

Meridian Baptist Church

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ITEMS FOR EVANGEL DEADLINE: MONDAY NOON

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

WORKERS FOR SUNDAY June 29, 2025

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Ray Whitson * Tommy Leavelle
Russell Blevins

EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS

Gayle Doman JoAnn Burchell
Ella Mae Hood

SAFETY TEAM — TEAM FOUR

Johnny Lewis David McLemore
Ray Whitson Chrissy Johnson

VAN DRIVER

Norman Smelcer



IN THE HOSPITAL

Pam Lewis, Ft. Sanders

No Wednesday Meal in July

Monthly Wednesday meals start back in August (2nd Wednesday of the month).

Periodical
Postage
PAID

OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, JUNE 29—Patriotic Celebration

9:30am—Sunday School
10:50am—Morning Worship
12:00pm—Lunch following service

TUESDAY, JULY 1

1:00pm—GO Visitation

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

5:30pm—VBS Workers' Meeting
6:00pm—TeamKid
6:15pm—Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
6:15pm—The Upper Room (Students)
7:15pm—Sanctuary Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JULY 3

10:30-12:30—Event for Montgomery Village

FRIDAY, JULY 4

Office Closed—Holiday



Michael Martin, Pastor

The Evangel

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June 27, 2025

Patriotic Celebration Service Sunday, June 29th

Patriotic Music & Message at
10:50 followed by lunch in the
fellowship hall. Hamburgers,
hotdogs & all the sides provided.

Church Office Closed
Friday, July 4th



Fall Revival September 14-17
10:50 am Sunday
7:00 pm Nightly
Speaker: Jeff Harvel
Music: Daniel Young

VBS July 13-17
6:00-8:30
4 Years thru
12th Grade

Adult Class offered

Pre-register Today! You can also call
or email the church office
meridianbaptistoffice@gmail.com)
to register your child or if you would like
to attend the adult class.

Pick up a VBS Prayer Calendar
located in the Sanctuary foyer.

Next Workers' Meeting:

July 2 at 5:30, Adult 4 Assembly Area

We need volunteers for Thursday,
Family Fun Night. Signup sheets are
in the Sanctuary foyer. We need people
at these areas set up and ready by 8:15.

Women on Mission June Project

Collect items for Angelic Ministries
Toiletry items and laundry detergent
Place items in box located near office.

Items Needed for the Food Pantry

Crackers Peanut Butter Juice
Green Beans Peas Corn
Jello Spaghetti Noodles
Canned Potatoes or Dry Mix
Drop off items at the church office.



THE UPPER ROOMS

The Spiritual Disciplines – Stewardship

When many people hear the word *stewardship*, they often think only about money. But biblical stewardship is about so much more. It's about how we handle everything God has given us—our time, our talents, our money, our relationships, even our influence.

The Bible tells us plainly: *"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein"* (Psalm 24:1, ESV). In other words, everything belongs to God—including us. Nothing we have is truly ours; we're simply managers, or stewards, of His blessings.

Author Donald Whitney reminds us that stewardship is a spiritual discipline—a regular, intentional practice that helps us grow in our relationship with God. He says it's not just about giving money or attending church; it's about offering our *whole lives* to God and using everything we have in ways that honor Him.

Dallas Willard adds to this by explaining that the goal of the Christian life is to become more like Jesus. Stewardship helps us get there. When we let God guide how we spend our time, how we serve others, and how we use our resources, we are shaping our hearts to be more like Christ's. Willard puts it this way: "The disciple is one who, intent upon becoming Christ-like, systematically and progressively rearranges his affairs to that end."

Jesus illustrated this in the Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14–30). In the story, a master gives his servants different amounts of money to manage while he's away. The ones who use it well are praised and rewarded—not just for what they earned, but because they were faithful with what they were given. That's what God wants from us—not perfection, but faithfulness.

So, stewardship isn't about guilt or pressure. It's about gratitude. It's a way of saying, "God, thank You for all You've given me. Help me to use it in a way that pleases You."

The Apostle Paul put it simply in 1 Corinthians 4:2 (ESV): *"It is required of stewards that they be found faithful."* As followers of Christ, may we be faithful stewards of all He's placed in our hands—for His glory and the good of others.

