

THE CONNECTION

KINGSTON *wesleyan* CHURCH

EASTER 2025

by Pastor Len

EASTER 2025 is just around the corner! On Good Friday, we'll join our friends at the Kingston Community Church for the annual Cross Walk. This is a somber reminder of the road that Christ walked that horrible Friday. Please be at KCC by 5:45. At 7pm, there will be a special service at KWC where we'll continue to reflect on the events of that Friday through song, communion, and a special message.

On Easter Sunday, we'll celebrate the risen Savior and see how the narrow road is the only road that leads to life. I hope you'll plan to be there and this would be a great Sunday to invite someone that you've been praying would come to know Jesus.



A few months ago, I provided an update on the Facility Stewardship Fund and the work of the Building and Grounds Team. Since then, a LOT has happened! In addition to the work in the attic of the church (primarily reinforcing rafters) that many of you knew had taken place, the new windows and exterior door along with some miscellaneous projects have been completed at the Parsonage. As I shared before, these projects will essentially wipe out the current FSF balance.

As I also shared before, the Buildings and Grounds Team is continuing to gather information on the parking lot and projects like the north entrance that will need to be addressed before we begin work on the actual parking lot.

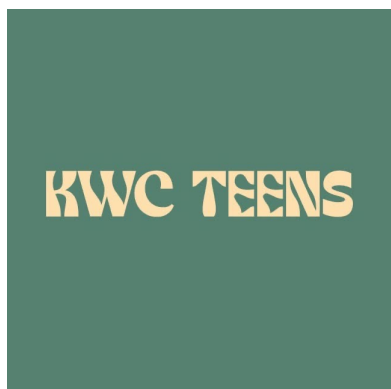
In case you read the title and thought I was guilty of click bait, here's the BIG NEWS...after much prayer, deliberation, and consulting with the Buildings and Grounds Team — the Local Board of Administration voted to recommend to the Local Church Conference that KWC sell the River House (formerly known as the Youth Parsonage). I'll share some of the reasoning behind this decision in a moment. Because the house/property technically belongs to the denomination, our district board also has to approve the sale. After I shared what led the church board to this decision with district leadership and answered their questions, they presented it to the district board. The district board voted unanimously to grant permission to KWC to move forward with the sale pending approval of the Local Church Conference.

So, what factored into this decision? As many of you know, the house has not been occupied for over four years and has only been used sparingly in those four years (despite efforts to make it available for missionaries and Wesleyan pastors) and we don't foresee hiring pastoral staff in the near future. Having a house continue to set empty while we continue to pay for utilities doesn't seem to be the best stewardship. We've also learned that most pastors prefer to be able to purchase or rent their own home instead of living in a parsonage. Another significant factor is that the Buildings and Grounds Team compiled a list of things that will need to be addressed at some point. While many of these items are not too costly, they estimate that the roof will need replaced in five years or so. The LBA and B&G team don't believe that it would be the best stewardship to invest the money needed to maintain this house moving forward. The final major factor that led the board to this decision is that selling the house (at a time when the market is high) would provide some much needed funding for buildings and property that are being used for ministry regularly — like the parking lot project. *Continued on other side*

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In case you're wondering, per denominational guidelines — funds from the sale of the house can only be used to purchase new property or to maintain/improve current facilities. The funds from the sale would also not be factored into USF (our denomination assessment).

Being someone who lived in the River House for eleven years, I know first hand how much of a blessing it has been and I'm extremely grateful for all who gave towards it's purchase and/or have given towards repairs and updates along with those who invested countless hours working on different projects at the house. As weird as it is to think of the church not owning it anymore, I do believe that God has brought KWC into a season where the best way to steward what God has given us and step into where's He's calling us is to sell it.



KWC TEENS

by Selah Wyatt

If you haven't heard already, the KWC Teens are hitting the road for the first time in almost five years! We are traveling to Grand Rapids to see Forrest Frank and Elevation Rhythm live in concert (if those names are unfamiliar to you, I highly suggest that you look up their songs on your favorite music platform).

I want to give a huge THANK YOU to everyone who has donated towards this trip. It's so awesome to see how much our church cares about our youth and how much support has been shown for this upcoming event. I trust that God will use this concert for his glory, and that all concert attendees will be encouraged in their faith as Forrest Frank constantly reminds his fans that all glory and praise belongs to the Father, and

our identity does not come from our wealth or success, rather our greatest identity is a child of God.

Also, I have created new social media accounts for KWC Teens. If you would like to see updates on what we are studying in Sunday school, or info on future events, please follow us on Facebook or Instagram!

Mobile Pantry

by Pastor Len

We had a great group of volunteers who once again braved the cold temps and brisk wind to get the job done and had several new crew members for the March mobile pantry. Again, many thanks to Kingston Community Church's adult Sunday School class for providing the funding! We were also blessed to have a gentleman buy lunch!

The Food Bank is busier during the nicer months, so our next 2 mobile pantries are scheduled for Fridays (May 16 and July 11). Lunch will be provided! Please sign up to serve at the Connection Center.



GET READY FOR AN EPIC ADVENTURE!
VBS 2025 is July 27 - July 31 (6:30-8:00pm)
 ~ Ages 4yr - rising 7th graders
 ~ 5 incredible nights of music, games, snacks, Bible lessons, & more!
 ~ "Fish toss" and crafts while we wait to get started each night!
 ~ Earn VBS Bucks to purchase items like toys, candy, sports balls, Bibles & more!
 ~ *FREE T-Shirt! Guaranteed for those who pre-register!

Learn more and register @ kingstonwesleyan.com or call 989.683.2417