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A Publication of Mediapolis and Sperry Global Methodist Churches

September 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

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Facebook

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

We often think of new life and signs of new life as happening in the spring. It's a sensible reflection; there is a dormant season over winter, and spring brings a much-anticipated return of so many things we've been waiting to see again. As we approach the season of autumn, perhaps we might also see a resurgence of some of this new life. At the very least, we see the end results of the new life that started in the spring (like the harvest of crops). Still, there is an unmistakable return of life that often goes through a dormant season during the summer. Many of our garden items had their greatest moments toward the end of spring, but if we do things right, we can squeeze in a second run of radishes or peas or maybe even see some autumn flowers providing nectar to the butterflies. For that matter, the change from Monarch caterpillars to butterflies takes place largely in autumn. There is also a resurgence of new life within the church year as well. In one sense, we're wrapping up the year as we prepare for Advent, but in another sense, we follow the same kind of schedule as other activities. We're coming back from vacations, we're getting outside again after the heat of summer, and we're gearing up for the start of programs and changes within the age groups of our children. Good News Club and Sunday School classes are gearing up for another year, we'll

have a Confirmation group moving through the process of being able to articulate the "why" of our faith, and Mediapolis will be celebrating their 150th anniversary as a Methodist Church on the 7th. It's an exciting time. Even though it can feel like summer ends too quickly, the opportunities ahead are full of vitality. When I think of new life and resurgence of life during this season, especially with the church, is that the most exciting opportunity of vibrance and vitality is found through the word of God and how we grow as we encounter it. There is an opportunity for all of us as we approach this season ahead, and it's an invitation to encounter the Bible together as a community of faith. Keep an eye out for this invitation, we'll release more details on the 7th. Until then, here's your reminder to look around and be a witness to God's glory in the new life and resurgence of life through this season ahead. More important, be a part of that new life and resurgence of life to the glory of God.

In Christ,

Pastor Bruce Smith



EVERY SHEEP COUNTS!
IS YOUR INFO UP TO DATE?

CONTACT THE OFFICE W/UPDATES



As my Mother and I were driving along the highway a few days ago, I noticed that the corn in the fields is beginning to turn yellow and brown near the ground. I also have noticed several other indicators that fall is not far away. The flowers right now are putting forth their brightest blooming and the squash growing in the garden are nearly ripe. The tomato vines seem to be hanging heavy with fruit and the apple and pear trees are giving up their fruits as well. I must admit that fall is my favorite of the four seasons, although I like them all in their own right. I love the crispness of fall mornings and evenings. I love gathering things into the basement for eating this winter when everything is frozen over. I love the coziness of curling up on the couch with a blanket to watch TV or read a book, and love the warmth of the fire crackling in the heating stove. I also love putting on a sweatshirt when I head outside to work or to watch a fall sporting event. The baking and the cooking changes in the fall and we feel a need almost to be sliding something into the oven more often as we enjoy the fruits of a growing season that is coming to an end. Perhaps one of the reasons that I like fall so much is the holidays that are approaching. Thanksgiving is just around the corner with the joy of

gathering together with family and friends to celebrate the bountiful gifts of a God who lavishly provides for us. Then in the blink of an eye will come the winter snow and the celebration of the most holy of all holidays and my personal favorite. . . Christmas! As much as I love the coming months, I know that the coming of cold weather and the holidays is not always welcomed with the pleasantness that I feel. The arrival of fall and winter can bring feelings of depression and isolation for some as the cold weather suppresses their ability to get out and go when they want to. As the fall approaches I want to encourage each of us to be aware of those around us who could use the encouragement of a note, a text, a phone call, or a visit to brighten their day. Perhaps we could share the bounty of the season by dropping off a meal or a treat to someone who could use some "TLC". I pray that we each would take advantage of opportunities in the coming weeks and months through listening to the leadings of the Holy Spirit, and truly be the hands and feet of Christ in sharing God's love with others in need! I know in doing so we also will be blessed!

Happy Autumn!

Tracey



Classes begin September 7th

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

SEPTEMBER 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

☐ 1	Ezekiel 25 – 27	☐ 12	Daniel 6 – 8	☐ 23	Micah 5 – 7
☐ 2	Ezekiel 28 – 30	☐ 13	Daniel 9 – 12	☐ 24	Nahum 1 – 3
☐ 3	Ezekiel 31 – 32	☐ 14	Hosea 1 – 4	☐ 25	Habakkuk 1 – 3
☐ 4	Ezekiel 33 – 35	☐ 15	Hosea 5 – 9	☐ 26	Zephaniah 1 – 3
☐ 5	Ezekiel 36 – 38	☐ 16	Hosea 10 – 14	☐ 27	Haggai 1 – 2
☐ 6	Ezekiel 39 – 40	☐ 17	Joel 1 – 3	☐ 28	Zechariah 1 – 5
☐ 7	Ezekiel 41 – 43	☐ 18	Amos 1 – 4	☐ 29	Zechariah 6 – 10
☐ 8	Ezekiel 44 – 46	☐ 19	Amos 5 – 9	☐ 30	Zechariah 11 – 14
☐ 9	Ezekiel 47 – 48	☐ 20	Obadiah 1		
☐ 10	Daniel 1 – 3	☐ 21	Jonah 1 – 4		
☐ 11	Daniel 4 – 5	☐ 22	Micah 1 – 4		



SEPTEMBER

birthdays & anniversaries



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

9/02 Myra Bruegger
9/04 Jan Cummings, Katy Whitaker
9/05 Connie Schmidt
9/06 Rachel Moehle
9/07 Toni Chenoweth
9/09 Michael Powers, Noah Smith
9/12 Joe Hicks
9/13 Tom Sands
9/18 Marilyn Carhoff
9/22 Katie Millizer
9/23 Jennifer Lane
9/24 Karen Powers



SEE TO IT THAT
NO ONE FALLS
SHORT OF THE
GRACE OF GOD &
THAT NO BITTER ROOT
GROWS UP TO CAUSE
TROUBLE & DEFILE MANY.
HEBREWS 12:15, NIV



ANNIVERSARIES THIS MONTH

9/09 Tim & Becky Mellinger
9/13 Caleb & Lynette Wagg
9/14 Kirk & Pam Honson
9/17 Corey & Katy Whitaker
9/18 Dwight & Jan Strassheim
9/26 Joe & Catherine Delzell
9/27 Mike & Toni Chenoweth



This Month...

Mepo Prayer Group

Tuesday, Sept 2 & 23—6:30 PM

Communion will be celebrated
on Sunday, Sept 7

Mediapolis 150th Church

Celebration Sunday,
September 7—10:00 AM with
catered lunch at 11:00 AM

Sperry Women's Group

Wednesday, Sept 10—2:00 PM

2nd Sunday Social @ Sperry

Sunday, Sept 14 Following the
worship service

Sperry Prayer Group

Thursday, Sept 11 & 25—6:15
PM

SPRC Meeting @ Sperry

Tuesday, Sept 9—6:30 PM

Sperry Ad Council

Tuesday, Sept 16—6:00 PM