

THE KING'S CROWN



April 2022

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



April 2

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

April 10

Palm Sunday

First Communion with Reception

April 17

**Easter Sunday: Sunrise Worship at
6:30 am w/Continental Breakfast to follow
Worship at 9:30 am with Full Breakfast
at 8:30 am**

April 18

Office Closed

May
Newsletter
Deadline is
April 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

A New Thing!

In this month's newsletter, there are two documents included that the KOK office needs your help with. One is a general info and contact sheet, to make sure we have correct contact information for you and your family members. The second is a short survey. This survey's purpose is to help the office, council and I know more about you, what areas of interest and gifts you share with the world. As we enter Spring and Summer seasons, we hope to learn what areas of mission and ministry that you are excited about or might be willing to help. Please fill out the forms in this newsletter and help us to stay better connected and to do something new.

Pastor Tara L. Eastman

Gardening takes time - lots of it

There was once a difficult gardening project that required a change. This piece of land was a 5 foot incline on a corner lot that was difficult to mow and maintain. Over the years, this difficult lot had claimed and bent to blades of two gas lawn mowers and a hand push mower. So, fed up with broken lawn equipment and a wild yard it was decided that this lot needed to be repurposed with vines instead of grass. Less maintenance - less mowing = solution; but this solution would require lots of effort. Removal of sod and top layer of grass, tilling up the soil, pulling the rocks and deep roots of weeds, filling back in with top soil, adding

mulch and finally planting ivy plants.

The landowner's hope of this project was that new ivy plants, and the ones we continue to add, would in time cover the entire hill section on the two corners of our lot to reduce mowing AND have it look beautiful.

Did one session of Spring planting of ivy on this embankment yield a hill full of ivy instead of grass and weeds? No.

Each year the ivy grew and covered more area - but the Spring effort of ivy planting was an annual effort. It also was an effort that required ongoing weeding and tending from Spring - to Summer - to Fall. This was not a done once and done kind of effort - this was an effort of "one more year." for years.

Each spring, the gardeners do the new thing of replanting ivy and removing weeds and rocks, and over time the embankment is more ivy than grass. Even many summers into this effort, there is planting, cultivating and repenting from what was - and living into the gardening efforts of a hill full of crawling of creeping ivy.

In our spiritual lives, the act of turning towards God is called repenting. Repenting is an ongoing process of learning, turning and returning to the love and mercy of God.

We all have steep embankments.

We all have soil that needs to be tilled up.

We all need to plant something new or have something new planted in us.

An unexpected gift of words about growth and change came across my desk in a letter titled Patient Trust by **Teilhard de Chardin, SJ** (**A letter to his niece**) he writes:

Above all, trust the slow work of God. We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay. We would like to skip the intermediate stages.

We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new. And yet, it is the law of all progress that is made by passing through some stages of instability - and that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you; your ideas mature gradually — let them grow, let them shape themselves, without undue haste. Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time (that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will) will make of you tomorrow.

Today is time for a new beginning . A beginning of hope, that becomes faith and multiplies with love. Through God's mercy and grace, we've not been cut down – but are being nourished and called to grow. Unlike the critical landowner in Luke 13 who demands a weary fig tree to produce fruit right now, or be cut down. Jesus, the gardener, softly beckons us to repentance, to hope and to new life. Jesus calls us away from the criticism of the landowner who is only interested in what he can gain at the end of a season. Jesus stays with all of us, through all seasons. Jesus plants the seed of love into our hearts. Jesus waters our souls with hope, for what is not yet seen. Jesus plucks away the weeds of hurt and bitterness from our soil and bathes the seeds just below the surface in the warmth of the sun.

The Spirit of God whispers to us... *"let it alone for one more year...give this heart, this soul, this person some time and hope to grow."*

It's time to grow something new – the Spring of our soul is finally here!

HOLY WEEK

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- ⇒ Midweek Worship with Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesday, April 13 at 7 pm
- ⇒ Maundy Thursday Worship Service on April 14 at 7 pm
- ⇒ Good Friday Worship Service on April 15 at 7 pm
- ⇒ Prayer Vigil begins on April 15 at 9 pm and concludes on Sat. April 16 at 10 am
- ⇒ On Easter Sunday April 17:
- ⇒ Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 am
- ⇒ Easter Breakfast between the services
- ⇒ Easter Festival Service at 9:30 am



Council Corner...

