



**The Countryside Messenger**  
**Splendora Countryside**  
**Methodist Church**  
*Sharing God's Love in Our World*

**September 2021**

**Pastor's Message**

**Rev. Steven G. Lightfoot**

**"Perspective"**

If we look at the events happening in the world today, we might be tempted to think that it's all coming apart at the seams. But each tick of the clock and each turn of the page on the calendar brings us ever closer to the imminent return of our Lord.

What looks like chaos in the world is really the advancement of God's perfect order, as He orchestrates all things together for His glory. It's not coming apart at the seams, it's coming together perfectly!

From our limited vantage point, we cannot see the larger picture. But God sees all of it, beginning and end, at the same time. He knows the plans He has for us and He promises that those plans lead us to a hope and a future.

It's about perspective. If you approach your daily existence with regret for things past that can't be undone, then you need a shift in your atmosphere. Why dwell in the past where you cannot go ever again? Live **IN** your present and **FOR** your future, which is bright in the presence of Christ. Your past can't be undone... but it can be forgiven! Indeed, in Christ it **IS** forgiven!

As the old hymn goes, "In atmosphere of love divine We live and move and breathe. Though mortal eyes may see it not, 'Tis sense that would deceive. The mortal sense we must destroy, If we would bring to light, The wonders of eternal Mind, Where sense is lost in sight."

I'm here to tell you to shift your atmosphere today. I'm here to tell you to change your perspective today. You are a child of the Most High God! Claim your inheritance! Acknowledge your true, God-given identity! Live this very day **EXPECTING** good for your life in the love of Christ and the forgiving Grace of your Abba-Father God.

By His Grace,  
Steven†



## Calendar of Events

- 5<sup>th</sup>**- Holy Communion Sunday & Worship 9AM  
Communion Rail Gifts go the United  
Methodist Student Day Fund  
Adult Sunday School 10:15AM  
**6<sup>th</sup>**-*Labor Day Holiday*
- 8<sup>th</sup>**- Christmas Angels Planning Meeting 4PM
- 11<sup>th</sup>**- *Patriots' Day: Remembrance of 9-11*  
**12<sup>th</sup>**- Worship 9AM  
Adult Sunday School 10:15AM  
Board of Stewards Meeting 12:45PM
- 18<sup>th</sup>**- Food Pantry Day 9AM  
**19<sup>th</sup>**- Worship 9AM  
Adult Sunday School 10:15AM  
**22<sup>nd</sup>**- *First Day of Autumn*  
**26<sup>th</sup>**- Worship 9AM  
Adult Sunday School 10:15AM



## September

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ♥ 3 Lonnie & Sherrie Johnson  
♥ 3 Karl & Sheila Keith  
6 James Duke  
7 Corey Howard  
15 Jackie Noss  
♥ 16 Eddie & Sandy Councill  
19 Darren Grupa  
19 Nancy Hatchett  
22 Landon Gray  
24 Kaidince Hendry  
♥ 25 Steven & Angela Lightfoot  
25 Tom Nardozi  
26 Brooke Jones  
30 Cindy Reed



## In Memory of Gail Ward

March 26, 1934 - August 24, 2021

Our sister in Christ, Gail Ward was called home to Jesus on August 24, 2021.

Gail has been a member of Countryside since November 17, 2013. Over the past few years, Gail has not been able to attend church due to illness.

She passed away peacefully at her home with the care of dear friends.

Gail was a loving and kind person to everyone she met.

Gail will be missed on this earth yet not forgotten.

## Welcome New Member Shirley Madruga

On Sunday, August 22, 2021 Shirley made the decision to become a Member of the Family of Christ at Splendora Countryside Methodist Church. In a ceremony during our church service, our church vowed to support Shirley as our Sister in Christ with our prayers, gifts and presence. Shirley has vowed to support the church with her prayers, gifts and presence. Please rejoice with us, this Holy Commitment as the Body of Christ has made with Shirley!





## Time Out

For the month of September, our Wednesday night Bible Study will take a little vacation. Bible Study will resume on October 6 at 6PM. It will continue in person and on Zoom formats. Enjoy the little break and return ready to dive into the Bible!

## Christmas Angels Out Reach

The first planning meeting for 2021 Christmas Angels Ministry will be on Wednesday, September 8 at 4PM at the church. We will discuss how we will distribute gifts to our community's children in need for the Christmas Season and keep everyone safe from illness. Come and share your ideas on how our church can bring the Love of Christ to our community this Christmas.

