



The Starlett Weekly Newsletter | July 5, 2026

**Thank you** to all who came to work the dine-out at Culver's on Tuesday night and to everyone who came to dine and support us. VBS received \$923.99! We appreciate all of your support!

**Christian sympathy** is extended to the Dalton and Russell families as they mourn the passing of Leigh Dalton's father, Stan Steffens, who was carried Home to be with Jesus on Wednesday, July 1.

---

◆ *Combined Services & Special Voter's Meeting: July 12* ◆

The Special Congregational Meeting on June 22 narrowly missed a quorum of eligible voters. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 12.



**A combined worship service with holy communion will be held at 9:30 am on Sunday, July 12 in place of the 8:00 and 10:45 services. Sunday School will not be held.**

**A Special Voter's Meeting will take place immediately following the worship service. Childcare will be available for parents of young children.**

The Call Committee will present two candidates for consideration as Associate Pastor. This meeting will be to vote on calling a pastor to work with Pastor Priem and expand the ministry at Bethlehem or vote to refrain from calling a pastor at this time.

The candidates put forward by the Call Committee are Rev. Philip Bartelt from Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in New Fairfield, CT and Rev. Erik Sorenson from St. Peter Lutheran Church in Columbus, IN.

Members are encouraged to do their own research on the candidates; however, Kyle Krull has made his results (using ChatGPT) available to anyone interested. If you would like an emailed PDF of his results, please contact **Teresa in the Church Office**. *The congregation is strongly counseled not to contact either candidate or anyone in their circle.* May the Lord bless and direct His church throughout this process!

---

*In-Person Worship Service Attendance*



**Worship service and communion participation are self-reported.**

Let us know you are with us by completing the Fellowship Registration.

*Please note ✓ if you commune as we will never assume that you do. Voter*

*eligibility is based on active participation (commune at least twice with the congregation in the 365 days preceding a Regular or Special Voter's Meeting).*

## 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](https://bit.ly/blc-vbs) for student and volunteer registration. *Point of contact: Julie, [blssing98@juno.com](mailto:blssing98@juno.com)*

- The next Planning Meeting will be Sunday, July 12 at 4pm. All are welcome!
- The last training opportunity for VBS volunteers is scheduled for Sunday, June 28 after the 10:45 worship service. Each volunteer needs to attend one of the sessions.

## Sunday School, Midweek, and Small Group Studies



If you are interested in learning more about the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and membership at Bethlehem, 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 by **Pastor Priem**

**FAITH (Friends All In Together for Him) Youth Group** for students 4th grade and up. *Point of contact: Alicia Russell, 660-890-4772 or [aruss.rd22@yahoo.com](mailto:aruss.rd22@yahoo.com)*

**Midweek Adult Bible Study (MABS):** Led by Pastor Priem and open to all, this group meets Wednesday evenings at 6:00 for topical study.

**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*

## Serving Opportunities



***We have added a second date to our July drive at Bethlehem in response to the need facing our community: Tuesday, July 14 AND Thursday, July 16, from 12-6:00 pm.***

Community Blood Center is already facing a significant summer shortage with collections down 30% due to seasonal declines, donor no-shows, and World Cup-related impacts across the metro. Their blood supply, relied on by every local hospital, is at risk.

Each presenting donor at one of our July dates will receive an exclusive co-branded Royals T-shirt! Schedule at [donate.savealifenow.org/donor/schedules/sponsor\\_code](https://donate.savealifenow.org/donor/schedules/sponsor_code) with sponsor code 9H for Bethlehem. Walk-ins are welcome! *If neither date works for you, please find a drive that's best for your schedule, and use Bethlehem's sponsor code 9H.*



**Immanuel Lutheran Church 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"). Thrivent members may apply for and use Thrivent Action cards to purchase food and supplies! *Point of Contact: Sharon Reque, 816-322-1603*

## Serving This Morning

**Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Matthew D. Priem | **Musician:** Teresa Henny

**Elders:** (Reader) Roger Fox (Communion) Darren Hall

**Acolytes:** (8:00) Aaron Hoemann (10:45) Courtney Dhyne

**Greeters:** (8:00) Paul & Stacy Matney (10:45) Stan & Jill Harms | **Altar Guild:** Candy Schmoll

**Stream:** (8:00) Aaron Steinke | **Video:** (8:00) Tiffany Kuhns (10:45) Reese Heinrich

**Ushers:** (8:00) Paul Zainea/Paul Matney (10:45) David Frazier/Bert Raymer



**The Children's Message, offered at the 10:45 service, is on hiatus through August.**

If you are interested in serving in this area, please contact Amy Sellmeyer or Kelly Dhyne.

