



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

September 4, 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 8/31/14

Bible Class: 142
AM Worship: 196
PM Worship: 141
EMBF: \$177.00

WELCOME!

2014 WEEKLY BUDGET—\$12,120.00—

8-31-14

Contribution: \$10,887.00

Budget: - \$1,233.00

—YTD: - \$8,760.59—



Some of our Eastern Meadows kids have enjoyed Apologetics Press Digger Doug episodes on DVD this Summer.

FROM THE MINISTER:

Great News! Last week SHAMEEKA CHOICE was baptized on Wednesday evening. Shameeka is from Chicago and is a Junior at ASU and majoring in Theatre Arts. She had visited with Gwen Mann, asking about spiritual matters. The next day she came back with her Bible. On Sunday morning Shameeka visited at Narrow Lane Road church with a fellow ASU student, but was here with us on Sunday night. What a tribute this has been to Gwen, who has had many Bible studies with ASU students and brought a number of them to church with her! Meet Shameeka and make her feel welcome!

More Great News. Sunday evening ANN MILAM responded for prayer. Continue to pray for her. Ann thank you for having such a humble heart.

Polishing the Pulpit. Several things have been said about Polishing the Pulpit, but one more thing needs to be said. Polishing the Pulpit is *not* just for preachers, in case you did not know. There were many preachers there, but certainly not the majority of the attendees. There are things for small children to teens and young adults. There are things of interest to ladies, preachers, elders, and members. There are things that are “doctrinal,” or textual” (a text or book of the Bible studied), or on marriage and the kiddos, or lessons that help us on what we do, to do better! There is truly something for everyone if learning more about God and being the most effective servant you can be is of interest to you. Why do I say all of this? Why don’t you plan to go next year? It is probably the last week of August and once again it will be in Sevierville, Tennessee. It is not cheap but anytime you attend something of this nature and you must stay out of town it costs. However, it is not more than many spend on vacations. Think about it, or go ahead and plan to attend. If you want more details about what to expect, ask the Martins, Gotkiewicz, Brannans (Don and Dixie were the first from EM to go) or the Housleys.



Construction Update. See what is being done! The steel for the piers had been formed about 2-3 weeks ago. The past few days they have been going in. We need to have a good foundation to build on! Soon we will be seeing a slab and then a structure!

GO DEEP TO GO UP!

This is literally what we must do at Eastern Meadows as we build our new auditorium. We are in the part of Montgomery that has bad soil. To be sure that we have a building that will last, stay intact, and be useful for years, we must “go deep.” Failing to get the foundation right, will result in cracked walls, cracked bricks, and in the worst case, uneven, sinking floors. Some homes, built with an improper foundation, can become almost unusable or demand very costly repairs.

What we are doing at the EM Phase Two is to build on “deep-drilled piers,” also called caissons. A large auger drills holes 24-36 inches in diameter, 22 feet deep, and inserted into this hole is a steel rebar cage. Then the hole is filled with concrete. It is onto and into these “deep-drilled piers” that the slab is poured. Seventy-eight (78) of these are being put in for the new auditorium.



As I considered these “deep-drilled piers” going in this week, I thought of at least three spiritual applications.

- Spiritually, you must go deep to go up! Well, you don’t actually find the word “deep” in the N.T. as we are applying it here. However, I think it is implied by the words “rooted” and “grounded.” Paul said, “so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith--that you, being rooted and grounded in love” (Ephesians 3:17 ESV). We need to go deep; that is be “rooted” and “grounded” so we can grow spiritually.
- Going deep costs. If the Eastern Meadows property had been on good ground, likely a conventional footing and slab would have been sufficient. Having to drill 78 caissons is costing (I don’t know how much!) likely tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands. Necessary, but costly! Spiritually, to go deep, you will need to sacrifice time for Bible reading/ study and prayer. You will need to sacrifice more time for involvement with the local church family and service to God. You will need to sacrifice money too. Going deep costs.
- Failing to go deep costs. While going deep costs, failing to go deep costs too! And failing to go deep costs in ways I don’t think we want to pay! Failing to go deep results in spiritual failures. Failing to go deep could actually cost your soul. We do not want to pay that price.

Like the new auditorium, let us go deep!

