

Sunday Worship Services at 9am

In-Person in the Sanctuary, Live Online

(YouTube, Facebook, reedleymbc.org)

On Demand after 1pm on Monday

Children's Church

Ages 3 through 1st Grade

Fellowship on the Green at 10:20am

Adult and Children's Classes at 10:40am

SCAN TO CONNECT WITH US ON OUR DIGITAL
FRIENDSHIP FORM
WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!



Matt Harder, Pastor of Care & Counseling

Randy Janzen, Worship Pastor

Tanya Jones, Director of Childrens Ministries

Kelly Gilmore, Office Manager

Kathy Hughes, Bookkeeper

Sheila Penner, Hospitality Coordinator

Charlie Rivoire, Business Manager

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THE BOOK OF
PHILIPPIANS

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

WWW ONLINE LIVE 9AM 

SUNDAY CLASSES 10:40AM

ON DEMAND AFTER 1PM MONDAYS

LIFE *Life is Better Together!*

groups

Sign up online or contact mike@reedleymbc.org

Proverbs 27:17

FORGED

MEN'S GROUP

Tuesday Mornings
6-7am in the Student Center

Fitness, Fellowship, & Fun
pilates | cardio | weights | mobilization
Student Center SC 100

FUELED FITNESS

Tuesday & Thursday
5:30-6:30pm

Baptism TODAY! Class

MARCH 13TH

SIGN UP ON THE APP OR WEBSITE

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Salad & Swap

MARCH 14 6PM

IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

Sign up to bring a salad 559-638-8123

Wednesday Night Meals

5:30pm to 6:10pm

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

WEDNESDAYS 6:30-8PM

January 26 - March 30 2022

for ages 3 (fully potty trained)-6th grade

Hobo Stove Campout

March 16th 6:30-8:15pm
3-6 grade boys Balakian Park

EQUIPPING CLASS

March 20th with Grant Thiessen

WOW Community Bible Study

TUESDAYS 9-11AM

The Wisdom of God by nancy guthrie

M.O.M.S. Fellowship/Bible Study

Thursday 9-11am

Student Center Upstairs SC 200

West Coast Mennonite Men's Chorus

MAR 26 Fresno/Clovis
APR 10 Bakersfield
APR 24 Reedley
MAY 1 Arroyo Grande

jonifriends **Family Retreat**

April 11 - 15, 2022
Volunteers arrive April 10th

Wonder Valley Ranch Sanger, CA

Wednesday Night **Women's Bible Study**

6:40-8pm in EC205

THE STUDY OF RUTH

ROOTED

JHM WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 6:30-8:00 PM
HSM SUNDAY NIGHTS

in the rmbc student center

For more details on these or additional RMBC Ministries: check the App, Website, or contact the church office at (559) 638-8123. Further details can also be found in today's Journal.





RMBC JOURNAL

REEDLEY MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH

WORSHIP TODAY

Sunday - March 13, 2022

Guest Network Password - go4thandGROW

This week we will begin a new series on the book of Philippians. Even though Paul was sitting in a Roman prison while he wrote the letter, he was filled with joy because the Gospel of Christ was being proclaimed.

We encourage you to bring a friend with you to worship or invite a friend to join you online for worship!

If you are visiting with us today we encourage you to download our app (search: reedleymbc), visit our website (reedleymbc.org), or visit our Welcome Center where you can get more information and a gift.

Join the 5 Day Bible Reading Challenge!

This week's passages:

Week 11

Day 1: Numbers 26-29; Luke 2

Day 2: Numbers 30-33; Psalm 35; Luke 3

Day 3: Numbers 34-36; Luke 4

Day 4: Deuteronomy 1-3; Psalm 36; Luke 5

Day 5: Deuteronomy 4-5; Luke 6

OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Prayer Line - Would you like to receive our daily Prayer Line? You can via email, or through our App. Please contact the Church Office.

Sunday Morning Prayer - Meets in the Conference Room at 8:15am.

