

# THE KING'S CROWN



July 2025



**King of Kings Lutheran Church**

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Facebook: King of Kings Lutheran Church - Liverpool, NY

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## Upcoming Events

*July 8th—Quilt Group*

**Caregiver Group**

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

**Sonrise Guys**

*Biweekly on Fridays 6:00am*



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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 Desk of Pastor Rebecca**

### Creation Care and Generosity

*Ever since the creation of the world God's eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been seen and understood through the things God has made. (Romans 1:20)*

After a chilly and wet spring, hopefully this summer will allow for more enjoyment of the outdoors. As we picnic, mow lawns, swim in lakes, and cook over campfires, we are invited to reflect on the wonder and generosity embedded in the natural world around us. From the soil beneath our feet to the stars in the sky, creation constantly offers us gifts: resources, beauty, and life itself. Beyond being a reflection of God's greatness, creation itself is a profound example of God's boundless generosity.

We see this in the abundance of the earth and its capacity to provide sustenance, shelter, and pleasure. The soil, the rain, the air, and the sun all share their gifts with us freely. Our sacraments depend on water, grape, and grain—we experience salvation through the natural world shared with us, and then shared among each other.

When we pause to learn from the generosity of creation, we are reminded that nothing we receive is ever truly ours alone. The earth's resources are not only gifts to us but gifts shared with all of creation. In nature, we see a living example of selfless giving where each element contributes to the whole. Trees give oxygen, bees pollinate flowers, rain nourishes soil, and the sun makes everything grow. This interconnectedness reminds us that like the earth, we are called to share generously with others from our time, our resources, and our love.

Just as creation teaches us generosity, our care for the earth is a way of showing generosity in return. The earth has provided abundantly for us, and as stewards of God's creation, it is our responsibility to tend to it with care and gratitude. This is a form of generosity in itself: offering our time, energy, and actions to preserve the planet for future generations. By practicing faithful stewardship, we are making a commitment to the wellbeing of the world. Reducing consumption, avoiding waste, supporting sustainable practices, and advocating for policies that protect the environment are ways we live out this calling.

Creation, in all its beauty and abundance, offers us a model of generosity. As stewards of this sacred gift, we can respond with our own acts of generosity, caring for the world we share and all who dwell upon it. In doing so, we honor our God the Creator.

Reflection Questions for the Month:

How does creation help you know God better? How can you show gratitude to God for the gifts of creation?

What is a change you could make to live more sustainably, in more harmony with the Earth?

In Christ's abundant grace,

Pastor Rebecca



Hello July! Celebrations abound! Our country's 4th of July - Independence Day celebration, graduation parties, family reunions, company picnics - and lots of other fun get-togethers will be going on this month.

We will be having a "Celebration of Life" for our dear friend Weta Hayden in mid-July. I know that music was always a big part of Weta's life- from her early love of The Beatles, to her being part of the "Sweet Adelines" choral group for many years; here at King of Kings, she was a member of the Hand Bell Choir , and then the Son-Light Band for several years. Even when she felt like she couldn't sing with the group anymore , her appreciation and love of joyful and upbeat music will always be a fond memory of mine. She was always glad to play a tambourine, or to start clapping along with a song while practically dancing to the music.

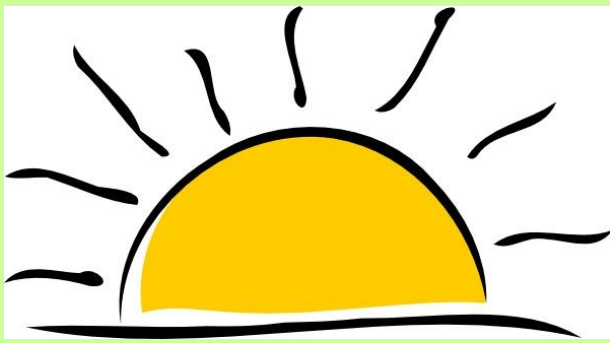
Her service , per her wishes, will be filled with joyful music of praise so that others will experience the joy of the Lord and be lifted up by music that she loved.

