



Meridian United Methodist
**Church of the
Warm Heart**

FOOTPRINTS

October 2025

LOVING ALL. CHANGING HEARTS. TRANSFORMING LIVES.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 a.m.

11:15 a.m.

Both services are broadcast online.

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

2:00 p.m.

SERMON SERIES October 2025

10.05.2025

Everything Happens for a Reason

Deut 30:19-20a



10.12.2025

God Won't Give You More...

I Cor 10:13; Psalm 46:1-3



10.19.2025

God Helps Those...

Psalm 10:14-b, 17-19; 18:6; 12:1-2



10.26.2025

Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin

Matt 7:1-5

HIGHLIGHTED HAPPENINGS



World Communion Sunday

Be sure to join us on Oct 5th for World Communion Sunday. We'll partake in the Lord's supper along with congregations all over the world!

All Church Bazaar

Are you a crafter, a cook, a woodworker, a dish washer, a gardener, a cashier, a quilter, an artist, a baker, a pie maker, a person? You're just who we need! We are looking for silent auction items, crafts, baskets, baked goods, and of course...soup! You can also donate your time in any number of different capacities. Everyone can be a part of this fun event and the proceeds will all benefit the church.



Not sure how to help? Contact Margaret Pridmore at (208) 249-8580 and she will match your time or talent with our need. We're so excited for the Bazaar this year, and we hope you'll mark your calendars for Saturday, November 8, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., and plan to bring everyone you know.



Pink Out Sunday

On Sunday, Oct 26th, help us turn the sanctuary pink! Wear your pink dresses, shirts, ties, ribbons, hair, etc. Let's celebrate life, increase awareness, and raise hope!

Fall Family Festival

Join us in the FLC on Saturday, October 25th at 2 p.m. for our annual Family Fall Festival. Bring your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, and friends for games, candy, costumes, and fun.



No kids to bring? Great news; you can help out by volunteering to run a station! Or donate some candy to our Family Minister, Nicole Walker. We'll always take more candy!

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October Events Calendar

September

NEW MEMBERS:

Adolphe Gikundiro
Carol Shaffer
Janet Prosser
Cindy & Mark Graham
Mike & Betsy Friend
Toni & Mike Ladd

DEATHS:

Please pray for the families of...

BAPTISMS:

Kairos Prison Ministry of Idaho

Kairos brings the light of Jesus into the dark lives of thousands of prisoners and their families. Ongoing love and support dramatically changes them! And it doesn't end there! It benefits society by reducing the return to crime rate (recidivism) of released prisoners from over 75% to less than 15%. You can help us as we prepare to present Kairos weekend #23 at the Idaho State Correctional Institute October 23-26. Please see church members Michael Spencer or John Cooney for details on how to get involved. Through prayers, letters, cookies, meals, agape, donations, or actually attending the graduation ceremony on October 26th, you can help ensure a miraculous experience for the incarcerated men. Thank you for your generous support.



STAFF

Senior Pastor (ext. 104)
Rev. Mike Benischek pastormike@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

Family Minister (Children and Youth) 734-316-9517
Nicole Walker family@meridianumc.com

Office Manager (ext. 102)
Angela Perry office@meridianumc.com

Receptionist (ext. 101)
Lucinda Dyer receptionist@meridianumc.com

Bookkeeper
Maria Akers bookkeeper@meridianumc.com

Communications Coordinator (ext. 103)
Video Production
Jacob Walker cc@meridianumc.com
production@meridianumc.com

Nursery Coordinator
Jessie Layton nursery@meridianumc.com

Organist
Kristine Ciulla organist@meridianumc.com

Facility Personnel
Dave Scarpellini maintenance@meridianumc.com (M - Th)
Don Woods dandvwoods@gmail.com (F - Sun)

