



The Starlett Weekly Newsletter | April 19, 2026

This morning we welcome guest preacher, Rev. David Gunderson, who brings God's word to us this morning in Pastor Priem's absence. Rev. Gunderson, now retired, previously served as a military chaplain and also as Pastor Priem's vicarage supervisor in South Dakota.

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God this morning in celebration and thanksgiving for Kevin & Karla Heinrich's 34th wedding anniversary today.

VBS 2026: July 20-23



Tropical Trek VBS is scheduled for July 20-23, 2026, from 9-11:30 am. Online registration is OPEN! Visit bit.ly/blc-vbs to register your students and volunteers. Watch the bulletin board in the hallway for VBS updates. The next Planning Meeting is Saturday, April 25 at 1:00 pm. All are welcome! Point of contact: Julie Hall, blessings98@juno.com



Sunday School, Midweek, and Small Group Studies



A new Adult Instruction Class will begin the first week of May. Details will be determined based on participants' schedules. If you are interested in learning more about the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and membership at Bethlehem, OR would like a refresher, please contact Pastor Priem.

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 led this morning by Rev. David Gunderson. *Note: there will be no remote Adult Bible Class today in Pastor Priem's absence.*

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!

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*

Outdoor Ascension Service: Thursday, May 14 at 7:00 pm



Plan to join us in the parking lot! A potluck picnic, beginning at 6:00, will be held prior to the service and is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship. Hot dogs, buns, and condiments will be provided; consider bringing a dish or two to share!

Next Congregational Meeting



A **Special Congregational meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, May 17 between worship services, from 9:30-10:30. This informational meeting will communicate updates on a variety of topics.

Serving Opportunities



The next blood drive at Bethlehem is **Tuesday, May 19**, from 12:00-6 pm. Use sponsor code 9H for Bethlehem and schedule using the QR code (point your device's camera to the QR code and select the link) or navigate to donate.savealifenow.org/donor/schedules/sponsor_code. Walk-ins are welcome!



Immanuel Lutheran Church Food Pantry: Check out the hallway bulletin board to meet two of our clients. One set of pictures shows a client who travels to the pantry by bike. He's very creative in packing and transporting his food. Another set of pictures shows the story of how LUMA works with many agencies to support our clients in need.

There continue to be new clients coming to the Food Pantry. Currently 30-50 families are served each week, up from 20-30 families just a year ago. Now more than ever your donations are needed and very much appreciated! Monetary donations for the Food Pantry may be sent directly to Immanuel Lutheran Church, 4205 Tracy Ave, KC, MO 64110 (note your gift "Food Pantry"). Bethlehem members are very generous in applying for and using Thrivent Action cards to purchase supplies. *Point of Contact: Sharon Reque, 816-322-1603*

Help Wanted



Guiding Star Christian Preschool is accepting applications for an enthusiastic, nurturing educator to join our team for the 2026-2027 school year. Part-time Preschool Teacher (3 year olds); schedule is Tues & Thurs, 8:30 am to 2:30 pm from late Aug-mid May (follows school year calendar). To be considered for this position the individual must be nurturing & patient; creative & proactive; a strong communicator; and dependable.

Guiding Star Preschool specializes in providing a warm, Christian environment where children ages 3-5 can grow through play and discovery. If you have a heart for early childhood education and love working in a collaborative team, we'd love to meet you! Submit a resume to preschool@bethlehem-raymore.org or call the Preschool Office at 816-322-3444.

Ongoing



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**.

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The **weekly prayer list** is emailed at the end of each week in preparation for Sunday's corporate worship. If you wish to be added to this group, please let us know! A limited number of printed Prayer Requests are available from the Ushers on Sunday mornings and by the mailboxes during the week.

To be part of the **email Prayer Chain** and pray for requests as they are shared, contact Teresa in the Church Office. To **submit** a prayer request, contact **Teresa Blackley** in the Church Office, **Sandy Bearden**, or submit through our website at bethlehem-raymore.org/prayer-request.

Serving This Morning

Guest Pastor: Rev. David Gunderson | **Musician:** Julie Hall
Elders: (Readers) Doug Bolton/Darren Hall (Communion) Roger Fox
Acolytes: (8:00) Maci Heinzelman (10:45) Courtney Dhyne
Greeters: (8:00) Debbie Green (10:45) James & Michelle Neugebauer
Altar Guild: Karen Taylor | **Children's Message** (10:45) Kelly Dhyne
Stream: (8:00) Kay Freeman | **Video:** (8:00) Michelle Hill (10:45) Rick & Jennifer DeLuca
Ushers: (8:00) Gerry Moennig/Randy Monnig (10:45) James Neugebauer/Ben Russell

This Week at Bethlehem

April 19—26, 2026

Sunday, April 19: District Youth Gathering; Guest Pastor-Rev. David Gunderson

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

Monday, April 20

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

Tuesday, April 21

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

Wednesday, April 22

6:00 pm Midweek Adult Bible Class (Fellowship Hall and Zoom)
 7:00 pm Youth Catechism Club (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, April 23

1:00 am Quilting (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, April 24 (Pastor Priem Day off)

Saturday, April 25

10:00 am Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) (Conf Rm)
 1:00 pm VBS Planning Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, April 26: Mite Sunday

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: April 6—12

Sunday, 4/12: In-person: 102/77 Guests: 11 Virtual: 33	Sunday School, 4/12: Students/Teachers: 16/7 Adult: 42 (6-Zoom)
Adult Midweek, 4/8: 9 (0-Zoom) Catechism Club, 4/8: 3	4/6—4/12 Regular Offering: \$11,232.50 Capital Fund: \$215.00 Renovate Our House: \$10.00