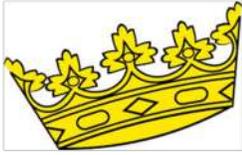


# THE KING'S CROWN



September 2022

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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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**September 3**      **Men's Fellowship Breakfast**

**September 5**      **Labor Day/OFFICE CLOSED**

**September 8**      **Church Council Meeting**

**September 11**      **God's Work, Our Hands**



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October  
Newsletter  
Deadline is  
September 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

### Pastor Tara's Post-its: September 2022

#### What is, "The NEXT Sunday?"



**Speaker:** Rev.  
Tara Lamont  
Eastman

Poet - Pastor - Podcaster

**Speaking:**  
Sunday, July 31st

Permission  
Granted: New Ways  
of Being the Church



THE "NEXT" SUNDAY SUMMIT  
HOSTED BY SPENCER BURKE  
JULY 25th-August 7th, 2022

Earlier this summer, I had the honor to be interviewed by Spencer Burke for an online conference that was called: "The NEXT Sunday Summit. In this conference 30 theologians shared their perspectives on how church communities can next care for the spiritual needs of the church, community and world. As we, at King of Kings Lutheran Church, think about what it means to be the church, this question about what is "NEXT" is a necessary one for us to wrestle with. To help us wrestle with what is "NEXT", we have the opportunity to listen to the 30 interviews and use a companion workbook to discern what God is calling us to, "NEXT".

Copies of the companion workbook will be available in the KOK Office. To gain access to the collection of interviews, go to:

<https://www.spencerburke.com/library>

The email to login is: [holyshenaniganspodcast@gmail.com](mailto:holyshenaniganspodcast@gmail.com)

The password is: **KINGOFKINGS**

If you need support in logging in or need more information on this resource, please email me at: [revtleastman@gmail.com](mailto:revtleastman@gmail.com)

**Save the dates:** On October 6th, 20th and 27th I will be hosting a worship gathering on Thursday evening at 7:00pm, that will include the opportunity to watch an interview from The NEXT Sunday and have a time of discussion.

### Wild Goose Festival Comes Home to CNY:

As part of my continuing education, I attended The Wild Goose Festival/Conference in Union Grove, NC. I had such a wonderful time learning there, that I wanted to share some of the conference with you! At the conference, I had the opportunity to interview four co-creators and ask them 3 ½ Questions about Love. To listen to these interviews, go to:

<https://holyshenanigans.buzzsprout.com>



## **Sermon Notes from Summer:**

Do you remember the days of taking sermon notes? For some people this was an expected practice while in confirmation classes. For some, taking notes on the sermon is a part of their own spiritual practice. This summer, I have shared a “Sermon Note” or statement to help carry the message from Sunday morning into the weeks ahead. Here, I provide a reminder of these prompts to guide us in a reflection of how we can be church together this Autumn.

**Prompt 1: What is the prayer of your heart?** Invites us to think about prayer in an approachable way. It reminds us that God is already close to us - wherever we are and whatever is going on in our lives. So, this September, with all the shifts of season, I invite you to respond to Prompt 1 with an invitation to engage in daily prayer.

### **Prompt 2: Open the barn door!**

Invites us to consider the gifts and talents we must share with the world. It reminds us that we all have treasure. It affirms us in our

ability to make a difference for love with the hours of our days. Prompt 2 asks us to take account of the gifts we have - and to share them.

### **Prompt 3: Don't let Fear drive the bus!**

Invites us to be wise in what we allow to drive our thoughts, decisions, and actions. A bus driver would not hand the wheel over to Fear, and so neither should we. Fear is a part of life, it has a purpose to help us avoid danger - but it should not drive our decisions, plan our travels, or even choose the Spotify list. Prompt 3 (and all three prompts) call us to open our heart, mind, and spirits to the calling of God in the opportunities we must be church together - and to keep fear in the back seat, thank you!

If you would like to set up a time to talk about these prompts or your hopes for King of Kings, please email me at: [revtleastman@gmail.com](mailto:revtleastman@gmail.com)

## Lutheran Campus Ministry (LCM) Fall Banquet:

Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 pm

(Cash wine bar from 4:45 pm) at the Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel (801 University Avenue) – free onsite parking. The Keynote Presenter is The Rev. Rick Bair (LCM's second full-time Chaplain), and they are honoring Mrs. Debra Rafte from St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Verona as the recipient of the 2022 LCM Distinguished Disciple. Tickets will be available at church after Labor Day at a cost of \$80 per person.



