



# Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

Web: [emcofc.org](http://emcofc.org)

January 21, 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

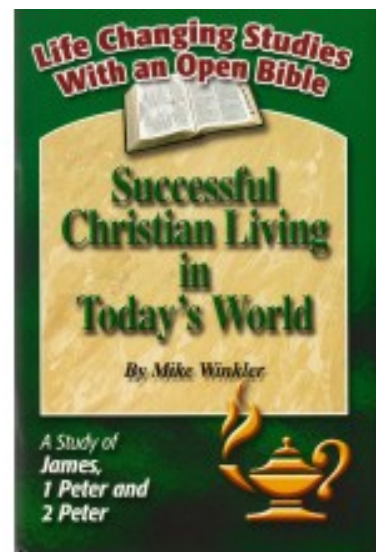
#### STATISTICS 1/17/16

Bible Class: 134  
AM Worship: 181  
PM Worship: 135  
EMBF: \$99.00

**WELCOME!**

## **MONDAY-NIGHT-MOTIVATION and TUESDAY-NIGHTS-TOGETHER**

This year our M-N-M and T-N-T Bible Classes will study the books of 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. 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. For our first lesson, Steve Housley will be teaching the Mens Class and Melanie Bush will be teaching the Ladies Class.



## FROM THE MINISTER:

**Great Day Sunday!** If you were not able to be here in person (the best way!) to hear David Hester you can still listen to these good lessons. They can be accessed on your internet at <http://www.emcofc.org/sermons2016.html>. Listen to Sunday Night's lesson first. That was my favorite. If you do not choose to listen that way, you can always request a CD from the guys at the control desk at the back of the auditorium. As you know David Hester will be joining the Eastern Meadows Staff in May, 2016. He will be working with Education and Involvement and also will be teaching some at



Lillie Galloway

Faulkner University and is the director of the Faulkner University Lectureship.

**Another Reason for a Great Day Sunday!** LILLIE GALLOWAY placed membership with the Eastern Meadows congregation. Lillie first attended EM several years ago and has attended on and off but she is now here to stay! Lillie was born in Montgomery but has lived in Chicago, Staten Island, NY, and Gary Indiana. She attended Business School, AUM, and Indiana University. She has four children; 9 grandchildren and one great grandchild. She has been a foster parent to about 7 children, the last one leaving her house in December 2015. She worked for Alabama Education Association for 30 years. Most importantly she became a Christian when she was 12 years old. By the way, her sister is Linda Bell, who has attended Eastern Meadows on Sundays for the last three years. We welcome Lillie to Eastern Meadows!

**Quilting!** It has started again for 2016. Though there was not much quilting done on this Tuesday's Quilting, many were present, working hard, sorting material for future quilts. It really is amazing how much good our Quilters have done. While they have all had some personal projects, they have made hundreds of lap quilts to



LadyBUGS Quilters



Sybil Scofield

be given away to Mother's with premie babies; cancer patients, and even to mothers and children in the Single Mothers Program at Mount Dora Children's Home. A thank you is certainly in order to these working so hard!

**Holiday Baskets.** Our Ladies prepared and carried Holiday Baskets to some of our elderly shut-ins and widows/widowers. Sister Dorothy Hooks delivered the basket to Sybil Scofield who is in a Rehab at the Nursing Home in Union Springs, Alabama. You can see both the content of some of the Holiday Baskets, but it is good to see and hear of Sister Sybil Scofield's improvement. Thank you to our Ladies for the good work. Thank you to Dorothy Hooks for delivering this basket and providing us with the picture of Sybil.

## 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 24<sup>th</sup> (No Bible Bowl practice): 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:** Which came first? A) The ark came to rest (Gen 8:4, 7, 8)

**This week's question:** During which ages were the Levites permitted to work in the Tabernacle? A) 25 to 70 years old; B) 25 to 60 years old; C) 25 to 50 years old



## ANNOUNCEMENTS 1/21/16

Jan. 24, 2016 / Leading the congregation in:

**Announcements:**

A.M.: Banks Sewell

P.M.: Banks Sewell

**Opening Prayer:**

A.M.: Tim Bagents

P.M.: Brooks Housley

**Closing Prayer:**

A.M.: Randy Johnston

P.M.: Austin Brown

**Singing:**

A.M.: Paul Clements

P.M.: Paul Clements

**SICK:** It was recently discovered that ANNEGENE DAVIS has a mass on her lung that has not yet been diagnosed, and she has requested prayers. NOLAN FUTRAL is recovering at home from surgery. BURT TURNER has requested prayers for back pain that he is suffering with. RANDY PORTERFIELD is scheduled for a heart catheterization Jan. 25. SYBIL SCOFIELD remains at Southern Springs Healthcare. Prayers have been requested for 15-month-old RAELEIGH JANE MCCARTHA, who has been diagnosed with cancer and is currently in Children's Hospital in Birmingham. (Raeleigh's parents are Josh & Rachel McCartha who worship with the church in Luverne.) Sick at home Sunday: BILL & VIRGINIA EVANS, DAN EVANS, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, RANDY JOHNSTON, WILL JOHNSTON, CECILIA PORTERFIELD, DOROTHY SULLIVAN, OPAL SULLIVAN, and RANDY & MARSHA SUTTON. 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.



Raeleigh Jane

**PRAYER REQUEST LIST:** (Health Issues): JENNY JOHNSON. (Battling Cancer) GERMAINE HARDIN, IMOGENE GRACE, WAYNE EDWARDS, OLEN HOUSLEY, TELSIE DAVIS, MARILYN PIERCE, MARC MCDANIEL, and RAELEIGH JANE MCCARTHA.

**PRAYER REQUEST UPDATE:** SONNY SOLOMON is recovering from surgery in which all the cancer was removed. We are happy to announce that preemie FINN ADAIR has been dismissed from the hospital.

**SYMPATHY:** Our sympathy is extended to the family of E.J. TURNER who passed away Friday, Jan. 15. The funeral was Monday, Jan. 18 at University Church of Christ with internment at Alabama Heritage Cemetery.

**JAN. 24 NURSERY ATTENDANTS:** LYNDE CROWDER & SARAH NORTON

**FELLOWSHIP MEAL:** Team 2 (Bush) will host the meal this Sunday, Jan. 24, following the morning worship service. There will not be a meal Jan. 31, since it is a 5th Sunday.

**FEBRUARY CALENDAR:** All events for the February calendar must be turned in by Sunday, Jan. 24, to Wilma.

**THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS:** 10:30 AM

**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 presenting two lessons on "We Are The Apple Of God's Eye" (Lam. 2:18). Registration begins at 9 a.m. with a continental breakfast. Lunch provided.

**MARRIAGE RETREAT:** The Great Smoky Mountain Marriage Retreat, sponsored by the Jacksonville Church of Christ, will be Feb. 17-21 in Pigeon Forge, TN. For more information call 1.877.338.3397 or go to [www.smokymountainmarriage.com](http://www.smokymountainmarriage.com).

**LADIES' DAY:** There will be a Ladies' Day at Walnut Street Church of Christ Saturday, Feb. 20, with Celine Sparks speaking on the theme "Heart Exam." Registration begins at 8 a.m. Lunch provided. RSVP by Feb. 10th 334-382-3001.

**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:** Dear Fellow Christians at Eastern Meadows Church of Christ, Thank you so much for all of the prayers and cards on behalf of Sonny Solomon during his cancer journey. His surgery was successful with all cancer removed. We love and appreciate each card received. Sincerely, Sonny & Carolyn Solomon

**ADDRESS:** LILLIE GALLOWAY, 7330 Heathermoore Loop, Montgomery, AL, 36117, 334-220-3481; DAVID & BRENDA HESTER; 6836 Ashberry Drive, Pinson, AL, 35126.

## 2016 BUDGET—\$12,930.00

1/17/16 CONTRIBUTION: \$11,480.39 / BUDGET: -\$1,449.61 / YTD: -\$2,291.56

# First Things First



## BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY January 31st

*Sunday Bible Classes—Jan. 24*

- **Auditorium Class**—1 Samuel 25:1-42 - Abigail
- **Young Ladies' Class**—Habakkuk
- **Experienced Ladies' Class**—Bible Women of the O.T.: Rebekah & Deborah

## LADYBUGS

- **Jan. 24:** LadyBUGS' Day 2016 Organization Meeting, 4:15 PM
- **Jan. 25:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM – (Chili Supper—Sign-up list at LadyBUGS Desk)
- **Jan. 27:** B-L-D Club Breakfast, 9 AM @ Egg & I on Zelda. Sign-up list @ LadyBUGS Desk
- **Communion Preparation:** If you would like to help prepare communion this year, please sign the list available on the LadyBUGS Desk

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

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

## FIVE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE CHURCH

There is a lot of confusion in the religious world about the church: what it is, what it represents, its significance, how many there are, etc. All of the questions and problems cannot be addressed in a single, brief article, but this is a start. Here are five things Christians need to know about the church of the Bible – and what they need to teach to others.