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Administrative Council Chair Dennis Moberly
Staff Pastor Parish Relations Chair Margaret Pridmore
Trustees Chair Ron Pridmore
Systems Administrator Integrity Computer Consultants
Finance Chair Lori Jones
Treasurer Lori Jones
Financial Secretary Diane Brister
Futures Team Chair Lori Jones
United Methodist Men President Ed Emmel
United Women in Faith President Dixie Jacky
Lay Chaplain Coordinator Faye Gabriel
Lay Chaplains Emma Jean Bedsole, Don Brister, Lynda Cavanagh
Sherry Clark, Faye Gabriel, Ben Madsen, Donna Melville
Lisa Miller, Mary Rich, Eloise Stemple, Cyndi Trimmel
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
Email: office@meridianumc.com
Website: www.meridianumc.com
Facebook: Meridian United Methodist Church

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Prayer & Praise Requests - prayer@meridianumc.com

PASTOR MIKE'S MUSINGS

"Each of us should please our neighbors for their good, to build them up."
~ Romans 15:2

Dear Warm Heart Friends and Family:

A man sat down at a restaurant table and the waiter came and asked him for his order. Feeling lonely, he replied, "Meatloaf and a kind word." When the waiter returned with the meatloaf, the man said, "Where's the kind word?" The waiter put down the meatloaf and sighed, bent down, and whispered, "Don't eat the meatloaf."

The man asked for a kind word. Isn't that often what we need, more than even the meatloaf? We need a word to encourage us. Have you said those words out loud lately? "Encourage me, Lord, please!" All too often we've found those words in short supply.

In a book I received from my folks when I started seminary 30 years ago, I read, "Hibernating in the den of discouragement? Licking your wounds under some heavy dark clouds that won't blow away? Thinking seriously about quitting the human race? If so, you are undoubtedly running shy on reinforcement and affirmation these days. You are beginning to wonder not when relief is coming, but if it will ever come, right? Are you feeling riveted to the valley where the sun seldom shines and others seldom care?" The author of these words then adds, "That's me more often than you might guess."

Who wrote these words? Chuck Swindoll — gifted preacher, teacher, and author. When I read those words, I was encouraged right on the spot. I figured if a solid Christian person like Chuck feels that way sometimes, then I'm just normal when I feel that way, too.

Jesus was so good at sensing when people needed a lift. On a number of occasions, Jesus said, "Take courage, my son, my daughter, your sins are forgiven" or "you are healed." I'm sure as Jesus is walking with us, he is saying things like, "I have overcome the darkness. You are of much greater value than the sparrows and God knows when one of them falls."

We can be glad the Bible is so full of encouraging words. May our faith be so hopeful! I look forward to sharing encouraging words with you in worship this Sunday!

See you in worship!

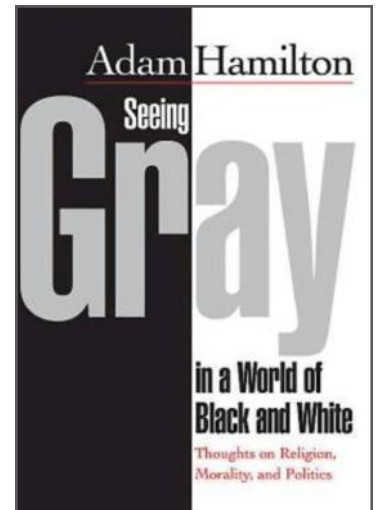
Pastor Mike

P.S. We've got another book study coming up in October! The study will be led by Bettye Seavey and will meet on Monday mornings at 10 a.m. in FLC Room 2 beginning on October 20. They will be discussing Adam Hamilton's "Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White", a title whose message seems more pressing than ever. I think these words from the Foreword by Jim Wallis sum up the message nicely:

"...those I meet across the nation and around the world want to actually respond to the moral choices and challenges that lie just beneath our political debates. They don't want to just go "left" or "right" but deeper...more and more people want to see a new common-good politics and bridge-building church...

