



Community of Christ

Bethel Congregation
Midlands Mission Center
Welcoming the online community
Kansas City, KS
May 10, 2026 10:30AM CDT

Living Anticipation

Presiding **Teacher Ylva Hup**

Centering Hymn “Come and Fine the Quiet Center” CCS #151

Welcome and Announcements

Mother’s Day **The Shape of Her Hands**

Her hands are not the hands of marble queens—
they are river-worn stones,
smoothed by years of washing
the world’s dust from our skin.
They have held storms without trembling,
stitched torn knees and torn hearts
with the same quiet thread,
and cupped our dreams
as if they were fragile birds
still learning the sky.
Her voice is the hush before dawn,
the sound that teaches the sun
how to rise without fear.
And if love had a shape,
it would be the curve of her palm—
open, steady,
always enough to hold us whole.

Scripture Reading **Doctrine & Covenants 161:3a Ylva Hup**

Open your hearts and feel the yearnings of your brothers and sisters who are lonely, despised, fearful, neglected, unloved. Reach out in understanding, clasp their hands, and invite all to share in the blessings of community created in the name of the One who suffered on behalf of all.

*Hymn of Community “Help Us Accept Each Other” CCS #333
*Invocation Susan Boer

*Response

Hymn “Can We Calculate Our Giving” CCS #617

Prayer for Peace see insert **Jonathan Gray**

Spoken Word **Elder Rob de Zwart**

Hymn of Reflection “Creator of the Intertwined” CCS #344

Disciples’ Generous Response <https://bit.ly/BethelGift>

Rick Sarre offers easy to remember, straightforward advice for living a generous life in this Disciples’ Generous Response moment from the “Witness the Word” available on [YouTube](#).

Hymn of Generosity “Bear Each Other’s Burdens” CCS #374

*Commitment Hymn “Go Now Forth into the World” CCS #646

*Benediction **Ylva Hup**

*Sending Forth

Leader: God is the Great Weaver of Life.

People: Jesus is our hope.

Leader: The Holy Spirit moves among us.

People: We are here for each other.

ALL: Be with us, God, as we declare hope to a world in need.

*Congregation invited to stand

Bethel Community of Christ bethel.forthrightsystems.com

Pastor **Rob de Zwart**

Financial Officer **Jeff Cady**

Media Host **David Troeh**

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Announcements

- **Sunday 5/10** 9:45 am **Lectionary Disc:**1 Peter 3:13-22
10:30 am *Living Anticipation*-Rob de Zwart
- **Tuesday 5/12** 7:00 pm [Together Tuesday](#) (924 6108 0153)
- **Thursday 5/14** 2:00 pm **Women's Meeting**
- **Sunday 5/17** 9:45 am **Lectionary Disc:**Luke 24:44-53
10:30 am *Living Blessing*—Lynda Lyons
- **Saturday 5/23** 10a-1pm **Open house graduation party for Jordan** (4043 N 123rd Ter)
- **Our website, including weekly bulletin, web and zoom links:** bethel.forthrightsystems.com
- **Give through eTithing** (<https://www.cofchrist.org/give>)
Optionally, search for Bethel, KS ([link](#))

Recordings

Come and Find the Quiet Center - CCS 151 - The Beyond the Walls Choir <https://youtube.com/watch?v=VC1L4cJQpVI>

CCS 344 - Creator of the Intertwined - Music, Lyrics, Voices (No Video) <https://youtube.com/watch?v=j-MmOtVYBAE>

CCS 374 Bear Each Others Burdens. Community of Christ Sings. Lamoni <https://youtube.com/watch?v=aG4kP9WytXU>

Be Generous of Spirit

https://youtube.com/watch?v=hM_IVE05h84%20

Go Now Forth into the World - CCS 646 - The Beyond the Walls Choir <https://youtube.com/watch?v=rxOTuORlwtQ>

Lectionary

3-year cycle engaging significant portions of our Scripture.

This Week May 10 [Living Anticipation](#)

1 Peter 3:13-22 Acts 17:22-31

Psalms 66:8-20 John 14:15-21

Next Week May 17 [Living Blessing](#)

Luke 24:44-53 Acts 1:1-11

Psalms 47 Ephesians 1:15-23

Prayer for Peace

O Lord,
We bend our hands in prayer
Hands that tend
The Earth,
The dove,
The living stream

Hands that mend
The cloth,
The heart,
The broken dream

Hands that fend
For truth,
For grace,
For cause unseen

Make strong our hands
that blend
the task
with peace. Amen

The Instrument of Love

Being at a different Midlands MC congregation each week has been outstanding! On Sunday, April 26, I worshipped with the Shawnee Drive Community of Christ.

Worship is so important, *including the time we all take to prepare to worship*. There were specific elements choreographed into the Shawnee Drive Sunday Worship that helped my mind open and warm my heart.