5

1. The church was bought by the blood of Christ (Acts 20:28).
2. The church is the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23).
3. The church is made up of saints (1 Corinthians 1:1-2).
4. There is one body (Ephesians 2:14-16; 1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12), thus there is **only one church**.
5. Entrance into the body is accomplished through baptism (1 Corinthians 12:13).

--Thomas Baxley, via *Gospel Gazette Online*

## YOU JUDGE!

After the healing of the lame man by Peter and John (Acts 4), the Sanhedrin commanded them

to stop preaching Jesus. They answered with a statement that still challenges many today: Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. (Acts 4:19).

The message coming from many pulpits today is salvation by faith alone. Should we listen to these men or should we listen to God's Word? James 2:24 says, You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. Paul told the Philippians, Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; (Phil 2:12)

So! Is it right in the sight of God to listen to men rather than God? You judge.

--Charlie Gamble, via *BulletinGold*

## THREE TENSES

- 1) Past Tense – God's Grace has appeared to all men (Titus 2:11).
- 2) Present Tense – God's Grace instructs us to leave sin behind and live righteously (Titus 2:12).
- 3) Future Tense – God's grace causes us to look for Christ's coming (Titus 2:13).

– Mark Posey, *HTH/HTH*

3

# CHECK THOSE LOTTERY NUMBERS CLOSELY

Today, we are finding out that three winning lottery tickets were sold in the record-setting Powerball jackpot, one in California, one in Florida, and one in Tennessee. Each ticket is worth \$528.8 million dollars. That's an attention-getting number. Here are a few more. \$70.1 billion dollars, the amount Americans spend on lottery tickets every year (more than Americans spend on sports tickets, books, video games, movies, and music combined). \$755. That's the average per-capita spend on lottery tickets in South Dakota. \$800. That's the per-capita spend in Rhode Island, who holds the ignominious distinction of leading the nation in this category. \$230. That's the per-capita average spend of every man, woman, and child in the 43 states where the lottery is played. One-third and one-half. The poorest third of households buy half of all lottery tickets (statistics via [theatlantic.com](http://theatlantic.com), Derek Thompson, "Lotteries: America's \$70 Billion Shame").

Newscasters often report on these jackpots and encourage viewers to "check the numbers." Lottery commercials often vie with beer commercials as some of the more humorous, clever ones to be seen. In the media and public venues, lottery ticket purchasing is usually portrayed as a harmless, even exciting, diversion. Perhaps many have failed to look more closely at what these other numbers mean for a person's ethics and morality.



John A. Hobson, in the January 1905 edition of *International Journal of Ethics*, examined "The Ethics Of Gambling." In an examination of gambling, including lottery contests, Hobson observes:

Gambling involves the denial of all system in the appointment of property: it plunges the mind in a world of anarchy where things come upon one, and pass from one miraculously. It does not so manifestly sin against the canons of justice as do other bad modes of transfer, theft, fraud, sweating (sic.), for every one is said to have an equal chance; but it inflicts a graver damage on the intellect. Based as it is on an organised rejection of all reason as a factor, it removes its devotees into a positive atmosphere of miracles, and generates an emotional excitement that inhibits those checks which reason more or less contrives to place upon emotional extravagances. The essence of gambling consists in an abandonment of reason, an inhibition of the factors of human control (Vol. 15, No. 2, 138).

Hobson was looking at the underlying psyche of those so eager to gain as much as possible while exerting as little effort as possible. But he decries more than laziness. He puts his finger on the most dangerous aspect of things like playing the lottery – the Bible calls it "covetousness." It is an irrational, often compulsive, attempt to obtain wealth.

The BDAG lexicon defines the covetous person as "one who desires to have more than is due, a greedy person, whose ways are judged to be extremely sinful by Christians and many others. In Hellenic society this was a violation of the basic principle of proportion and contrary to the idea of beneficent concern for the citizenry" (Arndt, William, Frederick W. Danker, and Walter Bauer. *A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament and other early Christian literature* 2000 : n. pag. Print.). Greed is not confined to practices like playing the lottery, but it is legitimate for one to ask what motivates their play?

What is clear is what Scripture says about covetousness: it prevents one's inheriting the kingdom of God (1 Cor. 6:10); it is idolatry which again prevents inheriting this kingdom (Eph. 5:5); it is a failure to love one's neighbor (Rom. 13:9); and it is a defilement of the heart (Mark 7:22). Let's make sure that greed and covetousness do not "have our number."

—Neal Pollard, *The Daily Bread*, email ministry