## Council Corner...

**God's Work Our Hands** is planned for September 11, 2022

Activities include: Painting one of our classrooms to transform it to a Prayer/ Meditation Room for all Ages; a Supply Drive for Incoming Refugee Families and Volunteering at: Interfaith Works, Liverpool Library, Rosamond Gifford Zoo, and elsewhere. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter.

A very enthusiastic **Stewardship team** is up and running. The theme is "Time, Talent and Treasure", and you will be hearing much more from them in the coming weeks.

Please keep the **Mutual Ministry team** in prayer as they work diligently to try to fill the staff vacancies at King of Kings

In **property matters** the Council approved a proposal to remove a dead tree on the property and heard about an expansion of our Little Free Library. In addition, Council is seeking to find resolution for standing water issues on the property.

In keeping with the Synod theme of "Church Together" Council is discussing the book **TOGETHER: Community as a Means of Grace**. This is the very same book that is being discussed by KoK members with Pastor Tara.

Our beloved Joan Boyle is retiring at the end of August and may well be gone by the time you read this. We offer our gratitude and prayers as Joan sets off on her next adventures. You will have the opportunity to personally wish Joan the best as we have a small reception in her honor. There will be cake!! The date is Sept 11 after the morning service.

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Foor

## People News...



Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of **Joan Pridmore**, who has passed away. May God's promise of eternal life bring you comfort and peace.

Thank you to all who contributed for the school kits for Lutheran World Relief and - special thanks to **Lorraine Savidge** and **Karen Anders** for sewing the bags for the supplies.

## Faith Formation / Sunday School

Are your kids interested in Sunday School this fall? Do you want your kids to get back to Sunday School? **We need your help!** Regular volunteers are needed to teach, supervise and organize learning stations for our 3-year-olds and up. Beth Colbert has agreed to continue the music portion of our opening. Look for more information in weekly emails from church for our start date. We want to implement a leveled model with a lower (non-reader) and upper level. Along with Bible readings, we would love your support to run varied learning activities such as Bible, art, games, cooking science, theater or video analysis. Lesson plans are provided for each lesson with as little or as much prep as you prefer, and commitment would be once or twice a month. Contact Sue Evans for more information.



### ***Women's Group Upcoming Events...***

#### **Thursday, September 15th: note time change**

Tour of Willard Chapel (Auburn) and lunch afterwards. We will meet in the parking lot at 10:45 am and carpool for lunch in Auburn. At 1pm we will tour the Chapel. Tour is \$8.00 and lunch will be on your own.

The Willard Chapel (built between 1892-1894) is an extremely rare example of the work of Louis C. Tiffany and Tiffany Glass and Decoration Co. in that it is the only complete and unaltered Tiffany chapel known to exist.

**BONUS:** *SEW WHAT*, a charity shop of fabric, yarn and all things related to needle arts is located on the Chapel property. Depending on our arrival time, you can browse/shop a bit before or after the tour. <https://sewwhatcny.org> (Cash, check and credit card accepted.)

**Sign up on the bulletin board or call the office.**

#### **Saturday, October 22nd 10am to 4 pm**

Women's SSSF Day...Intrigued? Watch this space, bulletins and What's Up for more information.

## *WATCH THIS SPACE !!*

“You cannot step into the same river twice.”

(Anaxagoras, c. 500 – c. 428 BC)

...because neither you nor the river are the same:  
all things change, all ways and always.

Thanks to King of Kings pastors' and members' contributions of time, talent and treasure, we grew from meeting in a bowling alley in 1965 to a building dubbed the “Friendly Church” next to a Friendly's Restaurant, to the beautiful building, pavilion, paved parking, landscaping and spacious wooded grounds we occupy today. We also established a puppet troop and many charitable, community, global, mission trip and children's programs. The phrase, “God's work, our time, talent and treasure” could apply to all of it.

Your time, talent and treasure are necessary elements in nurturing these worthwhile endeavors as much, or even more, today as ever before. That's why, as summer closes and church activities begin to stir, we need to talk of stewardship. What does stewardship mean to you?

“Stewardship” is a biblical notion: wise management of goods that have been received in trust. Those goods are the grace and life that come to us from God, before we ask, even if we are not yet worthy. They are abilities and material things...and love. They never cease pouring forth from God's abundance to our need.

Ask yourself, then, how you feel called by God's grace to increase the way(s) in which you express your gratitude for God's gifts, by sharing them with those around you. That expression is not new to you; you have done it before. But how can you advance it, move forward with and in it, to the future into which you are being called?

