

# MERRILL EVANGELISTIC TEAM

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200 Princeton Ave., Greenville, SC 29607 Phone (419) 496-3607 [www.merrillevangelisticteam.com](http://www.merrillevangelisticteam.com)

Dear Pastor:

We're excited about serving with you and your good people! Our days together will be loaded with ministry, so the information below will give you a heads-up on how to make the most of this special time. Print the packet contents, then distribute among your leaders so we'll all be moving in the same direction for the meetings.

Our Team will arrive on Saturday between 3 and 4 p.m. unless agreed upon otherwise. You'll have no problem spotting our two rigs when we pull in. Check out the "Hook-up" sheet for connection options. My wife, one son and I will be in a truck toting a fifth wheel trailer and my mother will be following in a small motor home.

At our website, [www.merrillevangelisticteam.com](http://www.merrillevangelisticteam.com) you will find other helpful revival tools listed under Media - Promotional Materials - Revival Tools. The 4 page brochure "R U Ready 4 Revival?" may prove to be extremely helpful for this meeting or any others you schedule. Use it over and over! You'll also find the "Let's P.R.A.Y." tool, reproducible posters, flyers, handouts, bulletin inserts, and prayer reminders. Please gain the benefit of these resources so you'll be ready for revival.

Like Paul in Romans 15:32, it is my desire *"that I may come unto you with joy by the will of God and may with you be refreshed."* We believe God wants to do great things and why not through our combined efforts. We'll be praying for you and your folks as we head toward your place soon with hearts tuned up for revival. Thanks for your advance preparation. It will make a difference!

Moving forward and upward,



Randy Merrill  
Evangelist

*"Heralding Truth since 1992"*



[www.merrillevangelisticteam.com](http://www.merrillevangelisticteam.com)

# CHECKLIST

*To the Pastor or Conference Coordinator*

- Read the entire Revival Packet. (Upon receipt)
- If desired, schedule a Leader's Planning Meeting. (See "R U Ready 4 Revival" folder.)
- Distribute Information Sheets among leaders and assign responsibilities.

PROJECT	PERSON ASSIGNED	PHONE
Ministry	_____	_____
Crusade Themes	_____	_____
Music	_____	_____
Prayer	_____	_____
Counseling	_____	_____
Mealtimes	_____	_____
Offerings	_____	_____
Finances	_____	_____
Promotion	_____	_____
Hook-ups	_____	_____
Equipment	_____	_____



- Screen or large blank wall.
- Projector Stand or small table.
- 2 – 6 or 8 ft. tables 1) Resource materials 1) Choir Chimes
- Mics (pulpit, two stand mics, boom at piano, wireless lapel)
- Piano (Please be sure instrument is tuned and in good working condition.)

Other items needing attention \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*"Let all things be done decently and in order."*

# MINISTRY

To the Pastor, Sunday School Superintendent, Principal

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Merrill Evangelistic Team would love to teach a combined Sunday School consisting of teens through adults or even First Grade on up. Since the Sunday School hour is typically less formal, this allows the Team to establish rapport with your people, introduce the ministry better, establish a direction for the week, and teach valuable Bible principles through use of the family and visual aids.

## SERVICES

Evangelist Randy Merrill will preach at all of the services beginning Sunday morning. Please cut any unnecessary announcements or events for this service. A suggested Sunday morning schedule is included at the right. Services Sunday night through Wednesday night will run approximately 80 minutes. Please enlist trained ushers, personal workers and nursery personnel for all services.

### AM SERVICE

Choir  
Hymn(s)  
Prayer  
Welcome  
MET Music  
Package  
Ann. / Offering  
Hymn  
MET Special  
Message  
Invitation

## KID'S KRUSADE

Mrs. Merrill and her son, Malchijah, will be prepared to minister utilizing Bible dramas and stories, puppets, ballooning, gospel illusions, juggling, crafts and worksheets for children age 4 through 4th grade each night in a different room during the sermon time if you desire and attendance warrants it. Otherwise the Team will incorporate a brief Kid's Korner in the service. Parents are welcome to keep their behaved children with them in the services.

