



Community of Christ

Bethel Congregation
Midlands Mission Center
Welcoming the online community
Kansas City, KS
September 20, 2026 10:30AM CDT

What Happens to Our Faith? Heritage Day

Presiding Elder Kristine Shipley

Gathering Hymn "Bring Many Names" CCS #5

Welcome

Announcements

Invitation to Worship D&C 161:5, 162:2, 163:1,8c adapted

Leader: Be respectful of tradition...listen attentively to the telling
of the sacred story,

**People: for our story of scripture and faith empowers and
illuminates.**

Leader: Listen carefully to your own journey as a people,

People: for it is a sacred journey.

Leader: Community of Christ, your name, given as a divine
blessing,

People: is our identity and calling.

Leader: Discover your future,

People: we will become a blessing to the whole creation.

Leader: The Temple calls the entire church

People: to become a sanctuary of Christ's peace.

*Hymn "There's an Old, Old Path" CCS #244

*Invocation

*Response

Prayer for Peace see insert

Focus Moment Jordan Joyce

Hymn "For Everyone Born" CCS #285

Camp Reflections

- Lake Doniphan Family Camp
- Junior and Middle School Camp
- Chihowa Family Camp
- Spectacular
- Camp MITIOG
- Youth Quest

Hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" CCS #11

Disciples' Generous Response <https://bit.ly/BethelGifts>

*Hymn "The Spirit of God Like a Fire Is Burning" CCS #384

*Benediction

**Kaylee: Living God, we pray that we will be aware of your
Spirit pouring out upon all people at every time in
history, and through every generation.**

Lorelei: Help us to imagine your future!

Jordan: Awaken in us your vision for the world as it can be!

Kyle: Dream within us your dream of peace and wholeness for
every person at every stage of life as we respond to your
unfolding mission throughout time.

All: Amen

*Response

*Congregation invited to stand

Bethel Community of Christ

bethel.forthrightsystems.com

Pastor

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Announcements

- **Sunday 9/20** 10:00 am **BUSINESS MTG—gas line**
10:30 am *What Happens to Our Faith?*
Camp Reflections
- **Monday 9/21** 7:00 pm [Priesthood Meeting](#) (949 9683 2354)
- **Sunday 9/27** 9:45 am **Lectionary Disc.— Exodus 17:1-7**
10:30 am *Is the Lord among Us or Not?*
High Priest Stan Troeh speaking
- **Sunday 11/1** 10:45 am **Song Service & Communion**
in Topeka 1:30 pm **Mission Center Conference**
both available via zoom as well as in-person

[Invitation Video](https://bethel.forthrightsystems.com/2026_MMC_Conf_Announcement.mov) https://bethel.forthrightsystems.com/2026_MMC_Conf_Announcement.mov

- **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>

There's an Old, Old Path - CCS 244 - The Beyond the Walls Choir (2024) <https://youtube.com/watch?v=aoUNZJz7xZk>

For Everyone Born - CCS 285 - The Beyond the Walls Choir (2024) <https://youtube.com/watch?v=cdOvOXEiss0>

The Spirit of God like a Fire Is Burning - CCS 384 - The Beyond the Walls Choir (2020) <https://youtube.com/watch?v=U1OATKKmpE0>

Lectionary

3-year cycle engaging significant portions of our Scripture.

This Week Sept 20 [What Happens to Our faith?](#)

Exodus 16:2-15	Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45
Matthew 20:1-16	Philippians 1:21-30

Next Week Sept 27 [Is the Lord among Us or Not?](#)

Exodus 17:1-7	Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16
Matthew 21:23-32	Philippians 2:1-13

Prayer for Peace

Our hearts are broken by the events of our day. Wherever we look, we see violence—violence through hunger, abuse, economic policies, and war. Yet while we seem empathetic toward those who are suffering, we are not yet angry enough to work toward a solution.

Make us more aware that mere thoughts are insufficient to address the needs of the world in which we live. Help us to see that we all can be more involved in the activities of life—involved to the degree that we elect those government officials who will worry more about human dignity than reelection; involved to the degree that we will not give a minute's rest to elected officials through aggressive action demanding their efforts toward solutions.

Restore our relationships, O God—our relationships with ourselves, our relationships with one another, and our relationship with you. For we acknowledge that it is only through right relationships that we will truly understand what is meant by peace. We recognize that peace is a lifestyle that must be continually nurtured. We affirm that such a lifestyle is what each of us wants. Grant that we may do so through your power and wisdom. Grant that we may become a people of peace for your glory, O God.

Bless us now as we seek to understand; as we work toward fulfilling your purpose in us; as we strive to live lives of wholeness and righteousness. In the name of God, the Creator; God, the Redeemer; and God, the loving Presence amid life. Amen.

—Steven Shields

Business Meeting Resolution

WHEREAS, the current gas line has multiple leaks along the length, and **WHEREAS**, the congregation leadership received three bids to replace the gas line, and

WHEREAS, the sanctuary air conditioners both required service in the amount of \$1147, and

WHEREAS, the cost of completing all of this work would consume a significant portion of the congregation's liquid and/or semi-liquid funding, and

WHEREAS, the building committee met and in a near-unanimous decision recommends accepting the Grabill bid to replace the gas line, and

WHEREAS, the building committee unanimously recommends seeking a World Church Houses of Worship loan to cover the costs of the gas line and air conditioning work; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the congregation accept the Grabill (\$16,400) bid to replace the gas line, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the congregation seek a World Church Houses of Worship loan to cover the costs of replacing the gas line and repairing the sanctuary air conditioning.



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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.

