

# THE KING'S CROWN



July 2020

King of Kings Lutheran Church

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

Web: [www.kingofkings-ny.org](http://www.kingofkings-ny.org)

Facebook: King of Kings Lutheran Church - Liverpool, NY

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August  
Newsletter  
Deadline is  
July 15

## Mission Statement

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



## From the Pastor's Desk

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### Go into the world

*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. **Matthew 28:18-20***

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There are burdens that we carry and weigh us down as we attempt to walk – to go into the world as Jesus call us. The world in this time of Covid and the exposed virus of systemic racism; have broken things open that call us to education and action to preserve humanity – people made in the image of God. In the words of Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, *"... God is creator. God is diversity, beautiful, vital, alive. We must reject calls for color-blindness. That diminishes and washes out God's gift of diversity. We in the white majority can begin to see our siblings of color more clearly. We should be color amazed, recognizing the strength that comes with all our many colors and God as creator made all of us in God's image."*

The words of Jesus in Matthew's text calls us to GO – to work for true unity and peace; Jesus is calling us to GO into the world.

In honor of Juneteenth, the commemoration of the Emanuel 9, the death of George Floyd and efforts to grow in ability to recognize and move away from white privilege; King of Kings will be offering Zoom education and discussion groups on Wednesday evenings, beginning in June and running through early September .

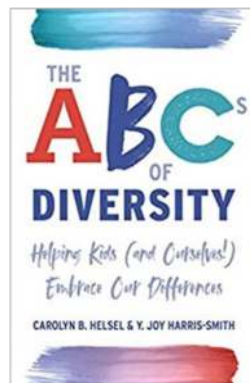


The first offering will be a Zoom Meeting Screening of the film, "Just Mercy" on Wednesday June 17<sup>th</sup> and discussion on Wednesday June 24<sup>th</sup>; both at 6:30 pm. If you would like to join this Zoom gathering, please contact me at: [reveastman@outlook.com](mailto:reveastman@outlook.com)

Beginning July 8<sup>th</sup>, a Zoom book club will be held Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm; with the title: **Be the Bridge** by *Latasha Morrison*. The book is available in print and in Kindle version and is announced now to allow time for it to be ordered by participants.



Another new release that is geared for aiding conversations on diversity and race between adults and youth/children is entitled: The ABC's of Diversity.



The efforts and action of “going” into the world, preaching the gospel that honors all races that are made in the image of God; is not an easy or simple task, but it is one, as followers of Jesus Christ that we are called to live into.

The hymn, **All are Welcome**, by *Marty Haugen* paints a vision of the church as a place that not only honors the diversity of people but shows a church that “goes” into the world to work from true justice and peace.

May the words of this hymn help us cast a vision that truly is color amazed!

***Let us build a house  
Where love can dwell  
And all can safely live,  
A place where  
Saints and children tell  
How hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
Rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.  
Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
And words are strong and true,  
Where all God's children dare to seek  
To dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
And a symbol of God's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
Let us build a house where love is found  
In water, wine, and wheat:  
A banquet hall on holy ground,  
Where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
Is revealed in time and space;  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.***



Walking in grace,  
Rev. Tara Lamont Eastman

## BLESSED ARE THE PIECEMAKERS

written by Doris Brunnette, Joanna Burgarino, and Emily Larson

"We have increased our amount of screen time.....the result often is added stress, anxiety, fatigue, and exhaustion.

Crafting can provide a much needed break from our multitasking, digital-centric lives. Slowing down and working with our hands help quiet some of the noise.

As a creative person, you probably use sewing, knitting or stitching as a way to relax and gain the balance that might be missing otherwise.....Whether we are conscious of it or not, we experience catharsis and a quieting of the mind when doing handwork and other creative projects.

Slowing down and focusing on a handwork project can quiet your thoughts and calm your spirit as you slowly—stitch by stitch—construct and create something. And with creation comes confidence and pride, which increases self-esteem.

.....Your brain focuses on following specific steps to achieve a successful result. Through repetition and concentration, the mind and body starts to feel at peace. Because the brain is focusing energy on creating, it has less energy for negative or ruminating thoughts.

The next time you have a few free minutes, instead of scrolling through social media posts or watching videos, try pulling out your craft of choice—quilting, beading, embroidery, cross-stitch, or even crayons and a coloring book. Center your thoughts on your tactile engagement with the materials, the quiet calm of each step, and the creative process—and savor the moment."

Now from me, in these days of the virus threat and now unrest in our country, take some time for yourself, to achieve the calm that this article speaks about. Turn off the news, stop reading the posts that are being shared or worrying about your family, friends and neighbors. If you don't already have a hobby that makes you happy, learn a new one. Take a walk and look around you at the amazing world that God created. We will get through these trying times!

Donna Huberty





## Council Corner...

Your Congregational Council met on Thurs. Jun 11 and is recommending to the congregation to call Deacon Nancy Wagner as a minister of Word and Service to the position of Coordinator of Lay Ministry and Faith Formation. Deacon Nancy has been invaluable to our ministry here at King of Kings and will be a true asset and a huge help to Pastor Tara and this congregation as we move forward. All voting members will be receiving communications about the process. It is our hope that by the middle of July this process will be final and she can begin as a rostered Deacon on or about August 1.

