



# Enlighten Me!

FALL 2021

Take a few minutes to become enlightened about the King of Glory Lutheran Church Foundation's recent efforts to support our mission: *To be and to make followers of Christ who boldly share the grace of God with the world.* The Foundation is an independent, non-profit corporation whose purpose is to receive gifts through planned giving, hold the principal, and give the value increase of those gifts to expand King of Glory's ministries. If you have given to the church throughout your life, wouldn't you want to continue your stewardship by including a planned gift at the end of your life through your will or estate plan? Visit [kingofgloryfoundation.com](http://kingofgloryfoundation.com).



**Foundation Sunday  
December 12, 2021**

A time to give thanks and celebrate the blessings and generosity of King of Glory's members.



**DON HAVEN**  
Transition Lead  
Pastor

*And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. (2nd Corinthians 9:8)*

*The Apostle Paul was visiting congregations to raise funds for the Christians in Jerusalem. One of the promises Paul made to those congregations was that even if they gave generously to this offering, they would still have enough! Now, he didn't promise they would have enough of everything they WANTED, but enough of everything they needed, including enough to share abundantly in this effort on behalf of their sisters and brothers. Maybe this was Paul's version of the Miracle Offering Sunday those of you at King of Glory generously participated in earlier this fall. It's a powerful promise: "God is able to provide you with every blessing IN ABUNDANCE!"*

*Most of us who have participated in supporting King of Glory have done so through offering a portion of what we have received by God's Grace through salaries, pensions, savings or investments. Those gifts are essential for the life of a congregation. However, we often forget that we have also been called to be stewards of not just our income but of our assets – that which we have accumulated over our lifetime.*

*King of Glory's Foundation was developed to help us prayerfully consider how each household might plan for the distribution of our assets at life's end. Through wills, trusts and bequests, you can provide funds and create support for ministries in ways that will long outlive you! The KOG Foundation Board members have been faithful stewards of the end-of-life gifts they have received and many ministries in our congregation, community and far beyond have benefited from the many grants that have been distributed. So, I invite you to prayerfully consider including the King of Glory Foundation in your gift planning. "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us" (2nd Corinthians 9:11)*

*Thanks be to God! Pastor Don*

## Grants for 2021

The King of Glory Foundation has awarded 13 grants for nearly \$ 40,000 in during the first nine months of 2021. This is a record amount of funding for annual grant distributions with one quarter remaining in the year and a result of the generosity of legacy gifts and the strong investment financial performance of the Foundations funds.

The Foundation was excited to help The KOG Worship Experience Initiative through two awards totaling \$ 15,500 for the technology upgrades. Improving the online experience for those who wish to join us over the web is a key objective for the church. In addition, a \$ 10,000 grant was awarded to provide meals on Wednesday evenings in support of the Destination KOG faith building programming for all ages (currently postponed due to Covid considerations); and grants for the Spring Valley School Garden Project, the Refugee Resettlement Ministry, In The City For Good Youth Camp Scholarships, and support of a Speaker Program at the Luther Center of North Texas.

Foundation grants are made primarily to support special events and activities, new ministries, pastoral scholarships, or special needs of King of Glory Lutheran Church as well as the NT-NL Synod, ELCA, and the local community. For more information about applying for a grant, please visit [kingofgloryfoundation.com/grant-application](http://kingofgloryfoundation.com/grant-application).

*I know someone who might want to apply for a grant...*

King of Glory has a history of generous giving and a tenacity of finding ways to get things done. Whether it is building a ramp for someone, fighting for social justice, or helping to supply backpacks for a school in need, KOG's members consistently find ways to step up and give and make things happen. When that happens, funds are usually needed to help with a project and the KOG Foundation can help.

A question the Foundation Board occasionally hears is, "How do I ask the Foundation for money to help with this?" That... is a GREAT question.

The Foundation was created to help with all types of efforts and missions that KOG council, staff and members want to pursue. Often times funds may not be budgeted or available. Over the years, the Foundation has assisted with funds to support unbudgeted or non-reoccurring projects like the launching of our Stephen Ministry program, the re-roofing of Mt. Olive Lutheran's roof, the Advent meal event, and In the City for Good. The Foundation has also provided scholarships for seminary students, mission efforts overseas, and funds for new youth events and scholarships. There are guidelines that have been established to help the Grants Committee and Foundation Board determine which grants are awarded. The goal and mission for all funds is to benefit and support the mission of King of Glory Lutheran Church.

If you know of a project or team that could benefit from a grant by the Foundation, encourage them to fill out a Grant Request. They can be found at [www.Kingofgloryfoundation.com/grants/](http://www.Kingofgloryfoundation.com/grants/)

The Grant Requests are reviewed and awarded on a quarterly basis depending on the availability of funds.

*Foundation assets and grants continue to grow!*

Since its formation in 2008, the Foundation assets have grown to \$785,432 through September 30, 2021. This growth has been a combination of contributions and positive market growth of invested assets, less distributions. Since 2016 contributions have totaled \$316,787 and distributions, primarily in grants, have been \$133,643. The Foundation assets are managed by an Investment Committee composed of eight KOG members with financial experience. The Committee strives to maintain a diverse investment balances with a focus on long-term growth.