Wednesday Morning Prayer - Meets at 6:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Come and join us as we seek the Lord for our church, our community, and our world.

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Missionary of the Week: Ron & Bonny Thiesen, serving with YWAM (Youth With a Mission in Hungary) "As you are aware, the war is in our neighborhood. The Body of Christ is responding to the need as refugees are entering Hungary as well as other surrounding nations. It is a bit surreal to carry on with school while this tragedy unfolds. Our school has organized a drive for the refugees, our YWAM Ukraine staff asks for prayer as they hide during airstrikes and bring food, aid, and comfort to those unable to escape. Our local church youth group prays for peace and God's work in Ukraine and Russia. The past couple of Sundays have been overflowing as refugees (believers and unbelievers) join us. Thank you for your prayers." ~ Ron

ANNOUNCEMENT

The flowers have been placed in honor of **Gordon & Karen Wiebe's 50th Wedding Anniversary** which will be March 17th.

The rosebud is to announce the birth of a son, **Clayton Wells Balakian**, born March 10th to Craig & Tiffany Balakian.

MCC Sale - Save the date for an in-person one-day event at Fresno Pacific University on Saturday, April 9th, 9 - 4pm. Join us outside on the green for delicious ethnic food, a silent auction, our annual quilt auction, and more!

A donor has made available to the church a Medline MDR107003EL0 Full-Electric **Home Care Bed** with full length side rails. If you have a need for this bed, please contact Pastor Matt Harder.

Thank you so much for supporting **Ukraine Ministries**. We sent over \$7000 with Johann Matties' and have collected another \$11,350 as of March 8th. Please continue to intercede on behalf of this nation! We will continue sharing updates as we receive them. If you would like to have these updates emailed to you, contact Courtney Warkentin at cwarkney@gmail.com or <https://multiply.net/ukraine-in-crisis>.

STEWARDSHIP

Worship Service - March 6 522
YTD Goal \$985,448
YTD Surplus \$35,437

GIVING @ RMBC

- Text reedleymbc to 1-888-364-4483
- reedleymbc.org > Give
- RMBC App > Giving
- U S Postal Service
- Office, M-F, 8:30-5pm

Welcome

Welcome to Reedley MB. We're pleased to have you join us today for our worship service. It's our prayer that you will meet the living God in this place as we hear from the Word of God. We are here to **GLORIFY** God, **GROW** together as equipped disciples of Jesus Christ, and **GO** proclaiming His gospel to all. If you have questions, please ask, check our app, scan the digital QR code on the back of the Bulletin, or stop by The Welcome Center on our main lawn.

Sermon Materials

Each week, we send out sermon materials ahead of Sunday's sermon. You can find them on our App. If you'd like to receive these in your email, please contact the Church Office.

Upcoming Events

We have upcoming events! Don't miss out: check the RMBC Website, App, and online Bulletin.

Contact Details

Office: 559-638-8123
Email: kelly@reedleymbc.org
Website: www.reedleymbc.org
Address: 1362 L Street
Reedley, CA 93654

OPPORTUNITIES

Verenika Making Saturday, March 19th! at RMBC in preparation for the West Coast Mennonite Relief Sale. If you have never made Verenika we can show you how it is done! Begins at 8am. For more information please contact Rosalyn Regier Malamma at 661-332-0702.

Zwieback Volunteers Wanted! Would you be willing to make a batch of Zwieback and bring it to the MCC Sale? We need as many bakers as possible and you can help by making a batch of Zwieback and packaging them 6 to a gallon zip lock bag. If you are not able to bake them close to the date of the sale, make them ahead and freeze them (place a paper towel in the zip lock bag to absorb the moisture when they defrost) Or volunteer to work in the Zwieback Sale booth for one hour, April 9th, 8am-4pm.

J.O.Y. Volunteers of all ages needed for the Respite event Saturday, April 2nd, 9am-2pm, serving individuals affected by disability and their siblings. We want to give parents and caregivers the opportunity to take a breath while volunteer "buddies" lead games, activities, and music. Lunch is provided. **Training for volunteers will be provided directly prior to the event at 8am (breakfast provided)** To volunteer OR if you are a family who wants to attend, sign up on the app or website.

