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A Publication of Mediapolis and Sperry Global Methodist Churches

November 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

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Web Site

www.mepochurch.com

Facebook

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

There's no mistaking it, Autumn is most assuredly here. Leaves are turning colors and falling, the fields are being harvested, and gardens have finished producing. My garden has been an exception. I've tried to extend the growing season as much as possible by covering plants during frosty nights and trying to protect them during our last freeze. I wonder if any other gardeners are trying to squeeze a bit more into the season as well, or if most have let their seasons finish out. In my case, my harvest tends to be much later than the average person's garden. While others have produce as early as May and June, my garden doesn't generally pick up steam until August. No matter how early I try to start my plants, this just seems to be the way it goes. It sure can be a lot of work, but many peppers are still ripening, so it's worth the effort. I tend to see this in other areas in life as well, not just with my garden. No matter how badly I want something to take root, no matter how badly I want to see the fruit of a particular labor, fruition happens when the timing is right; no sooner, and no later. Have you noticed this too? Sometimes when we feel like we've given just about all the effort we can give, if we hold on a little bit longer, we see the results we've been working towards.

I like to remind myself of how God's timing isn't necessarily my timing. As a matter of fact, God's timing is rarely the same as what I thought it would be. And when I don't remind myself of that, God often gives me the reminder that His timing is not what I expect or anticipate. We're in the middle of the harvest season as we see farmers working day and night to bring in the crops, but we're also in the midst of the Great Harvest that God has employed us all to be a part of. Many have tilled the soil and planted seeds for this harvest. Many have tended the fields and seen the fruit of their labor. What's interesting to note is that this harvest isn't ready because of our timing, and it isn't finished by our timing. It all takes place in God's timing. Keep planting the seeds. Keep tending the fields. Even when you feel like you've given just about all there is to give to see a harvest, keep trusting it is God who makes the seeds grow, and it is the work of the Holy Spirit that ripens the fields.

In Christ,

Pastor Bruce Smith



What in the world happened to the last 10 months? Where did they go? How did they fly by so quickly? Did I even have time to enjoy them? These are just a few of the questions that I find myself asking as we prepare to head into the celebrations of Thanksgiving and Christmas. This is my favorite time of the year when the beauty of God's creation and the fullness of His provision for us are evident all around us. There are so many reasons to be Thankful for His love, forgiveness, grace, and mercy for/to us let alone the lavish ways that He provides for us on a daily basis. There have of course been trials and tribulation along the path throughout this year, 2024. I find myself drawn to the words of the Thanksgiving hymn COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS which reminds us of God's goodness that overcomes our hardship and difficulties. May each of us take/have time to truly think about and give thanks for all that God has blessed us with. May we remember those who are in need around us and raise them up to His throne in prayer. May we have open eyes to see others who could use encouragement through notes, calls, visits, meals, invitations, or help in any form

during the weeks and months ahead. Peace and Blessings!
Count Your Blessings
Author: Johnson Oatman Jr.

1 When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed, When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, Count your many blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Refrain:
Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your blessings, see what God hath done; Count your blessings, name them one by one; Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.

2 Are you ever burdened with a load of care? Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear? Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly, And you will be singing as the days go by.
[Refrain]

3 When you look at others with their lands and gold, Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold; Count your many blessings, money cannot buy Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high. [Refrain]

4 So, amid the conflict, whether great or small, Do not be discouraged, God is over all; Count your many blessings, angels will attend, Help and comfort give you to your journey's end
[Refrain]

Tracey



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

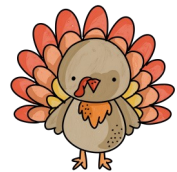
YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Happy fall y'all!

October started with Bring Your Bible to School Day, then a tailgate and 5th quarter, followed up by a lot of teaching, and another tailgate and 5th Quarter. It ended with our first Daddy Daughter Dance Fundraiser! ...Phew! What a BUSY month! Thank God for wisdom and energy! During our teaching times we continued through the Alpha series, diving into several topics like: how can we have faith, why and how we should pray, how and why do we read the Bible, who is the Holy Spirit and what does He do. These are fundamental parts of Christianity that give the students deep roots in their faith. Please pray that God would meet them where they are at and increase their faith and knowledge of Him. Also, please continue to pray for our summer of 2025 mission trip as we are still discerning where we should go. We are thinking it will have something to do with hurricane relief but are still discerning which organization to go through. Mission trips are another way students can grow in their faith while blessing others. We want to be the hands and feet of Jesus everywhere we go...Lord establish our steps and direct our path.

In His service,

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



NEED HELP DEALING WITH GRIEF?

Weekly Grief Support Group
Sundays 2:00 - 4:00 PM
Mediapolis Global Methodist Church
Starts: Sunday, November 3
GriefShare Grief & Loss Support Groups Are Here for You



SCAN QR CODE TO REGISTER OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 319-394-3131



Friday, November 1st



NOVEMBER 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	John 1 – 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 11	Acts 1 – 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Acts 22 – 23
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	John 3 – 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 12	Acts 4 – 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 22	Acts 24 – 26
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	John 5 – 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 13	Acts 6 – 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Acts 27 – 28
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	John 7 – 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 14	Acts 8 – 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Romans 1 – 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	John 9 – 10	<input type="checkbox"/> 15	Acts 10 – 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Romans 4 – 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	John 11 – 12	<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Acts 12 – 13	<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Romans 8 – 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	John 13 – 15	<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Acts 14 – 15	<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Romans 11 – 14
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	John 16 – 17	<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Acts 16 – 17	<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Romans 15 – 16
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	John 18 – 19	<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Acts 18 – 19	<input type="checkbox"/> 29	1 Corinthians 1 – 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	John 20 – 21	<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Acts 20 – 21	<input type="checkbox"/> 30	1 Corinthians 5 – 9

November

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

11/02 Genia Wyatt
11/05 Larry Knock, Jamie Sands
11/06 Matt Moehle
11/07 Reece Holsteen
11/13 Colin Parry
11/14 Brian Kester
11/16 Shane Fye
11/17 Regan Brader
11/19 Darren Steffener
11/20 Jay Fye
11/30 Elsie Stephens

LET
gratitude
FOR THE PAST
INSPIRE US
WITH trust
FOR THE FUTURE.

—Françoise Fenelon

ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

11/06 Dan & Carla Weber
11/24 Larry & Karlene Knock
11/25 Lindsey & Debbie Shelman
11/30 David & Marsha Nollen



This Month...

Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, Nov 3

Prayer Group @ Mediapolis
Tuesday, Nov 5 & 26—6:30 PM

2nd Sunday Social @ Sperry
Sunday, Nov 10

Sperry Women's Group
Wednesday, Nov 13—2:00 PM
Hostess: Eunice Stone Lesson: Diane Campbell

SPRC Meeting @ Mepo
Tuesday, Nov 14—6:30 PM

Prayer Group @ Sperry
Thursday, Nov 14 & 28—6:15 PM

Solid Grounds Coffee Bar
Sunday, Nov 17—9:15 AM

Sperry Ad Council
Tuesday, Nov 19—6:00 PM

Mediapolis Ad Council
Tuesday, Nov 19—7:30 PM

Thanksgiving
Thursday, Nov 28 *Office Closed