



## 2020 Annual Report



*With God at the center, our mission is to Feed Physical Hunger,  
Spiritual Hunger and the Hunger to be in Community.*

1583 Radio Drive • Woodbury, MN 55125 • 651-738-3110 • [www.kingofkingswoodbury.org](http://www.kingofkingswoodbury.org)

As I take a step back and reflect on this past year, a passage of scripture that seems to capture the journey we have been on is from James 4:13-15. It's a part of a larger section entitled, "Boasting about Tomorrow." It reads: *Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money.' Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, 'If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that.'*

Okay...so it is somewhat of a reality check and may seem a bit harsh, but perhaps it captures how we're all feeling.

As we entered into 2020 we had our calendars set, and projected out ministry and possible growth opportunities. We could, for the most part, anticipate the cadence of ministry and respond to any needs that would arise. We knew what ministries we wanted to invest in and where we wanted to align our energies and resources that would position us for future growth. But oh, how our plans for tomorrow changed. All of a sudden we found ourselves seeking new ways to worship, serve, and connect. We tried to anticipate the ever-changing landscape.

- Instead of in-person worship, we found ourselves moving services online and having to rely on providing pre-recorded services. For a season we found ourselves providing both pre-recorded services and an in-person worship experience. While we anticipated that we would only have to do that for a time, we had to make the decision to move to livestreaming our weekend in-person services at 9:30 and 11:00.
- Instead of education and connection groups meeting in-person, they shifted to online platforms such as Zoom and Google Meets. As a result, we found ourselves relying more heavily on our small group leaders who rose to the occasion and were able to adapt as needed.
- Instead of the building swarming with hundreds of students, summer camp experiences had to be pre-recorded and shared online. We are truly grateful to our student leaders who stepped forward in significant ways.
- Instead of going on home and hospital visits, we found new ways to provide connection and care. Members of our Congregational Care Team made phone calls and wrote letters as an extension of the care ministry to our church community.
- Instead of gathering for life events such as baptisms, weddings and

funerals, we found ourselves needing to move from large gatherings to smaller, more intimate settings.

- While it has become "a bit" more involved, I would have to say that one of my greatest joys from this past year has been creating children's messages. A special word of thanks to Chris Vorrie for his patience and editing.



The things we had banked on all along and had grown accustomed to in terms of carrying out ministry had all of a sudden become uncertain. All the plans for tomorrow changed in the blink of an eye as we found ourselves asking, "How do we do ministry in this new day?"

While we have always sought God's will in terms of how to best serve and care for this congregation, our community and our partners, this has been a season of wrestling and discernment. We have often found ourselves having to pivot in terms of our re-opening strategy and seeking to make

decisions with the congregation and larger community in mind. While hard decisions had to be made in terms of how to best serve the congregation, I am truly grateful for the staff who have rallied and carried out ministry in new and exciting ways. I am also grateful for the ongoing support, leadership and understanding of our Church Council and Congregation.

One word that continues to come to mind as I reflect on this past year is blessed. I continue to stand in awe of the heart of generosity that is present here at King of Kings—that not only supports the needs of our congregation, but our local and global partners.

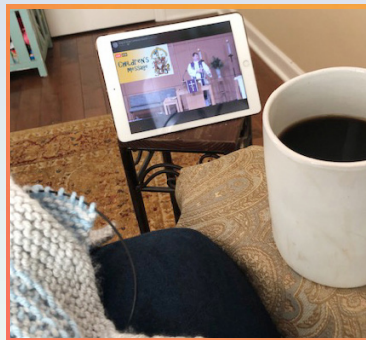
No matter the changes we have faced, God has certainly been present with us in the past, he will continue to guide us in the present, and he alone holds our future and all our tomorrows. We are grateful for the work of His Spirit in this place and in the hearts of all those who call King of Kings their church home.

Pastor Jon

*Blessed!*

## 1000's

Our social media and online services reached thousands of people in 2020, including 48 states and 30 countries.



## 76

76 people volunteered to produce worship services during COVID, with 30 people volunteering each week to bring worship to you online.

