



# Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

Phone: 334-273-0001 / Fax: 334-273-0375

January 9, 2014

## ELDERS:

Tim Bagents  
Don Brannan  
Ted Norton

## DEACONS:

Billy Bush  
Roger Dill  
Tim Gotkiewicz  
James Hilyer  
Steve Housley  
Wayne Johnston  
Jimmy Mathews  
Roy Mulkey  
Randy Porterfield  
Jeff Simpson

## MINISTERS:

Steve Housley, Pulpit  
Tim Gotkiewicz, Youth  
& College  
Matt Wheeler, Intern

## SCHEDULE:

### Sunday:

9:00 a.m. Bible Class  
10:00 a.m. Worship  
5:00 p.m. Worship

### Wednesday:

6:30 p.m. Bible Study

**RADIO PROGRAM**  
WMGY 800 AM DIAL  
Sunday's 7:30-8 a.m.  
With **ROGER DILL**

## STATISTICS 1/5/14

Bible Class: 140  
AM Worship: 183  
PM Worship: 115  
EMBF: \$122.00

**YOU ARE  
WELCOME!**

# EASTERN MEADOWS' 2014 BUDGET



will be presented  
this Sunday,  
Jan. 12, 10 AM.



## LA DYBUGS

## 2014

## KICK\_OFF

### Sunday, Jan. 12, 3:30 PM

## FROM THE MINISTER:

**Budget Sunday.** There are many things I appreciate about Eastern Meadows. Budget Sunday is one of them. No, hearing the budget is not the most exciting thing to listen to, but I want to know the budget. I want to know what I am giving to support. I am glad to be at a congregation that has an “open books” policy.

**Lots of Things.** There are lots of things starting back. The Men’s Breakfast started back on Jan. 7. The Thursday Class started on January 9. The Ladies meet Sunday to kick off the New Year. Be involved!

**Sunday Sermons.** As previously mentioned, I am preaching lessons under a broad theme of “Lessons that Need to be Taught.” To have a greater audience with the lessons, as I do believe that they are lessons that need to be taught, I am having an article each week on the same subject. Today’s article concerns Modest Dress for Christians.

## Modest Dress for Christians

When you see someone you know, you look beyond the mere appearance. *Knowing* them evokes feelings based on the relationship you have as friends, acquaintances, or kin. However, when it is a stranger, we only see the outside. Now we may caution ourselves and say, “Let’s not base all of our opinion on how they look, when we get to know them better, we will see the heart.” However, it is likely that others are not so charitable when they look at us! What does it say to them if we are dressed with “sagging pants,” or with a t-shirt with indecent pictures or words blazing across the front, or in such skimpy or provocative clothes that there would be little difference in how we dress and a harlot dresses.

Our conduct matters. Our speech matters. Our dress matters. I think we could even suggest that certain dress may even reveal our level of spirituality.

The first example of dress in the Bible is that of Adam and Eve. They were naked at their creation. After the fall they made clothes for themselves from fig leaves that are described as aprons or loin-cloths (think Tarzan). We know how much (little) that covers. Later God made garments for them. Brown, Driver, and Briggs defines this word “garment” as a “tunic.” Look up the word tunic and you find that it is a garment that covers from the shoulder to the knee. God did not make Adam and Eve skimpy clothing!

Consider these scriptures:

- Titus 2:4-5. Women are instructed to be pure. What would this imply about a woman’s dress?
- 1 Peter 1:14-16. We are to be holy! What would this imply about dress?
- Romans 12:1-2. We are not to conform to this world. Christians did not *invent* immodest clothing. Christians wearing immodest clothing are *conforming* to this world. Can we not see that? *It is not easy to be different!*
- 1 Timothy 2:9-10. Christian ladies are told to wear “respectable apparel, with modesty.” Too often our youth allow their opinions of modesty and conscience to be shaped by what they see on T.V or by what they see their friends wear or by what is actually in the store. Why don’t you take aside a Godly woman or an elder of the church and talk to them about what is respectable and modest? *These Godly women and these elders are not simply old fashioned.* These are men who by a life of experiences, observations, and Bible study have trained their consciences to

“distinguish both good and evil.” I hope all men and ladies have a “sense” of modesty. How can we dress modestly if we don’t understand modesty?

- Matthew 18:6-7. Men particularly respond to visual stimulation. Ladies, you don’t need to dress in such a way as to lead/tempt men to lust. Too short, too low, or too tight all reveal too much of the anatomy! I heard someone say, “You don’t advertise what you are not willing to sell.” Or, you could say, “You don’t advertise what you are not willing to give away.”

