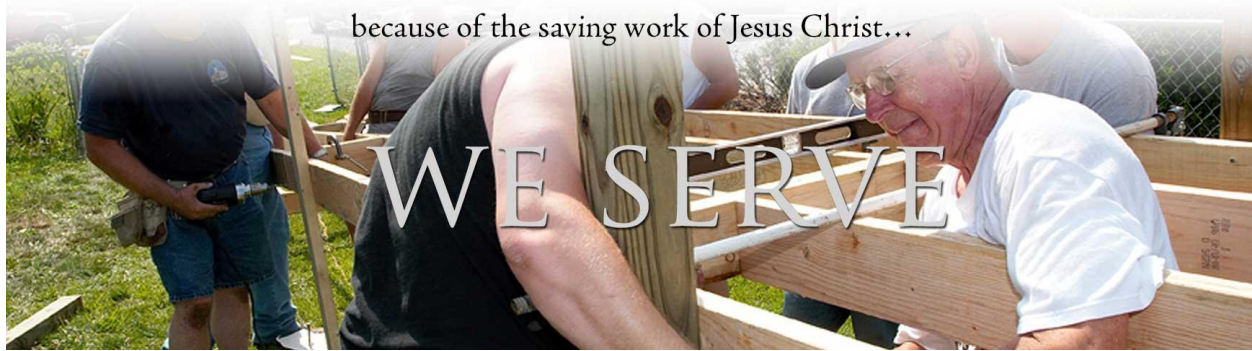




The Starlett Weekly Newsletter | August 30, 2026



Congratulations and welcome to Bethlehem's newest communicant members, received this morning through the rite of Confirmation: Phoebe Benson, Maci Heintzelman, Heidi Priem, Emma Sellmeyer, and Reese Swopes. We ask the Lord's blessings for these students and their families as they continue to grow in the knowledge and faith of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior through worship and service with God's people at Bethlehem.

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God this morning by Mike Scholtes in loving memory of his wife Donna, marking this 1-year anniversary in heaven.

Sunday School, Midweek, and Small Group Studies

Promotion Sunday has been rescheduled to September 13. Children will move to their 2026-27 school grade in Sunday School and teachers and administrative staff will be installed in the church services.

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 will resume meeting September 9* and 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

Coming Soon!



Mark your calendars for our annual Church Picnic: Sunday, September 13 after the 10:45 service at the Lion's Shelter, Raymore Memorial Park, 300 Park Ln. Plan to join in the fun, games, fellowship, and great food! Tableware, hamburgers, and hot dogs will be provided. Bring a dish or two to share!

Serving Opportunities



To support our partners in the Urban Ministry, we are collecting *family-sized hygiene products & cleaning supplies* through September 13. Needed: paper towels, toilet paper, Depends, dish soap, laundry soap, shampoo and conditioner, wash cloths, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes (full sized). Sponsored by Bethlehem LWML in support of LUMA (Lutheran Urban Mission Agency)



The next blood drive at Bethlehem is Tuesday, October 6, from 12-6:00 pm. Use sponsor code 9H for Bethlehem and schedule at donate.savealifenow.org/donor/schedules/sponsor_code. Walk-ins are welcome!

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).

NEW! Elder Assignments



All families have been assigned an Elder, alphabetically by family last name.

Your Elder will serve as your point of contact to share kudos, concerns, ideas, etc., to be brought to the Board of Elders or otherwise addressed.

This information is also posted on the bulletin board outside the sanctuary.

Please refer to our member directory, **Instant Church Directory**, OR contact the Church Office at 816-322-3606 or info@bethlehem-raymore.org for Elder contact information

Family Last Name Begins with:	Elder Name	Family Last Name Begins with:	Elder Name
A - B	Doug Bolton	K - L	Tom Hecker
C - E	Roger Fox	M - Q	Scott Kastman
F - G	Steve Gfeller	R - Sc	Kyle Krull
H - J	Darren Hall	Se - Z	Carl Sellmeyer

Our Response: August 17–23

Sunday, 8/23: In-person: 103/90 Guests: 20 Virtual: 25	Sunday School, 8/23: Students/Teachers: 17/7 Adult: 42 (1-Remote)
Adult Midweek, 8/19: 8 (2-Remote)	Month-to-Date: 7/26–8/23 Regular Offering: \$49,552.03 Capital Fund: \$1,230 Renovate Our House: \$160

Serving This Morning

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew D. Priem | **Musician:** Julie Hall

Elders: (Reader) Steve Gfeller (Communion) Roger Fox/Carl Sellmeyer/Tom Hecker

Acolyte: (8:00) Gabby Kuhns (10:45) Courtney Dhyne

Greeters: (8:00) Debbie Green | **Altar Guild:** Karen Taylor

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

Ushers: (8:00) Paul Zainea/Ronnie Thompson (10:45) Stephen Dhyne/Timothy Knippa

The Children's Message, offered at the 10:45 service, will return in September.

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

Lutheran Community

Ordination Service: The congregation of Ascension Lutheran Church joyfully invites you to the Ordination Service of Walter Marvin Little on **Sunday, September 13, 2026 at 2:30pm**, Ascension Lutheran Church, 4900 Blue Ridge Blvd, KC, MO 64133. Walter completed the Specific Ministry Pastor Program (SMP) through Concordia Seminary, St Louis, and will be serving Ascension and area churches. Your presence, prayers, and fellowship would be a blessing as we gather to celebrate God's calling and the beginning of this new chapter in ministry. A reception will follow the service. RSVP: 816-838-2537 or w.m.little2022@gmail.com. *"Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season" -2 Tim 4:2*

This Week at Bethlehem

August 30—September 6, 2026

Sunday, August 30: Youth Confirmation

8:00 am	Worship/Holy Communion (and Live Stream to Facebook)
9:30 am	Children's Sunday School
9:30 am	Youth Confirmation Speeches/Reception
10:45 am	Worship/Holy Communion/Youth Confirmation

Monday, August 31 (Pastor Priem: Vacation through September 7)

9:30 am	Staff Meeting (Conf Rm)
---------	-------------------------

Tuesday, September 1

1:00 pm	Bunco (Sanctuary)
---------	-------------------

Thursday, September 3

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

Sunday, September 6 (Guest Preacher: Pastor Otto, St Matthew Lutheran Church, Lees Summit)

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

Calendar Notes:

- Pastor Priem will be on vacation from Monday, August 31—Monday, September 7. Pastor Emshoff from Holy Trinity, Grandview, will be available for emergencies. Please contact the Church Office at Bethlehem, 816-322-3606 or tblackley@bethlehem-raymore.org, if this is a need.
- The Church Office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 7.