

Meridian Baptist Church

6513 Chapman Highway
Knoxville, TN 37920
865-577-6617

www.meridianbaptist.org

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ITEMS FOR EVANGEL DEADLINE: MONDAY NOON

Meridian Prayer Line
865-579-6632
CALL IN YOUR PRAYER REQUEST

WORKERS FOR SUNDAY **May 19, 2024**

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Joe Fielden * Gene Walkup

EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS

Gayle Doman Amy Arnett Nicole Arnett

SAFETY TEAM — TEAM FOUR

Johnny Lewis David McLemore
Mike Marcum Jack Oody Sam Lonas

VAN DRIVER

Joe Fielden

IN THE HOSPITAL

Patsey Barnes, Ft. Sanders
Lula Jones, Ft. Sanders
Sam Martin, Ft. Sanders



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OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

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THURSDAY, MAY 16

10:30am—WOM serve lunch at Mont. Village

SUNDAY, MAY 19

9:45am—Sunday School
10:50am—Morning Worship
(also streaming live on YouTube)
12:00pm—Business Meeting
4:00pm—Deacons' Meeting

MONDAY-FRIDAY, MAY 20 - 24

Church Office Open 8:00am-4:30pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

6:00pm—TeamKid
6:15pm—Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
(also streaming live on YouTube)
6:15pm—Youth Unite
7:15pm—Sanctuary Choir Practice

Find us on YouTube:
MBC Knoxville
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45AM
SUNDAY WORSHIP
SERVICE 10:50AM
WEDNESDAY SERVICE 6:15PM



Michael Martin, Pastor

The Evangel

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VOLUME 70, NO. 19

May 17, 2024



Welcome Reception for our new pastor, Michael Martin & family

On Sunday, June 9th, we will have a church-wide potluck luncheon following the worship service welcoming our new pastor, Michael Martin & family to Meridian Baptist Church. Bread & drinks will be provided. Please sign up if you plan to attend & what you can bring. A box is located in the Sanctuary foyer for you to place welcome notes or cards of encouragement to the Martin family!

Agenda for Business Meeting-May 19, 2024

Minutes Provided
Granting of Letter
Financial Report Provided
Motion Concerning Items Not On Agenda
Report from Building & Grounds: Replaced lights on church sign, approximate cost of \$2,000; to come from Capital Improvements.
Report from Van Committee: Emergency repair on 2002 van; cost was \$760; to come from money held in Non-budget designated (sale of '98 van).
Recommendation from Missions Committee: Recommend purchasing a new stove for the mission home at an approximate cost of \$900; to come from the Mission Home Fund.

DECORATION DAY AT MERIDIAN CEMETERY * MAY 18-19

Meridian Cemetery will be open May 18-19 from 8:00am-6:00pm. Flowers will be removed after two weeks. Please pick up your containers prior to that time.



Graduate Recognition, Sunday, May 19th

We will be recognizing our High School & College graduates during the May 19th service. Contact Chris with information on the graduate.



"A Day in the Park" Oneida City Park Saturday, June 1st (leaving at 8am)

We need volunteers for games, activities, Bible distribution, snow cones, etc., for the outreach event at Oneida Park. This is a great opportunity to share Jesus. Sign up or call the office if you can help!

Vacation Bible School **July 14-19 * 6 - 8 pm** Ages 4 years thru 12th Grade Adult class provided also!

Pre-registration to begin soon!
If you can volunteer, call the office!
Next workers' meeting: June 5th at 5:30



DEACON ELECTION - JUNE 2

You will soon be receiving in the mail a list of potential men who can serve as deacon at Meridian. Those with a letter "A" are currently serving (please do not nominate these men). Some have an "I" beside their name; these are deacons who have been ordained and are not serving on the active deacon board. You may also choose men who are not ordained, that represent the qualification of a deacon and nominate them for ordination or active service on the Deacon Board. If you will not be in attendance on June 2nd, absentee ballots may be picked up in the church office.

STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

I hope everyone had a great Mother's Day! I know that not everyone has a great mother, but that does not mean that there is not a woman who impacted your life in some positive way. I even know several women who are not mothers due to health reasons that have had a great impact on my life. There is something about the nature of women that is absolutely needed. Mostly it is the loving nature of them. I know at times I am extremely harsh and far from kind, and I have to be reminded that there are different ways to say and present things. So having that gentle reminder from a woman is certainly helpful and allows me to reflect and reassess the situation. So as we come off this Mother's Day weekend, it is never too late to tell a woman who has impacted your life just that. There is a lot to be said for being thankful for someone. But there is an even greater impact to tell someone why you are thankful for them and the difference they have made in your life. Sincerely, Chris

May Collections for OCC Shoeboxes

Small puzzles Matchbox cars
Plastic animal sets/Lego sets/Other small toys
(Place items in tote located near office)

KEYMAN POSITION PART-TIME

The Personnel Committee is seeking church members who would like to apply for the part-time keyman position at the church. The position would require opening and closing at church events. If interested in this position, please call the office for a job description.

