



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

November 5, 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 & 96.5 FM

Sunday's 7:30-8 a.m.

With ROGER DILL

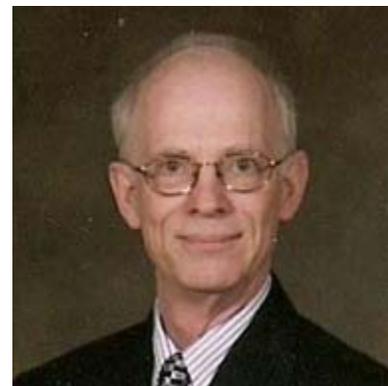
STATISTICS 11/1/15

Bible Class: 137
AM Worship: 167
PM Worship: 102
EMBF: \$292.00

WELCOME!

New Class Beginning Next Week: *Ascertaining Bible Authority*

Paul Clements is teaching the *Wednesday Night Auditorium Class* on the subject, "Ascertaining Bible Authority." Ok, ascertaining is a big word, and Paul hesitated using this word. It means, "find (something) out for certain; make sure of." So we will be learning about "Making Sure of Bible Authority." This is a very important study. The religious world generally is not asking, "Is it right? Is it in the Bible." I am afraid that many in the church have also quit asking the questions, "Is it right? Is it in the Bible." But once we ask that question, how can we determine what the Bible teaches? As you can see, this is a fundamental subject! A needed subject! *We need this class!*



AREA WIDE SINGING

Mt. Hebron Church of Christ

Friday, Nov. 6, 7 p.m.



NOTE: Song Leaders, please send the name of your song (book it is in and the number will be helpful) and the verses you plan to sing so that we can have them on PowerPoint for you.

By email – edwalker238@gmail.com; by facebook - message to Edwin Walker; by phone or text – (334) 315-9430.

FROM THE MINISTER:

Wonderful Wednesdays Are Over. That is, Wonderful Wednesdays are over until next year. If you did not get to hear any of the lessons, go to the Eastern Meadows Website, <http://www.emcofc.org/>, select the "resource" tab, select "sermons and lessons" from the drop-down list, and click on the "Wonderful Wednesday" tab. Listen to the lessons you missed. Thank you to each participant for the good lesson!

A Clarification About Divorce And Remarriage. Sunday morning we studied from Matthew 5:31-32 in our ongoing study of the Sermon on the Mount. Afterwards, someone suggested that I should have mentioned that even when fornication is committed in a marriage, though the innocent part may divorce and remarry, it is *not required* that they divorce. That is absolutely correct. Nowhere in scripture does Jesus demand that the innocent part exercise their right to divorce. There have been many marriages where the guilty party was truly penitent and forgiven by the innocent party and the couple went on to have a *good* marriage. In fact, when we consider what is at stake in keeping our families intact, the desired result would be an intact family, *if there is genuine repentance*.

New Wednesday Class. As was announced last week, Paul Clements will be teaching a new Wednesday night auditorium class on *Ascertaining Bible Authority*. Be sure to be here. We are just one lesson into this series. Be here for each lesson!

Blessed With Visitors. Eastern Meadows has been blessed with a larger number of visitors the past two weeks. Please, make every effort to make these visitors feel welcome. I hope they leave feeling like our *guests* and want to come back!

Downhill Slide Of The Food Teams. Traditionally we have not met for the Sunday meals from Thanksgiving to Christmas. That being the case, groups 3 and 4 have already met their last time and when groups 5, 1, and 2 meet it will be their last. ... Until the first of the year! During this time new Captains for the teams are recruited and new teams are formed. Thank you for the good way you have participated with the food groups this year. Every week we had good numbers and plenty of food. Often visitors stayed and ate with us. Thanks again!

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last week's question: Who warned Jesus to depart the region ruled by Herod, because he wanted to kill Jesus? A) The Pharisees B) The Sadducees C) The Herodians

This week's question: On the night of His betrayal, Jesus told his apostles to buy _____ if they didn't have one.

