



# Enlighten Me!

Fall 2025



Kenny  
Dickson  
Senior Pastor

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)*

*As I look back on the work of the King of Glory Foundation over the past year, I am filled with gratitude for the faithful generosity of so many who have supported the mission financially - as well as those who have faithfully served on the Foundation Board.*

*Grants from the KOG Foundation have supported ministries both within and beyond the walls of the congregation. Over the years, the Foundation has supported missions and ministries that reflect the heart of our calling to serve Christ in the Lutheran tradition.*

*One of the great attributes of the Foundation's grants is its diversity of ministries and initiatives. As reflected in this publication, the recent grants have supported creative and new initiatives, such as:*

- Martin's Music Café, where KOG members and persons throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area have gathered for fellowship and to hear stories told in song, many of which reflect life and faith.*
- Scholarships for youth trips, including the ELCA Youth Gathering, helped provide powerful experiences of sharing faith with thousands of other youth.*
- Tuition assistance for our own Director of Music and Worship Zvony Nagy, as well as for NT-NL Synod seminarians, helped these persons deepen and develop skills, knowledge, and experience as they answer their call to serve Christ and His Church.*
- Support of Dobie Pre-K helped provide fall and spring gatherings that allowed families from the school and King of Glory to share fellowship and fun together.*

*I like to imagine the seeds of faith and service that were planted in these events and initiatives the KOG Foundation supported. I have no doubt that the congregation's youth will reflect on their experiences on mission trips and Youth Gathering as they grow, become parents, and serve Christ as adults.*

*I also imagine the people, years in the future, who will experience God's grace and love through the ministry of the clergy who received assistance with their seminary expenses – and the disciplined service of KOG youth who receive college scholarships for continued learning following their senior year.*

*As the above Scripture from Jeremiah reminds us, God's plans for us as a community are not simply to sustain what we have, but to imagine more—to reflect the bold grace, love and generosity of God through our grounding love, growing faith and generosity of giving and serving.*

*God is using King of Glory and the King of Glory Foundation as instruments to offer hope and God's vision for our congregation, community, and world. I invite you to consider the various ways you can support God's working through King of Glory and the King of Glory foundation.*

## Dobie Elementary

**K**ing of Glory Lutheran Church provided a significant impact on the students, teachers and staff at Richardson ISD's Dobie Pre-Kindergarten School. Dobie served children with many needs, including bilingual learning and financial assistance that was not available at many RISD campuses.

King of Glory's support for Dobie launched many years ago with the Backpack Challenge. KOG members gave special offerings, which steadily increased over time to more than \$10,000 each year, to fund backpacks and supplies for all of the roughly 500 students at the school. This ministry energized and blessed KOG members, some of whom were able to visit Dobie and receive feedback from teachers and staff about the impact of our support.

Over time, as the church became aware of additional opportunities to support Dobie, the King of Glory Foundation became involved. The foundation awarded three grants to Dobie, providing funding for spring and fall family events, gifts for Teacher Appreciation Week, and a hydroponic garden. KOG's support for Dobie epitomizes how foundation grants can expand the impact of our ministry initiatives and change lives in our community.

The RISD school board announced in fall 2024 that Dobie would be closing at the conclusion of the school year. The congregation mourns the loss of this ministry, which changed the lives of Dobie students and staff, and touched so many KOG members. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve Dobie, and congregation leadership is exploring similar ministry options that KOG can impact.

## Foundation grant helps power new KOG website

**T**he King of Glory Foundation awarded a grant to the church's Communications and Marketing Department in July 2025 to facilitate a redesign of its website, [kingofglory.com](http://kingofglory.com).

The grant, in the amount of \$5,627, will go towards creating a new site that Communications Director Kim Williams says will be "welcoming, accessible, and mission driven." This is especially critical, she said, given that a congregation's digital presence is often the first point of contact for visitors seeking a new church home.

"A redesigned website will allow us to share our message

of grace more clearly, highlight opportunities for connection and service, and provide members with easier access to resources that support their faith journey," Williams said.

The church will be extending its relationship with existing website provider Ekklesia360, but the grant will allow the church to utilize a new design and expanded features beyond what is possible with the current site.

"This generous gift is more than an investment in technology—it is an investment in the ministry and mission of King of Glory," Williams said.

## How to Apply for a King of Glory Foundation Grant

**A**re you planning a special event, launching a new ministry, booking a speaker for an event, or facing a unique need within King of Glory Lutheran Church? If so, The King of Glory Foundation may be able to help with funding!

### What We Fund

- Special events for the church and the community we serve
- Speaker programs on religion, economics, sociology, art, music, history or ethics
- Seed money for new ministries
- Expansion of existing ministries in new areas
- Scholarship support for seminary and sacred music students
- Scholarship support for high school graduates for their first year of college
- Scholarship support for church youth for mission trips, retreats and youth gatherings
- Capital improvements for the church as recommended by the Congregation Council

- Projects that aren't part of daily church operating costs

### Who Can Apply

- Individuals or groups with a clear connection to King of Glory Lutheran Church

### Easy Steps to Apply

- Visit the online application page at [kingofgloryfoundation.com/grant-application](http://kingofgloryfoundation.com/grant-application).
- Describe the need, explain how the funds will be used and provide any supporting documentation.

