

Connec

A Publication of Mediapolis and Sperry Global Methodist Churches



October 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
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Pastor Bruce Smith
pastorbrucesmith@gmail.com
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Web Site

www.mepochurch.com

Facebook

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

Ten weeks is not much time to work our way through the Bible, but that is exactly what we are doing through our current study entitled, "Invitation." However, just as the title suggests, this study is actually an invitation to dig deeper into Scripture. We will have opportunities to work through individual books of the Bible after this study, and we will likely begin those studies in small groups at the start of the new year. Invitation will take us right up to Advent when we will begin a church-wide study called, "Because of Bethlehem." Until then, we'll walk through Invitation together; both in Sunday School classes and through Sunday Sermons. During this time through Invitation, we also have opportunities to be a part of extending the invitation Jesus gives all people. Some of the ways we will do this are through the ways we share our faith in conversations, the ways we share an invitation to join us in church, and the ways we serve with the love of Christ outside the church. Conversations have begun in our Ad Councils for ways we can respond as a church to the evil we witnessed in September's violence in the news. And plans are coming together for ways we can extend Christ's love to those around us who are also witnessing the hate we've seen and heard. I would encourage each of you to find ways to either get involved in these efforts, or to be a part of shining the light in the darkness

around us. Some of the ways I've taken part in this is through Bible studies at Mediapolis RCF, through online conversations with new acquaintances, and through impromptu conversations with strangers who need someone to talk to. Let me just say, we don't truly understand the hurt people are going through until we are in conversation with them. Through the handful of times I have been able to listen and talk through some of life's struggles in this past month, I have already witnessed God working in the hearts of the hurting and making a real-time impact with healing that pain. You can witness that same kind of impact, and it doesn't have to be a Bible study. You just have to shine the light. It will happen in the ways you love like Christ, in the ways you share a listening ear or a thoughtful prayer, and by supporting others as they shine the light of Christ, too. One way to support others is through the mission trip Haley and Erika are working towards as they prepare to go to the Dominican Republic and minister to girls and young women who are trying to get beyond their own struggles of pain and self-worth. Keep a lookout for details on how you can support them through fund raising, through prayer, and through encouragement.

Have a blessed October and keep shining the light.

Pastor Bruce Smith



Just before I sat down to write these words, I found myself in a conversation with others about the power of prayer. The amount of prayer that occurs within a given body of Christ (the church) is directly related to the amount of trust that His people have in Him as their Father and Provider of all that is needed in life. A church that is healthy would and should bathe everything they do in prayer. The praying church should have people praying constantly throughout the week for every aspect of their Christian life together and their witness to the world. This praying should occur both individually and corporately. Unfortunately many people feel that they are inadequate in offering prayers for or in front of other people. Whether it stems from feelings of being self-conscious or a fear of not knowing the right words to say, or from any number of other underlying fears, the thought of praying out loud often creates anxiety in people. The good news is that God does not have a score sheet by which he measures the quality or effectiveness of our prayers. Instead of examining our use of language, God examines the sincerity and the faith within our hearts. God does not require perfection in any other part of our humanity, but honors our intentions and attempts in an

effort to grow and serve Him. Prayer is no different. As the body of Christ in the world we want to be praying people and praying churches who wield the powerful weapon of prayer with confidence in God's unfathomable power and His ability to intervene! I pray that our churches would become more and more intentional in our prayer lives both individually and together. I pray that you would join me in endeavoring to grow in this area. What powerful works of God might we witness as His people if we commit or re-commit ourselves to grow in our prayer abilities and lives? I want to take just a moment to share about the month of October and how it has been set aside during the past 31 years, as Clergy Appreciation Month. Focus on the Family named and began recognizing Clergy Appreciation Month in 1994. This was created as a formal time to honor the pastoral staff of the church however, honoring a church's pastoral staff and their families can be done at any time and should become a normal part of a church's ongoing care throughout the entire year. Pastor Appreciation Sunday itself in 2025 falls on Sunday, October 12th which is the second Sunday of October. Please take a moment to say thanks and share your appreciation!

Blessings,

Tracey



SUNDAY | OCTOBER 5TH

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

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Whoa

Whoa! It has been a whirlwind here at MCYG this fall! It all started with 9 Square in the Air at Town & Country Days...the line was endless the entire time we were there! Which was a blessing as we were able to engage with the kids and tell them about MCYG. The Wednesday after that was our Escape Room Kick Off Party. We had 35 students participate and try to break out of 9 different escape rooms. The following Wednesday was our Get to Know Your Leader Night, where students played an interactive game of Kahoot to learn some of our volunteer's likes and dislikes. Then our normal programming started. At MCYG, we like to start the year off with apologetics...knowing why we believe what we believe. We started a series called Essentials of Faith. The first section of this series is "What is a Christian?" Ask any group what it means to be a Christian, and we will hear different answers. But what unifies us? What are the basic characteristics of our faith that every Christian affirms? In this six-session series, Francis Chan is leading us in an exploration of key concepts common to all Christians through the centuries. No matter what divides us, we are united by these truths about the God we worship and our relationship with him.