Homebound Workers Needed

Meridian has a monthly ministry to our homebound members. Our homebound workers visit and take gifts to members who are no longer able to attend church and spend quality time with them once a month. If you feel this would be a ministry you would enjoy, call the office to volunteer.

Welcome New Member

Avrhianna Byrge
4332 Ventura Drive
Knoxville, TN 37938



Our Attendance

MAY 12

Preschool	7
Children	14
Youth	11
Adults	80
TOTAL	112
Visitors	1

CONSTANT CONTACT CONSCIOUSNESS

Contacts for the week of 5/6-5/12 Total 75
4&5 Years—15 Adult 3—25 Adult 4—35

Our Giving

FIGURES FOR MAY 12

General Budget Fund	\$5,400.00
Cemetery	100.00
Reimb. WMU	50.00
Non-Budget Designated	50.00
Grand Total	\$5,600.00
Online Giving	\$60
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,926.00
May Budget Giving	\$16,508.80

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

If you would like to give online, go to the church website at www.meridianbaptist.org; go to the "Online Giving" section, click on the link provided to be directed to our giving page.

THE
RED
THREAD

Summer Sermon
Series
Beginning Sunday,
June 2nd



Wednesday Night
Mid-Week
Bible Study
Beginning
June 5th

Noteworthy News

FAITHFUL FRIENDS...who could do without them? In the Catholic Bible we read, "A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter; he who finds it finds a treasure. A faithful friend is beyond price, no sum can balance his worth. A faithful friend is a life-saving remedy, such as he who fears God finds; for he who fears God behaves accordingly, and his friend will be like himself." In Ecclesiastes we read, "Two are better than one because they have a good return for their labor. For if either of them falls, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls when there is not another to lift him up. Furthermore, if two lie down together they keep warm, but how can one be warm alone? And if one can overpower him who is alone, two can resist him. A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart" (4:9-12).

This past week has been testing to put it mildly. Filled with anxiety, pressure, concern. Our friends, while they could not do anything physically, offered dozens of emails, texts, phone calls, visits, etc., expressing concern, offering promises of prayers, words of encouragement. You have been the penultimate example of what a church family does. Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Nothing could be more important in our church at this juncture. As we prepare to welcome a new pastor, a new era, a new way of doing stuff, we need unity, cooperation, and friendly support. I am confident will have all 3!

You have truly blessed us this week. We appreciate you!

Blessings! *Bro. Dennis*



Senior Adult Bible Study
Tuesday, May 28th
at 10:30am

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

May is always a busy month within church life. The Mother's Day service was so encouraging, especially with all the beautiful babies being brought by their parents before the church and more importantly, the Lord. It was a beautiful service!

This weekend is decoration day at Meridian Cemetery. Decoration day is a special time in the life of a church to remember and celebrate the lives of those who have gone before us - those who have been part of our congregational story. Also Sunday morning, we will acknowledge our graduates. I want to congratulate our graduates as they celebrate this special accomplishment and prepare for the next chapter of their journey! Graduates, keep Christ first, and may he have preeminence in all things!

Our arrival is just a couple of weeks away. I am excited to share with the Meridian family that we have found a house to rent. It will place Elijah at Bearden High. Bearden is the school most comparable to Cullman High. Cullman and Bearden were equally ranked in respective categories based upon state rankings. We want to provide the easiest transition possible for Elijah, and so choosing the school most similar to his current environment was very important to us. The rental will not be our long-term home. The plan is to land somewhere near the South Knoxville/Seymour area after Elijah completes high school.

These are exciting days as our family prepares to make the move to Knoxville! East Tennessee has always been one of our favorite areas. I would always joke with Sarah on vacations to the area and say, "What if one day the Lord called us to serve at a church up here in East Tennessee?" Well, here we are! We are overwhelmed by God's goodness, and thankful for our new church family.

If I can minister to you and your family in any specific way, please do not hesitate to contact me - 256-727-3077

For His glory,

Bro. Michael