

THE KING'S CROWN



June 2025



King of Kings Lutheran Church

Phone: 315-622-2077 | Email: kingofkingsny@gmail.com

Web: www.kingofkings-ny.org

Facebook: King of Kings Lutheran Church - Liverpool, NY

Upcoming Events

June 7th—Men's Breakfast

June 8th—Annual Church Picnic

June 10th—Quilt Group

June 21st—KoK at Pride Parade

James Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:00pm

Caregiver Group

2nd & 4th Wednesdays at 9:30am

Sonrise Guys

Biweekly on Fridays 6:00am

July
Newsletter
Deadline is
June 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

Tithing: A Biblical Tradition

Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God, [...] and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you." (Genesis 28:20-22)

By now you may have noticed a theme in my recent newsletter messages. I am not focusing on financial matters because we are in a dire situation at King of Kings—I would rather discuss money/generosity/stewardship during a time of relative health than wait until after a crisis develops. With ongoing economic uncertainty and rates of inflation, I want us to strengthen the way we approach financial matters as questions of spirituality and worship for the sake of our personal lives and the life of our congregation.

It's worth reviewing the ancient practice of tithing. "Tithe" comes from an Old English word for "tenth." In the Hebrew Scriptures, rules and expectations around tithing varied across the centuries. Tithing was often made not with money but with portions of crops and livestock. It may have gone to the priestly class or been given away to the needy members of one's community. The idea of giving away a tenth of one's wealth or resources continued into early Christian communities (though sometimes the expectation was much higher: see Acts 2:43-47).

When I was a seminarian, I met a very old-school retired bishop who felt strongly that all pastors should be tithing 10% of their pre-tax total benefit package, including retirement and healthcare contributions. His rigidity made a strong negative impression on me—I don't know that I'll ever be able to manage that level of giving, and his attitude felt disconnected from 21st century economic realities. But I prayerfully consider the offering I pledge every year, and I do try to stretch myself. When I made my 2025 pledge last fall, I decided to add 10% to what I gave in 2024 as a way to connect myself to the practice and increase my giving incrementally, even if I am not able to give 10% of my total compensation.

Tithing is not a magic standard. It is not a minimum, nor a maximum, for our generosity. But it can be a helpful frame of reference, or even a goal to work toward. It is a way we can feel connected to our ancestors in faith, a way we can show commitment to our community, and a way we can care for those who are less fortunate among us.

Reflection Questions for the Month:

1. Who is someone from your life that you look up to as an example of generosity?
2. What percentage of your income do you give to church and charity, and do you feel that this percentage matches your household values compared to other spending areas?

In Christ's abundant grace,
Pastor Rebecca



Hello King of Kings Family! June is here - we will observe and celebrate Pentecost Sunday on June 8th, followed by Trinity Sunday on June 15th. We then will be in "Ordinary Time" throughout the summer and early fall.

Here in the northeast, we all treasure time in the summer to relax and let down a bit - to vacation, spend more time outdoors, attend graduation parties, family reunions, picnics or just "stay-cations" at home. Our musical groups will also be taking a well-earned break during these summer months.

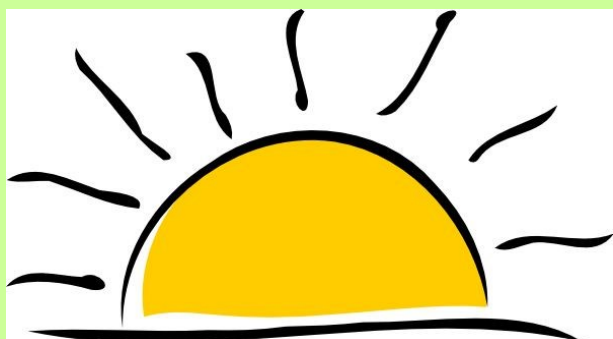
Music is still an important part of worship, and the summer is filled with opportunities for soloists, or small groups to share their talent. We welcome singers and musicians to provide special music during June, July, August and early September.