One by one, each person who played a part in the worship wove a thread of **Love** into the tapestry of the worship experience. A critical question asked during the worship was, *What is LOVE to you?* or *What comes to mind when you think of LOVE?*

Many responded to the question. I heard people inferring that Love meant **compassion**. Love means **supporting** others. Love implies **devotion**. Love means being **empathetic**. Love means **support**. Love brought about **acceptance**. Love creates **peace**.

While I didn't answer out loud, as I listened, it was clear that every perspective on Love shared was based on **sacrifice**.

And sacrifice *is* the character of Jesus.

Christlike Love is sacrifice. Sacrifice does not put a priority on individualism or being your most authentic self.

If we love like Jesus, it compels us to **put a priority on sacrificing for others**.

Our church's late Apostle Arthur Oakman once said, *"Sacrifice is the instrument of love; in fact, sacrifice is its only instrument. The only way love knows how to accomplish its purpose is to sacrifice itself, to give itself away.*

And so, my Midlands Sisters and Brothers, I ask that we challenge ourselves to be more relentless in our sacrifice for others. That we reflect the love of Jesus in all we are confronted with.

Love God with all your heart, might, mind, and strength. And love others as you love yourself.

Let sacrificial Love be our priority. The priority for ourselves, for our congregations, and for future new expressions of the Community of Christ.

Shalom, Shalom. Rob



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Online Education

Online Ministry & Priesthood Classes

Information and \$25 enrollment at graceland.edu/CIMM.

May 4 – June 28

- **Introduction to Scripture** – David Lloyd
- **CYW Core Training**



CIMM Sessions

Broadcast live and free on **Zoom at 7:00pm most Wednesdays**.

Register at graceland.edu/cimmssessions.

- May 6 – **Reunion 2026 Adult Class #4**
- May 13 – **Reunion 2026 Adult Class #5**

World Church Facebook Group

We're excited to announce a new Facebook group hosted by the World Church Communications Team! Join to find event announcements, updates, and news from around the church. Platforms like Facebook and Instagram are now designed to reach people who don't follow us yet. This means our public pages are better for introducing Community of Christ to new people than for staying connected with those who already know us. The new Facebook group is where we'll connect directly with members, seekers, and friends. We encourage you to keep following and sharing from our public social media because every share helps more people find our message of Christ's peace. Join at bit.ly/CofCFBGroup.

Youth Leader Check-In

12 pm or 8 pm Friday, May 22

Local congregational leaders and teachers, mission center youth leaders, and youth camp directors are encouraged to attend to hear updates, build community, and share encouragement before the busy camping season. The check-in will include more information about the new Camping Guide, updates to the Registered Child and Youth Worker training, and information about upcoming national and international youth events. Register here at bit.ly/YLCheckInMay26.

Historic Sites Tour to Australia

September 5 – 18

Trace the footsteps of the early missionaries and hear stories about Australia's founding church members. Visit the beautiful Tiona reunion ground as well as famous sites such as the Sydney Opera House, the Great Barrier Reef, and so much more! Extend your travels with optional pre- and/or post-tours filled with church history, scenic views, fellowship, and delicious foods. Information at bit.ly/CofCAustralia26.

International Peace Forum

Seeds of Peace: Environmental Justice and Action

October 16 – 18

The event builds on the tradition of the International Peace Colloquy, offering worship, learning, and community engagement. All are welcome! Registration is now open! cofchrist.org/peace-forum

Experience Summer Camp!!

Youth Camps 2026

June 5–16 — Caravan \$500 **POSTPONED TO 2028**
June 28–July 3 Junior/Middle School Camp \$335 (\$355 after 5/15)
July 12–19 Spectacular @ Graceland \$495 (\$595 after 6/30)
July 12–17 Camp MITIOG @ Doniphan
July 23–25 Youth Quest @ Olathe

Family Camps (Reunion)

Doniphan – Excelsior Springs, MO – June 18 to 22
Joint event with Central Missouri Mission Center
Guest Minister: Apostle Richard James

Chihowa – Perry, KS – July 5 to 10
Guest Minister: Tony & Charmaine Chvala-Smith
Directors: Dawn & Greg Bassett



Family Camp Prices (Early Bird/Regular)

Age	Doniphan*	Chihowa
Adults (age 16+)	\$360	\$260
Youth (age 13-15)	\$320	\$170
Children (age 5-12)	\$320	\$125
Children (age 0-4)	FREE	\$25

*Price for main lodge, cabins and RVs are cheaper



Register NOW

- YOUTH: www.midlandsmc.org/camps Find camp & click “Register Here”
- FAMILY CAMP www.midlandsmc.org/family : Find your camp and choose “Pay” now (credit card) or “PAY LATER” (check, cash, credit)

Camperships are available: bit.ly/MMCcampership26. **Application forms must be submitted TWO WEEKS prior to the event.** If you have questions, please contact mcfoteam@midlandsmc.org.