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A Publication of Mediapolis and Sperry Global Methodist Churches

October 2024

Sperry

11756 Sperry Road
Sperry, IA 52650
9:00 AM Sunday Worship
10:15 AM Adult Small Group

Mediapolis

601 North Street
Mediapolis, IA 52637
9:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Mailing Address

PO Box 38
Mediapolis, IA 52637

Office Telephone

319.394.3131
After hours emergency
phone number: 319.768.8593

Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday
9:00 AM—12:00 PM
1:30 PM—4:00 PM
Closed Mondays

E-mail

Office
mepomethch@mepotelco.net
Pastor Bruce Smith
pastorbrucesmith@gmail.com
Deacon Tracey Burgus
traceyburgus@gmail.com

Web Site

www.mepochurch.com

Facebook

www.facebook.com/mepochurch
www.facebook.com/sperrychurch

Autumn continues to be my favorite time of year, because the cooler weather gives me the opportunity to get some outdoor projects completed. One of these projects lately was to plant new trees in place of the ones that were lost over the last few months. I never imagined I would put so much effort into researching trees, but here we are. I didn't know what it would entail, but I think I learned a fair share along the way. I found myself checking on the best times to plant, various growth rates, stability during storms, canopy spreads, and any potential mess with seeds or fruit. I also found myself looking for just the perfect addition to the yard that would offer beauty and shade. I finally found a variety that I believe will suit the need quite well. It should have bright red flowers at the start of Spring and brilliant red leaves at the end of Autumn. It has the potential to grow up to seven feet a year, yet it has the strength of a slower growing tree, so it will give shade sooner than I thought possible, yet still have a high probability of surviving some of these stronger storms we've witnessed. I'm looking forward to caring for these trees as they grow. More than that, I found my way into a joy that I didn't have before. To be honest, I've never had to worry about planting trees in the past. I figured if I ever wanted a tree, I would just allow one of the many saplings to grow instead of mowing them down year after year. This is different. This is investing energy into preparing the space for planting, amending nutrient levels during the first few seasons, and being

cautious of wind and animal damage. It's a long-haul type of project which brings a blessing instead of being a burden. Isn't growing in our faith like this, too? It takes work, investment, special care, we're in it for the long haul, and if done with the right heart, it is absolutely a blessing without being a burden. We also learn quite a bit along the way. We learn more about ourselves, we learn more about others, and we learn more about God. I see this blessing all around right now, through our Sunday School programs, in small groups and Bible studies, and I also see this blessing as we live out the way we love God and neighbor. As we all work our way through October together, my encouragement to you is to see the blessings God has given us in our potential for growth. Grow strong roots deep into God's love, branch out to others as you extend your love to them, and may God be glorified in the way we do this together.

In Christ,

Pastor Bruce Smith



I love the season of autumn. Throughout the year there is a distinct feeling and unfolding of the seasons in Iowa as they arrive. Spring is a time of renewal and new birth all around as plants and animals flourish with life. Summer brings to us the rain and warmth that are necessary for crops, gardens, and trees to produce the fruits of the harvest. In fall we gather the bounty that God has provided and celebrate the vibrancy of his creation as we gather in His provision for the cold and dormant months to come. Winter of course is necessary. It's a time for the Earth to lay dormant and to rest up for the bursting forth of life once again, which our Great and Glorious God has planned. The arrival of fall also signifies for us that it will not be long before we will find ourselves gathering with family and friends to celebrate and give thanks for God's bounteous blessings to us. Shortly thereafter we will enter into the season of Advent and begin to look forward with excitement and anticipation to celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Why is it that even though I know

that change can be good, the older that I get the more resistant I can become when the winds of change arrive! In those times I must remind myself that God has planned that we should prosper and grow as we surrender to Him and depend upon His provision and guidance. What do the coming months hold in store for us as His children? How is He leading us into the plans that He has for us? I confess that I do not know but I trust that He does. May we listen to His voice and His leading as we draw nearer to Him, prayerfully looking forward with grateful hearts to the coming season. As the days begin to shorten and the cold creeps in, please remember to check on those who will find themselves at home more because of the weather that is coming. Who is it that might benefit from a note, phone call, or visit from you?!

Happy Autumn!

Tracey



SUNDAY | OCTOBER 27

SUNDAY | OCT 6TH

NEED PRAYER OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES?

Organized prayer teams are available to minister to your needs. Please contact the church office with your prayer requests.

MEAL MINISTRY

The purpose of our Meal Ministry is to provide meals for families in our congregation who are recovering from an illness, surgery or childbirth. If you are aware of anyone who may need meals, please contact the church office.

