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A Publication of Mediapolis and Sperry Global Methodist Churches

March 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
pastorbrucesmith@gmail.com
Deacon Tracey Burgus
traceyburgus@gmail.com

Web Site

www.mepochurch.com

Facebook

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

Last month, I mentioned I was going to try to wash my cars during those warm days we had. Did anyone SEE the long lines at car washes during our winter reprieve? I decided I'd either wait for shorter lines, or I'd just wash them at home. And guess what? The cars are still dirty, because I haven't found the right time to wash them yet. Sometimes we end up doing the same kind of thing with our spiritual disciplines. We plan to do this or that, but we keep delaying it. Whether it's because of our schedules, or if we feel like we've already studied God's word enough, or perhaps we can't understand some of what we read, or maybe it has to do with conversations about faith feeling about as comfortable as those negative temps we went through a few times this winter, we can end up putting these things off for a more convenient, more comfortable time. The thing is, we can always find reasons to avoid the things that will help us grow in our faith or help someone else grow in theirs. They can seem like good reasons, too. However, there are much better reasons to stay active in growing through our faith, and to become active in helping others grow in theirs. The situations that absorb our schedules in the first place can become less of a hurdle when we're growing closer in our walk with Jesus. Scripture

topics, no matter how much we've read them, always have a way of sparking something new within us. God's word can and will speak directly into our lives in our present situations just as much as they ever have in the past, and in some cases, even more so. Conversations we have about faith become easier as we grow closer in our relationships with others because we begin to see a clearer picture of the need we all have to know Jesus more and more. In this time between the dead of winter and the freshness of Spring, take the opportunity to grow in your faith; whether it's through Bible Studies, daily reading, or just a talk over a cup of coffee. A great way to take part in all three is during the season of Lent, which begins on Wednesday the 5th. Ash Wednesday service is at 7 PM in Mediapolis, and we will work through this season using resources from "Jesus, the Stranger." Sunday School and small group studies will be working through this study as well, and I'll also host a study on Wednesday nights in Mediapolis at 6:30. So pour a cup of coffee (or tea, or milk, you get the idea), and let's engage in daily Scripture, deeper study together, and intentional shifting of our hearts and minds towards the call of Jesus on our lives.

In Christ,

Pastor Bruce Smith

Spring is an excellent time to renew our knowledge of the various ways that we as the body of Christ have in place to engage in the prayer needs of others. Confidential prayer lists are maintained by our prayer groups and are prayed over during prayer group time and throughout the days in between prayer gatherings. In our bulletin each Sunday there is a place for prayer requests to be recorded and permission given for how those needs are to be cared for. Prayer requests can be shared with staff only. We also maintain a public list of individuals with prayer requests that are sent out through an email as a weekly prayer update. This can be accessed by sharing contact information with the office and requesting to receive prayer requests and updates on a regular basis. The church can share names of members or regular attending

people in need of healing prayer through the weekly bulletin. Due to privacy issues in our modern world, the key to all of these prayer venues is the permission of the person being prayed for or a primary family member allowing the need to be shared and indicating by what avenues. The church can also send out prayer emails and texts when emergency prayers are needed. Both corporate prayer (group prayer) and individual prayer are vital to the life of a congregation. We know that prayer is powerful and it changes things! *Studies repeatedly find that churches with a strong prayer foundation are churches that grow and thrive!* Let us endeavor to be and become more and more a praying people!

Blessings!

Tracey



Envelopes are available in the back of the sanctuary
 *Mediapolis only


ASH
WEDNESDAY
WEDNESDAY | MARCH 5
7:00 PM
MEDIAPOLIS GMC

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

There's not a whole lot to report this month as the weather prevented us from meeting for a couple of weeks. We're praying that the bad weather stays away from Wednesdays! Lol! On the weeks we were able to meet, we continued on in our study of the Book of Mark by Francis Chan. In this series, Francis takes us to all of the places Jesus was, so it is really cool to see what they look like as he's talking about them.

Church visits have begun, so you may have heard some about M CYG's upcoming mission trip. At this point we have 11 students signed up to go down to North Carolina for a week to help with disaster relief. We will be traveling down from July 5th-12th. Your prayers are always coveted. Please pray that the vehicles we take would run properly and get us there safely, that our hearts would be softened to those we are going to serve, that we would all have good attitudes and get along well and most importantly that we would be a blessing to those we are going to help and represent Christ well.

Thank you for supporting us in the venture! We appreciate you!

In His service,

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



M CYG
DESSERT
Auction
Sunday, March 23
SPERRY GMC
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
PORK-LOIN SANDWICH LUNCH | FREE WILL DONATION

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW APP

[DOWNLOAD NOW](#)

ACCESS SERMONS, ONLINE GIVING, PRAYER REQUESTS, EVENTS & MORE!

- Download My Church by MinistryOne in App store
- Search for Mediapolis-Sperry
- Select & Explore!

SPRING FORWARD
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Sunday March 9

MARCH 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 Deuteronomy 26 – 27 | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Joshua 23 – 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 23 1 Samuel 4 – 7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Deuteronomy 28 – 29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Judges 1 – 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 24 1 Samuel 8 – 12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Deuteronomy 30 – 32 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Judges 4 – 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 1 Samuel 13 – 14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Deuteronomy 33 – 34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 15 Judges 6 – 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 1 Samuel 15 – 16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Joshua 1 – 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Judges 9 – 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> 27 1 Samuel 17 – 18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Joshua 5 – 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 Judges 11 – 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> 28 1 Samuel 19 – 21 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Joshua 8 – 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Judges 14 – 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 29 1 Samuel 22 – 24 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Joshua 11 – 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19 Judges 17 – 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30 1 Samuel 25 – 27 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Joshua 14 – 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Judges 20 – 21 | <input type="checkbox"/> 31 1 Samuel 28 – 31 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Joshua 18 – 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 Ruth 1 – 4 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Joshua 21 – 22 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22 1 Samuel 1 – 3 | |



3/02 Jill Murphy
 3/03 Jason Weber
 3/04 Samuel Lane
 3/06 Sandy Hill
 3/09 Dawson Brader
 3/10 Buffy Moore
 3/11 Lori Thie
 3/12 Deb Shelman
 3/13 Laura Coates
 3/14 Amanda Schmidt, Brian Weber
 3/16 Miranda Krohn
 3/17 Kortni Huibregtse, David Nollen
 3/18 Zoe Moehle
 3/20 Dan Murphy, Natalie Steffener
 3/22 Irene Kinney
 3/23 Bob Breuer
 3/24 Sandra Wyss
 3/27 Terri Johnson
 3/29 Mary Steffener



3/07 Mike & Lori Thie
 3/08 Hank & Alice Thie
 3/09 Randy & Joni Hollingsworth
 3/19 Tony & Diane Patterson
 3/25 Tom & Kathy Thomson
 3/28 Bryan & Julie Moehle

This Month...

Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, March 2

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

2nd Sunday Social @ Sperry
 Sunday, March 9

Sperry Women's Group
 Wednesday, March 12—2:00 PM

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

Sperry Ad Council
 Tuesday, March 18—6:00 PM

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