1. Pastor Tara continues to meet with members of the congregation through the one to one conversations. Members are encouraged to set up a time to have a conversation with Pastor Tara. Her email is revtleastman@gmail.com
2. The council encourages the congregation to participate in the “congregational snapshot” which is an effort to update contact information and to gather information on where members wish to serve in the ministries we do at King of Kings. The snapshot forms will be in the April newsletter.
3. The council approved a motion to match donations to ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response to the “Eastern Europe Crisis” in support of the people of the Ukraine and those providing aid. Donations received during the month of March will be matched up to \$5,000. An additional \$2400 will be sent from the ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response budget line to the “Easter Europe Crisis.”
4. Our Holy Week/Easter Schedule will be:
 - Palm Sunday Worship with First Holy Communion on April 10 at 9:30 am
 - Mid-day Prayer Group, “All the Things” on Wednesday, April 13 at 12:30 pm
 - Midweek Worship with Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesday, April 13 at 7 pm
 - Maundy Thursday Worship Service on April 14 at 7 pm
 - Good Friday Worship Service on April 15 at 7 pm
 - Prayer Vigil begins on April 15 at 9 pm and concludes on Sat. April 16 at 10 am
 - On Easter Sunday April 17:
 - Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 am
 - Easter Breakfast between the services
 - Easter Festival Service at 9:30 am
5. The council received and accepted Deacon Nancy’s resignation. Deacon Nancy will be moving to Ohio to be closer to adult children and grandchildren. Her last Sunday with King of Kings will be May

Respectfully submitted, Deacon Nancy



Faith Formation / Sunday School

Faith Formation

Thanks to all the families that have been participating in our Sunday Faith Formation. Look for our “Rise and Shine” recording in the coming weeks. We have started our Faith Stepping Stone: Communion. All youth attending will participate and review the reasons we celebrate this ritual. This month of April and looking forward to spring, we are learning about Jesus’ travels after rising from the tomb. There will be no classes April 10, Palm Sunday and April 17, Easter Sunday. The Faith Stepping stone for Bible will be 2 Sundays in May (1st and 15th).

Our new format is a large group, intergenerational lesson and activities, where adults are asked to accompany their young people. We will continue the use of face masks for gatherings for this multi-age groups since not all participants are eligible for vaccines. At 10:45, we gather in the Fellowship Hall with music by Beth Colbert. There will be the lesson and activities, followed by a to-go or eat-in snack. If you are interested in helping to lead a lesson or offer assistance with our activities, please contact Deacon Nancy or myself, Susan Evans.

King of Kings Quilt Group

The image of a rolling stone derives from the old proverb, "A rolling stone gathers no moss". It is associated with a sense of freedom, wanderlust or adventure. Originally it was closer to being a vagabond or wanderer. The quilt block "RollingStone" originated in 1780 in New England. And in addition to the proverb, it is associated as a symbol of sleep and peace.



In the last block of our Sampler Series, the Rolling Stone block is the block for April. Join us as we explore the making of this block on Tuesday, April 12 at 1:00 pm in the Sunday School wing. And as always, for more information or instructions, contact Donna Huberty.



DRIVE-UP MEALS EASTER GIVEAWAY

The **Easter drive-up meal** distribution will be held Monday, April 11th, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in our parking lot.

We need volunteers. If you are willing to help, please call me . Leave a message if there is no answer.

Thank you so much, everyone. We should be immensely proud of how we continue reaching out into the community and feeding/loving our neighbors!

Weta Hayden, Chairperson

Ushers Needed:

Can you help out on Sunday mornings being an usher? If yes, please contact Greg or Julie Yoder. You would only be scheduled once ever 4-6 weeks. Training will be provided. Please consider helping out.





From the Deacon's Desk

For my Deacon's Desk article I am including my letter to the congregation announcing that my last Sunday with King of Kings will be May 1 which was sent by email on March 11. I have spoken with many of you since the letter went out. I appreciate your affirmations and support. I will miss you.

In the coming weeks we will be looking at the various responsibilities that are covered in my role as Coordinator of Lay Ministry and Faith Formation. I ask that you be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit if there is a ministry that you might feel called to work with. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Peace, Deacon Nancy

March 10, 2022

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Four years ago a major life transition brought me back home to Central New York. It was not long after I arrived that you asked me to serve as your Administrative Deacon during your Pastoral Interim. My role has changed a bit since then and I consider it a blessing that you extended me a call to serve as your Deacon for Lay Ministry and Faith Formation.

I once again face a major life transition. After Easter I will be moving to live with my daughter's family in Ohio. My last Sunday with King of Kings will be May 1, 2022 at which time I will be going on-leave-from-call.

I cannot express the gratitude I have for the opportunity to serve our Lord Jesus Christ alongside all of you. The experience of working with the congregation and serving with two extraordinary Pastors, Pastor Julius Carroll and Pastor Tara Lamont Eastman, has enriched my faith journey and ministry.