Think about how necessary and important all contributions of time, talent and treasure are in making and keeping King of Kings a viable and vibrant community. Volunteer what you can. Give what you can. And rejoice in it.

Stewardship Team:

Bob Lebel (Chair)

Sheirel Mordaunt

Ben Ngumbi

Lee B. Savidge

Don Spoerke

## *WATCH THIS SPACE !!*

## **Schedules for September**

### **Slide Show Creation Team**

9/4 Kurt Richardson  
 9/11 Jacob Sousou  
 9/18 Keith Gatling  
 9/25 Matt Colbert

### **Usher**

B Genalo/B Hickman  
 E Richardson/K Wild  
 Greg/Julie Yoder  
 Darren/Mary Moyer

### **Lector**

D Huberty  
 C Richardson  
 S Miller  
 S Bastedo

### **Worship Assistants**

9/4 B Winkel/M Hayes  
 9/11 L Seiter/K Sampson  
 9/18 C Gatling/A Salem  
 9/25 B Lebel/S Richardson

### **Counters**

Art Leitgeb/Stephany Richardson  
 Mary Moyer/Jenna Wysokowski  
 Cathy Miller/Jeremy Clark  
 Kurt Richardson/Bob Kolch

**Altar Guild for September:** Sue Tierney

### **Lawn Mowing Schedule**

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 9/1, 9/2, 9/3    | Brian Genalo / Dave Krause / Rick Sampson        |
| 9/8, 9/9, 9/10   | Mike Jager / Art Leitgeb / Ted Smith             |
| 9/15, 9/16, 9/17 | Ken Krafft / Eric Richardson / Paul Burke        |
| 9/22, 9/23, 9/25 | Jeff Wysokowski / Kurt Richardson / Steve Miller |



**First Saturday of the month: September 3**  
**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.

# 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*

## What does the Bible say about same-gender sex acts?

In the last couple of months, I have been looking at the "Clobber Passages", which are six verses that appear to reference same-gender sex acts. I would like to share what theologians are saying about these passages today and how they seem to be misinterpreted. This month I would like to look at the 1 Corinthians 6:9-11. **Content Warning:** Note that this section of scripture speaks about sexual acts and implied sexual orientation.

### Clobber Verse #3 1Corinthians 6:9-11 NIV

<sup>9</sup>Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men <sup>10</sup>nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup>And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Paraphrasing Rev. Candace Chellew's article "**I Corinthians 6:9 | The Bible and Homosexuality**";

In I Corinthians 6:9 Paul lists many activities that will prevent people from inheriting the Kingdom of God. One has been variously translated as effeminate, homosexuals, or sexual perverts. The original Greek text reads *malakoi arsenokoitai*. The first word means soft; the meaning of the second word has been lost. It was once used to refer to a male temple prostitute (as in the verses from the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament described above). The early Church interpreted the phrase as referring to people of soft morals; i.e., unethical. From the time of Martin Luther, it was interpreted as referring to masturbation. More recently, it has been translated as referring to homosexuals. Each translator seems to take whatever activity that their society particularly disapproves of and use it in this verse.

**Note:** Greek contained no word which compares to the English noun "homosexual," meaning someone of homosexual orientation. In fact, the word "homosexual" (meaning someone of homosexual orientation) was not even coined until the late 1800s by German psychologists, and introduced into English only at the beginning of the 1900s. (See *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality*, John Boswell, University of Chicago Press, 1980, page 42) However, during scriptural times there were a number of Greek words to describe homosexual sex acts and the two words *malakoi* and *arsenokoitai* do not appear among them (on *arsenokoitai* see Boswell, pp 345-346).

If you go back and read the beginning of 1 Corinthians you will see that Paul is really berating the people of Corinth because of all of the lawsuits they are bringing upon one another and ended up pulling together a list of the sins that can keep man out of the kingdom of God.

## Reconciling In Christ (RIC) - continued

Colby Martin in his book "UnClobber, Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality" suggests that Paul is actually laying the groundwork for creating healthy sexual boundaries for all people. In fact, Martin goes further and proposes that "God is calling all of us - gay, straight, bisexual, transgender, queer - out of places of guilt and shame, and into a place of wholehearted, integrated living where we are rooted in God's love for us, and committed to loving ourselves and our neighbor even when it comes to our sexual activities".

If you would like to read more about the "Clobber Passages" and how these have been misinterpreted, I would suggest you add to your reading list books such as "UnClobber, Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality" by Colby Martin, or "What the Bible Really Says about Homosexuality" by Daniel A. Helminiak, Ph.D. or "The Moral Vision of the New Testament" by Richard Hays.