## SPECIAL EMPHASIS NIGHTS

As a tool for folks to invite others, you may wish to promote a Friend Night, Family Night, Biggest Winner Night, Bring a Veggie Night, "Just Come Back Night," etc.. Gifts from the Merrill's Resource Table may be obtained by a church at a 10% discount to honor those who excel.



## CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CHAPELS

For a Church with a Christian Day School, the Team will be glad to conduct a morning school chapel. Due to home-schooling responsibilities, chapels for nearby Christian schools will not be done unless cleared prior to our coming.

## HOME SCHOOL CHAPEL / WORKSHOP

If your church sponsors an organized Home School Group or several interested home schooling families, the Team would be glad to conduct a Chapel/Workshop for them.

As school teachers and/or home educators for over 25 years, the Merrill's stay current on Home School trends and resources. Providing practical messages, motivation, materials, and methods to aid home-schooling families is a strong prong of this ministry.

## OTHER MINISTRIES

Although the Team usually reserves the morning hours for home schooling, rehearsals and ongoing ministry responsibilities, the MET will remain flexible to your needs. If you would like the Team to serve with you in one or more of your outreach ministries (i.e. nursing homes, jails, rescue missions and home or hospital visitation) please let us know prior to the engagement.

*"He gave some evangelists...for the work of the ministry."*

# THEMES

To the Pastor

Listed below are a few of the weekly themes the Merrill Evangelistic Team (MET) have shared in their Family Revivals. Pastors and people alike have expressed their gratefulness for the continuity and long lasting effects of this approach. Besides coordinating special music with a topic, the Team often teaches a corresponding chorus to solidify the theme and drive home the main thrust. If one of these topics or another theme seems advantageous for your flock's current needs, please let Brother Merrill know. He will pray about it and follow the Spirit's leadership.

THEME	TITLE	THOUGHT	TEXT
Family	One, Big Happy Family	Is having a "happy" family still attainable in our dysfunctional society?	Psalm 128
Home, Church	The Christian Family	How should the family in your house and the House of God function?	Colossians 3
Separation	Go For the Good!	In view of the Judgment, shouldn't we discern good from bad now?	2 Corinthians 5:10
Essentials	The Healthy Life!	Do you have a sound mind, doctrine, speech, body, faith?	Titus 1-3
Priorities	First Things First	Do your priorities conform to God's Word or do they need realignment?	Colossians 1:18
Awareness	Be Not Deceived!	Are the world's lies affecting your deportment, distinctions and duty?	1 Corinthians 6:9
Holiness	No Fault Living	Are you living so that no one can point the finger of bad blame?	1 Thessalonians 5:23
Missions, Evangelism	A Heaping Harvest	Isn't it time to inspect the harvest and start reaping?	Psalm 126:6
Purpose	Please, Please!	Why are we here? How can we fulfill God's purpose for our lives?	Revelation 4:11
Christian Character	Grace Gossip	Do any gossip about your obedience, faith, love, gentleness, patience?	Ephesians 1:15
Faithfulness	Faithful Unto Death!	How can we be faithful to God regardless of our decadent culture?	Revelation 2:10
Prophecy	Beyond the Extreme Edge of Time	Shouldn't we prepare now for the extreme events to come?	2 Peter 3:14
Salvation	The Gospel Truth	Are you advertising the Gospel or are you ashamed of the Gospel?	Romans 1:16
Growth	Building Up Your Faith	What facets of our faith need construction or remodeling?	Jude 20
Perseverance	Counted Worthy	Will you be "counted worthy" of the Kingdom then and now?	2 Thessalonians 1:5



*"Preach the Word...reprove, rebuke, exhort"*

# MUSIC

To the Worship Leader or Music Director

Good, God-honoring music has always had a significant role in great revivals of the past. The Merrills believe the right kind of music not only sets the mood for the preaching but does actually "preach." Therefore the following guidelines will help define the music in the upcoming crusade.

## CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

Please have your songleader lead the opening song(s). The Merrills will be glad to provide a list of hymns and choruses that enhance the service themes and inspire enthusiastic singing among the congregation. Randy or Malchijah will lead the hymns and choruses before the message.

## ACCOMPANISTS

**Pianist.** The Team will play for all congregational hymns and choruses beginning Sunday night, but will be glad to do Sunday morning as well if needed. The Team will also provide preludes and postludes (unless other arrangements are made), as well as special music accompaniment. However, the Merrills may enlist your musicians to assist.

