

Meridian First Baptist Church

A brief timeline of the first 40 years

1967 – The idea for Meridian First Baptist began at Warm Lake during Family Camp.

February 19, 1968 – the first service was held in the American Legion Hall. Thirty three people were in attendance with Pastor David G. Piper.

September 19, 1971 – The church moved into the building at 428 W. Pine Avenue.

Summer 1973 – The east wing was added. The church also began supporting our first missionaries, the Hortons to the Philippines and the Lancasters to Japan.

September 1976 – Pastor Piper resigned to follow the Lord's call in starting another church in Oregon. The church called Pastor Kenneth Dalton who resigned in December of the same year.

June 1977 – The church called Pastor Mel Frank.

September 1980 – The AWANA program was started.

October 1982 – The church voted to pursue an associate pastor position.

May 1983 – Pastor Marshall Davis was called as the church's first associate pastor.

July 1983- The church mortgage was paid off!

October 1984 – Darlene Little resigned as the church secretary and Pastor Frank asked Glenda Ham to take the position.

March 1985 – Pastor Mel Frank resigned.

June 1987 – Pastor David McElyea was called as a summer intern for youth.

July 1987 – The church called Pastor Ken Miller.

1988 – The church began holding regular monthly services at the Boise Rescue Mission.

April 1989 – Pastor David McElyea became the youth pastor.

August 1989 – Pastor Miller resigned and Pastor Jim Wright served as interim pastor.

April 1990 – Pastor Eugene Beck was called to be our new pastor.

Fall 1992 – Our first “Fall Round-Up” was held.

May 1995 – Pastor Eugene Beck & Pastor David McElyea resigned. Pastor David McElyea stayed on to fill his commitments through October.

September 1995 – Pastor Robert Dyer Sr. became our interim pastor.

April 1996 – Pastor Kevin Moyer was called as our pastor.

Summer 1997 – Pastor Mark Chapman was our summer intern.

February 1998 – Pastor Dyer passed away at our mission conference kick-off dinner here at the church.

Summer 1998 – Pastor Mark Chapman was called as our youth pastor.

Spring 2002 – We bought the property and house next door (506 W. Pine Avenue) to use as additional classroom space.

Late Summer 2003 – Pastor Mark Chapman resigned.

Summer 2004 – Pastor David Duron was called as our youth pastor.

Spring 2007 – Construction began on our church building project.

Summer 2007 – Pastor Kevin Moyer resigned. Pastor Toyer served as our interim pastor.

Fall 2007 – The new classrooms were ready for use and a dedication service was held.

Spring 2008 – Pastor Randy Cook was called as our new pastor. (April 13, 2008)

Summer 2008—Pastor Randy Cook began his ministry (August, 2008)

The Vision for MFBC began in 1967 during family camp at Warm Lake. After realizing God's will for him was full-time ministry, Pastor Piper was challenged to plant a church in Meridian, ID.

On February 19, 1968, MFBC held its first service at the American Legion Hall, with 33 people in attendance and continued there for the next 3 1/2 years. The core group included 7 families and 5 individuals. Excitement grew as they hosted over 50 boys and girls at their first Vacation Bible School.

The congregation was able to purchase the property on Pine Ave. for \$7,000 and moved into a new building on September 19, 1971. Praise the LORD!

Attendance increased into the 1990's and into the summer of 1973 the East Wing was added to meet the growing Christian Education needs. We also supported our first missionaries!

In July 1983, the church mortgage was paid off. Years of faithful stewardship of our finances had enables us to be debt-free.

In November 2007, we were able to expand our North Wing classroom space and upgrade our parking lot and landscaping.

Sixteen pastors have served at Meridian First Baptist over the past 45 years. Four of these pastors are still currently ministering to us. We join in fellowship with an average of 91 persons on Wednesday nights, 93 on Sunday nights, 171 during our Sunday School hour and 228 for our Sunday morning services.