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A Publication of Mediapolis and Sperry Global Methodist Churches

February 2025

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
pastorbruce.smith@gmail.com
Deacon Tracey Burgus
traceyburgus@gmail.com

Web Site

www.mepochurch.com

Facebook

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

Temperatures in the 40's and 50's to start off the month? I'll take it! I'm sure many of you will, too. Not that it means we won't have more cold weather before Spring, but it sure is nice to have this break from sub-zero wind chills. It gives me the chance to wash our cars, walk around town, spend some time looking at the sky without shivering, clean up some yard waste, and all sorts of other things. Sometimes we can take these kinds of things for granted. What would normally be considered a chore all the sudden becomes enjoyable, something mundane can quickly gain our interest, and those things we've been putting off for a warmer day can now be accomplished because that warmer day is finally here. It's pretty exciting to have a chance at these opportunities. Something else that's exciting is right around the corner. We have congregational gatherings for Mediapolis and Sperry that are sort of like part two of Charge Conference. Something in the past that has been a chore, or dare I say lacking interest, now brings the opportunity of vitality and possibility. The Conference is referring to these gatherings as "Visioning Summits." We will get the chance to share where our

ministries and leadership teams have seen God at work throughout the previous year, and the potential we see in the year to come. This is a celebration for all of us as we call out where God has been active, how God has brought us through unknowns and anxious times, and we will call out the possibilities ahead. It's my hope that you can join us to share some feedback or ideas on the ways we can continue to glorify God in what we do as a body of believers. It's also my hope that you'll join us for the fellowship. Sperry will have this gathering during their Second Sunday Social as we enjoy breakfast casseroles together. That's on February 9th immediately after service. I'll have a guest speaker at Mediapolis so I can spend the morning at Sperry in these conversations. Mediapolis will have their gathering on February 16th over a potluck meal right after service. We will still have our coffee bar before service, and I'll have that same guest speaker at Sperry so I can join Mediapolis for the entire morning. I do hope to see you all there as we strive to grow closer with one another and closer with Jesus.

In Christ,

Pastor Bruce Smith



It has become a February tradition for me to share with you some thoughts about International Random Acts of Kindness Week, which is slated for February 9th - 15th of 2025 with the 17th designated as Random Acts of Kindness Day. What a perfect time of the year to show caring for others, and celebrate this special week that incorporates Valentine's Day. The world around us could definitely use some TLC. It is also very much in need of the light, love, and movement of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In my classroom we will spend some time together during this week long celebration brainstorming random acts that we could do to or for others that would be encouraging to their heart. As adults, we sometimes tend to make showing kindness for others more grandiose than it has to be. Children often tend to think in more simplistic terms than we do when it comes to brainstorming acts of kindness. Their ideas will include things

like. . . take out the trash without being asked, vacuum without being told to, pick up the toys and put them away, give a compliment, tell someone you love them just because you do, leave a nice note for someone . . . I think you see the genuineness of their ideas. So if you were to brainstorm a list of ways that you could show kindness for others, what would it consist of? I challenge each of us to not only let our valentine be the recipient of our time or affection this Valentine's Day, but to let it be an entire week of doing nice things for others through random acts of kindness simply because we want to share the love of God with the world around us. I would urge us to remember those who are housebound or living in care facilities as well as those who are in the hospital or recovering at home for various reasons, who could use a phone call or a note during this week. Continue to be creative and intentional about showing God's love to one another and a world that desperately needs it!

Blessings!

Tracey



February 2, 2025



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

www.facebook.com/mepochurch

PARKING LOT

10:00AM

Mediapolis Methodist Church
 (live only) over 87.9 FM

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

In December, we wrapped up the Alpha series we had been going through. This is GREAT curriculum for knowing the foundations of Christianity...and they offer adult material as well. Please reach out if it's something you would like to do as a small group or something. I highly recommend it! We finished December with a Murder Mystery Christmas party...fun times! Then, we took a couple of weeks off to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior.

January was brought in with a 9 Square in the Air night. After that we started a new study of The Gospel of Mark by Francis Chan. This study has a lot of "meat" to it so the students can really get into the Word and learn who Jesus is on a deeper level.

Good news! We finally have mission trip information. Woo hoo! We will be going to North Carolina to help with hurricane disaster relief. I would love to share more details about this with you when I make my rounds for church visits in February & March.

Please pencil in **March 23rd** for **MCYG's Annual Dessert Auction**. More details to come in next month's newsletter.