So please, when one of our Core Team members contacts you, take a few minutes to have a short conversation. These conversations are confidential.

If you any questions or comments about becoming an RIC congregation, please contact Barb Winkel or Sarah Richardson.



# Cleaning Out the Church

This summer we (Kathy Sampson, Lynn Weeks and I) have been working on cleaning out some of the clutter that has accumulated around the building for the past few years. We have been trying to clean out classrooms and storage rooms to make them organized and pleasant to be in. Summer is a great time to do this.



While we appreciate people always willing to donate items to the church, unfortunately we don't have storage for clothing, furniture and other household items. We suggest that clothing be donated to the Rescue Mission; furniture and household items can be offered to the Center for New Americans (315-474-1261); medical items (walkers, wheelchairs, crutches) can be donated to the Female Charitable Society in Baldwinsville (they lend them out to people who need them). If you have any questions about any items, you can feel free to call the church office.



## King of Kings Quilt Group

Have you heard about the quilted hearts that are left to brighten someone's day? The idea can be found under the web search, "**I Found a Quilted Heart**". People sew these darling little hearts, decorate with ribbons and buttons, stuff with fiberfill and go for a walk. Along their way, in a public place, they will hang the heart for someone else to find. There is a tag that is attached claiming, "I need a home". On the back side is the website information. And it is totally anonymous, no maker's name should be on the tag. When a heart is found, the finder can then post a photo of the heart to the website with their story about how finding their heart was such a treasure to them and why. It is tugging at my heartstrings to make some of these. So, that is what we shall do in September.

Come join us Tuesday, September 13th at 1 pm in the Sunday School Wing. Bring some scraps, buttons, ribbon and whatever else captures your fancy to decorate your heart. Let's give our hearts away! Any questions can be directed to Donna Huberty.



Welcome September! So much is “starting up” again in all of our lives, and it is most certainly true that things are getting busy at King of Kings in September!

The Son-Light Singers choir will start rehearsals on September 11th right after worship. It will be a brief rehearsal as there will be a “thank-you” refreshment time to recognize Joan Boyle for her years of faithful and dedicated service as administrative assistant at King of Kings. Subsequent rehearsals will be held at 11:00 am on Sunday mornings.

September 11th is also “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday - a day where we dedicate ourselves to be workers in God’s service; people spreading the Good News of God’s love and salvation through our actions of service at church, the wider community, and worldwide missions. The music for the day will be songs rejoicing in our ministry of service to others and calling us to always be Christ-like in our actions.

September 18th is the start of Sunday School - I hope to once again to part of the music program with the children; stay tuned for them singing in church at various times throughout the fall and Christmas seasons!

September 25th - the Son-Light Singers will be back in action, providing a special worship piece and leading the congregation in song. They will be singing on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.

I plan on continuing to have every 4th Sunday of the month be organ-based worship, and will continue to select beloved traditional hymns for those Sundays.

There is an ongoing need for singers and musicians to supply “special music” for days that the Son-Light singers are not singing - opportunities to share your talent for worship and praise abound! I can be reached at [handygirl2@verizon.net](mailto:handygirl2@verizon.net), or try to touch base with me after church service on Sundays.

Beth Head is recruiting for anyone who may be interested in being a bell ringer - we hope to have the handbell choir back in action later this fall! I have been a “ringer” and it is really quite fun! Please let her know if you think you might like to give it a try.

Of course, our brass ensemble will be back in action this fall under the direction of Steve Richardson. Please let him know if you have an interest in playing with that fun group! I’m sure we’ll hear from them on Reformation Sunday.

So, welcome September! King of Kings will be busy with activity and filled with opportunities to work, praise and serve our God!

*Words from the hymn “God’s Work, Our Hands” by Wayne L. Wold:*

*God’s work, our hands: working together, building a future, repairing the world -*

*Raising up homes, planting new gardens, feeding the hungry and shelt’ring the cold.*

*Bless, God, our hands as we work in Your name, sharing the good news of Your gospel!*

*God’s work, our voice: singing together, praising, proclaiming to all who will hear -*

*Praying for peace, shouting for justice, claiming God’s love for the lost and the least.*

*Bless, God our voice as we speak in Your name, sharing the good news of Your gospel!*

See you in church!