...perhaps it is time to move beyond the old exclusive categories of liberalism and conservatism. Maybe what we need is a new paradigm altogether—we might call it *the conservative radical*. To be conservative means to be rooted—in a tradition, in faith, in core values. To be radical also means to be rooted (*radical* comes from the Latin word *radix*, meaning "root"), which gives one a consistent perspective on the world. So these two—radical and conservative—may not be contradictory but in fact deeply complimentary.

What we need most are people rooted in "conservative" values and commitments but willing to be "radical" enough to apply those very values to the real world."



MINISTRIES & NEWS

FAMILY MINISTRIES

How am I describing October to my family and friends these days? “Chaos.” We’ve got school functions, football games, a tenth birthday, one parent traveling for a conference, and some big, exciting events at church coming up. Am I a little nervous as I look at the weeks to come? Sure. But I’m also excited! My daughter, Coraline, loves this time of year with all her heart, and her enthusiasm is catching. So let’s get on with the chaos! We’re bound to make some memories along the way.

CHILDREN

Bible Builders, our Wednesday night kids’ program, is in full swing! We meet in the Upper Room (upstairs in the Sanctuary building) from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. every week for Bible Study, activities, snacks, and Angels Alive Choir. This relaxed mid-week time offers the kids a great chance to connect and grow together! Whether you’re an old pro at Bible Builders or you’re ready to give it a first try, you are WELCOME to come any Wednesday! On the last week of October, wear a costume for our Halloween party.

Parents Night Out is scheduled for every second Friday through May. Drop off your kids (age 4 through 5th grade) for a free night of pizza, crafts, movies, and play while you get in a date night or just relax at home.

Our annual **Fall Festival** returns on Saturday, October 25, at 2:00 p.m. Wear a costume, bring a friend, and get ready to party! It’s a carnival of fun—and sugar.

Bible Builders
every Wednesday, 6:00—7:30 p.m.

Parents Night Out
Friday, October 10, 6:00—8:30 p.m.

Fall Festival
Saturday, October 25, 2:00 p.m.



Bible Builders Fun

With joy,

Nicole Walker
family@meridianumc.com

YOUTH

Our youth group calendar this month is GOOFY! We’ve got two weekends of split middle school / high school youth group with dinner in between. We’ll be joining the larger church at the CROP Walk another weekend. There are volunteer opportunities at both the food bank and a City of Meridian event. And to top it off, we’ve got our annual Murder Mystery Party at the end of the month.

If you have kids or grandkids in grades 6-12 who are interested in youth group, please email me (address at the bottom of the page) to get on my mailing list. My monthly Family Ministries calendars are colored coded and very helpful!

Split MS/HS Youth Group with Dinner
Sundays, October 5 and 19
at the church

CROP Walk
Sunday, October 12, 3:00 p.m.
Julia Davis Park

Backpack Program
Tuesday, October 21, 3:30 p.m.
Meridian Food Bank

Trunk or Treat
Thursday, October 23, 5:30 p.m.
Downtown Meridian

Murder Mystery Party
Sunday, October 26, 6:00—8:00 p.m.
the Millers’ house



Photo Scavenger Hunt Night

MINISTRIES & NEWS

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

CROP Walk

October 12 at 3 p.m. in Julia Davis Park

Would you like a way to visit with friends, enjoy the outdoors, get some exercise, AND help change the world, all at the same time? Come walk with us in the Ada County CROP Hunger Walk!

CROP Hunger Walks have been taking place since 1969. Communities come together to raise money to end hunger and poverty. While most of the funds travel with Church World Service (look up their awesome mission online!), 25% of all donations go back to support local hunger-fighting initiatives. In our case, that money will support the Idaho Foodbank, which serves an average of 211,000 people per month through more than 400 partners.

This year, Ada County aims to get 150 people walking and raise \$25,000. You can help! Make a donation or register to join the team – you can do it online through our church website or by talking with Lisa. There are three-mile and one-mile walk options, and donations of every size will help us meet our goal. We can make a difference, one step and one dollar at a time.

