

THE KING'S CROWN



February 2018

King of Kings Lutheran Church

Phone: 315-622-2077 | Email: koknewsletter@hotmail.com

Web: www.kingofkings-ny.org

Facebook: King of Kings Lutheran Church - Liverpool, NY

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 3

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast
KCY Retreat**

February 14

Ash Wednesday



February 22

**Lenten Dinner at 6:30 pm
Lenten Worship at 7:30 pm**

March
Newsletter
Deadline is
February 10

Mission Statement

"Empowered by the grace and love of Jesus, we are committed to growing in faith with the community."

Pastor Paul's Priceless Pearls

"I Thought I Was Done"



I thought I had written my last newsletter article and then I was reminded (thank you) about a thank you note for all that has taken place in my life this month.

Where do I begin? Too many names - friends, family, neighbors who have participated in the many activities of the month. The Dinner was a rich joy; people here from out of state; as far away as Florida. Family and friends, great pictures and lots of thoughtful gifts. (I don't think I'll get all of those thank you notes completed before the end of the month. The food, the fellowship, the kind words from our MC, our bishop and many of the rest of you made for a delightful evening. And the music of Tangled Blue; how awesome was that?

They then helped lead worship on Sunday, along with a number of our worship leaders and a gospel-centered sermon from our bishop.

Then there was Sunday the 21st. "A full house." Friends from all over Central New York. I was really on high as we worshipped God this Sunday celebrating the gift of community. The puppets were a joy and the music is always great. Steve's solo, I enjoyed as well.

Add to all of this the gift of the quilt and matching pillow cases. What a treasure! Donna, you continue to surprise and shock us as you bring your love (and your team's) in the life of King of Kings.

Thank you! I thank God for you!

May the ministries of King of Kings continue to grow and move to new places as God leads the way.



HELP WANTED

Funeral Reception Coordinator - or two or three. This can be a team effort. A go-to person(s) is needed to get the ball rolling with volunteers (who always come out to make the food and do the work), to order the meat trays, to keep the notebook up to date, etc. a team of coordinators can share the responsibility by rotating months, funerals, or however works best. See Kathy Hill with questions or if interested. Even if you are interested in covering only one month per year, you are needed and wanted.



Food in the Freezer Coordinator - or two or three. This can be a team effort. The need is to keep track of what is available in the freezer, communicate with volunteers who will come together for cooking nights, and act as liaison with Visiting Deacons, Caretakers, and church staff to get meals out where and as needed. See Kathy Hill with questions or if interested.



The Senior High Youth will be hosting their first ever **Spring Bazaar Fundraiser** on **Sunday, March 11th from 9:00 am—2:00 pm.**

We will have vendors from Tastefully Simple (rep. Eileen Kemp), LuLaRoe (rep. Alicia Francis), Thirty-One Bags, Color Street (nail polish and designs), Usborne Books, Norwex (chemical-free cleaning) and Pampered Chef. There will be a silent auction of products from the vendors, baked goods and other donated items. We are accepting any baked goods, baskets or anything members would be willing to donate for the silent auction.

We will have catalogs prior to the event available to browse through if you are unable to attend or want to look at in advance. Please share our event with your friends and family.

Refreshments will be served throughout the event, so stop in and do some spring shopping. All monies raised will be put towards the SHY trip to the National Youth Gathering in Houston, TX in June 2018.

If you have any questions or donations, please speak with Lisa Clark or Alicia Francis.



Healthy Congregations Workshops

Healthy Congregations is a series of six workshops that will be held over the course of 2018 and into 2019. The workshops are “designed precisely for a time of rapid changes. They offer a new way of thinking about both the congregation and its leadership. Participants will have an opportunity to view the congregation as a whole, as an organism, as a system.” Topics include Creating Healthy Congregations; Healthy Congregations Respond to Anxiety & Change; Leadership in Healthy Congregations; Relationships in a Healthy Congregation; The Spiritual Care of Healthy Congregations. The workshop leaders is Pastor Greg Tennermann, who as an assistant to the bishop, Upstate NY Synod, supports Intentional Interim Pastors and the Conflict and Healing Team. Workshop fee is \$20 for each meeting, which covers materials, snacks and lunch. Anyone interested in attending one or all of the workshops, please see Kathy Hill for more information.



Social Statement on Woman and Justice

The ELCA has drafted a Social Statement on Women and Justice, and are seeking feedback for the next several months on the proposed statement. Anyone interested in reading the draft and providing feedback can do so in two ways: you are welcome to obtain a copy (from Kathy H. or from the website: <https://tinyurl.com/ydgtwwfu>) and prepare your own response on the Q/A pages provided at the back of the draft or by essay or by letter, and you may participate in planned conversations here at church, at which we will discuss the draft and answer the Q/A with a collective response. Anyone interested in participating in the conversation and group response should let me know by the end of February.

