



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

August 7, 2014

ELDERS:

Tim Bagents
Don Brannan
Ted Norton

DEACONS:

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

MINISTERS:

Steve Housley, Pulpit
Tim Gotkiewicz, Youth
& College

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 8/3/14

Bible Class: 132
AM Worship: 173
PM Worship: 117
EMBF: \$96.00

WELCOME!

I Took a Piece of Plastic Clay

I took a piece of plastic clay
And idly fashioned it one day-
And as my fingers pressed it, still
It moved and yielded to my will.

I came again when days were past
The bit of clay was hard at last.
The form I gave it, still it bore,
And I could change that form no more!



I took a piece of living clay,
And gently fashioned it day by day,
And molded with my power and art
A young child's soft and yielding heart.

I came again when years were gone:
It was a man I looked upon.
He still that early impress bore,
And I could fashion it never more.

Author Unknown, via *BulletinGold*

FROM THE MINISTER:

Songs. We must have them to sing. OK, that is a self-evident truth. Not all songs, however, are appropriate for all occasions. Perhaps you saw the Youtube video of the little boy that recited the books of the N.T. at his kindergarten graduation. He did an excellent job singing the books of the N.T., but when he finished he burst out in a rendition of George Strait's "All My Ex's Live In Texas." Not exactly the time and place for that song!

Worship is the place for songs that are Psalms, Hymns, and Spiritual Songs (Ephesians 5:19). Worship is not the place for "All My Ex's Live in Texas!" Songs that do not convey the truth of the Bible are not appropriate songs. Because of the "poetic" nature and license of many song's lyrics, sometimes the words convey a vague or uncertain meaning. In this case, I have seen some say the words are scriptural and some say they are unscriptural. If a song leader has not considered the meaning of the words of the song, it may be best for him to consider leading another song.

Old Songs, New Songs. Songs are not good or bad based on the century in which they were written. Some very "popular" songs were written many years ago and have stood the test of time and emerged from the past as a song often sung by many churches. Some old songs are not sung by very many churches, perhaps because they did not emerge as a good, "singable" (not sure if that is a word, but I think you know what I mean), song. When I hear a new song, I wonder if it will be a song that will stand the test of time and be sung two or three hundred years from now. However, it is not good or bad, scriptural or unscriptural, because it is new or old.

Songs Should Be Known. When I go to the Crowne Health Care (a nursing home off of Upper Wetumpka Road) and lead singing, it is my express goal to select songs *they know!* Most of the Crowne residents cannot now read a song book. Their ability to learn new songs is very limited. When I sing "Amazing Grace" or "I'll Fly Away" I know many will sing. Sometimes I will lead a song I think they know and I sing a solo. They do not know that song and I scratch it off the list as a song to sing. I don't want to sing a solo no matter how much I might like the song. I know that I will not always know every song that is lead in worship. Recently I visited a congregation during a Gospel Meeting and 3 of the 5 songs were unknown to me. However, *the majority in the congregation knew them.* When we go to Missouri I often find I do not know some of the songs. These churches sing out of Song Books I have never used and they have learned songs I have not had the privilege to learn. *Some of this is inevitable! It will sometimes happen!* In a church setting with people from different places, with song leaders from many different places, there will occasionally be a song lead that many members do not know. The song leader may know a song well, only for it to be completely new for every member. In cases as this, perhaps the song leader should proceed with caution. In such cases as this the congregation should do its best to learn the song. If a worship assembly has several songs that are unknown to the person in the pew, he will likely leave the assembly frustrated. This is why I say "songs should be known," or an attempt should be to sing songs that are known.

Sing. Do your best to sing. That is what the Lord wants!

FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER:

The Southern Evangelism Conference was last weekend at Faulkner University. Eight of us were blessed to attend classes and to hear keynote speakers teach that time matters in our Christian lives - *especially* when it affects our personal responsibility to evangelize! I'm looking forward to next year; the topic will be "Engage!"

Faulkner move-in day is this Saturday at 8 AM. If you want to spend a few hours in service to

others, this is a great opportunity. We will be helping roughly 400 new freshman move in to the dorms! Let me know if you can help, but you can simply show up if you're able. We'll have a tent set up in front of the boy's dorm and in front of the girl's dorm.

The Lads to Leaders office is doing a cookbook fundraiser to buy some big screen TVs for the awards ceremony stage. They want to show the names of the event leaders, which would be a really nice improvement. And... you can help! They're looking for your favorite recipes in the following categories:

- Appetizers & Beverages
- Soups & Salads
- Vegetables & Side Dishes
- Main Dishes
- Breads & Rolls
- Desserts
- Cookies & Candy
- This & That

They are accepting recipe submissions through August 27, 2014. You can give your recipe to me and I'll submit it for you. The cookbooks will sell for \$15 each, including standard shipping. Pre-paid preorders may be placed by calling the L2L office at (334) 215-0251.

