



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

January 29, 2015

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 1/25/15

Bible Class: 138
AM Worship: 187
PM Worship: 105
EMBF: \$97.00

WELCOME!

16 Periods of Bible History

- ◆ Before the Flood
- ◆ The Flood
- ◆ Scattering of the People
- ◆ Patriarchs
- ◆ Exodus
- ◆ Wandering in the Wilderness
- ◆ Invasion and Conquest of the Land
- ◆ Judges
- ◆ United Kingdom
- ◆ Divided Kingdom
- ◆ Judah Alone
- ◆ Captivity
- ◆ Return from Captivity
- ◆ Years of Silence
- ◆ Life of Christ
- ◆ Early Church

FEBRUARY BIBLE READING

- 1 Leviticus 1-4
- 2 Leviticus 5-7
- 3 Leviticus 8-9
- 4 Leviticus 10-12
- 5 Leviticus 13
- 6 Leviticus 14, 15
- 7 Leviticus 16-18
- 8 Leviticus 19-21
- 9 Leviticus 22, 23
- 10 Leviticus 24, 25
- 11 Leviticus 26, 27
- 12 Numbers 1, 2
- 13 Numbers 3, 4
- 14 Numbers 5, 6
- 15 Numbers 7
- 16 Numbers 8-10
- 17 Numbers 11-13
- 18 Numbers 14, 15
- 19 Numbers 16-18
- 20 Numbers 19-21
- 21 Numbers 22-24
- 22 Numbers 25, 26
- 23 Numbers 27-29
- 24 Numbers 30, 31
- 25 Numbers 32, 33
- 26 Numbers 34-36
- 27 Deuteronomy 1, 2
- 28 Deuteronomy 3, 4

FROM THE MINISTER:

Keep praying. Last Wednesday evening, (1-21) Hunter Haney responded asking for prayers. Sunday morning Ron Hoskinson responded asking for prayers for strength. Let us continue to pray for Hunter and Ron.

Thank You for SNS Participation! We always have enough volunteers to take assignment cards to send a card or to make a call! Often some who request an assignment do not get one, because they have already been given out. Thank you!

Pray for our Ukraine Brethren! An Update. Peace has eluded Ukraine, even though there had been a supposed “cease-fire.” 1,500 people have been killed during the ceasefire. Now, it appears that the cease-fire has ended, and the rebels have started a new offensive in the town of Mariupol, killing 30 and wounding 85.

Until last May, the Bear Valley School was in Gorlovka. This is where I taught each May for the last several years. It was because of the conflict that I skyped the class last year and did not travel there. It was on the Sunday after the class had finished on Friday that 25 armed rebels entered the worship assembly and demanded the church leave as they rebels were taking the building. A recent report from Andrew, the preacher there, said, “Unfortunately, the situation in Gorlovka became extremely difficult at the end of this month. Starting with January 20, explosions have been shaking the town; their strength and intensity greatly exceed everything that happened before. Breaks between the shootings are 1-2 hours at most, and after that, it all repeats. Previously mostly the outskirts of town were shelled but now there is no part of town that does not suffer major destruction. The previous Sunday, the shelling lasted 14 hours without any breaks. There was much damage done to 13 schools, hospitals, apartment blocks and houses. Many peaceful citizens were killed and injured.”



Relatives of man who was killed during shelling look on during his funeral at a cemetery in Mariupol

Fighting continued in Donetsk at the airport, as it has for many months. Kramatorsk, the hometown of the Paziys, and where most of the support from Eastern Meadows has gone is only 1 hour and 27 minutes from Donetsk, about 60 miles. That is not far! The church *was* strongest in Donetsk of any city in Ukraine. Many of those from Donetsk have gone elsewhere because of the danger. In addition to the potential danger, many places across Ukraine have had displaced people, refugees, come there to live. Kramatorsk has many who have escaped the violence come to Kramatorsk. The church has tried to help as it has been able. On a good note: There was a time when the war was in Kramatorsk and many of those from Kramatorsk were among the refugee population, and now there is peace there. The church in Kramatorsk has done well in this chaotic time. Let us pray!

Some Bad News. A federal judge recently ruled the state’s ban on gay marriage unconstitutional. That is the bad news. While this could have paved the way for same-sex marriages in Alabama, on Jan. 25 a U.S. District Judge Granted Alabama a 14-day stay to appeal the ruling to the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. When the ban was first declared unconstitutional (before the stay) Montgomery Co. Probate Judge Steven L. Reed took to social media to discuss same-sex marriage, saying he would issue marriage certificates to gay people in the area. Already 36 states have same-sex marriage. 25 states came to allow same-sex marriage a court decision, 8 by state legislature, and 3 by

popular vote. (Information from Montgomery Advertiser and internet). Alabama could become the 37th state to allow same-sex marriage. *Because it is legal, does not make it right! The Christian must take a Biblical stand regardless of what courts, state legislatures, or popular vote decide. There was a time of "Prohibition" when alcohol was illegal in the U.S. It has come to the point that it is legal almost everywhere. That does not make it right. In two states marijuana sales are now legal. That does not make it right. Let us, as Christians, stand for what is right.*

Some Good News! We have a slab and the blocks for the new building are being laid. Charlie Boddy will be speaking February 22 on Marriage Sunday. And the Son is shining!