May we remember Weta through joyful music; may we give thanks to God for the gift of the friendship and love of this church family. May we continue to spread the Good News through our worship, through our deeds, and through making "joyful noise" to God.

To close , here are words to one of Weta's favorite hymns "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" - (of course sung in an upbeat and jazzy way ) ~

Just a closer walk with Thee , grant it Jesus is my plea.  
Daily walking close to Thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be!

See you at church ~  
Beth Colbert



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

7/4, 7/18, 8/1

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

Will not meet in July nor August.

Back to normal schedule on September 6th.

Our Friends at the pantry (at Brown Memorial Church) request lunch items for kids. They also are in need of canned vegetables. Please keep those things in mind as you do your shopping. The staff at the pantry is truly grateful for our continued support especially for the "hard to get" cereal, juice and baby wipes that KoK members continually donate.





*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](mailto:kokchurchsecretary@gmail.com)



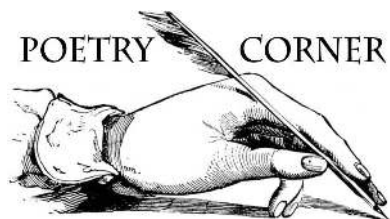
### *You are Not Alone!*

*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.*

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 Roger Lebel (b. 1945), American geneticist, ethicist and amateur poet. Experimenting with Haiku brings discipline and joy. The Haiku rule is that the first line has 5 syllables, the second line has 7, and the third line has 5. Adding other demands can make it even more fun (rhyme, or constructing entirely out of four letter words). Sometimes inspiration comes from reading scripture, sometimes just from living life in search of gospel fidelity.

Magdalene (Jn 20:18)

Hear, most sure, this word:  
Drop your fear, hold firm with hope!  
Life must flow from love.

.....  
"Solo"

Most folk seek true love.  
Many find this only once.  
They must flee from fear.

.....  
Exodus 3:11

When God sends you out –  
"Who am I that I should go?"  
Do not ask. Just go.

Exodus 3:13

I will be with you,  
Guiding and empowering.  
Go now anywhere.



## *King of Kings Quilt Group*

Why do we use banners in a church? It is an interesting question and there are many theories and answers. One thought is, that with the use of color and content a banner diverts from distractions and focuses our eyes forward. Another answer is with the use of creativity we give thanks to the glory of God. A banner also can focus on the theme of the text or church season. And with the changing of the banner(s) there is excitement and not the feeling of "same old. same old". (And we certainly do not want that, do we?).

There are few patterns available to make a church banner. Therefore a pattern needs to be created. There are books with suggestions but each church may have a different size need, so exact patterns are not printed. And the banner suggestion can be altered to fit a particular church by color, words, fonts, additions or deletions, etc. And of course, a completely new and unique banner can be made from one's creativity and imagination.

We will start by making our own patterns for the banner(s) that are needed for King of Kings. Freehand on large sheets of paper can create a pattern. But for those who are not as skilled in that artistic endeavor, enlarging a symbol or sketch will do the trick.

The quilt group meets the second Tuesday of the month. Please join us on Tuesday July 8th at 1 p.m. in the Sunday School Wing to learn the enlarging process and to start making patterns for new banners.

Any questions may be directed to Donna Huberty, [donnahuberty@outlook.com](mailto:donnahuberty@outlook.com) or 315-935-5422

Please help beautify our Sanctuary with new banners. No sewing skills are necessary to help enlarge and create patterns.



Council approved \$2000 toward the purchase of new dual microphones to facilitate sound booth operations during service.

Council approved \$24,000 for the upgrade to the two HVAC furnaces which service the sanctuary.

Replacement of these units (and associated cooling condensers) are the last of the planned upgrades to the HVAC equipment that has been in service since 1991.

Council approved \$6,500 toward the building upgrades recommended by the Safety Team, including cameras and electronic door entry. These upgrades will improve the safety and security of our staff and worshipers.

King of Kings will once again sponsor the Mathew 25 Farms golf tournament fundraiser on July 26. If you're interested in participating on the KOK golf team contact Steve Miller.

Look for new Fatih Formation initiatives for youth starting September 2025. Details to follow.