Ladies Retreat

October: 17th-19th

Pilgrim Cove Camp in beautiful McCall Idaho

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming ladies retreat, a sacred time to step away from the busyness of life and draw closer to God and to one another. This year's theme is "Rooted & Renewed," and this weekend is designed to refresh your spirit, deepen your faith, and strengthen the bonds of sisterhood. Whether you're a longtime member or new to the Church of the Warm Heart, this retreat is for you! You can register on our website, but the registration deadline is coming fast! Registration ends on October 5th.

Blessings & good health,

Lisa Miller
care@meridianumc.com



Snapshots
from our
September
Kick-Off
Picnic



FINANCE

Lori Jones

Fall is in the air and school is in full swing. Did you know that the church awarded \$26,000 in college scholarships for the current school year? These funds came from generous donors, some living here locally and others who grew up in our church but have moved out of state, as well as an endowment fund established by folks who recognized the importance of higher education. What a blessing to be able to support our members who are pursuing advanced degrees!

In order to keep our church operating, Don keeps us updated about the cash flow that is needed to balance our church's budget, and since he's out of town, I get to present the most recent update:

| For General Operations: | August 2025 | 2025 YTD |
|-------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Given | \$56,846 | \$446,782 |
| Need | \$67,380 | \$487,478 |
| Outcome | (\$10,534) | (\$40,697) |

Three points that caused the shortfall in August were: (1) the 5th Sunday's collection will be included in September's count, (2) there were three payrolls in August and each one averages about \$16,000, and (3) our brilliant bookkeeper, Maria Akers, changed our Upper Room magazine subscription to annual, rather than monthly—saving us 20% overall!

Diane Brister will send out emails after September 30th with each person's giving statement. However, if you need a printed copy mailed to you, please call the office or catch Diane at coffee hour.

If you have any questions about the church's finances, Lori Jones, Finance Chair (lhjones2021@gmail.com), or Don Brister, Stewardship Chair (maroontycoon63@gmail.com), are available to answer them. Blessings on the Church of the Warm Heart!

MINISTRIES & NEWS

WORSHIP ARTS

Warm ♥ Tollers (aka “Learn-to-Ring Ensemble”) is meeting on Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m. to learn handbell basics together. We would love to have another ringer or two join us! If you have an interest in learning how to ring, how to read music, and getting connected with some folks to make music together, stop by the Sanctuary and join us!

The Angels Alive Children’s Choir is preparing songs to ring and sing and some skits to offer in worship. Look for us to join the Celebration Choir in late October. We meet in the Choir Room during Bible Builders on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Bring a friend and come join us!



Celebration Choir Christmas Cantata – We have a wonderful musical experience for our church family on Sunday, December 21st, at the 9:30 a.m. service as we gather to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Ever considered singing with the choir, but hesitant to make a weekly commitment for the whole year? Come join us for our cantata, “Forever God is With Us,” by Marty Parks! Rehearsals will start in November on Thursday evenings in conjunction with our regularly scheduled choir practice.



A snapshot from last year’s cantata. Those choir risers may look full, but I guarantee there’s a spot for you!

Fall Special Music – This fall, our services will feature offerings from many of our children and youth, Susan Hohstadt-Voermans (flute), the Riverside Brass for Veteran’s Sunday, Heather Calkins (violin), a bell ensemble, and Duane Conitz. Do you play an instrument or sing? Have something to offer in worship? Let me know and I’ll get you plugged into the schedule! Our church family has so much to celebrate and share in our worship services.

The Warm Heart Media Team is looking for a few more hands to help with slides for Worship Team rehearsals, Live Stream sound operations, Sunday slides, camera operation, and service transitions. We are happy to train you for any of these roles! See Jacob Walker in the balcony or myself for more info!

