

FOOTPRINTS

April 2021

LOVING ALL. CHANGING HEARTS. TRANSFORMING LIVES.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Online: 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday Afternoon Bible
Study Online: 2 p.m.

SUNDAY SERMON SERIES

April 2021

4.02.2021

We Were There

John 18; John 19



4.04.2021

Who You Looking For?

John 20:1-18



4.11.2021

Do You Believe Me Now?

John 20:19-31



4.18.2021

We Will be Like Him!

1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36-48



4.25.2021

The "Good" Shepherd

1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18

BLOOD DONATIONS

ARE
Essential



Blood Drive

Meridian United Methodist Church

Fellowship Hall

235 E. Pine, Meridian ID 83642

Monday, April 5, 2021

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Help is available!



Are you having trouble making an appointment for your COVID vaccination? A team from the Church of the Warm Heart (Meridian United Methodist Church) stands ready to help!

Check the Central District Health website for when you are eligible for the vaccine.

<https://www.cdhd.idaho.gov/covid-vaccine.php>

If you need help making an appointment or know of someone else who does, please reach out to one of the team coordinators:

Lisa Miller at (912) 604-8536

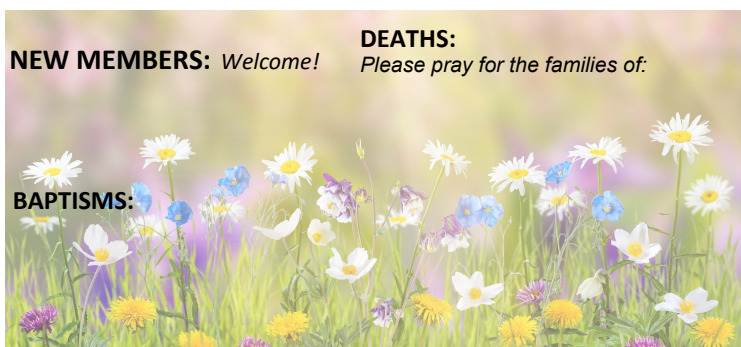
Bea Okamoto at (208) 576-4859

If no one answers your call immediately, please leave your name and number and wait for a return call. Please do NOT call both Lisa and Bea; they work together closely to share information, and multiple voice mail messages from the same person will slow them down.

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March



NEW MEMBERS: *Welcome!* **DEATHS:** *Please pray for the families of:*

BAPTISMS:

New Church Office Hours

Beginning April 1, the church office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 3 p.m.

If you come to the Family Life Center during business hours, a face mask is required to be worn in the building.

You may also reach us at 208-888-2245 or email us at office@meridianumc.com.

You can also contact Pastor John at home. His phone number is 208-895-9855.



Cloth Face Masks Available

If you would like a cloth face mask, please **email your request and mailing address** to CommunityGrace@meridianumc.com.

The face masks will be mailed to you and are available on a first come, first serve basis. One mask per person, please.

STAFF

- Senior Pastor** (ext. 104)
Rev. John Mars pastorjohn@meridianumc.com
- Adult Discipleship/Asst. Pastor** (ext. 109)
Jennifer Hunkovic adult.ministry@meridianumc.com
- Minister of Congregational Care** (ext. 105)
Lisa Miller care@meridianumc.com
- Minister of Worship Arts** 208-608-2520
Debbie Jones worshiparts@meridianumc.com
Brian Palmer - Worship Team Leader
- Minister of Youth** 734-316-9517
Nicole Walker youth@meridianumc.com
- Minister of Children** (ext. 108)
Sharon Allison children@meridianumc.com
- Office Manager** (ext. 102)
Denise McClung office@meridianumc.com
- Receptionist** (ext. 101)
Lucinda Dyer receptionist@meridianumc.com
- Communications Coordinator** (ext. 103)
- Bookkeeper**
Maria Akers bookkeeper@meridianumc.com
- Nursery Coordinator**
JoAnn Pruett nursery@meridianumc.com
- Organist**
Kristine Ciulla organist@meridianumc.com
- Facility Personnel** (ext. 110)
maintenance@meridianumc.com (M-Th)
Don Woods dandvwoods@gmail.com (F - Sun)