USMB Gathering 2022 - You are invited to join our U.S. Mennonite Brethren family in Independence, Missouri, July 26-30, 2022. (Pastors' Conference July 26-27 and Convention July 28-30.) The theme is "Increasing Impact: Reaching the Lost" with a focus on evangelism—as we strive to make a real difference for Jesus in our communities, nation, and the world. 1-800-257-0515 or www.usmb.org/gathering2022.

You are invited to attend a **Special PDC Convention** on March 24th, 7pm, at Hope Kingsburg MB (1301 Stroud Ave, Kingsburg, CA 93631) RMBC can send up to 30 delegates. Realizing that some of you will not be able to be represented physically, the PDC will endeavor to connect virtually.

Wednesday Night Fellowship Meals

Join us in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30 to 6:10pm. *Advance reservation required.* Sign up online, see Sheila on Sunday mornings, or email sheila@reedleymbc.org. Pay by cash/check at the door. Cost is \$5 for featured meal, \$3 for Kid's Option, or \$20 per household. Sign up by March 14 for March 16 meal. Menu: Pulled Pork Sandwich, Chips, Fruit, and Chocolate Chip Cookie. Kid's Option: Chicken Nuggets, Chips, Fruit, and Chocolate Chip Cookie.

ROOTED STUDENT MINISTRIES

Sunday School - Junior high meets in the Student Center upstairs in SC200.

Junior High School Ministries - Junior high students meet together for Rooted Wednesday nights from 6:30-8pm in the Student Center. Bring a friend and join us for fellowship, fun, and teaching from the Word of God.

RMBC COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Sunday School - meet in the Student Center SC 202 at 10:40

Sunday Nights: Meet at the church in the Student Center, SC 200.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Salad & Swap is back! Join us on March 14th at 6pm for a fun night! A delicious variety of salads, zwieback, and cookies will be served. Bring 5 gently used items to swap with others, and come home with 5 "new" items for yourself! This will be a great night of food, fun, and fellowship! Hope to see you there and bring a friend! Contact Loraine if you are willing to bring a salad or cookies at 559-289-9176.

March 17th M.O.M.S. Bible Study - Week 5 and we arrive at Mount Carmel. Pick up a drink at the Perk and join us for a great discussion time in SC 200, from 9-11am.

WOW Community Bible Study 2022 - Tuesday mornings, 9-11am, in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us and bring a friend!

Women's Bible Study - Wednesday nights at 6:45 - 8pm in EC 205. Join us as we study Ruth.

Fueled Fitness Exercise Class - Every Tuesday and Thursday night, 5:30 - 6:30pm. Join a fun group in the Student Center for a variety of exercises: pilates, cardio, weights, and mobilization. All ages and levels are welcome. It's Fitness, Fellowship, Fun, and it's Free!

MEN'S MINISTRIES

Forged Bible Study: Tuesdays, 6am, Student Center.

Cross Trainers Basketball: Wed., 7pm, Immanuel

Men's Group: Thursdays at noon in the Student Center

Pickleball: Thursdays at 7pm, at the RMBC Court

Contact mike@reedleymbc.org for more information on Men's Ministry

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Rkids 3rd-6th grade Boys will be having a **Hobo Stove Campout** at Balakian Park Wednesday, March 16, 2022. Parents are responsible for getting their boys to the park and home from the park. Check-in at the park will begin at 6:15pm and they will get started at 6:30pm and will end at 8:15pm. Balakian Park is located directly across from 9425 Kings River Rd. There will be balloons and a sign directing you where to turn in.

Children's Sunday School - Age 3 through 4th grade meet in the Children's Center; 5th & 6th grade are upstairs in the Student Center at 10:40am. Check in prior to church service in the breezeway or after service in the lobby of the Children's Center. Children ages 3-4th grade will need to be picked up from their classrooms in the Children's Center instead of the playground. Please PROMPTLY pick up your children after Sunday School and have your parent check-in tag with you.

