

Meridian Baptist Church

6513 Chapman Highway
Knoxville, TN 37920
865-577-6617

Website: mbcknox.org

Email: meridianbaptistoffice@gmail.com

Facebook: Meridian Baptist Knoxville

Instagram: @mbcknoxville

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00-4:30

"The Evangel" (USPS 339-980) is published weekly except Christmas by Meridian Baptist Church, 6513 Chapman Hwy. Knoxville, TN Periodical Class postage paid at Knoxville, TN. POSTMASTER: send address changes to The Evangel, 6513 Chapman Hwy. Knoxville, TN 37920
ITEMS FOR EVANGEL DEADLINE: MONDAY NOON

Meridian Prayer Line

865-579-6632

CALL IN YOUR PRAYER REQUEST

Workers for November 1, 2026

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Joe Fielden Johnny Lewis *

NURSERY WORKERS DURING WORSHIP

Hope Smelcer Starlene Williams

CHILDREN'S CHURCH (NOVEMBER)

Shauna Kirkland Emily Gray

WELCOME TEAM — TEAM ONE

Randy Burgin David McLemore
Jody Davis Jack Oody Chrissy Johnson

VAN DRIVER

Jon McCammon

Hospitals

David Brewer, Parkwest
Debbie Fuller, U.T. Hospital

Time Change
Set your clocks back
one hour Saturday
night, October 31



Periodical
Postage
PAID

OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

Change Clocks - Fall Back

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

8:30am—Youth Committee
9:30am—Sunday School
10:50am—Morning Worship
12:15pm—Baby Shower for Coral & Conner
3:30pm—Church Council/Budget & Finance
5:00pm—VBS Committee

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2

1:00 & 6:00pm—GROW

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

10:00am—Benevolence Committee

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6

6:00pm—Kids Hayride & Bonfire

The Evangel



Michael Martin, Pastor

Meridian Baptist Church
6513 Chapman Highway
Knoxville, TN 37920
865-577-6617

VOLUME 72, NO. 43

October 30, 2026

Sunday Sermon Series "The Gospel of Mark"



New Wednesday Night Bible Study

"The Dirty Dozen" An in depth look at the 12 disciples of our Lord.
Join us for this exciting study!

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

Shoeboxes are located near the Library. Inside the box is a list of items suitable to pack in your box. Boxes were provided by the Win-some Class and a gracious member has donated toward the shipping costs. Boxes are due November 15.



Bonfire & Hayride for Children

Friday, November 6 at 6:00

Anyone planning to ride the hayride needs to fill out a release form. You may pick these forms up in the church office.



Wednesday Meal, November 18 at 5:00

Chicken & Dressing Casserole, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Rolls, Pumpkin & Pecan Pies.

Cost is \$6 Adults; \$4 Children.

Call the office by Monday, Nov. 16 to sign up.



Women's Christmas Craft Party Sunday, November 15th

in the fellowship hall
immediately following the AM service
Cost: \$20

(includes lunch & craft supplies)

Food, fellowship & lots of fun!

Registration forms provided in bulletins.
Sponsored by the Women's Ministry.

Agenda for Business Meeting, November 15

Minutes, Financial Report, Church Profile provided
Granting of Letters

Recommendation from Nominating Committee:

Add Scott Frei & Johnny Lewis as Treasurers.

Report from Personnel Committee: New cleaning company.

Recommendation from Church Council: Elect the

following as messengers to the TBC Nov. 15-17:

Michael Martin, Mark Branson, Chris Milligan,
Nathanael Swinson.

Reports from Building & Grounds: (1) A/C unit replaced in nursery/mother's day out area. Total cost \$13,500; half came from Mother's Day Out; half came from Newman CD. (2) Replace/repair toilet/drain in nursery & library at a cost of \$1,750; came from Newman CD. (3) Roof repair over the main level at a cost of \$59,207.75; came from Newman CD. (4) Emergency repair on a/c unit & wiring (outside ground level). Cost \$858.51; came from Capital Improvements.

Recommendation from Trustees, Budget & Finance, Church Council: Place 2 vacant lots (zoned residential) located behind mission home, on the market.

Walking in Integrity | A Devotional on Psalm 26
When is the last time that you have sought for what the Lord has to say about your heart? I mean the last time that you genuinely asked for God to search your heart? Or, are you, like many others hoping to maintain your sin in the depths of your secrets? There is no part of our lives that is truly lived in secret no matter how hard we seek to keep it hidden. David expresses that very sentiment as he begins Psalm 26 by saying, "Vindicate me O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering" (Vv. 26:1). David understands that his life is lived before God. He is not simply concerned with how other people see him. He wants his heart and actions to be pleasing to the Lord. That is an important reminder for us because it is possible to look faithful on the outside while allowing our hearts to drift away from God..