St. Paul writes, "I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all." Ephesians 4:1-6

God is at work in and through the congregation of King of Kings – that is most certainly true. I will hold you in my heart and prayers as we travel different paths yet remain united in our faith in Christ.

Peace, Deacon Nancy Wagner



CONFIRMATION CONNECTIONS

We are nearing the end of the program year as we enter the month of April. We will be starting to make preparations with the 4 youth who will be confirmed on June 4. This is an exciting time as they approach the day they will affirm their baptism and be confirmed. Confirmation is one of the Faith Stepping Stones that we celebrate here at King of Kings. It is one step, albeit a very significant step, in a life-long faith journey that began with baptism. We ask that you hold Emilie, James, Mary and Jacob as well as their families in prayer.

At the conclusion of this program year Kurt Richardson and Lisa Sousou will be concluding their time of ministry with KCY. We are grateful for their commitment and faithfulness. We have been blessed by their presence with the youth and families of the congregation.

We will be looking for some new leaders for KCY. If you have a heart for youth and for sharing your faith, let us know! If you have any questions or are interested in serving as a KCY leader please let Pastor Tara or Deacon Nancy know.

Schedules for April

Slideshow Creation Team

Usher

Lector

9:30 am

4/3	Matt Colbert	Steve Erdley	Stephany Richardson
4/10	Kurt Richardson	Bob Hickman	Niel Zuern
4/17	Jacob Sousou	Carl Bastedo	Colleen Richardson
4/24	Keith Gatling	Bob Hickman	Carol Genalo

Worship Assistants

Counters

4/3	Barb Winkel	Ken Krafft / Barb Nies
4/10	Anna Salem	Steve Erdley / Lorraine Savidge
4/17	Bob Lebel	Doug Keim / Kurt Richardson
4/24	Stephany Richardson	Dave Allen / Greg Yoder

Reconciling In Christ (RIC)



Ephesians 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility

We are on our way, and need your input!

The RIC (reconciling In Christ) Core Team has begun their One-to-One conversations. These are conversations that should be no more than 30 – 40 minutes. It is a time to find out how each one of you feels about becoming a congregation that would **publicly** welcome, include, celebrate, and advocate for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions (LGBTQIA+) and all black, indigenous, people of color (BIPOC). Also, to work for racial equity and commit to anti-racist work. These conversations could also help our leaders to understand what direction you would like to see King of Kings move in from here.

Our Core Team consists of Barb Winkel, Sarah Richardson (co-chairs), Sue Draper, Jacob Draper, Jennifer Foor, Weta Hayden, Betsy Herpich, Dawnelle Jager, Bob Lebel, Pat Lebel, and Sue Tierney at this time.

So please, when one of our Core Team members contact you, take a few minutes to have a short conversation. We really want to know what is in your heart.

If you would like to learn more about becoming an RIC congregation, or if you would like to help us on this journey, please contact Barb Winkel or Sarah Richardson.

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFASTS

We will be having Easter Breakfasts on Sunday, April 17th.

The Men's Group will be serving a Continental Breakfast of coffee, juice and bagels following the 6:30 am Sunrise Service. At 8:30 am, they will be serving the usual full breakfast of Pancakes, eggs, sausage, bagels, coffee and juice. There is a sheet for you to sign-up on the bulletin board, or you can call the office to let them know you will be attending and how many will be with you. The KCY and Youth will be assisting with the setting up for the event and cleaning up afterwards. Any free-will offering that is collected will be donated to them for future use in their mission.



Hope to see you there with the rest of our King of Kings' family members.



In April, we continue our journey through Lent and Holy Week, knowing that the joyful celebration of Easter comes mid-month. As always, the music will reflect the great love Christ shows through His sacrifice, and His glorious resurrection.

There is lot going on musically in the month of April:

April 3 - the Sunday School children have prepared a special song that will be performed with our Puppet Troupe. Steve Kemp will be singing that day as well.

April 10 - Palm/Passion Sunday. The King of Kings' singers will provide special music and help lead congregational singing. Barb Winkel will play a piece on the metal tongue drum which has a hauntingly beautiful sound.

April 13 - Our final mid-week Lenten service featuring Holden Evening Prayer.

April 14 - Maundy Thursday worship with special music.

April 15 - Good Friday service with special music.

April 17 - Easter Sunday. The 9:30 service will be a joyful celebration with organ, the Brass Ensemble led by Steve Richardson and the King of Kings' singers.

