



The Bethlehem Star

May 2026



“Can you believe it?”

The Easter Celebration began April 5 this year and continues for 50 days. We are tied to this world. Therefore, the profound truth of Jesus’ suffering and resurrection after dying on the cross has been a struggle to comprehend for many people of faith. Why does Jesus take on our sins in this way? He is innocent. It struck me hard this year when I see the suffering and chaos in our world today. Jesus chooses to join us with his light of hope. He chose to die for us, like a parent would do anything to save their child from harm. We are children of God in an out of control world.

Savannah Guthrie is lead reporter on NBC Today Morning news. Her Mom, Nancy, was taken from her family months ago. Savannah said, “This is the darkest time in my life.” At the same time, her faith and Nancy’s faith, bring light. “The darker the hour, the brighter the light appears.” We have generations that have heard this message, “He is Risen. He has risen indeed.” for over 2000 years.

Who do we believe when we celebrate eternal life and the resurrection of our Lord? Jesus declares it, the women at the grave celebrate, an angel says, “Why are you looking for the living among the dead?” The disciples write about it in the Gospels. People of profound faith like Sunday school teachers, mothers, fathers, pastors and our church friends believe He is Risen!

We are told with the ladies at the grave, “He is Risen!” It is our ministry now, to receive the light of hope and share it. We worship a living Christ. He will sustain us through dark times in our world and in our everyday lives. It is perfect to be JOYOUS even in the times of challenge because our hope is not in the material things or death dealing decisions of our world but in the MASTER of life and light. Look at him and be radiant. Our HOPE and foundation is built on the Prince of Peace. Jesus is the KING of our lives. Thanks be to God!

On the journey, Pastor Bob

Pulpit Schedule
May

- 3 Pastor Bob Hansen**
- 10 Pastor Bob Hansen**
- 17 Pastor Sharon Rogers**
- 24 Pastor Sharon Rogers**
- 31 Pastor Sharon Rogers**

May Birthdays

- 10 Lynn Hansen**
- 16 Sherry Krehl**
- 18 Susan Gulke**
- 19 Sue Ann Brown**



Feed My Sheep Food Pantry

The **March** clients served are as follows:

	2026	2025
Households	260	439
Individuals	733	1306
Children	163	363
# of Pantries	5	8

Pantry numbers for March are lower than normal as the pantry was closed for two weeks for new floor installation.

CELEBRATING 130 YEARS OF BETHLEHEM



Easter Sunday 2026



HARMONESSENCE APPEARING IN THE MIDWEST HARMONY REGION 3 COMPETITION

HarmonEssence is the first contestant on Saturday, May 2nd. It starts at noon and their estimated stage time is 12:10 pm. The link to watch it is: <https://region3sweetadelines.org/livestream2026reg3>.

R3 MIDWEST HARMONY REGION 3

QUARTET AND CHORUS
MAY 1ST & MAY 2ND

REGION 3 COMPETITION LIVESTREAM 2026

COMING SOON

DONATE NOW TO KEEP THE LIVESTREAM FREE FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY!

click here!

TO VISIT THE LIVESTREAM WEBPAGE

<https://region3sweetadelines.org/livestream2026reg3>



Pastor Bob and Lynn's
journey to Africa



“Mothers of All Kinds” – a spoken word by Dorina Lazo Gilmore-Young

I am a mother....

I am Eve, the mother of mankind, the first to walk with God in the garden
the one to sink her teeth into that forbidden fruit that would change history.

I am Sarah, who left my people and my comfort zone
to link arms with my husband in a new land, to raise up nations.

I am Hagar escaping the heat of my mistress by running to the desert with my Ishmael
and discovering a God who sees His daughters in the wilderness.

I am Esther, an orphan-turned-queen, called into the palace
to pray, persuade and leverage my privileges for my people.

I am Rahab, who extended a rope of hope to strangers because I believed
in the power of God and became the mother to Boaz, the great great grandmother to King David.

I am Ruth, a widow-turned-warrior, who worked and gleaned and gained
the attention of one Boaz, who stands a story of how God turns ashes into beauty.

I am Hannah, weeping in the synagogue for God to open my womb
and experiencing the miracle of my sweet boy Samuel, my gift back to the Giver.

I am Elizabeth, who became a mother even with wrinkled face and tired shoulders,
who birthed John, the friend and forerunner of Jesus Christ himself.

I am Mary, the mother of God’s own Son, who watched her son die a horrible death on the cross and stands
witness today to the power of resurrection.

