**Be the Church:** Check out the ways to get involved below!

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8AM Walking at the Church

Monday-9AM Missions Meeting Monday-6PM Trustees Meeting

Monday-7PM Leadership Development Team

Monday-7PM Boy Scouts

Tuesday-8:30AM Staff Meeting Tuesday-9:30AM Skeins of Love

Wednesday-6:30AM UMM Prayer Group

Wednesday-6:30PM Pastor Paul's Bible Study

Thursday-8:30AM Quilters

Thursday-9:30AM Pastor Paul's Bible Study

Thursday-1:30PM XYZ Senior Day at the Pumpkin Festival

Thursday-7PM Choir Practice

Friday-10:45AM Volunteering at Pumpkin Festival Food Tent

Saturday-7AM Men's Bible Study

Sunday-8:30AM Traditional Worship Service

Sunday-9:45AM Sunday School

Sunday-10:45AM Cross Connections Worship

# **Be the Church:**

Scan the QR code to see the upcoming events for next week! You can also download our app to keep up to date with events in the church!



# MORTON METHODIST CHURCH

# Sunday Schedule:

Traditional Service: 8:30 am

Sunday School: 9:45 am

Cross Connections: 10:45 am

## Contact us!

Email: info@mortonmethodist.org Phone: (309) 266-7174

Website: www.mortonmethodist.org

Like us on Facebook

Welcome Visitors!

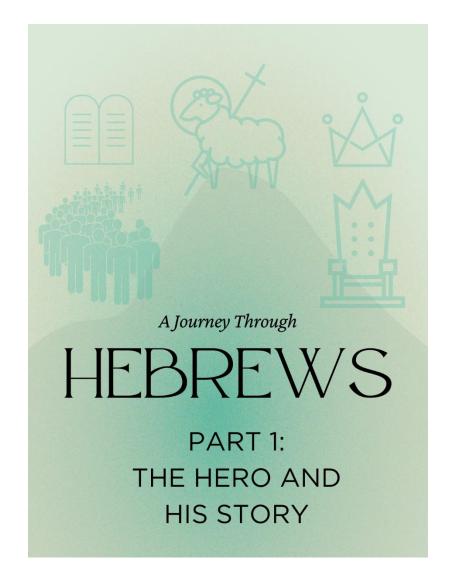
Stop by the Welcome Desk in the lobby to receive a Welcome Packet

## Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

For more information, or to download our church app, please scan the QR code below.







Sunday, September 7th, 2025

## **Announcements**

# September 7th, 2025

# **Scripture Reading**

#### **Mission Presentation**

Today, Jared & Rachel Koch, our 4th Mission Partner, serving in CRU Ministry at university campuses in Central Illinois, will be sharing information about their ministry during the Sunday School time. Contributions may be made to their ministry through our church with "Jared/Rachel -CRU" being indicated. Rachel is the granddaughter of Steve & Joyce Quinn.

## **Pumpkin Festival Volunteers Still Needed!**

Our church will be volunteering in the Food Tent at the Pumpkin Festival on Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:45am-1:15pm. 17 volunteers are needed. If you are interested, please sign up at the Welcome Desk.

## **XYZ**

On Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, XYZ will be attending Senior Day at the Pumpkin Festival. Pumpkin Bingo is from 1:30-2:30 and free pie from 2:30-3:30 at the Sweet Shop Tent.

#### **No Dinner Church this week**

There will be no Dinner Church, Family Ministry, or Pub Theology on Wednesday September 10<sup>th</sup> due to the Pumpkin Festival. Pastor Paul will still lead Bible Study at 6:30pm.

## **Bible Sunday**

We invite all children Pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grade to either worship service on Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup> for Bible Sunday. We will be handing out Bibles to our children during Children's Times at both services. Invite all the children you know to receive a Bible!

## **Hospital Visit Reminder**

This is a reminder about Carle Hospital privacy policies. They no longer inform the church if members are patients at either Methodist or Proctor. If you would like a care visit from the church, please call us directly. One of our care team members will be there promptly!

Welcome/Announcements

Prelude His Eye is On the Sparrow

**Worship Service** 

Call to Worship\*
L: The Lord reigns,

P: Let the nations tremble.

L: Let them praise Your great and awesome name;

P: He is holy!

Passing the Peace\*

Opening Hymn\* O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH 57 vs.1-5

8:30 a.m.

Children's Moment

Offertory Remember Me

MMC Choir

Doxology\* UMH 94

Pastoral Prayer The Lord's Prayer

Old Testament Reading 1 Samuel 15:16-26

Epistle Reading Hebrews 2:1-4

New Testament Reading Acts 9:1-19

Sermon "A Tale of Two Sauls"

Pastor Bill Novak

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Closing Hymn\* Here I Am, Lord vs.1-2
UMH 593

Benediction

Refrain\* Here I Am, Lord vs.3

Postlude

#### Acts 9:1-19

#### **Saul's Conversion**

**9** Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest <sup>2</sup> and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup> He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

<sup>5</sup> "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. <sup>6</sup> "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

<sup>7</sup> The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. <sup>8</sup> Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. <sup>9</sup> For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

 $^{f 10}$  In Damascus there was a disciple named Ananias. The Lord called to him in a vision, "Ananias!"

"Yes, Lord," he answered.

<sup>11</sup> The Lord told him, "Go to the house of Judas on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul, for he is praying. <sup>12</sup> In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias come and place his hands on him to restore his sight."

13 "Lord," Ananias answered, "I have heard many reports about this man and all the harm he has done to your holy people in Jerusalem. 14 And he has come here with authority from the chief priests to arrest all who call on your name."

<sup>15</sup> But the Lord said to Ananias, "Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. <sup>16</sup> I will show him how much he must suffer for my name."

<sup>17</sup> Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." <sup>18</sup> Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup> and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

#### Saul in Damascus and Jerusalem

Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus.

Morton Methodist Church - (309) 266-7174 info@mortonmethodist.org - www.mortonmethodist.org

<sup>\*</sup>Please stand if you are able