

NEW DENVER MONTHLY

The official newsletter of New Denver Church

Straw or Gold? Exploring James Over Twelve Weeks

BY NORTON HERBST

For the next three months, we're going to explore the New Testament letter of James together. This book is fascinating for a bunch of reasons:

+ **It is likely the earliest writing of the New Testament:** before any of the gospel accounts of Jesus' life, before any of Paul's letters. When we read this letter, we're getting the earliest recorded thoughts on what it meant to be a follower of Jesus.

+ **It is most likely written by the half-brother of Jesus himself.** James was a biological son of Joseph and Mary. He grew up with Jesus. And, when Jesus started teaching and calling followers to himself, James was *not a fan*. But later, his whole perspective changed when Jesus rose from the dead.

+ **Martin Luther, who helped launch the Protestant Reformation, actually scorned the book of James.** He famously called it a "letter of straw." He didn't think it stood up to Paul's letters. We'll explore why.

+ **Finally, the famous Camino de Santiago—a pilgrimage pathway in Spain—has made James quite popular today (Santiago is "Saint James" in Spanish).** It is believed that James' bones are buried in Spain, and pilgrims began to travel to see them in the 9th century. Several NDCers have recently walked the Camino.

I hope you'll prioritize joining us on Sundays and be open to what God might show you and teach you through this extraordinary book.

The famous icon that marks the path of the Camino de Santiago



Looking Ahead:

SEP 1 - SEP 30 REGISTER FOR NDC KIDS ON SUNDAY

REGISTERING IN ADVANCE IS INCREDIBLY HELPFUL FOR OUR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS
[REGISTER HERE](#)

SEP 3, SEP 10, SEP 17 GUYS WEDNESDAY HANG

CASUAL LOW-COMMITMENT HANG WITH OTHER NDC GUYS SHARING LIFE'S STRUGGLES AND CELEBRATIONS.
[GROUP INFO HERE](#)

SEP 7 & SEP 21 PRAYER DOWNSTAIRS

9:30AM JUST BETWEEN SERVICES IN THE COUCH ROOM DOWNSTAIRS

SEP 12 MOMCO FALL KICK-OFF MEETING 9:30-11:30 AT NDC

A COMMUNITY FOR MOMS - ALL MOMS WELCOME! BRUNCH & CHILDCARE INCLUDED
[REGISTER HERE](#)

SEP 12-13 RESET - A ONE-DAY RETREAT AT SACRED HEART RETREAT CENTER
REST, RESET, AND/OR RECONNECT WITH GOD.
[REGISTER HERE](#)

SEP 13 LADIES' GAME NIGHT AT RACHEL KOSKY'S HOME IN WASH PARK

6:30PM - TEXT HER AT 3035505521 - ALL ARE WELCOME

SEP 14 SPANISH DISCUSSION GROUP

MEETS AFTER THE 10AM SERVICE AT NDC. ALL SPANISH LEVELS WELCOME!

SEP 14 SECOND SUNDAY BRUNCH

FOR WOMEN IN THEIR 20S & 30S - MEET FOR BRUNCH AFTER 10AM SERVICE
AT ESTER'S IN VIRGINIA VILLAGE

SEP 21 DISCOVERING NDC

NEW OR FEEL NEW TO NDC? COME TO DISCOVERING NDC AFTER EITHER SERVICE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
OUR VISION, MISSION, CORE VALUES, AND NEXT STEPS TO GETTING MORE INVOLVED.
[MORE INFO HERE](#)

SEP 21 NDC STUDENTS ROCKIES GAME AFTER CHURCH (STUDENTS 6TH GRADE AND OLDER)

CONTACT CLAY SCHULTZ FOR MORE INFO AT CLAY.SCHULTZ@NEWDENVER.ORG

SEP 26 MOMCO MEETING 9:30-11:30 AT NDC

ALL MOMS WELCOME
[REGISTER HERE](#)

SEP 28 COFFEE IN THE LOFT

COFFEE IN THE LOFT RETURNS WITH A SPECIAL TWIST YOU'LL HAVE TO BE THERE TO SEE!

