

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
February 8, 2026

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Gerald Blake Arthur Kirkland *
Mike Colquitt

NURSERY WORKERS DURING WORSHIP

Gayle Doman Jeannie Cummings

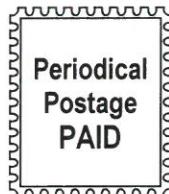
SAFETY TEAM — TEAM FOUR

Johnny Lewis David McLemore Jeff Hinkle
Ray Whitson Chrissy Johnson

VAN DRIVER
Joe Fielden

CHURCH TEXTS

To receive texts from MBC for prayer requests, special announcements, etc., text: mbcnews to 865-822-8635.



OR CURRENT OCCUPANT



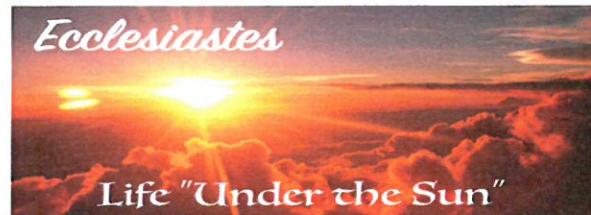
Michael Martin, Pastor

The Evangel

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VOLUME 72, NO. 5

February 6, 2026



Sermon Series on the
Book of Ecclesiastes

Children's Agape Feast and
Parents' Night Out

Friday, February 13

6:00-8:00 pm

4 Years-5th Grade
Food Crafts Fun



Call the office if your child
plans to attend!

Music Minister Search Committee

The Music Minister Search Committee is presenting Bro. Mark Branson as the candidate for Minister of Music. A biographical information sheet is provided in the Sanctuary foyer & the church office. There will be a Saturday evening choir fellowship with Bro. Mark on February 7 at 5:30. On Sunday, Feb. 8, Bro. Mark will be leading the music. This will be in view of a Call; the vote will be by secret ballot.



Valentine's Banquet
Sunday, February 15
at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a wonderful
evening of food, fun and fellowship.

"Everyone Invited"

Special Guest: Rev. Hollie Miller
Cost: \$20 per person; \$40 per couple
Purchase your tickets today!



New Wednesday Night
Verse by Verse Bible Study
Beginning Wednesday, February 4
On the Book of Ephesians

Mark Your Calendar: VBS 2026
Sunday-Thursday, July 12-16

Senior Adult Bible Study
February 24 at 10:30



Our New Website: mbcknox.org
Online giving available!

THE UPPER ROOMS

When Snow Invites Us to Slow Down

Over the past two weekends, snow has quietly reshaped our plans. Roads slowed, schedules cleared, and familiar routines were interrupted. While snow can be inconvenient, it can also be an unexpected gift—an invitation from God to slow down and rest in Him.

In a culture that constantly urges us to hurry, these forced pauses can feel frustrating at first. Yet God often uses circumstances beyond our control to remind us that our lives are not sustained by busyness alone. The snow reminded us to stay home, stay safe, and simply be still. In doing so, it gave many of us space we don't often allow ourselves—space to rest, to reflect, to pray, and to reconnect with God and one another.

Scripture tells us, "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). Stillness doesn't come easily, but it is often where God speaks most clearly. When our pace slows, our hearts become more attentive. We remember that God is at work even when progress seems paused.

As the snow melts and life resumes its usual rhythm, may we carry this lesson with us. May we continue to seek moments of rest, trusting that God meets us not only in our doing, but also in our stopping. Sometimes, slowing down is exactly where we find Him waiting.

Grace be with you,
Christopher S. Milligan

College & Young Adults SS Class
Join us!! Room 411

Youth Super Bowl Viewing
Sunday, February 8
6:30 at the Mission Home

Church cancelled February 1
Due to inclement weather

Giving

Giving For February 1

Online Giving	\$ 900.00
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,083.00
February Budget Giving	\$ 900.00



Items Needed for the Food Pantry

Cereal Canned Soup
Juice Spaghetti Noodles
Canned Meats Instant Rice
Pkg. or box biscuit mix

Bring items to church office.

