April 2021



It Really Happened!

As we head into April, we head toward Easter Sunday. This year's celebration of Jesus' resurrection will likely have special meaning for all of us as we were not able to gather last year due to COVID closures. This is a wonderful time to be encouraged and find hope. Yet, we don't always (in my opinion) talk enough about a simple truth: the resurrection REALLY HAPPENED, and it can give us a bedrock hope – even in dark days. His overcoming victory is the best historical explanation for the events surrounding Jesus' crucifixion, burial, and empty tomb. This newsletter article is not long enough for an exhaustive historical/biblical defense of the resurrection. Still, I hope that the synopsis below will help strengthen your faith and ground you in the hope that only Jesus' resurrection can bring.

The Crucial Questions (and Answers) Surrounding the Claim of Jesus' Resurrection

Did Jesus Really Die? He suffered numerous beatings, a Roman scourging, and was nailed to the cross. The Romans were expert executioners and secular history (quotes from non-Christian sources outside the New Testament) bears witness to the fact that Jesus did truly die.

Was Jesus' Tomb Really Empty? Jesus' body was never produced by His enemies. They had every reason and opportunity to do so. The earliest attacks against Christianity tried to explain away the empty tomb, but they never claimed that it was occupied with Jesus' body. The empty tomb is an established fact of history.

Did Jesus Appear to His Disciples After His Death? The consensus – even among non-believing scholars – is that Jesus' disciples experienced appearances of Jesus after his death. They usually try to explain these appearances away as hallucinations.

However, Jesus appeared to his disciples numerous times over the course of 40+ days, showing his scars and eating with his followers. He appeared to individuals and groups. Nothing from our modern understanding of psychology allows us to explain these away as hallucinatory experiences. Hallucinations are within the mind of individuals – groups do not have the same visions, unless something is really there.

What Best Explains the Transformation of Jesus'

Followers? Thousands of followers who were dejected and distraught after Jesus' death were radically transformed by the resurrection appearances of Jesus. They worshipped Him as God and suffered intense persecution in the first century because they were absolutely certain He was the deathconquering Lord. While it is true that some people will mistakenly suffer and die for a lie, it is ludicrous to believe that people will suffer and die for something they know to be false. The followers of Jesus were radically transformed by their unshakeable belief that they had seen, touched, eaten with, and experienced the bodily resurrected Jesus!

The existence of the church to this day (despite its incredibly flawed people – I know, I am one of them!) is unexplainable unless the resurrection really happened. Jesus is our conquering hero. He died for our sins and then transcended the curse of death to overcome Satan, sin, and the grave. It really happened! Jesus is risen, risen indeed!

The Pastor's Study



Justin McMurdie Senior Pastor





Christian Education Co-Chairmen



BRYAN RISPALJE JORDAN CARTER

March 2021 Update for Adult Programs & Christian Education

Here is some of what is happening with Life Groups and Adult CE in April:

Life Groups: We have lots of interest in Life Groups, which is a great thing. We have a new Tuesday night group starting soon that will be led by Jordan and Gretchen Carter. Also, we have a real need to find some new leaders. We need a leader for a group that would be focused around folks in their 50s-60s. Also, we need a leader for a Life Group that is geared toward 70s and up. If you want to be in a



Life Group or lead a group, please reach out to Pastor Jordan: jcarter@pccmeridian.org OR (208) 569-1980.

New Class Starting on April 11th: Sign up to be a part of a new class being offer by Duane McMurdie, our *Evangelism Director*. Starting on Sunday, April 11th, at 9:45 AM we will have our first offering of, "Biblical Foundations #1: Knowing & Sharing the Good News." This class will last for 4 weeks and will talk about the "what", "why", "when", and "how" of sharing the good news of what Jesus has done to rescue us from our sins and give us a new life. After this first engagement, we will then rotate the class and offer it at the 11:15 (Traditional Service) hour so that those who normally attend the Modern Service can also be a part. If you are interested, please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Duane McMurdie (dmcmaxx@gmail.com), Pastor Jordan (jcarter@pccmeridian.org) or Pastor Justin (jmcmurdie@pccmeridian.org).

Su	<i>nday School Restarting:</i> In addition to the short-term "Biblical Foundations" class, we will be restarting some
	of our adult Sunday School classes on April 11 th as well. Stay tuned for more information to be announced
	on Easter Sunday.

Here is a brief look at what is happening and what is coming up for *PCC Youth*:

Wednesday in April: As we head from the energy of celebrating Jesus' resurrection, we will be launching into a new series called "*Upside Down*" on Wednesday nights. We will be having food, fun, games, etc. like usual. But for our teaching time, we want to help the students examine the "upside down" values and emphases of Christ's Kingdom vs. what our world values. All students, 6th — 12th are welcome from 6:30-8:00 pm each week!

Pray for the Spirit to Move: As our numbers continue to grow at our Wednesday night gatherings, we have a number of young people who are considering committing their lives to Christ and being baptized. Please be praying that God will move in the hearts and minds of all our young people in *PCC Youth*! We hope to see many people come to know Jesus and be His disciples!



Fun things are happening for kids at Parkview this month! We look at Spring as a time of new growth. We are seeing new faces and relationships in the ministry every week.

The children have been enjoying their new space! Thank you to all who helped make this happen. If you didn't have a chance to check out our new spaces, please come take a look!

