and when we lead with mercy, we dispel all doubt.

What would it look like if we became a community of people devoted to following Jesus (a church) that was completely committed to embodying God's mercy? How would our choices and priorities look different? What would your life look like if you committed yourself each morning to showing mercy to one new person, feeling deeply for their difficulty rather than focusing on your own? How might your day look different? Not only could we and you impact more lives, introduce more people to Jesus' love and God's mercy for them, we are also promised God's mercy in return. Remember, in Jesus' speech where he listed the

beatitudes or blessings, he said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy." (Matthew 5:7.) By showing mercy to others, we not only reflect God's true nature to them and increase the chance that they'll become more open to knowing Christ, we also are blessed ourselves!

This fall, I invite you to be like Jesus, and be a little more merciful toward yourself and others. Here is a prayer for you to practice having a heart of mercy from which acts of mercy can flow. For the ----- portion, picture and name someone you know who is having difficulty or with whom you are having difficulty.

Merciful God, may I be filled with mercy. May I be at peace. May I know true joy. May ----- be filled with mercy. May they be at peace. May they know true joy. May all people be filled with mercy. May they be at peace. May they know true joy. Amen.

Blessings, Pastor Kinndlee

Youth On The Go, Grow & Know...

#kogkids September 2018

Every Week

ALL Ages

Sundays: Services at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Elementary Kids' Time during the 10:30 am service

Check out our "Pray-Ground" in the front row of the sanctuary. This is an area for toddlers and preschool children to play quietly while being surrounded with worship.

Wednesday Nights:

Youth Group: 6:30-8:30 pm

Middle School (Confirmation): 5:30-7:30 pm Orientation will be on Sept. 12th and Class on Sept. 19th

How to find out more information

- Church newsletter
- Weekly Connection
- Social Media—#kogkids
- Contact Amanda by text 714.604.3373 or email kogkids@gmail.com

Preschool News!

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

Athinia Huber, Preschool Director



From the Choir Director

There will be no choir rehearsal during the summer months but occasionally Special Music will be shared on Sunday mornings. If you would like to provide special music or if you have any questions about the choir, please contact me at 714.803.7553, or by email: kbadertscher08@apu.edu. Katie Badertscher, Choir Director

Adult Education...

Sunday Adult Education Class:

Pastor Lund is continuing to lead an adult education Bible class focusing on each Sunday's scriptures in the Fellowship Hall Library at 9:30 am.

Men's Bible Study:

The Men's Bible Study group meets on Wednesday evenings at 7 pm. Join us in the Fellowship Center Library. Please call Alan Marcum at 714.328.9968 or send an email to wb6rqm@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Women's Fellowship, Prayer Group and Bible Study:

The Women of Spiritual Character meet every Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 pm in Little Ed. Our current study is Daily Discipleship, which is based on Sunday's lectionary texts. For those who do not like to go out at night, this can be an alternate means for continuing with a Bible Study. Contact Debbie Bise at 714.963.3099 with any questions. All are welcome!

Women of the ELCA Events...

(Information regarding Women's Ministry)

WELCA Board Meeting:

Next Board Meeting is Monday, September 10, at 7 pm in Little Ed.



Events and Dates to Remember:

Joy Circle: Monday, September 24, 9:30 am, in Little Ed.

Faith Circle: Saturday, September 22, 10 am, at the home of Linda Arnett.

****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:

KOG is a praying church. Every Monday at 4:30 pm we meet to lift up names to God of those in need. Anyone can join us! We rejoice when we can praise God for the healing of those on our lists. So please keep sending in the names of those who you are concerned over. BUT remember to let us know when recovery takes place, so we can praise too. Thank you.

Family Promise in September:

Family Promise is a partnership of local churches, working together to shelter and encourage newly homeless families, on the journey to gainful employment and a new permanent residence. Each week of hosting is a new opportunity to connect and share Christ's love with families that could really use our help.

We will be hosting our next group of guests from Family Promise from September 16th through September 22nd. I will be available after services on the patio Sunday September 2nd and 9th to answer questions and receive volunteer sign ups.

Volunteer opportunities include dinner preparation, fellowship time, Saturday

morning breakfast preparation, lunch and breakfast food donations, laundering of linens and overnight chaperones. Please see me to sign up for any Family Promise volunteer opportunity. If you are not able to catch me at church I can be contacted by email at wallace3251@att.net.

As always, I am looking forward to meeting our new guests and the opportunity to work alongside my brothers and sisters of KOG as we model the love of Christ together. If you are contemplating helping, I encourage you to trust in Christ and His guidance as we serve in this community outreach program. You never know how much this can be a blessing to you as well as the families we will be serving.

