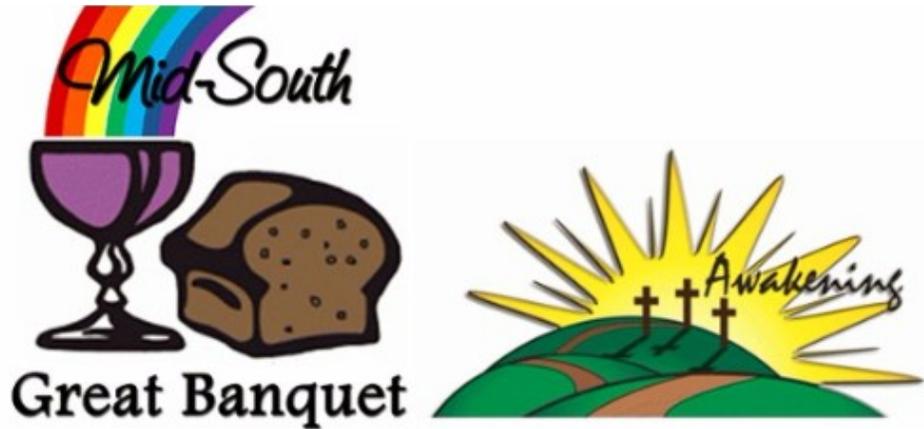


[View this email in your browser](#)



Welcome New Members

Praise God for the blessings each of the spring banquets were! Thank you to community and team who were the hands and feet of Christ before, during, and after the weekends. We are blessed with a total of 11 new men and 22 new women community members.

Inside This Issue

- Reflections from the Men's Lay Director
- Reflections from the Women's Lay Director
- Great Banquet & Awakening Event Reminders
- Reunion Groups
- Upcoming Events
- Board Members & Contact Information

Reflections from the Men's Lay Director

By David King

Many of us came to the Mid-South Great Banquet not knowing much about it and not knowing what to expect. I think that is what made it special for me. I came to my weekend

thinking I had my life together. I realized quickly that I was still broken and that Kleenex might be a pretty good stock investment. I left the weekend with a totally different outlook on life and the way I was going to live it. The Lay Director for My weekend, #54, got sick and was not able to complete the weekend. Over the weekend they gave us some updates on his status periodically. I didn't know him, or anyone who was there that weekend, but I remember praying for the Lay director.

I have been actively involved in this ministry ever since my weekend. When they asked me to be the Lay Director, I wasn't really nervous about it. I said yes and never thought twice about it. I wanted to do this and I wanted to do a good job. I started calling people to be on Team #82. Quite a few said they couldn't be on the team for one reason or another. I started to get a little nervous. I eventually started getting some yeses and the team started to grow. Every now and then I would get an email asking how things were going. I emailed back and said I was doing good. Then I got a call. Someone who said "yes" had to drop off the team. No big deal, I thought, I'll just call someone else. Before I could get an answer from the next person on the list, another person called to drop off the team. God has a funny way of putting a banquet team together. You think you know who you want on the team and God says, "not so fast." It was not until the very last team meeting that God had his team filled with the people he wanted on there.

We spent nine weeks meeting as a team and learning about each other. Not having the team positions filled and worrying if we were going to have enough guest, for the weekend, I began to understand why that Lay Director may have had those health issues. In the end, God sent eleven guests to the weekend. He knew exactly who was supposed to be there, including the team. I had a couple of team members tell me that working on the team meant more to them than going through on their weekend. I have learned a lot over the past five years. One lesson is: God is in control and you can't worry yourself with what you want out of life. God is going to give you exactly what you need, not what you want!

Reflections from the Women's Lay Director

By Erica Cave

The Women's Mid South Great Banquet #83 was just as exciting and God filled weekend for me as it was for many of you. I am truly blessed and honored to have been selected as the Lay Director for that weekend.

When I pull my vehicle in the drive at Pine Crest it is like everything that I have on my shoulders and heart, is taken care of and an instant relief comes over me. I call it God's country (Pine Crest) because it is so peaceful and tranquil. Isaiah 41:10. That is exactly what happened on this weekend. God had his hands over us, around us and over the camp ground that entire weekend. He knew what was going to take place and the healing, forgiveness that did take place. We are not perfect we are human and mistakes happen, James 3:2, but we laughed about it and maybe even a tear shed (me, what?!) but we moved on and it was a fabulous time. We all made new friendships and strengthened our friendships that were already established. A LOT of memories made that many of us will never forget or will reflect back on daily to give us that laughter back in our lives and who could not forget our poster parties!! BAM, POW, KABOOM and Great Banquet is the place to be (Green Acres theme)!!!!

The agape love and food was an over abundance of nothing but his love for us. It was so much appreciated and yummy to our tummies.

Over the weekend I heard guests say or actually told me thank you for listening, thank you for the Kleenex or just a simple thank you. Well, MSGB #83, THANK YOU! Thanks for bringing me to my knees and praying for you all, thank you for letting me cry, laugh and be the hands and feet of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I hope to see all of you at other gatherings, 4th day's and especially of course on other teams in the future.

Share God's love for one another and his word!

Proverbs 30:5

Proverbs 31:25

Great Banquet & Awakening Event Reminders

Very often we hear:

"I wish I could be notified when candlelight services will be held because I don't want to miss a single one of them."

"I wish someone would let me know when they have specific needs during the weekends. I would love to come out to help wherever needed."

"I would've been at the last Gathering / 4th Day / Send Off / Dedication, but I just didn't know about it."

"I would like to hear about information or news that happen in-between Banquets/Awakenings."

NOW. YOU. CAN.

We want you "plugged in" with upcoming community events and weekend needs.