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

- Administrative Council Chair** David Ray
Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chair Jill Ray
Trustees Chair Bill Ball
Systems Administrator Integrity Computer Consultants
Finance Co-Chairs Brian Sauer & Lori Jones
Treasurer Lori Jones
Financial Secretary Diane Brister
Futures Team Chair
United Methodist Men President Ed Emmel
United Methodist Women President Dixie Jacky
Lay Chaplain Coordinator Faye Gabriel
Lay Chaplains Emma Jean Bedsole, Phyllis & Gordon Bouza, Don Brister, Faye Gabriel, Ruth Hayes, Gary Himes, Dixie Jacky, Jeannine Mars, Lisa Miller, Shirley O'Neal, Carole Ravine, Mary Rich, Carol Rounds, Eloise Stemple
Health and Wellness Co-Coordinators
Lisa Miller, Sue Mattison

CHURCH INFORMATION

MERIDIAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

240 E. Idaho Ave. Meridian, ID 83642
235 E. Pine Ave. Meridian, ID 83642 - Mailing Address
Phone: 208.888.2245 Fax: 208.888.5741
E-mail: office@meridianumc.com
Website: meridianumc.com
Facebook: Meridian United Methodist Church

Office Hours: April

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
To contact Pastor John: 208-895-9855

Prayer & Praise Requests - prayer@meridianumc.com

A Message from Mars

² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' "

--Luke 24:2-7 (New International Version)

He is risen! He is risen! He is risen indeed!

Oh, how I wish we were uttering those sacred words together! How I wish we could come together to celebrate Easter this year!

Last year at this time, we were scared to death that we might miss worshiping together for Easter 2020. We never dreamed that we would face a second Easter apart. Yet here we are.

In between these two unusual Easters, we have done so much and so much has happened. No matter how much we have struggled with each day's circumstances, they did nothing to dilute our message of hope. In the midst of a pandemic and pastoral moves and anything else life throws at us, we can always fall back on the hope of the resurrection. We are constantly reminded that, despite the circumstances of life, we serve a God who raises the dead. This year certainly has not played out the way I would have chosen, but hope rises eternally – because all things are possible with God.

I want to share with you a beautiful prayer that a friend shared with me:

Pilgrim God,

There is an exodus going on in my life ... desert stretches, a vast land of questions. Inside my heart your promises tumble and turn. No pillar of cloud by day or fire by night that I can see. My heart hurts at leaving so much of the security I have known. I try to give in to the loneliness, stretching, and the pain. It is hard, God, and I want to be secure, safe, and settled.

O God of the journey, lift me up, press me against your cheek. Let your great love hold me and create a deep trust in me. Then set me down, God of the journey; take my hand in yours and guide me ever so gently across this new territory of my life.

Amen.

Grace and Peace and Calm and Wisdom and Hope,

Pastor John



MINISTRIES & NEWS

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:

- Ecclesiastes 3:1



This verse keeps playing over and over in my mind. God has a plan. He has a purpose and a will. We must trust in Him and follow where He leads.

What a perfect time for this whisper of encouragement. We are the Church of the Warm Heart and we will continue to be the hands and feet of Christ no matter what the circumstances are.

I pray the kiddos had a wonderful Spring Break and are gearing up for Easter. We have been busy with online activities that include weekly challenges, weekly lesson plans, and Pioneer Clubs. We are currently working on the 37 miracles of Jesus. The kids are learning them in order and are even MEMORIZING them! It's incredible to witness each week. The Warm Heart Kids are also working on weekly letters to those in our congregation. Each week, we pick someone to write to and mail them out.

If you would like to nominate someone who needs a little "extra love" please let me know and I will add them to the list.

April Activities

Events could change according to the CDC and Covid-19 guidelines.

April 3 - Easter Drive by at Sharon's house. This is an RSVP event only. If you would like to attend this, please let me know before Friday, April 2.

April 4 - Happy Easter! He has Risen!!!!