You are the new mother, cradling your cherub in your arms, wondering if you were cut out for this constant
work of changing diapers, wiping noses, buckling into car seats and grocery carts.

You are the grandmother serving up spaghetti and meatballs along with Bible stories and songs to help your
little saplings grow in strength and faith.

You are the wife who stood at her husband’s graveside, burying him too soon and bearing up his grown children
to help them navigate their grief.

You are the single woman watching other women’s children, waiting, wondering when it will be your turn.

You are the working mom, packing lunches and slipping into heels, whisking them off to school before the bell
rings, before you start your day at the office.

You are the adoptive mom, crossing cultures to mother, to raise up, to stand in the gap for this child who carries
the blood of another.

You are the barren mother, who weeps when she sees another negative pregnancy test, when she hears the
treatment didn’t work. Again.

You are the mother whose babies have already flown to heaven, who endures the sting each Mother's day that reminds you of this deep and hidden loss.

Your tears glisten like stars – tiny holes of light pricking through the night sky.

And He sees you there.

He does care.

He walks with you every step of the way.

He comforts you in your sorrow.

He waits patiently for you to come home.

You are the missionary to the outcast;

You are the sister to the prodigal;

You are the friend to the friendless;

You are the coach to the child;

You are the mentor to the young mother...

We are the women of Haiti, rolling beads from recycled cardboard, dreaming of days to come when we might pay for our children to go to school, when we might build that house on the hill.

We are the women of Japan, taking vintage kimonos and refashioning them into scarves and purses and jewelry. Our hearts are mended as we push needles through soft cloth.

We are the women of Germany, reaching out to refugees, crossing cultural barriers to lift up the foreigner, the other mother without a place to rest her head.

We are the women of the Bridge, reaching out to the neighborhood, investing in schools, non-profits, serving on Sundays, greeting new friends at the door

We are the women who prepared His body for burial, who washed His feet with our hair, who stood by when others denied Him.

We are the women, who were first to the tomb, who were surprised by angled light and the curve of miracle

We are the women sent out to preach the Good News, to tell the story of our Risen King.

We are the women bending knees in our war rooms on behalf of our children, husbands, city, valley, country, neighbors, and friends.

Mothers of all kinds,

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. (Ephesians 1:16-23, ESV)

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GIVE DeKalb County

MAIL-IN DONATIONS

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01

Visit Website

GiveDeKalbCounty.org



02

Decide on Donations

Review nonprofit profiles & decide on donation(s)



03

Donation Form

Print & complete donation form



04

Write Check

Write one check for total donation amount payable to "DCCF"