Please feel free to contact me at bmcolbert61@gmail.com , or leave a message at the church office - 315 622-2077 and I will be certain to get back to you.

Happy June to you! Hope to see you at church!

Beth Colbert
King of Kings Music Director





The *Sonrise Guys*, 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

6/6, 6/20, 7/4

Our Sunday Services are now LIVE on BOTH Facebook AND YouTube



Streaming Sunday Service

Link on computer and phone
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

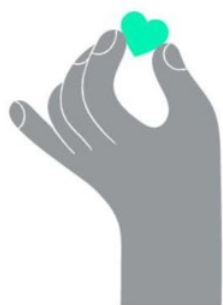


Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast group will meet

Saturday June 7th.

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



Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you are a Thrivent client who is eligible to allocate Thrivent Choice Dollars, please do not forget to do so. And consider making King of Kings your choice for distribution. Thank you for your consideration.

Barb Winkel, Financial Secretary

Photos Wanted

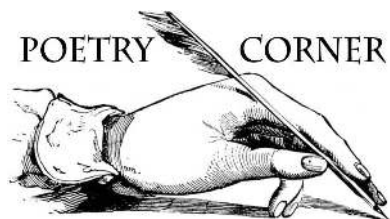
Painting, staining, kitchen/bathroom remodel, school supply collection, lawn mowing, new first aid station, nursery refresh and resupply and more (so many more) Well, you get the “picture”. If you have any photos of any of the varied community and church home projects of this last year, please send them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



The Little Libraries are getting low in books. So if you have any books you are looking to re-home during your spring cleaning, drop them off in the church office. Thank you!

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



Hildegard von Bingen (c. 1098-1157) was a poet, physician, theologian, and church leader of many remarkable skills. He was among the mystics introduced into our dialog by Pastor Rebecca during the Lenten Wednesday evening services. In case you missed it, or if you would just like to think about it further, here is the poem that Pastor shared in that setting. Both in English translation and in the Latin that the author employed.

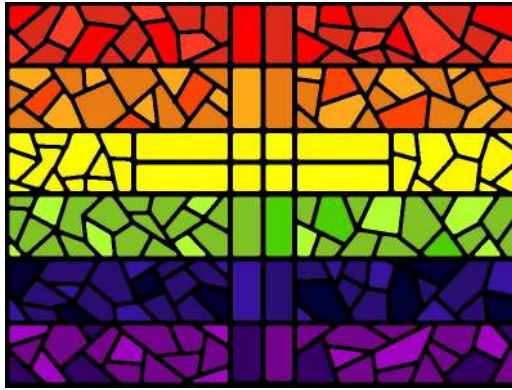
O Wisdom's energy!
Whirling, you encircle
and everything embrace
in the single way of life.
Three wings you have:
one soars above into the heights,
one from the earth exudes,
and all about now flies the third.
Praise be to you, as is your due, O Wisdom.

O virtus Sapientie,
que circuiens circuiisti,
comprehendendo omnia
in una via que habet vitam,
tres alas habens,
quarum una in altum volat
et altera de terra sudat
et tertia undique volat.
Laus tibi sit, sicut te decet, O Sapientia.



PENTECOST (JUNE 8)

Do you speak some language other than English? Do you have a bible in that language? Would you be willing to stand up and read one verse (Acts 2:8) of scripture to celebrate that linguistic diversity of our congregation and of our Christian faith? Contact Bob Lebel!



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.

Quilt Group

If you have been in the Music Room lately, you will have seen all the church banners hanging on racks. Recently, all were taken down and reorganized by a group of ladies from the church. It was discovered that some banners were in disrepair, some were badly stained and some were not needed. Repairs have been made, dry cleaning has been completed and some of the worst have been discarded. And, there are some liturgical times of the year that were not being covered. New banners are needed.