**Organist.** Please have your organist plan to play for all congregational singing (including invitationals). For any changes in harmonies or keys, written music will be provided. Upon request, a list of the week's scheduled songs may be obtained from Randy Merrill Sunday evening.

**Instrumentalists.** Other instrumentalists (brass, woodwinds, strings) are welcome to play along with the congregational singing. If possible, please provide hymnal transposition books. The Team will assist with tuning to the church instruments and provide transpositions for songs not in the hymnal.



## SPECIAL MUSIC

The Team will provide special music, preludes and offertories. They may wish to involve some of your people in these opportunities. The *"Do it with them, not for them"* philosophy the Merrills inherited from their parents has encouraged many in their meetings.



To encourage God's people to develop their abilities for Him, the Team will utilize at least 12 different instruments and a variety of vocal combinations. Most special music is "live." However, occasionally the Team uses one of their quality recorded sound trax to facilitate the involvement of some members of the Team. There are no wild "rock" beats in any of these trax. If you have a "no recorded music policy" please let us know in advance.

## INSTRUMENTS

During the week you can expect to hear different kinds of trumpets, trombones, alto horn and euphonium, piano, organ, flute, psaltery, guitars, choir chimes, and the unique "Singing Crystal Glasses."

*"Sing unto Him a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise!"*

# PRAYER

To the Pastor and/or Schedule Coordinator

Much of the success of this crusade depends on the prayers of the pastor, the people and the Team. All the planning, advertising, special music and even the preaching will be scantily effective without prayer. Use some or all of the following suggestions to encourage the priority of prayer for this meeting.

## PLANNING to Pray

- \* Preach on the necessity of prayer for revival (Example: Ezra 9,10).
- \* Copy the "Let's P.R.A.Y." tool (included in this packet) and distribute among fathers and members. Encourage its use in personal and family devotions or group prayer times.
- \* Schedule church and home prayer meetings. Make praying the main agenda.
- \* Print the enclosed Family Revival **Prayer Reminder Cards** and distribute.
- \* Schedule a Saturday morning men's prayer breakfast or Saturday evening prayer meeting.
- \* Compile a list of prayer concerns (unsaved, backslidden, etc.) submitted by the people.
- \* Set up a 24-hour prayer chain for the crusade.

## PRAYING with the People

- \* During several services prior, prepare two or three men to pray publicly for the meeting.
- \* Read or sing prayerfully through several hymns or songs on the theme of prayer.
- \* Pray through scripture prayers. (Ephesians 3:14-21)
- \* Read prayers of godly men and pray through them.
- \* Encourage participation at prayer meetings.
- \* Pray before services.
- \* Pray during the services.
- \* Pray conversationally.
- \* Pray silently or out loud.
- \* Pray individually or in groups.
- \* Pray for hours or just seconds.
- \* Pray kneeling, standing, sitting or walking.

### *Prayer should be ...*

1. **Systematic**  
*Psalm 55:17*
2. **Sincere**  
*Psalm 145:18*
3. **Simple**  
*Matthew 6:7*
4. **Specific**  
*Acts 12:5*
5. **Scriptural**  
*1 John 5:14*

## PRAY! PRAY! PRAY!

This campaign will not prosper without it!

## PRAYING with the Team

If possible, Evangelist Randy Merrill would like to meet with the pastor and whomever else he desires for an unpressured time of prayer each day (preferably not immediately prior to the service.) The Team will arrange schedules accordingly to make room for this priority. Gratefully, God has answered numerous requests as a result of these vital prayer times.



*"Continue in prayer."*

# COUNSELING

*To the Pastor*

Each service will include an invitation for salvation and other decisions corresponding to the theme of the message. The Evangelist will not manipulate, drag, embarrass or sing a hundred verses of "Just As I Am." However, when God's Spirit is working, often people desire to come to the altar. Please have trained personal workers ready to pray with and/or counsel individuals who come. Though some matters are personal, often a word of encouragement, a prayer, or some carefully worded questions do demonstrate love and can provide direction for one seeking to please the Lord.