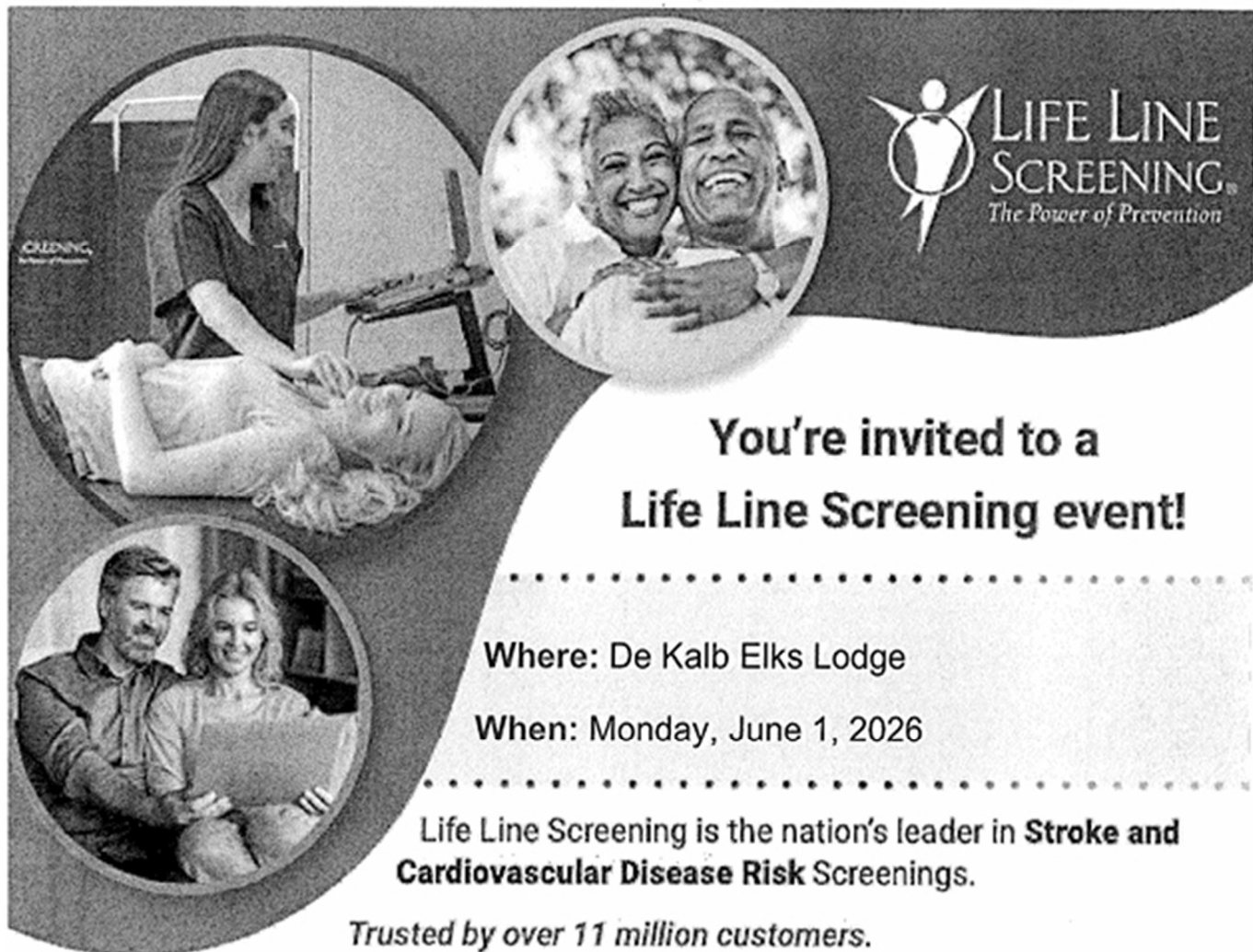
05

Mail Check & Form

DeKalb County Community Foundation
475 DeKalb Avenue, Sycamore, IL 60178



Must be postmarked April 23 - May 7



You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: De Kalb Elks Lodge

When: Monday, June 1, 2026

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Screenings.**

Trusted by over 11 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend:

Anyone age of 40+

Special Pricing for \$129

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call 800-324-9458 and use
promo code HABC001

Visit  [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](https://www.llsa.social/habc)



Text the word "circle"
to 216-279-1607

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.

MAY 2026

Monday thru Thurs 8-1
 Phone: 815-758-3203
 Website: bethlehemdekalb.org
 Email: belcdekalb@comcast.net
 Facebook: bethlehemdekalb

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 8:30/9:30 FMS Pick-up
3 9:30 Worship 5th Sunday of Easter	4 7:30 FMS Truck Delivery 8-1 Office Open 12:30 Cut-Ups	5 8-1 Office Open 3-5 FMS Pantry 7:00-9:30 HarmonEssence	6 8-1 Office Open 10:30 FMS Pick-up	7 8-1 Office Open 8:30 FMS Pick-up 9:30-11:30 FMS Pantry	8	9 8:30/9:30 FMS Pick-up
10 9:30 Worship 6th Sunday of 	11 8-1 Office Open 12:30 Cut-Ups	12 8-1 Office Open 3-5 FMS Pantry 7:00-9:30 HarmonEssence	13 8-1 Office Open 10:30 FMS Pick-up Noon-VAC Lunch	14 8-1 Office Open 8:30 FMS Pick-up 9:30-11:30 FMS Pantry 10:30 Martha's Sisters	15	16 8:30/9:30 FMS Pick-up
17 9:30 Worship 7th Sunday of Easter	18 8-1 Office Open 12:30 Cut-Ups	19 7:30 FMS Truck Delivery 8-1 Office Open 3-5 FMS Pantry	20 8-1 Office Open 10:30 FMS Pick-up Noon-VAC	21 8-1 Office Open 8:30 FMS Pick-up 9:30-11:30 FMS Pantry 10:30 Martha's	22	23 8:30/9:30 FMS Pick-up
24 9:30 Worship Day of 	25 Office Closed 	26 8-1 Office Open 3-5 FMS Pantry 11-12:30 Club 55 Drive-Thru Pantry 7:00-9:30 HarmonEssence	27 8-1 Office Open 10:30 FMS Pick-up Noon-VAC Lunch	28 8-1 Office Open 8:30 FMS Pick-up 9:30-11:30 FMS Pantry 10:30 Martha's Sisters	29	30 8:30/9:30 FMS Pick-up 12-6 pm Graduation Event
31 9:30 Worship The Holy Trinity 						