A) A knapsack; B) A cloak; C) A sword



FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER:

Our next Youth Group Area-Wide worship and fellowship is this Sunday, November 8th, and will be at the Liberty Church of Christ. Following the theme of AIM (Attitude, Image, and Mind) focusing on the Sermon on the Mount, we will hear a lesson on Matthew 5:38-48. The van will be leaving at 4pm and picking up at the Ann St. Chick-fil-A.

Our Youth and Family devotional for November will be on November 15th after the evening worship. Sally will pass out a food sign-up sheet on Sunday. See you there!

Youth Group – Registration for ICYC AP weeks 1 & 2 begin on Jan 1st. The theme for week 1 (June 5 – 10) is “The Church” and the theme for week 2 (June 26 – July 1) is The Existence of God.” I plan to register Eastern Meadows on Jan 1st for week 1, so check your calendars, schedules, etc. and decide if you want to attend.

Dad’s Favorite

Just this week I was privileged to attend the funeral of a good man and faithful gospel preacher, Roger Dill. When later asked my judgment of how the funeral went, I replied, “Perfect.” The scriptures used were relevant and the words spoken about Roger were poignant.

However, I was especially touched by the comments of one of Roger’s sons, Will. Will explained how that each of Roger’s five children could make a case for being their dad’s “favorite.” Each had certain outstanding qualities that would endear him/her to their father.

But then Will described an incident that occurred when he was only four or five. Roger was returning home after weeks of being on a mission trip, sharing the gospel in another land. Each child was anticipating their father’s return. They knew what day, what hour, and almost exactly what minute they could expect to see his car pull up in the driveway.

Will recalls that when that moment finally arrived, Roger’s good wife and each of the children were standing in the front yard waiting. The car pulled up, Roger threw open the door and bounded out of the car racing toward his family. Will said, “I had my arms upraised, waiting and wanting for my dad to pick me up and hug and kiss me. But instead he brushed past me and immediately went to Mom and gave her a long embrace. That day we realized who his favorite really was.”

Charles Shedd once said, “A father’s first responsibility to his child is to love their mother. The most favored children in the world are those who parents love each other.” ‘Nuff said. . .

--Randy Medlin, via University church bulletin

ANNOUNCEMENTS 11/5/15

Nov. 8, 2015 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:

A.M.: Billy Bush

P.M.: Billy Bush

Opening Prayer:

A.M.: James Berry

P.M.: Brooks Housley

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Steve Sewell

P.M.: Turner Johnston

Singing:

A.M.: Mike Norman

P.M.: Mike Norman

SICK: DANE MOORE, VI ENGLISH, NEOSHIA SIMMONS, and SUSAN BROOKS are home after being in the hospital. PHYLLIS ALLEN is recovering from back surgery. WAYNE JOHNSTON is scheduled for pacemaker-replacement surgery Nov. 11. Prayers have been requested for MARK CHAMBLISS, friend of Russ & Dawn Chandler, who is battling cancer. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, CARTER GOTKIEWICZ, GRAYSON GOTKIEWICZ, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, RANDY PORTERFIELD, and HUNTER TIMBES. Continue to remember our members listed on our Sunday-Night-Service Prayer List. Shut-ins: SYBIL SCOFIELD, TAM LOWERY, INELLA BOWDEN, CATHERINE LEINHEISER, LOURINE BLACK, JACKIE JOHNSTON, and JEWEL BARNES. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN. Deployed: JON TIMBES, Kuwait.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues) QUIN MERRYMAN. (Battling Cancer) KEVIN PENICK, GERMAINE HARDIN, KATHY DAVIS, IMOGENE GRACE, GLENDA SMITH, RYAN AKERS, WAYNE EDWARDS, MELISSA MOTE, PHYLLIS DELL, JAMIE FINLAYSON, JEAN PERCIVAL, OLEN HOUSLEY, TELSIE DAVIS, and MARK CHAMBLISS.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Arlette Postma and family in the passing of her brother-in-law, TOM LEVINS.

BIBLE CLASS LESSON: Early Church, Part 1, Acts 1-8

FELLOWSHIP MEALS: Team 5 (Henly K/Phyllis A) will host the fellowship meal this Sunday, Nov. 8, following the morning worship service. Team 1 (Norman) will host Nov. 15.

