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## Welcome New Members!

The Awakening weekend was a success and we are blessed to welcome 16 boys and 24 girls as new members to our community! Thank you to the sleepers from Florida and everyone who helped before, during, and after the weekends!

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## Reflections from the Awakening Lay Directors



## Awakening #39

By Joseph Henry

In spite of many difficulties and differences, it was amazing to see so many great, supportive, and energetic team members and sleepers come together and worship on the weekend. It was truly a sight to behold and I could not have been prouder of them.

## Awakening # 40

By Katie Kirkpatrick

It was a true joy to be a part of Awakenings 39 and 40. I'm still at a loss for words because I'm so in awe of how very good those 3 days were. Leading up to the weekend, I prayed over 2 Chronicles 7 when the Israelites, lead by Solomon, dedicate the temple, setting it apart as a dwelling place for God. Solomon prays an epic prayer. Then lightening strikes the temple, and the glory of God so fills the space that the priests can't get inside to do their duties. That was my prayer for this weekend - that the presence of God would be palpable and present and that it would be all of Him and none of us. And that's exactly what happened! Our weekend started off with a real lightening storm (no joke - God is the coolest!). Mighty and mysterious things happened. My hardworking team was faithful and flexible, and their leadership was a thing of beauty. The sleepers were fun, funny, kind, wonderfully weird, open, and loving. Their worship was joyful, and they embraced true community from day 1. It was like a big family celebration that we never wanted to end. Praise God for all of the wonderful things He is doing in and through this community! De Colores.

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**From the Community Spiritual Director**

By Michael Qualls

I had lunch recently with a young woman who had been to hell. That's how she described a mission-trip experience. She stayed two weeks with the Gomez family, a single mother of three, who live on the edge of the garbage dump outside Mexico City. Their home is pieced together from articles scavenged from the discarded trash. Each day Ms. Gomez wakes her 12-year-old son and 8-year-old year old daughter early. They get the toddler in a bassinet (to shield him from the glaring sun), they pack a lunch pail and head out to work. Their job is to sift through the garbage and separate out anything recyclable. From morning to night under a blaring sun they pick through layers of rotting garbage and smoldering refuse, fending off rodents and insects, to recover anything of value. At end of the day they are paid 200 pesos, the equivalent of \$5.

"So, yes, I have seen hell," my friend insists. The Gomezes did not complain. It is not extraordinary in their view, not burdensome. It's just life. Just the way it is. But when my friend asked to go with them one day, so she could fully experience what they endured every day, they thought she was crazy.

"Why would you go there if you have a choice?" they asked.

Exactly! Our faith is founded on the notion that this is exactly the choice Jesus made. He came to experience what human life is really like. And from the cradle to the cross he suffered rejection, humiliation, and ultimately a painful death. Such love is unfathomable. Yet we are called to respond with that same empathy that moved Jesus because he first loved us. Thank you for your sacrifice.

DeColores,

mlq

"This is my commandment, that you love one another, even as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:12-13).

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## David's Desk

Welcome Spring! Ready for warmer temps and getting in gear for our spring banquets. A lot of you already know me, but for those of you who don't, my name is David Freeman and I am the new Chairperson for the Board of Directors of the Mid South Great Banquet. I have been a part of this great community of Christ followers for 10 years now and I must say its been a joy and asset to my life and walk with our Lord Jesus Christ. I've made many valuable friendships, and feel as though our community is like a big family. It has enriched my life and it is an honor for me to serve you all. Servant hood is the focal point of our organization and I plan to keep this and Christ at the forefront of our organization. Looking forward to a great year!

DeColores!

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## Ways to Demonstrate the Love of Christ

**Be His Unseen Hands and Feet** – The Great Banquet and Awakening are amazing experiences, and we all want others to have that same type of unique encounter with God that we did. Since there are 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 people who just went through the weekend, those who have served on a few teams, and those who have served on many teams. As much as we'd like, we all can't serve on all the teams.

So, begin prayerfully considering now 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, attending community events, and making banners. Keep in mind that Christ's love is best demonstrated by as many people as possible having an opportunity to give of themselves.



Now is the time to start making agape for the spring weekends. Please make 65 for each weekend. If you would like to give something special for guests only, the maximum number of guests each weekend is 30.

## Scholarships for the Weekend

Remember that scholarships are always a need for the Banquets and Awakenings. 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](mailto:boardofdirectors@midsouthgb.com) to notify them of your desire to make a donation for a scholarship.



## 2019 Spring Weekends

### **Men's Spring Great Banquet Weekend #90**

Thursday, April 25 - Sunday, April 28

For the Kingdom, 4100 Raleigh Millington Rd, Memphis, TN 38128

Lay Director: Tommy Ammons

### **Women's Spring Great Banquet Weekend #91**

Thursday, May 2 - Sunday, May 5

For the Kingdom, 4100 Raleigh Millington Rd, Memphis, TN 38128

Lay Director: Stephanie Russell

### **4th Day Event**

Saturday, May 11, 6-8 PM

Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 3427 Appling Road, Memphis, TN 38133



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

**July 27, 2019 – Advent At Cordova – Cordova, TN**  
1879 N Germantown Pkwy, Cordova, TN 38016

**November 16, 2019 – 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.*



The teams have begun meeting for the spring weekends and are in need of our prayers. Please pray for this group of leaders as well as for potential guests. Ask God to lay upon your heart friends and family in your life that you could sponsor for the spring banquets. A list of team members is on the Mid-South Great Banquet website.

The 72 hour Prayer Charts for both weekends are now available on the website. Click on *Pray for MSGB #90* and *Pray for MSGB #91* found at the top, right of the home page or click the **Prayer Charts** button below - scroll down until you find the Mid-South Great Banquet weekends and find an available time that works best for you.

*Prayer Charts and Current Teams lists, as well as Sponsor and Registration Forms, can be found on the website, [www.midsouthgb.com](http://www.midsouthgb.com).*

**Prayer Charts**

## Note from the Board

If you or someone you know who is a member of the Mid-South Great Banquet or Awakening community has recently changed email address, physical address, or phone numbers, please contact John Bean and let him know so that he can update the database. John's contact information is listed below with the board members.

## 2019 Board of Directors

<b>Community Spiritual Director</b>	Michael Qualls	901-239-5674	mqualls@memphisseminary.edu
<b>Assist. Community Spiritual Director</b>	Diann White	901-870-6777	diannwhite12@yahoo.com
<b>Chairman of the Board</b>	David Freeman	901-508-3773	freemd2@yahoo.com
<b>Community Lay Directors</b>	Kellie Evins	901-317-9393	kellieevinsgb@gmail.com
	Sharon Stone	901-493-8072	chrestmanstone@bellsouth.net
<b>Treasurer</b>	Samantha Harris	901-652-4415	sbaker29@gmail.com
<b>FACILITIES</b>	Rodney Kirkwood	901-827-9420	rkirkwood777@gmail.com
	Larry Potter	901-751-8334	judgelarrypotter@gmail.com
	Mike Patten	901-233-9836	mikepatten007@outlook.com
<b>LEADERSHIP</b>	John Bean	901-870-0356	beandude33@yahoo.com
	Lisa Murdock	901-496-5344	lmur0504@gmail.com
	Dale Irby	901-488-0864	daleirby@yahoo.com
<b>COMMUNITY</b>	Cindy Bauder	901-496-4318	bbcino@aol.com
	Kelly Blevins	901-485-8398	tazchee@hotmail.com
	Janice Lamer	901-826-8698	jmlbkj65@yahoo.com

*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.*

*Newsletter published quarterly for the Mid-South Great Banquet and Bartlett Awakening Communities.*



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