

## Meridian Baptist Church

6513 Chapman Highway  
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ITEMS FOR EVANGEL DEADLINE: MONDAY NOON

Meridian Prayer Line  
865-579-6632

CALL IN YOUR PRAYER REQUEST

### WORKERS FOR SUNDAY May 31, 2026

#### DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Jim Brackett David Ghormley \*

#### NURSERY WORKERS DURING WORSHIP

Emily Frei Scott Frei

#### SAFETY TEAM — TEAM FOUR

Johnny Lewis David McLemore  
Jeff Hinkle Ray Whitson Chrissy Johnson

#### VAN DRIVER

Norman Smelcer

#### CHURCH TEXTS

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

Periodical  
Postage  
PAID

OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

### THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

#### SUNDAY, MAY 31

9:30am—Sunday School  
10:50am—Morning Worship  
6:00pm—"Luau"

#### MONDAY, JUNE 1

1:00pm—GROW  
6:00pm—GROW


#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

5:00pm—Committee on Committees Mtg.  
6:00pm—TeamKid  
6:00pm—Students "The Upper Room"  
6:15pm—Prayer Meeting/Bible Study  
7:15pm—Choir Practice

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 6

11:00-2:00—Community Fun Day

# The Evangel

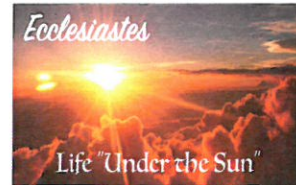


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Michael Martin, Pastor

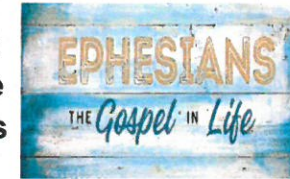
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May 29, 2026



Sunday Sermon  
Series on the Book  
of Ecclesiastes

Wednesday Night  
Bible Study on the  
Book of Ephesians



**VBS July 12-16**  
**Sunday-Thursday**  
**6:00-8:30**  
**Family Fun Night,**  
**Friday, July 17, 6-8**  
**4 Years-5th Grade; Adult Class**

Pre-registration forms will be available in June bulletins. You can also call or email the church office to register for VBS or scan the QR code below to pre-register.

Next Workers' Meeting:  
June 10 at 5:30 in the  
Adult 4 Dept.



"Community Fun Day  
at Meridian"  
Saturday, June 6  
11am-2pm



Community outreach  
on the front church lawn!  
Food, Popcorn, Snow Cones  
Face Painting, Crafts,  
Games, Prizes

Invite friends, family, neighbors!  
Workers: Arrive by 10:00

**5th Sunday Fellowship**  
**"Luau" May 31**  
**at 6 pm**



BBQ pork, baked beans,  
potato salad & dessert

Wear your "Hawaiian outfit!"  
Enjoy a fun time of fellowship!



Be Involved in G.R.O.W.  
Monday, June 1  
Daytime Team-1:00  
(canvassing the community  
with door hangers about MBC)

Evening Team-6:00 (make home visits  
to church prospects)

## The God Who Judges Righteously

A Devotional on Psalm 7

Psalm 7 has us walking away from the scenes of David as he is in hiding from his son Absalom and we move back in time to when David was hiding from King Saul. Psalm 7 has David meditating hardily on the words of Cush a Benjamite and likely a partisan of Saul against David. Cush has made some pretty harsh accusations against David, and has placed David in a pretty restless place. "O Lord my God, in you do I take refuge" (v. 7:1). Before David defends himself or responds to his enemies, he first runs to the Lord for safety and help. And if you read the next verse he speaks of the danger that he is truly in, "lest like a lion they tear my soul apart, rending it in pieces, with none to deliver." (v. 7:2). This statement of with none to deliver tells us that David has nowhere else to turn to, no one else can deliver him into safety except God. And what a place to turn to.

Throughout the psalm, David appeals to the justice of God. He knows that people may speak falsely, misunderstand, or attack unfairly, but God sees perfectly. In a world where human judgment can fail, the Lord judges with complete righteousness and truth. David writes, "My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart" (v. 7:10). What comfort there is in knowing that God is not distant from the struggles of His people. He sees every injustice, every burden, and every hidden hurt. Psalm 7 reminds us that the Lord is both holy and faithful. He is just in His judgment and merciful toward those who trust Him.

