



THE MESSENGER

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH SPLENDORA

*Worship Passionately, Love Extravagantly,
and Witness Boldly*

April 2026

firstmethodistchurchsplendora.org

Rev. Steven G. Lightfoot, Pastor

Pastor's message



EASTERTIDE BEGINS

By Rev. Steven G. Lightfoot

This month, we are entering the season of Eastertide, a 50-day celebratory time in the Church as we live into our calling as *Easter people* – a people of new life in the resurrection power of Christ. We have been given a magnificent gift. Our slates have been wiped clean. Our sins are forgiven. We are cleansed of our iniquities by the purifying blood of the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Our responsibility now is to live lives worthy of the gift. We now must lean-in to the Christ power within us, and live holy lives. We do that by developing our spiritual disciplines until they become a lifestyle. We practice holiness until we are holy

1John 1:7 tells us, “...if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.”

This year, Eastertide continues until the day of Pentecost, Sunday, May 24, 2026. The following Sunday is Trinity Sunday, and then we enter the post-Pentecost season or a season of *Ordinary Time* in the liturgical calendar, usually marked by green paraments on and around the altar, although we have, in recent years, elected to keep the trappings red for a few weeks as an extended acknowledgment of the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church. Some churches may even keep the red paraments throughout the post-Pentecost season of *Ordinary Time*. The season lasts about six months and is a time when the Church grows and matures in the faith, through Bible study, class meetings, and regular fellowship and gathering for worship. The post-Pentecost season ends on Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of the liturgical year, which prepares the way for Advent.

The seasons of the Church call us to focus on specific qualities of God,
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His character and nature, His story, which, by the power of the Holy Spirit

who dwells in us, becomes our story. I encourage you to live into Eastertide and the seasons that follow. Your faith will increase as the transforming power of Christ does its work within you. Peace.

By His Grace,
Pastor Stevent†



calendar of events

- 4-3** Good Friday Service 7PM
 - 4-5** Resurrection Sunday & Holy Communion 9:00AM*
 - 4-12** Worship Service 9AM*
Sunday School 10:15AM
Board of Stewards Meeting 12:45PM
 - 4-18** Food Pantry Day 9AM
Syra & Ethan Wedding 3PM
Sunday School 10:15AM
 - 4-26** Worship Service 9AM*
Sunday School 10:15AM
- * Service in-person & online

COME JOIN OUR
BIBLE Take a brief hiatus from April
Study g as our study has been
the Pentecost on May 24.
thus far, the topics coming up are even
more intriguing. Enjoy the break and
return ready to dig deep!



April anniversaries & birthdays

- 2 *Hayes Bonnette*
- 3 **Ellis Duke**
- 3 **Jacob Reighard**
- 9 *Caleb Barroso*
- 14 **Gene Ainsworth**
- 15 *Michael Bonnette*
- 16 *Colby Barroso*
- 25 **Cheryl Pecht Blake**
- ♥ 25 **Gary Fritz**
- 27 *Nathaniel Hendry*
- 27 **Chris & Amy Ricks**
- 28 **Clint Hatchett**

Parking lot sale

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 2nd 8:00 AM- 3PM for our Spring Parking Lot Sale. The church will rent out spaces in our parking lot for \$30 each space. The church will not have a section for this sale. Have your own sale in our parking lot where there will be a lot of traffic. Tell your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers about. The spaces fill up fast. Contact Sheila Keith by call/text 281-433-0957. Must pay in advance (Cash or Zelle). See you there!

Global
methodist

news

The Global Methodist Church (GMC) has officially surpassed 7,000 churches worldwide, marking a significant milestone in the denomination's ongoing mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness across the globe.

The denomination now includes 48 Annual Conferences, the majority of which are located outside the United States, along with four emerging areas, reflecting an expanding global footprint shaped by local ministry and united by shared faith. While many GMC congregations remain in the U.S., much of the church's growth over the past year has occurred internationally, with meaningful expansion across Africa, Asia, Eurasia, the Philippines, Europe, and Latin America, along with emerging presence in South America and the Caribbean. Since its launch in 2022, the Global Methodist Church has experienced rapid growth across multiple continents, demonstrating a collective commitment among clergy and laity to vibrant faith, orthodox Wesleyan theology, and bold witness in communities around the world.

"This moment represents far more than a number," said Connectional Operations Officer Mike Schafer. "Each local church represents people growing deeper in Jesus, their communities



formed by the power of the and new people coming to t. We give thanks for every ly who has helped shape y global movement."

AS THE denomination continues to grow, leaders emphasize that this milestone is not an endpoint but a reminder of the work still ahead. "This milestone reflects the faithfulness of God and the willingness of His people to boldly follow the Holy Spirit's leading and God's call," said Bishop Mark J. Webb. "Each congregation is a living witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ. As we celebrate this moment, we remain steadfast in our calling to make disciples of Jesus Christ and to spread scriptural holiness across the globe. We give thanks for what the Lord has done, and we look forward with hope to all that is yet to be."

This article is taken from a recent Press Release posted on the Global Methodist Church website. To learn more visit : globalmethodistchurch.org

Prayer list

"Pray continuously."

Praises: Beautiful weather
Successful fundraiser
Concerns:

Joe & Jeanette Melton - Loss of loved one - Comfort & Peace - Safe travels
Merle Fritz - Back surgery Monday, March 23rd
Pamela Morgan - Kidney removal surgery March 29th
Ricky Henrichsein - Knee surgery
Angel Van Ostrand - Pending surgery - Healing
Shaun Adams - Bones healing following accident
Joey Masterson, Jake and Katy - Faith & Healing
Linda & Ellis Duke - Faith & Healing
Barbara Martin - Continued Healing
Mike - Cancer
Tess Nardozzi
Pastor Steven & Family
The Keith Family
Blake Family
Smart Family
William Frazer
Van Ostrand Family
Ray Ricks
Donna & Ken Ward
Elizabeth Adkinson
Craig & Christie Hantelman
Billy & Connie Gibson
Darlene Trapp-cancer treatments
Tommy Johnson
Renee McMillian
Shirley & Bob Adams
Becky McMillian
Norman Glass
Duane Hall
Shirley Schumaker
David Goodrum
Alton Moore
Robert & Mae Bible
Matthew Frederick
Allyson Reed
Cadence & Kacey
Cory Tallman
Patty Dye
Our Church
Lenten/Easter Services

Our Country
Our Leaders & Our Military
The Middle East conflict

ways to serve our church

There are many ways to serve our church here at First Methodist Church Splendora. If you wish to help in Worship, contact Pastor Steven.

If you wish to help behind the scenes there are many ways to help. Bulletins need to be made each week. While Sherry Stallings does a great job on them, perhaps you could fill-in when she is unavailable.

Our church does not have a hired cleaning crew—the cleaners are all volunteers. There is a sign-up sheet and you can buddy up to clean. This saves our church at least \$7,000 a year. It only requires a couple of hours once a week and it isn't hard.

When we have Bible Study, we need volunteers to help with the supper for that night.

If you are interested in help serving Holy Communion at the Altar, let Brenda Storey know.

And of course don't forget to give your gift to the offertory. Our church needs your gift in order to do all that we do for our community and further God's Kingdom in Splendora.