-Steve Housley

FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER:

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24, 25)

Summer is winding down and school is spooling up! Many new things are on the minds of our students: new classes, new teachers, football, band, social clubs, math, new friends, new challenges, and the list goes on.... For those of us who have put those years behind, think back and remember how difficult those years can be and encourage them as they struggle with yet another year of school. Not sure how? Here are a few suggestions:

1. Write a personal letter or note card; let them know you care about them.
2. Personally commend them for their helpfulness or thoughtfulness.
3. Don’t talk down to them; “Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves” (Philippians 2:3)
4. Get up from your seat, seek out a person, and simply say something like, “I just came to say ‘hi’ (or ‘good morning,’ or ‘have a great day,’ or ‘I appreciate you for ...’).”

5. Pray for them. Let them know you are praying for them.

Admittedly, these suggestions are good for anyone, but during this time of year, I think a little extra encouragement would really help our younger members; remember that even though they are growing up physically, they are still “babes in Christ.”

For you who are in school: be involved, trust in God, study, pray, be a good example to those around you, and let someone know that they’ve encouraged you!

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last question: When 1 John was written, how many antichrists had come? C) many (1John 2:18)

This week's question: In his second letter, John says to the elect lady that he had found some of her children:

A) worthy of the lamb B) walking in truth C) transgressing the commandment



A RESPONSE TO VICTORIA OSTEEN ABOUT WORSHIP

It is only 36 seconds in length, but it has caused waves in the online world. It is a video of Victoria Osteen, wife of Joel Osteen, as she described the reason why we worship.

If you haven't seen it, here it is:



(Go here to see video, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjWertXdxFE>)

“So, when we worship, it isn't about God. It's about us being happy,” says Osteen. Overall, that's the takeaway from Victoria Osteen's short speech.

If I may, I would like to respond to her words.

1. God's Primary Concern is Not Our Happiness. It's Our Holiness. Mrs. Osteen's words only reflect a very commonly held view in modern religion, and that is that God's primary concern with my day-to-day walk is that I be happy. While that certainly sounds good, it is not the message of

Scripture. Yes, I know we are to be people of joy (Philippians 4:4, et.al.), but joy and happiness are not the same thing. When Paul was shipwrecked, when Christians were run from Jerusalem, and when Stephen was stoned, were they happy? Well, then I guess they weren't living right in Victoria Osteen's world. But they were certainly people who were holy, and that is what matters to the Lord (see 1 Peter 1:16).

2. Worship is Primarily toward God. In studying, preaching, and writing about the Psalms this year, I have been filled with this idea in a deeper way than ever. Worship is ascribing to God what He is due. Every aspect of our worship (singing, Bible study, prayer, giving, and communing) is God-centered and is meant to lift Him up as the only One worthy of such adoration. Anything less than that puts something else before God, which is the very definition of idolatry. If I come to worship seeking my own happiness, I have made my personal feelings my idol.

3. Our "Horizontal" Goal in Worship is Teaching and Admonishing, Not Happiness. We are told in the New Testament that our singing is to be such that it teaches and admonishes (Colossians 3:16). There is an encouragement bound up in admonition, but the word also means "to warn." Teaching can lead to happiness, but not everything we teach is going to make us happy in the moment.

4. Knowing God is Pleased is My Joy. This is where the "God wants you to be happy" doctrine misses it. Their idea is that, if I'm happy then God is happy. Instead, when I have done my best to worship God and I know 'He' is pleased, then 'I' am filled with joy.

I know that Victoria Osteen is not the first person to teach this idea of doing what makes you happy and that will please God. But I also know, tragically, she will not be the last. Our joy as Christians is to lift God up before the world, no matter if it brings us some earthly happiness or not. Mrs. Osteen would do well to understand that concept, but so would we all.