Consider these facts:

- The bikini was so scandalous when it was invented in 1946 that the designer’s usual models refused to model it. He had to hire an “exotic dancer” to model it. It was so controversial that many U.S. cities outlawed the bikini. *How could it be considered modest today?*
- Mary Quant, the designer of the mini-skirt and hot-pants, said “Mini-clothes are symbolic of those women who want to seduce a man.” Are Christian women to be known as women who want to “seduce men?”
- The Federal Bureau of Prisons do not allow visitors to wear revealing shorts, sundresses, halter tops, bathing suits, see-through garments of any type, low-cut blouses or dresses, miniskirts, etc. *Why? And why should these types of clothing be acceptable outside of the prison walls if they are unacceptable inside the prison walls?*

I hope we all want to glorify our God. We can do so by our actions, speech, and *dress*. Let us dress modestly.

--Steve Housley

### **FROM THE YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTER:**

I’m looking forward to the New Year, especially the first half of 2014! Our new fellowship groups will be eating and serving together, Steve is teaching a new class on Thursdays, Eastern Meadows will be hosting the January Area-Wide at Dalraida, Four more Area-Wides, Three more mission-themed Youth and Family Devotionals (Panama, Peru, and Georgia), College Desserts, Three more College Sunday Night Devos (Thank you Norton, Pouncey, Housley families!), Lads to Leaders, the Faulkner Youth Summit, VBS (the life of Joseph), Camp, Homecoming Day, twice-a-month Men’s’ Prayer Breakfasts, and anything else I can’t think of at the moment. Then we’ll tackle the second half of the year!

Please pray for all of the works in which we are involved. Pray also for the workers. Pray also for the planners and organizers. Pray also that we all work together in harmony. Pray especially that God may be glorified in all that we do and that we may draw many to him. If you desire a good work, but are in need of direction, ask an elder where you might best help. “And do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.” (Hebrews 13:16, 17)

#### **Sunday, Jan. 12, 2014 / Leading the congregation in:**

##### **Announcements:**

**A.M.:** James Hilyer

**P.M.:** James Hilyer

##### **Opening Prayer:**

**A.M.:** Robert Vickrey

**P.M.:** James Berry

##### **Closing Prayer:**

**A.M.:** Dan Evans

**P.M.:** Jon Timbes

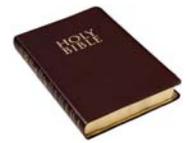
##### **Singing:**

**A.M.:** Allen Clements

**P.M.:** Allen Clements

## TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

**Last week's question:** In his letter to the Christians in Rome, Paul wrote, "It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor \_\_\_\_\_ by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak." C) do anything



**This week's question:** The first letter to the Corinthians was from Paul and \_\_\_\_\_.

A) Gaius B) Chloe C) Sosthenes

## ANNOUNCEMENTS 1/9/14

**SICK:** LOUISE STEVENS is back at home after a stay in the hospital. MARGARET DANIEL is recovering from hand surgery. MARCIA GRAVES is home recovering from out-patient surgery. CHARLOTTE JACKSON is scheduled to have a back procedure soon. Prayers have been requested for SARA KING, friend of Courtney Ward, who will undergo surgery on Friday. Keep in prayer 5 yr. old, EMMA MITCHELL, family friend of Ann Milam, who has undergone 3 brain surgeries and is considered guarded prognosis. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, JEWEL BARNES, ALICE HANDLANG, BROOKS HOUSLEY, RON HOSKINSON, LUKE & AARON FERRELL, JAN LAZENBY, VIRGINIA EVANS, JERRY PATTERSON, JOY PUGH, ERIC SANDLIN, and DOROTHEE SULLIVAN. Continue to remember our shut-ins: HILDA FURLOW, SYBIL SCOFIELD, TAM LOWERY, VALLENE LOFTIN, INELLA BOWDEN, CATHERINE LEINHEISER, JACKIE JOHNSTON, and JIMMIE LINDSEY.

**PRAYER REQUEST LIST:** (Health Issues) SHANNA JONES, CHARLES NORTON, DALTON & SYBIL DAVIS, BETTY ALLEN, MARTHA HUGGINS, JIMMY HINES, FLOYD & WANDA CRANE, ERIC LEDWELL, WAYNE & UDEAN HALFORD, REBECCA WHITE, CHRIS NOLAN, CHRIS WELCH, ROBERT HOUSCH, REBECCA BIGGS, LEIGH LEDLOW, JUDY BAKER, SALLY WADSWORTH, REX ROBERTS, DENISE TURNER, RUTH COMBS, CHELLE SINGLETON, SOPHIE POUNCEY, SARA KING, EMMA MITCHELL, and SAVANNAH HATFIELD. (Battling Cancer) ROOSEVELT WILLIAMS, SARAH YORK, DANNY EDMONDS, SANDRA HEARN, MUTT BOWERS, JANAS MINOR, CARLTON WILLIAMS, JIM DEAL, LILY MAE TANNER, BESSIE FRAZIER, CHERYL ROGERS, ELLIOTT KOZENSKI, and TERESA LYNN KELLEY.

