

March 2026 Edition of

The Christian Pilot

Raytown
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

— Join Us for —
LENTEN EVENTS

— Palm Sunday —
MARCH 29th

Breakfast • 9:30 AM

Worship • 10:30 AM

— Maundy Thursday —

APRIL 2nd • 3–7 PM

Prayer Vigil

WITH SCRIPTURE, PRAYER STATIONS
AND COMMUNION AVAILABLE

Easter

APRIL 5th

Celebrate Together at 10:30 AM

Invite FAMILY & FRIENDS!

A Message from Pastor Michael



Hello my Raytown family!

Our theme for March is Homecoming, and what a powerful reminder it is for all of us. Home is more than a place — it's where you are loved, welcomed, and reminded that you belong. In Luke 15, Jesus shares the story of a son who wandered far from home but was met with compassion and celebration when he returned. Before the son could finish his apology, the father ran to him. That is the heart of God toward each of us.

Homecoming is about returning — returning to our first love, renewing our faith, and reconnecting with our church family at Raytown Christian Church. For some, it may mean stepping back in after a season of distance. For others, it may mean going deeper in commitment and purpose. No matter where you find yourself, the invitation is the same: come home. My prayer is that this month feels like a spiritual family reunion — full of grace, joy, and open arms.

I love you all!

Keep the Glory Going!

Our Jude 1:24–25 memorization challenge is in full swing, and you're doing great! If you haven't jumped in yet, it's not too late. Today is the perfect day to start. Try saying a line while you pour your morning coffee, write it on a sticky note for your mirror, or practice with a friend after worship.

You'll be amazed how quickly it begins to stick. And every time those words come to mind, you're carrying a little more glory and joy into your day.

Let's keep cheering each other on. We're learning this together and together, we can do it!

24 To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy— 25 to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

Jude 1:24-25

Journey Through Holy Week with RCC

Holy Week is a powerful time to walk with Jesus through the final days of His earthly ministry—days filled with celebration, teaching, sacrifice, and the hope of resurrection. This year, we invite you not only to participate, but also to invite your friends, neighbors, and family to experience these meaningful moments with us.

We begin with **Palm Sunday**, remembering Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Join us for our **Palm Sunday Breakfast from 9:30–10:30 AM**, followed by worship at 10:30 AM. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring someone along for fellowship and a joyful start to Holy Week.

On **Maundy Thursday, 3:00-7:00 PM**, we will gather for a **Prayer Vigil in the sanctuary**. The space will be softly lit, with scripture from the Last Supper playing on a loop. Communion will be available throughout the evening, and several simple, self-guided prayer stations will invite you into reflection on service, confession, intercession, and the quiet watchfulness of the garden. This is a peaceful, come-and-go experience, staying for a few minutes or lingering longer that many in our community may appreciate. Please consider inviting someone who might need a quiet place to pray or reflect.

Finally, we celebrate the resurrection together on **Easter Sunday at 10:30 AM**. This joyful service is a wonderful time to welcome guests and share the hope of new life in Christ.

Holy Week



Palm Sunday



Maundy Thursday



Easter

However, we are issuing you:

- Strength you didn't know you had
- Clarity you couldn't see before
- Faith that's deeper than it was
- A testimony that will help someone else

Exchange complete: Trust the process

(borrowed)

Throughout the year, Pastor Michael reminds us how much God loves us and how we must be patient as we wait for His plan to unfold.

Keeping this Refund Policy in mind, remember Lent is a time of personal reflection, prayer and spiritual renewal. As we observe Lent this year, think about how we approach our obedience to God. We may choose to fast, give to charity, serve the poor or memorize Scripture. We offer small personal sacrifices in order to draw us closer to God. As we prepare our hearts for the celebration of Easter, remember to do all of this willingly as Christ told his disciples in Matthew 6:16-18 (ESL):

"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees you in secret will reward you."

Each of us has our own way of preparing for the resurrection of Jesus on Easter morning. Make sure you are doing it to show your gratitude for Jesus's sacrifices for each of us.



KAIROS OUTSIDE
Kairos Outside COLLECTION • March 15

Blessing Women Impacted by Incarceration

Help sponsor a healing weekend by supporting the cost of:

- Meals
- Lodging

Monetary Donations Gratefully Accepted

Kairos team members will be at a table in the Narthex on March 15 to receive donations.

Thank you for sharing Christ's love.

MIDWEEK MANNA
A Bible Study with Pastor Michael

WEDNESDAYS AT NOON
JOIN US FOR STUDY & FELLOWSHIP!

A Message from Moderator Mary

When things are not going as expected, imagine the customer service department of Heaven with pads ready to assist us with our prayer request.

God's Refund Policy:

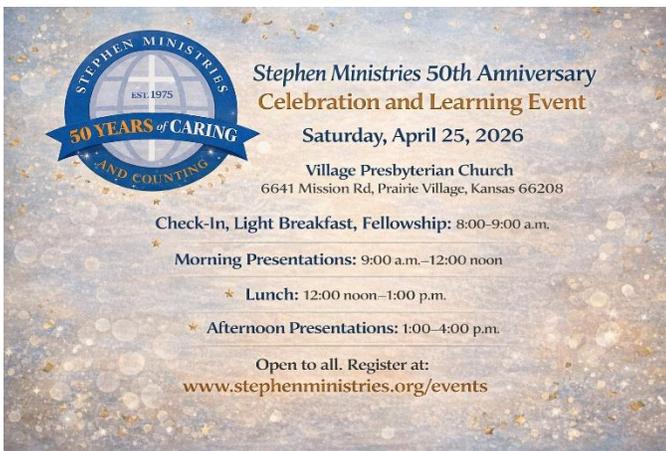
Thank you for your prayer request.