Please have a quiet counseling room available nearby for further inquiry. An assortment of gospel tracts or church brochures and a box of tissues would be appropriate and helpful.

## **Personal Workers should be trained to...**

- ...pray for God's power and Satan's defeat in dealing with each issue.
- ...use their own Bibles for all counseling.
- ...listen.
- ...lead a person to Christ. (John 3:16; Romans Road; ABC's, personal experience, etc.)
- ...deal with specific sin issues and lead toward cleansing, forgiveness and reconciliation.
- ...be cautious concerning touching the counsellee.
- ...not counsel one on one in a secluded room or setting.
- ...recognize and refer difficult cases to the Pastor, Evangelist or another counselor.
- ...keep confidences and matters private.
- ...be careful about personal hygiene (body and breath odors).
- ...dress appropriately considering bending over and kneeling, etc.
- ...give assignments and encourage accountability to the Lord and God's family.
- ...receive important information (decision card) for the purpose of follow-up and visitation.
- ...introduce new Christians to the Pastor, Evangelist and other members.
- ...show love and compassion.

Sometimes a pastor or church members needs biblical counseling on some pressing issues (relationships, sin problems, spiritual guidance, marriage, etc.) outside of the service times. Brother Merrill will be available for consultation concerning these matters and assist the pastor if needed.



***"Bear ye one another's burdens."***

# MEAL TIMES

To the Hospitality Host or Hostess

Since 1992, we have eaten and enjoyed "the fat of the land" from the kitchens of thousands of tremendous cooks. With gratitude we have eaten anything (and nearly everything) God's people have provided for us – from exquisite meat entrees to dessert delicacies. However, we have had to make some changes in our diet to be better stewards of our physical temples. Please understand that these changes for us in no way condemn those who choose to eat differently. However, the menus we now enjoy are simpler.

## FOOD - What will be eaten?

### The Team really enjoys...

- \* *fresh* fruits and vegetables.
- \* leafy greens like Romaine lettuce or spinach.
- \* homemade and whole wheat/grain breads.
- \* distilled water, 100% fruit juices.
- \* brown rice, beans, and whole grain pastas.
- \* baked potatoes, squash, beets, onions, etc.
- \* Chinese, Mexican and Italian dishes.

### The Team does not prefer...

- \* red meats or pork products.
- \* "enriched" white bread.
- \* coffee, tea, milk, Kool-aid, punches, or soft drinks like Pepsi, Sprite, etc.
- \* substitutes like aspartame or Fat-free and Lite products.
- \* candy.



## FACILITIES - Where will the meal be eaten?

**At the Church** - A meal provided by one or more families often works well. Noon to 1:00 PM is the Team's preferred meal time, but a later time may be possible if checked in advance with Evangelist Merrill.

**In our Home** - Some folks may want to participate, but their schedules conflict with the Team's eating times. In these cases, a few options are listed.

*Option 1: Groceries.* Fresh fruits and vegetables (like a bag of potatoes, apples, oranges, etc.) or other prepared dishes can be shared so the Team may utilize these in their home(s).

*Option 2: Food Allowance.* The Team can eat healthily and fully for approximately \$100 a week. Therefore, some churches prefer to enlist sponsors or provide a food allowance with which the Merrills can work.

**In your Home** - Only one meal per day will be eaten out. Noontime is best. Written directions to the host's home are greatly appreciated.

**In a Restaurant** - Please supply written directions or GPS coordinates and the time of the Meal. Please make advance seating reservations to avoid scheduling conflicts.

## FELLOWSHIP - With whom will the meal be eaten?



Meal times are often a tremendous opportunity for encouragement and the development of new friendships. The Team enjoys eating with the host family or families who prepare or provide the meal. May God bless you for demonstrating hospitality.

*"And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content."*

**Hospitality Host or Hostess:** Cut these instructions off. Then copy and distribute one sheet to each family who hosts a meal. Please compile a complete list of names and addresses of host families so we may express our gratitude to them personally.

# FINANCES

To the Finance Committee or Treasurer

God has always provided the Merrill Evangelistic Team's needs as they have endeavored to serve Him fervently and faithfully. The Team believes, however, that God often uses the organizations and individuals who benefit from this ministry to share financially. So we thank you in advance for your consideration of these tips.

