



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

Web: emcofc.org

April 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 4/17/16

Bible Class: 144
AM Worship: 205
PM Worship: 132
EMBF: \$252.00

WELCOME!

Open House & Homecoming 2016

Eastern Meadows church of Christ

May 1, 2016



9:30 – 10:30 AM Worship – Steve Housley - Auditorium

10:45 – 11:30 AM Bible Class – Charlie Boddy – Auditorium

Children's Classes as Usual

11:45 – 1:30 PM Dinner & Fellowship – Fellowship Hall

1:30- 2:30 PM Congregational Gospel Singing – Auditorium

2:30—3:30 PM Worship – David Hester - Auditorium

FROM THE MINISTER:

Coming Soon! Homecoming/Open House will soon be here. I hope that all of you have made your plans to be a part of the entire day! It is going to be a wonderful day. We will, as usual, be a part of a Bible Class and two Worship assemblies. In the evening worship (2:30 p.m.!) David Hester will be speaking. David is an excellent Bible student and preacher. For many of us this will only be the second Sunday we have had the opportunity to learn from David. Remember the morning worship is at 9:30 a.m. followed by Bible Classes and the evening worship is at 2:30 p.m.! After Bible Class we will have opportunity to fellowship at lunch, a lunch cooked in the new kitchen (ladies you do not have to bring anything!). A congregational SINGING, followed by evening worship at 2:30 p.m. Be here!

Invite. Be inviting others to worship. Especially, be inviting others to worship on Homecoming/Open House. Let this be a day we FILL UP the new building! Remember, worship at 9:30 a.m.

A First. Last Sunday was the first Fellowship Meal in the new Fellowship Hall. There were almost 65 who stayed and ate, sitting at almost every table that was set up. A great meal; a great day! Lord willing, the first of many!

Thank You. There have been several men and women working over the past several weeks readying our new building and old building for use.

There have been those to do a thorough cleaning of the old auditorium to ready it for a fellowship hall. Some have done some "extra" cleaning to wipe away construction dust (a necessary part of the process), cleaning light lenses (something you do not see or notice when it is clean; but might notice if bugs have died and settled in on the lens), running wires for Wifi; pressure washing; moving chairs and tables; moving things from the old kitchen to the new kitchen; searching for the best price for plastic table cloths for the FH tables; planning for Homecoming; overseeing landscaping; moving pulpit furniture; readying the audio/visual equipment; working out bugs in audio/visual equipment, ordering and putting out new door mats, cleaning out the new baptistry and etc!!! Thank you!



New Fellowship Hall

Building Update:

Finishing touches continue. Painting continues. White boards and bulletin boards have been put up in two new classrooms in the new building. The wall paper has been put up in the sitting areas in the foyer. The rain last



White Board in Classroom



Foyer Sitting Area Wall Paper

week slowed down the landscaping and irrigation work. A broken piece of equipment has slowed it down this week, but we are only a few days from its completion. Cleanup of the construction site continues. Soon and very soon, it will be finished!

FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER:

The Central Alabama Youth Group Area-Wide Devotional for May will be Sunday, the 8th at Eastern Meadows! The topic will follow our 2015-2016 theme of AIM (Attitude, Image, Mind) and will focus on Matthew 7:21-29, a well-known teaching by Jesus about people who will be surprised at the judgement. We will need volunteers to help with set-up, cooking, serving, and clean-up. If you can help, let me know. Thanks!

"Greater than Prom" will be May 6-7 at the Harbor Lodge located on Lake Martin.

Attendees (grades 10-12) will enjoy a formal banquet with a meal and entertainment, a t-shirt, food for the weekend, and a one night stay in a Harbor Lodge cabin (linens will be provided). The banquet will begin at 7:00 P.M. Friday, May 6 and will conclude by 2:00 P.M. Saturday, May 7.



If you plan to go, ensure that you tell, text, or call Tim no later than Sunday, April 20th!

All youth and college are encouraged to attend the Picnic at Ida Bell Park on April 30th. We will be helping the little ones learn how to fly kites! Plan to stay and have a great time.

The Grad picnic is being planned for May 21st @ noon. We will be honoring six grads and enjoying a picnic style lunch.

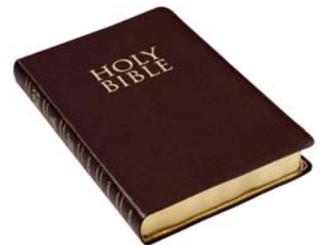
Summer is almost upon us! If you signed up for ICYC AP week, we are leaving here on Sunday, June 5th (6 ½ weeks away) and returning on June 10th.

VBS will be the week of June 19th through June 23rd.

