



The Starlett Weekly Newsletter | December 21, 2025

Christian sympathy is extended to Sharron Stockman and her family on the passing of Sharron's sister, Shirley, carried Home on Sunday, December 14, 2025. We pray our Heavenly Father's blanket of comfort and peace to be with all who mourn.



Congratulations to Kendall Rain Lanning upon receiving the sacrament of holy baptism in the Wednesday, December 17 Advent service. Kendall is the infant daughter of Tyler & Audrey Lanning and her godparents are Sydney Bennett and Nathan Bennet. We pray our Heavenly Father's continued blessings for Kendall and her family.

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God this morning by Toni Sinker-Strang in appreciation for all the behind-the-scenes work our Bethlehem staff does to keep our church running smoothly; and in celebration and thanksgiving for Don & Mary Oehschlaeger's 67th wedding anniversary on December 13.

Christmas at Bethlehem

**communion, +live stream*

Christmas Eve: +4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, *11:00 pm

Christmas Day: *+9:00 am



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.



Livestream Team Members needed: Will you help us continue to offer this valuable service for those unable to worship in person? ***We are in need of volunteers*** to join the Stream Team, serving in the 8:00 service (or early special service). Contact any streamer (Gretchen Krull, Jimbo Diley, Kay Freeman, Carl Reque) or **Teresa Blackley** in the Church Office for questions or to shadow to see what's involved. *No experience needed and thorough training is provided!*

Sunday School, Midweek, and Small Group Studies

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*

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*

NEW!

Youth Catechism Club begins January 14: Led by Pastor Priem and open to all youth, this group will meet each Wednesday evening at 7pm beginning January 14 for study and conversation on Luther's Small Catechism - and whatever else comes up!

Serving This Morning

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew D. Priem | **Musician:** Jordan Fox

Elders: (Readers) Darren Hall/Scott Kastman (Communion) Roger Fox

Acolytes: (8:00) Gabby Kuhns (10:45) Ethan Russell

Greeters: (8:00) Debbie Green (10:45) Jimbo & Sharon Diley

Altar Guild: Karen Taylor | **Children's Message** (10:45) Kelly Dhyne

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

Ushers: (8:00) Randy Monnig/Gerry Moennig (10:45) James Neugebauer/Ben Russell

Our Response: December 8-14

Worship, Advent II, 12/10: In-person: 47/34 Guests: 4 Virtual: 6 Worship, 12/14: In-person: 94/79 Guests: 13 Virtual: 32	Sunday School, 12/14: Students/Teachers: 22/6 Adult: 36 (6-Zoom)
Men's Bible Study, 12/9: 6 Adult Midweek, 12/10: 11 (1-Zoom)	12/8-12/14 Regular Offering: \$8,866.00 Capital Fund: \$135.00 Renovate Our House: \$80.00

End-of-Year Giving

Contributions *received* by December 31 or *postmarked* by December 31 will be posted as 2025 contributions. By law, any contributions *received after* Dec 31 (or *postmarked after* Dec 31) will be treated as January 2026 contributions. Statements for 2025 will be distributed in mid-January; *however, if you would like a current, to-date contribution statement prior to the end of this year, please contact Erika Atcheson, Finance Assistant, in the Church Office.*

Altar Flowers

Would you like to provide flowers to adorn the altar on a Sunday morning? A flower chart and order envelopes are located in the narthex. Arrangements are \$25 each. If you would like to mark a special occasion or remember a loved one, please indicate that on your envelope. Make checks payable to Bethlehem and indicate "altar flowers" or pay online at bethlehem-raymore.org/give-form.

Altar flowers are a gift to the church to adorn the altar, bringing glory to God. It has been our practice at Bethlehem to then give the flowers back to the giver. You may take your arrangement with you after the 10:45 worship service. If you do not wish to take the flowers you signed up for, please contact the Church Office so arrangements can be made to give them to a home-bound or other individual.

This Week at Bethlehem *December 21–28, 2025*

Sunday, December 21

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, December 22

9:15 am Staff Meeting (Conf Rm)

Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Candlelight Worship (and Live Stream to [Facebook](#))
7:00 pm Candlelight Worship
11:00 pm Candlelight Worship/Holy Communion

Thursday, December 25: Christmas Day (Church Office Closed)

9:00 am Worship/Holy Communion (and Live Stream to [Facebook](#))

Friday, December 26 (Pastor Priem: Day Off; Teresa Blackley: Vacation through Friday, January 2, 2026)

Sunday, December 28

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

Calendar Notes

- The Church Office will be closed Thursday, December 25 and Thursday, January 1.
- Teresa Blackley will be out of the office Friday, December 26 through Friday, January 2, returning Monday, January 5, 2026.

LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team)



A LERT Training class will be held at Bethlehem on Saturday January 31, 2026. Check-in at 8:30 am (coffee and donuts); class begins at 9am. Lunch and training supplies will be provided. This class, approximately 4 hours, will help to prepare congregational volunteers to stand ready to assist individuals, families, and the greater community with God given

mercy-driven strength and compassion during times of need – be it a disaster or simply someone being there to listen and offer comfort. Being an LERT trained individual does not require you to make any further commitment to the program. However, it is encouraged so that you can put your training into practice.

The class fee is \$35 and covers the cost of training supplies, a LERT Volunteer Tee-Shirt, morning snacks, and lunch. *Signup will close Monday, Jan 5.* See the "Sign up Instructions" in the Narthex. Point of contact: Jimbo Diley

Lutheran Community: Now Hiring–Substitute Assistant Teacher

St. Matthew Preschool, Lees Summit, is seeking a Substitute Assistant Teacher to support their Early Childhood Program. This position assists the Lead Teacher with daily activities, classroom routines, student engagement, and maintenance of a safe, nurturing Christian environment. Responsibilities include helping with circle time, learning activities, transitions, classroom cleanup, and supporting curriculum plans. Candidates should enjoy working with young children, be flexible, team-oriented, and comfortable sharing their faith through words and actions. Hours and days vary; wage starts at \$13/hour. Email inquiries and resumes to stmatthewps@gracefaithlove.org.