May 17 -Tax Day, make sure to get your taxes done! If you had a baby this past year, Congratulations!!!!

Wednesday Evenings-Pioneer Clubs via Zoom. Email Sharon at children@meridianumc.com for more information.

Congratulations to the following families who had babies during the pandemic:

The Gillespie Family - Granger
The Clark Family
The Kirby Family - Luella



Blessings,

Sharon Allison
children@meridianumc.com

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Spring is in the air! This is the time of year when life generally starts to get crazy for students, especially high schoolers. How is this spring different from two years ago? From last year when the pandemic was just getting started? I suspect there are key differences in both comparisons, for all of us.

Youth group will continue to meet online this April. We're a lot better at it than we were a year ago! And we always manage to have a lot of laughs together on Zoom. Whether you're a pro or wanting to give it a try for the first time, you're always welcome. If you need a link, let me know and I'll hook you up. You can even bring your friends!

This month, be on the lookout for details on a photo scavenger hunt – from home! We're going to try one of our favorite annual events a little differently since we can't gather in person quite yet.

With the joy of Jesus,
Nicole Walker
youth@meridianumc.com



Jenna, winner of a prize in March! ➡

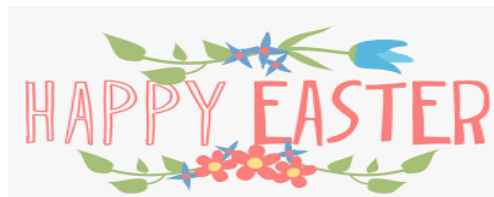


Church of the Warm Heart Education Scholarship

Due Wednesday, April 28, by 3 p.m.

The Church of the Warm Heart Education Scholarship is now being offered through Meridian United Methodist Church to all new or returning college students for the fall of 2021. Applications will be emailed to interested applicants. The application for this scholarship is available by contacting Claudia Moberly at clmoberly@gmail.com or (208) 284-8675.

All applications and required attachments must be completed and turned in to the Church Office or electronically to Claudia Moberly by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, 2021.





CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Hello Church!

I know that the news of our beloved Pastor John being transferred is difficult to process. If you need someone to talk with, I'm always here for you. Just call me at 912-604-8536.

Romans 15:13 - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Blessings & good health,

Lisa Miller
care@meridianumc.com



SPRING CLEAN YOUR MEDICINE CABINETS



Drug Takeback Day
Saturday, April 24 - 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.
Blue Cross of Idaho parking lot

The Meridian Anti-Drug Coalition in partnership with the Meridian Police Department will be holding a prescription take-back event on Saturday, April 24th. You can drive through and drop them off in the Blue Cross of Idaho parking lot at 3000 E. Pine Ave, Meridian from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

REMEMBER DON'T: Flush expired or unwanted prescription and over-the-counter drugs down the toilet or drain unless the label or accompanying patient information specifically instructs you to do so. **DO:** Return unwanted or expired prescription and over-the-counter drugs to a drug take-back program or follow the steps for household disposal below.

			
1 Mix with an unappealing substance.	2 Place in a sealed container.	3 Throw into household trash.	4 Scratch out personal information.

ADULT MINISTRIES


See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.
-Isaiah 43:19

Greetings, Church!! I pray that you are well. It seems we are entering a new season--; a bittersweet time of change, but God is doing new things and I have faith that we are in good hands. As we move forward, I am very hopeful. Thank you for being the Church of the Warm Heart--you are a blessing in my life.

If you feel God nudging you to either start or join an adult ministry group, I would be happy to help. Contact me at adult.ministry@meridianumc.com.

Grace and peace,
Jen Hunkovic





A Prayer for Easter Eyes

My Lord, Jesus,
You have risen to new life!
Give me new eyes with which to recognize
your presence in the world around me.
Sharpen my vision so that I see beyond the
ordinary events of each day and into the
extraordinary reality of your grace.
Brighten my view of the world with renewed
hope in the coming of your Kingdom.
Softens my gaze so that I view others with the
kind of tenderness and compassion you
showed to so many.
May each day of this Easter season provide
glimpses of your glory.
In your sacred name, I pray.
Amen.

