

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

January 25, 2026

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Ray Whitson * Tommy Leavelle

NURSERY WORKERS DURING WORSHIP

Susie Frei Ella Mae Hood

SAFETY TEAM – TEAM TWO

Sam & Sheree Lonas

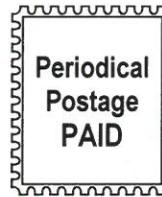
Scott Frei Gary Smith Randy Burgin

VAN DRIVER

David McLemore

NEW CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY 8:00-4:30



OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

6:00pm—Youth Movie Night @ Evers'

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

8:00am—SS Teachers & Assistant Meeting

9:30am—Sunday School

10:50am—Morning Worship

12:15pm—Building & Grounds Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

9:30am—Senior Adult Committee

10:30am—Senior Adult Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

6:00pm—TeamKid

6:00pm—Students "The Upper Room"

6:15pm—Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

7:15pm—Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29

10:30am—Women on Mission serve at MV



The Evangel

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Michael Martin, Pastor

VOLUME 72, NO. 3

January 23, 2026



Life Under the Sun
New Sermon Series on the
Book of Ecclesiastes



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!

Quarterly Sunday School Teachers & Assistants Meeting

January 25th at 8am
in the Fellowship Hall.
Breakfast provided.

Senior Adult Bible Study

January 27
at 10:30



Search Committee for Music Minister

Special Announcement this Sunday,
January 25 from the Search Committee!



SUPER BOWL

Help us collect non-perishable items for Montgomery Village Baptist Center during the month of January. Drop items off in box located near church



DIAPERS & WIPES

Christy Burchell Perry & Matthew Perry are expecting a baby boy in March. They have requested a Diaper & Wipe Drive for the baby. You can drop these items off at the church office during the month of January. Let's show our love to welcome the upcoming arrival!

THE UPPER ROOMS

Loving Your Neighbor (Right Where You Are)

When Jesus was asked what it means to live faithfully, He didn't make it complicated. He pointed to two clear commands:

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind... You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37, 39)

Loving your neighbor doesn't usually show up in big, dramatic moments. Most of the time, it's lived out in small, ordinary ways. It's noticing the people God has already placed around you—the coworker in the next office, the family across the street, or the classmate you see every week—and choosing to care about them intentionally.

Sometimes loving our neighbor means slowing down long enough to listen. Other times it means showing patience when it would be easier to be frustrated. Scripture reminds us, "Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Philippians 2:4)

Jesus showed us that loving our neighbor flows out of loving God. The apostle John puts it plainly: "We love because he first loved us." (1 John 4:19). When we remember the grace we've received, it changes how we see the people around us—not as interruptions, but as opportunities to reflect Christ.

Loving your neighbor won't always be convenient, comfortable, or easy. But it is always part of faithful obedience. As Paul encourages the church, "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone." (Galatians 6:10). And often, it's through these simple, everyday acts of love that God does more than we could ever imagine.

Grace be with you,
Christopher S. Milligan

Attendance

January 18 - Sunday School

Preschool	8
Children	11
Youth	10
Adults	85
TOTAL	114
Visitors	5

Worship Service: 116

Contacts for the week of 1/12-1/18 Total: 56
4 & 5 Years—19 Adult 3—2 Adult 4—35

Giving

Giving For January 18

General Budget Fund	\$ 6,227.30
Reimb. Church Envelopes	4.00
Non-Budget Designated	20.00
Grand Total	\$ 6,251.30
Online Giving	\$ 270.00
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,083.00
January Budget Giving	\$29,118.30

Women on Mission

Provide lunch at Montgomery Village
Thursday, January 29 at 10:30

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

Youth Leadership Conference
"Conclave" January 29-31
Pray for our Youth Leadership
as they attend this conference.



Youth Movie Night
Saturday, January 24
6pm at the Evers' home



IT'S A WAR. . .In the six major wars (The American Revolution, The Civil War, WWI, WWII, Korean conflict and Vietnam) 1,341,709 Americans were killed. In the United States, since Roe Vs. Wade in 1973 until 2024 there have been—listen to this—68,247,128 babies aborted. In the United States 1,600,000 babies are aborted every year. Per day that's 4,383, per hour 183, per minute 3. Every minute in America 3 children are aborted. Why are children aborted? The Guttmacher Institute, the research arm of planned parenthood states: 1% of those who get abortions are victims of incest or rape. 1% have fetal abnormalities. 4% have a doctor who said their health would worsen if they continued the pregnancy. 50% said they didn't want to be a single parent or they had problems in current relationships. 66% stated they could not afford a child. 75% said the child would interfere with their lives. The conclusion is clear: 95% of children killed by abortion are killed for reasons of convenience, not health, incest, rape or the future of the mother.

What do we, as Christians, need to remember about the sin of abortion (or any sin)?

1. We ALL sin (Rom. 3:23)
2. God is grieved, but never shocked by our disobedience. (Psalm 103:12-14)
3. We must forgive and restore. (Gal. 6:1) Studies have shown that among the women who have had an abortion: 96% felt like they had taken a human life. 80% express self-hatred.

On January 22, 1984, President Ronald Reagan issued a presidential proclamation designated the third Sunday of January as National Sanctity of Human Life Day. Churches across America still observe this designation.

The Lord called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named me—Isaiah 49:1.

Blessings!

Bro. Dennis

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

You might remember a few years back the Capital One Credit card commercials with comedian David Spade. He would ask, "What is in your wallet?" It is a good question we all ought to ask ourselves. What is in our wallets? You say pastor, "I don't care when preachers address the subject of money." Well, if that is the case, you sure wouldn't care for Jesus. There are 36 parables in the gospels and 16 of them pertain to our attitude towards money. In fact, 1 out of every 10 verses in the New Testament deals with our attitude toward money! In fact, in the New Testament you will find about 500 verses on faith, about 500 verses on prayer. But you will find over 2,000 verses on money and finances!

According to Barna Research, two in five practicing Christians give at least 10 percent of their annual income to the local church. More specifically, only 21 percent of Christians set their church giving at 10 percent or more of their income. Typically, the giving of church goes varies (37%), while one-quarter (25%) doesn't give to their church at all. Practicing Christians are much more likely to set their giving to at least the customary 10 percent, but the majority of practicing Christians are still giving in lower or less predictable amounts.

So many people squirm at the topic of money and the church. It's like when you go to a doctor for your annual check-up; the doctor might poke, prod, and press while asking you, "Does this hurt? How about this?" If you cry out in pain, one of two things has happened. The doctor has pushed too hard or there is something wrong, and the doctor will say, "We'd better do some more tests. It's not supposed to hurt there." So when the topic of money and giving comes up within the church, and people cry out in discomfort, one of two things has happened; the pastor has pushed too hard, or perhaps there's something wrong. Well if it hurts you to hear about money (and considering I rarely preach on matters of money) I would suggest we need the Great Physician – because it's not supposed to hurt there!

Meridian family; let's start 2026 off on a strong note by supporting the budgeting needs of our wonderful church!