

## The Starlett Weekly Newsletter | February 15, 2026

**Congratulations** to the following LERT (Lutheran Emergency Response Team) Basic Training graduates: Greg Stokes, Connie Schade, Michael Gray, Julie Humphrey, Carl Sellmeyer. We thank you for your willingness to respond to God's calling when disaster strikes, near or far!

**We welcome Aaron Steinke** who has joined our Live Stream Team! Together with Kay Freeman, Jimbo Diley, Gretchen Krull, and Carl Reque, they bring live streamed services to our homebound, those out of the area, or are otherwise unable to join us in person. Thank you all for stepping forward to assist with the work set before us! For more information on becoming part of the Stream Team, contact any member of the Team or Teresa in the Church Office.



Souper Bowl results are in! Bethlehem collected a total of 562 cans of soup for Bridge Over Troubled Waters Food Pantry, serving Cass County residents: 299 cans for NFC and 263 for AFC. Thanks to everyone who helped make this Souper Bowl drive a success. To God be the Glory! — Bethlehem's Seasoned Saints



Altar flowers *last Sunday* were provided by Lee & Judy Kastman in loving memory of their daughter and Scott's sister, Laura.

### *Today's Sunday in the Church Year: Quinquagesima*

**The Sundays of Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima** follow Transfiguration Sunday in the historic church calendar and precede the season of Lent. Their names are Latin for 70, 60, and 50, rough figures for the number of days until Easter. This time is intended to be a kind of pre-Lent, a time to transition from the joy of Christmas and Epiphany to the focus on examination and repentance in Lent.

### *Lent at Bethlehem*



**The Season of Lent** begins with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Worship services will be held each Wednesday through March 25 at 4:00 and 7:00 pm.

**A meal** will be served by volunteer groups each Wednesday during Lent from 5-6:30pm. A *potluck* dinner is scheduled for March 25.

**Regular and large print Lenten devotional booklets** are available on the information wall by the mailboxes for your personal or family devotions. You may also read online, listen as a podcast, or receive by email, all through [lhm.org/lent](http://lhm.org/lent).

## Fellowship Opportunities



Our annual **Pie Auction and Soup Chili** is **TODAY, February 15** after the 10:45 service. Bring a pot of your prized soup or chili or your favorite pie for the Auction (or both!) – and your recipes to share if you'd like! Please be sure to *label* your soup/chili with your name and what you brought.



Come play some **Bunco** — open to **ALL!** Join the laughs and chatting from 1-3pm each 1st and 3rd Tuesday. Absolutely **NO** experience necessary!! Easy to learn and play! *Point of contact: Sharon Diley, 918-605-5754*

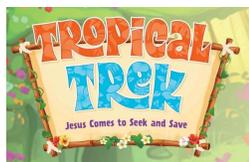
## Call Committee Update



Congregational members may again nominate pastors to be included in our next call list. This time we are seeking nominations for candidates with less than 8 years of experience. *The last day for nominations is TODAY, February 15.*

**Pastoral Nomination Forms and Job Descriptions** are available in the **Document Library of our website**, on the table at the back of the Sanctuary, or by contacting any Elder at Bethlehem.

## VBS 2026: Tropical Trek



VBS is scheduled for **July 20-23, 2026, from 9-11:30 am.**

Online registration is **OPEN!** Visit [bit.ly/blc-vbs](https://bit.ly/blc-vbs) to register your students and volunteers! **The next planning meeting** is 9:00 on Saturday, February 21. All are welcome! **Needed:** individuals interested in serving on a VBS advertising committee. *Point of contact: Julie Hall, [blessings98@juno.com](mailto: blessings98@juno.com).*



## Sunday School, Midweek, and Small Group Studies

**Youth Catechism Club:** Led by Pastor Priem and open to all youth, this group meets each Wednesday evening at 7:00 for study and conversation on Luther's Small Catechism—and whatever else comes up! (*No meeting during Lent.*)

**Sunday School** 9:30-10:30 am for ages 2 and up.

- Downstairs: Parents & 2s, Preschool/Kind, 1st/2nd Grade, 3rd/4th Grade, 7th Grade, 8th Grade
- Upstairs: 5th/6th Grade, 9th Grade/High School; Adult Bible Class (and Zoom) led by **Pastor Priem**.

**Men's Bible Study** meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 6:30 pm, led by Pastor Priem, hosted by Tabb Renzelman at Serendipity Farms, 4674 W 183rd St, Stilwell, KS. *Point of contact: Tabb, 816-716-5845*

## Serving Opportunities

**Immanuel Lutheran Church Food Pantry:** Check out the bulletin board for ways to support the Food Pantry. Among their needs: food, baking staples, warm clothing, blankets, and quilts. *Point of Contact: Sharon Reque, 816-322-1603*

- **In short supply each week:** Pasta, Spaghetti sauce, Canned fruit, Pork and beans, Canned soup, Tomato products (paste, sauce, & diced), Canned Meat (chicken, beef, Vienna sausage, Sardines), Instant dry milk, laundry detergent, Hand soap, Dish soap, Shampoo, and Clorox wipes. *Please continue to check expiration dates as they are not allowed to give food that's expired.*
- **Monetary donations** may be sent to Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4205 Tracy Ave, KC, MO 64110 (note "Food Pantry") which can be used to purchase food from Harvester's at a reduced rate.

