



# Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

March 26, 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 3/22/15

Bible Class: 141  
AM Worship: 188  
PM Worship: 125  
EMBF: \$2,417.00

**WELCOME!**

## BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY—MARCH 29TH

### Eastern Meadows Benevolence Fund

This Sunday, March 29, is "Benevolence Sunday." On Benevolence Sundays a special contribution is taken for the **EASTERN MEADOWS BENEVOLENCE FUND**. This is to be separate and apart from the regular contribution. The special contribution will be used exclusively for benevolence work. Part of this contribution will go to the Childhaven Orphanage in Cullman Alabama and the rest will go to other benevolent works. Checks for this effort should be made out to: **EASTERN MEADOWS BENEVOLENCE FUND**. Envelopes marked "EASTERN MEADOWS BENEVOLENCE FUND" will be provided for those who wish to contribute to this effort in cash. All contributions made to this fund are tax deductible as are regular contributions.

Don Brannan, for the elders

## 2015 Faulkner University Preacher's Challenge:

The challenge is to raise \$1,000 for the Bible Department at Faulkner University. For over ten years you have helped me to reach and surpass this goal. Once again I am asking you to help me in this effort. If you can make a contribution, please make your check out to Faulkner University Bible Department and in the "For" at the bottom of the check write "Housley Preacher's Challenge." If you give by cash, please enclose it in an envelope with your name and address on the outside of the envelope. You can give me the check or cash donation and I will deliver it to Faulkner.

Thanks, Steve Housley

# Wonderful Wednesdays in APRIL

--Speakers from Faulkner University--



Melvin Otey

*April 1st*

"God's Call To Serve"



Billy Hilyer

*April 8th*

"God's Holiness"



Don Myers

*April 15th*

"Missions/Evangelism"



Sam Long

*April 22nd*

"That Your Joy May Be Full"



## LADS TO LEADERS / LEADERETTES CONVENTION

Our group will be attending the Lads To Leaders / Leaderettes Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. They will leave Thursday, Apr. 2 and return Sunday, Apr. 5. Pray for them to have a safe and productive trip. Those attending:

Tim Gotkiewicz  
Sally Gotkiewicz  
Mollie Beth Dill  
Kelsey Evans  
Landon Evans  
Aaron Ferrell  
Luke Ferrell  
Gracie Johnston  
Turner Johnston  
Will Johnston

Ammaly Khantisouriya  
Jinny Khantisouriya  
Grace Mount  
Tennison Norton  
Miranda Porterfield  
Banks Sewell  
Mary Vander Sewell  
Norton Sewell  
Kimberly Wilson

Mark Evans  
Tammy Evans  
Dianne Hoskinson  
Ron Hoskinson  
Randy Johnston  
Vickie Johnston  
Cecilia Porterfield  
Randy Porterfield  
Jane Sewell

## **FROM THE MINISTER:**

**Wonderful Wednesdays!** Next week, we begin our Wonderful Wednesday Speaker Series for April. The speakers are bringing their best/favorite lesson to present. No doubt these should be great lessons for us and an opportunity to hear a new speaker. We are blessed with many able preachers in the area and the Wonderful Wednesdays give us an opportunity to hear some of them.

**Your Generosity.** You are a giving people. You have responded to church budget needs generously. You have responded to my appeal for help with the Preacher's Challenge for the Faulkner University Bible Department. Now we have a "Benevolent Sunday" and I know you will respond generously to it as well. Thank you.

**Pray for our Youth.** The youth are in the last stages of preparation for their trip to Atlanta, Georgia for Lads to Leaders. Pray for their continued hard work. Pray for their safety in traveling. Pray for their success in their endeavors. Thanks to all who have helped in some way as they prepare for Lads to Leaders.

**Sundayiscoming.com** If you have not yet gone to this website, go! Read! Listen. When you are on this webpage go to the link "Unholy War" and click the link "Ukraine." You will see and hear from our friends in Ukraine. Several of these on this video are from Kramatorsk and Gorlovka. This sight also highlights the plight of Christians in Nigeria and those who have been affected by Isis. After seeing this, take some time and pray.



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

The last Bible Bowl practice/ Scrapbook/Banner work will be held at the offices on Sunday at 3pm unless otherwise announced.

We will depart for the Atlanta Lads to Leaders Convention on Thursday evening as soon as everyone can be here.