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last week's question: Who said, "You have transgressed and have taken pagan wives, adding to the guilt of Israel. Now therefore, make confession to the Lord God of your fathers, and do His will; separate yourselves from the peoples of the land, and from the pagan wives." Ezra (Ezra 10; 10, 11)

This week's question: "Whoever transgresses (goes contrary to) and does not abide in the _____ of Christ does not have God." A) Love; B) Fellowship; C) Doctrine



David Hester will debate Don Preston on the AD 70 doctrine, July 14-15 2016, in Ardmore, OK. Please keep David in your prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS 4/21/16

April 24, 2016 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:

A.M.: Mike Norman

P.M.: Mike Norman

Opening Prayer:

A.M.: Ted Norton

P.M.: Brad Knowles

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Tim Gotkiewicz

P.M.: Banks Sewell

Singing:

A.M.: Jon Timbes

P.M.: Jon Timbes

SICK: BARRETT EDWARDS had successful surgery Tuesday to put tubes put in his ears. MARSHA SUTTON will have a sacroiliac fusion April 25 and another on June 7 at Baptist South. JOY DAVIS is recovering at home following sinus surgery. MARGARET GRAVES suffered a fall last week that left her bruised and sore. MARCIA GRAVES underwent an out-patient procedure last week on her back. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, AARON FERRELL, and JERRY PATTERSON. Continue to remember our members listed on our Sunday-Night-Service Prayer List. Shut-ins: SYBIL SCOFIELD, TAM LOWERY, PATSY LOWERY, CATHERINE LEINHEISER, LOURINE BLACK, JACKIE JOHNSTON, and JEWEL BARNES. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN.

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS:

- For MARY RUTH COMBS, Sarah Housley's grandmother, who suffered a fractured hip in a fall.
- For TOM COMBS, Sarah Housley's uncle, who has recently had two strokes.
- For MARY LYNN TURNER, Darla Suttons' mother, who has been in ICU in Flint, MI, and will soon go home under hospice care. Darla is Randy & Marsha Sutton's daughter-in-law.
- For JAMES NICHOLAS, father of former member Sarah Mizell, is in ICU in critical condition in Cabot, AK.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues): QUENTIN CROWE, KAY PEARSON and DOROTHY STUBBS. (Battling Cancer) GERMAINE HARDIN, IMOGENE GRACE, MARC MCDANIEL, MARK CHESSOR, GLEN BARRON, and RAELEIGH JANE MCCARTHA.

APR. 24 NURSERY ATTENDANTS: LINDA SIMPSON & LYNDE CROWDER

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Team 3 (Gotkiewicz) will host the Fellowship Meal this Sunday, Apr. 24, following the morning worship service. Lunch will be provided May 1st at Homecoming & Open House. There will not be a meal May 8, due to Mother's Day. Team 4 (Simpson) will host the meal May 15. Team 5 (Mathews) will host May 22. There will not be a meal May 29 since it is a 5th Sunday.



THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS: Thursday's at 10:30 AM—A Study of Hebrews

BABY SHOWER: There will be a Baby Shower in honor of CINDY MULKEY this Sunday, April 24, 6 PM. The nursery colors are aqua and pink. Cindy is registered at Target and Babies R Us.

MAY CALENDAR: All events for the May Calendar must be turned in by this Sunday, April 24, to Wilma Berry.

SPRING PICNIC: The YPYF Group is hosting a spring picnic on April 30 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ida Belle Young Park pavilion on Vaughn Road. Bring a picnic lunch for your family, lawn chairs, blankets, and outside equipment (football, frisbee, kites, etc.). The pavilion is reserved for Eastern Meadows, and picnic tables will be available. All ages are welcome to attend.

MONDAY-NIGHT-MOTIVATION: April 25, 6:30 PM. The meal is followed by a Men's class and a Woman's Class. All are invited to attend.

TIME CHANGE! Note the time change for Sunday Services on May 1 ONLY. On May 1 Worship will be first at 9:30 AM followed by Bible Classes at 10:45 AM. Evening worship will be at 2:30 PM. Make your plans so you will not miss any of these services!

AREA WIDE SINGING: The Area Wide Singing is May 6, 7 PM, at Redland Road church of Christ.

MAY YPYF SECOND SUNDAY NIGHT: The Young Professionals and Young Families group will not meet for dinner on May 8. Instead, please plan to stay and help with serving food at the Area Wide Youth Devotional after evening services.



GRADUATES COOKOUT: The cook-out to honor our high school graduates will be May 21, 12 noon. Our graduates are: MOLLIE BETH DILL, KELSEY EVANS, TURNER JOHNSTON, MIRANDA PORTERFIELD, BANKS SEWELL, and KIM WILSON.

