

MID-SOUTH GREAT BANQUET NEWS



Mid-South Great Banquet
P.O. Box 343357
Bartlett, TN, 38184

DeColonial

December

2010

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REFLECTIONS FROM ROY

A Sunday School teacher was trying to get some discussion going in her children's Sunday School class during the Christmas season. She said, "If the flower of Easter is a lily, what is the flower of Christmas?" She expected someone to say, "Poinsettia." Instead one child shouted out, "I think it's the incarnation." That child did not know there was much truth in that confused answer. Christmas is about the incarnation. The incarnation is the high cost of God's love for humanity.

Another story is told about a wealthy woman wanted to buy a \$7500 bracelet. Unsure of the purchase she wired her husband for approval. He wanted to wire her back with the message, "No, price too high." In the transmission, however, the comma was omitted and the message came back to the woman "NO PRICE TOO HIGH." Encouraged by her husband's generosity she bought the expensive bracelet.

I'm so glad when God considered the cost to redeem mankind from sin; He omitted the comma, and communicated loud and clear through Jesus Christ, NO PRICE TOO HIGH!

Ever wonder how a Team is selected...

God has greatly blessed the Mid South Great Banquet Community over the past few years. Following the transition from the leadership of Michael Thomas, who brought the Great Banquet movement to this area, to the leadership of the Board of Directors, the hard work of every single community member has been rewarded with the blessing of a quickly growing community. The four banquets each year are currently adding about 80 people to our Banquet family. One thing that many community members may not understand is some of the things that the Board must consider when working with the Lay Directors during team formation.

The Board's first concern as they assumed leadership was "small picture" stuff. Things like getting organized and making sure that team member handbooks had identical schedules in them. Another challenge for the Board was increasing the number of guests so that the weekends were viable. Most of the focus was from weekend to weekend. As our Father blessed us with improved organization and increased guest counts, the Board has been able to start focusing on "big picture" issues such as team formation.

Each community member probably has the "perfect" team in mind that they would chose when asked to be a Lay Director. While the Lay Director's initial thoughts are a large part of their contribution to the weekend, they rightfully are only concerned with their weekend. The Board of Directors and the Spiritual Directors work with the new Lay Directors to try and make sure that some consideration is given to the future growth of the ministry.

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Mid-South Great Banquet-Awakening Calendar

AWAKENINGS #23 & #24

Lay Directors: Adam Garrison & Sharon Gill

- 1/15/11 (Sat) Send Off 8:30 AM Pinecrest**
- 1/16/11(Sun) Candlelight 7:45 PM Pinecrest**
- 1/17/11(Mon) Closing 3:30 PM Pinecrest**

4th Day Meeting

Thursday, Feb. 20, 2011, Advent Pres. 6:30 PM

MEN'S MID-SOUTH GREAT BANQUET #58 at Pinecrest

Lay Director: Ron Nociti

March 24th -27th, 2011

WOMEN'S MID-SOUTH GREAT BANQUET #59 at Pinecrest

Lay Director: Cat Franks

March 31st – April 3rd, 2011

Weekend Community Events

Who should attend the Community-Involved Services during the weekends?

We have a lot of new people in our community, and this is something that we often forget to emphasize. Here are a few simple guidelines to follow, but the main thing to remember is that everything we do is for our guests and their well-being.

- You must have attended a Great Banquet or comparable weekend (Walk to Emmaus, Awakening, Faith Walk, etc.).
- Children should not be brought to any of the events, including send-off, candlelight, and closing. This is for logistical reasons, as well as being sensitive to our guests. Imagine how hard it is for a mother missing her children to observe other people's children present during her weekend. Additionally, child care is not provided for any of the events during the weekend.
- The only people allowed in the conference room are team members and guests. For those that come to pray in a speaker, we try our best to have talks transmitted for you to listen outside of the conference room, however this is not a guarantee. The talks are given for our guests, and while we all want to hear the talks of our friends and family members, having an "outsider" enter the conference room is a distraction.

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There has to be some thought given to making sure that everyone gets a chance to serve on a team. With 80 new community members each year and such a dedicated community, who truly love to serve, it can be difficult to strike a balance on each team between new members, members who have served on a few teams and the veterans who have served on many weekends. There are a great number of community members who would serve on each and every team, if asked. While this is another blessing, it is important that new members have the opportunity to experience the joy in serving.