Thank you so much for your continued prayers over this ministry and your financial support. We are so blessed to have you!

In His service,

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



SO WE DO NOT LOSE HEART.

THOUGH OUR OUTER SELF IS WASTING AWAY, OUR INNER SELF IS BEING RENEWED DAY BY DAY.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16, ESV

SHINE WOMEN'S MINISTRY
CHARCUTERIE BOARD EVENT

Sunday, February 23
4:00 PM at Mediapolis

Come enjoy lunch and help put together Charcuterie boards.

*Please RSVP to Toni at
319-759-1375
by February 16th.*

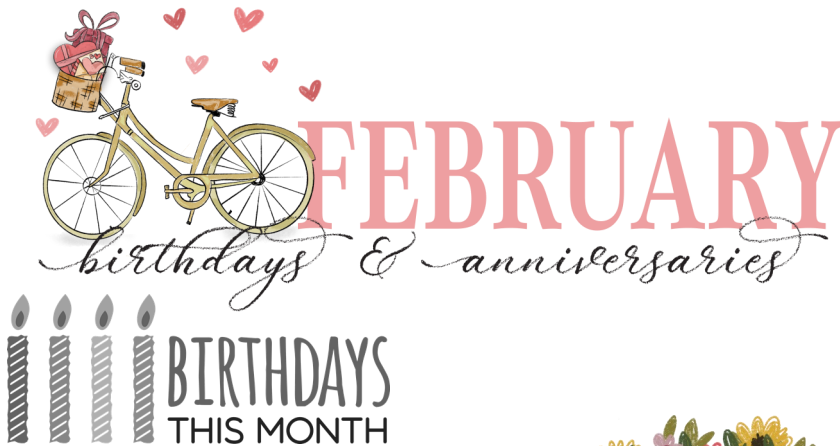
WHEN THE CARES OF MY HEART ARE MANY, YOUR CONSOLATIONS CHEER MY SOUL.

PSALM 94:19, ESV

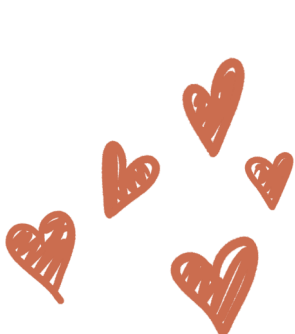
FEBRUARY DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

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

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|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Leviticus 14 – 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Numbers 11 – 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> 23 Deuteronomy 5 – 8 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Leviticus 16 – 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Numbers 14 – 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> 24 Deuteronomy 9 – 11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Leviticus 19 – 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Numbers 16 – 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 Deuteronomy 12 – 15 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Leviticus 22 – 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> 15 Numbers 19 – 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 Deuteronomy 16 – 19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Leviticus 24 – 25 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Numbers 22 – 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 27 Deuteronomy 20 – 22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Leviticus 26 – 27 | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 Numbers 25 – 26 | <input type="checkbox"/> 28 Deuteronomy 23 – 25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Numbers 1 – 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Numbers 27 – 29 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Numbers 3 – 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19 Numbers 30 – 32 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Numbers 5 – 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Numbers 33 – 36 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Numbers 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 Deuteronomy 1 – 2 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Numbers 8 – 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22 Deuteronomy 3 – 4 | |



2/02 Bob Moehle
Chris Wyatt
2/03 Christa Parry
2/07 Derek Breder
2/08 Nick Dideriksen
Mike Moehle
2/10 Dick Hassett
2/11 Mary Hockett
Barb Warth
2/13 Ryan Aamodt
2/19 Mark Lieurance



ANNIVERSARIES
THIS MONTH

2/03 Tom & Linda Jones
2/20 Keaton & Keely Keitzer
2/22 Dan & Jan Keitzer



This Month...

Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, Feb 2

Prayer Group @ Mediapolis
Tuesday, Feb 4 & 25—6:30 PM

2nd Sunday Social @ Sperry
Sunday, Feb 9

Sperry Women's Group
Wednesday, Feb 12—2:00 PM
Hostess: Kathy Thomson / Lesson: Marilyn Carhoff

Prayer Group @ Sperry
Thursday, Feb 13 & 27—6:15 PM

Mediapolis Ad Council
Tuesday, Feb 18—7:30 PM

In case of bad weather, cancellations or changes to the service schedules will be posted on KBUR and on the home page of our church website www.mepoumc.com.