We see you would like to return:

- The hard season
- The person who left
- The unanswered prayer
- The closed door
- The waiting period

Unfortunately, these items are non-refundable as they were:

- Custom-designed for your growth
- Necessary for your next chapter
- Protecting you from something you couldn't see
- Part of a bigger plan you don't have the full picture of yet



You are invited to a **Stephen Ministries 50th Anniversary Celebration and Learning Event on April 25, 2026** at the Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road in Prairie Village.. It will feature the founder of Stephen Ministry, Dr. Kenneth Haugk and several other faculty from the ministry. This event is open to anyone. There will be presentations on grief, empathy, mental health and more. Check in is from 8-9am and the event ends at 4pm. The cost is \$15.00 per person; \$12.00 if you order a box lunch. There is no deadline for registering, however space is limited so everyone should register as soon as you're able. You can register at stephenministries.org/celebrateKC. For additional information please contact Robin Smith.



The RCC Mini Food Pantry opened its door on Sunday, February 1st in the Outreach office at the bottom of the ramp (across from the elevator). Hours are Sundays, from 9am – 12pm. Members are encouraged to check it out, and if there's ever a need, please feel free to take what you need. And if you're fortunate enough to have extras, please drop non-perishables on Sundays in the Outreach office in the "Donations" box. During the week, please use the "Donations" box located inside the administrative office. Church members donated many items already, so food is available! *"Take what you need, leave what you can!"*

This month we will minister to the children at the River of Refuge Transitional Housing apartments. After we receive a list of children with their details (age and sex) Outreach fills and delivers Easter baskets for them. We include the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his Resurrection, along with

little gifts and candy. We share the Gospel by including illustrated Bible comics (which the older children will be more apt to read!), and children illustrated books or Bibles for the little ones. We also invite the children and their families to Raytown Christian Church for Sunday School and worship service. This year Pastor Michael will bless the Easter baskets and pray that God's message of love will touch all who receive them.

Raytown Christian Church is filled with amazing people who share with those in need, following Jesus' command *to love one another*.

Upcoming Events:

Easter Candy Needed

The Outreach Ministry has two upcoming projects and needs candy, The first is the Easter Baskets for the River of Refuge. They would like wrapped chocolate candy for these baskets. The second is candy for the Main Street Association's Eggstravaganza. For this project they need wrapped non-chocolate candy. If you would like to contribute to either of these projects, please bring your candy to church by March 22nd. There will be collection bins in the Narthex and on the Crossing.

The FIFA World Cup is coming! Kansas City will host 6 events in June and July, with the event held at Arrowhead Stadium. This is a 26-day window for outreach, prayer, hospitality and evangelism. Raytown Christian Church is involved with the Raytown Faith Community planning meetings to discuss how we will minister to the world-wide soccer fans coming into our community.

Ongoing:

During these difficult times, we lift our leaders and country in prayer. Many people are struggling, hungry and ill. Please pray for those in need.

Outreach is always interested in our congregation's thoughts and ideas on how to reach out to our community! Please feel free to find an Outreach team member and share your thoughts or drop a note in the Outreach mailbox located in the reception area of the office.

Our first and foremost goal is to help the unchurched say "Yes!" to Jesus.

**What's Happening Around
Raytown with Susan**



**Consider joining Restaurants in our Raytown
Community for Meals during Lent!**



Lenten Specials at Dagwood's----

Every Friday until Easter

6204 Raytown Trafficway

Fish Sandwich Special-- \$10

Served with your choice of: Fries, Onion Rings or Tater Tots

Shrimp Basket -- \$13

Comes with Coleslaw & Texas Toast

Served with your choice of: Fries, Onion Rings or Tater Tots



Fish Fry-days at V's Italiano!

10908 E. 40 Highway

Join V's from 4:00- 9:00 every Friday during Lent for our delicious, flaky Haddock, dipped in beer batter and fried to perfection. Served with fries, House salad and Rum Cake for \$23.50



Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

5101 Blue Ridge Cutoff

February 20th & 27th

March 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th

4:00- 7:00pm

Cost: Adults \$15, Children 6-12 \$7, 5 & under FREE

Come and enjoy a great meal with fried and baked fish, fried shrimp, vegetables, potatoes, coleslaw, and bread. The menu changes every week so come and see what we are serving.

As always clergy, police, firefighters, and all first responders in uniform are free as a thank you for their service.



Lent Special at Lutfi's Fried Fish- Raytown!

9120 E. Hwy 350

Make lunch delicious and affordable this Lent with our \$8 Snack Pack Special!

Enjoy a three-piece basket served with your choice of French Fries, Potato Salad, Cole slaw.

Or try a whole catfish dinner with any two sides for just \$16!

Available daily during Lent- Closed Mondays