Also, thanks to your generosity through this very trying time, we have decided to resume offering King of Kings' budgeted benevolences. Council paused this for a time as we were unsure of our finances. Thus far, we are still able to pay our bills and our staff because of your continued commitment to our ministries. Thank you all so much.

Our Worship Evolution Team is continuing to work toward being able to worship together again. At this time, we are starting with our Phase 1, which is to have a "live" service from the sanctuary on Facebook. There will be a skeleton crew to produce this. We are cautiously moving forward to strive in keeping our congregation and visitors safe and healthy. We ask for your prayers and continued patience through this time.

Council would also like to thank Art Leitgeb for his 18 years of service to this congregation as Financial Secretary. I'm sure we can find something for him to do to help fill in the empty space in his schedule. If you have any questions about your pledges in the future, please contact Scarlett Erdley, as she is now our new Financial Secretary.

Be assured that your Congregational Council is still working to make sure the ministry of King of Kings continues to be functioning and effective.

Yours in Christ; Barb Winkel and your Congregational Council





# Greetings from the Deacon's Digital Desk

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Plans are underway for an online version of Vacation Bible School for this summer. Thank you to those who completed the survey. Your input is important to our planning. We will be offering a story and activities each week for five weeks beginning the week of July 26. We are still working on the theme and content. When we have that ready we will send out an invitation with registration information.

Each week we will introduce the Bible Story online and offer some activities that can be done at home. Registered participants will be invited to join a Facebook group specifically set up for our online VBS where we can hear the Bible story, access activities and share about our experiences. We plan to tie in our "Jesus on the Go" ministry from Sunday School as a reminder that Jesus is with us at VBS and wherever we go.

If you didn't get a chance to complete the VBS survey, it is still available at: <https://forms.gle/7AuSrAwpPm5FT3ZaA>

We welcome your input and your ideas. If you have any questions or would like to be a part of the team to offer this ministry, please contact me at [koklayministries@gmail.com](mailto:koklayministries@gmail.com)

Peace, Deacon Nancy

## Brown Memorial Meal on August 30

The Service Ministry Team is working on plans to provide the food for the Sunday Meal at Brown Memorial on **August 30**. We are asking for monetary contributions toward the cost of purchasing the food items. We hope you will consider supporting this ministry to provide food for those who are hungry. If you have any questions about the ongoing planning for this service project, please contact Deacon Nancy or a member of the Service Ministry Team.



# CONFIRMATION CONNECTIONS



Our KCY Zoom Check-In meetings have been going well. All KCY families are attending and Steve Kemp has been providing music for us virtually. Thank you Steve!

At our Check-Ins we do Highs and Lows and then have some fun! Some of our themes have been the color RED for Pentecost and learning about different types of flags and their meanings for Flag Day.

During July, there is a KCY Zoom meeting scheduled for July 26th so we can keep in touch and have some fun together. Meetings are from 1-2 PM and Deacon Nancy will send out a Zoom invitation for each meeting.

Confirmation has been postponed until the fall.

Please let me, Kurt Richardson, Deacon Nancy or Pastor Tara know about any concerns that you have as we navigate these unprecedented times.

Peace and stay well,

Joanne Keim, KCY Education Guide



## Sunday School Update...

We appreciate your help in once again raising funds for Heifer International. We collected \$600 in offering this school year! We used that money to purchase 4 llamas.



At the end of May we planted squash, beans and sunflowers in our Sunday school garden. We will care for these plants over the course of the summer and hopefully end up with vegetables to share with the food pantry. Families are welcome to stop and help to keep the garden watered throughout the summer.

This summer we have a special project going called Jesus on the Go. Each child was provided with a paper cut out of Jesus that they could decorate. This paper cutout is a reminder to us that Jesus is with us where ever we are, not just when we are at church. We would like to invite the congregation to participate as well. An email was sent in June with the attachment. If you need it again let us know. We would love to see where Jesus has been with you. Feel free to send your photos to Mrs. Tierney or the church email. Photos will be posted to Facebook throughout the summer.

Sue Tierney

**Injustice anywhere is  
a threat to justice  
everywhere.**

*—Martin Luther King, Jr.*





# People News...

**Alicia Leitgeb** has graduated with a Master's Degree in Urban Planning and Design from the University of Colorado-Denver. She is the daughter of **Art** and **Anita Leitgeb**. Congratulations, Alicia!

**Becca Mansfield** was recognized at Liverpool High School's virtual Academic Awards Ceremony. She was honored for academic achievement in Algebra and Meteorology.

**Jacob Sousou** was inducted into the National Junior Honor Society at the Liverpool High School 9th Grade Annex. New members are selected based on scholarship, leadership, service and character.

