

# THE KING'S CROWN



January 2025



King of Kings Lutheran Church

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Facebook: King of Kings Lutheran Church - Liverpool, NY

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## Upcoming Events

*January 4th—Men's Breakfast*

*January 14th—Quilt Group*

*January 19th—Annual Budget Meeting*

*January 26th—Annual Congregational Meeting*

**Genesis Bible Study**

*Wednesdays at 1:00pm*

**Caregiver Group**

*2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 9:30am*

**Men's Bible Study**

*Biweekly on Fridays 6:00am*

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February  
Newsletter  
Deadline is  
January 15

## **Mission Statement**

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

## **From the Desk of Pastor Rebecca**

*Jesus unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.' (Luke 4:17b-18)*

Howard Thurman was a mid-twentieth century theologian and mystic who was an advisor to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Thurman wrote a poem that I first read over a decade ago, but which I keep returning to every January since then:

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among others,  
To make music in the heart.

Next month my newsletter article will return to exploring the parts of Sunday morning worship, but January felt like an important time to pause and acknowledge the start of a new year. It is a fresh beginning, but it also holds an extraordinary amount of potential and uncertainty for the coming twelve months. We have just had our major winter festival with Christmas, and now we still have weeks of cold days and long nights ahead of us without a celebration to look forward to.

We don't know what this new year will bring, but we know that God will be with us throughout it. The work of Christmas continues, having been strengthened by the reminder that the Kingdom of God has come near, that the Word of God became flesh, that the Spirit of God is dwelling within us. Our baptisms bless us with the vocation of loving, serving, and having mercy on our neighbors. God gave us the gift of Jesus Christ, and we give these gifts to others as a faithful response to God's generosity.

Whatever the new year may bring, may we confront it honorably and faithfully. May we confront it together, as a community. May we confront it while resting our trust and hope in God. The decorations will be put away and the visitors will depart—this is when the real work of Christmas begins.

In Christ's peace,  
Pastor Rebecca



Hello New Year! In January we celebrate Epiphany Sunday and the Baptism of our Lord. As the Epiphany season continues we are reminded to "share the Light" and spread the word about God's gracious and redeeming love - just as the shepherds and the Magi that came to see the baby Jesus did.

The Hand Bell choir will be ringing on Epiphany Sunday, and the Son-Light Choir will be singing on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. We will be singing songs of joy, and songs of praise for God's never-ending love of all of us.

As always - there is room for you in the Son-Light Choir! Also - there is always room for a vocal or instrumental solo, so please feel free to get in touch with me at [bmcolbert61@gmail.com](mailto:bmcolbert61@gmail.com) , or call the church office at 315 -622-2077 and leave a message with Rachel about what you would like to do. I'd love to have you be part of the church music program .

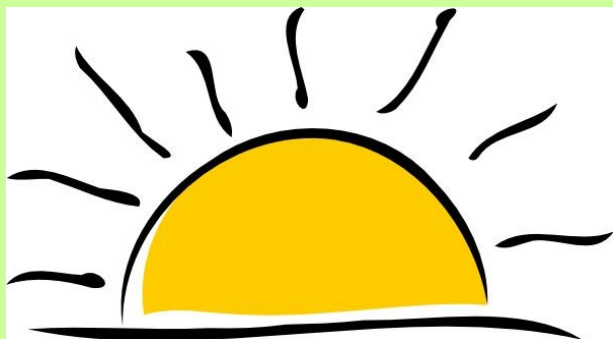
In closing, here are words to a verse from " I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" by Kathleen Thomerson.

" I want to see the brightness of God; I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father!  
In Him there is no darkness at all;  
the night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the Light of the city of God:  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus! "

May blessings abound for you in this season of Epiphany , in this time of sharing the Good News!

Beth Colbert  
Director of Music





The Men's Bible Study Group meets every other Friday 6:00am in person or by Zoom (your choice). Please contact Steve Miller if you are interested in joining them.

Upcoming dates are

1/3, 1/17, 1/31

Our Sunday Services are now LIVE on BOTH Facebook AND YouTube



Streaming Sunday Service

Link on computer and phone  
[www.youtube.com/@kingofkings-ny](http://www.youtube.com/@kingofkings-ny)

(No passwords required).

On your TV, go to the YouTube channel (837 on FIOS), type in kingofkings-ny and select the circle that has our name and our stained glass windows



Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast group will meet

Saturday January 4th.