Blessings,

Debbie Jones

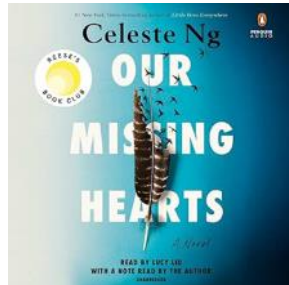
worshiparts@meridianumc.com

MINISTRIES & NEWS

THE BOOK NOOK

Claudia Moberly

The September Warm Heart Book Club selection was a novel set in the not-to-distant future, a time shortly after a world-wide pandemic and economic crisis. In *Our Missing Hearts*, author Celeste Ng has created a frighteningly recognizable world that has taken a dark turn.



Twelve-year-old Bird Gardner lives with his loving father, a former university professor who now shelves books at the library after staffing cuts and censorship eliminated his teaching position. Bird's mother, a Chinese-American poet, disappeared from the family when he was nine year old. He has no idea where she is, only that her books have been banned, she is considered a revolutionary, and she is never spoken of at home.

One day Bird receives a mysterious letter that leads him into a search for his mom. His quest takes him back to memories of the folktales she told him, to the discovery of heroic librarians, and finally to New York where he learns the truth of what happened to his mother and what the future holds for both of them.

It's a story of love, sacrifice, and the power of art to create positive change in an unjust world. This book is available for check-out from the United Women in Faith's book shelf in the Family Life Center.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



The NU2U Thrift Store, operated by the Untied Women in Faith, needs a minimum of two volunteers to operate each Tuesday and Friday. We are currently shorthanded, which means our volunteers need to work every week with no days off. If you are able to work even one Tuesday or Friday a month, please consider taking a chance on this volunteer opportunity. It is rewarding, helps the church and UWF, and provides you an opportunity to be the Warm Heart face to the community. Interested persons should contact Cheryl Mulvihill (208-995-7177) or Dixie Jacky (208-680-5112).

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Dixie Jacky

Fall is such a busy time in the life of the church, and we've got a lot of events coming up!

Fall Luncheon

Saturday, October 11, in the FLC
Guest Speaker at 11:00 a.m., with lunch to follow

This year, our UWFaith programming has been focusing on Micah 6:8...

"What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

One of the most unjust situations a family can face is homelessness. This month, we will be welcoming the director of Jesse's Tree, a Treasurer Valley organization that advocates for those facing eviction and homelessness, with their primary goal to prevent homelessness from occurring in the first place.

Please RSVP with the church office so we can have a luncheon count.

Annual Meeting

October 17-18

Also, this month, our church unit will be hosting the Annual Meeting of the OR-ID Conference of United Women in Faith. On Friday, October 17, we will start off with some service projects you can participate in, with lunch following at noon. The afternoon and evening will be filled with speakers and programming following the theme, "Past, Present, and Future." Saturday will be more of the same, beginning with opening worship at 9:00 a.m. on October 18. If you would like to be registered, please give me a call (208-680-5112). And if you can help, talk to me — there are lots of little behind the scenes chores we as a Unit need to be helping with.

Quilt Blessing

November 9

Please put on your calendar to be in church on Sunday, November 9, for the blessing of the quilts that our UWFaith Warm Hearted Quilters have been making. It is always a beautiful event, and the quilts this group makes enrich the lives of many members of our community.



Please continue to support **Mirror Image** with your hygiene donations or cash donations. Items can be brought to Lisa's office; checks written to Meridian UMC, mirror image.



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

October Events to Celebrate!

Please watch the E-Blast and Facebook for additional church events.

October 5 – World Communion Sunday
October 10 – Parent’s Night Out
October 11 – UWFaith Luncheon
October 12 – CROP Hunger Walk
October 17-19 – Women’s Retreat
October 25 – Fall Festival
October 26 – Pink Out Sunday

November

NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE:

**Friday,
October 24th**

Submissions may be
emailed to Jacob Walker at
cc@meridianumc.com
or brought by the
church office.

Thank you!