**SYMPATHY:** Our sympathy is extended to the family of MARK RUSSELL, an elder at Redland Road church and relative of Faye Allen, who passed away last week. The funeral was Wednesday at Redland Road.

**THANK YOU:** The family of LOUISE UTLEY thanks you for your kind expression of sympathy. *John & Deidre Cole and Elmer Utley*

**SUNDAY BIBLE LESSONS:** Jan. 12—Lesson 61: *Church Discipline/Marriage*, 1 Cor. 5-8; Jan. 19—Lesson 62: *Rules Of Worship*, 1 Cor. 9-12.

**SINGING CLASS:** Sunday's at 4:30.

**THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS:** 10:30 AM. "The Message of the Bible" with Steve Housley teaching.

**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP MEALS:** Team 1 (Creel) will host this Sunday's fellowship meal immediately following the AM worship service. Team 2 (Gotkiewicz) will host Jan. 19.

**BIBLE BOWL PRACTICE:** Lads to Leaders Bible Bowl practice begins this Sunday at 2:30 PM.

**JANUARY AREA WIDE YOUTH DEVO:** Eastern Meadows along with the Houston Park congregation will be hosting the area wide youth devo this Sunday, Jan. 12, at Dalraida Church of Christ. Eastern Meadows' members are asked to bring drinks—12 oz. can soft drinks and/or bottled water for approximately 250—by this Sunday morning and drop off in the Tea Room (Classroom #4). The van will leave from EM at 3:30 PM. **Parents—Your help is needed in setting up food, drinks, desserts, etc. Please be there if at all possible.**

**BUDGET BIZ 1/5/14:** Contribution—\$13,177.95



**LA DYBUGS:** Jan. 12: Annual Planning Meeting, 3:30 PM

Jan. 27: M-N-M, 7 PM

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

- **Jan. 12:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM
- **Jan. 26:** Youth/Family Devo, PM (Panama)

## COLLEGE EVENTS:

- **College Desserts:** Wednesdays, 7:30 PM
- **Jan. 19:** Devo @ Ted & Becky Norton's

# Tragedy

Things happen that hurt terribly. A youngster breaks a leg, eliminating him from participation in sports activity in which he was excelling; a tragic accident turns life into a nightmare; a perfect marriage is shattered by the sudden death of a partner; a promising career is fractured by a merger which puts a brilliant man out of work.

Such things put faith, even strong faith, to the test. The Bible says, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord," (Psalm 27:23). How? We can't presume to know how God works in every case. But for starters:

- ⇒ The good man seeks God's will in all he does. He doesn't make decisions without considering God's will. He consults God's Word, and prays for direction. Then if problems come, he reasons that God may be directing in a way beyond human understanding.
- ⇒ He looks for good even in the painful experiences. There will be times when even the good man fails to properly consider God's will; times when he will fail to consult the Word, and pray; times when he will act compulsively, foolishly; and even when he has fervently sought to do right there will be times when things go sour and tragedy strikes. What does he do then? He places his trust in God, convinced that, though he doesn't understand how, God will bring good out of it. Maybe there are times when God causes seeming tragedy in order to send us down a different road. More often, however, these painful experiences cannot be assigned to the Lord. He does not cause them, but He can use them. Even the terribly tragic experiences He can turn to our advantage.

--Joe Barnett, *BulletinGOLD*

# Selling Out

There was a song several years ago that had this line in it. When you come close to selling out, reconsider. The Christian life is not always one of happiness. We face many difficulties in our effort to be faithful to God.

One can look at the life of Joseph to see that a godly life will at times put us in trying circumstances. But thru all of Joseph's trials (family members against him, slavery, false charges by Potiphar's wife, being imprisoned) he always seemed to stay focused on what was the most important thing in life, obedience to God.

As Christians facing the evil and temptations of this world we can be pressured to look for an easy way out. It is during these times we need to reconsider and remember God's help is always present, we are not alone (Revelation 2:10) and a reward awaits the faithful that nothing on this earth can match. (Psalm 16:11)

--*BulletinGOLD*