



1st Church in Blair

A United Methodist Ministry

Weekly Communique

January 18th, 2026



You are invited to our Shrove Tuesday Dinner!

Come enjoy a lively southern-inspired meal featuring jambalaya, Cajun pasta, and hush puppies, in fellowship hall as we prepare our hearts for Lent. Serving from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. This dinner is sponsored by the Christmas Market Team, and all money raised will support the Second Annual Christmas Market.

Lenten Schedule Information

This year our Wednesday Night Community meals during Lent will begin on Shrove Tuesday - February 17, the day before Ash Wednesday. All other meals will be on Wednesday, from February 25-March 25.

The times for the meals will also be different due to the change in the Lenten schedule. Meal times will be 5:30-7:00 PM for all meals. CONNECT and confirmation will meet from 6:00-7:00 PM. Lenten services will be held @ 7:15, "Journey to the Cross". Shrove Tuesday meal will have a New Orleans vibe. Wednesday meal menus and groups are still being planned. Thank you Monica Hirschert for coordinating the meals.



Lenten Study: "Entering the Passion of Christ"

Monday Session: 6:30 PM; February 16 - March 23

Thursday Session: 9:30 AM; February 19 - March 26

Ash Wednesday Service: Feb. 18 @ 7:15 PM

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Full Calendar of events may be found on our website.

January 18th

9:30 AM - Worship - In Person and Live Streaming

Rev. Dr. Doug Griger

Sunday School - PreK-5th Grade. *Nursery is available.*
Coffee Fellowship - Following Worship in Fellowship Hall.

Scripture: Isaiah 49:1-7; John 1:29-42

Message: "Mighty Long Arms"

Those Serving This Sunday, January 18th, 2026

Music Leadership: Allison Matson

Chancel Choir/Song Leader: Glenn Coates

Audio/Visual

Online Worship Team Coordinator: Layla Kern

Camera: Mia Kern

Soundboard and Soundcheck: Kevin Fleming

Connections Team: Joan Bryant

Volunteer: Gary Kruse

Acolyte: Skylar Bacon

Nursery: Samantha Geise

Coffee Fellowship: Scott & Lisa Andersen and Family

During January we are collecting food items for the Washington County Food Pantry.

January needs list:

- ◆ Rice sides (like rice a roni, or seasoned rice pouches)
 - ◆ Jelly
- ◆ Individual oatmeal packets
 - ◆ Chili fixin's (chili beans, kidney beans, tomatoes, chili seasoning)
- ◆ Soup crackers, crackers

Donations may be placed on the hall shelf leading to the sanctuary. Thank you!



Blair First United Methodist Church 1656 Colfax St. Blair, NE 68008 402.426.2165 office@blairumc.org

Doug's Cell: 402-237-8066

Doug's Email: dgriger@greatplainsumc.org



Blair First United Methodist



www.blairumc.org

Please "Like" the new
FACEBOOK Page for Youth and
Children's Ministry Updates
New LINK: [Facebook](#)

Danielle Jensen, Family Ministries Director
Education@blairumc.org 402-427-3106



Sunday School After Children's Time-10:30am.

All students begin in Worship.

PreK-5th dismiss after Children's Time to PreK room for music.

PreK-2nd grade (classroom across from Sanctuary)

3rd-5th grade (classroom by elevator)



CONNECT

Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 pm

PreK-5th grade

Begin in the Chapel, lower level.

9th-12th grade

Meet in Youth room, lower level.

CONNECT & Confirmation Lenten Schedule

Feb. 18 - March 25th

6:00-7:00 PM

Nursery Wish List

There are three items on the Amazon Wish List that have not been purchased. Please follow the link to see what is still requested.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/304P6S8TENSIN?ref=wl_share

Thank you for your help!



This Week at Blair 1st...

Sunday, January 18th: 9:30 AM Worship - Live or Streaming

Sunday School - PreK- 5th Grade

6:00 PM: Cribbage - FH

6:30 PM: Men's Book Club @ the Foust's

Tuesday, January 20th: 5:00 PM Endowment Committee - P

7:00 - 8:00 PM: Special Olympics - FH

Wednesday, January 21st: 9:30 AM United Methodist Women - P

6:00 PM: Celebration Bells - S

6:30- 7:30 PM: CONNECT - LL & Confirmation - P

7:00 PM: Chancel Choir - S

Thursday, January 22nd: 5:30 PM TOPS - FH

Friday, January 23rd: Office Closed.

S = Sanctuary
P = Parlor
LL = Lower Level
FH = Fellowship Hall

Ways to Serve

Altar Flower Sign-Up

More than one person or family may sign up for a Sunday. Sign up on the counter in the narthex or call the office 402-426-2165.

During January we are collecting food items for the

Washington County Food Pantry.

January needs list:

Rice sides (like rice a roni, or seasoned rice pouches); Jelly; Individual oatmeal packets, Chili fixin's (chili beans, kidney beans, tomatoes, chili seasoning); Soup crackers, crackers

Donations may be placed on the hall shelf leading to the sanctuary. Thank you!

Next Recycling Date: February 14th

Where: Washington Co. Recycling Center

When: 8 AM-Noon; 2 shifts available
8 AM- 10 AM and 10AM-Noon.

Who: Adults and children (must be accompanied by an adult). Sign-up near the Church Office

8 Who Ate Gatherings

If you are interested in joining a group, sign up by clicking [this link](#) or calling the church office by Jan 25. The hope will be to gather in February or March.

Contact Jamie Folkers at folkers4@gmail.com or 402-709-4809 with questions.

January Change for Change to benefit

UM Human Relations Day

Did you know that an estimated 70% of all people who die do not have a will or living trust? Without proper estate planning, no charity can receive gifts from your estate. Be sure your estate planning is up-to-date. Do you know who your heirs will be? Is your church a beneficiary of your estate?

We're looking for an intern to learn the technology desk.

This is an unpaid position but could possibly turn into a paid position in August.

See Pastor Doug for more information.

