



# Meridian Presbyterian Church

June 2025

## The Light of Meridian

### *The Lens & Mirror*

<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.  
Isaiah 43:2 (NIV)

*I feel like we're living in the rain forest. The month of May has been cold and rainy. We've had to reschedule more baseball games than I have been able to keep track of. We're longing for the warm days of summer hoping that the storms will pass and the skies will clear. This reminded me of our journey with the Lord.*

*Life with God does not promise us that all the days of our lives will be filled with joy and sunshine. We often have to navigate the storms, the high waters, or the fires of life. What God does promise us, that though we walk through the waters, they will not sweep over us. When, not if, we walk through the fire, we will not be burned. The promise is God with us.*

*Our struggles are not signs of the absence of God, but instead are opportunities to trust in his presence. May this truth shape our lives and our souls as a community of believers, trusting that the Lord is walking with us through the trials and struggles of life. Let us rest in this truth, "I will be with you."*

*In Christ,  
Pastor Steve*

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Nursery Coordinator  
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### **June 1st**

Title- **"Salvation"**

Focus Passage- Ephesians 2:1-10

Secondary Passage- Isaiah 60:1-5

Synopsis- We often think of our salvation as a destination. If we know Jesus, at the end of our days, we will get to spend eternity with him. While that is true. In the arc of God's story, we're not just saved from Hell in order to go to Heaven. We're saved for something, to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world right now. Salvation means we reflect the light of Christ in this world, at this moment, for this season.

### **Sermon Series: Jesus Questions**

**Jesus only directly answered 3 questions in the Scriptures, but he asked a recorded 307 questions. I once had a ministry coach tell me, "Revelation discovered is far more effective than revelation delivered." When we are asked hard questions, we have to wrestle with the answers. In our instant information culture, we think getting the right answer is all we need. Jesus does not just want your head; he wants your heart. We get to the heart and soul with questions.**



### **June 8th- Pentecost**

Title- **"New Creation"**

Focus Passage- Revelation 21:1-11

Secondary Passage- Genesis 1:27-2:3

Synopsis- The arc of God's story in the world is bringing about new creation. We know, deep in our souls, that the world is not as it should be. We look back on creation and how humanity had departed from God's promises. In the Christian life we work to bring about his coming kingdom, his new creation, knowing that in the end he will make all things new.

### **June 22nd**

Title- **"Do You Want to Get Well?"**

Focus Passage- John 5:1-11

Secondary Passage- Psalm 51:10-12

Synopsis- There once was a man who was an invalid for 38 years. Day after day we waited by the healing waters, hoping to get in before anyone else, but he could never make it. On one Sabbath day, Jesus asked him a question, "Do you want to get well?" Seems like an odd question to ask someone who can't walk. This story is not about healing, but the question. Are we willing to leave our sin behind to get well?

### **June 15th**

Title- **"Who Do You Say I Am?"**

Focus Passage- Matthew 16:13-20

Secondary Passage- Isaiah 9:6-7

Synopsis- The first question we have to answer in the Christian life is who is Jesus? This is what he asks of his disciples. The world has all kinds of answers to this question. Jesus is a teacher, a prophet, a historical figure, a moral example, and the list can go on. However, to truly follow Jesus we have to answer, "Who do you say that I am?"

