



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

Web: emcofc.org

January 14, 2016

ELDERS:

Tim Bagents
Don Brannan
Ted Norton

DEACONS:

Billy Bush
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

STATISTICS 1/10/16

Bible Class: 123
AM Worship: 183
PM Worship: 110
EMBF: \$81.00

WELCOME!



David Hester

Speaking Sunday, January 17

Times & Topics:

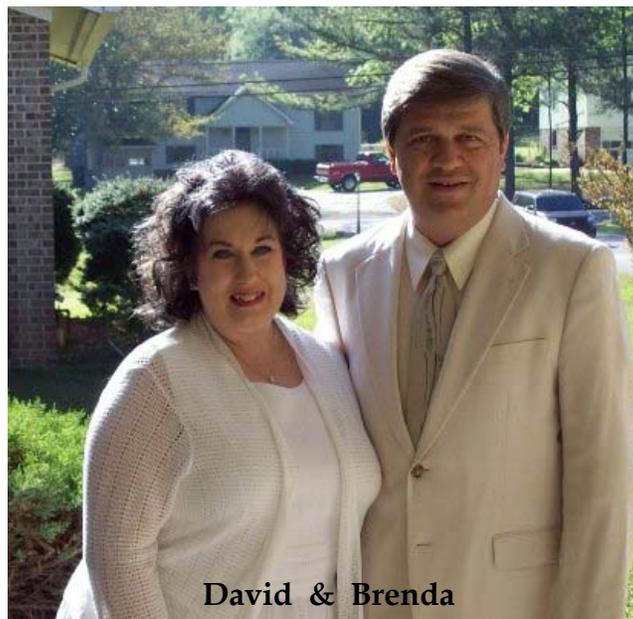
9 AM: **"A Famine In The Land" (Amos 8:11)**

10 AM: **"Some Things In Hell That Are Needed In The Church"**

5 PM: **"You Are There At The Crucifixion"**

David will begin in May, 2016 working with Eastern Meadows as the Education and Involvement Minister.

David W. Hester has been preaching the Gospel since 1978. His father, Benny W. Hester, was a Gospel preacher for over 50 years. He passed away in 2012. Benny was married to Mary Anne for over fifty years. David's late grandfather, S. F. Hester, preached the Gospel for over forty years before his passing in 1982. All of David's uncles preached; two have deceased, and one (Johnny) is still preaching. David received the B. A. *cum laude* in Bible from Freed-Hardeman in 1987, the M. A. *summa cum laude* in Bible from Amridge University in 1990, and the Ph.D. in New Testament *summa cum laude* from the Turner School of Theology at Amridge in June 2013. David is the first recipient of the Ph.D. in New Testament from



David & Brenda



Will & Jonathan

any university affiliated with churches of Christ. David and his wife, Brenda, were united in marriage in 1988. She is a 1980 Auburn graduate, and is a speech pathologist for the Blount county school system. They have two sons-Will and Jonathan-who are both active in the Lord's church. Will is the pulpit minister for the Osceola, AR congregation, and will marry Sarah Price May 28. Jonathan is an Account Executive for the Black Rock Group, a political consultant agency in Alexandria, VA. Jonathan worships with the Falls Creek, VA congregation. David has written two books about the "change movement" among churches of Christ: *Among the Scholars* (1994) and *Tampering With Truth* (2007), and is also the author of the book *Does Mark 16:9 – 20 Belong In The New Testament?* David serves as Lecturer for the V. P. Black College of Biblical Studies and the F. Furman Kearley Graduate School of Theology at Faulkner University. He is the director of the Faulkner Lectures and co-editor of the graduate journal, ΠINEYMATIKA.



Will & Sarah

BALANCE

—David Hester—

It seems, among some, that *balance* is a word to be avoided in connection with spiritual matters. Take a look around you; our American society is a case in point. Families are out of balance; consider all of the abandoned children, abusive husbands, and reprobate wives. Dysfunctional families are accepted as the "norm."

Our young people face a culture that is out of balance. Satan has full sway over many, in the way they dress, talk, and what they watch. With the advent of the Internet and high-speed connections, access to filth is easier than ever. Not only are young people at risk, but older ones who ought to know better are, too!

Religion in general is out of balance, toward human doctrines and creeds. All man-made documents pale in comparison to God's Word. The Bible is our only standard; our only rule of faith and practice. How well I remember, a few years ago, a lady who came by my office. She was upset over something I had recently preached on the radio. She happened to mention her admiration for the Book of Mormon. I calmly pointed out that the Bible is the only revelation from God (2 Peter 1:3); she became furious.

"That's just bibliolatry," she sputtered.

"No, ma'am," I replied, "That's the truth."

She huffed, "What you need to do is get down on your knees and pray to God!"

I answered, "No, what you need to do is to go home, read your Bible, and obey it."