Souper Bowl Sunday

The annual SOUPER Bowl where we collect both canned goods and your financial contributions for world hunger is scheduled for **Sunday, February 4th**. We have received over \$100 and 150 cans in recent years. Thanks in advance for your generosity.



ONLINE GIVING AT KING OF KINGS

Reminder: At King of Kings you can now manage your giving online. Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet.

Simply follow these easy steps:

1. Visit the church website at “www.kingofkings-ny.org”
2. Click on the green “Online Giving” button
3. Click on the “Create Profile” button, then
4. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.





Council Corner...

Our January meeting was filled with love, heartbreak and hard work as we moved through Pastor Paul's last Church Council Meeting. We had the opportunity to share what we have learned from him, what we respect about his ministry and how we will move forward with confidence because of his influence.

Fine tuning continued on the budget proposal, and with that, ongoing discussion of our future needs in this time of change. Thankful that our budget is healthy and giving us confidence in the future of our programs. The budget will be presented on January 14 and voted on at the annual meeting.

We are looking to hire a deacon to use as a bridge position while we look for a more permanent minister. This position would support our day to day needs while we move through the process. We have found a variety of ministers from Lutheran, UCC and Presbyterian friends willing to help us and lead us in worship each weekend.

Also, the Saturday evening service is now on hiatus. As we move into this new stage, this service will be reconsidered when we have a more permanent staff to support our needs.

And most importantly, we want to thank Pastor Paul and Betsy for their faithfulness to our church family, for what we have learned from them, their loving support, sharing of their family and endless energy and sacrifice. You will be greatly missed. We hope that Betsy, Rachel and her family will continue to share in our weekly worship services and any other way that they see fit. Having said this, we realize that Pastor Paul will need to step away from this community for now to make a new life transition and to explore what he is being called to do next. We will need time to find our way without him. He reminds us and himself that the fork in the road for all of us will be met with our God walking alongside of us, no matter what our decisions. We take great comfort in that.

Yours in Christ,
Your Church Council

Transition Team Update...



The Transition Team has been receiving questions now that Pastor Paul has retired. We hope the following information will be helpful as King of Kings moves forward into the next phase of its history.

Will Pastor Paul continue to attend King of Kings services and functions?

We would expect if his grandchildren were involved in a special way at service that “Grandpa” would come and support his grandchildren. Then, once a permanent Pastor is called to King of Kings, we would hope that Pastor Paul would have a conversation with the new Pastor and find a way to support him/her so that he could attend King of Kings services and functions if he chooses to do so.

If I see Pastor Paul around town can I say hi?

Yes! If you see Pastor around town, ask him how the family is and what he’s been doing in retirement!

Can I call and speak to Pastor Paul about my issues?

Pastor Paul will not be available for any pastoral acts (baptisms, weddings, funerals) or any personal counseling. We will have a Deacon from the ELCA who will be working in the office part time, who would be able to assist members in a variety of ways until we are able to find an Intentional Interim Pastor (IIP), or call minister. We do have fill-in clergy through April 1, 2018 (Easter Sunday), followed by an Intentional Interim Pastor (IIP). The Dean is also looking for an “oversight Pastor” who would be available for funerals, and to make sure all of our Pastoral needs are met. Members are also encouraged to seek the services of our Stephen Ministers team and our staff therapist, Crystal Butler in needed.

Will Pastor Paul have any responsibilities at King of Kings?

No, Pastor Paul will not have any responsibilities at King of Kings upon his retirement on February 1, 2018.

Can I just contact him to see how he is and see what’s up?

It is important for Pastor Paul to step away from active ministry and enjoy retirement. It is best for Pastor Paul and for King of Kings for members to refrain from actively contacting him by phone, personal email, or Facebook private message. As previously mentioned, if you see Pastor around town, ask him how the family is and what he’s been doing in retirement!

Pastor Paul is active on Facebook, and I imagine he will continue to post about his family and his life. Will he refrain from commenting about King of Kings since he is no longer in his position?

We expect that Pastor Paul will continue to post about his family and his retirement activities on Facebook. He will not be commenting about King of Kings and its activities at this time.

If you have any questions about the transition process, please contact a Transition Team member (Chris Jordan, Anna Salem, Steve Miller, Julie Yoder, Barb Nies, Jerry Holland, Howie Mansfield, or Anita Leitgeb) or a Council member (Barb Winkel, Doug Keim, Niel Zuern, Pat Lebel, or Jenna Wysokowski).