### **June 29th**

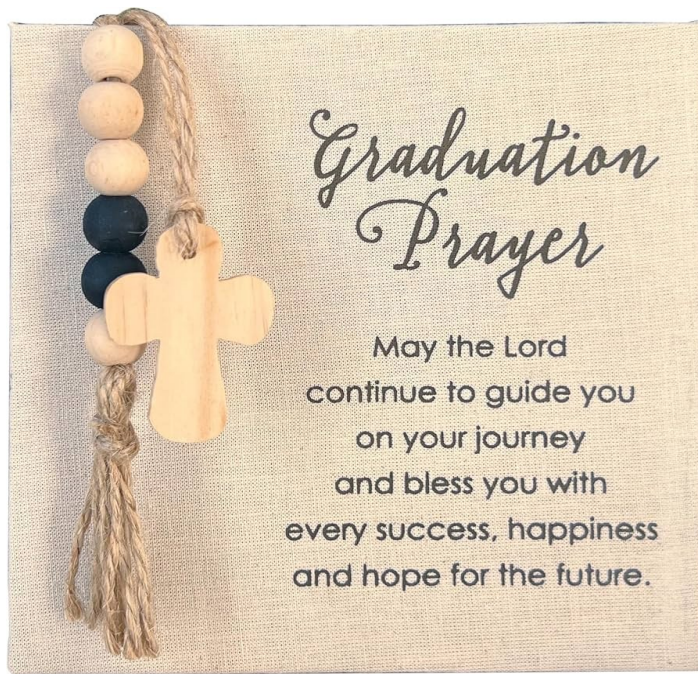
Title- **"Who Touched My Clothes?"**

Focus Passage- Mark 5:25-34

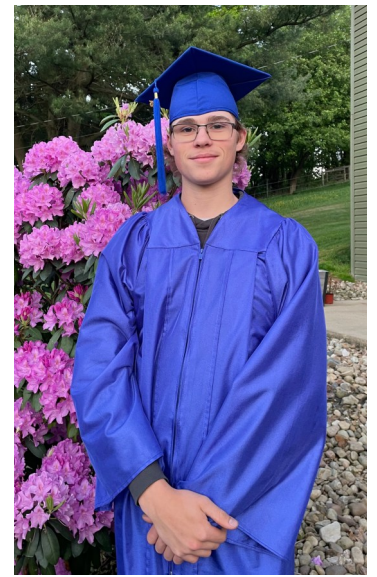
Secondary Passage- Isaiah 40:28-31

Synopsis- Jesus is on his way to help a father who is desperately trying to save his sick daughter. As he makes his way through the crowds, a woman who has been bleeding and unclean for 12 years reaches out and touches his clothes. Jesus knows someone has been healed. He exposes her, not to shame her, but to set her free. Do we have faith to reach out to Jesus?





JACOB BARTON



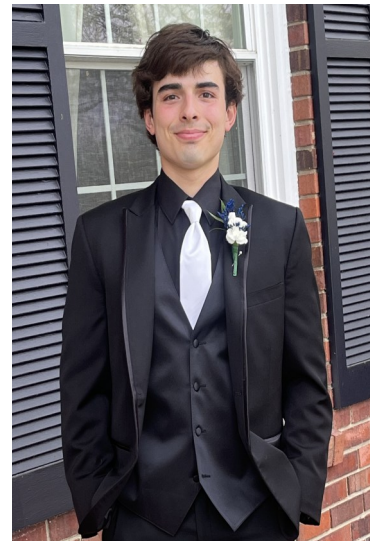
TYLER KARNER



EVAN PALMIERO



ELIZABETH PATTEN



SETH RISHOR

## faith and finances

April 2025

Giving	\$40,403.90
YTD Actual	\$192,756.20
YTD Budget	\$131,230.00
Over (Under)	\$61,526.20

### Notes from Session:

- Approved the hiring of Tim Rausch as Assistant Pastor for Care. Tim is coming on staff for 10 hours a week starting August 1st to continue in his role of overseeing our care team.
- Our discernment team had their first meeting and covets your prayers as they meet throughout the summer to discern the next steps for our church as we try to deal with the strategic and physical challenges of our church.
- We will be off for the summer.

### SAVE THE DATE

**Church Picnic @ the Slears on Sunday, August 10th.**  
**Pastor Steve will be doing adult immersion baptisms.**  
**Please contact him for more information.**



# Mission update

FINDING WAYS TO LOVE GOD  
AND LOVE OTHERS

## Mission Partner Update:



### Young Life Butler:

Mike Ambuske leads Young Life Butler, an outreach ministry that connects with unchurched middle and high school students through fun events and student-hosted worship nights. It's a powerful way to introduce teens to Jesus in a setting that feels real and welcoming. We're proud to support Mike as he reaches students outside the walls of our church. Our youth leader, Mike Barton, partners with Young Life, and when students are ready to explore their faith more deeply, Mike Ambuske often points them to our church as a place to grow.