The divisions in "Christendom" would vanish if all would take the Bible alone as their guide. Unfortunately, as the Lord Himself said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:21-23).

Even in the Lord's church, too many congregations and individuals are out of balance. It seems that the term "balance" has never been known among some preachers. God's admonition to Joshua is as timely now as it was when it was first delivered. "Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest" (Joshua 1:7). Brethren, the word "balance" is not a four-letter word, both literally and figuratively!

Some of my brethren cannot see the danger of false teachers. "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves" (Mt. 7:15). In spite of what Jesus said, there are those who are like the proverbial "ostrich," with their heads buried in the sand. They are like the Israelites of whom Isaiah wrote, "That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the Lord: which say to the seers, see not; and to the prophets, prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits" (Is. 30:9-10).

There are, however, those who see false teachers under every rock. They are like "Chicken Little" of the children's fable. Remember him? He was always saying, "The sky is falling! The sky is falling!" Or, "The Little Boy Who Cried, 'Wolf.'" Everyone ignored him until the danger came—and then, they were defenseless. These brethren are like those described in Acts 15:1; they want their way or no way. The apostles and elders wrote a letter to the Gentile brethren in the same chapter; they wrote in part, "Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, Ye must be circumcised, and keep the law: *to whom we gave no such commandment*" (Acts 15:24, emphasis mine—dh). Balance is a foreign concept to them!

Let us all resolve to stay within the confines of God's Word, and strive to keep a balance in our lives. It is in this way that our homes, our congregations, and our lives will be made strong.

FROM THE MINISTER:

Budget. The budget for 2016 is \$12,930, a 6.69 percent increase over 2015. This is the first increase since 2014. If you were not present for the budget presentation, you can pick up a copy from the Welcome Desk over the next two weeks. Thank you Don, Tim, and Ted for your work preparing and planning for 2016. And thank you for informing us of the many areas of work for Eastern Meadows in 2016. I am personally thankful that they want to keep us informed!

Welcome! We welcome David and Brenda Hester to Eastern Meadows. David will begin in May, 2016 working with Eastern Meadows as the Education and Involvement Minister. So that we might get to know him better, he will be with us all day this Sunday speaking at Bible Class, and at both Worship assemblies. Welcome David and Brenda!

Visitors. The past few weeks we have had a larger than usual number of visitors. I have seen many of you go out of your way to greet the visitors and truly make them feel as honored guests. As a result, I have heard several of these visitors remark concerning the friendliness of Eastern Meadows. Thank you!

Printing and Postage. Actually stamps. And we buy a lot of stamps. Printing and postage is a small budget area in the bulletin compared to most areas and it is under Administration. Even though it is under administration, these stamps are used primarily for Edification and Evangelism. And they are used by YOU! These stamps are used every Sunday with Sunday Night Service, when you write cards to encourage various ones. These stamps are used by World Bible School in sending Bible lessons to WBS students in the U.S.A. Thank you for the good you do with these stamps.

FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER:

Our next Youth Group Area-Wide worship and fellowship is February 14th, and will be at the Luverne 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 7: 1-6.

Bible Bowl Test Dates: February 3-16, 2016. We will play "Kahoot!" on Sunday afternoons unless pre-empted by other events. Plan to start at 3 p.m. and go until Sunday evening worship.

Group scrapbook work day on Sunday the 24th: plan to eat and stay all afternoon. BRING PICTURES! If you need to print them but haven't the time or resources, you can send them to me and I will take care of them.

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:



Last week's question: *Who shut the door to the ark? C) The Lord (Genesis 7:16)*

This week's question: Which came first?

A) The ark came to rest; B) Noah sent out a raven; C) Noah sent out a dove

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

- **Sunday's, 3 PM:** "Kahoot!" Bible Bowl Practice
- **Jan. 24:** Scrapbook Workday
- **Feb. 14:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM
- **Feb. 3–16:** Bible Bowl Test Dates

ANNOUNCEMENTS 1/14/16

Jan. 17, 2016 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:

A.M.: Roy Mulkey

P.M.: Roy Mulkey

Opening Prayer:

A.M.: George Davidson

P.M.: Ryan Gotkiewicz

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Billy Bush

P.M.: Austin Brown

Singing:

A.M.: William Dill

P.M.: William Dill

SICK: RANDY PORTERFIELD is scheduled for a heart catheterization Jan. 25. LOURINE BLACK has returned to Elmcroft. SYBIL SCOFIELD remains at Southern Springs Healthcare. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, ANNE-GEN DAVIS, JULIE, GRAYSON, & CARTER GOTKIEWICZ, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, CHARLOTTE PATTERSON, & ARLETTE POSTMA. 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): JENNY JOHNSON and FINN ADAIR. (Battling Cancer) GERMAINE HARDIN, IMOGENE GRACE, WAYNE EDWARDS, SONNY SOLOMON, OLEN HOUSLEY, TELSIE DAVIS, MARILYN PIERCE, and MARC MCDANIEL.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST UPDATES:

- KEVIN PENICK is in remission but will continue to receive chemo treatments.
- SONNY SOLOMON is in Jackson Hospital recovering from surgery.