MINISTRIES & NEWS

FINANCIAL NEWS

For General Operations:

	Feb. 2021	Year to Date 2021
Given	\$47,470	\$75,929
Need	61,129	117,003
Outcome	\$ -13,659	\$104,723

The figures above are for the first two months of the year. As you can see, our giving did not meet the needed expenditures for the month, but due to the outstanding giving in January, we are in the black to the tune of over \$104,000. It is nice to have a little cushion as we approach the rest of the year, but we should be aware of the need to meet our obligations monthly so that the cushion remains.

I think it goes without saying that 2021 will be considered a transition year. We are still dealing with the pandemic and the vaccination rollout and implementation. We will be welcoming a new pastor and saying goodbye to Pastor John and Jeannine. We still have no timetable for meeting in person. Due to the construction changes in downtown Meridian the question Remains: will there be enough parking when we open our doors again? Lots of questions without many answers currently.

One thing will remain and that is our obligation to meet the needs of The Church of the Warm Heart with our prayers, our continued service, and our gifts. What a joyous day it will be when the restrictions are lifted. Please pray for a successful vaccine rollout and implementation so that we can once again greet one another in worship. Until the time comes that we can return to normal worship, I encourage you to worship online with our staff and I will say it again, "Keep those tithes and offerings coming."

If you have QUESTIONS regarding our church finances, please contact Lori Jones, Finance Committee Co-Chair at ljones1234@cableone.net, 208-484-6076 or Don Brister, Stewardship Chairman at aggiedon@cableone.net or 208-871-5221.

Respectfully,

Don Brister
Stewardship Chairman



MUSIC MINISTRY

Mother's Day Video Anthem! We're planning another "All Church" anthem for Mother's Day, May 9. We'd love to have you and your family participate! Please send a picture of **YOU** with your mother, grandmother, daughter, aunt, or someone who was like a mother to you. You can email pictures to Debbie Jones, they are due by April 18. Scans can be done in the church office on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Shout Out to the Warm Heart Media Team!

Your Media Team has been volunteering and dedicating hundreds of hours to bring you the best on-line worship experience and Bible Study possible. Our team includes: Ian Perry, Jacob Rarick, Dave Murphy, Dennis Moberly, Dan Pruett, Dean Kubena, Bryce Keck, Len Anderson, Jacob Walker, and Thom Juul. We are SO blessed to have each of them on this team! If you would like to help, please contact Debbie Jones.

Can you help? It takes all sorts of talents to put together our on-line services each Sunday. If you are interested in reading a scripture or leading the Affirmation of Faith, participating in a musical ensemble or helping behind the scenes to record, PLEASE contact Debbie Jones, Minister of Worship Arts, to help.

Celebration Choir Zoom We'll be "Zooming" this month on April 11 and 25 at 4:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83791165429?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83791165429?pwd=aFFkaGt6MHFzU3lVczFPT01CRUxQZz09)
[pwd=aFFkaGt6MHFzU3lVczFPT01CRUxQZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83791165429?pwd=aFFkaGt6MHFzU3lVczFPT01CRUxQZz09)

Meeting ID: 837 9116 5429

Passcode: dh1ahT

Koinonia Hand Bell Choir Zoom As with the choir, adult ringers Zoom together on April 11 and 25 at 11:00 a.m. to reconnect & visit.

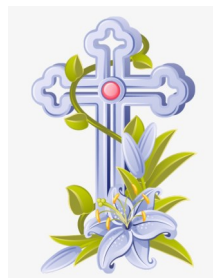
Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82609568733?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82609568733?pwd=ZysZUm1lL05XWSt6ZDFMOXhHZFF5dz09)
[pwd=ZysZUm1lL05XWSt6ZDFMOXhHZFF5dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82609568733?pwd=ZysZUm1lL05XWSt6ZDFMOXhHZFF5dz09)

Meeting ID: 826 0956 8733

Passcode: 277580

Blessings,
Debbie Jones
Minister of Worship Arts
worshiparts@meridianumc.com
208-608-2520



NEWS & MORE

THE BOOK NOOK

By Claudia Moberly

This month I'm excited to share three books with you, The Unstoppable Garrett Morgan: Inventor, Entrepreneur, Hero, by Joan DiCicco, #Not Your Princess: Voices of Native American Women, edited by Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale, and Rise! From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou, by Bethany Hegedus. Though all three books fall into the "picture book" genre, the subject and depth of the content make them appropriate for older readers.

