

Welcome

A *meridian* can be defined as "the highest point reached by a heavenly body in its course."¹ Although we are not literally in heaven, we have been placed, as believers in "heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6). As we set our aim of *Lifting Christ Higher*, focusing on Heaven, and seeking to continually draw nearer to Jesus, then we will begin to comprehend those "heavenly places" as more of a reality than just some words on a page.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks for choosing Meridian as the place for you to give honor and praise to our wonderful Savior on this Lord's Day. We trust that you will come to know and understand more fully the relationship you can have in Jesus Christ.

¹ Webster's New World Dictionary, © 1971.

Meridian Online



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Sermon notes

Precious Promises of Laughter Various Scriptures

True joy comes only from God.

Psalm 34:5 – They **looked unto him**, and were lightened (radiant with joy): and their faces were not ashamed.

1. True joy comes from God's Presence.

Psalm 16:11 – Thou wilt shew me the path of life: **in thy presence [is] fulness of joy**; at thy right hand [there are] pleasures for evermore.

2. True joy comes from God's Pardon.

Habakkuk 3:18 – Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will **joy in the God of my salvation**.

3. True joy comes from God's Provision.

2 Chronicles 6:41 – Now therefore arise, O LORD God, into thy resting place, thou, and the ark of thy strength: let thy priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, and let thy saints **rejoice in goodness**.

4. True joy comes from God's People.

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20 – For what is our hope, or **joy**, or **crown of rejoicing**? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming? **For ye are our glory and joy**.

- Spend time with God.
- Meditate on the Gospel.
- Praise God for His Goodness.
- Serve & be served by the people of God.



March 9, 2025



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~ March 9, 2025 ~

*We extend a warm WELCOME!
If you are visiting today,
Connect Cards are available for you
to register as our special guest.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30am

MORNING WORSHIP 10:40am

Hymns – (Blue) 339, 504, 517

Scripture Reading: Psalm 16:5-11

DEACONS MEETING 4:30pm

EVENING SERVICE 6:00pm
Pastor Kliewer Trip Update

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Young people ages 4 - 4th grade are invited to be dismissed before the sermon for age-related teaching.

THIS WEEK AT MERIDIAN

Wed – 6:30PM – Bible Seekers; Teen Bible Study; Adult Bible Study and Prayer

Sat – Noon – Barnabas Luncheon

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

Thanks to an abundance of leftover food from the meal yesterday, we will have a church fellowship tonight after the service. No need to bring anything. This will give folks an opportunity to ask Pastor Kliewer any questions about his trip.

LOOKING AHEAD AT MERIDIAN

Mar 16 (Sun, AM) – Quarterly Business mtg.

Mar 20 (Thur, 7PM) – Ladies Bible Study

Mar 22 (Sat, 9AM) – Meridian Mighty Men

Mar 25 (Tue, 11:30AM) – Ladies Lunch Bunch

Mar 28 (Fri, 5:30PM) – New Hope Outreach

Mar 30 (Sun, 6PM) – Singspiration & Testimonies

Apr 1 (Tue, 5:30PM) – New Hope Outreach

Apr 3 (Thur, 7PM) – Rescue Mission

Apr 12 (Sat, AM) – Tentative Church Workday

FLOORING PROJECT

The Martens Family Center flooring has served us very well since it was laid down in 1993. After 32 years, it is time for replacement. At next Sunday's quarterly business meeting, the Trustees plan to present a motion to spend up to \$49,500 to replace all flooring in the following areas:

- **Martens Family Center** (Carpet Tiles)
- **Martens Family Center Classroom** (Vinyl Planks)
- **Kitchen** (Vinyl Planks)
- **Hallway** from MFC to Andersen Hall (Carpet Tiles)

The labor of demo & installation will be contracted out to be done as soon as practical depending on materials & scheduling.

PASTOR KLIEWER MISSION TRIP

Welcome Home! We look forward to hearing an update this evening from Pastor Kliewer concerning his recent travels visiting various missionaries.

READING MATERIAL

(Located on the Hospitality Desk)
-Frontline magazine – “The Thinking Christian: Biblical Wisdom in an Emotionally Driven World” (November / December issue).

-Challenger – Published by **Sam Slobodian of BIEM** Each issue focuses on various ministries of BIEM in Ukraine and Russia.

OUR DAILY BREAD

If you are looking for some daily devotional reading material, the Our Daily Bread devotionals are a good resource. Each day features scripture reading, a key verse and a short devotional relating to the Scripture reading. At the end are some probing questions for thoughtful meditation and personal growth. Booklets for September, October, and November are available at the Hospitality Desk in the foyer.

NEW HOPE OUTREACH

New Hope is the local homeless shelter ministry in Newton. We are privileged to play a small part in supplying a hot meal and fellowship for the clients twice every six weeks. We could use a few more volunteers to either cook, serve, or minister in other ways. If you are not currently helping and would like to know more information, please see *Becky Coffey*.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

**Mar 9 – AM – Ashley / Crystal
PM – Kathy / Deidra**

**Mar 16– AM – Anna / Ramona
PM – Sarah / Elijah**