People News...



Congratulations and all good wishes are extended to **Rich** and **Alison Woytowich** on the birth of their son, **Nolan Myles**, in December. And...on Sunday, January 14th, little Nolan was baptized at King of Kings. May God bless his new life in Christ.

On Sunday, January 21st, **Kathy Hill** was installed as the Coordinator of Lay Ministries and Faith Formation. We pray for God's blessings on her ministry at King of Kings.

Men's Fellowship



We will meet again on **Saturday, February 3rd** at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast and open discussion. Questions, please call Brian Genalo.



From your Stephen Ministers...

Stephen Ministry is just one of the care groups offered to you at King of Kings. We begin our monthly meetings by inviting you to be a part of our book discussions. We are currently having wonderful conversations about growing together through small groups using the study entitled, "**One Anothering**". Even if time doesn't allow for you to read the chapter in advance, it doesn't matter. What matters is the gift of being present with one another and having wonderful conversations about the topics addressed each month in the book. Come one time, or every month. We'll save a seat for you.

Here are a few pictures from the Retirement Dinner Dance on January 13, 2018.



Lay Ministries...

Thank you to everyone for the warm welcome and encouraging words as I enter my new role as Coordinator of Lay Ministries and Faith Formation here at King of Kings (a title which simply has to be changed; it's too long!)

As I sit here thinking about the Coordinator role I've taken on, I realize that from me the discernment process was probably rather long in comparison with most folks. I first had the inkling in the back of my head back when Deanna announced her retirement from the Director of Lay Ministries role. That's a long time to build up the gumption to say, "I'll do it". Discernment is not a fast process for me personally. So, what is this process of discernment, and how can I hone mine to be a little more *efficient*?

When I was young(er), Discernment was a formal set of steps I started at age 18 after expressing interest in the ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church, and later in life it was part of the process if one wished to become a Franciscan Associate with the Syracuse Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church. Each of those discernment periods did not result in either outcome expected. I never attended seminary, and I discontinued the classes to become an Associate when I took in a foster child who needed some motherly attention. Discernment, though, and spiritual discernment in particular, is so much more than a call to a formal position that includes spoken promises, vows, or ordination. Discernment, in general, is making judgments, and can be psychological or moral in nature. Spiritual Discernment, especially, is a process of judgment and decision making that honors the place of God's will in my life.

I'll be exploring this whole idea of discernment, and the effectiveness of my own process, for the foreseeable future. I have a list of books on the subject I plan to read, and am open to your feedback, information, opinions, and questions on the topic.

Blessings,

Kathy H.



Daytime M&Ms ~

During the month of February, our Daytime M&Ms gals (Mary & Marthas) will be reading the book “*Daring to Hope*” by Katie Davis Majors. This New York Times Best Seller is about finding God’s goodness in the broken and beautiful. “When Katie moved to Uganda, accidentally founded a booming organization, and later became the mother of thirteen girls through the miracle of adoption, she determined to weave her life together with the people she desired to serve...After unexpected tragedy shook her family...Katie began to wonder, ‘Is God really good? Does he really love us?’ When she turned to him with her questions, God spoke to her heart and drew her even deeper into a relationship with him. “*Daring to Hope*” is an invitation to cling to the God of the impossible; the God who whispers His love to us in the quiet, in the mundane, when our prayers are not answered the way we want, to the miracle that doesn’t come...it’s about choosing faith, no matter the circumstance and about encountering God’s goodness in the least expected places. Though your heartaches and dreams may take a different shape, you will find your own questions echoed in these pages. You’ll be reminded of the gifts of joy in the midst of sorrow. And you’ll hear God whisper, ‘Hold on to hope. I will meet you here.’” Join us at noon on February 13th and February 27th at the home of Marcy Grundner.

Dear friends in faith,

Thank you so very much for the prayers, cards and meals you sent my way while I was recovering from knee replacement surgery in January. King of Kings is such a caring place. Your kindness and concern helped me through this difficult surgery.

In Christ,

Marcy Grundner

You are invited...
Lutheran Adult Mission Trip
May 7-11, 2018 at Mar-Lu-Ridge Conference & Retreat Center
Jefferson, Maryland

Cost: \$325 per person

This includes 4 nights lodging, 7 meals and a day trip to Gettysburg led by Tom Henry

If you would like more information, please call
Bonny McCabe (Good Shepherd, Fayetteville)
Tom Henry (St. Mark's, Baldwinsville)

A maximum of just 20 people can be accommodated
at Mar-Lu-Ridge, so to hold your spot,
please send your \$100 deposit NOW
(Checks payable to central Crossroads Conference)
to Bonny McCabe
Hope you will join us!