## Faith Community Fall Festival

The first planning meeting for the Fall Festival for which our church participates was held on August 19. It was decided to change the date this year as October 31<sup>st</sup> falls on a Sunday. This year, it will be on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The date change was suggested by the Splendora Police Department. SPD has partnered with the Fall Festival since it started. The police department has used it as an outreach to improve relations with the community. So the officers may be able to spend time with their families on October 31<sup>st</sup>, the churches have decided for this year to have it on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Last year due to COVID restrictions on crowds gathering, the Fall Festival was a drive-thru event. We will have it as a drive-thru event this year focusing on Jesus. More information will be available after the next meeting. See Cindy Reed to offer your help for the Fall Festival.



Link your Kroger Card to our church [KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://KrogerCommunityRewards.com) or call 800-576-4377. The ID for our church is **68162**. Thank you.



## Our New Website & Logo

Our church has a new website and web address:

[www.splendoracountrysidechurch.org](http://www.splendoracountrysidechurch.org)

If you use the old address it should direct you to the new website. Our Facebook page is also linked to the new Website. You may watch our Worship Service online with Facebook. With the enhanced video equipment, we should be able to reach more people. Invite your friends to our new Website page. Sheila Keith is adding new items to it regularly.



TMF-see our Website  
For details

[www.splendoracountrysidechurch.org](http://www.splendoracountrysidechurch.org)

## Help Wanted

We are in need of volunteers to help clean the church each week. We have several openings for some weeks in September, and all of the months of October, November and December. By having our members do the cleaning, it saves our church over \$5000 per year. It is not hard work. See Tom Reed for details.



## Prayer Requests

*“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”—Ephesians 6:18*

There are so many people with illness. Please include these people in your prayers.

### Family and Friends of Gail Ward

**Kay Bailey**

**Craig & Christie Hantleman**

**Bob Hantleman & Kris Duke**

**Jim Reed** – Isabella’s Son – Facing a fourth liver surgery/procedure Monday

**Bobby Ricks** – Ray’s brother – Pending triple by-pass surgery as soon as his INR is okay

**Mawana Jones** – Heart catherization surgery on Friday

**Barbara Bark** –Facing hip replacement surgery

**Nancy Johnson** – Placed in a rehab facility in Livingston, TX - Cell 713-882-2593

**Sean Keith** – Radiation treatment/having a hard time now

**Kathy Frost** – Stage 4 Cancer

**Gayle Frost** – Cancer

**Todd & Rachel Smith** – Cancer

**Mary Giles** – Cancer

**Chantel Swift** - Cancer

**Tony Hartless** – Leukemia

**Sancho** – Brain tumors – God’s Peace & Provision

**Bridget Vanevery and Brittany Nardoizzi** - COVID

**Daniel Allen** – COVID and pneumonia – Improved - Family sends thanks for prayers

**Kathy Pitts** – COVID

**Susie Dams** – COVID – Continued healing

**Jeremiah & fiancé** – COVID – Continued healing

**Hayes Bonnette** – Exposed to COVID

**Caleb & Katherine Brown** – Healing

**Charles & Mawana Jones** - Healing

**Ray & Cheri Ricks** – Travel mercies

**Karl & Sheila Keith** – Strength & Peace

**The LeBlanc Family** – Strength & Continued healing

**Patti Lyons** – Strength, patience and continued healing

**Patricia Dye** – Healing

**Sue Jolley and Sharon** – Healing

**Gary @ Turbo Valves** – Healing

**Debbie Szymanski and Family** – Healing

**Dean Hartless** – Sherrie Johnson’s brother

**Allyson Welch** – Expecting baby in early March

**Matt Welch** – New business venture

**John Duke**

**Frankie Jones, Brooke and Evan Jones**

**Unspoken**

**Isabella Reed & Tom Reed**

**Cindy Reed**

**Our Church/Mission Field**

**Pastor Steven & Family**

**Baby Noah** – Continued growth and development – Parents and Medical team

**Angela** – Travel mercies

**Lonnie and Sherrie Johnson** – Strength & Peace

**Don & Brenda** – Strength & Peace

**Sibyl Allenson**

**Solia Sportele**

**Barbara Martin**

**Daniel Allen**- Covid on ventilator

**Americans in Afghanistan**

**Taliban targets in Afghanistan**

**Haiti-earthquake victims**

**Our Nation**

### *Archie’s Prayer Ministry*

*Marvin Clark-healing*

*Sandy-teacher a Splendor Middle School*

*Austin- Leaving for Navy Boot Camp Monday*



