

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 6, 2026

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Gerald Blake * Arthur Kirkland

NURSERY WORKERS DURING WORSHIP

Pam Ford Hope Smelcer

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (SEPTEMBER)

Debbie Dexter Jeannie Cummings

WELCOME TEAM — TEAM ONE

Randy Burgin David McLemore
Jody Davis Jack Oody Chrissy Johnson

VAN DRIVER

Joe Fielden

PRAYER
Requests

Bill Hurst,
Ft. Sanders Hospital

Periodical
Postage
PAID

OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

9:30am—Sunday School
10:50am—Morning Worship

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Office Closed-Labor Day Holiday

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

6:00pm—TeamKid
6:00pm—Students "The Upper Room"
6:15pm—Bible Study
7:15pm—Choir Practice

The Church Office will be closed
Monday, September 7th for the
Labor Day Holiday



Michael Martin, Pastor

The Evangel

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September 4, 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

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!

Upcoming Sermon Series Beginning September 6 "The Gospel of Mark"



Wednesday Bible Study "Ruth: A Love That Redeems"



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

Promotion Sunday September 6
Students promote in Sunday School classes. Committees begin their new positions for the 2026-2027 church year.

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

What Are You Trusting In?
A Devotional on Psalm 20

Psalm 20 is a prayer that David pens for the king before battle. It is a prayer for God to protect him, strengthen him, and give him victory. But beneath the language of battle is a truth that reaches far beyond David's army and David understood that where we place our trust matters.

The psalm begins: *"May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you!"* (Vv. 20:1). Trouble is coming, the question is not whether we will face difficult days, but where we will turn when they come.

The very heart of this psalm is found in verse 7 where it says, *"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."* (Vv. 20:7)

Chariots and horses represented strength, security, and military power. They were the things people looked to when they wanted to feel safe. But Israel was being reminded that their ultimate confidence could never rest in human strength. We have our own "chariots" today. We may trust our finances, our careers, our abilities, our relationships, or even our plans for the future. None of those things are necessarily wrong. However, the problem comes when we begin trusting them more than we trust God. The believer's confidence must ultimately rest in God's character and power rather than human resources. Psalm 20 puts that truth plainly: our security is not found in what we possess, but in whose name we trust.

There is also something beautiful about the way this psalm is written. The people are praying for the king. They are not simply watching from the sidelines. They are interceding on behalf of their leader and trusting God together. There is something powerful about a church that learns to pray for their leaders. Yes, we should definitely be in prayer for our government leaders, but let us not forget the daily battles that Michael and his family face. There is power that comes from a congregation that saturates their pastor in prayer.

The psalm ends with a simple prayer: *"O Lord, save the king! May he answer us when we call"* (Psalm 20:9, ESV).

My encouragement to you in this week is to:

- 1. Place your trust in God above all else.
- 2. Pour out prayers for Michael this week.

Grace be with you,
Christopher S. Milligan

Attendance

August 30 - Sunday School

Preschool	6
Children	14
Youth	11
Adults	96
Total	127
Visitors	12

Worship Service: 131

Contacts for the week of 8/24—8/30 Total: 80
4 & 5 Years—18 Adult 3—24 Adult 4—38

Giving

Giving For August 30

General Budget Fund	\$ 4,429.30
Non-Budget Designated	50.00
Grand Total	\$ 4,479.30
Online Giving	\$ 30.00
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,083.00
August Budget Giving	\$46,132.75

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
Contact Chris for more info!

COLLEGE & YOUNG ADULTS

Beginning soon: *Experiencing God Series*. If you are interested in joining this group, please reach out to Chris!

Welcome New Members

Justin & Jennifer Long
6108 Sevierville Pike
Knoxville, TN 37920

Welcome

Music Ministry News

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord." Psalm 40:3 To the congregation, thank you for singing out during worship. We lifted His name in this place yesterday. Several people commented about their joy in worship. And whether you knew the new song or not, you jumped in, praising the Lord.

I know there are times when your heart is filled with joy and excitement because of a worship song! Music connects us to God in ways words alone cannot. Our Music Ministry invites you to share your gifts in our services.

We are looking for:

- **Singers:** All vocal ranges welcome.
- **Instrumentals:** Piano, keyboard, guitar, drums, strings, woodwind and brass instruments. And handbell players.
- **Audio Techs:** Help us manage our soundboard, video, and streaming equipment. We will train you.

Why join us?

- **To Serve God:** Use your talents for the Lord.
- **To Build Community:** Make life-long wonderful, creative Christian friends.
- **No Auditions:** A willing heart is enough. Some music knowledge is a bonus.

Moving forward: one big prayer request - Pray we can find and secure a church pianist with the quality of talent shared with the Meridian church as Deborah Johnson has done for twenty-five years. We have been blessed and a bit spoiled. Congratulations to Deborah on her retirement! A little hint: they don't make them like they used to, so please, join us in our prayer request.

Soli Deo Gloria,
Mark

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)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Meridian Family,

I want to share with you an article on the topic of Labor Day penned by Dr. Todd Brady, professor at Union University. He writes;

"While Labor Day may conjure good feelings of time off and laid back gatherings with friends and family at the end of summer, it actually is our country's tribute to the American laborer and all that these workers have accomplished. Our Labor Day holiday emerged from what was a lamentable chapter in American labor history. In the early 1800s, manufacturing workers were pounding out 70-hour work weeks on average. Later that century, hours dropped, but people were still working long 60-hour weeks. Work was often physically demanding. Jobs were low paying. Conditions were often harsh and unsafe. In farms and factories, even young children labored. Growing out of the 19th-century organized labor movement, President Grover Cleveland signed an act in 1894 establishing the first Monday in September as a federal holiday – Labor Day. Today, work conditions are better than they used to be. When we work 40-hour weeks (thanks to the Adamson Act of 1916), enjoy weekends off, take lunch breaks at work, and spend quality time with our families on paid vacations, we can be thankful for yesterday's workers and the U.S. labor movement. As Americans on this Labor Day, we look back and reflect on our benefits. As Christians, we look forward to the day after Labor Day when we will get to go back to work, for we realize that our work is a gift from God whereby we may glorify Him. Work was never a curse. Pain and sweat in work was the curse and was a result of the fall. Work itself is a gift from God. On this upcoming Labor Day, let us enjoy a weekend to go shopping and have picnics, but let us also wake up the next morning and eagerly go back to work – glorifying God in the spirit of Colossians 3:23: "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men."

Oh that we would celebrate the gift of work, and honor the Lord with our work ethic. Have a happy Labor Day weekend Meridian!

In Christ, Pastor Michael