Valentine Tree Teacher Wish List February Mission Project



The Valentine Tree is located near the Library. We are helping New Hopewell & Mooreland Heights Schools by providing items from their teachers' wish list. Pick a Valentine from the tree, write your name along with the Valentine number. Do not wrap items. Please return items by February 25.

March 29 is the 5th Sunday
We are planning a "Game Night"
(board games, etc.).
We will start at 6:00.
Everyone Invited!
Invite a friend!



Noteworthy News

HE KNOWS. . .among the many colorful expressions of my Grandpa was, "You can't tell a boy—he knows!" It must have been his favorite saying because he said it a lot! However accurate or inaccurate that statement might have been, it is absolutely true about God. *He knows!* It is His divine omniscience that I write about. A.W. Tozer wrote, "God perfectly knows Himself and, being the source and author of all things, it follows that he knows all that can be known. And this He knows instantly and with a fullness of perfection that includes every possible item of knowledge concerning everything that exists or could have existed anywhere in the universe at any time in the past or that may exist in the centuries or ages yet unborn."

On October 18, 1933, when my Mama was born, God knew the day she would marry my Daddy. He knew when they would have their first son. He knew when each of my brothers would be born. God knew when we would move to Martin, TN, and when she would become a member at Hyndsvær Methodist Church in 1956 where she would be a member until today, February 1, when He called her home to rejoin my Dad in heaven, on the day before his birthday! My brothers and I and all our wives and children and grandchildren are blessed to have godly parents who loved us and "raised us right." I rejoice that she is reunited with Daddy. She missed him a lot. Deborah and I are so thankful for our Meridian family. Already your messages of sympathy and comfort have overwhelmed my inboxes. You are an invaluable source of comfort.

LOOKING US OVER...this Sunday we will be looking at Bro. Mark Branson, candidate for our new Minister of Music. He comes to us with unanimous support of the Search Committee as well as other committees. Not only will we be looking at him, HE WILL BE LOOKING AT US! Let's be on our best behavior!! (Tongue in cheek).

Blessings!

Bro. Dennis

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

This weekend will be a special time in the life of our church family as we extend a call to Mark Branson as our next Minister of Music and Worship at Meridian Baptist. A special thanks to Brenda Swinson, Jon McCammon, Tommy Leavelle, Cynthia Headrick, and Randy Burgin for all of their hard work and effort in seeking God's direction in filling this important ministry staff position. I truly believe God in his sovereignty and in his providential care put together our search team for such a time as this (Esther 4:14). My favorite aspect of our search team is how they collectively reflect a fair representation of the kaleidoscope and tapestry of the Meridian family. I pray you have had the opportunity to hear our search team's presentation to the church family from Wednesday night January 21. If you were not in attendance, I encourage you to go to our YouTube channel and watch the January 21 service.

So what does this weekend look like? Well, on Saturday, Bro. Mark and his wife Adrienne will meet up with our ministerial staff and wives for lunch. That evening, Bro. Mark will have the opportunity to connect with our choir members and fellowship together as they work on music for Sunday's service. Pertaining to our time together Sunday morning, Bro. Mark will lead our worship services and also share his testimony with the church family. After the service, we will enter into a brief business session to vote by secret ballot. If the vote is approved, the Branson's will begin their ministry at Meridian on Sunday, March 1st.

Church family, as a congregation you collectively elected this amazing search team, a team who is unanimous in their recommendation. With this in mind I am asking you to support their recommendation to the church family. Within the last six months or so I have personally had the opportunity to get to know Bro. Mark and his wife Adrienne, and I know they would be a perfect fit with our church family. I truly look forward to the future together as we all serve the Lord with gladness and effort to further God's Kingdom!

For His Glory, Pastor Michael