OCT 3-5 MEN'S RETREAT

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Reset

SEP 12 - 13

Whether you're looking to reset, rest, or reacquaint yourself with God, this one-day retreat might be what you need. Led by our very own Brian Davis, who is also a certified spiritual director, this retreat is designed to give you enough freedom to do what you want, and also guide you in the ways you need. If this feels intimidating, we get it! We are here to help you make the most of this experience.

At the end of the 24-ish hour experience, you'll gather for a meal with the other NDCers to debrief how it went, so you won't feel left hanging.

This experience takes place at the Sacred Heart Retreat Center, located just outside Denver, with an all-inclusive cost of \$75.

[Register here.](#)

Men's Retreat 2025

OCT 3 - 5

Hey guys! Did you attend last year's Men's Retreat? If so, you already know about Chris Hess and his magical "group spiritual direction" sessions. Great news—he's back for part two at this year's retreat!

If you didn't make it last year, you're in for a treat. This is your chance to see what all the buzz was about. Chris has a unique way of making the deeply personal practice of spiritual direction feel like a powerful, group experience—kind of like group therapy, but with a spiritual twist.

In addition to rich content, you'll have smaller group discussions, time to be alone, and ample time to "do sports" or games or whatever it is guys do on these things (and yes, a female is writing this). It truly is a great way to get to know other guys in our faith community deeply and quickly!

[Register here.](#)

The MomCo at NDC

SEP 12 FALL KICK-OFF 9:30-11:30 AT NDC

Being a mom is one of the most rewarding roles in life—but it can also be one of the most isolating. Momco at NDC exists to change that. We're a space where moms can connect, share, and support one another through the everyday joys and challenges of motherhood. Whether you're navigating sleepless nights, first-day-of-school jitters, or just need a place to laugh about the chaos, Momco is here to remind you that you're not doing it alone.

We welcome moms with kids of any age and at any point in the mothering journey - including expecting moms - moms who foster and/or hoping/waiting to adopt. We kick off our fall semester on Sep 12 and then meet *every other Friday* after that through December (we start again in January). Our meetings include brunch, coffee, childcare, some informative and/or encouraging content, and discussion as a way to get to know other moms in the group. It's also a great opportunity to invite other mom friends in your neighborhood or who aren't church-goers. We welcome everyone.

Registering in advance really helps. [Register here.](#)



CLAY SCHULTZ
STUDENT MINISTRY RESIDENT

Hello and welcome to **ndc** students

NDC's ministry for
students 6th grade + up

A new school year brings a fresh wave of NDC students, and we know our student ministry might be new to some of you. We're proud to have an incredible team of adult mentors, each walking alongside 2–3 students. These mentors commit to showing up consistently—whether that's grabbing lunch, cheering at games, or navigating the tough questions of faith together.

In addition to one-on-one mentorship, we also host occasional large group hangouts to strengthen community and help students build meaningful peer relationships. Our goal is to create a space where students feel supported, encouraged, and connected as they grow in their faith.

We hope these relationships lead to meaningful conversations about what it means to follow Jesus.

Meet the team of Mentors!

We have mentors who work
specifically with high schoolers and
ones that focus on middle schoolers.



AMBER & STEVE CARLSON
MS GIRLS & BOYS



BARB & MAX MILLER
HS GIRLS & BOYS



TRAVIS SMILEY
HS BOYS



MICAH CURTIS
MS BOYS

Save the Dates!

- Sep 21 Rockies game after church
- Oct (more details TBD) guys' & girls' nights – organized by mentors
- Nov 9 Friendsgiving Feast
- Dec (more details TBD) guys' & girls' nights – organized by mentors

questions? email clay at clay.schultz@newdenver.org

are you new to ndc with a student? do you want to be a mentor?