JAN. 17 NURSERY ATTENDANTS: CECILIA & MIRANDA PORTERFIELD

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: There is no meal this Sunday due to the holiday weekend. Team 2 (Bush) will host Jan. 24.

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS: 10:30 AM

CAPITAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: The Capital Prayer Breakfast will be Friday, Jan. 15, at the Capital City Club in the R.S.A. building at the corner of Monroe and North Lawrence Streets. Breakfast will begin at 8:30. Please let Curtis Sampley know by Wednesday noon, January 13th, if you plan to attend. You may reach him by email at curtis-sampley@amridgeuniversity.edu or by phone at 334-387-7540.

MOUNT DORA MONTGOMERY BENEFIT DINNER: The Mount Dora Children's Home Montgomery Area Benefit Dinner will be Thursday, Feb. 4, 6 p.m., at Faulkner University Rotunda. For tickets see Paul Clements or Charlie Boddy by Jan. 31.

LADIES' DAY: There will be a Ladies' Day at North Lowndes Church of Christ Saturday, Feb. 6, with Sue Crabtree speaking on the theme, "We Are the Apple of God's Eye." Registration begins at 9 a.m., which includes a continental breakfast, and ends with provided lunch.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SEMINAR: The seminar will be Feb. 26-28. Jerry & Denise Martin will be speaking on "Becoming One...And Staying That Way!" Mark your calendars and make plans to attend!

THANK YOU: LadyBUGS Christmas Basket Committee, Thank you to the ladies of the Christmas Basket Committee and to all who donated to the cause for my basket. I have enjoyed all the goodies and appreciate all the love and kindness that went into making the baskets. It was so kind of you to think of me in such a nice way. God bless all of you! In Christian love, Phyllis Allen

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Faulkner University would like to announce the following open position: Financial Aid Officer. 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/>.

2016 BUDGET—\$12,930.00

1/10/16 CONTRIBUTION: **\$12,525.55** / BUDGET: **-\$404.45** / YTD: **-\$841.95**

LADYBUGS

Bible Classes —

This year our MNM and TNT Bible Classes will study the books for James and I and II Peter. We will use “**Successful Christian Living in Today’s World**” by Mike Winkler as a basis for our study. If you would like a book, please sign the list on the LadyBUGS’ Desk ASAP! One book per family will be provided. If you would like to order additional books for your family, please indicate that on the sign-up list. The cost of each book is \$8.00 per copy.

The first Monday Night Motivation Bible Class for 2016 will be Monday, January 25. We will enjoy a Chili Supper at 6:30 p.m. with Bible Class beginning promptly at 7 p.m. Please sign the list on the LadyBUGS’ desk for dinner. Melanie Bush will be teaching the Ladies Class.

LadyBUGS’ Day —

There will be an organizational meeting to begin making plans for our LadyBUGS’ Day 2016 Sunday, January 24, at 4:15 p.m. If you are interested in having a part in this event, please join us for this meeting.

Quilting Group —

All ladies interested in quilting are invited to attend an organizational meeting Tuesday morning, January 19 at 10 a.m. The schedule for 2016 will be determined at this meeting. If you are not able to attend, please see Margaret Daniel or Becky Neuenschwander before 1/19/16. We have additional fabric that needs to be sorted and stored. We will tackle this project on the 19th as well. All ladies are encouraged to bring a sack lunch and enjoy lunch together.

Visitation —

We will have an organizational meeting Sunday, January 17 at 4:30 p.m. If you are interested in helping to make visits to shut-ins, etc. this year, please come and help make plans for this year. If you are interested and cannot attend, please let Terry know.

Craft Projects —

There is a craft project scheduled for Sunday, January 17, at 2:30 p.m. They will also have a committee meeting at this time. If you are interested in making the craft project, please sign the list on the LadyBUGS’ Desk immediately. If you are interested in helping with this activity this year, please attend the meeting Sunday. If you have any questions, please see Dianne Hoskinson or Vickie Johnston.

Communion Preparation —

If you would like to prepare communion this year, please sign the list available on the LadyBUGS’ Desk.

Area Wide Ladies Devotional —

The Area Wide Ladies Devotional will study the book of Philippians this year. Our first meeting will be Monday, March 14, 2016 at 7 p.m. Eastern Meadows will host this devotional.

2016 holds exciting opportunities and challenges for us! Thank you for attending our LadyBUGS 2016 Meeting this year. Your willingness to serve and the attitude with which you approach opportunities is to be commended. I appreciate Angie Moore, Melanie Bush, Judy Creel, Becky Neuenschwander, and Becky Norton helping with the afternoon. First Things First!