In August 2017, the Great Banquet and Awakening community will begin using a new **Cell Phone Text Messaging Service** called REMIND. It is designed to provide a quicker and more convenient way to notify community members using cell phone text messages. We intend to use it to inform you about upcoming Great Banquet and Awakening community events and needs.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- We **have not** sold your personal information to a marketer. (And we never will).
- We **will not** overwhelm you with frequent text messages from the Great Banquet and Awakening community.
- We plan to register every cell phone number we have received through the registration process. If you do not want to be included in this service you may send an email to remind@midsouthgb.com before August 1, 2017, and we will not include your cell phone in the initial registration.
- The REMIND service is typically used by schools, however it may be used (for free) by other community organizations, like us!
- You will only receive messages from us (unless you already use the REMIND service with another group, school, or church).
- Of course, you may stop the notifications at any time. TO STOP the notifications you may simply reply to the text message with @STOPALL and you will not receive future messages.

We hope you will get "plugged in" with the community by trying the REMIND service. You will see that we will not overwhelm you with too many text messages. We believe you will find it useful to stay informed with upcoming events, community needs, and keep in closer contact with your Great Banquet and Awakening friends.

We will provide more information about the registration process in the coming months and will keep updated information on the Mid-South Great Banquet and Awakening web site at: <http://www.midsouthgb.com/remind>.

Scholarships for the Weekends

Remember that scholarships are always a need for the Banquets.

There are many needs for the weekend and oftentimes we have guests or sponsors who are unable to pay the necessary fees. If you feel led, please email the board at boardofdirectors@midsouthgb.com to notify them of your desire to make a donation for a scholarship.

Reunion Groups

One of the most important parts of the Great Banquet and Awakening is the follow-up. Although the weekend lasts only three days, you are invited to use its lessons for the rest of your life. After attending the Great Banquet and Awakening, you are challenged to:

- Strengthen your own spiritual life through study and active congregational participation; and
- Strive to become an active disciple of Jesus Christ in the world through your church.

Reunion groups of three to five people meet weekly to examine their goals of spiritual growth and to encourage one another to a life of discipleship.

Visit the Reunion Group page on the website and find a group that meets near where you live or work, or start a group of your own. Either way, this is the best way for you to remain close with your Great Banquet and Awakening friends to share and be accountable to other Christians.



6:00 PM – Potluck Dinner followed by fellowship & worship.
Childcare will be provided.

May 20, 2017 – Advent Presbyterian Church – Cordova, TN
1879 N Germantown Pkwy, Cordova, TN 38016

August 19, 2017 – Restoration Church – Munford, TN
60 E Main St, Munford, TN 38058

Keep in mind that Gatherings aren't just for the community. It's a great place to bring friends or family that might go through a future weekend. This gives them a great opportunity to meet members of the community prior to going through their weekend.

2017 Fall Weekends

Men's Spring Great Banquet Weekend #84
Thursday, September 28 – Sunday, October 1
Pinecrest Conference and Retreat Center, 21430 Hwy 57, Moscow, TN 38057
Lay Director: Tim Bauder

Women's Spring Great Banquet Weekend #85

Thursday, October 5 – Sunday, October 8
Pinecrest Conference and Retreat Center, 21430 Hwy 57, Moscow, TN 38057
Lay Director: Kellie Evins

4th Day Event
Saturday, October 14, 6–8 PM
Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 3427 Appling Rd, Memphis, TN 38133

Please be in prayer for the fall lay directors as they prayerfully consider their teams as well as
for potentials guests.

Ask God to lay friends and family in your life upon your heart that you could sponsor for the fall
banquets.

Sponsor and registration forms can be found on the website, www.midsouthgb.com.



Pray for our guest and team! The 72 hour Prayer Charts for both weekends will soon be
available. Go to www.midsouthgb.com and click on “Pray for Current Teams” or **click the
Prayer Charts button below.**

Once loaded, scroll down until you find Mid–South Great Banquet for both the men and
women’s weekends and find the time that works best for you.

Prayer Charts

Special Note from the Board

If you or someone you know, who is a member of the Mid–South Great Banquet has recently
changed email address, physical address, or phone numbers, please contact Sylvia Henry and
let her know so that she can update the database. Sylvia’s contact information is listed below
with the board members.

2017 Board Members

Spiritual Director	Michael Qualls	901-239-5674	mqualls@memphisseminary.edu
Assist. Spiritual Director	Diann White	901-870-6777	diannwhite12@yahoo.com
Chairman of the Board	Carrie Whaley	731-431-4805	whaletales@att.net
Community Lay Director	Joy Karel	901-270-5686	joyakarel@aol.com
Community Lay Director (Awakening)	Don Bogen	901-277-2801	donbogen@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Lisa Murdock	901-496-5344	lmuro504@gmail.com
FACILITIES	Chris Cave	901-238-7530	ccave@bellsouth.net
	David King	901-486-9888	davidking319@yahoo.com
	Mike Patten	901-233-9836	mikepatten007@outlook.com
LEADERSHIP	Larry Bryant	901-237-9037	larrybryant@yahoo.com
	Kellie Evins	901-317-9393	kelloves31@gmail.com
	Sylvia Henry	901-674-1080	shshenry@bellsouth.net
COMMUNITY	Kelly Blevins	901-485-8398	tazchee@hotmail.com
	Paula Denbow	901-461-4400	paula.denbow@mosaik.com
	Sharon Stone	901-493-8072	chrestmanstone@bellsouth.net

Please feel free to contact any of the board members with any questions or concerns you have concerning the Mid-South Great Banquet or the Awakening.



[Website](#) [Great Banquet](#) [Awakening](#) [Awakeing](#)

Copyright © 2017 Mid South Great Banquet, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
 You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)