I hope that you will come worship with us as we move through the somber season of Lent into the light and joy of Easter. I look forward to all believers joining to sing joyful "Hallelujahs" on Easter morning! I thank all of the musicians who are participating in these musical offerings during this holy season.

Words from the Easter song "Risen" by Israel Houghton:

"Risen, He's risen - forever glorified! Risen, He's risen - King Jesus is alive!

Death where is your sting? Conquered by the King!

Resurrected One - shining like the sun!

Breaking through the fear - Victory is here!

Risen, He's risen - forever glorified.

Risen, Hallelujah - King Jesus is alive!"

See you in church,

Beth Colbert, Director of Music



People News...



Our sympathy and prayers are extended to **Beth Colbert** on the recent passing of her mother, Shirley Mae Ploetz, and to **Faris Sousou** on the recent passing of his father, Elia Sousou. May God's promise of eternal life bring you comfort and peace.

Congratulations to **Jacob Sousou**, a junior at Liverpool High School, who recently received All State Honors from the New York State School Music Association. He participated in the All State Music Festival at Ithaca College.

All good wishes to **Caitlin Genalo** and **Luke Porter**, who recently became engaged.

Avery Head was named the 2022 Educator of the Year by the Syracuse Area Music Awards Committee and inducted into the Hall of Fame. Avery has directed the Syracuse Scottish Pipe Band since 1974.



Men's Fellowship Breakfast:
First Saturday of the month: April 2
Gather at 7:30 am

Come join the rest of the guys for a hot meal and fellowship. Breakfast will consist of eggs, sausage, toast, juice and coffee. Hope to see you there for a cooked meal made in our kitchen. Any questions, please contact Brian Genalo.

Easter Prayer Vigil

The Annual Prayer Vigil is held from **Good Friday, April 15 at 9:00 pm through Holy Saturday, April 16 at 10:00 am**. Please sign up for one or more 30-minute time slots on the bulletin in the narthex. You have the option of praying at church or praying at home. Just be sure to check the correct box on the sign-up sheet. If you have any questions, please contact Eric or Stephany Richardson.



Meet Your New Council Chairperson....




Hello, I wanted to introduce myself as your new council chairperson. I was baptized in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and joined King of Kings in 1994. My husband Richard and I will be celebrating 25yrs of marriage in May 2022. We are proud parents to Jeremy, Samantha and our 1 ½ year old Shih Tzu, Charlie. My father is a retired Missouri Synod Lutheran Minister, so I grew up as a preacher's kid who always lived in the church parsonage.

My experience with King of Kings has primarily been with children's education as I followed my children throughout their steps from Sunday School, Confirmation and Senior High Youth. Since my children have completed those steps, I wanted to become more involved in the inner workings of the church and was interested in becoming involved in Church Council.

I was excited to be voted in as a new council member. The council was then informed that we needed to elect a council chair. I initially did not consider myself in this role because I was new to council and had no experience, but I was persuaded to take over as chair with the help of so many other council members and pastor. So, I ask that you be patient and understanding with me as I learn this new role and the workings of the council along with you. Please feel free to reach out to me or any other council member with your questions or concerns. I am looking forward to serving the King of Kings Church as your new council chair and bringing our congregation back into church.

In Christ,
Lisa Clark



Please be thinking about helping to rebuild our music program at King of Kings...specifically the **Bell Choir**. In the fall, we will need a number of folks to once again help us ring joyfully!

If interested, please contact **Beth Head**.

Easter Flowers



We will be decorating the altar at Easter with an array of spring flowers. **You may place your order until Palm Sunday, April 10**, with flowers of your choice in honor of/or in memory of loved ones.

Here's how to order. Fill out the attached form, include a check (made payable to King of Kings) or cash, and leave it in the "flower box" in the narthex (outside the church office). Plants may be picked up after 12:00 pm on Easter Sunday, April 17.

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR ORDER IN THE OFFERING PLATE.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

QUANTITY:

_____	Lily at \$10.00	=	_____
_____	Mum at \$10.00	=	_____
_____	Tulip at \$10.00	=	_____
_____	Azalea at \$12.00	=	_____

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

_____ TOTAL FLOWERS = _____ TOTAL OWED

Church Council

Lisa Clark, Chair
Greg Yoder, Vice Chair
Barb Winkel, Financial Secretary
Cindy Johnson, Recording Secretary
Carl Bastedo, Treasurer
Caitlin Genalo, Council Member
Ken Krafft, Council Member
Steve Erdley, Council Member
Jennifer Foor, Council Member
Rev. Tara Lamont Eastman
Deacon Nancy Wagner

Ministry Teams

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

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