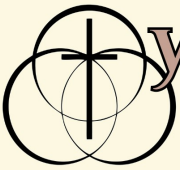
Throw in a couple of Tailgates, 5th Quarters and See You at the Pole and that about sums up our whirlwind. Oh wait...a building was added as well! If you haven't heard, the Presbyterian Church is now the Mediapolis Community Youth Center. Please pray for us as we navigate these new waters of owning a building. We are very blessed to have this space and we seek to honor the Lord with every square inch of it.

We covet your prayers for a year of growth for the students and that the Lord would be magnified and glorified through our efforts. Thank you for your continued support of this vital ministry.

In His service,

Jenny McGhee, MCYG Director

319-752-7008 | MediapolisCommunityYouthGroup@gmail.com


MEDIAPOLIS
GLOBAL METHODIST CHURCH
Raising Up Disciples to Love God and Reach the World
**WOMEN'S TEA &
TESTIMONY
LUNCHEON**
FUNDRAISER FOR MIDDLE CROSS MISSIONS TRIP
Sunday, November 9th
11:15 am – 12:30 pm

TICKETS: \$20.00

Includes lunch, sweets and a chance to win a gift basket
tickets are available during Sunday church service or by
contacting the church office at 319-320-5802

Pastor
APPRECIATION
Pastor/Clergy Appreciation
Sunday | Oct 12



COLUMBUS DAY
MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

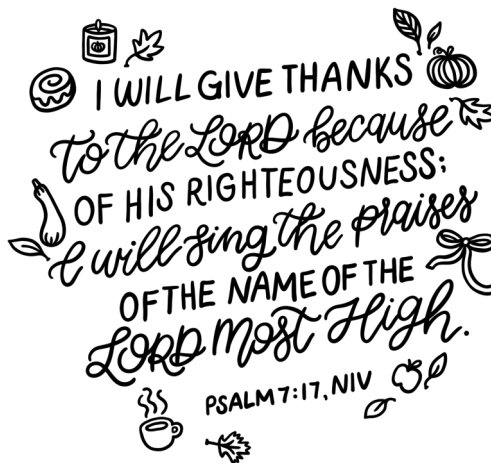
OCTOBER DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

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	Malachi 1 – 4	☐ 12	Matthew 27 – 28	☐ 23	Luke 5 – 6
☐ 2	Matthew 1 – 4	☐ 13	Mark 1 – 3	☐ 24	Luke 7 – 8
☐ 3	Matthew 5 – 6	☐ 14	Mark 4 – 5	☐ 25	Luke 9 – 10
☐ 4	Matthew 7 – 9	☐ 15	Mark 6 – 7	☐ 26	Luke 11 – 12
☐ 5	Matthew 10 – 11	☐ 16	Mark 8 – 9	☐ 27	Luke 13 – 15
☐ 6	Matthew 12 – 13	☐ 17	Mark 10 – 11	☐ 28	Luke 16 – 18
☐ 7	Matthew 14 – 17	☐ 18	Mark 12 – 13	☐ 29	Luke 19 – 20
☐ 8	Matthew 18 – 20	☐ 19	Mark 14	☐ 30	Luke 21 – 22
☐ 9	Matthew 21 – 22	☐ 20	Mark 15 – 16	☐ 31	Luke 23 – 24
☐ 10	Matthew 23 – 24	☐ 21	Luke 1 – 2		
☐ 11	Matthew 25 – 26	☐ 22	Luke 3 – 4		



10/01 Dennis Breuer, Curtis Carruthers,
Bethany Hepler, Mikki Sands
10/03 Brad Lane
10/04 Emily Borrison, Isaac Smith
10/05 Tim Mellinger
10/06 Diane Anderson, Susan Heiens
10/09 Laura Elder, Carmen Schmidt,
Justyn Wyatt
10/10 Kory Klenk
10/12 Rusty Orr
10/13 Bud Hemphill, Linda Nichols,
Brian Wyatt
10/14 Steve Cummings, Luke Steffener
10/15 Catherine Miller-Sands
10/16 Brent Mellinger
10/22 Chris Parry, Brady Schmidt
10/23 Marsha Nollen
10/24 Tom Thomson
10/25 Kevin Johnson, Eunice Stone
10/26 Renee Hunerdosse
10/27 Carolyn Breder



10/05 Michael & Katie Powers
10/14 Steve & Jan Cummings
10/20 Craig & Connie Schmidt
Brian & Genia Wyatt
10/25 Ron & Bonnie Fromm

This Month...

Communion will be celebrated
on Sunday, Oct 5

Mepo Prayer Group

Tuesday, Oct 7 & 21—6:30 PM

Sperry Women's Group

Wednesday, Oct 8—2:00 PM

Sperry Prayer Group

Thursday, Oct 9 & 23—6:15 PM

2nd Sunday Social @ Sperry

Sunday, Oct 12

SPRC Meeting @ Mepo

Tuesday, Oct 14

Solid Grounds Coffee Bar

Sunday, Oct 19—9:15 AM

Sperry Ad Council

Tuesday, Oct 21—6:00 PM

Mediapolis Ad Council

Tuesday, Oct 21—7:30 PM