

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 April 20, 2025

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Ray Whitson * Tommy Leavelle
Russell Blevins

EXTENDED SESSION WORKERS

Pam Ford Bobbie Temple Nicole Gray

SAFETY TEAM — TEAM TWO

Sam & Sheree Lonas
Scott Frei Randy Burgin

VAN DRIVER

Joe Fielden



Wednesday Bible Study
"Not By Bread Alone"
Psalm 119

Church Office Closed
Good Friday, April 18

Periodical
Postage
PAID

OR CURRENT OCCUPANT



Michael Martin, Pastor

The Evangel

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VOLUME 71, NO. 16

April 18, 2025

KNOWING GOD

Upcoming Sermon
Series Beginning
April 27 "Knowing
God" A Study of
God's Attributes



Women & Girls Of All Ages
You are invited to a
"Spring Tea" on Saturday,
April 26th from 11am-1pm
in the fellowship hall. Please RSVP by
April 21st to the church office.

National Day of Prayer
Thursday, May 1st
Sanctuary open 8am-5pm
Devotion Time: 12:00
Pray for our Nation!



Senior Adult Banquet Friday, May 2nd at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of food & fellowship!
Our Youth will be assisting with the banquet
and our new Minister to Students & Children,
Chris Milligan, will be sharing his testimony.
Sign up or call the office if you plan to attend!

SENIOR ADULT SUNDAY MAY 4

Recognizing our Senior Adults!

Children's Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 19th at 11:00 am.

Bring your basket!
Lunch provided!

(Workers, be here at 10am)



Easter Sunrise Service
Sunday, April 20th
7:00 am at the
Meridian Cemetery

By
His Stripes
We Are
Healed
presented by
The Sanctuary Choir
Soloists and Narrator
Easter Sunday
10:50 AM

VBS July 13-17 6:00-8:30



VBS Workers: Signup today
how you can help in VBS!
First Workers' Meeting will be
Wednesday, May 7th at 5:30.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

11:00am—Children's Easter Egg Hunt
(workers: be here by 10am)

SUNDAY, APRIL 20 "EASTER SUNDAY"

7:00am—Easter Sunrise Service
9:30am—Sunday School
10:50am—Morning Worship

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

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

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

6:00pm—TeamKid
6:15pm—Prayer Meeting/Bible Study
6:15pm—Youth Unite
7:15pm—Sanctuary Choir Practice

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

11:00-1:00—Women's Spring Tea

THE UPPER ROOMS

The Transcendentals: Beauty

Over the next few weeks, I wanted to write about something called the Transcendentals. These are fundamental principles or attributes of reality due to the divine eternal attributes of God and how He as creator instills Himself into his creation. Those Transcendentals consist of Truth, Beauty, and Goodness. Today I want to begin thinking about beauty.

Lately I have been re-reading a book by Clyde Kilby called "C.S. Lewis and the Image of His World" and I came across this quote that has always spoke to me in such a powerful way.

"Arthur Gieves had suggested that the beauty of the world is to some degree an evidence of God. From the London hospital where he's recuperating, Lewis took vigorous hold of this idea and pressed it further than Arthur had imagined.

'Precisely where,' Lewis asked, 'does the beauty of a tree reside? Like every other physical object, a tree is made up of atoms, and atoms are identical and without color, so when you call a tree beautiful, you are actually speaking of something other than the atoms of which it is made. A light from the vibrations in the distant sun produces a wave toward your eye. When it reaches the tissues of your eye, another vibration is set up and moves along a nerve like a telegraph wire, carrying the sensation to your brain. One sight sensation we call greenness, another brownness, a third, shapeliness... But there is no actual color either in the atoms of which the tree is composed, or in all those vibrations. Where then does the beauty of the tree arise?

Shape, size, color, touch and the like are simply the names we call our sensations, and no amount of study of them can ever bring us to the notion of beauty in the tree. Beauty must therefore arise from some non-material relationship between the tree and myself.' Lewis concludes that Beauty was to be explained with something in reference to something right outside time and space, and that Beauty is the call of the spirit of that something to the spirit in us."

This view and understanding of beauty that C.S. Lewis had through his viewing of a tree is something I long for. I want to find beauty in all of creation, but I also want to strive to see the beauty of the creator as the value that every object, moment, or place has instilled within and throughout them.