The Upper Rooms,
Christopher S. Milligan

Attendance

June 22 - Sunday School

Preschool	8
Children	12
Youth	14
Adults	74
TOTAL	108
Visitors	4

Worship Service: 121

Contacts for the week of 6/16-6/22 Total: 90
4 & 5 Years—20 Adult 3—11 Adult 4—59

Giving

Giving For June 22

General Budget Fund	\$5,072.30
Grand Total	\$5,072.30
Online Giving	\$460.00
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,732.00
June Budget Giving	\$36,695.52

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.

News From the MBC Library

Hours: Sundays 9:15-10:25am

Wednesdays 5:45-6:10pm

Come Check Us Out!

New books from the Library:

1. Last Sin Eater by Francine Rivers
2. Gift of the Cross by Charles Stanley
3. Natural Medicines & Cures by Frank Cawood
4. Hugs to Brighten Your Day by Ashley Moore
5. Life Well Lived by Charles Swindoll

New Children's Books:

1. Who You Were Made To Be by Joanna Gaines
2. The Happy Crab by Layla & Kevin Palmer
3. I Love You, Daddy by Jillian Harker
4. The Boy Who Cried by Khoa Le
5. Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney

Noteworthy News

SWEET FREEDOM'S SONG. . . Today it seems that the emerging attitude among many is that America is not exceptional after all. Certain groups of people desire to erase or at least adjust our history. They complain and criticize. They doubt, they protest. What they do not do is thank God that they live in the best nation in the world. An op-ed in a prestigious newspaper calls for "a more truthful approach" to "the myth of America as the greatest nation on earth." What they fail to say is that in many countries they would not be allowed to express such opinions openly. What they fail to recognize is that even the poorest among us live better than most of the rest of the world. One sums it up like this: "if the U.S. "poor" were a nation, it would be one of the world's richest." Did we always get it right? Did we not struggle as a young imperfect nation? Of course. But we kept working at it—even to the point of going war against ourselves to develop into a nation where everybody could enjoy the freedoms equally. I am proud to be an American! I thank God that I was born here! This Sunday we will celebrate the exceptional heritage of America. Our choir and narrator have been rehearsing faithfully over the past 10-12 weeks. We have not "just" prepared. Our rehearsals have an exercise in "practicing to worship and celebrate." So we have already had great times of spiritual refreshment.

We invite you to join us this Sunday as we recall the heritage of America made possible entirely through the goodness of God. Afterward we'll join in fellowship around the "indoor picnic table." Be sure to invite many people to join with, especially those who are not currently active in a church family.

Independence day blessings!

Bro. Dennis

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Meridian family,

I recently read a story about a maritime catastrophe that occurred in the Black Sea involving two colliding ships. Lives were lost simply because two captains refused to yield to the other.

"Back in the summer of 1986, two marine vessels collided in the Black Sea off the coast of what used to be known as the Soviet Union. Hundreds of passengers perished as they were hurled into the icy waters. News of the disaster was further darkened when an investigation revealed the cause of the accident. It wasn't a technology problem like some sort of radar malfunction. The accident was not caused by unfavorable weather conditions such a storm or a thick fog. Believe it or not, the cause was human stubbornness. Each captain was aware of the other ship's presence nearby. Both captains could have steered clear, but according to the news reports, neither captain wanted to give way to the other. Each was too proud to yield first. By the time the two parties had come to their senses, it was too late."

As I read that story, the word "yield" seemed to leap off the page. When I think about what it means to yield, I think of the familiar road sign instructing drivers to "yield" to any oncoming traffic. These signs are strategically placed at assigned intersections in effort to improve the flow of traffic. But what would happen if a driver chose to ignore a yield sign in an attempt to have his way instead respecting those who have the right of way? That driver would be like the two captains in our story, and there would definitely be detrimental consequences to their actions. Likewise, God's people are to "yield" to God, and this involves a willingness to submit to His authority. James stressed the importance of submitting to God in all things (James 4:7) and humble themselves before God (James 4:10). Oh that we would be humble people for the glory of God, yielding to Him and submitting to His Lordship in every area of our lives!

- Pastor Michael