Coffee will be up at 7:30am,  
breakfast food at 8:00am

## KING OF KINGS QUILT GROUP

**Shortcut.** Webster's Dictionary defines the word "1) a shorter route and 2) any way of saving time, effort, etc." Quilt fabric manufacturers have made selecting and cutting fabrics easier though pre-cuts. Precuts are sold in bundles of exact sized pieces from collections of matching and coordinated fabrics. This takes the time and the guesswork out of choosing fabrics. Quilt patterns are specifically designed to use the precuts by eliminating the tedious process of cutting units from large pieces of fabric, saving a lot of time. One of the fun parts of looking for precuts are their names, jelly rolls, layer cakes, charms, candy, honey buns, crackers, jingle pops, rolie polies, the list goes on and on.

**On Wednesday January 14th at 1 p.m. we will discuss precuts and make some quick and easy blocks from those precut sizes. Contact Donna Huberty [donnaahuberty@outlook.com](mailto:donnaahuberty@outlook.com) or 315-935-5422 for more information.**

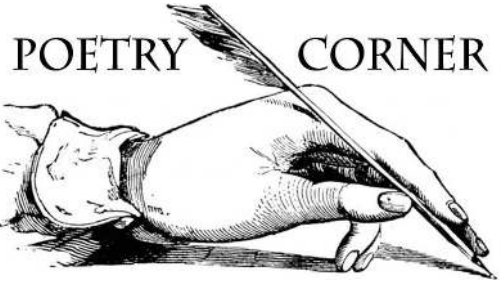
**Join us in taking a shortcut with the shorter route that saves us time and effort!**



### Photos Wanted

Painting, staining, kitchen/bathroom remodel, school supply collection, lawn mowing, new first aid station, nursery refresh and resupply and more (so many more) Well, you get the "picture". If you have any photos of any of the varied community and church home projects of this last year, please send them to the office. We plan to use them for celebration. [kokchurchsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:kokchurchsecretary@gmail.com)

Brought to you by the Worship and Music Team,  
A.W.E division.



Poetic expressions intended to inspire prayer, awe, joy  
into your spiritual journey.

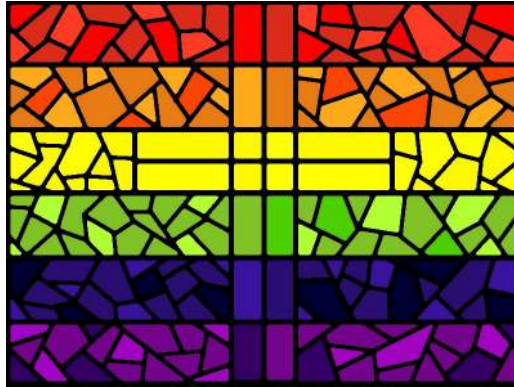
Curated by Bob Lebel

Robert Frost (1874-1963) American poet.\* He read this poem as part of the inaugural celebration for President John F Kennedy, on January 20, 1961 (64 years and 16 presidential inaugurations ago).

“The Gift Outright”

The land was ours before we were the land's.  
She was our land more than a hundred years  
Before we were her people. She was ours  
In Massachusetts, in Virginia,  
But we were England's, still colonials,  
Possessing what we were still unpossessed by,  
Possessed by what we no more possessed.  
Something we were withholding made us weak  
Until we found out that it was ourselves  
We were withholding from our land of living,  
And forthwith found salvation in surrender.  
Such as we were we gave ourselves outright  
(The deed of gift was many deeds of war)  
To the land vaguely realizing westward,  
But still unstoried, artless, unenhanced,  
Such as she was, such as she would become.

\* He graduated from Lawrence High School, Lawrence, MA, 70 years before I did.



*You are Not Alone!*

*At King of Kings Lutheran Church, we embrace all individuals and respect their dignity and worth, for all are beloved children of God. We seek to recognize everyone's own distinctions, and we strive to protect all from oppression. As a congregation we share God's vision of love for people of every race, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, socio-economic status, age, ability, political persuasion, and personal history. At King of Kings, we commit ourselves to ongoing and consistent efforts to advocate for racial equality, and to be allies to all who are oppressed simply for being who they are. Our sanctuary is a place for worship and praise, and to celebrate baptisms, marriages, funerals, and other milestones of growth in faith for all who come. Here we believe there is a place for EVERYONE.*

