

Great Banquet

Great Newsletter!



Great Things are Happening...

The Gathering – Saturday, August 13, 6 to 8 pm., Advent Presbyterian Church, 1879 Germantown Pkwy., Cordova.

Come enjoy a great time of fellowship, food and worship. Dinner will be potluck, so it's time to get out those favorite recipes! We'll meet at 6 pm. for dinner in Lindsey Hall, followed by entertainment and worship in the sanctuary. Childcare will be available.

Dedication/Potluck for the Fall Weekends – Thursday, September 8, 6 to 8 pm., Grace Presbyterian Church, 6671 Yale Road, Bartlett.

Come join us in food, fellowship, and worship, as well as in prayer for the teams and the upcoming weekends.

Men's Fall Great Banquet Weekend #60 – Thursday, September 15 - Sunday, September 18, The Grove at Red Oak Lake, 849 Rocky Point Road, Cordova. Lay Director – Wade Bunker

Women's Fall Great Banquet Weekend #61 – Thursday, September 22 – Sunday, September 25, The Grove at Red Oak Lake, 849 Rocky Point Road, Cordova. Lay Director – Diann White

Updates: Both teams have been formed and will begin meeting on Thursday, July 14. A list of team members is posted on the Great Banquet website at <http://www.midsouthgb.com> so you can begin covering them in prayer.

4th Day Event – Saturday, October 1, Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 3427 Appling Road, Bartlett

Come welcome our newest members into the Great Banquet community!

The Awakening (*for teens who are in high school or their freshman year of college*) – Saturday, January 14 – Monday, January 16, 2012, Pinecrest.

Great Way to Make a Difference in Someone's Life...

Do you know someone who might be ready for a three-day weekend of focusing on God and their relationship with Him? Sponsoring a guest is one of the greatest things you can do for somebody, and it's pretty simple!

After you've invited someone and they accept the invitation, sponsors play an important role in the guest's weekend. They collect the guest's letters, attend Sponsor's Hour and pray over the crosses, provide transportation for the guests to and from the weekend, attend the closing ceremony, and assist the guest's family with any needs that may arise while the guest is away.

Please keep in mind that ten guests are needed by the third team meeting (July 28) in order for each weekend event to be held. A \$50 deposit is needed when the registration form is received so we can reserve a place for your guest. The remaining fee of \$75 is due at the weekend's registration.

Great Ways to Demonstrate the Love of Christ...

Be His Unseen Hands and Feet – The Great Banquet is an amazing experience, and we all want others to have that same type of unique encounter with God that we did. Since there are SOOOO many ways to be involved, the challenge is deciding the right fit for you.

Since the teams are made up of around 30 people, not everyone can be on a team. Plus, teams are a mixture of folks who just went through, those who have served on a few teams, and people who have served on many teams. And as much as we'd like, we all can't serve on all the teams!

So, begin now prayerfully considering how you can be an unseen servant and help someone experience Christ's unconditional love. Opportunities to serve include: serving and/or decorating for meals, being a part of the prayer vigil, assisting the agape team, writing letters, making gifts of agape, providing snacks, and attending community events. Keep in mind that Christ's love is best demonstrated by as many people as possible having an opportunity to give of themselves.

To sign up for the prayer vigil, go to: <http://www.3dayol.org/Vigil/GetComm.phtml>
Other sign up sheets will be available via the Facebook page, the website and at the Gathering in August.

Special Note from the Board...

It Takes Us All Working Together – Everyone has been impacted by the economy, and the Mid-South Great Banquet is no different.

We are a self-supporting ministry, and the fees that we collect for the weekends go to cover the costs of the weekend such as food, agape, facility costs and scholarships for team members and guests who would like to serve or attend but cannot afford to pay the fee. We also have on-going costs such as the manuals for teams, insurance and costs incurred for Gatherings and other functions. We have recently seen a rise in costs along with a decline in collection of team and guest fees and donations at Gatherings and other

events. This combination is making it difficult for us to cover the costs of the weekends. If we collect team and guest fees at the rate that they are typically paid, we will not be able to cover our costs this Fall. To break even on the weekends, we need to collect 100% of the fees. If you are a team member or a sponsor of a guest, please let the Lay Director or a Board member know if there is a financial issue. With some advance notice we can do our best to make sure that we can meet our financial obligations in these trying times.

Great Way for You to be Involved..

Interested in connecting with friends you made during your Banquet weekend?

Board member Glory Hamilton can help you start a reunion group or find one close to you. Contact her at glorywhspr@bigriver.net; (901) 835-4667.



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***Mid-South Great Banquet
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