



# THE MESSENGER

May 2024

First Methodist Church Splendora

*So the Whole World Will Know*

Rev. Steven G. Lightfoot, Pastor

firstmethodistchurchsplendora.org

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE



### 1 John 1:9

*But if we confess our sins to Him, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.*

### The Spiritual Discipline of Confession

Rev. Steven G. Lightfoot

#### Confession

Confession is the gateway to forgiveness. Confession leads to repentance, which leads to righteousness. **Acts 3:19** says, *“Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord...”* Confession and repentance open the pathway to communion with God, which restores our souls and refreshes our spirit.

We confess our sins as we gather in worship, as we prepare our hearts to receive the body and blood of Christ in Holy Communion. We can also confess our sins to one another, as we are in regular

communion with one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. Informal conversations with a trusted friend are good places to confess our transgressions. A private conversation with your Pastor is an excellent opportunity to bring your struggles with sin into the light of God’s healing presence. Of course, you can always go in prayer directly to your intercessor Jesus with your confessions. Just be honest and open, and remember that **Romans 8:1-2** guarantees, *“Therefore there is now no condemnation at all for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”*

A good way to practice regular confession is to engage in a scheduled dialogue with your Pastor to receive spiritual direction, spiritual counseling, and spiritual formation – all ways that believers in the community of faith process their lives with God across all types of experiences, situations, and circumstances. The aim of regular dialogue with the Pastor is spiritual growth with guidance that leads to spiritual maturity.

Confession, then, is the spiritual discipline practiced by the righteous person, who engages in a life of holiness, in relationship with Christ, for the benefit of others, for our highest good, and for the glory of God the Father.

By His Grace,  
Pastor Steven†

*“Making disciples of Jesus Christ, who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.”* ---The Mission of The Global Methodist Church.



### Calendar of Events

- 1<sup>st</sup> -Dinner & Bible Study 5:45PM
- 4<sup>th</sup> - *Mother's Love Ladies Luncheon*  
11:30AM
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Holy Communion Sunday & Worship  
9AM\* Communion Rail Gifts go to the  
Good Samaritan Fund  
Sunday School 10:15AM  
Board of Stewards Meeting 12:45PM
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Dinner & Bible Study 5:45PM
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Worship Service 9AM\*  
*Mother's Day*  
*No Sunday School*
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Dinner & Bible Study 5:45PM
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Food Pantry Day  
*Armed Forces Day*
- 19<sup>th</sup> - **Pentecost Sunday & Worship**  
Wear something **Red** to church 9AM\*  
Sunday School 10:15AM
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Dinner & Bible Study 5:45PM
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Worship 9AM\*  
Sunday School 10:15AM
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Dinner & Bible Study 5:45PM

### Board of Stewards Meeting

The Board of Stewards usually meet the second Sunday of every month, except in May. The second Sunday in May is always Mother's Day. This month the BOS will meet on May 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:45PM.

We ask all board members attend these meetings. If you are not a member of the Board of Stewards and wish to attend the meeting, you are invited and welcomed! The meeting is in the church Fellowship Hall and also available on Zoom. See link below:  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83150826357?pwd=T0hTeFJhYjIKNnZLUeZUOUtQNE1RUT09>  
Meeting ID: 831 5082 6357  
Passcode: 679423

### Mother's Love Ladies Luncheon



On May 4<sup>th</sup> will be a Ladies' Luncheon celebrating Mother's Love at 11:30AM. Please invite a friend, neighbor, daughter or granddaughter as your guest. For more information please contact Angel VanOstrand (281)659-6481 for information or if you would like to bring a dish for the luncheon. Hope to see you ladies on the 4<sup>th</sup>.



### May Anniversaries and Birthdays

- 4 Josh Graves
- 6 Sarah Moore
- 7 Christian Grupa
- 11 Ashely Grupa
- ♥ 17 Ray & Chari Ricks
- ♥ 23 Craig & Christie Hantelman
- ♥ 23 Norm & Lovada Linquist
- ♥ 26 Winston & Estelle Holmes
- 27 Sheila Keith
- ♥ 27 Robert & Susie Dams



### Your Gifts & Tithes

Your tithes and gifts to the church are very important to help further God's Kingdom here in Splendora, Texas.

During difficult economic times there may be a tendency to cut back on giving when the budget is so tight. As Believers in Jesus Christ, we should do the opposite. Jesus gave His life extravagantly. Shouldn't we do the same? Giving is not just limited to money. We always need donations of paper goods and volunteers to help clean the church. If you shop at Kroger, link your Kroger Plus Card to our church ED607. Kroger donates a percentage to our church.



## PRAYER LIST

*This is His Commandment*

*1 John 3:16-24 - We are to love one another, as commanded, in truth & in action.*

Susie Ricks & Family – Death of husband  
The Keith Family  
Gloria Cox – In hospital/Healing  
Henry Williams - Cancer  
Brenda Madonna – Cancer/Healing  
Chantel Wilson – Cancer/Healing  
Sage Herr – Cancer/Healing  
Noah Monzon  
Joanna Bonnette-healing  
Gary & Merle Fritz – Continued Healing  
Merle’s sister and her husband –healing  
Reznor Kral –healing  
Carla Carleton – Continued Healing  
Patti Lyons – Continued Healing  
William Blake – Health issues  
Tom & Isabella Reed – Health issues  
Norm & Lovada Linquist – Health issues  
Craig & Christie Hantelman  
Ken VanOstrand  
Doris & Burley Jones – Comfort & Peace  
Wade Greenhaw  
Ellen Combine- Peace of mind  
Carla Carleton – Continued Healing  
Sage Herr – Continued Healing  
Billie Jackson – Continued Healing  
William Blake – Health issue  
Ann Elliott – Health issues  
Patti Lyons – Health issues  
Charles Jones & Family  
Joseph Masterson  
Gary Shugart  
Ellis and Linda Duke – Faith & Healing  
Craig & Christie Hantelman  
Mae & Robert Bible  
Alton Moore  
Ken Van Ostrand  
The Unkel Family  
Barbara Martin & Family  
Unspoken  
Linda Dunaway  
Shirley & Bob Adams  
Charles Jones & Family  
Pastor Steven & Angela  
Our church/Church Family  
Our Country & Leaders



## 2:42 Conference Affirms Hopeful Future of the GMC

*By Dianne Burnett*

*GMC Executive Director of Communications*

The first ever 2:42 Conference, hosted by the Global Methodist Church, recently took place at Lake Junaluska in North Carolina. Clergy and seminary students 40 and under were invited to attend the conference. Over 125 of them came together for the event, united by their dedication and enthusiasm for sharing the gospel and upholding the traditions of the Methodist Church.

Centered around the theme of Acts 2:42 (*They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*), the three-day event offered time for fellowship, encouragement, learning, and renewal.

Sessions allowed those in attendance to depart with practical skills and knowledge they could apply in their ministries going forward.

The event also served as a time of connection and fellowship for the young clergy and students.

“Attending a denominational gathering sponsored by our bishops and key leaders that was so anointed and Spirit-filled is very encouraging to me as we begin to learn and experience what this new expression of Methodism in the GM Church will be like,” said Chance Robinson, a student from Asbury Theological Seminary. “From what I have seen, it is a land flowing with milk and honey.”

The GM Church wishes to express its gratitude to the members of the planning team and the generous donors who made the event possible. It also invites the whole Church to pray for young clergy and seminary students as they continue to grow and serve.

*Editor’s Note: This is a condensed version of the article which can be viewed in its entirety on The Global Methodist Church website.*