Good News About Dirt! And there can be good news about dirt! Hagan Construction Company, Inc. has been hunting for folks who want dirt of any description and was willing to take away this dirt. This has been at no cost to the church and saved Eastern Meadows thousands of dollars. If you know of anyone needing dirt, have them call Hagan Construction. Thank you!!

What A Horrible Thing To Happen

I recently read this story about the owner of the New Orleans Saints and Pelicans, Tom Benson, who fired his granddaughter, Rita Benson LeBlanc, as owner and vice chairperson. He also cut ties with Benson LeBlanc, his daughter Renee LeBlanc and his grandson Ryan LeBlanc, sending them this letter. It read:

Dear Renee, Rita and Ryan,

During the over 80 years of my life, I have built a rather large estate which was intended to mainly be for you all as my family.

Suddenly after I remarried you all became offensive and did not act in an appropriate manner and even had arguments among yourselves which created a very unpleasant family situation which I will not stand for. It made me very unhappy and uncomfortable.

This situation cannot continue at my age.

Because of the facts set out above and the heart break you have caused me I want no further contact with any of you and you will not be allowed to enter the Saint's facilities or games, the Basketball facilities or Pelicans games, the Benson Towers, the T.V. facilities or the automotive facilities in New Orleans and will have no right to give directions, orders or hire or fire any of the personnel,

Sincerely yours, your father and grandfather.

It looks like he disowned them. At the minimum he cut business ties with them. And these were his own family members, his daughter and grandson! Shocking! Sad! But it could be worse!

God is our Father. He is a loving Father, who desires a relationship with us! He has made great sacrifices so that we might have that relationship with Him. Additionally, this relationship is not merely for the here and now, it is for eternity! Jesus has even prepared a place for his disciples in His house! That is the way God wants it. But that is not necessarily the way it will be.

For those who had failed to obey the will of the Father, Jesus said, "I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness" (Matthew 7:23). This is the final, judgment day, equivalent of saying, "I want no further contact with any of you and you will not be allowed to enter." Not entering the New Orleans' Saints facilities or games does not even compare with not being able to enter heaven!

The New Orleans' Saints owner, Tom Benson, can change his mind. According to this report Mr. Benson and his daughter and grandson have had similar spats and they were fired, but he changed his mind. On Judgment Day, the "depart from me" is final. We have already had our opportunity and there will be no other opportunity.

Are you ready?

—Steve Housley

FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER:

Bible Bowl practice will be held at the offices each Sunday at 2pm unless otherwise announced. The written Bible Bowl test will be given on Feb 22nd. If you cannot take the test on the 22nd, it is imperative that you see Tim to schedule an alternative test day.

The youth group will be traveling to Rainbow Omega on Saturday, Feb 7th. We will depart from the Dalraida building at 7:30 AM and return to the Dalraida building between 4:30 and 5:00 PM.

Next area-wide worship is February 8th at Liberty. The sermon will be about "One Faith."

Sally will take the girls to Hope Hull on Feb 21st to attend "PURE" at the Liberty Church of Christ. Activities will be from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM and will center on Philippians 4:8. Lunch will be provided. There will be a session for mothers who wish to attend with their girls. Please see Tim (van driver) or Sally if you wish to attend.

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last week's question: If you consider that the events in the book of Joshua encompassed a period of seven years, how old was Joshua when he became the leader of the Israelites? B) 103 (Joshua 24:29)

This week's question: The judge Othniel was: A) Joshua's son; B) Caleb's son; C) Caleb's nephew



ANNOUNCEMENTS 1/29/15

Sunday, Feb. 1, 2015 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:

A.M.: Steve Sewell

P.M.: Steve Sewell

Opening Prayer:

A.M.: Ted Norton

P.M.: Mark Evans

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Roy Mulkey

P.M.: Lindsey Mulkey

Singing:

A.M.: Paul Clements

P.M.: Paul Clements

SICK: SALLY GOTKIEWICZ is recovering at home following shoulder surgery Monday. IRIS CLEMENTS BOYD, Paul Clements' mother, is in Jackson Hospital. PAT PUGH is recovering at home. Nathan Futral's mother underwent surgery Tuesday. IMOGENE DOLD, Tish's mother, is back in rehab after being hospitalized this week. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, WILMA BERRY, RUTHIE BRIDGES, ROGER & HELEN DILL, SHIRLEY HANCOCK, ALICE HANDLANG, CHARLOTTE PATTERSON, DOROTHY SULLIVAN, and HUNTER TIMBES. **Battling Cancer:** MIKE NORMAN. **Shut-ins:** SYBIL SCOFIELD, TAM LOWERY, INELLA BOWDEN, CATHERINE LEINHEISER, LOURINE BLACK, JACKIE JOHNSTON, and JEWEL BARNES.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues) JENNY JOHNSON and JENNY PATTERSON. (Battling Cancer) KEVIN PENICK,

ANDY ALLEN, GLEN BARRON, BETH HUGGINS, GERMAINE HARDIN, and CINDY BORROUGHS.