## LOVE OFFERINGS

The MET comes to you on a "love offering" basis. The Team has no set fees or financial expectations but like everyone else, they do have financial obligations. The Team operates entirely "by faith." Since 1992, neither church size (over 1,400 to less than 40) or monetary factors (offerings over \$4,000 to less than \$400) have dictated the Merrills itinerary. No doubt, Romans 15:25-28 teaches mutual responsibility for ministry. It is the evangelist's duty to go where God directs and wholeheartedly minister "spiritual things." It is the duty of the church to "minister unto [those ministering] in carnal things" (things for the body).



Evangelist Merrill, while pastoring years ago, never found that special love offerings hindered the church's financial status. On the contrary, he observed that God blessed as people planned ahead and gave generously and joyfully to God's work and servants.

Sometimes friends come to the meetings who want to have a part in the Team's love offering but are not given an opportunity. If only a "regular church offering" is taken, please provide envelopes, a basket or some other means for these people to contribute anonymously. Thanks!

## TRAVEL EXPENSES

The Merrills greatly appreciate those who make plans to cover travel expenses. Some churches budget this item. Others take offerings prior to the meeting (special envelopes, mid-week service offerings, loose change offerings, etc.) for this purpose. The Merrills will gladly provide a detailed report of vehicle, meal and lodging expenses incurred enroute to a scheduled meeting. Therefore, it would be wise to plan for these expense amounts:

Merrill Evangelistic Team	\$250
Donna Merrill	\$125

It is extremely helpful if these checks can be issued in advance and sent to...  
Merrill Evangelistic Team, 200 Princeton Ave., Greenville, SC 29607.

## ISSUING CHECKS

To assist with the tax record keeping process, please issue separate checks as listed below.

Check Payable To...	For...	Amount
Merrill Evangelistic Team	75% Love Offering	Based on offerings.
Donna Merrill	25% Love Offering	Based on offerings.
Randy Merrill	Food (if meals are not provided)	\$100-200

*"The Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel."*

# OFFERINGS

To the Pastor or Deacons

The Merrill Evangelistic Team (MET) asks no fee. They work hard, and annually have over 300 services, but some weeks, (due to holidays or cancellations) they cannot have a meeting and consequently receive \$0 income. Like you, they still have expenses to pay. They have no benefit packages for insurances, housing, vacation pay, but they often brag on the great God who has supplied all their needs over the last 19 years of itinerant ministry. Some ask, "How do they do it?"

The Merrill Evangelistic Team is committed to three principles.

1. Give to the Lord and his servants a portion of everything received.
2. Expect nothing, and thank God for everything He provides.
3. Spend no more than what is currently available.

Concerning the offering, some pastors really know how to encourage their flock and this ministry when they make an offering appeal. Others, frankly, don't ! Rather than listing bad examples, here are some suggestions that may help you make an informed, fun and fresh offering appeal each night for the Team.

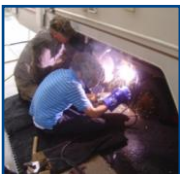
## CLOTHING NIGHT



The MET always tries in their dress to be an example, but not extravagant! They only carry with them what they wear. Still, several loads of laundry are required each day. Imagine the quarters, the constant motion of the washer, and the wear and tear on at least two sets of clothes every day – that's 10 changes of clothes per day. Maintenance alone is incredible – much less replacement costs.

## MINISTRY TOOLS NIGHT (Instruments, Props, Computers, Printers, Projector)

Because of daily use, the Team's musical instruments need regular repair: jammed mouthpieces, new corks and springs, worn out cases, removal of dents, etc. Computers need upgrades. Printers eat ink/toner. The video projector requires care. One replacement lamp is over \$300. Prayer is the best resource but cell phones keep the members connected with people.



## VEHICLES NIGHT

Truck and fifth wheel trailer = 19 big tires (some over \$300 a piece), regular oil changes, maintenance and repairs, insurance (over \$150 a month and growing with new drivers!), hitch accessories, diesel fuel and propane. The Merrill's truck is a 1999 and may need to be upgraded shortly.

## HEALTH NIGHT

Approximately \$300 per month covers the Team's existing health care needs. They self-pay all health, dental and eye responsibilities. The Team also uses herbs, minerals, and vitamins to maintain vitality and avoid expensive medical care costs.