DEFENSIVE TRAINING

1 Thessalonians 5:21

"Test all things; hold fast what is good"

God does not want us to accept a belief blindly. He wants us to "test" or "prove" what we are told by examining the evidence, and only believe what can be shown to be true. He has given us enough evidence to know that He exists, that creation (not evolution) is true, that the Bible is his word, and that Jesus is His Son, if we will only take the time to study that evidence. Once we know the truth, it is our job as warriors for the Lord to defend the truth and help enlist others in the Lord's army.

- Valor & Virtue magazine

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last question: Peter wrote that we have an inheritance that is incorruptible and undefiled and that does not _____, reserved in heaven for you. A) fade away (1 Pet. 1:4)

This week's question: Peter wrote, "Do not let your adornment be merely outward - arranging the hair, wearing gold, or _____ - rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God."

A) putting on fine apparel B) putting on expensive perfume C) putting on eye color



ANNOUNCEMENTS 8/7/14

Sunday, Aug. 10, 2014 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:

A.M.: Steve Sewell

P.M.: Steve Sewell

Opening Prayer:

A.M.: Ted Norton

P.M.: James Berry

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Tim Gotkiewicz

P.M.: Mark Evans

Singing:

A.M.: Paul Clements

P.M.: Paul Clements

SICK: GWEN MANN and ANN EVANS are recovering from knee surgery. LAURA BAGENTS, Tim Bagents' and Melanie Bush's sister-in-law, is home recovering from surgery. DALTON DAVIS, Donna Boutwell's uncle, is home and under hospice care. JOSHUA WARREN, Nicole Timbes' cousin, who suffered injuries in an auto accident last week, has been released from the hospital. CHARLES BUSH, Donna Boutwell's uncle, is scheduled for surgery Monday in Pensacola. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, PHYLLIS ALLEN, BARNEY BELL, JOY DAVIS, HELEN DILL, MARCIA GRAVES, DOROTHY HICKS, SHIRLEY KAYE, LEIGH SANDLIN, and DOROTHY SULLIVAN. Continue to remember our shut-ins: SYBIL SCOFIELD, TAM LOWERY, INELLA BOWDEN, JACKIE JOHNSTON, and JEWEL BARNES.

CONGRATULATIONS: COLE TUCKER BUSH was born Friday, Aug. 1 to ANDREW & MEMORY BUSH. Cole weighed 8 lb. 5 oz. and was 21 in. long. BILLY & MELANIE BUSH are the proud grandparents. Congratulations to all!

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues) DALTON & SYBIL DAVIS, BETTY ALLEN, DONNIE HILLIARD, RED TAYLOR, LAURA BAGENTS, MIKE HAHN, LARRY HARRISON, and CHARLES BUSH. (Battling Cancer) BESSIE FRAZIER, CHERYL ROGERS, DENNIS DRAGOTTA, LULA WILLIAMS, KEVIN PENICK, and ANDY ALLEN.

SUNDAY BIBLE LESSONS: 8/10—Lesson 89: *Be Ready for His Coming*, 2 Pet; 8/17—Lesson 90: *Fellowship With the Father*, 1 Jn. 1-3.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Team 1 (Creel) will host the meal this Sunday, Aug. 10, following the AM worship service. Team 2 (Gotkiewicz) will host Aug. 17.

FAULKNER FRESHMEN MOVE-IN DAY: This Saturday, Aug. 9, will be move-in day for the Faulkner Freshmen. Volunteers are needed to help and are asked to be there at 8 AM. See Tim G. for more information.

LEADERSHIP EAT & MEET: There will be a business meeting for all the elders and deacons on Sunday, Aug. 10, 7:30 AM. Breakfast will be prepared by Tim Gotkiewicz and Roy Mulkey and served at 7 AM.

GOSPEL MEETING: There will be a gospel meeting at Narrow Lane Road Church of Christ Aug. 10-13 with Ralph P. Smith, Jr. speaking. Monday-Wednesday services at 7 PM.

COLLEGE STUDENT RECEPTION: There will be a reception in honor of college students following the PM worship service Aug. 17. See Judy Creel or Gladys Clements for information.

BRIDAL SHOWER: There will be a bridal shower in honor of JENNIFER SIMPSON Sunday, Aug. 17, 2:30-4 PM. A shower sign-up list is posted at the LadyBUGS desk. Jennifer is registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond and Macys. Don't forget your recipe. All ladies are invited to attend.

DISHES: Dishes taken to the Dill's have been placed in the Tea Room. Please go by and pick-up yours.

