



THE MESSENGER

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH SPLENDORA

*Worship Passionately, Love Extravagantly
and Witness Boldly*

FEBRUARY 2026

www.firstmethodistchurchsplendora.org

Rev. Steven G. Lightfoot, Pastor

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Valentines Day and the Real Meaning of Love

It's February and that means the whole country will be planning for Valentines Day. Already the stores have red and pink everywhere in anticipation of the event. Already, restaurants are offering special dinners for two. Already, the jewelry stores are telling us that shiny objects and bobbles hold the promise of romance and love. I admit... I like Valentines Day. I know many out there think of it as a Hallmark holiday, created in the minds of greeting card companies and chocolatiers, and that's probably accurate. But I choose to look at it as a reminder of the love I have for family, friends and for my

Savior. And rightly so, because He IS Love. Without Him, the "feelings" I have for my wife, my children, my grandchildren, my friends... all of that would be without depth and meaning with respect to eternity.

Love, REAL love, is so much more than what our culture has reduced it to... heart-shaped boxes of chocolate, candy hearts with pithy messages, red frillies and silkies from Victoria's Secret, gold, silver and gemstones, and the like. In today's culture, if we don't go to Jared for jewelry, are we really even in love? Of course I'm being facetious, but you see my meaning.

So, as I wish my beautiful wife, my lovely daughters, my wonderful sons and sons-in-love and all of their children, and all of you, a Happy Valentines Day, here's a reminder of the Truth about Love from Paul's 1st letter to the Corinthians:

¹ If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

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⁴ Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, ⁵ does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,

⁶ does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part; ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. ¹¹ When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known. ¹³ But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love.

This month, let's focus our attention on loving one another with the unconditional, everlasting love of Christ. When all is said and done, one thing remains... "His steadfast love endures forever."

By His Grace,

Pastor Steven†



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1st- Holy Communion and Worship Service 9AM*
Sunday School 10:15AM
4th- Dinner & Bible Study 5:45PM
8th- Worship Service 9AM*
Sunday School 10:15AM
Board of Stewards Meeting 12:45PM
11th- Dinner & Bible Study 5:45PM
14th- Valentine's Day
15th- Worship Service 9AM*
Sunday School 10:15AM
18th- Ash Wednesday Service 7:00PM
(No dinner or Bible Study)
21st- Food Pantry 9AM
22nd- Worship Service 9AM*
Sunday School 10:15AM
25th- Dinner & Bible Study 5:45PM

* Worship in Person or Live stream



Bridal Shower
Saturday, March 7, 2026
2:00-4:00PM
for Sayra Hilario-Santos
and Ethan Jackson
Registered at:
Target, Wal-Mart & Amazon
theknot.com/sayra and ethan
For more information contact
Angel Van Ostrand 281-659-6481



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS

- 6 Craig Hantelman
- 10 Delise Henry-Grovo
- 11 Kris Duke
- 11 Charles Jones
- 13 Kacey Welch
- 14 Ken & Angel Van Ostrand
- 17 Ginie Baird
- 24 Alison Glau
- 24 Bob Hantelman
- 26 Chris Ricks
- 28 Evan Jones

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Ash Wednesday will be observed on Wednesday, February 18 at 7:00PM. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a solemn season of repentance, fasting, and preparation for Easter. This day serves as an invitation for believers to reflect on their mortality, seek God's grace, and renew their commitment to discipleship. Rooted in centuries of Christian tradition, Ash Wednesday remains a vital part of the spiritual journey for individuals and the church as a whole. These ashes, typically derived from the previous year's Palm Sunday palms, serve as a tangible reminder of human mortality ("Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" – Genesis 3:19) and the need for God's grace.

Rev. Dr. Tim Turner As GMC Trinity Conference's First Missionary

The Board of Ministry of the Trinity Conference is pleased to announce that Rev. Dr. Tim Turner has been approved as the first missionary of the Trinity Conference. Tim and his wife Katie will serve in ministry with the Tanzania Annual Conference, our partner Conference in the Global Methodist Church.

Tim and Katie, along with their daughters, Sybil and Emmy, will transition to the mission field this summer relocating to Mwanza, in the southwest region of Tanzania. Mwanza sits near Uganda and Kenya and serves as a strategic hub within the East African economic corridor, positioning the Turners for ministry to pastors, church leaders, and congregations across the Tanzania Annual Conference.

As a missionary of the Trinity Conference, Tim will be financially supported by a variety of individuals and churches — including many within the Trinity Conference. (Follow the [Turners in Tanzania on Facebook](#) and/or contact the Turners directly if you are interested in learning more about this opportunity.)

Conference Superintendent Rev. Jason Burnham shared, "Tim and Katie embody the heart of Trinity—faithful, personal, connectional, and willing to go wherever God leads. We celebrate the Turners as our first deployed missionary family, and we invite every church in our Trinity family to join us in prayer for their ministry and for our partners across the Tanzania Annual Conference."

Above all, this moment is one of celebration. God has called. The church has affirmed.



PRAYER LIST

*“Give your burdens to the LORD, and
He will take care of you. He will not
permit the godly to slip and fall.”*

--Psalms 55:22

Sherry Stallings & Family -
Comfort & Peace
Shirley Madruga - Pending
surgery
City Glass Employee - Eye
surgery
William Blake - Health
Merle Fritz - Illness/Healing
Tommy Johnson - Health
Renee McMillian - Health
Mawana & Charles Jones -
Health & healing
Pastor Steven & Family
Van Ostrand Family
Karl & Sheila Keith
Tracy and William Blake
Lovada Linquist-healing
Beth Lightfoot
William Frazer
Cory Tallman
Allyson, Cadence & Kacey
Patty Dye
Becca, Tate & Spencer
Mechelle Adrian
Jeff & Christine Marzolla
Rosemary Garza
Wilma Martinez
Connie & Billy Gibson
David Goodrum
Shirley & Bob Adams
Shirley Schumaker
Josh Wineman
Matt Welch
Rev. Tim Turner & family-
Missionary work in Tanzania
Unspoken
Law Enforcement

Protestors

Those affected by the winter
storms all over our country

Our Church

Our Country

Those who do not have a
relationship with Jesus



YOUR GIVING

If you miss church, your gift giving to
the church doesn't have to wait.

The PayPal QR Code listed below
links directly to our church. Forgot to
bring your check on Sunday, no worries!
Just use the PayPal QR Code and your
gift to the church is sent immediately.
There will be a small fee charged to use
PayPal and it is very secure to use.
Using your Smart Phone to access the
QR Code, follow the prompts and you
just paid your gift to our church!
Electronic gifts will be included in your
annual giving statement and are tax-
deductible.



Our church will always continue to
accept your gifts by check and cash, but
you now have another option when you
need it.

Remember to link your Kroger
Savings Card to our church, ED607.

Thank you for your gifts to our
church. “God loves a cheerful giver!”