## 430

Approximately 430 people actively participated in 13 small groups and bible studies, which continued to meet in person (socially distanced) and online.



## 800+

Over 800 phone calls were made by our Care Team, and letters and cards were written by many to support our congregation members.



## From the Council President *Molly Schultz*

Many congregation members may be excited to turn the page on 2020 and you may be amongst those, but you could also be on the pajama-wearing, at-home-watching, breakfast-while-I-worship kind of folks. No matter your opinion on taking on 2021, we are blessed to join our hearts together as members of King of Kings Lutheran Church.

As you turned and twisted your lives this past year, you noticed some major changes at your church home. These included an enhanced at-home worship experience, church office closures, and updates to the church we are blessed to call 'Home.'

Early in the year, an investment into hi-def video and sound system was made to compliment the lighting upgrades made the year before. This really kicked our worship experience in-person up a notch and eventually assisted in the online experience with pre-recordings of special music, readings, and the much-loved Children's messages.

March 13th was the first announcement of the church closure and immediate action was taken to move worship services online. A Re-opening Strategy Committee was formed to navigate the ever-changing CDC guidelines, Minnesota State Health Department, and Synod/ELCA, of which all had a pivotal role in assuring a smooth transition back to in-person worship. The safety and health of the congregation and the surrounding community continues to be of utmost importance during all decision-making sessions.

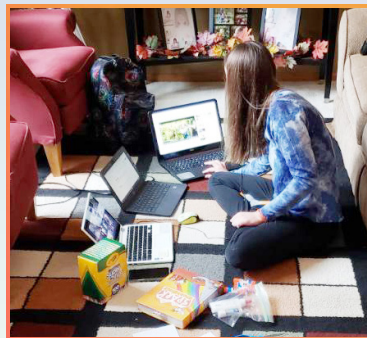
The Facilities Committee determined that carpeting the Multi-Purpose Room was a priority to allow for social distancing when small and large group activities resumed. Several other paint projects were completed while church traffic was diminished.

We continue to be cautiously optimistic financially, and careful consideration was taken last year to ensure responsible expense control while remaining diligent to our missions locally and globally. Your generosity is astounding.

Looking down the road of 2021, the council is focused on a safe return to in-person worship, enhancing the experience online, and furthering the mission to Feed Physical Hunger, Spiritual Hunger and the Hunger to be in Community.

Be well and look to Christ,  
Molly Schultz

# Faith!



## 371

371 young students participated in Kids of the Kingdom, with 110 volunteers bringing classes to them!



## 198

140 6th-8th grade students participated in programming, led by 30 volunteers! 58 students were involved in 9th grade programming.

# 26

26 members participated in the first Virtual Mission Trip.

*"...you can feel God's presence as we worship together...Thank you so much King of Kings for organizing this new and different mission experience."*

— Pastors Peter and Katherine Hearne



# 75

75 young adults and college students received cards and care packages to remind them that their church is thinking about them and uplifting them in prayer!



# 317

317 campers participated in online VBS and American Girls camp, with 40 leaders facilitating the Zoom breakout sessions.

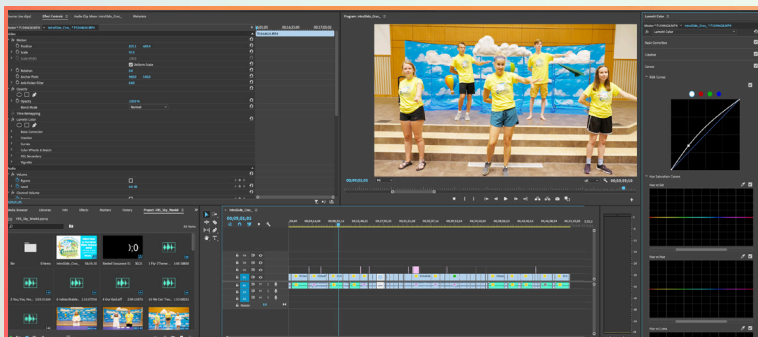


# 244

244 videos were written, filmed and edited for church in 2020. These included worship services, children's messages, programming, camps and informational videos. In addition, countless educational Zoom meetings were recorded and shared with those who needed to watch on demand.