The Upper Rooms (Literally the 4th Floor)
Christopher S. Milligan

Attendance

April 13 - Sunday School

Preschool	12
Children	12
Youth	8
Adults	71
TOTAL	103
Visitors	6

Worship Service: 123

CONSTANT CONTACT CONSCIOUSNESS

Contacts for the week of 4/7-4/13 Total: 76
4 & 5 Years—18 Adult 3—12 Adult 4—46

Giving

Giving For April 13

General Budget Fund	\$7,814.00
Annie Armstrong Offerings	100.00
Non-Budget Designated	100.00
Grand Total	\$8,014.00
Online Giving	\$557
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,732.00
April Budget Giving	\$18,139.00
Annie Armstrong Given to Date:	\$4,770

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.

Memorials & Honorariums

A gift was given to Mission of Hope in memory of Joan Elkins from Mitzi Parrish & family.

Women on Mission April Project

Collect snacks for I.C.U. Lounges
Place items in box located near office.

Welcome New Member

Sara Abrams
505 Keeneland Blvd.
Seymour, TN 37865



ALL SUFFICIENT MERIT... Merit: virtue; character or conduct deserving reward, honor, or esteem; a person's qualities, actions, etc. regarded as indicating what the person deserves to receive. We hear so much today through social media, advertising, and talking heads about "what you deserve." One fast-food restaurant commercial says, "You deserve a break." A website's tagline is "Get the healthcare you need and deserve." Amazon sells the "Max-T Men's Electric Razor, You deserve it."

The Bible has a lot to say on the subject... "He will render to every man according to his works." (Rom. 2:6). "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." (Gal. 6:7). "He who is corruptible reaps the consequence of his deeds." (Eph. 6:8). "Blessed are those who keep the commandments." (Matt. 5:12). "As I have seen, those who plow iniquity and sow trouble reap the same." (Job 4:8). It sounds like, if we all get what we deserve, it's not as rosy as some believe.

This Sunday, Easter Sunday, we will consider how Jesus' victory over death turned the tables on Satan. Instead of getting what we deserve we can rest on the all sufficient merit of Christ.

All sufficient merit shining like the sun
A fortune I inherent, by no work I have done
My righteousness I forfeit at my Savior's cross
Where all sufficient merit did what I could not

Easter blessings!

Bro. Dennis



Senior Adult Bible Study
Tuesday, April 22 at
10:30am

"The Gene Walkup Sunday School Class" begins Sunday, April 20; taught by Bro. Michael in the Conference Room (Adult class for all ages)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Meridian family,

Throughout the history of Christendom, the apex of the liturgical calendar has been the "passion week" highlighted by resurrection Sunday. It is the time of year when believers spiritually prepare their hearts for the trek up Calvary's mountain, only to culminate at the empty tomb. With this in mind, I would like to share a reflection I penned years ago. Now it might be surprising to some, but throughout my ministry I have dabbled in creative writing and poetry. Juxtaposed in my reflection is the suffering Jesus endured on the cross and the implications it had on our behalf. It is titled "Vinegar and Honey", and I pray it is an encouragement to your heart this Easter season.

Vinegar and Honey – "Oh the glorious contrasts found within the crucifixion of our Lord! He was arrested so we could be delivered. He was placed on trial so we could be set free. He was stripped of His clothing; yet we are clothed in righteousness. He was wounded so that we might be healed. He was punished so we could be pardoned. He was cursed so we would be blessed. He was rejected so we could be accepted. He was thirsty, so we could drink from the eternal wellspring of life. He was given vinegar; we are given the honey of God's Word. He wore a crown of thorns so we could receive the crown of life. He suffered so we could be comforted. He faced darkness so we would know light. He was placed into the oven of God's fury so we could bask in the warmth of God's mercy. He was forsaken so we could be forgiven. He conquered death so that we might have eternal life. He died for us; oh that we would live for Him!" – Michael Eric Martin, March 4, 2012

I also encourage the Meridian family to read my "Truth Applied" bulletin insert for this coming Sunday where my devotional thought addresses, the greatest event in world history, namely the resurrection. Have a great rest of the week!

He is Risen!

Bro. Michael