David then makes a bold request in verse 2: "Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind" (Vv. 26:2). Imagine praying those words honestly. Are we willing to ask God to examine our motives, our attitudes, and the areas of our lives we would rather keep hidden? Walking in integrity does not mean living a perfect life. David himself was a sinner who needed God's mercy. Rather, integrity means seeking to live honestly before the Lord, confessing our sin, and refusing to settle for a life that merely looks righteous. The theme here is not that for God to know our hearts we must first "allow" him to see into it, God fully knows David's heart without David's invitation. The prayer is not what allows God in, but serves as the medium to bridge the gap between God's omniscience (Eternal and infinite knowledge and understanding) and David's willful ignorance of the condition of his own heart.

David, in his desire to not only allow God to dictate his internal thoughts & feelings, also recognizes the importance of the external company he keeps as well. He writes, "I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites" (Vv. 26:4). The people we surround ourselves with can influence the direction of our lives and the conformity of our hearts. We should love others and seek opportunities to point them toward Christ, while being careful not to let ungodly influences shape our hearts and direct our steps. Most importantly, David declares, "But I have trusted in the Lord without wavering" (Vv. 26:1). His confidence rests in the Lord. Ultimately our hope is not in our ability to maintain perfect integrity, but in Jesus Christ, whose righteousness covers those who trust in Him.

This week's devotion can simply be summed up in one singular statement: "A life of integrity begins with a heart that is honest before God."

Grace be with you, Christopher S. Milligan

Attendance	
October 25 - Sunday School	
Preschool	5
Children	6
Youth	6
Adults	79
Total	96
Visitors	2
Worship Service: 118	

Contacts for the week of 10/19—10/25 Total: 57
4 & 5 Years—17 Adult 3—9 Adult 4—31

Giving	
Giving For October 25	
General Budget Fund	\$16,054.78
Mission Home	2,000.00
Lottie Moon Offerings	400.00
Non-Budget Designated	155.00
Grand Total	\$18,609.78
Online Giving	\$ 690.00
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$49,398.00
October Budget Giving	\$46,674.68

Online Giving is also available on our website at mbcknox.org.

Memorials & Honorariums
An anonymous gift was given to the General Fund in honor of adult substitute teachers, Gladys Hershberger and Tommy Leavelle.
A gift was given to the Nursery Department in memory of Owen Doman from the A4 Couples & Friends Class.

Baby Shower for Coral Vargas
Sunday, November 1
following the service in the fellowship hall. *It's a girl.*
She is registered at Amazon.



2027 Calendars
We have 2027 scripture calendars in the church office. Cost is \$8 and proceeds will be used for the Honduras Mission Trip.

Music Ministry News
Thank you so very much for Sunday's Pastor recognition. As we have begun a new ministry with you, the many prayers, kind words and notes of encouragement for Adrienne and me are a blessing. And please know that we are praying for each of you. We count it a joy to serve alongside you, here at Meridian. Soli Deo Gloria

Please take a moment to internalize the lyrics of the choir's special from Sunday. This song is a powerful testimony of God's Sovereignty, His grace and our eternal hope in Him.

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death
Verse 1
What is our hope in life and death,
Christ alone, Christ alone
What is our only confidence that our souls
to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes apart from His command?
And what will keep us to the end, the love of
Christ in which we stand

Chorus
O sing hallelujah, our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess, Christ our hope in
life and death
Verse 2
What truth can calm the troubled soul, God is good,
God is good

Where is His grace and goodness known, in
our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh, unto
the shore the rock of Christ

Verse 3
Unto the grave what will we sing, Christ He lives,
Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring, everlasting
life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and
death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy when Christ is ours
forevermore

Tuning My Heart to Sing Thy grace,
Mark



Below is a short story I have held on to through the years...I pray it speaks to your heart.

The story is told of an unsaved carpenter who had been befriended by a saved farmer. The Christian farmer was very concerned about the spiritual condition of the lost carpenter. The Christian farmer witnessed to the carpenter and shared with him that the finished work of Christ on the cross was sufficient enough to save even the worst sinner, and that the finished work of Christ was solid enough for one to find peace. The carpenter persisted in the belief that he had to do something himself to obtain salvation. So the farmer had an idea to teach the lost carpenter about the sufficiency and completeness of the cross. He asked the carpenter to build him a gate for a fence on his farm. Once the gate was done, the farmer picked it up and took it back to his farm to hang it. He had it so arranged that the carpenter was going to stop by the next day and see how the gate looked. When the next day arrived, the farmer led the carpenter to where he gate was hung. As they approached the new gate the farmer grabbed an axe. The carpenter said, "What are you going to do with that axe?" The farmer replied, "I am going to add a few more cuts to your work." The carpenter replied by saying, "There is no need to. It is finished. There is nothing more that needs to be done to it." But nevertheless, the farmer took the axe and began slashing the gate and hacked it all to pieces. The carpenter cried out, "What are you doing! You have ruined all my work." The farmer looked at Him and said, "That is what you are trying to do spiritually. You are trying to nullify the finished work of Christ by adding your miserable additions to it! Nothing can be added to the finished work of Christ to improve it, and, and nothing can be taken away from the finished work of Christ without marring it.

It is finished,

Thank you again for the kindness shown to me and my family last Sunday for Pastor Appreciation Month!

Pastor Michael