Eastern Meadows will host the next area-wide worship, Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at Dalraida. I am looking forward to seeing our younger members lead in worship! We will ask for people to bring cookies to go with our delicious pizza (more info to follow).

### **TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:**

**Last week's question:** Cleopatra was: C) Greek (She was a descendent of Ptolemy I, 323-284 B.C., one of Alexander's generals).

**This week's question:** During the trial of Jesus, Pontius Pilate and Herod:

A) Became friends; B) Decided that Jesus should die; C) Found fault in Jesus



## 2015 BUDGET—\$12,120.00

3/22/15 CONTRIBUTION: \$12,703.00 / BUDGET: + \$583.00 / YTD: - \$78.24

Thank You. Your giving for the first quarter of 2015 is the best it has been in several years. We will not need a budget catch up Sunday this quarter. We are within \$100 of our contribution budget year to date. It is very important to stay at budget moving forward for several reasons. First and foremost - the Lord expects this of us. Our budget is well within our means because we are so blessed. And otherwise, we have an aggressive building program underway to which we have all committed. We are within budget and things are progressing. It is slower than expected, but it is starting to come together and progress is being made. We soon will have a very functional user friendly facility that hopefully will be in use each day for reaching the lost. Your dedication to what we are doing is greatly appreciated.

—Ted Norton, for the Elders

## ANNOUNCEMENTS 3/26/15

March 29, 2015 / Leading the congregation in:

**Announcements:**

A.M.: Alan Norton

P.M.: Alan Norton

**Opening Prayer:**

A.M.: Tim Bagents

P.M.: Wayne Johnston

**Closing Prayer:**

A.M.: Lindsey Mulkey

P.M.: Alan Kaye

**Singing:**

A.M.: Dean Norton

P.M.: Dean Norton

**SICK:** ROGER DILL underwent surgery Monday. Prayers have been requested for LEAH KELLY, former member, who is suffering pregnancy minor complications. Sick at home Sunday: CASSIDY BROWN, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, ALICE HANDLANG, WAYNE JOHNSTON, DOROTHY SULLIVAN, and MARSHA SUTTON. *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) DON HILYER, DON BRIDGES, SHARON LONG, AL DODSON, and LAURA NICHOLS. (Battling Cancer) KEVIN PENICK, ANDY ALLEN, GERMAINE HARDIN, LINDA MCKNIGHT, NEAL ROBERTS, and ROD HALL.

**SUNDAY BIBLE LESSON:** 3/29—*Early Church—Part A*, (Acts); 4/5—*Early Church—Part B*, (Acts); 4/12—*Before the Flood*, (Gen. 1-5).

**FELLOWSHIP MEALS:** There will not be a meal Mar. 29 since it is a 5th Sunday. There will not be a meal Apr. 5 due to the holiday. Team 1 (Norman) will host the meal Apr. 12.

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

**AOSF:** Are you eligible for the Alabama Opportunity Scholarship Fund? Alabama Christian Academy is now on the list of schools to accept AOSF and could potentially help fund your child's education at Alabama Christian Academy. Please go to [www.alabamascholarshipfund.org](http://www.alabamascholarshipfund.org) to verify eligibility.

**ACA ANNUAL SPRING BENEFIT DINNER:** The dinner will be Monday, Apr. 13, 6 PM, at the Frazer United Methodist Wesley Hall with guest speaker Greg McElroy. Event will feature selections from the ACA Acapella Chorus and Jazz Band and the meal will be catered by Jim n Nicks. Individual tickets on sale: \$10 adults, \$5 students. Call 277-1985 ext. 211. More information on the event is available at the website [www.alabamachristian.com](http://www.alabamachristian.com).

**LEADERS CONNECT:** The 19th Annual Retreat for Elders, Leaders, and their Wives at Faulkner University will be June 15-18. The Preacher's track will be Monday & Tuesday and the Elders & Deacons track will be Monday—Thursday. Brochures are available at the front welcome center. Go to [www.faulkner.edu](http://www.faulkner.edu) for more information.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** Faulkner University would like to announce the following open position: Safety Officer – Campus Safety. This position is being advertised to internal and external candidates. The complete position announcement can be viewed on our website at <http://www.faulkner.edu/about-faulkner/human-resources/current-openings/>.