Nursery is available for children birth through Age 2 in the Children's Center.

Children's Church is available for kids 3 years old - 1st grade. Children meet in the breezeway when dismissed from the service. Children's Church is located in the Children's Center in the Seashore Room.

RKids 6:30-8pm, for ages 3 (fully potty trained) through 5th grade. Please register your child on the app or website.

From the days of the Caesars to the democratic states of our own day, and especially to the Marxist empires, the ungodly have seen that biblical Christianity creates a rival government to the humanistic state. When a person is saved, they are members of a new creation and God's kingdom, and they are to be a working member of that realm. They understand that the state is not the ultimate authority, but it is God who is the ultimate authority. Godless humanistic states do not like the idea that they will have to answer to someone other than themselves. So, when a rival view of reality, a rival understanding of life and government are brought to people's attention, the humanistic state takes notice and tries to squash the new threat.

We see this demonstrated throughout history as God's kingdom has advanced, it has met resistance from godless, wicked governments. We saw this in Soviet Russia, we see it in North Korea, we see it even now as totalitarians begin to enforce new restrictions on religious freedoms (Canadian truckers). The kingdom of light will always collide with the kingdom of darkness. **The faithful preaching of the word of God and the witness of the faithful Christians will always cause conflict with a humanistic world and state.** We see this very thing demonstrated in the founding of the church at Philippi.

The Founding of the Church Acts 16:11-40

Paul's normal custom was to go to the synagogue of the city and begin to minister there. Philippi did not have one. It took Jewish males to start a synagogue. They heard there was a place by the river where the Godfearing people met together to pray on the Sabbath. It was there they met their first convert, a woman named Lydia who was dealer of purple goods. She had means and invited them to stay at her house. It is assumed that the church began meeting at her house after that.

Philippi was a Roman colony and was a leading city in the district of Macedonia. When Rome would conquer an area, they would set up colonies like Philippi to teach and promote the Roman way of life. Because of this, Roman influence was strong in the city. Many retired generals settled there and most considered themselves to be Roman not Macedonian or Philippian. **Even in this hostile environment, God planted His church.**

As Paul and Silas were going about their ministry in the city, a slave girl with a demon followed them proclaiming that these men are proclaiming the "*way of salvation*". After many days of this Paul turned and exercised the demon out of her. When the slave girl's owners saw that they were no longer going to make money from her, they dragged them before the magistrates. The charge they made against them was that they were Jews, and **they were advocating customs that were unlawful for Romans to accept or practice.** Paul was addressing the fact that they worshiped false God's and their need to turn from false worship to worship of the true and living God.

What was the result of their preaching of the Gospel? They took a beating, literally. They were beat and then thrown in jail for the night. While they were in prison, Paul and Silas were singing hymns to the Lord. All at once there was an earthquake and the gates were opened and the jailer was about to kill himself, when Paul stopped him and let him know that they were all still there. No one had tried to escape. If a prisoner escaped, then the person in charge of the prisoner would be executed. This whole situation was obviously not something the jailer had seen before, so he was open to the Gospel. Paul shared the message of salvation and the jailer's whole family was saved and baptized.

When the magistrates were made aware that Paul and Silas were Roman citizens, they were greatly alarmed, for it was illegal for them to beat a Roman citizen without a trial. So, they tried to just get rid of them quietly. Paul would have none of that and made them come and remove them from the jail personally. The magistrates did so and asked them to leave the city quietly. So, they went back to Lydia and the rest of the church and then went on their way. Then they went to Thessalonica and declared Jesus to be Lord there as well and another riot broke out.