The psalm also serves as a warning against unrepentant sin. David speaks of God as a righteous judge who calls people to repentance. "God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day. If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword..." (v. 7:11-12). The warning here is harsh yes, but even in that warning, we see God's patience and mercy inviting sinners to turn back to Him. Repentance is what causes the Lord from abstaining in "whetting" His sword.

By the end of the psalm, David's focus shifts from fear to worship: "I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High" (v. 7:17). David rests not in his own ability to overcome, but in the character of God Himself.

## Attendance

**May 24 - Sunday School**

**No Sunday School**

**Worship Service: 110**

## Giving

### Giving For May 24

General Budget Fund	\$ 3,840.30
Non-Budget Designated	50.00
Grand Total	\$ 3,890.30
Online Giving	\$ 705.00
Monthly Budget Requirement	\$51,083.00
May Budget Giving	\$34,719.95

### Every Member Involved!

A Membership Service Survey will be provided in bulletins during the month of May. The survey gives each church member the opportunity to express interest in various ministry opportunities of service within the committee life of the church. Drop in the offering plate or turn in to the church office.

**Youth Summer Camp  
June 10-13  
Camp BaYoCa, Sevierville**

### The God Who Judges Righteously (cont.)

We must see that true peace comes when we trust God to be both Savior and Judge. Psalm 7 calls us to stop placing ultimate confidence in ourselves or others and to rest instead in the righteousness of God. So, when you feel misunderstood, attacked, or weighed down by injustice, remember this truth:

God sees, God judges, and God remains a refuge for those who trust in Him.

Grace be with you,  
Christopher S. Milligan

## Music Ministry News

It has been a wonderful weekend of celebrating our nation, remembering the sacrifice made by so many men and women, that we might enjoy our freedom. I hope you took a chance over the weekend to give thanks for their sacrifice.

"Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him." Psalm 98:1

Worship is a lifestyle, who you are. Take every opportunity throughout the day to rejoice in the Lord. The people around you are watching your commitment to the Lord, in those hard moments, times of great trial or temptation, hardship, struggle, temptation, etc., just to see how you will react. Your friends and family are watching, even when you think no one is watching. Choose Jesus!

Let me encourage you, as we continue new songs introduced in our services, even if you don't know these songs, read the lyrics and worship through them. We will repeat them enough, you will have a chance to learn them and enjoy worshipping through the new songs, as well as the songs we know so well.

If any of you might care to join us in the choir, the music ministry is preparing for worship on Sunday, June 28 to celebrate the goodness of God to this nation, America. Invite your family and friends to worship with us...celebrating 250 years.

Soli Deo Gloria  
Bro. Mark

### Deacon Election, Sunday, June 7

Active church members should have received a deacon ballot through the mail with a list of potential men who can serve as deacon at Meridian. A ballot box will be provided in the Sanctuary foyer on June 7 to turn in your deacon ballot. If you will not be in attendance on that day, absentee ballots will be available in the church office.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Last Friday evening, I saw an absolutely crazy commercial. It was for a particular prescription medication (which I won't mention by name). What caught my attention was the fact that the spokesperson spent the first ten seconds explaining the purpose of the medicine, and the last fifty seconds listing the side effects. The side effects were "cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, diarrhea, severe abdomen pain, yellowing of skin, severe nausea or vomiting, pain on the right side of abdomen, dark urine, bleeding, bruising, decrease of urine, blood in urine, swelling of ankles, loss of appetite, rash, itching, skin blistering or peeling, painful sores or ulcers in mouth, nose or throat, fever or flu-like symptoms, swollen lymph nodes, headaches that will not go away, eye sensitivity to light, eye problems, rapid heartbeat, increased sweating, extreme tiredness, weight gain, feeling more hungry or thirsty than usual, hair loss, feeling cold, constipation, deeper voice, dizziness or fainting, changes in mood or behavior, such as decreased sex drive, irritability, or forgetfulness."

My first thought – that is absolutely crazy! I'm not sure about you, but that does not sound like a medicine I would want to take! I guess you could say that the cost outweighs the benefit. To be sure, the side effect list gives a new meaning to the term "warning label."

But spiritually speaking, did you know there is a such a thing as a good warning label? You see, when you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior, you take in the Holy Spirit. And if you read the "warning label" (specifically the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:16-23) you will experience side effects such as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. And unlike any earthly medication, you do want an overdose of these side effects in your daily walk. Oh that these side effects would be evident in our lives!

Have a great rest of the week! Live for Jesus and serve Him faithfully until Christ comes again!

For Him,  
Pastor Michael