COLLEGE EVENTS:

- **Aug. 9:** Faulkner Freshmen Move-in, 8 AM
- **Aug. 17:** College Student Reception, PM
- **Aug. 20 & 27:** Desserts, 7:30 PM

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

- **Aug. 7:** ACA begins
- **Aug. 10:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM
- **Aug. 11:** Montgomery County & CHA begins
- **Aug. 13:** MA begins



LA DYBUGS

Ladies Building Unity in God's Service

"Seven ty-Times-Seven"

- **Quilting/Sewing:** Tuesday's, 3-5 PM & 3rd Saturday's, 1-4 PM
- **Visitation:** See Tish, Terry, or Shirley K.
- **Aug. 16:** Quilting, 1-4 PM
- **Aug. 17:** Bridal Shower for Jennifer Simpson, Registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond and Macys, 2:30-4 PM
- **Aug. 17:** College Student Reception, 6 PM
- **Aug. 19:** B & D Club Lunch, 11:30, Blue Moon Cafe

2014 WEEKLY BUDGET: \$12,120.00

8-3-14 Contribution: **\$10,807.76**
 Budget: **-\$1,312.24**
 YTD: **-\$4,034.84**

IF I HAD A MILLION DOLLARS

A Texas farmer, who was a Christian, said one day that if he had a million dollars, he would give it to the church. A few months later oil was found on his property and almost overnight, he became a millionaire. The church of which he was a member suddenly fell on hard times financially and approached this brother about some financial aid. He then said, "You know when I didn't have that money, I wanted to give it all away to the church. Now that I have it, I no longer have that desire." Many a man has had the desire to obey God at one time in his life but put it off long enough to lose that desire. Hearts do get hard. Paul said in Hebrews 3:13, "Exhort one another day by day, while it is called today, lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin."



– John Stacy, *Gospel Gazette Online*

BEING MEN OF LEADERSHIP

As a husband and father, I constantly find myself having to reevaluate my schedule and priorities. You see, our culture pushes us to give more and more of ourselves, even to the sacrifice of other things in our lives. It is for this reason, that I believe men of God tend to neglect the "little things" of spirituality within their homes like:

1. Directing a family Bible study.
2. Turning the TV off to spend "quality time" with the family.
3. Looking for opportunities to demonstrate service for one's children.
4. Taking time to really listen and provide real solutions.
5. Being involved in every aspect of the Church and involving the children to show them what is really important.

Throughout scripture we see the instructions to men regarding the importance of their leadership. However, sometimes we equate leadership simply with provision, but it is much more! Many husbands and fathers have provided monetarily, but never given one ounce of spiritual leadership to their families. Someone or something will, and that someone or something might be the TV, a girlfriend or boyfriend, or rock band, or even a gang! Let us stand up and never be too busy to lead!

– Kerry Williams, *via BULLETINDIGEST.com*

What Is the Church?

The Called Out

The word that we find translated “church” in many of our translations has been translated from the Greek word *ekklesia*. Here we are dealing with the “called out feature” of God’s people. These are the people who have been called out of the world by the Gospel. That is they have had the opportunity to hear the saving Gospel of Christ. They have believed it (John 8:21, 24; Hebrews 11:6) and obeyed it (Romans 10:16-17). Hearing the truth with an open mind is what produces faith. They completed their obedience by repentance, confession of their faith in Christ and by being baptized into Christ for the remission of their past sins (Acts 3:19; 8:37; Romans 6:3-6; 10:9-10; Acts 2:38; 22:16). They had been called out of the world of darkness into the marvelous light of truth and love (1 Peter 2:9). They had cast off the works of darkness and had put on the armor of light (Romans 13:12). The church and the saved are the same.

The Kingdom of God

This refers to the government feature of the church. “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son” (Colossians 1:13). The word “kingdom” refers to the government feature of the church. Christians live under the Kingship of Jesus. We are under his rulership, leadership and control. He is Lord of lords and King of kings. “Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords” (1 Timothy 6:16). “These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them; for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful” (Revelation 17:14). He is King over His kingdom, and we are His servants. Don’t forget that the only way we can enter into this kingdom is through the *new birth* – Gospel obedience (John 3:3-5; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 5:26; Mark 16:16).

The Temple of God

The New Testament church is the temple of God. This refers to the worship feature of the church. The one true and living God dwells within the church. “And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (2 Corinthians 6:16). The church is the people; it is not the material building. Let us seek to worship God in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24).

The Household of God

This refers to the family feature of the church. We should try to think of the church as a spiritual family. We have God as our Heavenly Father, Christ as our elder Brother and fellow Christians as our spiritual brothers and sisters in Christ. “But he answered and said unto him that told him. Who is my mother? And who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother” (Matthew 12:46-50). “Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not: for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God” (John 20:17). See also 1 Timothy 3:15. We should seek to get along; after all, we are all a part of God’s family as Christians.

The Body

This is used to emphasize the unity feature of the church (Colossians 1:18, 24). We are to work together in peace and harmony under our one and only Head, the Christ

--Nat Evans, via *Gospel Gazette Online*