



Community of Christ

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

Encounter God's Solidarity

Presiding

Teacher Ylva Hup

Announcements

Call to Worship

Psalm 105:1-4, 45 NRSVue

*1 O give thanks to the LORD; call on his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples.*

*2 Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wonderful works.*

*3 Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.*

*4 Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually.*

*45 that they might keep his statutes
and observe his laws.*

Praise the LORD!

***Hymn of Praise** "Bring Many Names"

CCS #5

***Invocation**

Ylva Hup

***Response** "Santo, Santo, Santo"

CCS #159

Prayer for Peace see insert

Susan Boer

Hymn "God of the Ages"

CCS #7

Spoken Word

Elder Jeff Cady

Disciples' Generous Response

<https://bit.ly/BethelGifts>

Scripture Reading

Romans 12:9-13

Think of a time when you received someone's generosity in a way that surprised or overwhelmed you. It might have been a gift you had wanted for a long time, one that always seemed beyond your reach, or it might have been a gift of a person's time or

presence. Maybe it was a gift of money, or perhaps someone paid your way to an event or for an opportunity.

Such giving and receiving expresses giving from the heart. It stirs our deepest passions to give and receive this way. This is reflective of God's generosity. We are called to "imitate God's generosity."

—based on *Of Water and Spirit*, Herald Publishing House, p.84
Blessing and Receiving of Local and Worldwide Mission Tithes

***Hymn** "God, Whose Grace Redeems Our Story" **CCS #570**

***Benediction & Blessing of Food**

Rob de Zwart

***Sending Forth**

Doctrine & Covenants 162:8c

8c. Continue your journey, O people of the Restoration. You have been blessed thus far but there is so much yet to see, so much yet to do. Go forth with confidence and live prophetically as a people who have been loved, and who now courageously choose to love others in the name of the One you serve. Amen.

***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 8/30** **9:45 am** **Lectionary Disc:** Exodus 3:1-15
 10:30 am *Encounter God's Solidarity*
 Elder Jeff Cady speaking
 Potluck following service
- **Tuesday 9/1** **7:00 pm** [Together Tuesday](#) 924 6108 0153
- **Sunday 9/6** **9:45 am** **Lectionary Disc:** Romans 13:8-14
 10:30 am *What Do We Owe Each Other?*
 Elder Lynda Lyons speaking
 Hybrid Communion Service
- **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 (or use [link](#))

Recordings

Bring Many Names - CCS 5 - The Beyond the Walls Choir
<https://youtube.com/watch?v=-c0xEQ8-OcU>

CCS 159 Santo Santo Santo (Community of Christ Sings)
<https://youtube.com/watch?v=UxhxaLm7myE>

Lectionary

3-year cycle engaging significant portions of our Scripture.

This Week Aug 30 [Encounter God's Solidarity](#)

Exodus 3:1-15	Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b
Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28

Next Week Sept 6 [What Do We Owe Each Other?](#)

Romans 13:8-14	Exodus 12:1-14
Psalms 149	Matthew 18:15-20

Prayer for Peace

Dutch

Ga maar gerust, want Ik zal met je meegaan. Ik ben je baken, ook in diepe nacht. Ik ben de stem die steeds in jou zal opstaan. Ik ben de hand die op je vriendschap wacht. Ik ben het licht dat voor je voeten uitgaat. Ik ben de wind waardoor je adem haalt. Ga maar gerust, want Ik zal met je meegaan. Ik ben de zon, waarvoor het donker knielt. Ik ben de groet, waarmee jij ook zult opstaan. Ik ben de hoop, dat zaad diep in je ziel. Ik ben het lied, dat fluistert in de bomen. Ik ben de dag, die schemert in je droom. Ga maar gerust, want Ik zal met je meegaan. Ik ben de liefde, die een mens je schenkt. Ik ben de hoogste toon die jij kunt aanslaan. Ik ben de verte, die verlangend wenkt. En, kom je thuis, de laatste mist verdwenen, ben Ik de hand, die al je tranen wist. Amen

English

Go ahead, don't worry, for I will go with you. I am your beacon, even in the deep night. I am the voice that will always rise within you. I am the hand waiting for your friendship. I am the light that goes before your feet. I am the wind that gives you breath. Go ahead, don't worry, for I will go with you. I am the sun, before which darkness kneels. I am the greeting by which you too will rise. I am the hope, the seed deep in your soul. I am the song that whispers in the trees. I am the day that dawns in your dream. Go ahead, don't worry, for I will go with you. I am the love that a person gives you. I am the highest note you can strike. I am the distance that beckons with longing. And when you come home, the last mist gone, I am the hand that wipes all your tears. Amen

Take Note

Online Ministry & Priesthood Classes *Center for Innovation in Ministry and Mission (CIMM)*

To enroll or for more information on these classes and the certificate programs, visit graceland.edu/CIMM. Cost is \$25 unless noted.

August 24 – October 18

- **Ministry of High Priest** – Jennifer Killpack
- **Ministry of Evangelist** – Marava Arnaud & Kris Judd
- **Intro to Priesthood Ministry** – Diane Maupin
- **Ministry of Priest** – Dr. Geri Norman
- **Ministry of Elder** – Apostle Kat Hnatyshyn
- (Christian Ministries Certificate) **Ministries of the Church** - Dr. Linda Stanbridge - \$100
- **Discernment Facilitators Training Class #1** – Katie Harmon McLaughlin - \$50



THANK YOU for another wonderful summer camp season!!

