

## 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** **April 21, 2024**

#### **DEACONS OF THE WEEK**

Jim Brackett \* Chris Fachman

#### **EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS**

Sheree Lonas Shauna Kirkland  
Nicole Arnett

#### **SAFETY TEAM — TEAM FOUR**

Johnny Lewis David McLemore  
Mike Marcum Jack Oody Sam Lonas

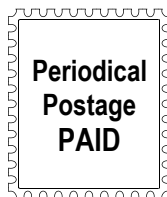
#### **VAN DRIVER**

Jon McCammon



### **IN THE HOSPITAL**

Jessica Bennett & baby boy  
U.T. Hospital



OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

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#### **SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

9:45am—Sunday School  
10:50am—Morning Worship  
(also streaming live on YouTube)  
12:30pm—Building & Grounds Mtg.

#### **MONDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 22 - 26**

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

#### **TUESDAY, APRIL 23**

9:30am—Senior Adult Committee  
10:30am—Senior Adult Bible Study

#### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24**

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

#### **THURSDAY, APRIL 25**

9:30am—Senior Adults to Baxter Gardens



# The Evangel

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Michael Martin, Pastor

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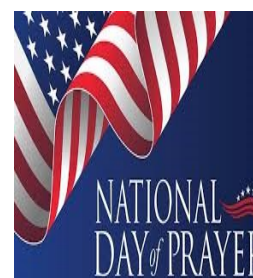
April 19, 2024



## 150th Anniversary Celebration Service

**Sunday, April 28, 2024**  
**Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.**

All Adults meet in Sanctuary  
**Worship Celebration - 10:50 a.m.**  
**Church-Wide Potluck Dinner**  
Following the Celebration Service  
Sign up what you plan to bring for the lunch



## NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Thursday,  
May 2, 2024

Sanctuary will be open  
8:00am-6:00pm  
Pray for our Nation!

## Vacation Bible School July 14-19

We need workers in  
all areas for VBS!  
Sign-up sheets are  
Sunday's bulletin.

First VBS Workers' Meeting:  
May 1st at 5:30 in Adult 4



**Senior Adult Banquet**  
**Friday, May 3rd at 6:00 p.m.**  
*Join us for an evening of food,  
fellowship & entertainment*  
Entertainment: Mr. Pat Corn  
Call the office if you plan to attend!

**Senior Adult Sunday**  
**May 5th \* 10:50 a.m. Service**  
**“Honoring Our Senior Adults”**

### **Biscuit Sunday on Mother's Day** **Sunday, May 12th**

The Student Ministry is sponsoring a Biscuit Sunday. Proceeds will benefit individual student accounts for student events. Students will be serving biscuits from 9:00-9:45am in the fellowship hall. Coffee, milk & juice will be provided. Please pay when you pick up biscuits. Forms to pre-order are provided in SS classes and in Sunday's bulletin.



### **Mother's Day Recognition And Baby March**

Mother's Day is May 12th & we will be celebrating all mothers along with our annual Mother's Day Baby March. Mothers of children ages birth thru 3 years who would like to participate in the Baby March, please call or email the church office with information on child's name & birthdate. Please include a picture of your child.



## STUDENT MINISTRY NEWS

For the last several months on Wednesdays, we have been going chapter by chapter through Proverbs. I do not know how many people have done that, but it has been interesting. There are a lot of things in there that you probably would not originally think about. There are also many things repeated within the chapters. One not here is that if anything is repeated in the Bible, then it tends to be something that someone wanted pointed out. Repetition within the Bible is an emphasis. You see that explicitly within the context of the angels singing to God and saying "Holy, Holy, Holy" This is the cry of the angels that Jesus is just not Holy, He is so much more than that! Jesus is so above everyone else it has to be stated multiple times. I also do not feel that three times is ironic. The fact that we have the Holy Trinity could be part of the reason for three, but I certainly do not believe that it is the full reason for that. So next time you read through your Bible, look for repetition and try to figure out why it is important enough to be repeated!

