



| JANUARY 2026

Memorial Methodist Church

McCook NE

105 East E St

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

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YOUTH SERVICE
January 25 | 6 pm

Epiphany, officially celebrated on January 6th, holds a special place in the Christian calendar. The word epiphany comes from the Greek epiphania, meaning “manifestation” or “appearance” and the season focuses on the revelation of Jesus Christ to the world. This time highlights three key events: the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus, and His first miracle at the wedding in Cana. Each moment unveils a deeper understanding of Jesus’ divine nature and mission, inviting followers into a season of reflection, discovery, and worship.

At its heart, Epiphany is about light breaking into darkness. The Magi’s journey, guided by the star, symbolizes our search for truth and divine guidance that leads us to it. Their gifts, gold, frankincense, and myrrh, recognize Jesus as King, and Savior, revealing His divine purpose to all nations. The presence of the Magi, representing Gentile nations, emphasizes the inclusiveness of God’s salvation and that Jesus is the light for all people. It simply reminds us that we are all called to share the light of Jesus with our world.

Epiphany

Jesus' baptism is another pivotal moment. When Jesus is baptized in the Jordan, the heavens open, the Spirit descends like a dove, and God declares, "This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:17). This moment affirms Jesus's identity as the beloved Son of God and marks the beginning of His public ministry. For us, it provides an opportunity to reflect on our own baptismal vows and renew our identity as children of God.

Epiphany serves as a bridge between the joy of Christmas and the preparation of Lent, inviting followers of Jesus into a season of spiritual growth. It's a time to celebrate the ways God's glory is revealed, not only in scripture but also in the world around us through the power of the Holy Spirit.

At its essence, Epiphany is a season of discovery and response. It invites us to celebrate the manifestations of Jesus' divine nature while recommitting to our role as bearers of Jesus' light. This season is to remind us that we are called not only to receive the light of Jesus but also to reflect it daily, proclaiming His glory to the ends of the earth.



FAMILY GIVING TREE

Last month the youth of the church took time to buy Christmas presents for 14 children in our community through the “Family Giving Tree” run by the Family Resource Center located in McCook, NE. Through this program, families that could not otherwise afford to buy Christmas presents for their children, sign up to receive gifts. Here are some pics of the youth buying and wrapping gifts.



Baptism & Joining the church

As Methodists, we believe that through infant baptism the child is included in the fellowship of the church, is a part of the body of Christ, and is under the covenant of God. Baptism is an outward sign of an inward grace that God is doing in the life of the child. At the coming of age, the child must decide whether he or she chooses what has already been chosen for them, fellowship with God through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Enjoy these pictures of our latest addition to the fellowship of the church, Baylor Hanigan, son of Mark & Katie Hanigan.



Happy New Year from Little Blessings Preschool!

We were so Blessed to gather food for the pantry and deliver it. We learned a lot about kindness and giving. Our classes enjoyed performing their Christmas programs and celebrating Jesus' Birthday! In January, we look forward to a month of sounding out word families, patterns, adding, and writing.

Our Bible verse for January is:

"For God so Loved the World, that he gave his only son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" John 3:16

The morning class will be learning the Lord's Prayer, and the afternoon class will begin learning Psalm 23.

Jesus loves YOU snow much!

Blessings, Traci



2026 is here! January is such a refreshing time of the year, and I can't help but think that must be intentional. We have just celebrated the birth of our Savior, and like the newborn bubble that exists after welcoming a new little one, time seems to slow down. Priorities shift. Focus changes. All the things on the to-do list seem a little less pressing, and being intentional with our time rises to the top. I encourage you to take the time to sit in the presence of Jesus and just be. Soak in the quiet time with Him. Shift priorities that need shifting. Change your focus. No resolutions needed, just be intentional.

We welcome this new year and semester with joyful anticipation. The past year we have seen many relationships with the Lord grow, and flourish. Children are boldly spreading His love, sharing His light, and inviting others to "come and see" what it's all about. We are thankful for all of your prayers, for each child, teachers and volunteers, and myself. God is moving, and we can feel it. This semester we will be continuing our journey learning about Jesus' death, resurrection, final days on earth, and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit. Lessons for the month of January are as follows:

Jan 4 & 7 - Jesus Was Put on Trial
Jan 11 & 14 - Jesus Was Crucified
Jan 18 & 21 - Jesus Was Raised
Jan 28 - Jesus Is Our Perfect King

Happy New Year from Children's Ministries!



New Year, New Support!

When it comes to parenting, it seems there is always a new obstacle or challenge to face. Starting in January I will be offering one-on-one discussions with parents. Bible studies and group support with other believers is important and I plan to continue those in the future but I hope by offering this time it allows for more confidentiality, in-depth conversation and personalized discussions.

You can utilize the link here to sign up for your one time commitment or you can contact me directly to find a time that works best for you. I look forward to helping parents partner with Jesus in their journeys! - Kelli Jensen

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E4EABAC2FA7-61333047-o/neonone#/>

COMECA FAITH & FARM RETREAT

Join Justin and Kelli Jensen at Comeca for The Faith & Farm Retreat January 16-18. This is a Mission Impact Camp created for farmers and their spouses who carry a lot of responsibility and do not often get the chance to slow down. This retreat offers space for worship, honest conversation, and faith-filled encouragement in a setting meant for rest. Meals, lodging, and programming are fully provided so you can simply come as you are and be present.

Our hope is that you leave feeling renewed, strengthened in your relationships, and reminded that God meets you in both the work you do and the life you live. (Full scholarships are included.)

Visit

<https://comeca.venue360.me/public/events/homepage> to learn more and to register!

Contact Justin or Kelli with any questions

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

Activities Resuming

January 4
 Sunday School
 3Sixteens

January 7
 W.O.W.
 W.O.R.D.

January 5

Little Blessings Preschool

January 8

Community Supper □ The keys to the church have been discontinued

Youth Breakfast

January 25 | Between Services
 in the Fellowship Hall



Youth Service

January 25 | 6 pm

Souperbowl Sunday

February 8 | 10 am Service
 Soup Luncheon following in the Fellowship Hall

Valentines for Shut-Ins

February 8 | 2 pm | Meet at the church

Youth Breakfast

February 22 | Between Services in the Fellowship Hall

Take n' Bake - Youth Spring Fundraiser

February 22 | Pickup at Church | noon - 6 pm

Youth Ski Trip

March 5-8 | Snowy Range Centennial, WY

Thank you for reading!

MEMORIAL METHODIST
 CHURCH

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