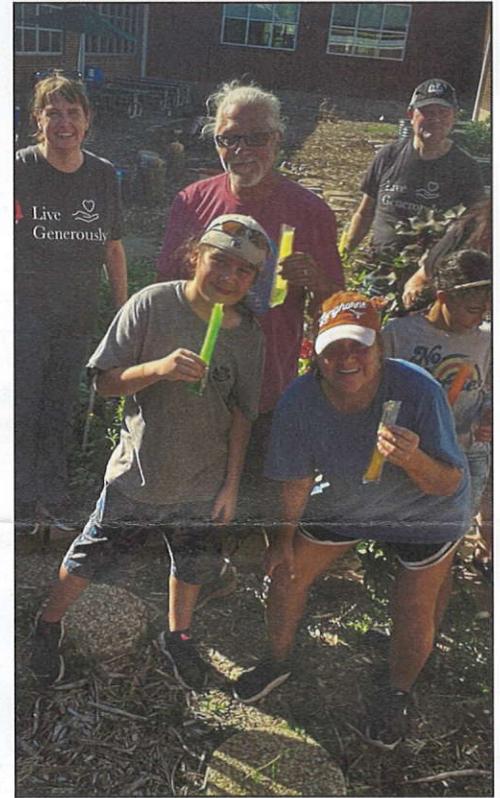
# Good things are sprouting at Spring Valley

After six years of students learning about growing their own real food, the school garden at Spring Valley Elementary, a few miles northeast of King of Glory, was in need of some updates. Particularly the landscape timbers edging the raised garden beds had deteriorated and become unsafe, but school funds were limited.

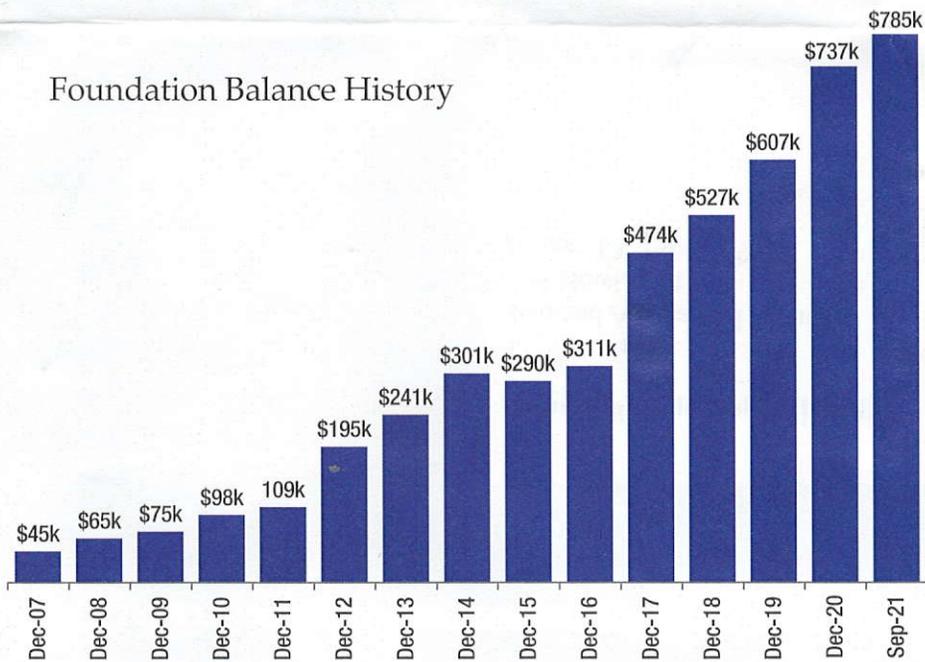
King of Glory's involvement started from a discussion between Jean Bono, longtime KOG member, and her neighbor Kim Aman, a school garden consultant and founder of the North Texas School Garden Network. Aman had already been working with Julie DiBiase, PE teacher and school garden chairperson at Spring Valley Elementary and wanted to know if KOG would be willing to assist the school. The KOG Church in Society service team applied for a grant from the Foundation to fund the school garden improvements.

Students have grown beans, herbs, carrots, watermelon, pollinator-friendly flowers and more as they enjoy time outside during their lessons on healthy eating. The teachers are working toward being able to incorporate garden activities into even more areas of the curriculum. Aman pointed out that 'Texas ranks number 48 in the nation on a list of healthy kids in America. We want to grow healthy kids and a healthy planet. School gardens help grow a healthier generation of people'.

Volunteers from the school, King of Glory and a local garden club had a workday recently to assemble and install new raised beds, using a durable heavy-duty metal edging in a green finish that matches the school colors. Everyone is looking forward to King of Glory being involved in more projects with our neighbors at Spring Valley Elementary.



Foundation Balance History





[top row]

Drone images of workers replacing the roof on Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

[bottom row]

The completed new roof on the sanctuary of Mount Olive Lutheran Church.



## Mount Olive Lutheran gets a new roof!

This past summer, Mt. Olive Lutheran on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd in Dallas, received a new roof for their sanctuary. Roughly one fourth of the project cost for this historic building was deferred by gifts from several churches in Dallas including Christ Lutheran-Dallas, First United Lutheran-Dallas, the NT-NL Synod and King of Glory. Mt. Olive Lutheran has a rich history in Dallas as gathering

place for leaders during the civil rights movements in the 1960's. It's Pastor at the time, was Rev. Mark Herbener who became the first bishop of our synod. For local Dallas congregations to partner with Mt. Olive and the synod for this project was a great statement of our work as a church together.

The project initiated a new effort where leaders from the Dallas area congregations will gather to

discuss how can more intentional in partnering with one another to support our diverse ministries. "Christ will play a key role in those conversations, and the Foundation's support for the project demonstrates that reality once more," said Bishop Erik Gronberg.

King of Glory Lutheran Church along with the King of Glory Foundation granted \$10,000 in funds for this project.



Bishop Gronberg will be preaching at KOG on the 20th of February, 2022, and then speaking at our annual KOG Foundation Luncheon after the late service. Mark your calendars!



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