In His service, Paul Wallace

"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

Volunteers and donations are needed for our upcoming King's Kitchen Community Outreach Meal on Thursday, September 20. Cooking and set up begin at 4:00 p.m. and we are wrapped up by 8:00 pm. Our guests are with us from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. Your presence will be a blessing to you and others!

Please support our BLESSINGS TABLE with donations of personal hygiene items, household cleaners and socks. All may be dropped off in our collection basket in the narthex. Our most urgent needs are for laundry detergent, dark color tarps, aftershave, men's deodorant, and sleeping bags. You can find more details in our binder in the Welcome Place kiosk. This ministry occurs on the 3rd and 5th Thursday of each month, so please plan to join us when you are available. Please also consider activating one of your Thrivent Action Teams to cover the cost of food and supplies. Please see Karen Wallace for questions.

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!

What Is Christian Meditation? (By Deacon Lynne Prechel):

But I still my soul and make it quiet, like a child upon its mother's breast; my soul is quieted within me. (Psalm 131:3)

We may think of prayer as thoughts or feelings expressed in words. But this is only one form of prayer. There are many expressions of prayer. Christian meditation is the opening of the mind and heart – our whole being – to God, the Ultimate Mystery, beyond thoughts, words and emotions. We open our awareness to God whom we know by faith is within us, closer than breathing, closer than thinking, closer than choosing – closer than consciousness itself. This type of prayer, also known as contemplative prayer, is a process of interior purification leading, if we consent, to divine union. You are invited to join a Christian meditation group (Contemplative Christian Communities) on Thursday nights from 7:30-8:45 pm in the KOG sanctuary. We've been meditating together for over two decades and will help you get started by providing verbal instruction and printed directions for your use at home. Interested? Use the information below to try it out for yourself!

Explanation of the Guidelines

1. Choose a sacred word. Examples: *Lord, Jesus, Abba, Father, love, peace, mercy, etc.*
2. Or choose the Jesus Prayer: *Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on me.*
3. Do not change the sacred word during the prayer period, for that would be to start thinking again.
4. Sit comfortably with back straight and body supported, eyes closed.
5. Turn your gaze inward upon God. Introduce the sacred word inwardly and as gently as laying a feather upon a piece of cotton.
6. When you become aware of thoughts, return gently to the sacred word. "Thoughts" are every perception including sense perceptions, feelings, images, memories, reflections and commentaries. Thoughts are a normal part of this prayer and will pop up frequently.
7. During the course of our prayer, the sacred word may become vague or even disappear. This is normal.
8. At the end of the prayer period, remain in silence with eyes closed for a couple of minutes.

Some Practical Points

1. Minimum time for this prayer is 15-20 minutes. Two periods are recommended each day, one early in the morning, and one in the afternoon or evening.
2. You may use a timer with a gentle alarm sound (try Insight Timer, a free app for cell phones).
3. The principal effects of meditation are experienced in daily life, not in the period of prayer itself.
4. Physical symptoms may include slight pains, itches or twitches in the body, a restless feeling, or a slight heaviness or lightness in the extremities. In either case, pay no attention, or allow the mind to rest briefly in the sensation, and then return to the sacred word.
5. A weekly support group praying and sharing together once a week helps maintain one's commitment to the prayer.

What Centering Prayer is not:

- a. It is not a relaxation exercise, a form of self-hypnosis, or a para-psychological experience.
- b. It is not a charismatic gift.
- c. It is not limited to the "felt" presence of God.
- d. It is not discursive prayer with spoken words.

What Centering Prayer is:

- a. It is at the same time a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship.
- b. It is an exercise of faith, hope, and love.
- c. It is a movement beyond conversation with Christ to communion.
- d. It habituates us to the language of God, which is silence.

Do you have questions?

If so, email Deacon Lynne Prechel at lynne@fanfaremusic.net. Or - call her at home 714.966.0124.

King of Glory Stephen Ministry:

Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide you with the confidential, one-to-one Christian care you need to make it through a crisis or help you through a difficult time.

For more information on receiving a Stephen Minister or if you desire to be trained as a Minister, please contact Pastor Kinndlee @ 714.963.5649, Lorrie Blain @ 949.631.4700 or Deenna Eley @ 714.580.3743.

KOG Weekly Food Donations:

The need for weekly food donations to feed the homeless and low-income families in our community continues to grow. The Lutheran Social Services food pantry in Garden Grove has indicated that food donations of any size would be greatly appreciated. Please continue to bring your weekly donations of canned foods, etc. to church on Sunday.

