



The Starlett Weekly Newsletter | July 19, 2026

This morning we include the installation of all Vacation Bible School workers within the worship services. Thank you to those who have stepped forward to serve: behind the scenes with administration, planning, and decorating; and all who are participating this week through music, crafts, storytelling, snacks, and games. We pray God's love will be clearly shared with all children and adults!

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God this morning in celebration and thanksgiving for Doug & Linda Bolton's 46th wedding anniversary tomorrow, July 20.

Thank you to all who participated in this week's blood drives! A blood emergency (less than 2 days' supply available) has been declared, so if you were unable to donate during this drive, please schedule a donation as soon as possible: donate.savealifenow.org/donor/schedules/zip using Bethlehem's group code, 9H. The next blood drive at Bethlehem will be Tuesday, October 6.

VBS 2026: July 20-23



Tropical Trek VBS begins tomorrow, July 20 and is each day through Thursday, the 23rd, from 9-11:30 am. The closing program will be Thursday at 11:30 am. *Point of contact:* Julie, blessing98@juno.com

Worship Service Attendance



Worship service and communion participation are self-reported.

In-Person Attendance: 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.

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 (a link is available on our website's homepage and each issue of BLCUpdates, the emailed weekly news).

Help Wanted



Guiding Star Christian Preschool is seeking an enthusiastic and caring educator to join our team as a part-time afternoon Preschool Teacher. We are a play-based Christian preschool providing a warm and welcoming environment for children ages 3-5 years old. If you enjoy working with young children and are a motivated team player, we encourage you to apply!

Qualifications: Self-motivated, creative, dependable, and energetic; nurturing and genuinely enjoy preschool-aged children; a good communicator with parents and team members; must be 18 years of age. Hours: Monday-Friday, 2:00-6:00 pm. If you are interested in this part-time opportunity, please submit your resume and a brief cover letter to preschool@bethlehem-raymore.org.

VBS Mission Projects: Feed God's Children HERE and THERE

"Feed God's Children Here and There"

HERE: The congregation is invited to participate in the *collection of shelf-stable food and household items* for the food pantry at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Kansas City.

THERE: The congregation is invited to support this mission project with *monetary gifts* for the Bush Babies Environmental Education Program in South Africa, in partnership with the Kansas City Zoo. The Bush Babies is part of Scouts South Africa, a program modeled after scouting programs in the United States and includes monitoring of grades and school participation. Monetary donations will go directly to feeding the children in the Scouts program: children are provided 2 meals a day during school days and 3 meals a day on school holidays. Each meal costs \$0.85 and includes meat, vegetables, and a carb. Donations will be received through Sunday, August 2.

- Make checks payable to Bethlehem and note "VBS Mission Project"; or
- Give online at Bethlehem's website. Select "VBS Missions" from the drop down menu; or
- Use VBS Missions offering envelopes from the back of the sanctuary

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

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

◆ Combined Services & Special Voter's Meeting: August 2 ◆

Although a quorum was met for the 1st vote needed in the July 12 Special Congregational Meeting, a quorum was not available for subsequent votes. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 2.



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.

This meeting will be to vote on calling Rev. Philip Bartelt from Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in New Fairfield, CT as an Associate Pastor at Bethlehem.

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 Pastor Bartelt or anyone in their circle.* May the Lord bless and direct His church throughout this process!

Serving This Morning

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew D. Priem | **Musician:** Julie Hall
Elders: (Readers) Doug Bolton/Darren Hall (Communion) Roger Fox

Acolyte: (8:00) Reese Swopes (10:45) Rory Evans

Greeters: (8:00) Debbie Green (10:45) Jimbo & Sharon Diley | **Altar Guild:** Mackenzie Wilson

Stream: Kay Freeman | **Video:** (8:00) Joni Hartman (10:45) Rick & Jennifer DeLuca

Ushers: (8:00) Randy Monnig/Gerry Moennig (10:45) James Neugebauer/Jerry Burns



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: July 6—12

Sunday, 7/12, Combined Service: In-person: 188 Guests: 8 Virtual: 19	Sunday School, 7/12: Students/Teachers: NA Adult: NA
Men's Bible Study, 7/7: 7 Adult Midweek, 7/8: 8 (0-Remote) Catechism Club, 7/8: NA	Month-to-Date: 6/29—7/12 Regular Offering: \$35,693 Capital Fund: \$1,560 Renovate Our House: \$35

This Week at Bethlehem

July 19—26, 2026

Sunday, July 19: Installation of VBS Leaders & Helpers

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 20

9:00 am VBS to 11:30

Tuesday, July 21

8:00 am Finance Committee (Staff Office)
9:00 am VBS to 11:30
1:00 pm Bunco (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, July 22

9:00 am VBS to 11:30
6:00 pm Midweek Adult Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 pm Youth Catechism Club (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, July 23

9:00 am VBS to 11:30
11:30 am VBS Closing Program
1:00 pm Quilting Small Group (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, July 24 (Pastor Priem—Day off)

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

Saturday, July 25

10:00 am Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) (Conf Rm)

Sunday, July 26: LWML Mitey Mite Sunday

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

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 for a detailed position description and more information.



Sounds of South Kansas City (SSKC) Community Band: This outstanding regional concert band will present their *final summer concert* on **Thursday, July 23 at 7pm** at the Harrisonville Community Center — free and open to the public! Bethlehem members participating this year are Jessica LeRoux, Shawn Hornbeck, David Winfrey, and Carl Reque.

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!

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.



Congregational Communications



BLCUupdates is our weekly email newsletter sharing new, highlighted, or time-sensitive information and is sent from "Teresa Blackley noreply@shelbynexchms.com." Please add this address to your safe-senders list to avoid correspondence landing in your junk or spam folder. If you aren't receiving this email news and would like to, contact **Teresa in the Church Office** with your name and email address.