Beth Colbert, Director of Music Ministry

# God's Work, Our Hands Activities for 2022

**There are several ways for you to take part in the various mission efforts:**

**God's Work – Our Hands Kicks off on Sunday, September 11, 2022**

- **Something to do!**

**On Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> Help to paint Classroom 4 as we begin transforming it into a Prayer/Meditation Room for All Ages! Contact Beth Colbert for more information**

- **Something to Collect!**

**Collect supplies for Interfaith Works refugee families.**

Supplies needed:

Toothbrushes and Toothpaste for Adults and Children.

Women's Sanitary Pads (Pads only please.)

NEW toys for Children (Infant to age 10)

- **Volunteering is a Sweet Challenge**



**God's Work - Our Hands**

Collect 2 hours of volunteer activity to attend KOK's first annual: "Volunteering is Sweet!" Dessert Night!

**Save the Date!**  
Friday  
October 14th, 2022  
at 7 PM

**Make New Friends - Tell Stories  
Eat Dessert !**



**God's Work - Our Hands**

*Volunteering is SWEET!*

Collect 2 Hours of Volunteer activity from September 11th to October 11th to attend dessert celebration on Friday Oct. 14th, 2022 7PM

**Option 1**  
Interfaith Works  
Contact: Jennie Prouty  
jprouty@ifwcnyc.org  
315-449-3552 ext 128

**Option 2**  
Liverpool Library  
Contact: Edina Osmanovic  
Edina.Osmanovic@lpl.org  
315-457-0310 x134

**Option 3**  
Rosemond Gifford Zoo  
Contact: Kim Arnold  
volunteer@rosamondgiffordzoo.org  
call (315) 435-8511 x8569

*Pick from these options or choose your own!*



**God's work - Our Hands**

Supply Drive to care for Incoming Refugee Families:

- Toothbrushes and toothpaste for Adults and Children
- New toys for Infants to age 10
- Women's sanitary pads (Pads only, please.)

**Supporting InterFaith Works:**  
<https://www.interfaithworks.org>

*Items Collected from  
Sunday Sept. 11 -  
Sunday  
Oct. 9th, 2022*

Dear King of Kings Lutheran Church,

The Congregational Council of King of Kings Lutheran Church is reaching out with an update of our current financial standing.

**Decrease in participation at King of Kings + Increase in the cost of living + Decrease in economy = Deficit spending.**

This is the equation that we have been trying to solve this year. Throughout 2022 King of Kings Lutheran Church has been experiencing a monthly shortfall of income against expenses. At this writing, our expenditures are approximately \$21,000 more than our income.

This shortfall is, in part, due to the overall decrease in attendance and giving, as well as continued upkeep on the building as it ages, i.e., replacement of furnace, along with an approximately 30% increase in utilities. To address the current budget shortfall, we have had to redirect funds originally budgeted for the Faith Formation person's salary to help cut the deficit. We still have a need for a new Faith Formation Director. This is a faithful investment to help continue to have a strong youth program, an active lay-ministry, and community engagement which has defined King of Kings for over 50 years. For us to continue the efforts supported by a Faith Formation Director and additional ministries, we ask you to prayerfully consider giving or increasing your contributions to King of Kings Lutheran Church to help us continue to play a vital role in our community.

The challenges of a continued loss of membership and active participation comes at a time when it is essential to invest our time, talent, and treasure. Our mission to be *“Empowered by the grace and love of Jesus and to be committed to growing in faith with the community”* requires your help.

To make an online contribution, scan the QR Code with the camera on your smartphone, or go to our website, [www.kingofkings-ny.org](http://www.kingofkings-ny.org) and click on the **“Online Giving”** button. Of course, you are welcome to continue to contribute with checks mailed into the church office or through your envelopes when we see you on Sunday.

We invite you to use your gifts with King of Kings Lutheran Church, as we are to be called to be church together.



Respectfully, King of Kings Congregational Council

# Church Council

Lisa Clark, Chair  
Greg Yoder, Vice Chair  
Barb Winkel, Financial Secretary  
Cindy Johnson, Recording Secretary  
Carl Bastedo, Treasurer  
Steve Miller, Council Member  
Sue Tierney, Council Member  
Kurt Richardson, Council Member  
Jennifer Foor, Council Member  
Rev. Tara Lamont Eastman



## Ministry Teams

Finance, Doug Keim  
Property, Niel Zuern  
Service Ministry Team, \_\_\_\_\_  
Worship & Music, Beth Colbert  
Children's Ministry, Sue Evans  
Mutual Ministry Committee, Anita Leitgeb  
Parish Nurse, Health Ministry Team, \_\_\_\_\_  
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

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

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