## God's Plan

### for Saving Man

God's Grace - Ephesians 2:8

Christ's Blood - Romans 5:9

The Holy Spirit's Gospel - Romans 1:16

Sinner's Faith - Acts 16:31

Sinner's Repentance - Luke 13:3

Sinner's Confession - Romans 10:10

Sinner's Baptism - 1 Peter 3:21

Christian's Hope - Romans 8:24

Christian's Endurance - Revelation 2:10

*House to House, Heart to Heart*

## Overheard In An Orchard

Said the robin to the sparrow,  
 "I should really like to know  
 Why these anxious human beings  
 Rush about and worry so?"



Said the sparrow to the robin,  
 "Friend, I think that it must be  
 They have no heavenly Father  
 such as cares for you and me."

*"Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" (Matthew 6: 26).*

--Elizabeth Cheney, via *The Contender*

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **Apr. 2-5:** LtoL/L Convention
- **Apr. 12:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM

### COLLEGE EVENTS

- **College Desserts:** Wednesdays @ 7:30 PM
- **Apr. 27-30:** Faulkner Finals

### LADYBUGS

*(Ladies Building Unity in God's Service)*

**2015 Theme: VICTORY**

- **Quilting/Sewing:** Tuesday's, 1-3 PM
- **Apr. 8:** Breakfast @ Cracker Barrel, 9 AM
- **Apr. 11:** Tish Housley speaks at Rocky Creek Ladies' Day (Lucedale, MS)
- **Apr. 18:** LadyBUGS Day
- **Apr. 19:** Wendy LeGere's Bridal Shower
- **Apr. 26:** Craft Demo, 2 PM
- **Apr. 27:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM

### 16 Periods of Bible History

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

# What Christians Should Be

In 1 John 3, John contemplated the redemptive work of God through Jesus Christ. In Verse 1, John proclaimed that Christians are loved of God, children of God and strangers to the world. In Verse 2, he gave Christians a glimpse into what they shall become in the future; namely, they will become like Jesus Christ at His return. Beginning in Verse 3, John expounded upon what Christians should be.

In Verse 3, John set forth a universal truth, “And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself.” The biblical definition of hope is “desire with the expectation to receive.” It is much more than a wish because it is rooted in the belief that you will actually receive what is desired. The belief Christians have is not based on a “leap in the dark,” but instead, it is based on a solid foundation of evidence in the Word of God (Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:1). A Christian’s hope to become “like him” and to “see him as he is” on the Judgment Day resides “in Him.” The resurrection of Jesus Christ gives Christians hope that they will likewise be resurrected unto life eternal (1 Corinthians 15:17-22).

The hope that Christians have in Jesus is contingent upon their “purification.” The word translated “purifieth” means to be void of defilement and looks very similar to the word translated “holy.” The process of purification is a continuous and lifelong pursuit. The pursuit of purification begins at immersion (“baptism”) when one is born again (John 3:3-5) and has his or her past sins washed away (Acts 22:16). It is then imperative to exercise self-control to avoid sinning and defiling oneself before God (1 Corinthians 9:27; James 1:13-15). When sin does occur after baptism, and it most certainly will (1 John 1:10), repentance and confession brings one back into contact with the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ (1 John 7-9; Acts 8:22). It is sad that many fail to understand or accept personal responsibility for their own salvation. They live almost exclusively to feed their unlawful desires (1 John 2:15-17) and sin habitually before God (1 John 3:6-8), but yet they expect to receive the inheritance of God. Any hope they have, according to the inspired writer, is a vain hope. Their desire may be real, but their expectation is not based on the truth of the Gospel.

*“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:15-16).*

Finally, John provided Christians with the perfect example of purity, Jesus Christ. He instructed Christians to purify themselves “even as He is pure.” It is notable that John did not instruct Christians to purify themselves as Christ purified Himself. Jesus never sinned, and therefore, He never needed purification (1 John 3:5; Hebrews 4:15). However, it should be Christians’ goal to be like the God they serve (1 Peter 1:15-16).

Are you what you should be? If not, take the opportunity you have now to make yourself right with God and enjoy the hope of heaven.

--Jefferson Sole, *Gospel Gazette Online*

*“Rely on our dear Savior. He will be the Father of the fatherless and husband to the widow. Trust in the mercy and goodness of Christ, and always be ready to say with heartfelt resignation, ‘May the Lord’s will be done.’” (Andrew Jackson)*