## Serving This Morning

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Matthew D. Priem | **Musician:** Julie Hall  
**Elders:** (Readers) Doug Bolton/Scott Kastman (Communion) Roger Fox  
**Acolytes:** (8:00) Isaiah Hoemann (10:45) Moses Priem  
**Greeters:** (8:00) Paul & Stacy Matney (10:45) Stan & Jill Harms  
**Altar Guild:** Karen Taylor | **Children's Message** (10:45) Kelly Dhyne  
**Stream:** (8:00) Jimbo Diley | **Video:** (8:00) Michelle Hill (10:45) Megan Kuhns  
**Ushers:** (8:00) Randy Monnig/Gerry Moennig (10:45) James Neugebauer/Ben Russell

## This Week at Bethlehem

February 15—22, 2026

### Sunday, February 15

8:00 am           Worship/Holy Communion (and Live Stream to [Facebook](#))  
 9:30 am           Adult Bible Class (Fellowship Hall and Zoom) and Children's Sunday School  
 10:45 am          Worship  
 12:00 pm          Soupili/Pie Auction (Fellowship Hall)

### Monday, February 16

9:15 am           Staff Meeting (Conf Rm)  
 7:00 pm           Scout Troops 1032/7032 (Conf Rms, Library, Narthex, FH)

### Tuesday, February 17

8:30 am           Finance Committee (Conf Rm)  
 1:00 pm           Bunco (Fellowship Hall)

### Wednesday, February 18: Ash Wednesday

4:00 pm           Worship/Holy Communion (and Live Stream to [Facebook](#))  
 5:00 pm           Lenten Meal to 6:30: Chicken Pot Pie/Cobbler (prepared/served by LWML)  
 6:00 pm           Midweek Adult Bible Class (Sanctuary and Zoom)  
 7:00 pm           Worship/Holy Communion

### Thursday, February 19

1:00 pm           Quilting Small Group (Fellowship Hall)  
 6:30 pm           Girl Scout Troop 2256 (Fellowship Hall)

### Friday, February 20 (Pastor Priem: Day Off)

### Saturday, February 21

9:00 am           VBS Planning Meeting (Library)

### Sunday, February 22

8:00 am           Worship (and Live Stream to [Facebook](#))  
 9:30 am           Adult Bible Class (Fellowship Hall and Zoom) and Children's Sunday School  
 10:45 am          Worship/Holy Communion

## Our Response: February 2—8

Worship, 2/8: In-person: <b>102/104</b>   Guests: <b>18</b>   Virtual: <b>30</b>	Sunday School, 2/8: Students/Teachers: <b>12/6</b>   Adult: <b>51</b> (2-Zoom)
Adult Midweek, 2/4: <b>16</b> (1-Zoom) Youth Catechism Club, 1/28: <b>9</b>	2/2—2/8 Regular Offering: <b>\$9,524.61</b> Capital Fund: <b>\$130.00</b>   Renovate Our House: <b>\$1,055.00</b>

## Ongoing and Upcoming



We will celebrate Fellowship Sunday on March 8, Time Change Sunday, with a **combined, all-church service at 9:30 am**. This service will also be live streamed to our Facebook page. A potluck brunch will be held following the service. Sunday School classes will not be held; our regular schedule of Sunday School and Adult Bible Class will resume March 15.



**Kitchen Lost & Found:** Are you missing your lovely quilted apron? A crock pot? That special cake pan?

An area at the hallway kitchen entrance has been designated for dropping off food in preparation for meals *and* for picking up dishes after an event. Please check this area regularly for items that may belong to you. It's also very helpful to label your containers with your name so we know who to contact. *Thank you!*

**In-person Attendance:** Let us know you are with us by completing the Fellowship Registration. Please be sure to note if you commune.

**Virtual Attendance:** Leave a Facebook comment, sharing names of all from your location who join with you in worship. NOTE: If you "attend" after the live stream or don't have a Facebook account, let us know of your presence using the **Online Attendance form: [bit.ly/blc-attend](https://bit.ly/blc-attend)**.

**Would you like to provide altar flowers** to adorn the altar on a Sunday morning? Order envelopes are available on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary. Arrangements are \$25 each; payment is requested at the time of your order. Make checks payable to Bethlehem and indicate "altar flowers" in the memo; order/pay online at **[bethlehem-raymore.org/give-form](https://bethlehem-raymore.org/give-form)**.

## Lutheran Community



### Women's Retreat: February 27—March 1 at Heit's Point

Join Lutheran ladies from Missouri and Kansas to study the Fruit of the Spirit in a retreat setting. We'll encourage each other in Christ, pray together, make friends, and have FUN! To register, email **[info@heitspointlutheran.org](mailto:info@heitspointlutheran.org)** or call 660-668-2363 by *TODAY, February 15*.

- All-inclusive 2-night stay in Bunk House (with retreat group) \$100 per person
- All-inclusive 2-night stay in Spitz Center (motel-style rooms) \$120 per person

Heit's Point Lutheran Ministries | 28345 Heit's Point Ave, Lincoln, MO | **[heitspointlutheran.org](https://heitspointlutheran.org)**



**Lutheran High School of Kansas City** is looking for candidates interested in serving as assistant boys golf coach. The season runs from the beginning of March to the middle of May. Please reach out to **[athletics@lhskc.com](mailto:athletics@lhskc.com)** or 816-241-5478 if interested or for more information.

**High School Seniors and College Students planning a career in Church work:** The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, MO District, has study grants available for the 2026-27 school year. Those enrolled in an LCMS University or Seminary preparing for full-time professional church work or as a colloquy student may apply. Applications and instructions are available from Bethlehem's LWML society president, Sharon Diley, the financial aid office of your university or seminary, or may be downloaded from the MO District website at **[missourilwml.org](https://missourilwml.org)** (under forms) or from Dawn Neil, the CWSG Chairman at **[lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com](mailto:lwmlmostudygrant@yahoo.com)**. Completed applications must be received either by mail or electronically by APRIL 15, 2026.