# 407

407 students and adults participated in seven Faith Milestones provided during 2020.



 **FAITH  
MILESTONES**

## *ELCA Missionary Support*

**Dr. Mark and Linda Jacobson** have served as ELCA missionaries for more than 30 years, working to improve healthcare in Tanzania. They were instrumental in developing and building Arusha Lutheran Medical Center, a hospital in Arusha, Tanzania. King of Kings has supported Mark and Linda in their dedicated work for many years, and we now walk with them as they transition toward retirement.

## *Kilolo Parish in the Iringa Diocese in Tanzania*

**Kilolo Parish** has been our companion congregation for more than 20 years. This partnership through the St. Paul Area Synod is part of the **Bega Kwa Bega** program. In Swahili, Bega Kwa Bega means *shoulder to shoulder*, a phrase that describes the way in which we aspire to relate to one another—as equals and companions in ministry. The pillars of the companion relationship are: Prayer, Presence, and Projects. Through Bega Kwa Bega, King of Kings supports Kilolo in several ways, but especially with secondary school scholarships and an annual gift.

- **Scholarships:** Each year, King of Kings supports approximately 20 students from Kilolo Parish with scholarships to further their secondary or post-secondary education.
- **Companion Congregation Gift:** King of Kings sends an annual gift to Kilolo Parish, which is used to help them develop their church—such as building projects, evangelism, and healthcare outreach.

*Mission!*

## *St. Margaret's Academy*

**St. Margaret's Academy** is a nursery and elementary school in the Arusha area of Tanzania. They currently have approximately 800 students enrolled. They are in the process of developing a secondary (high school) and vocational school.

## *Salvation Army*

**Salvation Army Toy Drive** is an annual Christmas-time collection of toys, which are then distributed by our local Salvation Army to children and families in need.

## *Iringa Hope*

**Iringa Hope** is an economic development organization based in the Iringa region of Tanzania. Through microloans, marketing, and training, they assist small scale farmers in Tanzania. King of Kings supports our companion congregation, Kilolo, to continue building and developing their Iringa Hope program throughout their community.

## *Camp Wapogasset*

**Camp Wapogasset** is a Lutheran Bible Camp located near Amery, WI. Camp Wapo offers year-round opportunities, but with specific focus on summer camps for youth and families. King of Kings supports Camp Wapo yearly, as well as supporting Camp Wapo's capital campaign since 2019.

## *Dodoma Christian Medical Center*

**Dodoma Christian Medical Center** is a 50-bed hospital in Central Tanzania that serves more than 100,000 patients each year. It is recognized as the best healthcare facility in the region for its high quality, and compassionate medical and dental care.

## *Linaje Escogido Church*

**Linaje Escogido Church** is an active church community in southwest Honduras. Over the course of their ministry outreach, they have developed many projects to serve their community, including several feeding programs for children and seniors, a clinic, a library, English classes, professional development seminars, and community evangelism programs. This church was founded by Peter and Martha Hearne. As they move closer to retirement, they plan for their son and daughter-in-law to be their successors. Their names are Peter Isaac and Katherine Hearne.

King of Kings has supported three feeding centers for several years.

**San Nicolas Children's Center** serves meals to 63 kids, 3x per week.

**La Villa Children's Center** was started after the success of the San Nicolas feeding center. This center supports 55 kids with a noon-time meal 2x per week.

**La Villa Senior Center** supports 59 seniors by providing a hot meal 2x per week, plus one day with arts activities.

*\*In 2020, the feeding centers were closed for most of the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The staff shifted to delivering food to homes two times per month.*

**Samuel Clinic** in La Villa San Antonio serves the medical needs of this rural community, as well as several surrounding villages. Each month more than 1,100 people visit the clinic for medical services.