Thank you to King of Kings for giving me the opportunity to work with you and for you over these past few years. The time I spent has been a blessing and I have so much! (I can even type with both hands now!)

This time has enriched my life in so many ways. The friends I have made are amazing people!

In God's love,

Kathy Sampson



THANK YOU

The Chair's Chatter

Hi all, just want to keep you all up to date with what is going on at King of Kings. First on a sad note, Council has decided to put the Saturday evening service on a hiatus. We just felt that with the low attendance, trying to find a supply minister for that service just ill-advised. We hope after we have a new minister arrives, he or she might offer an alternative service.



And moving on to some more upbeat news, now that Pastor Paul is no longer in the office we have hired Deacon Nancy Wagner to work with us on a part time basis, mainly to do all of the things in the office that need to be done. She is a Deacon with the ELCA, and is able to do pretty much everything except to preform the sacraments. We are hoping that with her help, we will be able to continue moving forward with as few hiccups as possible. So, if you get a chance, please stop in and introduce yourself.

We do have supply ministers set up through Easter, and yes, we will be having a service on Ash Wed. Details will be coming. The supply ministers come from a variety of backgrounds and personally, I am looking forward to hearing God's word from a different perspective.

I am still in close contact with the Dean, and am awaiting name(s) for an "oversight Pastor" and an Intentional Interim Pastor (IIP). The "oversight Pastor" would be someone within our Synod who would just be available in case we need any pastoral care, i.e. funerals etc.

Our Transition Team is working on our Ministry Site Profile (MSP) which is a document that needs to be filed with the Bishop's office and the ELCA before we can begin to look for a permanent call Minister. So, if you have not filled out the survey, please do so. This will help us to understand what you, as a congregation, feel are the most important qualities that we are looking for in a new minister.

Kathy Hill has joined us as our new Coordinator of Lay Ministries & Faith Formation. You will see her on Sunday mornings and she will be in the office at least twice a week and is happy to talk to, and or help you in any way she can. Her email address is koklayministries@gmail.com Please feel free to contact her if you need anything.

As you can see, your Council is continuing their work on making sure the worship life of King of King's continues without interruption. We hope and pray that you all will continue to be a vibrant part of that life here at King of Kings.

We thank you all for your gifts, and prayers as we continue to move in the direction that the Spirit guides us.

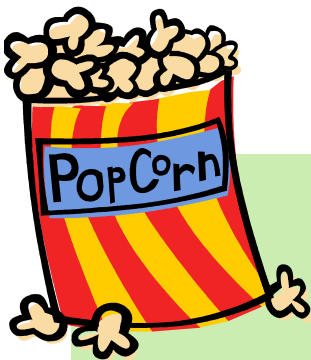
Yours in Christ; Barb Winkel, King of Kings Council Chair

An Important Note for all Thrivent Choice Participants

All Thrivent members who receive Thrivent Choice Dollars **MUST** request, by phone or email, that your dollars be sent to your choice of agencies. If this isn't done by the end of March 2018, we lose the opportunity to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars.

I would encourage you to designate King of Kings as the recipient of your Choice Dollars. That money is designated by our council to support mission projects, capital needs and other favorite ministries of King of Kings.

If you have questions about this convoluted process, don't hesitate to contact the Savidges, or the Swansons. They are our Thrivent delegates.



Movie Madness

Join us on Saturday, March 10th at 7:00 pm at Barb and Weta's home. We will be viewing *The Apostle* (1997). "After his happy life spins out of control, a preacher from Texas changes his name, goes to Louisiana and starts preaching on the radio." Starring Robert Duvall, Fawcett, Billy Bob Thornton and June Carter Cash. Rated PG-13.

Please sign up on the bulletin board.

See you at the movies!

Dear Pastor Paul, Council Members and members of King of Kings,

I was completely surprised and very humbled by the presentation at the Annual Meeting. Thank you very much for the Longhorn gift card. We will be enjoying dinner there soon!

It has been a privilege and a blessing to serve as your Worship & Music Team Chair for the past 29 years. Thank you for your support and for the opportunity to serve King of Kings in this way.

Gratefully,

Anita Leitzgeb



King of Kings Quilt Group

As they say in sports, we are having a by-week (actually a month, but who is going to correct me?) There will be **no get together for the month of February**, but join us March 6th for a new fun Spring project.

If you are interested in learning to quilt or maybe pick up a new technique, join us the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Sunday School wing (with February being the exception). Many of our projects are geared toward a beginner level, so it can be completed quickly. Questions can be answered by Donna Huberty.