*Welcome to King of Kings.*



## **CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**

**On the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month at 9:30am**

**Caregiving can be challenging and lonely, come join us for conversation, support and shared wisdom.**

**Come join this group when you are able.**

**All are welcome, supporters and caregivers both.**

*Highlights from the  
December meeting.*



**Budget:** Doug Keim presented initial data for the 2025 budget. Considerable discussion followed as Council worked to match expected income with expected expenditures. When 2024 final numbers are recorded, Council will meet again and submit a proposed

budget for 2025. This budget will be discussed at the Annual Budget Meeting on Sunday, January 19th right after the morning service. The 2025 budget will require a formal vote at the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2025. (Mark you calendars for both dates)

Special thanks to Doug Keim, Barb Winkel, Pastor Rebecca and Carl Bastedo (Finance Team) who worked long and hard to get together all of the relevant data for Council's initial review.

Special thanks to all King of Kings members who were able to provide a financial pledge for 2025

**Payroll:** Council voted to approve the use of Payroll Made Simple (a local company). Among other things, this will be enable staff to have direct deposit of paychecks. In addition, the company will take care of all required forms and reports for state and federal agencies.

Special thanks to the Mutual Ministry team who worked diligently to investigate what services would be required and recommend this company.

Special thanks to Carl Bastedo who, in addition to his duties as Treasurer, has done all of the payroll work and reports for many years.

**Mutual Ministry:** Steve Salem was appointed to the Mutual Ministry team.

Special thanks to Bob Lebel whose term is expiring.

**Property and Grounds:** The P/G team continues to care for our Church home. Recent projects include cleaning of the shed and painting of the hallway.

Special thanks to everyone who has assisted with the many painting projects over the past several months. Your hard work shows. Everything looks so new and fresh.

Church members are welcome to review the monthly meeting minutes. They are kept in a binder in the church office.



# People's News



Kudos to Emilie Sousou, who was recently inducted into the Liverpool High School National Honor Society. Way to go, Emilie!

Condolences to Herpich family on the passing of Betsy's mother, Carol deDreu. We pray that God's light and peace will be with you during this difficult time.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Colleen, Steve, and Emily Richardson on the passing of Colleen's mom, Joan Cullen. May God's strength and peace be with you in the coming days.

Thank you to Julie Yoder for leading the greening and degreening of the church. We appreciate Barb Nies for coordinating the Children's Christmas program. Many thanks to Beth Colbert and her team of musicians for the beautiful music during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

## Sunday School Happenings

I hope you have been in church or watched the live streams to see our new Children's Time. Each week, a puppet and I have been interacting to teach a children's message. The children come forward and sit with Pastor Truland, the puppet helps answer the questions I ask, and we all learn about one of the readings for the day. I appreciate the families that come and bring their children to participate.

Each week (with the exception of puppet presentation weekends), a script is available in the office, to either help with the narrator or the puppet role. Thanks to all the Super Steward Puppeteers who have helped so far, and continue to make King of Kings a welcoming place for our youth, and entertain the adults.

Please contact Susan Evans or leave a message with Pastor or Rachel to let us know you heard God calling you to help with our Children's Time at King of Kings Lutheran Church.



As a member of KOK's Caregivers Support Group and a daughter with aging parents and mother-in-law, I have found some resources that have been invaluable for our family as we help our older parents age gracefully.

### Educational Programs and Dementia Care Resources

<https://www.alz.org/help-support/resources/care-education-resources>

My Dad has early stage dementia and I've taken some online classes through our local Alzheimer's Association that have helped our family with responding to his needs and maintaining his dignity.

### Better Health While Aging with Dr. Leslie Kernisan

<https://betterhealthwhileaging.net/>

Dr. Kernisan has blogs and online resources that are targeted to help families ask the right questions and also learn more about the aging process. We have used her checklists for memory loss, UTIs, and Preventing Falls when we've spoken to doctors and the health care professionals at the assisted living facility.

