GREAT BANQUET Newsletter!



November, 2015

Dear Great Banquet Community,

As Roy Whaley retires from this post as the Community Spiritual Director, January 1st, 2016, he steps into a much-deserved rest. He leaves this ministry stronger and more vibrant, making a difference for Christ in the lives of people. In a much-less-visible role we know he will continue to support the work and pray, as we have come to depend on him to do, for those whose lives intersect this ministry.

Few have the opportunity to leave a lasting legacy the way Roy has done. His service has spanned decades. His wise counsel and guidance have helped the leadership steer through countless stretches of treacherous waters. His deep spirituality and biblical understanding provided a strong foundation for the path we are now on. His consistent encouragement witnessed powerfully to the transforming potential of discipleship. Like the Old Testament character of Esther, it is apparent that God gifted and called him to this ministry "for such a time as this." Words cannot express our deep appreciation to Roy for all he has poured into this ministry. His influence will continue to shine brightly and leave a lasting legacy. Although we know he would prefer no notice be taken, we want to take the opportunity to express for the community profound thanks. Please let Roy know that his contribution to your own walk through this ministry is appreciated.

I will assume the responsibilities of Community Spiritual Director beginning on January 1. I ask for your prayers. I covet your support and patience. Know that I will sincerely strive to advance the work of Christ, channel grace, and provide Godly counsel. Things change, that's unavoidable. But I take comfort in the words of Jesus himself when, having called his followers to disciple all nations, he reminded them of the one enduring promise that will NOT change. "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Mt. 28:20) May the Christ be alive in us!

Peace,

Michael Qualls, Spiritual Director

2016 AWAKENING WEEKEND Saturday, January 16 – Monday, January 18, 2016

Girl's Lay Director – Missy Carey Guy's Lay Director – Paul Earhart-Brown

- Begin thinking and praying over the youth in your life that you could sponsor. Awakening is open to kids age 15 – 19. What a gift you could give them by signing them up for this spirit filled weekend.
- Forms are available on the <u>www.midsouthgb.com</u> website.
- The Prayer Chart is also up and ready for sign-ups on the website. It's listed under Mid-South Awakening.

Awakening Pot Luck – Thursday, January 7, 2016 – Advent Presbyterian Church Awakening 4th Day – Thursday, January 21, 2016 – Advent Presbyterian Church

REJOICE OVER THE FALL MEN'S & WOMEN'S BANQUETS: The Fall Men and Women's banquets were such a success – praise God! So many men and women moved by the Spirit and overwhelmed to witness the outpouring of love from the unseen hands and feet of Christ. Thanks to all who served either through being on the team, attending send-off, providing snacks and drinks, serving a meal, participating in serenade or candlelight, praying for the weekend, making Agape or unloading or packing up. It takes so many to bring it all together.

Thanks to all who participated!

2016 Spring Men and Women's Weekends!

Men's Spring Great Banquet Weekend #78 – Thursday, April 21 - Sunday, April 24, Pinecrest Conference and Retreat Center, 21430 Hwy 57, Moscow, TN 38057. Lay Director – Boyd Williams

Women's Fall Great Banquet Weekend #79 – Thursday, April 28 - Sunday, May 1, Pinecrest Conference and Retreat Center, 21430 Hwy 57, Moscow, TN 38057. Lay Director – Sharon Stone

4th Day Event – Saturday, May 7, 6-8 PM, Faith Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 3427 Appling Road, Memphis, TN 38133

GREAT BANQUET SPONSORSHIPS OR SCHOLARSHIPS MAKE THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PRESENT!

A Great Banquet Sponsorship could make for the perfect present! Be in prayer over that family member or friend who hasn't attended the banquet. This could be the greatest gift they ever received. Forms can be found on the website (<u>www.midsouthgb.com</u>) under forms. If you don't currently have anyone that you know of to sponsor, the Banquet community is always in need of Scholarships. There are so many needs for the weekends and oftentimes we have guests or sponsor s who are unable to pay the necessary fees. If you feel led please email the board at <u>boardofdirectors@midsouthgb.com</u> to nofiy them of your desire to make a donation for a scholarship.

Gatherings Dates for 2016

 February 6 – Advent Presbyterian Church - Cordova 1879 N. Germantown Pkwy., Cordova, TN
May 21 – Restoration Church - Munford 60 East Main Street, Munford, TN

Special Note from the Board:

If you or someone you know, who is a member of the Mid-South Great Banquet has recently changed e-mail address, physical address, or phone numbers please contact Sandi Sartin and let her know so that she can update the database.

2015 Board Members

| Spiritual Director | Roy Whaley | 731-431-0502 | whaletale@charter.net |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
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| | Connie Washburn | 901-351-0030 | <u>cjwashburn@ftb.com</u> |

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.

> Mid-South Great Banquet P.O. Box 343357 Bartlett, TN 38184 www.midsouthgb.com Check us out on Facebook!

