Who would have ever thought that our new normal would be what it is today? But no matter how daunting this season of life is, we can still take comfort in God’s Word. When Moses commissioned Joshua to lead the Israelites into the new land, into uncharted territory where they didn’t really know what to expect, he said to them:

*The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.* –Deuteronomy 31:8

As we walk through this season of life, we don’t always know what to expect, and we realize the uncertainties can be overwhelming—but one thing is certain! God goes before us and He is with us, and because of that we do not have to be afraid or discouraged. There have been bright spots during this pandemic, and it’s right to praise God for how He’s worked during this time. You are one of those bright spots, and we would like to thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Plans for the fall at King of Kings will look different. But take heart—the one thing that never changes is God’s promise to us! Our decisions have not been made out of fear, but out of compassion and love for our members and for the wider community. We want to continue our mission to feed physical and spiritual hunger, and the hunger we all have to be in community. In addition, we also want to make sure we are doing everything we can to ensure the safety of our congregation while serving you well. With these things at the forefront of our minds, we are developing new ways to fulfill our mission.

**WORSHIP**Thank you to all who volunteered to help make our in-person worship services safe, and to those of you who attended. It was such a joy to gather again. With the hesitation of most people to attend in-person services and the uncertainties of this fall, we understand that the online worship opportunity will remain a crucial part of how we move forward. We feel that pre-recording our worship allows for a larger impact and provides an experience that can reach hearts beyond our walls.

While we have chosen to pause weekly in-person worship, we will offer an in-person worship opportunity once a month for those who prefer to worship in church.

Holy Communion will be a part of each of our weekly worship services. We will continue to offer communion kits for pick up at the church office. Each kit contains a wafer and grape juice so that you can participate in this holy sacrament from home. If you are not able to make it to church to pick up a kit, please contact Sue Oberg.

***The following worship plan will be in effect September 1:***

**Weekly Online Broadcast
•** “Traditional” Worship (Organ-led) – Sundays at 8:15 and 9:30 a.m. **•** “Contemporary” Worship (Band-led) – Saturdays at 4:30 p.m. and Sundays at 10:45 a.m.These services will be available for viewing on Facebook and our website at these times, and throughout the week on our website.

**Monthly In-Person Worship**This service will be held on the 2nd Sunday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We will have services on September 13th, October 11th, November 8th, and December 13th. You can expect a devotional-type message, Holy Communion, prayer, and a time of music. Social distancing will be practiced and use of masks will be required. We will continue preparing our worship space with our existing cleaning protocols prior to these services so that you can come and worship knowing it will be clean and safe.

**Baptisms/Weddings/Funerals**We will offer private baptism services for individual families on the 2nd Sunday of the month at a special time. We will offer wedding and funeral services as needed. Please contact Patty Bishop for additional information.

**EDUCATION***Kids of the Kingdom* classes will meet virtually using Zoom meetings for live age/grade level classes beginning September 13. Families will be able to choose each week to join either a Sunday morning Zoom meeting at 9:30 a.m. or a Wednesday night Zoom meeting at 6:00 p.m. In addition, families will have the lesson schedule with Bible stories to read at home during the week and will continue to receive the weekly family pages to reinforce the lesson. Contact Paula Arland with questions.

*6th Grade:* Because our 6th graders are just entering into the program and need to spend some time establishing community and relationships, they will meet in person on Wednesday evenings (following all guidelines) beginning September 23. If you or your student does not feel comfortable with meeting in person, let Michael Carmack know to arrange an alternative option.

*7th and 8th Grade:* Our 7th and 8th grade programming will meet virtually on a video platform beginning September 23. The hope is to eventually begin to add in a monthly programming event for our 7th/8th graders so that we can continue to build our community and developing our relationships.

*9th Grade:* 9th grade groups will primarily meet virtually this fall for at-home learning. Each group’s leader will work with Kelsey to arrange for a couple of opportunities to meet safely in-person with social distancing, if desired.

*10th-12th Grade:* The Connection Group will decide as a group whether to gather in-person or online. For all high school students in the High School Hangouts (*9th-12th Grade)*, you will meet each week virtually. Contact Michael Carmack for further details.

**ADULT SMALL GROUPS**
Adult small groups will be offered in person, online or a combination of both. Registrations will clearly state your options. If you have questions about a group, please contact Sue Oberg.

Please watch for the October newsletter to be mailed to your homes, and check your emails from our staff for complete details on all programming. These are unprecedented times, but we are in this together. *"For nothing will be impossible with God."* – Luke 1:37

Blessings,

Molly Schultz
Council President