Having grown up white and middle class in a state predominantly white and middle class, I did not realize that what I considered "normal" was not everyone's "normal". Access to jobs, safety in my community, and social acceptance were the norm for my family and me. We cannot know what we have never been exposed to, and these books are a glimpse into prejudice, segregation, and poverty that have shaped the lives and experiences of many. Two books are biographies, the other is poems and essays from today. All remind us that there is work to be done in realizing the promise and potential of ALL of God's children.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

By Dixie Jacky, UMW President



The Meridian UMW will not be meeting in person or via Zoom in April. However, you still have the opportunity to register with the National UMW to join one of the Faith Talks. They are primarily held the 2nd Thursday of the month at 12 noon MT. These podcasts are monthly conversations with United Methodist Women, hosted by Jennifer R. Farmer, Spotlight PR. Each conversation explores themes and resources that empower us to put faith, hope, and love into action. Go to the link below to see the April offering, as well as see if you are interested in any of the previous podcasts. You can register at this site and will be sent a link for the live version of the podcast.

Last month several members attended a Zoom meeting, hosted by Hillview UMW, in which the director of "Inclusive Idaho," was the guest speaker. This non-profit organization is dedicated to promoting inclusiveness and belonging to all Idahoans, regardless of race, gender, or religion. This program was an introduction to UMW's summer Mission U programming, "School to Prison Pipeline." This event will be held July 9-11, 2021, location to be announced.

Please continue to support our local mission project by bringing hygiene supplies for our high school students in need. The items are greatly appreciated by these students. Checks made out to the Meridian UMC, note Mirror Image in the memo line, are equally appreciated.

Dixie Jacky, UMW President

[UMW Faith Talks](https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks)<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks>

Mirror Image Needs Your Help!!

There are many ways you can help. When you are making your weekly grocery order, just add a few of these items to your list. **You can drop items off in the FLC on Tuesdays, between 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.** or email Lisa at care@meridianumc.com and we can arrange for pick-up of the donated items. Or, if you do not wish to shop for products, you can make out a check to Meridian UMC and earmark Mirror Image in the memo line. We will use your donation to order products that are most needed.

Items needed:

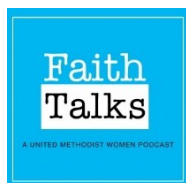
Toothbrush/Toothpaste	Lip Balm
Shampoo/Conditioner or 2-in-1	Hair Brush
Deodorant Male/Female	Fem. Hygiene
Comb	(No Poise Pads)
Body Wash	Razors Male/Female
Acne Wash	
Lotion	

Let's help our area adolescents in the Boise and West Ada Schools. Thank you.

Print Copies Available

April Footprints, April Scripture Readings and the March/April Upper Room are all available for pick up in the yellow box outside the office entrance located at 235 E. Pine Avenue.

Copies of the NW Conference reopening plan, *Reimagining Life Together* are also available.



[UMW Faith Talks](https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks)<https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/faithtalks>



Meridian United Methodist Church
235 E. Pine Avenue
Meridian, ID 83642

APRIL EVENTS CALENDAR

April Events to celebrate!

Please watch the E-Blast and Facebook
for studies being offered online.

Friday, April 2 - Good Friday
On-line service at 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 4 - Easter/Communion Sunday
On-line service at 9:30 a.m.

Monday, April 5 - Red Cross Blood Drive
FLC 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

May
NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE:

Tuesday
April 20

Submissions may be
e-mailed to Denise McClung:

office@meridianumc.com

or brought by the
church office.

Thank you!