

# Meridian Baptist Church

6513 Chapman Highway  
Knoxville, TN 37920  
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**ITEMS FOR EVANGEL DEADLINE: MONDAY NOON**

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

**WORKERS FOR SUNDAY**  
January 19, 2025  
**DEACONS OF THE WEEK**  
Jim Brackett Joe Fielden \*  
Johnny Lewis  
**EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS**  
Pam Ford Bobbie Temple  
Ella Mae Hood  
**SAFETY TEAM – TEAM ONE**  
Randy Burgin Roger Long  
Jack Oody Chrissy Johnson  
**VAN DRIVER**  
David Stroud

Find us on YouTube:  
Meridian Baptist Church  
Knoxville, TN  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**  
10:50AM  
**WEDNESDAY SERVICE 6:15PM**



OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

## THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 16**  
10:30am—WOM serve lunch at Mont. Village  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19**  
9:30am—Sunday School  
10:50am—Morning Worship  
12:15pm—Building & Grounds Mtg.  
3:30pm—Church Council/Budget & Finance  
5:00pm—Deacons' Meeting  
**MONDAY-FRIDAY, JANUARY 20-24**  
8:00am-4:30pm—Church Office Open  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 21**  
1:00pm—GO Visitation  
**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22**  
6:00pm—TeamKid  
6:15pm—Prayer Meeting/Bible Study  
6:15pm—Youth Unite  
7:15pm—Sanctuary Choir Practice

# The Evangel



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Michael Martin, Pastor

VOLUME 71, NO. 3 January 17, 2025


### Valentine's Banquet, Saturday, February 15th at 6:00 pm



Join us for a wonderful evening with a nice dinner, program and fellowship!

Tickets are available for purchase in the church office and in SS classes.  
\$20 per person/\$40 per couple  
*Everyone Invited!*

### Wednesday Bible Study



**NOT BY BREAD ALONE**  
*Psalm 119*

### January-February Sermon Series



*"Follow Me"*


### Women on Mission January Project

Collect dishwashing liquid & laundry detergent for Montgomery Village. Place items in box located near office.

### Women on Mission

Provide lunch at Montgomery Village  
Thursday, January 16th at 10:30

### VBS 2025




July 13-17  
6:00-8:30

### Wednesday Meal



January 15th 5:00-5:45  
Chili Cookoff!  
Tamales, Chili Fixins' & Desserts will be provided.  
Cost is \$5 per person.


### Items Needed for the Food Pantry



Cereal Peanut Butter Juice  
Spaghetti Noodles & Sauce  
Canned Ravioli, Spaghettios, etc.  
Canned Meats Canned Peas  
Canned or Box Potatoes  
Mac & Cheese Biscuit/Muffin Mix  
Drop off items at the church office.

### Senior Adult Bible Study

Tuesday, January 28th at 10:30am



**GIDEON SUNDAY**  
Sunday, February 9th  
Support the Gideon Ministry

**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.

**Extended Session Workers Needed!**

If you can volunteer on a rotation basis in Extended Session on Sundays during worship service, please contact Gayle Doman (363-5256).

**150th Anniversary Ornaments & Mugs**

Located near the Library.  
We ask for donation of \$1 for each!

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Children's Church meets Sundays during morning worship for children ages 4 years through 5th grade.



*TeamKid meets Wednesdays at 6:00. Children ages 4 years through 5th grade.*

**YOUTH UNITE FOR STUDENTS**

Wednesdays at 6:15 p.m.  
in the Youth Room

**NEW CHURCH EMAIL**

We are slowly transitioning to a new church email due to the fact that the current company we are with will be phasing out in the near future. At this time, you can still email to [webmaster@meridianbaptist.org](mailto:webmaster@meridianbaptist.org) or you can send to: [meridianbaptistoffice@gmail.com](mailto:meridianbaptistoffice@gmail.com)

**Our Attendance**

January 12

Church services cancelled  
due to inclement weather

**Our Giving**

January 12

Church services cancelled  
due to inclement weather

**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.

**2025 GIVING ENVELOPES**

Please pick up your new contribution envelopes located near the Library. If you need envelopes, please contact the office.

**Meridian Baptist Church T-Shirts**



We still have MBC T-shirts available. Cost is \$10 each. If you would like a shirt, they are available for purchase in the church office.

**"GO" Visitation**

To resume Tuesday, January 21 at 1:00  
Join us as we reach our  
community for Christ!!

**SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR MINISTER  
TO STUDENTS & CHILDREN**

Debbie Dexter, Leanne Evers, Arthur Kirkland,  
David McLemore, Robyn Stroud  
Continue to pray for this committee!



**DIFFICULT, CONFUSING, UNCERTAIN...** Is this how you would describe our times? Health problems, financial problems, social problems. Wildfires, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes. These have the potential to shake us to our very foundations. The brief snow storm this past weekend showed us that we are helpless, unable to positively influence the direction of our lives. The apostle James writes, "Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." (James 14:4)

But there is good news, because there is a God who has your name tattooed, engraved permanently on His hand. "See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands..." (Isaiah 49:16) The psalmist wrote, "The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?" (Psalm 118:6)

In my personal quiet time I read these words penned by Max Lucado: "You are everything to God...You think I'm talking about someone else? Someone who is holier, better, nicer? Someone who didn't screw up his marriage or mess up her career? Someone who didn't get hooked on pills or porn or popularity? I'm not. I'm talking directly to you...the greatest news in the world is not that God made the world but that God loves the world. He loves you. You did not earn this love. His love for you will not end if you lose your temper. His love for you will not fade if you lose your way. His love for you will not diminish if your discipline does...Someone told you that God loves good people. Wrong. There are no good people. Someone told you that God loves you if you love him first. Wrong. He loves people who have never thought of him."

This Sunday we will consider the Sanctity of Human Life—the life that God loves. We are precious in His sight!

Blessings, precious one! *Bro. Dennis*

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Dear Meridian Family,

I bumped into this heartwarming story. I pray it is an encouragement to you.

The story is told about President Theodore Roosevelt and an African Missionary. During his presidency, Roosevelt went on a three week African safari. He was an avid hunter of wild game and on this particular trip, he had had a very successful hunt. He returned to the United States by boat after the three week hunting excursion. On this same boat was a missionary who had been serving on the African mission field. The missionary was returning home to the United States after 45 years of faithful service to the Lord. When the boat arrived in the United States, the press was there, and a military band was playing, all in recognition of the president for the successful safari hunt. Cameras flashed, interviews took place, and the celebration began. During all the pomp and circumstance, the faithful missionary stepped off the boat, just as the president had, but there was no one there to greet him. The missionary thought to himself, "Here I am after spending 45 years of my life in service to God, and no one is here to welcome me home or even greet me, and here is the president, who spent just three weeks in Africa, killing animals, and look at the welcome he gets." He asked the Lord in prayer why this was. The missionary had even lost his wife while serving God and her body was buried back in Africa. Then the Lord spoke to his heart and said, "My dear child, the reason you did not get such a welcome is because you are not home yet!"

Know this; as a child of God, this earth is not your home. As long as you are on this side of eternity, you are simply traveling through. Do not get too comfortable here in your earthly state; for you are not home yet!

Blessings, Bro. Michael