There also has to be some thought given to having community members serve in different positions on the teams. Getting out of our comfort zone offers us the chance for new experiences and growth. It also allows us to view things from a different perspective and with more understanding. Lastly, it is beneficial for future Lay Directors to have a diverse group from which to choose their team and not be limited to a few individuals who can do any particular job.

It is also important to make sure that there is a pool of willing and able community members available from which the Board can choose future Lay Directors. Lay Directors are generally folks who have served inside and outside the conference room, have given at least one talk and have been an Assistant Lay Director. Without some forethought, the list of potential Lay Directors could be very limited. Not everyone feels called to be a Lay Director, so even though there are 4 Assistant Lay Directors chosen each pair of weekends, that does not mean that there are more potential Lay Directors than the 2 positions available on subsequent weekends.

Just as the Board of Directors tries to be good stewards of the financial blessings that God has provided, we also strive to be good stewards of the dedicated and talented community that he has assembled here.

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Visit our webs site at www.midsouthgb.com

Contact your Board of Directors at
BoardofDirectors@midsouthgb.com

Chairman of the Board: Teresa Tate	Awakening Community Lay Director: Shawn Weiser	Members of the Board: Wade Bunker Ken Carlton
Community Lay Director: Tammy Daugherty	Secretary: Carrie Whaley	Glory Hamilton Becky McKissack
Community Spiritual Director: Roy Whaley	Treasurer: Dan Schweizer	Ron Nociti Robert Rooks
Assistant Community Spiritual Director: Michael Qualls		Dale Tinner Don Todd

Coming on Board Jan. 2011 thru 2013

Jerry Covington, Managing Leadership
Don Bogan, Managing Facilities
Elizabeth Garrett, Managing Community

Thank You

We would like to say a special thanks to the Mid-South Great Banquet Board of Directors who will end their terms Dec. 2010. Words cannot express the gratitude and appreciation for all your hard work and accomplishments. Your contributions and commitment will have a lasting effect on the Mid-South Great Banquet Board and Community.

Thank you ALL for a job very well done:

Carrie Whaley, Managing Leadership / 2010 Board Secretary
Don Todd, Managing Facilities
Dale Tinner, Managing Community

Thank you

Mid-South Great Banquet Board of Directors
Mid-South Great Banquet Community

If you are not receiving emails please send your information to:

BoardofDirectors@midsouthgb.com

Awaken O Sleeper... You might recognize that phrase as one of the themes for the Awakening. It is also one of the reoccurring themes every morning at my house as my thirteen year old son transforms into a typical teenager. Daily, the saga repeats itself: "Are you awake?"... "Yes, I'm awake."... "Are you really awake?" (as the lights go on brighter and the covers get pulled back)... "Yes, I told you I'm awake already... Go away." Ask any teenager or college student and they will tell you they love to sleep. Ask any adult and they will probably tell you they would love more sleep. No wonder God has such a hard time trying to wake us all up! The truth is, He wants us awake. He needs us awake, alert and ready for that opportunity to share Him with others. How many times does God seem to ask us if we are awake, only to hear us say, "Yes, I told you I'm awake already... Go away," and we miss the opportunity He gives us.

Do you know of a young person age 15 to 19 that needs to be awakened? This is your opportunity. The Awakening January 15-17th at Pinecrest campground, is a chance to empower young people to understand what being awakened truly means. As we celebrate the ten year anniversary of Awakenings in the Mid-South Great Banquet community, I am reminded of those that have taken that pledge in the past. Those young people that are now young adults, that keeps the movement growing. That "awakening" has turned young people into stronger Christians that have then become strong leaders in our churches. Please support our next Awakening, our Lay Directors Sharon Gill and Adam Garrison and their teams. Please cover them in prayer. Please help with support and serving on the weekend. Please help continue to follow our Sleepers in their walk when they return from the weekend. Thank you for your support of our young people!

Oh, and the next time you feel God ask you, "Are you awake?" I hope your response will be "Yes, I am Awake...and I am very ready."

Shawn Weiser
Awakening Community Leader