

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

Grace and Peace – Pt. 5 2 Corinthians 1:1-7

Peace recognizes the strength of comfort that God gives by His grace and enables us to share our experience with others in need.

1. The Source of Peace (3)

Paul begins with praise to God as the source of all comfort.

A. God's Peace involves Quality

The God Paul describes can grant comfort since He is the Father of mercies.

Exodus 34:6-7

"Father of mercies" indicates that He is the head, the beginning of mercies.

B. God's Peace involves Quantity –

God is able to address "all" circumstances with the greatest amount of comfort.

God, in all three parts of His being carries out this ministry.

- Father – 2 Corinthians 1:3
- Son – Hebrews 2:17
- Holy Spirit – John 14:16, 26; 15:26

2. The Strength of Peace (3)

God, in His strength makes peace available.

"**comfort**" – indicates strengthening rather than just soothing and sympathizing. Through God's strength we can receive peace and comfort that is empowering.

3. The Strategy of Peace (4)

Our comfort from God is designed to be used to minister to others.

There is a stipulation given regarding this strategy. There must be a measure of victory to which we can point for ourselves and then others.

If we do not receive comfort from the Lord, it is because we have the wrong attitude toward the trial – Heb. 12:5-7.



JULY 20, 2025



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~ July 20, 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

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:1-8

Hymns – (Red) 205, 219, 474

EVENING SERVICE 6:00pm
Pastor Caleb 2 Timothy 4:3-5

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

Mon-Sat – Southland Teen Camp

Campers: Timothy Bussard,
Eli Williams, Shane Wood

Adults: Pastor Kliewer, Pastor Caleb,
Terry & Tracy Bussard

**Wed – 6:30PM – Adult Bible Study and
Prayer; Kid's Club**

NURSERY SCHEDULE

**Jul 20 – AM – Daina / Peggy
PM – Sarah / Elijah**

**Jul 27 – AM – Anna / Karen
PM – Kathy / Deidra**

LOOKING AHEAD AT MERIDIAN

**Aug 3 (Sun, PM) – Missionary Daniel
Simonsen (Kenya)**
Aug 7 (Thur, 7PM) – Rescue Mission
Aug 10 (Sun, 4:30PM) – Deacons mtg.
**Aug 15 (Fri, 5:30PM) – New Hope
Outreach**
**Aug 17 (Sun, SS & AM) – Missionary
Heather Harr (Asia)**
**Aug 19 (Tue, 5:30PM) – New Hope
Outreach**
**Aug 31 (Sun, PM) – Sandwich and
Homemade Ice Cream Fellowship**

MISSIONARY VISITS

One of the strengths of Meridian is that we strive to be a mission-minded church. We are thankful for our missionary family for whom we pray and to whom we send financial support. We will be privileged to host two missionaries in August. We will be receiving special offerings for each missionary so please prayerfully consider how God would have you be a blessing to these faithful servants of the Lord and be sure to support them with your presence.

NEW HOPE TRAINING

The staff at New Hope Shelter are wanting anyone who serves as a volunteer to attend a training session. If you have not done so, please consider attending one of the following sessions scheduled for this summer in their conference room.

- Monday, July 28; 6:30-8:00 pm
- Monday, Aug 25; 6:30-8:00 pm

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

The **June** Financial Report is available on the desk in the Church Office.

DESIGNATED GIVING

Restrictions: The church budget is set each year at the annual business meeting. That budget prescribes what the monthly support will be for each of our missionaries and other ministries. To that end, offerings may be designated to the church funds (General, Missions, Building, Summer Ministries, Benevolence) or any purpose for which we are receiving a special offering. Examples of this might include reporting missionaries on furlough, special speakers, ministry teams, etc. We would request that no designations be made for purposes outside these guidelines, including particular church projects. If you wish to send a special offering to a specific missionary, please send it directly to the missionary's sending agency. The exceptions to this rule would be Trucker's Christian Chapel and Norman Busenitz, for whom Meridian Baptist is the agency.

Clarification regarding the various funds:

Any offerings we receive that are not designated to any particular fund are automatically placed into the General Fund. This fund provides salaries and benefits for the church staff as well as the maintenance of our facilities and the materials needed to sustain our various programs. If you desire for your offering to be used for any of the other funds (Missions, Building, Summer Ministries, Benevolence), you may indicate that on your giving envelope provided by the Financial Secretary.

Benevolence: The IRS places restrictions on a Benevolence Fund disallowing designated giving toward a particular individual or organization. Benevolence Fund distribution is solely determined by the Deacons at their discretion. If you wish to give to an individual or organization of your choice, you should do so directly rather than running it through the church.