## OTHER OPTIONS

Maybe you'd like to try an Education Night (4 of the Merrill's children are taking courses at a Christian College and one is home-schooled), \$20 Bill Night, a Postage Night. Whatever you do, a little forethought and a lot of heart will be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

*"He that ploweth should plow in hope."*

# PROMOTION (Advertising)

To the Promotions Director

## RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT (Submit 4 weeks prior)

This (day), (date), the MERRILL EVANGELISTIC TEAM, will combine a variety of instrumental and vocal settings, drama and powerful preaching to fortify your home. The (church) at (address) is hosting this unique presentation of biblical family values. Call (phone no.) for details.

## FLYERS (Print and Distribute 4 weeks prior)

Print or copy the enclosed flyer masters on sturdy paper (at least 24#). Distribute widely and post flyers wherever permissible. These pamphlets provide an excellent way to invite a friend. Only God knows the lives that may be changed as a result of reading and heeding this handbill.

## BULLETIN INSERT (Run 3 weeks prior)

Come, learn with the MERRILL EVANGELISTIC TEAM! This family combines biblical training with a variety of original and traditional instrumental and vocal selections, drama and preaching. Here at the church this (day), (date), the crusade begins at (time).

## BULLETIN INSERT (Run 2 weeks prior)

1 three-generation Family.

12 different instruments.

Unique presentations of biblical family values.

Numerous vocal and instrumental ensemble combinations.

Just a few good things you can expect (days), (dates) when the MERRILL EVANGELISTIC TEAM comes to (church). Bring an open heart and a friend!



## NEWSPAPER RELEASE (Submit 1 week prior)

The (church), (address) has invited the MERRILL EVANGELISTIC TEAM to equip families with biblical and practical skills to succeed in our changing society. The family plays 12 different instruments. Preaching, drama and interactive learning tools will be utilized to strengthen your home. The conference will be held (days), (dates) at (times). Nursery Provided.

*"I will publish the name of the Lord."*

# HOOK-UPS

To the Trustees or Maintenance Director

## TWO RIGS

Randy and his family will arrive with a truck and 36' fifth wheel trailer. Donna Merrill has a 23' motorhome. These self-contained rigs will meet the Team's accommodation needs, with the addition of proper electrical connections, a nearby water spigot and a fairly level parking place near the church.



## ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS

The average home runs on approximately 200 amps or more. For over a decade the Merrills ran cords through windows or under grates and shared 15 amp breakers with copy machines, coffee makers, exit lights—you name it! Once they shared a 10 amp screw-in fuse breaker with another Team member's family for a week. They have learned to live joyfully and gratefully on one appliance at a time.

Since many evangelists utilize an RV for living arrangements, several churches have simplified this procedure by mounting a dedicated receptacle on the outside of the building near a water spigot (possibly a sewer cleanout) and a fairly level parking spot. The best connection for most with a mobile unit is 50 amps. However, the Merrills have adapters to connect to 30 amp and 20 amp receptacles. Randy's rig has 50 amp service and Donna's rig has 30 or 20 amp service.



If installing a new service, **be sure the round-ish hole is at the top when mounting so the cord will hang properly.** Some codes in various states differ concerning covers for these receptacles. Most plastic covers will have to be modified to accommodate the cord tail. When finished with all connections, turn on breaker and test polarity.

## WATER CONNECTIONS

Please be sure your outside water spigot is working properly and all rust and debris has been flushed out. The Team carries Y's, regulators and drinking-water-safe hoses that they will prefer to use to hook-up. If a sewer cleanout is available the Team will be glad to utilize it, otherwise they will use the indoor facilities.

## KEYS and ALARMS

For access to the building, a key to an entry door near the rig would be extremely helpful. The Team will be glad to comply with alarm system requirements as you direct and return the key before departure.

## INTERNET CONNECTIONS

If the church has a LAN line or wireless internet connection, it would be very helpful if codes and access can be made available to the team during the week.



## TELEPHONE

If cell phone service is not available in your area, a temporary phone extension cord connected to the Evangelist's mobile home would be much appreciated.

***“That I may come unto you with joy by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed.”***