All good wishes to **Judy Eyer** as she retires as coordinator of St. Paul's Food Pantry! Her work during the last three decades truly personified the words of Jesus: *"...as you did it to the least of these—you did it to Me."* (Matthew 25)

## **Schedule for June:**

### **Slideshow Creation Team**

#### **9:30 am**

7/5	Matt Colbert
7/12	Kurt Richardson
7/19	Howie Mansfield
7/26	Teresa Mansfield

#### **Counters**

7/5	Doug Keim / Pat Lebel
7/12	Kurt Richardson / Polly Henry
7/19	Eric Richardson / Peter Pavlacka
7/26	Bob Kolch / Greg Yoder



As we celebrate the Day of Independence, let us remember all of the good things that citizens of this country have done. Regardless of their skin color, soldiers, police, doctors, nurses, social activists, teachers, pastors, etc continue helping their people to stay on the right path, providing conditions so we can live a happy and healthy life.

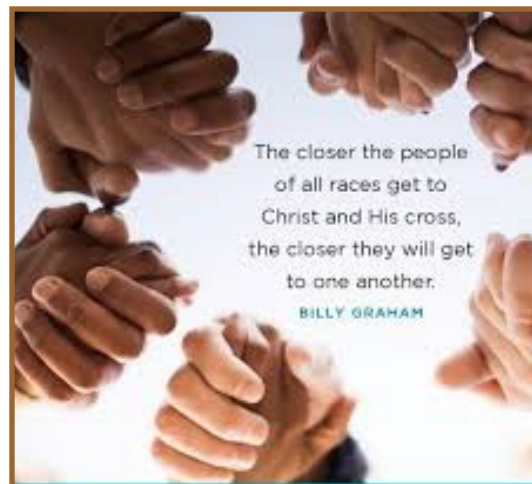
Acknowledging that any society (regardless of how great it may be) is work in progress, let's appreciate what has been done already. By looking at our past history, it is clear that our country continues to be a God abiding place, with a clear mission and purpose. We should all be proud to call ourselves the Citizens of the United States.

As I was looking through patriotic hymns, something captured my attention. In the Battle Hymn of the Republic it says:

*"I have seen Him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps. They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps. I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps. His day is marching on."*

Regardless of the conditions, people continued to reach out to God for guidance and support. It is with connection to Him that we feel our sense of purpose in this world and stay connected to one another. Have a Happy July 4th, filled with pride, joy, and God's grace.

God Bless, Kristina V.



It is hard to believe that after a wonderful celebration to welcome and install Pastor Tara on March 8<sup>th</sup> we went into immediate shut-down. That shock of having to recreate how we worship together was quite a challenge for the worship team. Those who are not connected to or adept with technology were suddenly feeling isolated from their church family. These have been very difficult times for so many. I want to express thanks to the various teams who have stepped up so quickly and efficiently to provide a variety of worship options for us every week as well as those who have made regular contacts to members to check in regarding their health and well-being.

There have been daily devotions available through the Upstate NY Synod staff, devotions throughout the week by either **Pastor Tara** or **Deacon Nancy** for all ages. Both used a variety of settings and art forms for their devotions. Prayer requests have been encouraged and check-in times have been offered for open discussions. We are blessed to have them in leadership.

**Howie Mansfield** has become a producer of the live worship from his home, melding pre-recorded material as well as the live sermons coming from Pastor Tara's apartment and PowerPoints created by the **tech team**. Our musicians, **Beth Colbert** and **Kristina Vernyi**, have either met in person with a vocalist or sent recordings to be voiced over and melded together. I have had opportunity to be part of many aspects of this process and want to express gratitude to all who have worked so diligently to maintain focus and work for smooth transitions as we have now begun to produce worship from the sanctuary in preparation for returning to limited in person worship. More information will be forthcoming in that regard, but if you're willing to help with any of the production process, please let us know. Training via Zoom or pre-recorded video is available.

Blessings in Christ,  
Deanna Pavlacka (Worship & Music Chair)



# Church Council

Barb Winkel, Chair  
Pat Lebel, Vice Chair  
Scarlett Erdley, Recording Secretary  
Art Leitgeb, Financial Secretary  
Carl Bastedo, Treasurer  
Alicia Francis, Council Member  
Greg Yoder, Council Member  
Doug Keim, Council Member  
Niel Zuern, Council Member  
Rev. Tara Lamont Eastman



Finance, Doug Keim  
Property, Niel Zuern  
Service Ministry Team, Deacon Nancy  
Stewardship, \_\_\_\_\_  
Worship & Music, Deanna Pavlacka  
Children's Ministry, Sue Tierney  
Young Families, Jen Hepburn  
Mutual Ministry Committee, Jerry Foor  
Parish Nurse, Health Ministry Team, Carol Genalo  
Fellowship, Shari Murray  
Transition Team, Anita Leitgeb  
Hospitality, Cathy Miller  
PALMS, Weta Hayden  
Stephen Leader: Marcy Grundner  
Stephen Leader: Lynn Myers  
Quilters: Donna Huberty  
Women's Group: Dawnelle Jager  
Women's Group: Jennifer Foor  
Women's Group: Lynn Weeks

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

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