We have also implemented a new Check-in system, which is working well. We are looking forward to opening up the playground between services for families to fellowship in the nice weather. (What an awesome space that is for us!)

Our Choir Director, Starr, is leading the children in two songs at the beginning of the 9:30 am service on Easter morning. They have been working hard the last couple of months. We ask that the children singing in

Children's Minister

CAILEE GILSTER

the Choir arrive at 9:00 am to prepare.



Please pray for the teachers, families and hearts of our kids at Parkview. If you are interested in helping in any way, we have a volunteer form at the check-in desk for you.



ALL MEN ARE INVITED! April 10, 9 am

All men are welcome to enjoy a hearty breakfast as well as a time of fellowship!

Where: Parkview Christian Church (Youth Center door)

Cost: There will be no charge for the breakfast BUT DONATIONS WILL BE GLADLY ACCEPTED!

Contact: Please call either Marv Koch (208-789-1220) or LaVerne Koch (208-861-7453) as soon as possible.

The special speaker is yet to be determined.





April 10 2:00 PM Parkview Christian Church \$20

Please RSVP by 4/9 to cgilster@pccmeridian.org so we can have your supplies ready.



Elders:

4/4 Roy Johnson & Marcy Timm

4/11 Lyle Gessford & Barb Bowman

4/18 Bill Logsdon & Debi Irish

4/25 Marcy Timm & Debi Irish

Deacons:

Mike Malone, Chairman

Ron Daly, Sue Farley, Gary Pearson, Sharon Rogers, Ray Westmoreland, Dick Williams, Julie Malone

Prayer Chain Captain:

Bonnie Fredriksen (208) 375-1390



Thank You So Much

Our Parkview Family,

We would like to thank everyone for your calls, cards, memorials and prayers. Also for making Jim's memorial service so special. Thank you Nancy and Mary for all the office details and the bulletin. The lovely lunch was much appreciated.

And to the New Beginnings Sunday School class thank you so much for the Memorial leaf. PCC is a wonderful, loving church and your support will remain in our hearts forever.

Love you all, Sherri & the Jim Nall Family Dear Parkview Christian Church Greetings from Peru!

Thank you so much for your generous and faithful giving of \$550 a month and sometimes even giving \$600 or \$650!

Good news: I was just able to publish my hymnal app! Now the Pango Quechua are better able to worship God and meditate on scriptural truths in their own language. You can check it out in the link: tiny.cc/ alabashun-qpn. I have also been improving my Quechua and sharpening my abilities as a Bible translator. Thank you for making this work possible.

Patty and I are praying for you, and we look forward to when we can give a fuller report in person.

Take care and God bless, Alex and Patty

April Birthdays

Sherry Daniels	4/03
lvy McMurdie	4/04
Cloris Knox	4/05
Samuel Haro	4/06
Shawn Lopez	4/06
Makenna Koch	4/07
Phyllis Marsh	4/08
Tim Wells	4/08
Nicole Barron	4/09
Micahla Salazar	4/09
Alison McNamara	4/10
Camille Dittemore	4/11
Erin Dines	4/13
Alyssa Kim	4/13
T.J. Dines	4/15
Shirley Humpherys	4/15
Jerry Timm	4/16
Cathy Hopper	4/20
Richard Hasler	4/24
Rosa Hasler	4/25
Irma Gochnour	4/26
Barbara Lowry	4/26
Pat O'Loughlin	4/26
Denise McMurdie	4/27
Vanessa Marsh	4/28
Ron Daly	4/30
Cara Wassom	4/30

April Calendar

4/2	Good Friday		4/14	Adult Prayer Group	6 pm
4/4	Easter		4/14	Youth Group	6:30 pm
4/7	Men's Coffee	8:30 am	4/15	Finance Cmte Mtg	4:30 pm
4/7	Adult Prayer Group	6 pm	4/15	General Board Mtg.	6 pm
4/7	Youth Group	6:30 pm	4/21	Men's Coffee	8:30 am
4/10	Men's Breakfast	9 am	4/21	Adult Prayer Group	6 pm
4/10	Ladies Paint Party	1 pm	4/21	Youth Group	6:30 pm
4/11	Biblical Foundations	9:45 am	4/25	Next Steps @ PCC 9:45 & 12:30	
4/12	Elders Meeting	6 pm	4/28	Men's Coffee	8:30 am
4/14	Men's Coffee	8:30 am	4/28	Adult Prayer Group	6 pm
4/14	Trustees Meeting	10 am	4/28	Youth Group	6:30 pm

April Anniversaries

Chris & Tammi Kildow 4/08 Mary & LaVerne Koch 4/29

PCC Staff

Justin McMurdie **Senior Pastor** Jordan Carter **Associate Pastor** Youth & Worship Pastor Bryan Rispalje Collin Freese Youth Assistant Cailee Gilster Children's Pastor Starr Johnson **Choir Director** Shawn Lopez Worship Leader Lizz Roberts Children's Intern Haro Moo Custodian Co-Office Manager Mary Harper Co-Office Manager Nancy Warren



Phone: 208-343-5461

E-mail: office@pccmeridian.org Web: www.pccmeridian.org

201 W Ustick Rd. Meridian, ID 83646-8325

Ray Westmoreland, Board Chair Bill Logsdon, Elder Chair www.pccmeridian.org

Office Hours: 9-4 Monday - Thursday 9-1 Fridays