



1st Church in Blair

A United Methodist Ministry

Weekly
Communique

January 25th, 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.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Full Calendar of events may be found on our website.

January 25th

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: Matthew 4:12-23

Message: "What Kind of Bait?"

Those Serving This Sunday, January 25th, 2026

Music Leadership: Allison Matson

Song Leader: Glenn Coates

Celebration Bells: Jeff Mount

Audio/Visual

Online Worship Team Coordinator: Layla Kern

Camera: Mia Kern

Soundboard and Soundcheck: Kevin Fleming

Connections Team: Joan Bryant

Volunteers: Morgan and Daphne Frese

Acolyte: TBD

Nursery: Samantha Geise

Coffee Fellowship: Scott & Lisa Andersen and Family

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 Hirchert for coordinating the meals.



For
Washington
County
Food Pantry
at Joseph's
Coat.

Office Closings due to Inclement Weather

Reminder: When inclement weather closes the Blair Public Schools the church office will be closed and all activities will be cancelled.

Announcements will be made on Facebook and WOWT, Channel 6.

2026 Pledge Changes to Your Vanco Account

If you have changed your pledge for 2026 and did not change your donation yourself and need assistance from the office please contact Debbie: 402-426-2165. Unless we are asked and are given your permission your information is not changed on your Vanco account.



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

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.



Recruiting volunteers (18 or older) For Wednesday night nursery from 6:00pm – 8:00pm. We are looking to cover the times during bell and choir practices.

Contact Danielle Jensen for more information:

Education@blairumc.org 402-427-3106

(Safe Gatherings certification will need to be completed.)



This Week at Blair 1st...

Sunday, January 25th: 9:30 AM Worship - Live or Streaming

Sunday School - PreK- 5th Grade

6:00 PM: Cribbage - FH

Wednesday, January 28th: 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 29th: 5:30 PM TOPS - FH

Friday, January 30th: Office Closed.

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

Camp Updates for Spring and Summer

Blair First UMC also offers scholarships for campers. Check out the offers from Camp Fontanelle below. Information will also be posted on the Family Ministries bulletin board (near the Elevator, lower level).

Please call or come in to the church office for scholarships from Blair First.

Summer Camp Discounts

Hope and Promise Scholarship: This packet contains a certificate that can be used by each pastor and each UWF/Women's ministry from each church to send one first time resident camper at half price to Camp Fontanelle. You may make copies for each of your pastors/congregations/UWF/Women's ministry. This offer is available to pastors and congregations outside of our districts. It is also available to other denominations in our area.

How it works:

- 1) If a church has one pastor and a UWF, they can send 2 first-time campers at ½ price.
- 2) If a church has two pastors and one UWF, they can send 3 first-time campers at ½ price.
- 3) If a pastor serves 3 separate churches and 2 of the 3 churches have a UWF, then a total of 5 first-time campers can come at ½ price (2 from each church with a UWF and 1 from the church without a UWF).

*UWF's and pastors may opt to have children's or youth leaders select the first-time campers.

**The recipient does not need to be a member of your congregation. You are free to use this as an outreach to your community.

*** This discount cannot be used in combination with other offers.

Bring a Friend Discount: Returning campers can receive 25% off their registration fee when they successfully invite a first-time camper. You must share the name of the friend when registering and that friend must also be registered for a program to receive the discount. (The friend does not need to attend the same camp session.)

Sibling Saver Discount: If you are registering multiple children from the same household for our residential camp programs, or if an individual camper attends more than one program in the same summer, the second and following registrations will receive 25% off. NOTE: The first registration must be paid at FULL PRICE in order to use this discount. CODE: SIBLING

EARLYBIRD Discount: Again this year we are extending our early bird discount to all of our programs. Campers who register before April 1st will receive \$25 off their registration fee. Automatically applied to registrations submitted before April 1st, no code needed!

**NOTE: The bring a friend discount must be requested. Staff will enter it after verifying that criteria has been met to receive it. Hope and Promise scholarships will be applied upon receipt of the certificate from the church. **

EASTERN NEBRASKA DISTRICT CAMP SUNDAY MARCH 1, 2026

◆ Matching \$5,000 grant available from the district ◆



- During your church's offering
- Online via this link: <https://square.link/u/l60PNOJU>
- Mail a check to Camp Fontanelle, 9677 County Rd 3, Nickerson, NE 68044

WAYS TO GIVE:

YOUR GIFT SUPPORTS OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND SO THAT EVERY CHILD HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE CAMP!