To donate toward the cost of camp or reunion, write a check to *Midlands Mission Center* with the appropriate camp in the memo line and mail it to the MMC office at 7615 N Platte Purchase Dr, Kansas City, MO 64118. You can use this link to donate specifically to the Chihowa Reunion: bit.ly/ChihowaReunion26.



7615 Platte Purchase Dr, Suite 116
Kansas City, MO 64118

Midlands Mission Center

presidentteam@midlandsmc.org
www.midlandsmc.org

CHIHOWA FAITHFUL 50

Did you know you can donate to our campgrounds through eTithing?

1. Go to www.cofchrist.org/give
2. Scroll down and click the USA map
3. Click "Online through Kindred" and select "Give Now"
4. Fill out the information as a one-time or recurring gift
5. Under "My Home Congregation" select Midlands Mission Center
6. Under "Sub Fund" select a campground

Chihowa is looking for a Faithful 50 to offer sustained financial support. Join the group by pledging \$50 each month. This contribution can be submitted through the directions for Kindred above, mailed to the MMC office with *Chihowa Faithful 50* in the memo line, or placed in your congregation's offering plate with the envelope marked appropriately. *We are grateful for your generosity that ensures the grounds can continue to provide a home for ministry well into the future.*

SAVE THE DATE

What: Midlands Mission Center Fall Conference
When: Sunday, November 1, 2026
Where: Topeka Community of Christ
More details will be coming!



Purveyors of Awe @ The Temple

Spiritual Leaders and the Science and Practice of Awe

9 am – 4 pm Saturday, August 22

The science of awe has seen a surge in the last decade, highlighting its benefits of emotional regulation, greater feelings of connection, and inspiration to self-giving, among others. Dr. Marcia McFee, PhD., will guide us in learning about cutting edge scientific research, connecting it to the spiritual wisdom from various voices. More information and registration with a sliding-scale fee can be found at <https://www.centerforlivingwater.org/purveyors-of-awe>.

Twist Weekend @ Topeka

Teens Working In Service Together

7pm Fri, Aug 28 – 12pm Sun, Aug 30

Campers grades 6th–12th grade learn the value of service and giving back to the community while participating in various service-related activities on Saturday. Please bring an insurance card copy and a completed health form found on the MMC website. Questions?

Contact Dawn 816.718.8307 or Greg 816.210.4943

MMC_Youth@midlandsmc.org.

EMERGE Online Youth Gathering

6pm Sun, August 30

All youth ages 14–18 are invited to join this Zoom gathering to connect, make new friends, and share life together with others across the church. Everyone is welcome, and we'd love to see you there! Zoom link: bit.ly/EmergeNov2025

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

YAM: Young Adult Ministries

6 pm Sundays

These weekly Zoom gatherings are different each week but follow a rotation of various avenues of spiritual exploration:

- 1st Sun – spiritual experiences and devotional practices
- 2nd Sun - Disarming Scripture, how CofC engages scripture for mission
- 3rd Sun – Spirit and Sound, how music shapes our spirituality and faith
- 4th Sun – Sacredness of Creating, gather, share crafts and hobbies
- 5th Sun – Practice Sabbath, a day of rest

For more information, contact Mikki Phillippe at mphilippe@cofchrist.org.

from the desk of Rob Heverling

Nothing Like the Rest of Their Lives

I'm slowly restoring my energy levels from my week at Spectacular. But it's a good, tired feeling. I was there as part of our Spec Delegation Staff. My first time at Spec in more than 40 years.

Getting to know the young people from Midlands and Far West Mission Center was a meaningful experience. Learning how to say MidFarWestLands took a day or two.

"Nice to meet you, Rob. What delegation are you from?" I reply, "Err... Ahh... Far Mid... no... Lands Far away... no... Mid...Far...West Lands... Yes, MidFarWestLands!"

Our delegation had remarkable young people and a remarkable staff.

On Thursday evening, the Spec Worship Team choreographed a Communion Service. Our Jessica Pycior was part of the Worship team, and the way she worked with and inspired the young people revealed how her gifts helped shape all the unique Spec worship experiences.

But the Communion Worship was extra special. I felt the Holy Spirit approaching... rising... flowing... into our gathering of 800+ people, mostly teenagers. As I offered the Lord's Supper, I was allowed to see each young person I served as though I were looking at each one through the eyes of Jesus. It was a powerful Sacrament experience.

Every night we gathered with the campers in our dorms and shared a devotion before 'lights out'.

During devotions, we talked about the Highs and Lows of the day. Most nights the highs were about winning a game of volleyball, basketball, pickleball, etc.

But on the Thursday night after the Sacrament of Communion, it was significant when many of the young men in devotions said, "My High today was the worship service."

As I listened to them, I couldn't help but think about the words my son, Hayden, said to me three years ago when he was 30 years old: "Dad, I need my worship experience to be nothing like the rest of my life."

What the teenage boys in the MidFarWestLands delegation experienced on that Thursday night was *nothing like the rest of their lives*.

It captured their attention. I thank God for the opportunity to share that sacrament service with those young people. I pray that, as adults, our vision will be activated by God, and we will risk something new so that our young people will be confronted by the presence of the Living God again... and again... and again. That their journey with God becomes so profoundly meaningful in their lives, and they come to realize that these experiences, which are nothing like the rest of their lives, happen relentlessly in our Spirit-filled worship experiences of the Community of Christ.

Shalom, Shalom,

Rob