February is upon us with its snow and cold but also with its lengthening days of sunlight. With Pastor Paul's retirement, this month will be filled with both challenges and opportunities. What we can be sure of is that God is with us on this journey; we will continue to offer him praise through the music of the church.

This month also looks different as I am off the piano bench for a while as I continue to heal from my broken arm. I will continue to direct the Son-Light band and Michael Plagerman will be playing for both the 8:15 and 10:45 Sunday services until I can come back. Of course the handbell choir, the adult choir and the brass ensemble will be continuing to provide music on a regular basis.

We move into Lent this month and will be starting the midweek Lenten services with Holden Evening Prayer. If you have never been to one of these services, I strongly encourage you to come this year. You will find peace, beauty and encouragement as we praise God through the exquisite words and music of Marty Haugen.

So, in this month of change, let us remember that with God, all things are possible! As the words to Matt Maher's song "Glory! Let There Be Peace" say:

*"Do not be afraid, His love is strong enough to heal us,
Nothing stands in our way. His love is strong enough to lead us."*

See you at church! Beth Colbert, Coordinator of Music



"One of the worst things that can happen to a musician is to lose the use of an arm - even if temporarily. But God is caring for me through the love and generosity of my King of Kings family. I am so humbled and so thankful for your prayers and for the many, many kindnesses that have been shown to me. How can I ever thank you enough for your support and care of me through this difficult time? I am so blessed and so grateful. My doctor is encouraged by my progress so far, and I will be back on the piano bench as soon as I can be. Praise God from whom all blessings flow - I am blessed to be part of King of Kings."

~ Beth Colbert

CONFIRMATION CONNECTIONS

During the month of January, we continued learning about the story of Jesus. Luther Bowl was another success with youth from area Lutheran churches working together to serve the community and then having a great time bowling.



In February, we gather for 3 class sessions during our winter retreat on the weekend of February 3/4. Drop-off at the Ramada Inn on Carrier Circle on Saturday will be at 2:30 pm with pick-up on Sunday at 12:30 pm.

On February 18th, we are hoping to have the forms for MVLCC so we can hand them out at the KCY & SHY Family Breakfast during the 9:30 hour. Parents, look for more information on these events in upcoming Kings Weekly and in emails.

Thank you for all of the work that PP has done over the years to help our youth in confirmation grow their faith.

In Christ, and with JOY, Joanne Keim

Senior High News...

It was a heartwarming few weeks to have our college freshmen return to worship while they were home for the holidays over December break. The King of Kings senior High Youth were very busy this month beginning with assisting with the greening of the church.

They made over 100 sandwiches and cups of soup to serve downtown outside the Rescue Mission to the homeless. In addition to the sandwiches and soup, they handed out hats and gloves. Considering it was single digit temperatures the day we went, we were surprised our supplies lasted as long as they did. We enjoyed the Three Kings Party with several of our returning alumni youth as a farewell to Pastor. And Luther Bowl was attended by six of our fellow congregations with 55 attendees. The competition was fierce with one of our youth scoring a whopping 142 after four straight strikes!



Thank you for your continued support of our fundraising efforts for the National Youth Gathering in Texas with your bottle donations. After your Super Bowl party, please remember us and **bring those bottles to church**. Every nickel helps! The **Outback Steakhouse fundraiser** is scheduled in **February 18-24**. And there will be a **Spring Bazaar** fundraiser in the Fellowship Hall on **March 11**, with many independent sales representatives for your shopping enjoyment, with a percentage of all sales going to the youth for their trip.

See you at worship, *The Senior High Youth Advisors*

Church Council

Barb Winkel, Chair
Niel Zuern, Vice Chair
Mary Moyer, Recording Secretary
Art Leitgeb, Financial Secretary
Carl Bastedo, Treasurer
Jenna Wysokowski, Council Member
Greg Yoder, Council Member
Doug Keim, Council Member
Pat Lebel, Council Member



Ministry Teams

Adult Spiritual Formation
Doug Keim, Finance
Niel Zuern, Property
Pat Lebel, Global Mission
Stewardship
Deanna Pavlacka, Worship & Music
Shannon Haynes, Youth Ministry
Bob Lebel, Mutual Ministry Committee
Carol Genalo, Parish Nurse, Health Ministry Team
Shari Murray, Fellowship
Local Ministry
Anita Leitgeb, Transition Team
Cathy Miller, Hospitality
Stephen Leader: Marcy Grundner
Stephen Leader: Lynn Myers

**King of Kings Lutheran Church
8278 Oswego Road
Liverpool, NY 13090**

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Liverpool, NY 13088
Permit No. 3