THANK YOU: Eastern Meadows Church Family, Thank you for all the cards and letters you sent to my mother during her illness. She always enjoyed receiving them. Thank you for all the notes, cards, and texts expressing your condolences for my mom’s passing. Also, thank you to everyone who has sent food over. It has really helped us out. Vickie Johnston

LADYBUGS

- ◆ **April 24:** Cindy Mulkey’s Baby Shower, 6 PM
- ◆ **April 25:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM. Gwen Mann will be teaching Lesson 5—Our Fight With Worldliness—James 4:1-5:6. *The dinner menu is available at the LadyBUGS Desk to sign-up for.*
- ◆ **May 1:** Visitation Assignments
- ◆ **May 3:** Quilting, 10 AM until (bring your lunch)
- ◆ **May 9:** Area Wide Ladies’ Devo, 7 PM, @ Panama Street
- ◆ **May 17:** Quilting, 1-3 PM
- ◆ **May 19:** BLD Club Lunch, 11:30 AM, @ Peyton’s Place

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **April 30:** Spring Picnic, 11 AM—1 PM
- **May 6-7:** Prom Alternative

Sunday Bible Classes—April 17

Auditorium Class: *Can We Worship With Those in Religious Error?*
 Young Ladies class: *Philippians Chapter 1*

2016 BUDGET—\$12,930.00

4/17/16 CONTRIBUTION: **\$11,264.25** BUDGET: **-\$1,665.75** YTD: **+\$13,408.54**

What About Local Church Membership

Many have asked the question, “Is the organization we have in the church today similar to the Biblical standard?” If we use the commands, examples, and inferences found in the New Testament, it certainly is. One of the side questions to this matter is that of local congregational membership. Some have said that there is no “placing membership” example. Others don’t see the need. But what does the Bible say about Christians and the church?

1. It tells us we are born into a family. “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit” (1 Cor. 12:13). It is not when a person says, “I believe in God” that they join God’s family. Jesus said, as per any family, one must be born to enter it (Jn. 3:3, 5). In the first century, when people were born again in baptism, God added them to the church universal. It seemed a very simple conclusion that these individuals identified with local Christians. They became a member of a congregation that was in close proximity to their daily home and work.

2. It tells us fellowship begins with responsibility. "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42). Being brought into the fellowship inherently involves the idea of each one doing his/her own part (Eph. 4:16). While many today might believe fellowship has only to do with social interaction, the original idea in Scripture is that it was "joint participation." Fellowship meant sharing the gospel and the responsibilities of belonging to Christ and the church. The acts of worship were considered acts of fellowship. Benevolence, another responsibility, was fellowship (Acts 6:1-7). Paul considered the money he received from the saints at Philippi "fellowship" (Phil. 4:15). This was because they had done their part in the spreading of the gospel and meeting the needs of the brethren. We do not exit baptismal waters and then just punch our ticket every Sunday morning! Joint participation includes involvement in all of the things the church is doing. How can a person be so involved without identifying with a local body of Christians?

3. It tells us we are accountable. "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you" (Heb. 13:17). Each local congregation had elders and deacons (Phil. 1:1). The elders were shepherds, overseers, men who had an obligation to every Christian within the congregation concerning spiritual matters. The members, in turn, were to obey these men in expedient matters and also respect their reinforcement of God's written word. One can only be submissive by recognizing a relationship with the one to whom they must submit. Christians "at large" do not have the accountability that God designed for their spiritual lives. The church, or the body of Christ, is comprised of the saved (Acts 2:47; Eph. 5:23); thus, those who are saved are a living, breathing, functional part of the church.

If you are a Christian, it is God's design and desire for you to be involved in the work of the church, both universal and local.

"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God" - Ephesians 2:19

--Jeremiah Tatum

The Wicked and Prayer of the Good

In Psalm 36, the psalmist reflects on the thinking and doing of one pursuing a life without God. One who lives without God is living as an atheist; that is, he lives as if there is no God to whom one will give an account. He also flatters himself when confronted with his sinful behavior with perverse talk and mischievous plans.

On the other hand, God's glory encourages the thoughtful saint to put emphasis on Him, and not on human fallibility. God is merciful and firm in His judgments. Those who rely on Him find that He is also the preserver of life; a man will find his life preserved when he finds happiness in God's wisdom. In truth he can't help but to be satisfied and happy!

Loneliness is a miserable experience! Though there may be times when one insists on being alone, loneliness is more than just being alone; it is the feeling of emptiness and failure. God's saint, however, is never alone; he seeks God's peace (comfort), presence, and prosperity (favor). Those who stand opposed to God's saint, God gives protection, and when prayer is offered it is answered.

--Ron Thomas, *BulletinGold*