Why talk about all of this when we are starting to study the book of Philippians? It is important for us to understand what the circumstances were when the church was founded and the reason that the letter was written in the first place. Historical understandings really help us to understand the significance of what was written. Obviously, starting a riot, and getting thrown into jail was probably not on Paul's to do list. But that is what God used to birth the church. The claim of Jesus confronts people at the core of who they are. **People cannot remain neutral when they are faced with Jesus.** He even said, "You are either for me or against me." His call is a call to come and die and live for Christ.

Ten years after Paul's initial contact with the church, Paul is writing to them to thank them for sending provisions for him while he was in prison again. Paul is in prison in Rome, this time, during the reign of Caesar Nero. The church found out that Paul was in prison and sent Epaphroditus with provisions to care for Paul's needs (2:25-29; 4:10-20). Prison in Rome was not like prison in our society. You either had friends and family to take care of you or it was even more miserable than it already was. So Epaphroditus made the 800-mile trip from Philippi to Rome. This trip would take 39-52 days to complete. While Epaphroditus was in Rome he took care of Paul. While he was there, he almost died. So, Paul's purpose in writing the letter was to say "thank you" for sending Epaphroditus and to reassure the church that he had recovered and was doing much better. Some scholars think that Paul had Epaphroditus deliver the letter to the Philippian church.

The major theme of the book is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He commends them for "defending and confirming the Gospel" (1:7), "to advance the Gospel" (1:12), and "the defense of the Gospel" (1:16). He thanks them for their "partnership in the Gospel" (1:5) since the early days for their "acquaintance with the Gospel" (4:15). His first and most important application point is that the Philippians would "live as citizens in a worthy manner of the Gospel of Christ, ... striving together with one accord for the faith of the Gospel" (1:27). The biggest praise that Paul gives to the church is that they "served with me in the work of the Gospel" and "contended at my side in the cause of the Gospel" (2:22, 4:3). The Gospel of Jesus Christ takes first place in Paul's mission and in his letter.

The content of his Gospel message is that Jesus Christ is Lord. The letter is filled with the praise of Jesus. Jesus is the perfect picture of the Gospel being lived out in His obedience, even though being God he lived as a human being in perfect obedience to the Father, to the point of death, even death on the cross. Consequently, God exalted Him by giving Him the name "Lord" so that all creation will worship Him as the sovereign above all earthly sovereigns. Declaring that every knee will bow, and tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord (2:5-11).

This Gospel of Christ has special relevance for this church in a Roman colony. To stand firm against the gospel of Caesar, they needed to worship Jesus Christ as the Lord and Savior above all earthly powers. No matter what earthly powers stand against them, all Christians everywhere are called to "live in a manner worthy of the Gospel."

Things weren't much different in Paul's day as it is in ours. The war between good and evil still rages on. The Kingdom of God is still advancing in our generation. The church still being called to be a faithful witness even in the face of growing intolerance of the message we preach. As we study the book of

Philippians, I want us to remember that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. The Holy Spirit that indwelt Paul, Silas, and the Philippian church is the same Holy Spirit that fills us today.

Just like Paul did not shrink back in the face of opposition, we are not to shrink back either. Paul's mission in life was to see Jesus Christ exalted in his generation, that should be our goal as His church as well. We have a Savior that is worthy of our worship and praise, and He is worthy of suffering for as well. I pray that we will have a new appreciation for the Gospel and for proclaiming it as we study this letter to the Philippian church.

Philippians, an Unlikely Church Plant
Acts 16:11-40 and Philippians Overview

Pastor Matt
March 13, 2020

The faithful preaching of the word of God and the witness of the faithful Christians will always cause conflict with a _____ world and state.

Even in this hostile environment, God planted His_____.

They were advocating customs that were _____ for Romans to accept or practice.