## *St. Croix Family Resource Center*

**St. Croix Family Resource Center – Youth Drop-in Centers** work to bridge the gap for youth experiencing unstable housing. With locations in Stillwater and Cottage Grove, the Family Resource Center provides a safe and supportive place for youth to have a hot meal, shower, do laundry, and connect with caring and supportive adults and professional youth counselors.

## *Loaves & Fishes*

**Loaves & Fishes** is an on-site meal program in which King of Kings members volunteer to prepare/serve an evening meal to those in need. King of Kings serves meals at St. Matthew's Church in St. Paul on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

## *Christian Cupboard Emergency Food Shelf*

**CCEFS** is a food shelf working to address food insecurity in our community. Through their Food Market, Produce Fair, and Wildcard Wednesday, CCEFS distributes more than 1 million pounds of food each year.

## *Meals from the Heart*

**Meals from the Heart** aims to provide respectful meals to neighbors in need and opportunities for those who wish to serve. Their prepackaged, shelf-stable meals are nutritious and flavorful. Community and corporate organizations are able to hold meal packing events to give back to their community and provide food to food shelves in the area.

## *Community Thread*

**Community Thread** works to make meaningful connections within the community. Their programs include: providing rides for seniors to medical appointments/pharmacy pickups, yard clean-up, holiday hope program, and more. In addition, they offer volunteer opportunities for all ages.

## From the Executive Director *Dianne Johnson*

2020... What else can be said? It was Friday, March 13th (ironically Friday the 13th) when notice arrived at the church that there was a virus hitting our community, nation, and the world. I remember being overwhelmed by the news and the uncertainty around how to ensure the safety of the staff as well as our members, friends, family, and community.

It was a very difficult decision to close the church building that Friday and send staff home to work remotely several days before the Governor's mandate. As I left and locked the doors, I thought that we would certainly be back in a couple of weeks and began thinking through ways to continue our worship services, bible studies, and education classes going remotely for this short period of time.

I never would have imagined that almost 11 months later we would still have limits on gatherings in the building and at worship. Yet, King of Kings has been (and continues to be) blessed to have the technical capabilities to continue worship, bible studies, and education for our students remotely. We are even more blessed with a passionate and innovative team that quickly adapted to changing circumstances, allowing us to continue to be the church through all of 2020's challenges.

Personally, I am most proud of my newfound prowess of Zoom, Google Hangouts and Microsoft Teams. Yet I still have nightmares about low internet signals and frozen video chats.

Although the building was closed, the work of the church did not stop in 2020. Far from it. Below are just a few of the many highlights we experienced during this challenging year:

*Generosity!*

In March, we closed the church building yet continued to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ moving our services entirely online to guard the health of our staff and members. The Bible constantly references the church as the people, not a place. We were reminded of this as our weekly online services began reaching new worshippers not only throughout our community but around the world!

In April, King of Kings received a PPP loan in the amount of \$205,685 allowing us to continue to pay all staff through June. This loan also helped us continue to pay the mortgage interest along with lease payments and utilities. King of Kings Church Council made the decision to allocate our annual Christian Cupboard benevolence amount of \$8,500 as they recognized the increased need.



In May, we refinanced our mortgage from 4.875% to 4% allowing for an annual savings of \$13,080. Our current mortgage is \$3,424,216 with a maturity date of 3/1/2037. In addition, we updated the sanctuary's PA system to alleviate dead zones and enhance the overall worship experience. The difference is truly remarkable! A phone tree was initiated to reach out to members with a brief word of prayer and encouragement.

In June, the Multi-Purpose Room's flooring was carpeted to improve the room's acoustics and allowed us to continue using this space while social distancing. We provided meals to the health care workers and volunteers at The Christian Cupboard and held a drive-by drop off event gathering vital supplies for those in need throughout our community.

In July, many of the walls in the church received a fresh coat of paint. We financially supported



## From the Executive Director *Dianne Johnson*

Hope for the Journey Home in Oakdale, a ministry for families who are experiencing homelessness for the first time. We also updated our technical computer systems including a new server, remote access points, and a secure Wi-Fi system. As a result of all programming being remote, King of Kings received our lowest monthly energy bill ever at \$474.