*Church members are welcome to review the monthly meeting minutes.*

*They are kept in a binder in the church office.*



**BUILDING BRIDGES**  
COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 3**  
**2PM SYRACUSE**  
**- 6PM INNER HARBOR**  
401 SOLAR STREET, SYRACUSE, 13204

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## People's News



Her many friends at King of Kings mourn the passing of Weta Hayden. Our thoughts and prayers are with Barb Winkel and all of Weta's loved ones. May God's strength and peace bring comfort to all at this time.

Thank you to Greg and Julie Yoder and their cooking crew for preparing delicious Yoder chicken enjoyed by so many at our recent Church picnic!

We are grateful for everyone who participated at the CNY Pride event. Thanks to Bob Lebel and Jennifer Foor who coordinated King of Kings' volunteer efforts.

### **Sunday School Happenings June 2025**

Last September, I wrote that I was looking forward to the reinvented Children's Time during the church service. I am happy to report that we accomplished our goal to share God's word with our youth. Each week, we had an average of 3 children. Even though our children's attendance was not high, I feel that we helped teach these children many stories about the Bible (and some new ways to think about the lesson for our other attendees). I appreciate the audience participation in my humor each week.

I would like to thank the puppeteers who helped me present each week. I want to thank Beth for her music as we had the children come forward. I want to thank the tech booth for working with extra microphones. I want to thank Pastor for helping the kids participate. I want to thank the audience for their participation and the positive words after a lesson. I especially want to thank the parents for sharing their children with me each week.

While I am stepping away from being the Sunday School Director, I understand that Pastor and Vicar are going to continue this Children's time. There will be other volunteers that will be needed for other children's activities. Please reach out to Pastor or Rachel in the office to express your interest.

Susan Evans

Sunday School Director





The KOK Caregivers with the generous donation from Bob DuMond has created a Caregivers Corner of resources in memory of Diane DuMond. There is a small bookcase to the left of the front doors as you are leaving the church with books, booklets and DVDs that members of the group have used on their journey through caring for their loved ones. All of the materials have the King of Kings address label in them so that you can borrow them and then return the resources to the bookcase when you are done with them. Feel free to look through the resources and take pictures of any you would like to purchase for yourself. If you have any resources that you feel would be a good addition to our collection, please share the resource information with Pat Lebel or Joanne Keim so that we can purchase it with the donation funds. If you would like a resource but need some assistance with purchasing it, please let Pat or Joanne know so they can assist you with the purchase. As always, all are welcome to our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 9:30 am at KOK.



*With so much chaos going on in the world around us, I wanted to send a reminder to be kind to ourselves and to one another. Find time each day to do something that fills your soul. Whether that*

*means a walk, a swim, a good book, whatever fills you with joy for the journey. Make time to smile at another person, say hello. The little things can change someone's whole mindset for the day. God wants us to have peace in our souls, minds, and hearts. Take time to pause and pray or meditate. Take time to notice all the beauty and diversity around you. Inhale the good and exhale the bad. This journey, while beautiful, is oftentimes long and overwhelming, so just be good to yourselves. God loves you; I love you. You are prayed for and appreciated. Always.*

*In Christ's love and service, Vicar Melissa Bedell*

## Schedules for July

### **Usher**

7/6 Bob/Joanne Kolch  
7/13 Hollie Zimmerman/Karen Wild  
7/20 Dan/Patti Weingarten  
7/27 Bob/Joanne Kolch

### **Lector**

Susie Bastedo  
Peg Gosch  
Beth Head  
Stephany Richardson

### **Worship/Communion Assistant**

7/6 Bob Lebel/Greg Yoder  
7/13 Jeff Swanson/Jennifer Foor  
7/20 Keith Gatling/Michele Hayes  
7/27 Dennis Frado/Kyle Richardson

### **Counter**

Lorraine Savidge/Volunteer  
Jennifer Foor/Bob Kolch  
Bob Kolch/Peter Pavlacka  
Kurt Richardson/Jeremy Clark

### **Coffee Fellowship**

7/6 Michele Hayes  
7/13 Shari Murray  
7/20 Pat Lebel  
7/27 Lisa Clark

### **Altar Guild for July**

Lorraine Savidge

*\*\*\*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

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

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