Please call the church office if you or a family member will be admitted into the hospital.

Thank You!

Sunday Worship

IN PERSON

9:00AM @ Sperry
10:00AM @ Mediapolis

ONLINE

10:00AM

[www.mepochurch.com/
sermons.html](http://www.mepochurch.com/sermons.html)

www.facebook.com/mepochurch

PARKING LOT

10:00AM

Mediapolis Methodist Church
(live only) over 87.9 FM

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Happy fall y'all!

As per usual, it has been a whirlwind of a start to the MCYG year! We started with an Olympic Themed Kick-Off Party out at Big Hollow, where contestants could choose what events they would like to participate in. Students got to choose what country they would like to represent and who else would be on their team for the team events. Events included: a mini triathlon, archery, beach volleyball, kayak relays, rhythmic gymnastics and MCYG's version of shot put. Those who placed received a gold, silver or bronze medal along with their country's national anthem. It was LOTS of fun! This was followed by Get to Know Your Leader's Jeopardy which is always pretty hilarious. Next came a tailgate and 5th quarter for the first home football game. After that were a couple of regular youth group nights. We started the year off with a series called Alpha which goes over the foundation of Christianity and applies to all grade levels. We finished out the month with See You at the Pole and another tailgate and 5th quarter. Please be in prayer for God's leading in our mission trip for next summer and those that will be able to go on it. We seek for His will to be done through our obedience.

In His service,

Jenny McGhee, MCYG Director
319-752-7008 | MediapolisCommunityYouthGroup@gmail.com



Columbus Day observed Monday, October 14th

Pastor

APPRECIATION

October is Clergy Appreciation Month

Grateful
THANKFUL
and
Blessed



OCTOBER DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

One of the best ways to know God is to become acquainted with the full counsel of His written Word.
This reading plan will guide you through all 66 books of the Bible in the coming year

<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Malachi 1 – 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Matthew 27 – 28	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Luke 5 – 6
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Matthew 1 – 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Mark 1 – 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Luke 7 – 8
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Matthew 5 – 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Mark 4 – 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Luke 9 – 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Matthew 7 – 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Mark 6 – 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Luke 11 – 12
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Matthew 10 – 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Mark 8 – 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Luke 13 – 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	Matthew 12 – 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Mark 10 – 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Luke 16 – 18
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	Matthew 14 – 17	<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Mark 12 – 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 29	Luke 19 – 20
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	Matthew 18 – 20	<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Mark 14	<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Luke 21 – 22
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	Matthew 21 – 22	<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Mark 15 – 16	<input type="checkbox"/> 31	Luke 23 – 24
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	Matthew 23 – 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Luke 1 – 2		
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Matthew 25 – 26	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Luke 3 – 4		



10/01 Dennis Breuer, Curtis Carruthers,
Bethany Hepler, Mikki Sands
10/03 Brad Lane
10/04 Emily Borrison, Isaac Smith
10/05 Tim Mellinger
10/06 Diane Anderson, Susan Heiens
10/09 Laura Elder, Carmen Schmidt,
Justyn Wyatt
10/10 Kory Klenk
10/12 Rusty Orr
10/13 Bud Hemphill, Linda Nichols,
Brian Wyatt
10/14 Steve Cummings, Luke Steffener
10/15 Catherine Miller-Sands,
Michele Orr
10/16 Brent Mellinger
10/17 Karen Hollingsworth
10/22 Chris Parry, Brady Schmidt 10/23
Marsha Nollen
10/24 Tom Thomson
10/25 Kevin Johnson, Eunice Stone
10/26 Renee Hunerdosse
10/27 Carolyn Breder



10/05 Michael & Katie Powers
10/14 Steve & Jan Cummings
10/20 Craig & Connie Schmidt
Brian & Genia Wyatt
10/25 Ron & Bonnie Fromm

This Month...

Prayer Group @ Mediapolis
Tuesday, Oct 1 & 22—6:30 PM

Communion will be celebrated
on Sunday, Oct 6

SPRC Meeting @ Sperry
Tuesday, Oct 8

Sperry Women's Group
Wednesday, Oct 9—2:00 PM
Hostess: Terri Johnson Lesson: Terry
Hicks

Prayer Group @ Sperry
Thursday, Oct 10 & 24—6:15 PM

2nd Sunday Social @ Sperry
Sunday, Oct 13

Solid Grounds Coffee Bar
Sunday, Oct 20—9:15 AM

Sperry Ad Council
Tuesday, Oct 15—6:00 PM

Mediapolis Ad Council
Tuesday, Oct 15—7:30 PM