YoungLife is headed to Summer Camp July 6- 12th in Weaverville, NC, and during the school year meets once a week for an outreach meeting and a deeper Bible study. You can follow them on Instagram (YL\_Butler) for updates!

## TOOL TRAILOR UPDATE:

Thanks to the incredible response from last month's newsletter, the tool trailer dream is rolling forward! We're grateful for everyone who reached out. A wish list is in the works and will be available soon. We hope to have the trailer in hand shortly—and once it arrives, we'll start outfitting it for mobile ministry use!



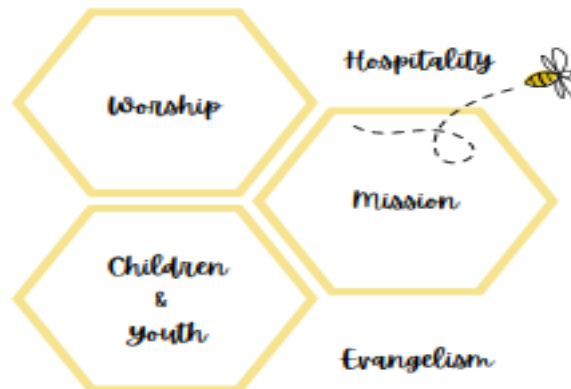
## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED THIS SUMMER!

- JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup> - **MERIDIAN BLOCK PARTY!** WE NEED HELP RUNNING THE EVENT. DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON!
- JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup> - **FISHBONE DINNER** WE WILL NEED HELP WITH COOKS AND SERVERS!
- SUPPORT OUR SUMMER YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS!
  - SUMMERBLAST: JULY 7-11
  - VBS: JULY 20-24





There are so many ways for you to participate in the life of the church. Come find where you fit in on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, following worship in the Gathering Place. Fellowship and learn more about all of the ministries that MPC has to offer.



## Women's Ministry

### **PAINT & PRAY**

We have finished up our study in James and what a challenging and rewarding time it has been. Looking ahead, we are planning a few events to get together and fellowship over the summer. I will be working on some of our VBS decoration preparation. I would love some company and some help if you are willing.

**Friday, June 20th 9:30-Noon**

Email Laura Franklin with any questions:  
[kidsmin@meridianpres.org](mailto:kidsmin@meridianpres.org)



# Youth Group



## MAY YOUTH MINISTRY!

May finished up our youth group year! Our closing celebration was with our families at a Friday evening Pirates game complete with hot dogs and FIREWORKS! It was a great youth ministry year and I look forward to the awesome summer ahead!

## YOUTH MISSION TRIP:

June 15 - 20<sup>th</sup>! We have 16 of us headed to Asheville North Carolina to help with storm relief. We are so grateful to our Meridian Church family for their support in helping us to raise \$8,000 towards our trip and serving Asheville.

## College & Career Bible Study

Two times a month we have six young adults from 18 - 25 who have been meeting. We are studying the idea of Exodus through the entire Bible. We also have some great food!

2025

SUMMER YOUTH EVENTS

REMEMBER

## MERIDIAN YOUTH



CHURCH BLOCK PARTY 6/7  
KENNYWOOD DAY: 6/10  
YOUTH MISSION TRIP: 6/15-21

LUNCH AND MINI GOLF: 7/13  
SUMMERBLAST VOLUNTEER: 7/7-11  
VBS VOLUNTEER: 7/20-24  
YOUTH LAKE DAY! 7/31

FARM SHOW NIGHT! 8/7  
CHURCH PICNIC! 8/10  
ICE CREAM AND GOD'S WORD 8/19

For more information visit  
[www.meridianpres.org](http://www.meridianpres.org)



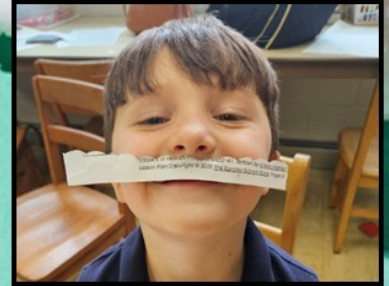
# Meridian Kids



## Monthly Bible Verse:

**Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.**

**Psalm 34:8**



*\*Thank You\**

Miss Debbe for helping our kids sing and make a joyful noise to the Lord.