## Our Response: June 22—28

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Sunday, 6/28:<br>In-person: <b>95/98</b>   Guests: <b>13</b>   Virtual: <b>33</b>                          | Sunday School, 6/28:<br>Students/Teachers: <b>9/5</b>   Adult: <b>56</b> (4-Remote)  |
| Men's Bible Study: <b>4</b><br>Adult Midweek, 6/24: <b>12</b> (0-Remote)<br>Catechism Club, 6/17: <b>4</b> | Month-to-Date: 6/1—6/28<br>Regular Offering: <b>\$64,288.28</b><br>Capital Fund: <b>\$960</b>   Renovate Our House: <b>\$1,080</b> |

## This Week at Bethlehem

June 28—July 5, 2026

### Sunday, July 5

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

### Monday, July 6

9:15 am           Staff Meeting (Conf Rm)  
 6:00 pm           Scout Troops 1032/7032 (Fellowship Hall, Narthex, Conf Rms, Library)

### Tuesday, July 7

10:00 am          Seasoned Saints' Bible Study (Sanctuary)  
 1:00 pm           Bunco (Sanctuary)  
 6:30 pm           Men's Bible Study (Serendipity Farms, Stilwell, KS) (NOTE rescheduled date)

### Wednesday, July 8

6:00 pm           Midweek Adult Bible Class (Fellowship Hall & Google Meet)  
 7:00 pm           Youth Catechism Club (Fellowship Hall)

### Thursday, July 9: Youth Overnight (Peace, Watertown, MN)

5:00 pm           Adult Instruction Class (Conf Rm)

### Friday, July 10

6:00 pm           FAITH Youth Movie Night (Fellowship Hall)

### Sunday, July 12: Combined Worship Service

9:30 am           Worship/Holy Communion (and Live Stream to [Facebook](#))  
                       NO Adult Bible Class/Children's Sunday School  
 11:00 am          Special Congregational Meeting (immediately following worship service)  
 12:30 pm          Elder Meeting (Fellowship Hall)  
 4:00 pm           VBS Planning Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

## *In Our Community*

**The Lutheran High School of Kansas City is seeking a part-time Music teacher** to lead the choir and handbell programs. The teacher is a learning leader responsible for helping carry out the mission of the school by creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and to the artistic, emotional, social, and spiritual development of each individual student. The ideal candidate would demonstrate a commitment to Christian principles and be well-rounded as a musician and in teaching. Interested applicants should contact Executive Director Adam Kirsch at [akirsch@lhskc.com](mailto:akirsch@lhskc.com) for a detailed position description and more information.



**The Annual Karl Birnstein Memorial Golf Tournament** benefiting The Lutheran High School of Kansas City will be held August 31 at the Creekmoor Golf Course, Raymore.

Noon—Registration; 1:00—Shotgun Start; Dinner/prizes after Golf  
More information, a link to register for the Tournament, and sponsorship opportunities are available at [lhskc.com/support/karl\\_birnstein\\_memorial\\_golf\\_tournament](http://lhskc.com/support/karl_birnstein_memorial_golf_tournament).

**The City of Raymore** will host a "Kids and Families Emergency Preparedness Night" on Thursday, August 13 at 6 pm at Centerview (227 Municipal Circle) in Raymore. Join Raymore's Emergency Management Director Tim Baldwin and staff from the American Red Cross in Kansas City as they discuss how kids can be involved in disaster preparedness at home. Topics will include how kids can help build an emergency supply kit, what to do during severe weather, how to stay calm during a disaster, general home safety tips and more! Activity books and other fun items will be distributed and there will also be a few drawings for door prizes! Families from across the Raymore area are welcome to attend this free event and no advance registration is required!



**Sounds of South Kansas City (SSKC) Community Band:** This outstanding regional concert band will present 2 remaining summer concerts. All are free and open to the public. Bethlehem members participating this year are Jessica LeRoux, Shawn Hornbeck, David Winfrey, and Carl Reque.

- **Thursday, July 9, 7pm:** Indoors at Raymore's Centerview Community Center  
227 Community Circle, Raymore
- **Thursday, July 23, 7pm:** Indoors at the Harrisonville Community Center  
2400 S Jefferson Pkwy, Harrisonville