NOV. 8th NURSERY ATTENDANTS: CINDY MULKEY & KAYLA KNOWLES

EASTERN MEADOWS' YOUNG PROFESSIONALS / YOUNG FAMILIES SECOND SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP: A time of fellowship is being planned for all Eastern Meadows' Young Professionals / Young Families for every second Sunday after evening worship service, which will begin this Sunday, Nov. 8, at the Dairy Queen on Taylor Road. Everyone in this age group is encouraged to attend.

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS: 10:30 a.m. - Study of Mark

AREA WIDE LADIES' DEVO: The last Area Wide Ladies' Devo of 2015 will be at University Church of Christ (fellowship hall) on Monday, Nov. 9, 7 PM. All ladies are invited to attend.

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: In honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Paul & Gladys Clements their children and grandchildren request the pleasure of your company at a reception on Nov. 14, 2015, 2-4 p.m. at University Church of Christ. Your presence is the only gift needed! RSVP to jennifermitchell334@gmail.com.

BBQ IN THE COUNTRY: You are invited to a BBQ in the country at Story Road Place (home of Mike & Barbara Norman) Saturday, Nov. 14, 4-8 p.m. The meat will be provided. Be sure to sign-up if you plan to attend and note what side dish you will bring—list is posted at the LadyBUGS Desk. Directions are also posted at the front and rear welcome desks.

THANK YOU: Dear Eastern Meadows, I wanted to thank you for your kindness during this time. The prayers, calls and well wishes meant so much to our family. The numerous meals that were served after Johnnys' passing were very much appreciated. It shows how comforting it is to be a part of the Eastern Meadows family. In Christian love, Becky Blue

THANK YOU: Dear Eastern Meadows Fellow Christians, Thank you so much for the many cards from Eastern Meadows with the picture of your beautiful building. Sonny and I are very grateful for your very kind remarks regarding prayers and get-well wishes for him. We know so many of you there, and pray that God will bless you all. In Christian love, Sonny & Carolyn Solomon

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES

16 Periods of the Bible Cycle 3

Nov. 8, Early Church, Part 1, Acts 1-8

- The beginning
- Preaching, persecution, growth

Nov. 15, Early Church, Part 2, Acts 9-12

- Paul's conversion
- Gentiles accepted
- Peter arrested/delivered

Nov. 22, Early Church, Acts 13-28

- Paul's journeys
- Paul arrested, sent to Rome

2015 BUDGET—\$12,120.00

11/1/15 CONTRIBUTION: \$11,064.00 /
BUDGET: - \$1,056.00 / YTD: + \$24,052.79

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **Nov. 8:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM (Liberty)
- **Nov. 15:** Youth & Family Devo, PM
- **Dec. 27—30:** EXPOSURE—"Ill" Father. Son. Spirit.

LADYBUGS

(Ladies Building Unity in God's Service)

2015 Theme: VICTORY

- **Quilting:** Tuesdays, 1-3 PM
- **Nov. 9:** Area Wide Ladies' Devo, 7 PM, @ University
- **Nov. 16:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM
- **Dec. 4:** Ornament Swap, 6 PM, @ Sewells
- **Dec. 6:** A Time To Pray, 4:15 PM
- **Jan. 10:** 2016 LadyBUGS Meeting

LADYBUGS QUILTERS

Our quilters have begun a new project. They have delivered fifteen quilts to the Cancer Center located on St. Lukes Drive in Montgomery. This will be an ongoing project. As a number of quilts are completed, they will be delivered to the cancer center for distribution to their patients receiving cancer treatments. We continue to appreciate the dedication these ladies have to finding opportunities to encourage and positively impact the lives of others.

— via November LadyBUGS' Newsletter

The Quilters' Work is Touching Lives

Our LadyBUGS Quilters quietly go about their work touching lives and blessing many. Following shoulder surgery, I was touched when they presented me with a beautiful lap quilt that I continue to enjoy.