## SUMMERTIME!

Taste & See: Service Sunday

**JUNE 8TH**

FOLLOWING WORSHIP

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

JUNE 7TH: BLOCK PARTY

JULY 7TH -11TH: SUMMER BLAST

JULY 20TH - 24TH: VBS

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE  
LAURA FRANKLIN OR CALL  
(724) 312-4647

## SIGN UP TO HELP WITH VBS

JULY 20TH-24TH -5:30-7:30PM

## **MAGNIFIED:**

DISCOVERING THE BIGNESS OF GOD IN THE  
SMALLEST OF THINGS  
PSALM 34:3





# ***JUNE CELEBRATION BIRTHDAYS***

**6/02 Ken Mossgrove  
6/03 Jennifer McKain  
6/04 Karen Lyons  
6/05 Linda Oesterling  
6/08 Emily Tarr  
6/10 Connor Graham  
Melissa Graham  
6/12 Kay Freehling  
Jack Grimm  
6/13 Randy Georgic  
6/15 Cody Watterson  
6/16 Henry Holtgraver**

**6/17 Allison Buck  
Sue Smith  
6/20 Mike Bowser  
6/21 Heather Cihonski  
Audrey Kennedy  
Mark Kaminsky  
6/22 Lois Morrison  
6/24 Betty Corday  
6/26 Tim Foringer  
6/27 Edith McCombs  
6/29 Mark Hitchcock  
Judy Miller  
Mya Siefker**

## ***ANNIVERSARIES***

**6/11 Steve & Darla Royce  
Ron & Deborah Schettler  
6/12 George & Tina Cygan  
Jim & Connie Winterhalter  
6/16 Andy & Sarah Tarr  
6/18 Kevin & Elaine Angert**

**6/21 Mark & Jessie Hitchcock  
6/22 Bob & Betty Cordray  
Rob & Sarah Murtha  
6/25 Jim & Bonnie Fiel  
Steve & Laura Franklin  
6/27 Bob & Carol Orsborn**

If your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect, please call the office at 724-482-2630 or email Kala at [secretary@meridianpres.org](mailto:secretary@meridianpres.org) so it can be corrected. Thank you!



# June 2025

Sun

Mon




Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<b>1</b> 10 AM Worship & Communion Graduation Sunday 	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 1 PM Quilting 3 PM Trustees Work Day	<b>4</b> 9 AM Coffee & Conversation	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10 AM Grief Block Party 4-7 PM 
<b>8</b> 10 AM Worship Taste & See Sunday	<b>9</b> 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study	<b>10</b> 1 PM Quilting Kennywood	<b>11</b> 9 AM Coffee & Conversation 7 PM College & Career Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9 AM- Men's Fellowship Breakfast at Mac's Cafe
<b>15</b> 10 AM Worship 	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 1 PM Quilting	<b>18</b> 9 AM Coffee & Conversation	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10 AM Grief Fellowship Hour
<b>22</b> 10 AM Worship	<b>23</b> 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study	<b>24</b> 1 PM Quilting	<b>25</b> 9 AM Coffee & Conversation 7 PM College & Career Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 10 AM Worship 5 PM Fishbone Dinner	<b>30</b>					



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Butler, PA 16001

Save  
the Date

**June 7th**  
**4-7 PM**

# **BLOCK PARTY**

**Kick off the summer with us!**  
**Food, fellowship, games, music and more**