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS LESSON: 2/1—*United Kingdom*, (1 Sam. 9—1 Ki. 11); 2/8—*Divided Kingdom*, (1 Ki. 12—2 Ki. 17).

FELLOWSHIP MEALS: Team 3 (Gotkiewicz) will host the meal this Sunday, Feb. 1, following morning services. Team 4 (Clements) will host Feb. 8.

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS: 10:30 AM - "The Gospel of Mark"

FREED-HARDEMAN LECTURES: The lectureship is Monday-Thursday, Feb. 2-5.

AREA WIDE SINGING: Panama Street Church of Christ will host the Area Wide Singing Friday, Feb. 6, 7 PM.

LADIES' DAY: There will be a Ladies' Day at North Lowndes Church of Christ Saturday, Feb. 7. The theme is "Abigail—What A Gal (1 Sam. 25 Revisited)" with Pat Norman speaking. 9 AM Registration and Continental Breakfast, 10 AM Program begins with two 50 minute sessions, Lunch provided. For more info, call (334) 612-9642.

MEN'S EAT & MEET: There will be a business meeting for all the men of the congregation Sunday, Feb. 8, 7:30 AM. BILLY BUSH is in charge of breakfast which will be served at 7.

LOST & FOUND: A small pill-box has been turned in to the office. If you are missing one, check with Wilma.

MARRIAGE DAY—February 22—CHARLIE BODDY speaking

- Bible Class, 9 AM: "Ten Commandments For A Happy Marriage"
- Worship, 10 AM: "How To Keep The Magic In Marriage"
- Worship, 5 PM: "Building Blocks And Cement Of Marriage"

LADYBUGS (Ladies Building Unity in God's Service)

2015 Theme: VICTORY

- **QUILTING**, Tuesdays, 1-3 PM
- **Feb. 1:** A Time to Pray, 4:15 PM
- **Feb. 23:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **Feb. 1:** Bible Bowl Practice, 2 PM
- **Feb. 7:** Rainbow Omega
- **Feb. 8:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM
- **Feb. 21:** "Pure" @ Liberty, 9:30 AM-1 PM. For pre-teen and older girls and a session for moms.

2015 BUDGET—\$12,120.00

1/25/15 CONTRIBUTION: **\$12,024.51**

YTD: **-\$533.49**

COLLEGE EVENTS

- **College Desserts:** Wednesdays @ 7:30 PM
- **Feb. 1:** Devo, PM

The Dangers of Compromise

Compromise is defined as, "a settlement of differences by mutual concessions." In negotiating a treaty or a business arrangement, compromise is often necessary to complete the deal. Each side must lay aside their egos for the higher good.

In the church, in matters of opinion, compromise is indispensable. The Lord's body is far more important than anyone getting their way or winning or losing. We must be mature and wise enough to discern the best path to take.

In matters of doctrine, though, the matter of compromise becomes exceedingly dangerous. It can have no place in Biblical discussions.

Men and women of God will compromise on doctrine in order to find peace with a non-

believer or one who follows a different gospel. Both sides take what they believe and rework them until they both feel comfortable with them. The dangers should be obvious to thinking individuals.

There are three significant problems with doctrinal compromise.

First, God's Word does not belong to man, so we have no right to compromise it (Psalm 119:89). Light has no fellowship with darkness (Ephesians 5:11). We cannot take what belongs to God and change it (Deuteronomy 4:2; Deuteronomy 12:32; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18-19).

Second, compromise means concessions. The definition of compromise means that we give up part of what we believe in order to make another person happy. Those with the truth must concede to error for compromise to occur. Which part of God's Word would we give up in order to get along with men? How much false doctrine is acceptable to God?

Compromise is often a false promise. "One of the truest tests of integrity is its blunt refusal to be compromised." "It is the weak man who urges compromise—never the strong man." Will we be weak of faith and choose error so weak hearts can be appeased?

Third, compromising the Word of God means that we are placing the feelings of men over the love of God. Scripture is overshadowed by sentimentality when we place hearts above truth. We have no right to relegate God to the backseat where he tags along like a lackey.

God wants us to be courageous and bold to stand against sin because we have the power of God at our disposal. "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might" (Ephesians 6:10). We have God and his word. We don't need compromise.

--Richard Mansel, managing editor, *forthright.net*



Beginning of a 17 hour day, pouring the slab.



**Walls
Are
Going
UP!!!**

