



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

Web: emcofc.org

May 12, 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 5/8/16

Bible Class: 157
AM Worship: 231
PM Worship: 259
EMBF: \$129.00

WELCOME!



FROM THE MINISTER:

Continue to Pray! Last Wednesday Ron Hoskinson responded asking the church for prayer. Sunday night Kim Wilson requested prayer, particularly as she makes decisions for the future. Let us continue to pray one for another.

Another First. Last week we had the first Sunday morning full congregational fellowship meal we had in almost 10 years. It had also been a very long time since we had hosted an Area-Wide Youth Devotional at our own building, until last Sunday night. What a joy it was to hear of the singing, and also to see our Youth conduct the worship assembly. Thanks, Tim Gotkiewicz for your leadership.

Another Reminder. There are "Invite 'Em" cards on the Welcome Desk in the foyer. Please use them. Invite. And greet everyone. Make it your goal to make your fellow members realize they are at a place where others care about them. Make it your goal to make every effort to greet each visitor and make them feel welcome.

BIBLE CLASS NEWS:

Wednesday College and Youth Class. Last Wednesday the College and Youth Classes began a new series of lessons. They are using the Kyle Butt and Apologetics Press material, "Out With Doubt." They listen to the DVD videos in the Fellowship Hall together before splitting up for the class session. Tim Gotkiewicz teaches the College Age class and Tim Hatch and Charles Brown are teaching the Youth Class. This is an important study as they learn proofs for the Existence of God, the Deity of Christ, and the Inspiration of the Scriptures.

Sunday Morning Auditorium Class. Charlie Boddy has done an excellent job with his series, "Burning Issues of the 21st Century." If you have not heard the lessons, go to [emcofc.org; resources](http://emcofc.org/resources); and look for his lessons. This class was designed to finish in May. Due to various circumstances, the lessons on "Miracles or Mirage" will be at a later time. Beginning the first Sunday in June, DAVID HESTER, will begin a series of lessons on the Book of Revelation.

SUMMER SUNDAY NIGHTS

Some exciting plans have been made for Sunday Nights in June, July, and August. The plans are good. The only thing that will make it better is if you are present.

June Theme: "*Improving Your Serve.*" During the month of June, on Sunday nights, Eastern Meadows will be considering various ways that we might become a better servant of God. We will begin June 5 with a general lesson, "Lord, Make Me A Servant." The remainder of the Sunday nights will discuss specific ways we need to be improving our service to God. Some of the areas of service to be considered will be more "men" specific, while the women, *separate from the men*, will consider some areas of service that are more specific to women. I hope our prayer and song for the month will be "Lord, make me a servant."

July Theme: "*Ten Questions.*" There are five Sunday nights in July and each Sunday night during the sermon time, Eastern Meadows will be studying two different questions. For the next several weeks we are asking you the question: "If you could ask God one question, what would the question be?" From the questions you turn in 10 will be selected and each Sunday night two questions will be discussed. Various men from Eastern Meadows will be answering these questions you have asked.



August Theme: *"Come Let Us All Unite to Sing."* During each Sunday night in August, lessons will in some way emphasize the singing time we spend in our worship assemblies. Additionally, we will spend more time in song on these Sunday nights, as well as take a little time improve our singing.

FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER:

The Grad picnic is being planned for next Saturday, May 21st @ noon. We will be honoring our six grads and enjoying a picnic style lunch. We will provide burgers, dogs, and iced tea; we ask that you bring picnic sides.

Summer is almost upon us! If you signed up for ICYC AP week, we are leaving here on Sunday, June 5th (3 ½ weeks away) and returning on June 10th.

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

Thanks to all who made our Area-wide such a wonderful experience! Many of you helped in so many ways that it's impossible to name everyone, but your help is very much appreciated, and remember, "For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister." (Hebrews 6:10). I am very proud of our young men who led singing and prayer, and read scripture. It's inspiring to watch them grow. A special shout-out goes to the YPYF group who set up, fried, served, and cleaned up for our fellowship meal. A special-special shout-out, of course, goes out for Chef Dean!!!