In August and September, we finalized policies and procedures that allowed us to return to in-person worship comfortably and safely after nearly five months online. Our students were hard at work packing \$5,000 worth of meals through Meals From the Heart.

In October, we launched a new online giving platform with Pushpay and kicked off the development of a mobile app that will allow us to connect in new and exciting ways.



In November, we continued to provide online and in-person worship increasing our presence and engagement in ways we never would have imagined a year ago. \$3,000 in gift cards was donated to Community Thread's Holiday Hope initiative supporting those in need at the holidays.



In December, we received notice that our PPP Loan would be totally forgiven. The generosity and spirit of the King of Kings family surrounded and uplifted our ministry partners as we provided an additional \$40,000 towards the valuable work they do in our community and around the world. The Holiday Toy Drive for the Salvation Army brought in more than 1,800 toys.

A special thank you to the Retired Men's Group who faithfully volunteered at Kowalski's throughout the year. The men donated an additional \$500 to Christian Cupboard and provided \$3,500 in gas cards to the Salvation Army and Teen Drop-in Center. Since all 2020 mission trips were

canceled, our students donated their fundraising money (over \$9,000) towards five of our mission partners: Christian Cupboard, Dodoma Tanzania Health Development, Hope for the Journey Home, Milk and Honey, and Bega Kwa Bega of the St. Paul Area Synod. We were able to support our partners in Honduras with an additional \$3,300 for medical supplies over the budgeted benevolence. These are only a few of the partners in ministry that have been granted unexpected financial support by and through your gifts.

I stand amazed by the ways that God has moved throughout the year of 2020 and how each of you have stood through the challenges and continued to support King of Kings. I am humbled by your faithfulness and generosity and am so thankful to all of you!

2020 was filled with many hardships and struggles that upended our accustomed way of life. However, through it all God never left our side. He walks this journey with us and continues to provide for us in ways we never would have noticed before. That, my friends, is the true blessing of 2020.

May God bless and provide you with many moments of His awesome grace and provision in 2021.

## Financial Summary

For the year ending December 31, 2020

Contributions	Church Operations	2020 Budget
Members	\$1,790,849	\$1,800,000
Members without ELCA	165,015	180,000
Visitors	16,993	40,000
Designated - Operating	205,710	
Designated - Benevolence	3,365	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,181,932</b>	<b>\$2,020,000</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Personnel	1,083,793	1,206,460
Building and Property Expenses	130,795	141,565
Interest expense	151,483	169,200
Office Expenses	72,925	70,800
Computers	23,541	15,200
Ministry Team - Learning	8,680	9,700
Ministry Team - Learning - CASH IN	(4,925)	
Ministry Team - Children's	20,886	7,500
Ministry Team - Children's - CASH IN	(21,261)	
Ministry Team - Worship/Music	29,421	29,800
Ministry Team - Youth	18,918	16,000
Ministry Team - Youth - CASH IN	(22,071)	
Community Outreach Ministry	28,441	47,000
Fellowship Committee	2,951	10,000
Fellowship Committee - CASH IN	(679)	
Personnel Committee	415	500
Mission	10,961	17,000
Stewardship Committee	6,182	7,500
Volunteer Recognition	1,293	1,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,541,747</b>	<b>\$1,749,225</b>
<b>Net Totals</b>	<b>\$640,185</b>	<b>\$270,775</b>
<b>Other Revenues (Expenses)</b>	<b>(64,283)</b>	<b>(13,500)</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>	<b>\$68,300</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Nonoperating Expense</b>		
Benevolence	162,938	122,475
Designated Funds/Expense Offset	2,805	
Special Projects	—	4,000
<b>Total Nonoperating Expense</b>	<b>\$165,743</b>	<b>\$126,475</b>
<b>Excess Cash Received</b>	<b>\$478,458</b>	<b>\$130,800</b>
<b>Debt/Asset Disbursements</b>		
Loan Principal Payments	105,330	130,800
<b>Net Fund Surplus w/ Depr</b>	<b>\$373,129</b>	<b>—</b>

# 1827

1827 postcards were sent to new residents in Woodbury and were given out as part of the Woodbury Foundation events during 2020.