DONATE NOW



402-478-4296

campfontanelle.com

fontanelle@greatplainsumc.org



SPRING SERVICE DAYS 2026

Join us for any or all of our Spring service days. Help get the site ready for summer camp! We will do site clean up of downed limbs, clean inside buildings, set up activity areas, etc.

Apr 18th and May 2nd 9am

Come when you can,
leave when you must!

There are always a variety of tasks to complete, both outdoor and indoor, so you can choose what works best for you. Just check in at Riverview Lodge to see the list and choose your job.

If you have work gloves or tools please bring them as camp has a limited number available.

Lunch is provided

Questions? Contact the office 402-478-4296 or email Ryan rsiver@greatplainsumc.org



Summer Camp Donation Wishlist

The following list contains items that camp needs for summer programs and would be great opportunities for churches and individuals to donate to camp to keep our daily expenses down. Prices vary from a few dollars to more expensive, larger items. You can also shop our amazon wish list and ship your donation directly to camp! Camp's Address: 9677 County Rd 3, Nickerson, NE 68044

Program Supplies:

- Glow sticks, etc.
- Pool noodles
- Tie Dye refill packets (we have LOTS of bottles)
- Sharpees
- Face Paint, glow in the dark face paint
- Color run powder
- Friendship Bracelet thread, embroidery floss
- Various colors of craft twine
- Craft Paint

Janitorial/Maintenance/Office Supplies

- Clorox Wipes
- Paper Towels
- Standard size toilet paper
- AA and AAA Batteries
- Laundry Detergent
- Dryer Sheets

Kitchen

- Individually packaged snacks like granola bars, goldfish, fruit snacks, etc.
- Gallon Sized Ziploc bags
- Individual coffee creamers
- Hershey Bars
- Small brown paper lunch bags

Amazon Wish List





2026

First United Methodist Church
 Office Hours – M-Th 9am-3pm
 Office Email: office@blairumc.org
 Church Office: 402.426.2165
 Church Website: www.blairumc.org

We GATHER To Thrive In Community.
GROW To Be Like Jesus.
GO To Be Hope
Gather->Grow->Go->

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School PreK - 5th Grade Coffee Fellowship following Worship. (FH) 6:00 PM Cribbage	2	3 9:30 AM Faithful Bookworms (P)	4	5 5:30 PM TOPS (FH) 6:00 PM Christmas Market Meeting	6 Office Closed	7
8 9:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School PreK - 5th Grade Coffee Fellowship following Worship. (FH) 10:30 AM UMW Book & Bake Sale (FH) 6:00 PM Cribbage	9	10 6:00 PM N.O.W. (P) 7:00 PM Family Ministries (FH)	11 9:30-3:00 PM W.I.C. (FH) 10-3:00 PM Homeless Prevention (P) 6:00 PM Celebration Bells (P) NO CONNECT 6:30-7:30 PM Confirmation (S) 7:00 PM Choir (FH)	12 5:30 PM TOPS (FH)	13 Office Closed	14 7:30 AM Methodist Men Location TBD 8 AM to Noon All Church Recycling @ Washington Co. Recycling
15 9:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School PreK - 5th Grade Coffee Fellowship following Worship. (FH) 6:00 PM Cribbage (FH)	16 6:30 PM Lenten Study "Entering the Passion of Jesus" (P)	17 5:30-7:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Meal (P) 6:30 PM N.O.W. (P)	18 ASH WEDNESDAY 6:00 PM Celebration Bells (S) 6:00-7:00 PM CONNECT - (PreK - 12) & Confirmation (P) 7:15 Ash Wednesday Service 7:45 PM Choir (S)	19 9:30 AM Lenten Study "Entering the Passion of Jesus" (P) 5:30 PM TOPS (FH) 7:00 PM Leadership (P)	20 Office Closed	21
22 9:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School PreK - 5th Grade Coffee Fellowship following Worship. (FH) 6:00 PM Cribbage (FH)	23 6:30 PM Lenten Study "Entering the Passion of Jesus" (P)	24 7:00-8:30 PM Special Olympics (FH)	25 5:30-7:00 PM Wed. Community Meal 6:00 PM Celebration Bells (S) 6:00-7:00 PM CONNECT (PreK - 12) & Confirmation (P) 7:15 Lenten Service 7:45 PM Choir (S)	26 9:30 AM Lenten Study "Entering the Passion of Jesus" (P) 5:30 PM TOPS (FH)	27 Office Closed	28