Sincerely, Chris

### April Collections for OCC Shoeboxes

Rain Ponchos/Umbrellas Sunglasses  
Work or Garden Gloves  
Hand Garden Tools  
(Place items in tote located near office)

### 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.

### WOMEN ON MISSION APRIL PROJECT

#### Collect snacks for ICU Lounges

Place items in box located near office



**Senior Adult Bible Study**  
Tuesday, April 23rd  
at 10:30am

## Our Attendance

**APRIL 14**

Preschool	6
Children	14
Youth	9
Adults	65
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>106</b>
Visitors	12

### CONSTANT CONTACT CONSCIOUSNESS

Contacts for the week of 4/8-4/14 Total 53  
4&5 Years—17 Adult 3—10 Adult 4—26

## Our Giving

### FIGURES FOR APRIL 14

General Budget Fund	\$6,698.02
Capital Improvements	7,000.00
Non-Budget Designated	285.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$13,983.02</b>
Online Giving	\$0
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,926.00
April Budget Giving	\$21,783.02

Gideons' Offering: \$1,762

### ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

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

### MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

The **March** Financial Report is ready to be viewed online or can be picked up in the church office or in the Sanctuary foyer.

### Memorials & Honorariums

A gift was given to Capital Improvements in memory of Tony & Betty Hancock from Darrell & Margaret Hancock.

A gift was given to the Homebound Ministry in honor of our church secretary, Cindy Stoffle from Gladys Hershberger.

**Senior Adults to Baxter Gardens**  
Thursday, April 25th Leaving at 9:30am

Call the office to sign up!

## Noteworthy News

**GOD WANTS TO BLESS YOU...**It is one of many recurring themes throughout the Bible. Blessings come in many different ways to a diverse set of people, even animals. On day 5 of the creation, "God blessed them [the animals] and said, 'Be fruitful and increase in number...'" (Gen. 1:22) On day 6 He blessed humanity: "God blessed them and said to them, 'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it'" (Gen. 1:28) The blessing continued with Abram. "The Lord had said to Abram, 'Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.' I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (Gen. 12:1-3) That blessing is repeated several times, not only to Abraham but to Isaac and Jacob. Sometimes blessings came in unconventional ways. Jacob, the con artist and his mother, Rebekah, tricked Isaac in to bestowing Esau's blessing on Jacob. (Gen. 27). Many blessings came unexpectedly. After stealing Esau's blessing, Jacob receives the blessing of his father, Isaac, as he sent him on his way to escape the wrath of Esau. (Gen. 28) And Jacob is REALLY surprised when, at Bethel, he unexpectedly receives a visit from God who announces that his offspring will be like the dust of the earth. (Gen. 28:10-16) In the ensuing years Jacob's wealth is expanded. He obtains 4 wives, 11 children. He finally gets a new name. No longer is he known as "heel-grabber" or "supplanter" but as "one who contends with God." Finally Jacob is surprised by the blessing he receives when he is reunited with Esau. Throughout the Bible God expresses a desire to bless. And He wants to bless you! He also wants to be a blessing THROUGH you!

Blessings!!!

*Bro. Dennis*

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Meridian family,

I am tremendously looking forward to being united with Meridian Baptist as pastor and congregation! Through this entire process, our family has been overwhelmed by God's goodness and how He has continually confirmed in our hearts our calling to Meridian. We are grateful to know the Lord is weaving our hearts into the tapestry of Meridian Baptist.

Writing is one of my ministry passions. I plan to write two articles each week. "From the Pastor's Desk" will appear in the Evangel, and will serve as a snapshot of Meridian church life by highlighting the church calendar along with other ministry opportunities. The second publication will be an insert in the Sunday morning bulletin titled "Truth Applied". It will serve as a weekly devotional thought. It will also be available at [www.truthapplied.org](http://www.truthapplied.org) (my blog site). I pray that these weekly articles serve as an encouragement to the Meridian family!

I want to thank you all in advance for your patience during our upcoming move to Knoxville. You all have been so kind and understanding pertaining to our delay in moving to Knoxville so Aubrey can graduate high school. In the meantime, if there is anything you need or any specific way that I can minister to you and your family, please do not hesitate to contact me at 256-727-3077.

We already love you all so very much, and we wish we were already there with you!

3 John 2,

Bro. Michael

To read Bro. Michael's weekly blog post, go to [www.truthforlife.org](http://www.truthforlife.org).