

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 September 13, 2026

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

David Ghormley * Mike Colquitt

NURSERY WORKERS DURING WORSHIP

JoAnn Burchell Suzie Frei

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (SEPTEMBER)

Debbie Dexter Jeannie Cummings

WELCOME TEAM — TEAM TWO

Sam & Sheree Lonas
Scott Frei Gary Smith Randy Burgin

VAN DRIVER

Scott Frei

PRAYER
Requests

U.T. Hospital
Ken Burnett

Periodical
Postage
PAID

OR CURRENT OCCUPANT



Michael Martin, Pastor

The Evangel

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September 11, 2026

ALL COMMITTEES MEETING September 13th beginning at 5pm

This meeting is for those serving on committees for the 2026-2027 church year. It will begin at 5:00 in the fellowship hall, then the committees will break out into different locations and times. A copy of the schedule is in the Sanctuary foyer. At the meeting, a chairperson will be selected for each committee and plan your first meeting. If you are serving on a committee for the new church year, please plan to attend.

Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions

Our Goal: \$2,000 Given to Date: \$81

Week of Prayer: September 13-19

Prayer guides located in Sanctuary foyer.
Give to the Golden Offering and let's witness how God is moving across our state and step boldly into His work!

Wednesday Meal, September 16, 5pm

Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans,
Slaw, Cornbread Muffins, Brownies
Cost: \$6 Adults/\$4 Children
Sign up by Monday, September 14

SENIOR ADULTS TO CADES COVE

On October 15, the senior adults will be leaving at 9am for Cades Cove. Coffee & donuts provided for breakfast, lunch in Maryville. Call the office to sign up!

Sunday Sermon Series "The Gospel of Mark"



Upcoming Wednesday Night Bible Study. A three week study on the topic of Heaven (September 13, 23, 30)
Join us for this exciting study!



Women on Mission-September
Serving lunch at Montgomery Village on September 17th

G.R.O.W. will meet Monday, September 21
Daytime Team-1:00 (canvassing community with MBC door hangers)
Evening Team-6:00
(make home visits to church prospects)

Rejoicing in the Strength of the King
A Devotional on Psalm 21

Psalm 21 follows naturally after Psalm 20. In Psalm 20, the people prayed for the king before battle, and in Psalm 21, they rejoice because God has answered that prayer. The victory here belongs not ultimately to the king, but to the God who gave him strength.

David begins, *“O Lord, in your strength the king rejoices, and in your salvation how greatly he exults!”* (Vv. 21:1). David's joy is rooted in God's strength. He understands that the success he has experienced has come from the Lord. This is an important reminder for us! We are quick to celebrate what we accomplish, but Psalm 21 teaches us to look beyond the blessing and recognize the One who gave it.

Verse 7 then gives us the foundation of the king's confidence: *“For the king trusts in the Lord, and through the steadfast love of the Most High he shall not be moved”* (Vv. 21:7). David's security was not ultimately found in his army, his position, or his ability to lead. His confidence was in the steadfast love of God. God's sovereign love is the foundation of the believer's confidence. We can trust Him because God is never surprised, never overwhelmed, and never uncertain about what He is doing.

Psalm 21, overall, points us beyond David to the greater King, Jesus Christ. David was an earthly king whose victories were temporary, Christ is the eternal King whose reign will never end. The blessings and glory described in this psalm find their ultimate fulfillment in Him and Him alone.

The psalm closes with a declaration of praise: *“Be exalted, O Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power”* (Vv. 21:13). Notice where the attention ends here, it is not on the king's strength, but on God's strength. That is where our attention should ultimately rest as well. The greatest reason to rejoice is not that we are strong. It is that our King is strong.

Grace be with you,
Christopher S. Milligan

Honduras Mission Trip Interest Meeting
Tuesday, September 15th at 6pm

Attendance

September 6 - Sunday School

Preschool	4
Children	11
Youth	10
Adults	79
Total	104
Visitors	4

Worship Service: 135

Contacts for the week of 8/31—9/6 Total: 83
4 & 5 Years—17 Adult 3—10 Adult 4—56

Giving

Giving For September 6

General Budget Fund	\$10,628.30
Capital Improvements	10.00
Golden State Offerings	81.00
Non-Budget Designated	30.00
Grand Total	\$10,749.30
Online Giving	\$ 634.00
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,083.00
September Budget Giving	\$11,212.30

Memorials & Honorariums

A gift was given to the Member
Emergency Fund in honor of Cynthia
Leavelle from the Winsome Class.