In quilting, applique is used when piecing is not possible. One way to apply applique is by using a fusible product that has a paper backing. The design is drawn one form at a time on the paper side, fused to the back of fabric, cut apart, and after peeling the paper backing off, fused to the background by using a hot iron. After all the colors of the design are placed and fused on the background fabric, the pieces are secured by sewing around the design. Banners can be made the same way.



Come Tuesday June 10 (always the second Tuesday of the month) at 1 p.m. to discuss how to applique by using a fusible paper backed product to make a project of your own, or perhaps, help make a banner for King of Kings.

Contact Donna Huberty with any questions 315-935-5422

Council celebrated the continued improved financial outlook of King of Kings. The generosity of our members is a blessing to the congregation and community.

The Property & Grounds group continues their work supporting the Church. The annual church cleanup was held May 3rd after the men's group breakfast. Completed projects include extension of the water drainage system by the library & fellowship hall, and installation of landscaping stone in flower beds along the parking lot. Thanks to all who gave of their time and talents to support these projects.



Property & Grounds also presented safety recommendations developed from a meeting with the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department. Initial efforts will focus on improving building exterior monitoring and access control. More information in the future as implementation plans are solidified.

Council rejoiced in the reception of 13 new members in April. We look forward to new friendships, and working together to support God's mission in our community.

Sunday June 8 has been selected for this year's congregational picnic, to be held following the 9:30am service. More information in the coming weeks, thanks to all who support this annual fellowship event.

Efforts are underway to better connect youth from neighboring congregations in fellowship and education. Thanks to Vicar Missy for her support of King of King's youth programs.

As part of our commitment to being a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, Council approved support for CNY Pride. Info soon for upcoming events, including the Pride Parade in June.

Progress was reviewed for the 2025 vision objectives developed by the congregation's at the January annual meeting. Objectives are discussed monthly to ensure focus is maintained on our shared vision.

"The Property & Grounds group continues their work supporting the Church. The annual church cleanup was held May 3rd after the men's group breakfast, with 30 people participating. Completed projects include extension of the water drainage system by the library & fellowship hall, a reduction of the trash pile adjacent to the BBQ, and installation of landscaping stone in flower beds along the parking lot. Thanks to all who gave of their time and talents to support these projects."

Church members are welcome to review the monthly meeting minutes.

They are kept in a binder in the church office.

People's News



Happy 50th Anniversary wishes to Pastor Paul & Betsy Herpich! May God bless you as you celebrate this special occasion!

Congratulations to Becca Mansfield who has graduated from Niagara University and received an academic award. All good wishes for the future, Becca!

Congratulations to Ben Ngumbi who graduated from the State University of NY at Albany. Wishing you all the best in your future endeavors!

Congratulations to Mack & Emmie Colbert who received their First Communion in May. May God bless you now and always.

Connor Smith returned to the National History Bee in Orlando after placing third in the Regional competition. He placed 5th in the political science test.

Rowan Smith earned his black belt in karate.

Her friends at King of Kings were saddened to hear of the passing of former member, Polly Henry. We extend deepest condolences to her family.

Geraniums for Pentecost

Order forms and envelopes are available in the narthex

4" pot...\$6

6" pot...\$12

Last day to order is Sunday June 1st



Church Picnic Sunday with Yoder Chicken...June 8th

We hope you can join us! Sign up in the narthex the potluck for sides, beverages, and salad. Those that signed up for chicken, hamburgers or hotdogs, payment ahead is appreciated





At a recent Caregivers Meeting, Bob Dumond shared information about how Medicaid in NYS affects married couples. He contacted a lawyer specializing in Medicaid and it saved their family a lot of money when Diane went into long-term care. A Medicaid lawyer can help you with the task-spousal transfer and spousal refusal mentioned in the article below. Bob also let us know that the 5 year look-back at finances still applies.