### National Institute on Aging: Caregiver Worksheets

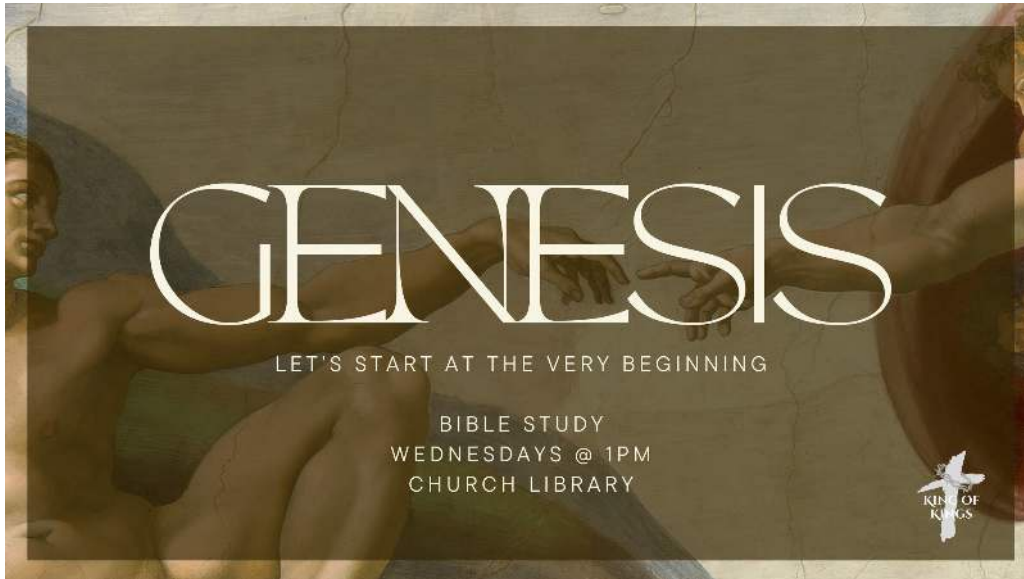
<https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/caregiving/caregiver-worksheets>

Our family has used the checklist for Home Safety numerous times as we've journeyed through various stages of our parents' aging process.

Feel free to stop me at church after service, text, email or call me if you want to talk about any of these resources. Also, please think about coming to one of our meetings if you need support, a non-judgemental place to vent, or you just want to experience what we do each month.

With JOY, Joanne Keim





**A Bible study led by Pastor Rebecca is meeting on Wednesdays at 1:00pm in the church parlor. Our first topic will be Genesis. Bring yourself and your favorite Bible--no other preparation required!**

A graphic for an annual meeting announcement. It features a blue megaphone on the left, with several green lines radiating from its opening. To the right of the megaphone is a large orange speech bubble containing the words "ANNUAL MEETING" in bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. The background consists of purple and orange geometric shapes.

**Annual Budget Meeting  
January 19th**

**Annual Meeting  
January 26th**

**Annual Reports are due  
to Rachel by January 2nd.**





### Reminder to Online Givers

If you give online and increased your pledge for 2025, please remember to go to your online account and change the amount.

If you give online and did not pledge but wish to increase the amount you give, please remember to go to your online account and change the amount.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministries at King of Kings.

Barb Winkel

King of Kings Financial Secretary



# Schedules for January

## Usher

1/5 Hollie Zimmerman/Karen Wild  
1/12 Dan/Patti Weingarten  
1/19 Rick/Kathy Sampson  
1/26 Carl Bastedo/Bob Hickman

## Worship Assistant

1/5 Cheryl Gatling/Jennifer Foor  
1/12 Jeff Swanson/Sarah Richardson  
1/19 Barb Winkel/Bob Hickman  
1/26 Lauren Seiter/Greg Yoder

## Coffee Fellowship

1/5 Shari Murray  
1/12 Pat Lebel  
1/19 Lisa Clark  
1/26 Shari Murray

## Altar Guild for January

Dawnelle Jager

## Lector

Avery Head  
Susie Bastedo  
Doug Keim  
Colleen Richardson

## Counter

Kurt Richardson/Nicole Swanson  
Niel Zuern/Weta Hayden  
Kurt Richardson/Nicole Swanson  
Art Leitgeb/Dan Weingarten

## Tech Booth

Jacob Sousou/Don Spoerke  
Bob Hickman/Dave Krause  
Lisa Clark/Jeremy Clark  
Howie Mansfield/Michele Hayes

*\*\*\* For any questions or changes to the schedules, please reach out to the person who coordinates volunteers for your role and then let Rachel know of any changes.*



# Church Council

Lisa Clark, Chair  
Steve Miller, Vice Chair  
Barb Winkel, Financial Secretary  
Cindy Johnson, Recording Secretary  
Carl Bastedo, Treasurer  
Robin Ngumbi Council Member  
Sue Tierney, Council Member  
Kurt Richardson, Council Member  
Jennifer Foor, Council Member  
Pastor Rebecca Truland



## Ministry Teams

Finance, Doug Keim  
Property, Art Leitgeb  
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  
PALMS, Weta Hayden  
Stephen Leader: Marcy Grundner  
Quilters: Donna Huberty  
Women's Group:

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

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