CHILDREN'S POOL PARTY

September 13 following service at the
Chadwick's home. Lunch provided.
Children must have a signed
permission form to ride the van.

YOUTH PIZZA & KARAOKE NIGHT

September 19 6:00-8:00 pm

Senior Adult Bible Study
September 22 at 10:30



Items Needed for Food Pantry
Box Crackers, Instant Pudding or
Jello Gelatin, Juice, Pkg/Box
Biscuit or Cornbread Mix
Drop items off at church office.

Music Ministry News

I hope you've had a wonderfully blessed Labor-less long weekend. After the Sunday morning Worship service, we drove to Nashville to be a part of the 10th anniversary Sing! Conference with Keith and Kristen Getty, entitled “Symphony of Scripture.” There will be three days of jam-packed hours of singing and worship with leaders from here in the United States to the far ends of the world. As our 8th time attending, even attending online during Covid, it has never failed to be an awesome conference.

Worship, this past Sunday, was power packed with the Holy Spirt present, while the church stood to sing for God's glory, “How Great Is Our God!” Also, let's welcome Cathy King to the pi-ano as our interim pianist. Join us in prayer as we seek the Lord in our search for our next church pianist. And we are thankful for Justin and Jennifer Long joining us in the Adult Choir, a great addition.

I'm excited to give you an idea of what's coming in worship music. I would encourage you to go online and check out these songs.

One Day (When We All Get to Heaven)
by Matt Redman

I Speak Jesus by Charity Gayle
What a Beautiful Name by Brooke Ligertwood
Great Is the Lord Almighty by Dennis Jernigan
I'm praying that the Holy Spirit will use these songs to move and work among our people and our guests, speaking to our needs.

You're Invited: if you have a passion to sing for the Lord, we will welcome you in the Adult Wor-ship Choir.
Soli Deo Gloria,
Mark
P.S.- Go Vols!

Postage has increased significantly. It costs approximately \$90 each week to mail the Evangel. If you prefer to view the Evangel online on our website at mbcknox.org, please contact the office (865-577-6617) and inform us to take you off the mailing list. Otherwise, we will continue to mail you a copy.



Thoughts on 9/11 – 25 years later
Where was God on 9/11? He was there as the planes crashed into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in Shanksville. Thousands died, and yet God was there.

If you believe a loving God would have nothing to do with 9/11, then you are suggesting God is not the sovereign Controller and Sustainer of the universe. And, if He is not in control, who then is? Be careful; for if you follow that line of thought, it will take you down the dark path of theological liberalism.

In Isaiah 45:7, God spoke through the prophet Isai-ah and made it clear that He “creates calamity.” The HCS says that He “creates disaster.” God not only was in the midst of September 11th, He also had sovereign control. Just because something bad happens, does not mean that God is not in the midst. Our God is good. But His goodness cannot be divorced from events that seem bad from our perspective. Why is this? It is because goodness of God is ever-present while bad events unfold. It is quite convenient for our sinful minds to paint a pic-ture of a God that would not have anything to do with catastrophe. It is comfortable to conger up a God who only deals in positives. Yet how inaccurate and unbiblical such a description of God would be! He is God and God alone and there is no one like Him. He causes well-being and creates calamity!

Suggesting that God had nothing to do with the hor-rific events of September 11th not only denies the sovereignty of God, but also denies the omnipres-ence of God. Some would say that these events occurred where they did and when they did because God was not present at that moment. They would suggest that God cannot be everywhere at the same time. But these events did not occur because there was a blip of momentary absence on God's part. God is everywhere all the time (Jeremiah 23:24). Disasters cannot be explained away by blaming them on an “Absent-T” heavenly Father.

How do we explain disasters in relation to God's sovereignty and omnipresence? They are events God permitted – God permitted what He could have prevented. Nothing happens without God's permis-sion. A blade of grass does not move without the hand of God. Thus everything in creation is subject to God's sovereignty.

May we never forget the catastrophic events of the fateful day, yet through it all, may we rest in God's sovereignty.

Food for thought – 25 years later,
Pastor Michael