



Community of Christ

Bethel Congregation
Midlands Mission Center
 Welcoming the online community
 Kansas City, KS
 October 11, 2026 10:30AM CDT

Why Do We Turn Away?

Presiding Elder Grace Troeh

Gathering Hymn “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” CCS #99

Announcements

Call to Worship Philippians 4:4,8

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

***Hymn** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” CCS #11

***Invocation**

***Response**

Prayer for Peace (sung) “Peace Before Us” CCS #164

Focus Moment Jordan Joyce

Sermon Elder Aaron Laughlin

Hymn “From You I Receive” CCS #611

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

***Hymn** “Gather Us In” CCS #72

***Closing Prayer** Stan Troeh

***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 10/11 9:45 am** **Lectionary Disc.**— Exodus 32:1-14
10:30 am *Why Do We Turn Away?*
 Elder Aaron Laughlin speaking
- **Tuesday 10/13 7:00 pm** [Together Tuesday](#) (924 6108 0153)
- **Fri-Sun 10/16-18** [Peace Forum](#) at the Temple (& streamed)
- **Sunday 10/18 9:45 am** **Lectionary Disc.**— Matt 22:15-22
10:30 am *Where Are Our Priorities?*
 Elder Jeff Cady speaking
- **Sunday 11/1 10:45 am** **Song Service & Communion**
in Topeka 1:30 pm **Mission Center Conference**
Time change both available via zoom as well as in-person
- **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

[Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee - CCS 99 - The Beyond the Walls Choir](#)

[CCS 164 - Prayer of Peace \(Peace Before Us\) interpreted with movements by Elray Henriksen](#)

[From You I Receive • CCS 611](#)

[Gather Us In - CCS 72 - The Beyond the Walls Choir](#)

Lectionary

3-year cycle engaging significant portions of our Scripture.

This Week Oct 11 [Why Do We Turn Away?](#)

Exodus 32:1-14 Psalm 106:1-6,19-23

Matthew 22:1-14 Philippians 4:1-9

Next Week Oct 18 [Where Are Our Priorities?](#)

Matthew 22:15-22 Exodus 33:12-23

Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Take Note



Midlands Mission Center

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

presidentteam@midlandsmc.org
www.midlandsmc.org

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 Missional Leadership** – Larry McGuire
- **CIMM Discernment as Process: Preparing the Community and Entering the Process**

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.

- Oct 7 – **Year B and Advent Materials** — Tyler Marz
- Oct 14 – **Israel/Palestine Pt 1 – What are the causes of the conflict?** — Andrew Bolton with Steve Kellogg, Destiny Magnet, Steve Glazer
- Oct 21 – **“It’s Never as Simple as We Think”** — Brittany Mangelson
- Oct 28 – **WCR 1324, Resolution on Baptism and Membership** — President Stassi Cramm



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.

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 Facebook page.

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

Youth & Young Adults

- 6pm Sat, **Oct 10** @ Olathe – Young Adult Escape Room (bring a snack)
- 12pm **Oct 24** @ The Highlands – Young adults make blankets to donate, watch Halloween movies, and eat pizza!
- **Oct 24** @ Olathe – Youth Trunk or Treat, dinner, and activities
- 6pm Sundays YAM (**Young Adult Ministry**) online*
- 6pm Sunday, **Oct 25** – **Youth EMERGE** online* gathering
- Bi-monthly online* **Young Adult Coffee Talk**

*For information, contact Humberto Tinsman htinsman@cofchrist.org

from the desk of Rob Heverling

Recently, I have felt the weight of the legacies of all the congregations in the Midlands Mission Center. Over the past couple of weeks, I've had individual Zoom conversations with mission center pastors, and some financial officers have joined too. Every congregation has made a remarkable impact on its community, with countless examples of Spirit-led discipleship changing lives.

I learned a lot in the hour I spent listening to our congregations' leaders. I was struck by the unique Spiritual Gifts each congregation's members have displayed and deployed over the decades. And those Spiritual Gifts are still being humbly and powerfully wielded today.

It's like I've been talking to a bunch of Jedi Knights who know the ways of the Force.

1st Corinthians 12: 4-7

4 Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, 5 and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

Here in the Midlands MC, I have been inspired by experienced and gifted people who have relentlessly worked to put Christ at the center of their lives and expressed Christlike love to so many people.

You all have reinforced what I believe... And that is, you are not even capable of wanting Jesus in the center of your life except by the Holy Spirit present in your life.

I'm enthralled by the matrix of Spiritual Gifts in the members of Community of Christ in our mission center. And the use of these gifts in the service of others, I feel, is more unique to our movement than other Faith traditions.

Our Spiritual Gifts are not necessarily inherent in us. We do not deserve these gifts. These are clusters of gifts bestowed on members of the Community of Christ to meet the needs of others.

And there are still many needs. This is why I have hope. This is why I believe there will be pockets of critical growth and impact for Midlands Mission Center as you all lean into your manifested gifts and walk the rugged road of servant ministry.

May the Force be with you.

Rob



I USE MY STAFF SO MUCH THAT I FIGURED
I SHOULD UPGRADE TO THE LUXURY MODEL

01-05-2015