

Connec

A Publication of Mediapolis and Sperry Global Methodist Churches



July 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**

In this month's article, I'd like to take the opportunity to share a few details about some of the Global Methodist events I've been a part of recently. Our Conference is comprised of seven states with twenty-one districts within these states. Seven of those districts are in Iowa, and the three districts on the East side of the state just met together for a day-long clergy retreat titled, "Let's Be Methodist Together." Our main discussion topics were about the holiness movement that began with Methodism, how we as the Global Methodist Church can reclaim our heritage as Methodists, how discipleship can become stagnant, and what we can do to revive our work in the Great Commission. It was a day filled with learning and Spirit-led worship, and we also received encouragement to rekindle the connection we have with the churches in our Conference and around the world. These retreats are taking place all across the State, and across the Conference. In the Southeast district, we will work through the possibilities and opportunities of joining together in common mission, in the name of Christ and for God's glory, so we can all be a part of sharing the light of Jesus across the region. I also had the opportunity to attend Annual Conference, and it was just as blessed of a time as it has been since the beginning of the Upper Midwest Conference. Great music, great fellowship, great work together, and significant learning moments. These learning moments included some reminders about how far we've come as a Conference. We have roughly

200 churches within our Conference, comprising of 20,985 members. Average attendance across the Conference is 9,500 on any given Sunday, with another 3,200 joining for online worship. Additional focus was given in the areas of new church plants and congregations that found new places to gather. A vision for our Conference is that every church will be instrumental in church planting by 2030, and there was one statement that really stuck out to me regarding this. I think it's good for all of us to hear, and we'll hear it more than once as the weeks progress. "Jesus didn't ask us to go out and plant churches. He called us to make disciples. If we will make disciples, churches will be planted." That's exciting to me, because it fits right in with our mission statement here in Mediapolis and Sperry of Raising up disciples to love God and reach the world. We will dive deep in conversation with raising up disciples, and I hope you are as confident as I am that through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will see ways discipleship in the church and with the community around us will bear the fruit of planted faith and planting churches. Have a blessed month as you try to keep cool in this heat and calm in all the hustle and bustle of summer events. I look forward to seeing how we will continue to grow in faith together, and how we will continue to share that faith with the world around us.

In Christ,

Pastor Bruce Smith



During Vacation Bible School approximately 35 students and 20 helpers were a part of **Avalanche Ranch: A Wild Ride Through God's Word!** Our lessons centered on five constant and never fading truths: **God is Real, God is with us, God is Strong, God is Awesome, and God is in Charge!** The 5 lessons came from remembrances of Bible Truth in:

Joshua 2 (Rahab and the Spies)

Joshua 3 and 4 (The Israelites Crossing the Jordan River)

Joshua 6 (The Walls of Jericho came Crashing down)

Mark 15 and 16 (Jesus died and Rose Again)

2 Kings 2 (God healed Naaman)

I think we all could use some reminders of the 5 truths shared above, especially when we contemplate the "craziness" of our world as it unfolds around us. It takes intentionality to constantly be in the word of God, praying, resisting temptation, living in ways that please God, and depending upon Him and the promise of salvation to draw us heavenward. VBS was a very welcome week of intentional learning and discipleship for all in attendance. The children learned to always seek and depend on God! The adults were reminded of the same! During our special outreach time we were able to make a freezer meal for the Burlington Homeless Shelter and

Transitions of Des Moines County, make and freeze cookie dough to be baked by volunteers at the Hospice House, Cook and Serve a Meal at the Hospice House on Friday evening, and create cards to be used by Hospice House staff and friends! How is your summer going? Have you made an intentional game plan to focus your attention on pursuit of the Living GOD this summer and beyond! With the busyness of summer it is easy to fall out of good habits and let our devotionals, fasting, church attendance, and bible study be pushed aside by all the things to be done and the places to be. I pray that each of us would feel a renewed sense of commitment to God, to being a part of the body of Christ in the world, and sharing the good news of God's love and salvation with the world around us!

Be Blessed!

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

www.facebook.com/mepochurch

PARKING LOT

10:00AM

Mediapolis Methodist Church
(live only) over 87.9 FM

JULY 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 Proverbs 4 – 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Ecclesiastes 9 – 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> 23 Isaiah 32 – 34 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Proverbs 8 – 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Song of Solomon 1 – 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 24 Isaiah 35 – 37 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Proverbs 12 – 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Song of Solomon 5 – 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 25 Isaiah 38 – 40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Proverbs 15 – 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 15 Isaiah 1 – 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 Isaiah 41 – 43 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Proverbs 18 – 20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Isaiah 4 – 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 27 Isaiah 44 – 46 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Proverbs 21 – 23 | <input type="checkbox"/> 17 Isaiah 9 – 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> 28 Isaiah 47 – 49 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Proverbs 24 – 26 | <input type="checkbox"/> 18 Isaiah 12 – 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> 29 Isaiah 50 – 52 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Proverbs 27 – 29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 19 Isaiah 15 – 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 30 Isaiah 53 – 56 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Proverbs 30 – 31 | <input type="checkbox"/> 20 Isaiah 20 – 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 31 Isaiah 57 – 59 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Ecclesiastes 1 – 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 Isaiah 25 – 28 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Ecclesiastes 5 – 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> 22 Isaiah 29 – 31 | |



7/01 Cody Nelson
 7/04 Chuck Staley
 7/05 Gail Davis
 7/06 Catherine Delzell
 7/09 Jeff Moehle
 7/10 Craig Schmidt, Eli Schulte
 7/11 Kurt Schulte
 7/12 Jacob Wyss
 7/13 Carla Weber
 7/15 Lincoln Baxter
 7/16 Ron Fromm, Raegan Schulte,
 Haley Steffener
 7/17 Katherine Crow, Bryan Moehle
 7/19 Hank Thie
 7/20 Lisa Elder
 7/21 Alex Breder, Karlene Knock
 7/23 Logan Staley
 7/26 Keaton Keitzer
 7/27 Cindy Fye
 7/28 Duane Nollen
 7/30 Doris Rechkemmer
 7/31 Reece Elder



7/13 Kenton & Jill Klenk
 7/14 Rusty & Michele Orr
 7/19 Jon & Cindy Fye
 7/23 Les & Lisa Elder
 7/28 Bruce & Tanya Smith
 7/30 Dan & Jill Murphy
 Roger & Sandra Wyss



This Month...

Prayer Group @ Mediapolis
Tuesday, July 2 & 22—6:30 PM

Independence Day The office
will be closed due to the Holiday
Friday, July 4th

Communion will be celebrated
on Sunday, July 6th

Sperry Women's Group
Wednesday, July 9—2:00 PM
Annual Ice Cream Social meeting

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

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

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

Membership Sunday @
Mediapolis
Saturday, July 20—6:00 PM –
8:00 PM @ Mediapolis Pool