# 35

35 students were confirmed, with 9 students choosing to wait for their rite of confirmation in 2021.



# 2021 Budget Proposal

## Revenues

Operating	1,766,000
Operating without ELCA	164,000
Offerings - Visitors	30,000
Special Offerings	

**Total Revenues** **\$1,960,000**

## Expenses

Mortgage	286,920
Personnel	1,142,876
Building & Property Exp.	156,204
Office Expenses	66,700
Computers	10,500
Adult Learning	7,000
Prayer/Care Ministry	2,700
Children's Ministry	7,500
Worship and Music	43,800
High School Ministry	9,000
Middle School 6th-8th Grade	5,000
Marketing	46,500
Mission	12,000
Fellowship	7,000
Personnel	1,000
Vision 20/20	8,000
Volunteer Recognition	1,000

**Total Expenses** **\$1,813,700**

**Net** **\$146,300**

## Nonoperating Expense

Benevolence	127,300
Special Projects	4,000

**Total Nonoperating Exp.** **\$131,300**

**Net After Nonoperating Expenses** **\$15,000**

**Other Expenses** **\$15,000**

**Bottom Line** **0**

**Total Expenses** **\$1,960,000**

# 1500+

1500+ meals (125-150 each month) made by our volunteers were provided to families in St. Paul through Loaves & Fishes—even during the pandemic.



# 193+55

193 backpacks filled with supplies and 55 calculators were donated to School District 833.

# \$6402.50

\$6402.50 was earned by the Retired Men and donated to Salvation Army, Christian Cupboard Emergency Food Shelf and Youth Connections Drop-in Center.



# 68+13+10

68 energetic preschoolers and 13 virtual learning school-age children were taught by 10 talented teachers who served 1,360 graham crackers and gave a million hugs and smiles.

# \$165,743.76

\$165,743.76 was given to 15  
Mission partners in 2020!

Kilolo Parish  
ELCA Missionary Support –  
Dr. Mark and Linda Jacobson  
St. Margaret's Academy  
Iringa Hope  
Dodoma Christian Medical Center  
Linaje Escogido Church  
Christian Cupboard Em. Food Shelf  
St. Croix Family Resource Center –  
Youth Drop-in Centers  
Meals from the Heart  
Community Thread  
Salvation Army Toy Drive  
Loaves & Fishes  
Camp Wapo  
Hope for the Journey Home  
St. Paul Area Synod



## 1,110

1,110 toys were donated to  
the Salvation Army Toy Drive.  
*"Thanks to you 5000 families will be  
helped. Nearly 11,000 children will  
have a happy, meaningful Christmas."*  
– Brian Molohon, Salvation Army

# 500

500 reusable Baking Bags,  
filled with flour, sugar, baking  
soda, vanilla and cooking oil  
were donated to the Christian  
Cupboard Emergency  
Food Shelf.



# \$9,500

\$8,000 supported 14 students from Kilolo Congregation in  
Tanzania with secondary school scholarships. The \$1,500 Annual  
gift was used to plaster the church and add windows. The plaster  
will protect the building from wind and water erosion, a concern  
due to weather extremes experienced throughout the year.

# \$22,855.44

\$22,855 was donated to  
the Christian Cupboard  
Emergency Food Shelf  
through benevolence and  
designated donations.

# \$35,294

\$35,294 was donated to Linaje Escogido Church in Honduras. We supported additional programs  
and projects due to the coronavirus and 2 hurricanes. Some of the ways your gifts supported Linaje  
were PPE supplies for Samuel Clinic, including masks, protective gowns, bed sheets, disposable gloves,  
and COVID-19 quick test kits; the purchase of 2 oxygen tanks and equipment for an isolation room for  
suspected COVID-19 patients; and support to purchase food for community members in need.

*"Thank you very much! Praise the Lord! These gifts will immediately be put to good use. God bless you all!"*

– Pastor Peter Hearne, Sr.