I can't adequately express the beauty, warmth, and love my quilt gives and can empathize with the many others that have been blessed by the quilters. I personally witnessed the joy that these quilts bring to others a few years ago, while sitting in the waiting room at the Montgomery Cancer Center with my dad and mom. A volunteer with a basket of our lap quilts offered one to each cancer patient. One patient asked how much they cost, and was told that they were free, having been donated from a church. After one man picked a quilt out, unfolded it, he read aloud a note on the back that said it had been made by Ladies from the Eastern Meadows Church of Christ. All the recipients had smiles on their faces. A couple weeks later, while dad was receiving a treatment, a nearby patient had a lap quilt across her legs. One of the nurses commented about how pretty it was. The patient spoke right up and told her that it had been made by the Ladies at Eastern Meadows Church of Christ and donated to the patients—free—and how she had enjoyed hers and so appreciated the kindness of these ladies who didn't even know her. How beautiful it was to witness this!



Just last week, the office received a call from a young mother who had a premature baby in NICU at Baptist South Medical Center. The NICU nurses had informed her that the ladies at the Eastern Meadows Church of Christ made quilts for the NICU babies. She asked if it might be possible to get one for her baby boy. After speaking to Shirley Kaye, the one who does the baby quilts, Shirley said she didn't have one made right then, but gladly made one within several days! This young mother is so appreciative and so touched by the love of these ladies who don't even know her. How beautiful it was to witness this!

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:10). Thanks LadyBUGS Quilters!

--Wilma Berry

“LOVE THE SINNER, HATE THE SIN”

Many mothers have stated that while their son was in prison for killing a person, “I hate what my son has done but I still love him.” A broken hearted wife has found out that her husband has broken their wedding vows by committing adultery. She is overwhelmed with grief and disappointment; but, she wants to save their marriage and expresses her feelings, “because I still love him.” A son is sent to prison for selling cocaine and will be incarcerated for several years. His father hates what his son has done; but, down deep in his father’s heart there remains a love for his wayward son and he will give him moral support.

No doubt, there are Christian parents who may have a son or a daughter living with a member of the opposite sex without being married. The parents know the Word of God considers such an arrangement as being the sin of “fornication” and described in the book of Galatians to be one of “the works of the flesh”; and that they “who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God” (Galatians 5:19-21). Don’t you know those parents still love their son or daughter and at the same time hate that sinful relationship?

There are Christians parents who have sons and daughters who are homosexuals (Lesbians) and are actively engaged in such a lifestyle. Do not these parents love their children while hating that sinful way of living? Why, of course they do!

It is my conviction that the majority of people accept that the foregoing illustrations are, in reality, common occurrences. And, we understand how you can ‘love the sinner and hate the sin’. It is mainly when Bible believing people speak out against the sin of homosexuality (actively engaged in such a life style) and ‘gay marriages’ that we are called ‘homophobic’ and ‘bigoted’. Also we are accused of actually hating the individuals.

But, is it possible that a person can love the sinner, yet, hate the sin? Have you ever considered that God loves sinners but hates sin? In Proverbs 6:16-19, we read, “These six things the **Lord hates**, (Emphasis, RE) Yes, seven are an abomination to Him” and then the writer list them. This passage is a continuation of the character of the person mentioned in verse 12 who is described as “A worthless person, a wicked man...” The Bible plainly teaches that God loves sinners yet hates sin. How do I know that? Please read the following passage: “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). As children of God we are taught to “**love** your neighbor as yourself” (Matthew 22:39). At the same time we learn from the Psalmist, “Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I **hate** every false way” (Emphasis, RE, Psalm 119:104). Therefore we can love the sinner and at the same time hate the sin.

There is hope for those who live the lifestyle of homosexuality and that hope is found in Jesus Christ and the power of the gospel of Christ. Please read carefully the passage of Scripture found in 1 Corinthians 6:9-11: “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God” (NKJV). In Christ there is salvation from sin, strength to overcome our weaknesses and frailties of the flesh, and a blessed assurance of an eternal life with God when our journey on this earth has ended (1 John 5:11, 12).

My friends, “Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth” when I write “the truth in love” (Galatians 4:16; Ephesians 4:15)?

--Raymond Elliott