Grief Loss Groups Available:

At one time or another, everyone suffers an emotional loss that produces pain, loneliness, fear, depression, anger or all five at once. The death of a spouse; the loss of a child, parent, or loved one; the end of a marriage, a career or your independence; a health issue that changes every part of your life. In moments like these, consolation, empathy and sensitivity are crucial. Grief and Loss Support Groups provide a safe, healing, loving and hope-filled setting where those who are hurting, and ache can share in the presence of people who listen, understand and who genuinely care. You **must** be registered prior to attending. ***You may register and join at any time.***

To register: call Maxine Abbott at 714.534.6450 or email: mabbott@LSSCommunityCare.org

Location: Redeemer Lutheran Church, 13564 St. Andrews Drive, Seal Beach

Time: 1:00 pm-3:00 pm Fridays, with time for individual help

Cost: \$10 per session; \$60 for 8 sessions (10-12 people per group)

Thrivent Action Team Bulletin Board:

We would like to leverage Thrivent Financial Action Team dollars by matching up the needs of our congregation and our community with the passion of our KOG Members (and especially those who are Thrivent Members).

We would also love to know how Action Team dollars are spent and what ministries they support, both within King of Glory and within our greater community. We are asking that those who participate in Thrivent Action Teams self-report to the church office. We would be glad to keep your name confidential if that is your choice. We would love to hear about the projects supported by our King of Glory members with the help of Thrivent's generosity.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Wallace or Catherine Fullerton.

King of Glory Recycles:

Used Ink Cartridges and Eyeglasses! Place them in the Welcome Place.

Other Upcoming Events...

Single Sisters in Christ Covenant Group—September 9:

SSiCC will be meeting in Big Ed after second service on September 9. Discussion will be on Chapter 7 in Max Lucado's book *He Still Moves Stones*. Bring your own lunch and join in the discussion. New members always welcome.

"God's Work, Our Hands"—September 9:

Sunday, September 9th, ELCA's "God's Work, Our Hands" community service projects. Let's plan on having great participation so our congregation's outreach will touch many of our neighbors with needs. To help in the planning: Contact Karla Bjorklund, Outreach Liaison at uccolor2@gmail.com or through the church office. Be Blessed to be a Blessing.

Happy Hands and Hooking KnitWits—September 12:

Happy Hands and Hooking KnitWits will meet Wednesday, September 12th at 1:00 p.m. We have joined forces and now you can knit, crochet, tie quilts or pick out some fabrics for a new quilt. If you are new to any of these activities, we can teach you. We do have yarn, needles/crochet hooks, fabric and a sewing machine. There are a few quilts to tie and we need to plan for next year's graduating seniors.

Bring a sack lunch if you like so we can continue to socialize after the work is done. Coffee and dessert will be provided.

Come join the fun, remembering all items made go to those in need. Call Nancy Jaeger, 714-846-6593 or Catherine Marcum 714-328-9975 for more information.

"The King's Kitchen" Community Meals Outreach—September 20:

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 being a table host chatting with our guests.

Saved by Grace Covenant—September 22:

Saved by Grace Covenant will meet on Saturday, September 22, at 6 p.m. at the home of the Marcums (please note DATE CHANGE). We will start the evening with our potluck dinner (please bring a dish to share), followed by our continuing study of John MacArthur's *Revelation, The Christian's Ultimate Victory*.

Newsletter Deadline—September 24:

The deadline to submit articles for the September newsletter is Monday, September 24. Please be sure to send your articles regarding ministry events to newsletter@kogchurch.org or drop them by the church office.

Have a blessed month of September!

Heather Justine Stolte

Office.manager@kogchurch.org

September Birthdays...

Karla Bjorklund	2
Cynthia Thornburg	2
Louise Scauzillo	5
Brooke Balo	8
Frank Seaberg	9
Darlene Gould	11
Christopher Osborne	11
Thomas Nemec	11
Ike Isaksen	14
Joanne Moore	15
MaryLou Morey	15
Lee Ann Covington	15
Gregory Marecek	15
Katie Badertscher	15
Lucy Garza	16

Debora Luken	16
Joan Frey	17
Cheryl Cormack	18
Catherine Fullerton	18
Todd Warren	19
Shannon Williams	19
Brent Cooper	20
Nancy Jaeger	21
Linda Dunkelberger	22
Tim Covington	24
Harry Klitzner	26
Jean Fisher	26
Christy Borack	26
Robert Lipot	27
Brent Gable	29

Happy Birthday!!

...and Anniversaries

Danny and Lauren Harper 7 years on September 04
Dan and Debbie Tesla 34 years on September 08
Chuck and Mary Balo 33 years on September 14
Jeff and Sheri Loeffelman 28 years on September 15

Glenn and Charlyn Travers 51 years on September 16
Steve and April Bollinger 20 years on September 19
Dale and Barbara Siegele 57 years on September 22
Glenn and Claire Hoxie 15 years on September 28

Happy Anniversary

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