October 19 – December 13

- **Introduction to Scripture** – David Lloyd
- **Ministry of Deacon** – David Lloyd
- **CYW Core**

CIMM Sessions

CIMM Sessions are short seminars on topics of theology, culture, and Community of Christ Identity, Mission, Message, Beliefs and practices. Broadcast live and free on **Zoom at 7:00pm most Wednesdays.**

Register at graceland.edu/cimmsessions.

- Sept 2 – **Community of Christ Sacraments** — President Bunda Chibwe
- Sept 9 – **God and Sex** — Apostle Matt Frizzell
- Sept 16 & 23 – **The Book of Mormon as Scripture: Then and Now** (2-part series) — Historian Mark Scherer
- Sept 30 – **International Resource Summit** — Katie Harmon McLaughlin



THIS IS THE WAY

Please join us for our annual fall conference!

Topeka Congregation – 5252 SW 19th St

We welcome individuals from across the mission center to gather for worship, fellowship, sharing, and planning alongside Mission Center President Rob Heverling and “soon to be” Senior President of Seventy Larry McGuire.

Sunday, November 1

Schedule

10:45 am Song Service

11:00 am Worship

12:00 pm Lunch

1:30 – 3:30 pm Business Meeting



JPAT Book Study

7pm Tuesdays 9/22, 10/6, 10/20, 11/10*

Join us as we explore *Healing the Heart of Democracy* by Parker Palmer. As the tension of living in a divided nation grows, finding common ground becomes more difficult each day. Palmer uses our hearts as a guide to reconcile and restore our democracy of freedom and responsibility. Registration is at bit.ly/JPAT-BS26. *Please note date change in November to avoid election day.

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

Racial Justice Summit

12 – 5:30 pm Saturday, November 7

The event sponsored by KC Disciples Becoming Beloved Community features Rev. Dr. Hanna R. Broome. It will be held at Intersect KC in KCMO. Register at KCDisciples.org/racial-justice.



The poster for the Community of Christ 75th Anniversary Celebration features a yellow background with a white house icon at the top center. On the left is a circular logo with a figure and the word "PEACE". The text "Community of Christ" is in a blue script font. Below it, "SHAWNEE DRIVE CONGEGATION" (sic) is in a blue sans-serif font, followed by "75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION" in a larger blue sans-serif font. A yellow cloud-like shape contains the event schedule for Saturday and Sunday. At the bottom, the date "OCT |10-11| 2026" is in a large blue font, with a blue box containing the phrase "Join us as we honor the past and embrace the future". The address "4440 Shawnee Drive KC, KS 66106" is in a blue sans-serif font. At the bottom, it says "More details can be found on our Fadebook page." (sic) and "Please RSVP which events you plan to attend to reunion@shawneedrive.org" (sic).

 **Community of Christ**

SHAWNEE DRIVE CONGEGATION
**75TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

Saturday

- 10am: Turner Days Parade
- 6-8pm: Hymn Sing followed by Ice Cream Social

Sunday

- 9am: Cinnamon Roll Breakfast
- 10:30am: Worship followed by potluck lunch

OCT |10-11| 2026 *Join us as we honor the past and embrace the future*

4440 Shawnee Drive KC, KS 66106

More details can be found on our Fadebook page.

Please RSVP which events you plan to attend to
reunion@shawneedrive.org

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- 6pm Sundays YAM (**Young Adult Ministry**) online – contact Mikki Phillippe at mphilippe@cofchrist.org.
 - 6pm Sunday, September 27 – **Youth EMERGE** online gathering – contact Humberto Tinsman htinsman@cofchrist.org
 - Bi-monthly online **Young Adult Coffee Talk** – contact Humberto Tinsman htinsman@cofchrist.org for information and the link.

from the desk of Rob Heverling

The Diary of a CEO is a podcast with an immense worldwide audience. It's hosted by Steven Bartlett. He interviews leaders from all kinds of businesses, industries, non-profits, scientists, educators, doctors, and other kinds of experts.

Recently, Bartlett interviewed John Lennox, a mathematician, bioethicist, and Christian apologist.

During the interview, Bartlett said to Lennox, "You have a certain contentment that I rarely see in people that I interview... but I've almost always seen it in the Christians that I've interviewed. You have an anchoring that so many of us are looking for... You have a certain peace."

I sure hope you can relate to this anchoring, to this certain contentment and peace that 34-year-old Steven Bartlett witnessed in 82-year-old John Lennox. And I think Bartlett understood age wasn't necessarily the critical factor. It was the faith in God of this brilliant, humble mathematician.

It made me think of people in the Community of Christ who had a powerful influence on my Faith Journey as a boy, as a teenager, as a young adult. Women and Men who changed me. To name some of those old-school influencers: Ann and Jeff Heverling (my parents), Fay Elder, Glenda McClain, A.D. McClain, Mary Ann Parks, Don Sturgis, Chuck Cornman, Dorothy Magneson, Eldred Spain, Everett Graffeo.

There was, and still is, a holiness about these individuals. Not holy in a moralistic way, but holy in a way that they relentlessly tried to set themselves apart as disciples of Jesus.

I know they each had painful low points in their lives; yet all these people demonstrated an 'anchoring' and conveyed a deep sense of peace. They were my Jeti to emulate. They understood the ways of the Force (Holy Spirit).

Think about those people who dramatically influenced your Faith Journey.

I am often confronted with people... smart people, gifted people, who are adrift. Sometimes they are leaning too hard into their own understanding. They need an anchor. They need a source of peace. They need to learn the ways of the Holy Spirit.

Let this be our obligation and opportunity. To be in relationship with new acquaintances who become captivated by our anchoring, by our humility, by our Love, and by our capacity to be at peace.

Many will want what we have. We can teach them how a Faith Journey changes everything.

Shalom. Shalom, Rob