—Adam Vaughn, alegacyoffaith.us

ANNOUNCEMENTS 9/4/14

Sunday, Sept. 7, 2014 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:

A.M.: Alan Kaye

P.M.: Alan Kaye

Opening Prayer:

A.M.: George Davidson

P.M.: Brooks Housley

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Mark Evans

P.M.: John Cole

Singing:

A.M.: Allen Clements

P.M.: Allen Clements

SICK: JOHNNY BLUE is in HealthSouth Rehab. GARISON MILLER, Thelma Woolfolk's grandson, is in Baptist South. ANDY ALLEN, Phyllis Allen's son, is home recovering from surgery he had Aug. 23. MARSHA SUTTON is scheduled for back surgery Sept. 10. BETTY DAVIDSON is scheduled for knee-replacement surgery Oct. 14. THOMAS TAUNTON, friend of Ron Hoskinson, received word this week that he does not have cancer, but prayers are needed as he battles other health issues. Sick at home Sunday: MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES. Continue to remember our shut-ins: SYBIL SCOFIELD, TAM LOWERY, INELLA BOWDEN, JACKIE JOHNSTON, and JEWEL BARNES.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues) SYBIL DAVIS, BETTY ALLEN, THOMAS TAUNTON, and ANSLEY TINGLE. (Battling Cancer) BESSIE FRAZIER, CHERYL ROGERS, DENNIS DRAGOTTA, KEVIN PENICK, and ANDY ALLEN.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Jeff Simpson and family in the passing of his father, CLARENCE SIMPSON, last week. Visitation was Thursday at Leak Memory and a private graveside service was Saturday.

SUNDAY BIBLE LESSONS: 9/7—Lesson 93: *Hospitality at Gaius' House*, 3 Jn.; 9/14—Lesson 94: *Consequences of Sin/Consistency in the Faith*, Jude.

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Team 4 (Hoskinson/Ferrell) will host the meal this Sunday, Sept. 7, following the AM worship service. Team 5 (Mathews) will host Sept. 14.

SINGING CLASS: Sundays, 4:30 PM

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS: 10:30 AM

MT. DORA CHILDREN'S HOME: The Food Drive for Mt. Dora Children's Home is underway. Leave donations in the box at the back hallway by Sept. 14.

AREA WIDE SINGING: University Church of Christ will host the area wide singing this Friday, Sept. 5, 7-8:30 PM.

AREA WIDE LADIES' DEVOTIONAL: The quarterly area wide ladies' devo will be Monday, Sept. 8, at Dalraida Church of Christ from 7-8 PM. ALL ladies are invited to attend.

TEACHERS WORKDAY: There will be a workday for the Children's Department Teachers Sunday, Sept. 14.

LUNCH FOR AMRIDGE: The ladies at Eastern Meadows have an opportunity to provide lunch for some students, faculty, and administration at Amridge University, Monday, September 15th. We are planning to serve sandwiches, chips, desserts, and drinks. We anticipate feeding about 50 people. We need help with the cost of sandwiches and drinks. We also need several to bake cookies. If you can help in any way, please see Terry Bagents.

LADIES' DAY: Trenton Church of Christ in Trenton, Georgia will have a Ladies' Day Saturday, Sept. 20. SALLY GOTKIEWICZ will be speaking on "She Hath Done What She Could."

MONDAY-NIGHT-MOTIVATION: This month's M-N-M will be Sept. 22. We will eat at 6:30 PM with class at 7.

HELP NEEDED: The LadyBUGS Quilters would greatly appreciate monetary donations to be put towards a project they have undertaken. See Margaret Daniel for more information or to make a donation.

NEW MEMBER: SHAMEEKA CHOICE, 915 S. Jackson, Facility #1, Room 104B, Montgomery, AL, 36104, (773) 628-9269, shameekadanielle@gmail.com.

Next Budget Catch-Up Sunday —Sept. 28th—



LA DYBUGS



Ladies Building Unity in God's Service

"Seventy-Times-Seven"

- **Quilting/Sewing:** Tuesday's, 1-3 PM & 3rd Saturday's, 1-4 PM
- **Visitation:** See Tish, Terry, or Shirley K.
- **Sept. 8:** Area Wide Ladies' Devo, Dalraida, 7 PM
- **Sept. 15:** Lunch for Amridge
- **Sept. 18:** B/D Club Dinner, Olive Garden, 6 PM
- **Sept. 22:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

- **Sept. 13:** Sr. Youth Movie Night @ Tim & Sally's
- **Sept. 14:** Area Wide Youth Devo @ Prattville, Lesson—"Unity"
- **Sept. 20:** Sewing/Quilting, 1-4 PM
- **Sept. 21:** Youth/Family Devo, PM

COLLEGE EVENTS:

- **Wednesday Night Desserts,** 7:30 PM
- **Sept 7:** College Devo, PM