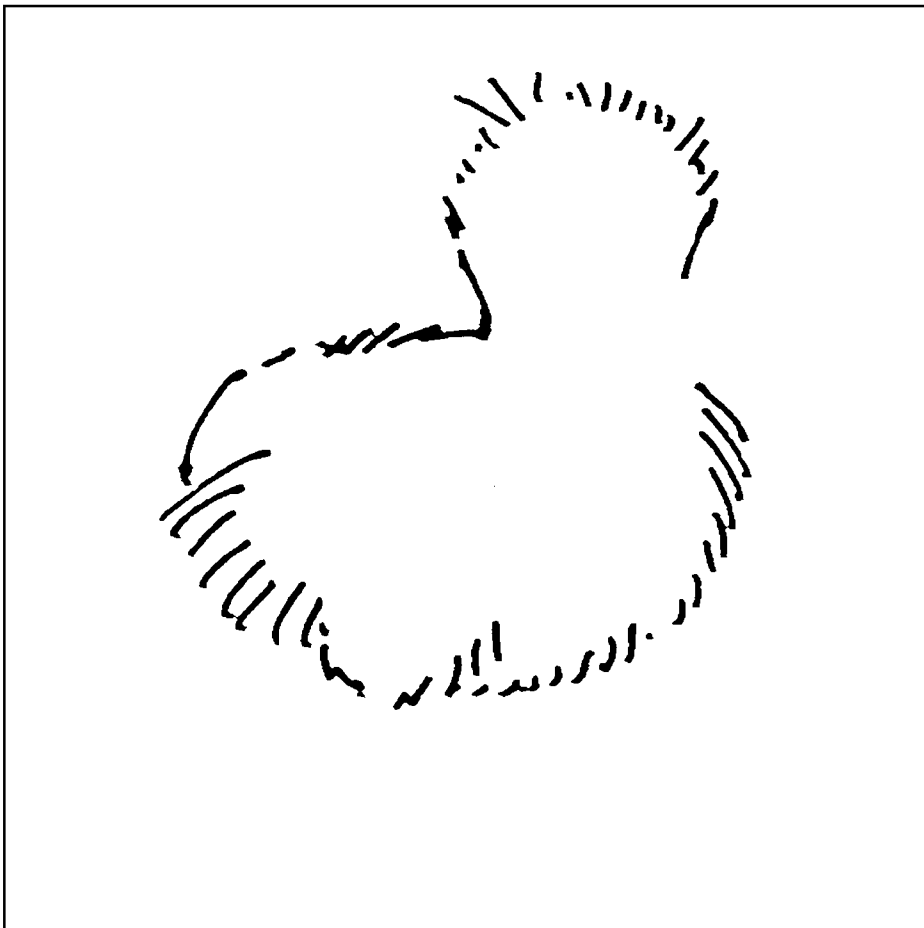
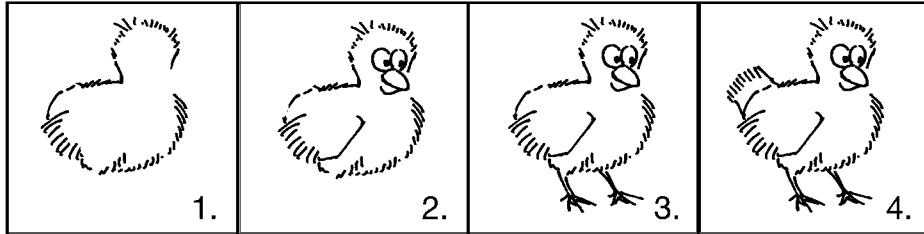
People cannot remain _____ when they are faced with Jesus.

The major theme of the book is the _____.

The content of his Gospel message is that _____.

Jerusalem was like the little chicks that needed to be protected.

Follow the step-by-step directions to draw the chick.



Ages 3+

March 13, 2022 • Luke 13:31-35

Jesus Is Sad About Jerusalem

The Pharisees warned Jesus to leave Jerusalem. Herod wanted to kill Him.

Trace inside the bubble letters.

Jerusalem



Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @ games.childrensbulletins.com

SECRET CODE
MXQP92

Jesus said, "I will keep on healing today, tomorrow and the next day."

Circle the 2 that are alike in each row.



healing

HEALING

HEALING



TODAY

today

TODAY

Jesus was very sad for Jerusalem.

Match the puzzle pieces.

