



| DECEMBER 2025

Memorial Methodist Church

McCook NE

405 East E St

*Wishing you a blessed
and joyful Christmas*

Upcoming Events

SUNDAY SERVICES
Contemporary | 8:45am
Traditional | 10:45am

NOEL ON NORRIS
December 6 | 6 pm

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
December 14 | 5pm

W.O.W. & W.O.R.D.
CHRISTMAS PARTY
December 17

CHRISTMAS CAROLING
December 21 | 6pm

CHRISTMAS SERVICES
December 24
4pm | Garden Prairie
6pm & 11pm | MMC

GIFT GIVING SERVICE
December 28
10am | MMC

A Savior is Born

Christmas Eve Services
December 24, 2025

Candle Light Service | 6pm
Communion Service | 11pm

Children's Christmas Program
December 14 | 5pm

Bells & Choir
December 7 Services

Choir
December 14 Services

Christmas Caroling
Meet at MMC Parking Lot
December 21 | 6pm



Two Kinds of Faith: "Help Me" and "Have ME"

There are at least two kinds of faith. The first faith is transactional faith. It can be summarized in two words: "Help me!" We find ourselves in a messed-up, mixed-up, hectic world plagued by sin and death, and it touches every part of our lives, families, and communities. However, in the prosperity of the United States of America, we can almost manage to insulate ourselves from our need through some combination of achievement and addiction. We sit on the fence between education and entertainment in an endless quest for the short-lived experiences of the so-called good life, turning to the gods of self-help when they seem to suit our situation.

Somewhere along the way, either through the memories of our childhood churches or faith-filled grandparents or some kind of midlife tragedy, we wake up to

our deep need. By the mercy of God, we are found by the grace of God, and we wake up to his transformational presence in this tragic world. We discover the two words, and we begin speaking them to God: "Help me!"

And God helps us. We develop a transactional religion, which grows into a personal relationship with God, and we begin to grow in the grace of God. We learn to depend on God as we bring him our needs and the needs of others, crying out with ever-growing confidence, "Help me!" While this is a good and necessary stage of faith, most people never go beyond it.

We get stuck, hindered in development, with lives consumed by the cares and concerns of our broken lives in this broken world. We do our best, striving to be committed, living in this world on its terms while calling on the resources of heaven to help us endure it. Faith can become weary and even stale in this world as we learn to endure what we can't understand and to trust what we cannot see.

It brings us to the second kind of faith. Let's call it transcendent faith. It, too, can be spoken in two words: "Have me!" This is the faith of surrender and consecration. Again, the greatest leap of faith is not from unbelief to belief, but from commitment to consecration. This is the faith of abandon. It comes from an unwillingness to tolerate the gap between the promises and possibilities we see in the Word of God and the wreckage and despair in the world we live in.

Perhaps the best summary of transcendent faith comes from Paul's letter to the Galatian Christians when he said, *"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me"* (Gal. 2:20). This way of transcendent faith is available to anyone, but few take the invitation, and yet this is the faith of impossible things. Hebrews 11, indeed, the whole of Scripture, overflows with images of "Have me!" faith.

- Pastor Jeff Kelley

Little Blessings Preschool

What a wonderful and busy month it has been for our preschoolers! They have been learning and growing so much.

They had a blast at our Fall Party and loved welcoming our special visitors. We were so honored to have a visit from the Furnas County Rodeo Queen, Brooklynn Tidyman, and the children also learned about fire safety from the Fire Department. Plus, the kids are getting bilingual, thanks to Mrs. Patty, who taught them how to introduce themselves and say their age in Spanish!

In our Bible lessons, Pastor Jeremy has shared exciting stories about Jacob and Joseph, and we are now beginning our study of Moses.

-Traci Wiemers



Christmas Program Invitation

We are absolutely thrilled to invite you to our annual Christmas Program as we celebrate Jesus' birthday!

Please mark your calendars for **Monday, December 8th**. We will have two performances:

Morning Class Program: 6:00 PM

Afternoon Class Program: 7:00 PM

We hope you can join us for a special evening of music and celebration! Following the program, please stay and enjoy delicious Christmas treats with us.

Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas!

Outreach Ministry

Noel on Norris

We will be serving hot chocolate and cookies outside the church Saturday December 6th at 6 pm during the light parade.

If you'd like to donate cookies, hot chocolate ingredients or help serve the community, you can sign up on the church website or in the Friendship Room.



Thank you!

We've had many events over the last few months and it takes many hands to make all of it possible! I hope everyone that donates, volunteers or prays for the events that our church hosts knows how important all the different support means to those that attend and benefit from it all! What a blessing that we each get to be the hands and feet of Jesus! Thank you!



Youth Ministries

Pic from the Sunday Night Youth Service on October 26th. Ashlyn Bauman, a 10th grader at MHS, gave the message that night.



W.O.R.D Group at the Gray's Shop



Jr. High FCA



Sara LaBrie playing a game with the Jr. High F.C.A. group. They meet every Friday at 7am. The Youth fund helps support F.C.A. by purchasing donuts. (F.C.A.=Fellowship of Christian Athletes)



Youth Ministries

Thank you for supporting our youth!

On October 29th, our youth went door-to-door to collect items for the McCook Food Pantry. They also prayed for those they visited.



Trick or Treat
Food Pantry

The youth do various service projects throughout the year on Sunday evenings. This pic was taken at Gene & Marilyn Anderson's on October 19th.



Service Project

The youth shop for items that go into care packs for the "Adopt a Chaplain" program, to troops serving around the world.



Adopt a Chaplin



Children's Ministries



We want to invite everyone to come enjoy an evening of entertainment on December 14. The children and youth will be putting on a Christmas Program titled "Jack Frost and the Light of Christmas". They will also share songs they have prepared. We hope you will join us at 5 pm and stay afterward for soup. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Upcoming Events



SUNDAYS

Worship Services | 8:45 & 10:45 am
Sunday School | 9:50-10:40 am
Nursery | Infants-PK | 8:30 am-12 pm
3Sixteens | 6-12th | 6-7 pm

MONDAYS

Praise Band Rehearsal | 7 pm

WEDNESDAYS

Men's Bible Study | 6:30 am
Women's Bible Study | 9 am
W.O.W. | PK-8th | 6-7:30 pm
W.O.R.D. | 9-12th | 7-8:30 pm

THURSDAYS

Community Supper | 5:30 pm

SATURDAYS

Men's Bible Study | 7 am

Noel on Norris

December 6 | 6pm

MMW Christmas Luncheon Invite Only

December 11 | 11:30am | Fellowship Hall

Children's Christmas Program

Join us for soup after the program

December 14 | 5pm

W.O.W. & W.O.R.D. Christmas Party

December 17

3Sixteens Christmas Caroling

December 21 | 6pm

Christmas Eve Services

Garden Prairie

December 24 | 4pm

Candle Light Service

December 24 | 6pm

Communion Service

December 24 | 11pm

Gift Sunday Service

December 28 | 10am

Thank you for reading!

MEMORIAL METHODIST
CHURCH

105 EAST E ST
MCCOOK, NE 69001

308-345-2445
website: mccookmmc.com
office@mccookmmc.com