An article about this topic can be found on Cona Elder Law website with the article title *"How Medicaid Affects Married Couples in New York."*

Caregiver Group meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 9:30am

All are welcome, whether you can come for a short time or for the whole meeting. We are here for each other to support each other, listen, vent, and share resources. Please join us if you can and if you know someone else who could use the support invite them to come along and join us.

We understand that being a caregiver is a full-time job so know that we can prioritize the conversation if you have a limited time to attend and we don't expect regular attendance. Everyone's experiences are valued by our group.

If you are on the list and your situation has changed, please know that you are welcome to attend the meetings but there is no pressure to continue to attend if you don't need the support at this time.





It has been one year since the Congregation voted to become an RIC (Reconciling In Christ) congregation. At its May meeting, Council voted to have King of Kings become a sponsor of the CNY Pride Festival and Parade on June 21, 2025 (The Festival is at the Inner Harbor)

Council is asking members to contribute. No, not money but, rather, time.

You may volunteer your time in a number of activities

- attend worship service
- walk in the parade
- hand out King of Kings information, stickers, water, snacks
- talk and LISTEN to people
- Decorate a car to have in the parade
- enjoy the Festival—there will be vendors, food trucks and MUSIC too
- you can volunteer for an hour, a couple of hours or the whole event

As of this writing we do not have the exact schedule, but by the time you read this it should be available and will be announced.

Please prayerfully consider how you may be able to “contribute your time”

Keep you eyes and ears open for more information in the coming weeks.

Please be part of this effort! With questions, contact the church office, Bob Lebel, or Jennifer Foor.



BUILDING BRIDGES

COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

InterFaith Works

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

2PM SYRACUSE
- 6PM INNER HARBOR

401 SOLAR STREET, SYRACUSE, 13204

PRESENTING SPONSOR



The Epistle of

James

One of the most controversial books of scripture in history.

Where will you land?

Wednesdays @ 1pm
April 23 - June 25

Schedules for June

Usher

6/1 Darren/Mary Moyer
6/8 Greg/Julie Yoder
6/15 Bob/Joanne Kolch
6/22 Carl Bastedo/Bob Hickman
6/29 Hollie Zimmerman/Karen Wild

Lector

Bob Hickman
Susie Bastedo
Lisa Sousou
Peg Gosch
Peter Pavlacka

Worship/Communion Assistant

6/1 Jeff Swanson/Greg Yoder
6/8 Bob Lebel/Michele Hayes
6/15 Barb Winke/Kyle Richardson
6/22 Bob Lebel/Julie Yoder
6/29 Lauren Seiter/Michele Hayes

Counter

Cathy Miller/Dan Weingarten
Nicole Swanson/Barb Nies
Lorraine Savidge/Barb Winkel
Kurt Richardson/Bob Kolch
Art Leitgeb/Eric Richardson

Coffee Fellowship

6/1 Michele Hayes
6/8 Shari Murray
6/15 Sarah Richardson
6/22 Cathy Miller
6/29 Susie Bastedo

Tech Stream Team

Dave Krause/Don Spoerke
Bob Hickman/Francis Ngumbi
Howie Mansfield/Michele Hayes
n/a due to outdoor service
Dave Krause/Don Spoerke

Altar Guild for June

Julie Yoder/Cindy Johnson

****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

Steve Miller, Chair
Jennifer Foor, Vice Chair
Barb Winkel, Financial Secretary
Cindy Johnson, Recording Secretary
Carl Bastedo, Treasurer
Barb Nies, Council Member
Lynn Myers, Council Member
Kurt Richardson, Council Member
Lisa Clark, Council Member
Pastor Rebecca Truland



Ministry Teams

Finance—Doug Keim
Property—Art Leitgeb
Worship & Music—Beth Colbert
Children's Ministry—Sue Evans
Mutual Ministry Committee—Anita Leitgeb
Fellowship—Shari Murray
PALMS—Weta Hayden
Stephen Leader—Marcy Grundner
Quilters—Donna Huberty

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

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