### Ready to Apply?

- Visit the King of Glory Foundation's Grant Application page and start your application today.
- If you have questions or prefer hard copy, email [grants@kingofgloryfoundation.com](mailto:grants@kingofgloryfoundation.com) for help.

# Foundation Scholarship & SMU Perkins School of Theology Grant Recipients

## High School Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the four recent high school graduates who received Foundation scholarships, Katherine Dedear, Nathan Macy, Jack Melson and Doodle Schultz.

All four applicants submitted the required application, transcript and letter of recommendation, and were interviewed by the scholarship committee. The committee was delighted to visit with these impressive scholars, and learn more about their involvement at KOG and at their respective high schools. They all exceeded the minimum GPA scholarship requirement and amazed the interviewers with

their ability to balance academics, sports, youth activities at KOG and extracurricular activities in high school. They also plan to remain involved in a church or faith community while in college.

Katherine will attend Concordia University in Austin, Nathan will attend Rhodes College in Memphis, TN, Jack will attend the University of Arkansas and Doodle will attend the University of Texas at Austin.

The Foundation is very proud to award these graduates equal scholarships in recognition of their many achievements.

## SMU Perkins School of Theology Grant Recipients

Zvony Nagy, King of Glory Director of Music and Worship, received a Foundation grant in April that enabled him to start the Doctor of Pastoral Music program, a joint degree offering between SMU's Perkins School of Theology and Meadows School of the Arts. He said his coursework is already shaping how he thinks about music and worship, and that he is very grateful to the KOG staff and Foundation for their incredible support.

The Foundation also continues to support two other students at Perkins School of Theology, Lakeesha Browne and Veronika Czutor. Lakeesha is pursuing her Master of Divinity degree and currently serves as a parish lay minister at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Dallas. Veronika, a former young adult minister at KOG, is pursuing a Doctor of Ministry in Leadership and is currently pastor at Central Lutheran Church in Dallas.



## King of Glory Ringers

The King of Glory Ringers handbell choir returns for the Fall 2025 season with newly refurbished handbells, choir chimes and brand-new storage cases. A grant from the King of Glory Foundation covered the cost to send the complete set of instruments to the manufacturer for full restoration, which greatly extends their life and ensures their ongoing beauty and resonance.

The handbell choir expressed its thankfulness for the church's continued support of its music ministry, and for the Foundation's grant to meet this important need.



## Did You Know?

The King of Glory Foundation was established in 2008. The foundation made their first grants in 2010, awarding three grants of \$1,000 each. The Foundation has steadily increased the funding for grants, thanks to generous gifts from members and investment earnings. Over the past 16 years, the foundation has awarded over \$340,000 in support of King of Glory's mission.

## Grant Recipient Spotlight: Martin's Music Café

When longtime King of Glory member David Pederson heard the church was looking for opportunities to open its doors to the larger community, he found inspiration in the sounds of music.

Since 1982, nearby congregation NorthPark Presbyterian had hosted "Uncle Calvin's Coffeehouse," an intimate acoustic venue for musicians to perform in a smoke-free, alcohol-free environment where the songs were the focus. Uncle Calvin's nurtured the careers of many artists including The Dixie Chicks, Sara Hickman, Joe Ely and more.

However, after the pandemic paused live performances in 2020, the series did not resume.

"I felt the loss of it," Pederson said. "They had so many dedicated followers, some who were there every Friday night... it left a big hole in the Dallas singer-songwriter acoustic community."

When the King of Glory facilities committee asked for ideas to increase use of the church's wonderful building, the idea to

carry on that tradition seemed like a great idea to try. After a planning committee was formed, a pilot was announced in June 2024, featuring several local musicians. After discussion, the name "Martin's Music Café" was chosen as a nod to our Lutheran heritage.

The initial show was a rousing success, despite a last-minute move to the Activity Center after the Fellowship Hall downstairs was flooded. As word of mouth spread,



the mailing list grew – and artists began reaching out to ask about performing. Ticket sales go to pay the performers as well as startup costs, although the concerts are still run on a very tight budget.

The King of Glory Foundation is proud to provide grant support as Martin's Music Café.



### Did You Know?

You have given your time and treasures to your church throughout your life. Did you know that by making the King of Glory Foundation a part of your estate, you can continue to give in support of future generations of seminary students, mission trips, lecture series and many other ministries? Whether your assets are few or many, learn more about using a portion of them for Planned Giving at [kingofgloryfoundation.com](http://kingofgloryfoundation.com)

The goal of the Foundation is to support the mission of the church: "To boldly share the grace of God with the world." The Foundation typically distributes five percent of its funds each year, regardless of the fund's investment performance or state of the economy. For the past four years, grant awards averaged more than \$42,500 per year.

### Did You Know?



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