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last week's question: Brother Charlie Boddy's lesson this past Sunday was entitled, "Three things necessary for building up the church." His lesson started with a look at the book of _____. C) Nehemiah

This week's question: Zechariah prophesied: "It shall be in that day," says the Lord of hosts, "that I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall no longer be remembered. I will also cause the prophets and the _____ to depart from the land." A) unclean spirit; B) kings; C) unrighteous



ANNOUNCEMENTS 5/12/16

May 15, 2016 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:

A.M.: Greg Edwards

P.M.: Greg Edwards

Opening Prayer:

A.M.: Josh Cochran

P.M.: Alan Kaye

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Austin Brown

P.M.: Turner Johnston

Singing:

A.M.: Dean Norton

P.M.: Dean Norton

SICK: ELLA HANKINS had a back procedure done Wednesday. CHARLOTTE JACKSON is scheduled for surgery May 23 at Jackson Hospital. MARSHA SUTTON continues to recover from surgery. Prayers have been requested for LUCILLE FAKES, member of Dalraida church, sister of Vera Dekle, who suffered a fall and is recovering. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, BARRETT EDWARDS, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, and MARIAN SIKES. 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.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues): QUENTIN CROWE, DOROTHY STUBBS, MARY RUTH COMBS, TOM

COMBS, and IMOGENE DOLD. (Battling Cancer) GERMAINE HARDIN, IMOGENE GRACE, MARC MCDANIEL, MARK CHESSOR, GLEN BARRON, MARK CHAMBLESS, RICKY MORROW, and RAELEIGH JANE MCCARTHA.

SYMPATHY: Our condolences to Dorothy Hooks at the passing of her sister, BESSIE ELLIS, last week. The funeral will be Friday, May 13, 12 noon at Resurrection Catholic Church, where she worked.

BAPTISM: We rejoice to announce that RANDAL PORTERFIELD was baptized Wednesday night at Willow Creek church of Christ. (1987 Lee Road Lot 213, Auburn, AL. 36832)

MAY 15 NURSERY ATTENDANTS: TAMMY EVANS & DAWN CHANDLER

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Team 4 (Simpson) will host the meal this Sunday, May 15, following the morning worship. 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. *Last class before breaking for the summer will be May 19.*

GRADUATES COOK-OUT: There will be a Cook-out in honor of our high school graduates Saturday, May 21, 12 noon. Our graduates are: MOLLIE BETH DILL, KELSEY EVANS, TURNER JOHNSTON, MIRANDA PORTERFIELD, BANKS SEWELL, and KIM WILSON.

BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY—MAY 29, 2016

YPYF BISCUTIS' GAME: On Sunday, May 29, the YPYF Group will meet downtown at the Biscuits' game immediately after evening services. See Brooks or Sarah Housley for more information.

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

Sunday Bible Classes—May 15

Auditorium: *The Rapture & Tribulation*

Young Ladies: *Philippians 2*

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **May 21:** Graduates Cook-out, 12 Noon
- **June 5-10:** ICYC—AP Week
- **June 19-23:** VBS

2016 BUDGET—\$12,930.00

5/8/16 CONTRIBUTION: **\$11,804.17**

BUDGET: **-\$1,089.83**

YTD: **+\$15,751.25**

LADYBUGS

- ♦ **May 17:** Quilting, 1-3 PM
- ♦ **May 19:** BLD Club Lunch, 11:30 AM, @ Peyton's Place
- ♦ **May 21:** Graduation Tea, 2-3:30 PM, @ Cecilia Porterfield's Home
- ♦ **May 23:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM
- ♦ **June 5:** Visitation Assignments



**Congratulations to LAPORSCHÉ BARNES
on her graduation from Troy University!**

LaPorsche Barnes

FIRST THINGS FIRST MATT. 6:33

NOT A CHRISTIAN

IN DARKNESS - JO. 12:46; ACTS 26:15-18

LOST - ROM. 3:23

WITHOUT GOD - CHRIST - HOPE - EPH. 2:12

WILL HEAR. "DEPART..." - MT. 25:41

VENGEANCE IN FIRE - 2 THESS. 1:7-9

WAGES IS DEATH - ROM. 6:23

EVERLASTING PUNISHMENT - MT. 25:46

BECOME A CHRISTIAN - ACTS 11:26

JESUS DIED TO GIVE LIFE - JO. 3:16; HEB. 2:9

HE HAS GIVEN A PLAN - JO. 14:6

BELIEVE - MK. 16:15,16

REPENT - LK. 24:45-49

CONFESS - MT. 10:32

BE BAPTIZED - MK. 16:16

HE INVITES YOU - MT. 11:28-30

WON'T YOU ACCEPT?



A CHRISTIAN

PUT THE LORD'S BUSINESS BEFORE YOUR BUSINESS -

PLEASURE - CONVENIENCE - LK. 2:49; MT. 6:33; ROM. 12:11

DO NOT DECEIVE SELF - GAL. 6:3; JS. 1:26; GAL. 6:7,8

DON'T LIVE AFTER THE FLESH - ROM. 8:13

YIELD YOURSELVES UNTO GOD - ROM. 6:12,13

PUT THE LORD'S WILL ABOVE YOUR OWN - MT. 26:39

BE SPIRITUALLY MINDED - ROM. 8:6-9

LIVE A TRANSFORMED LIFE - ROM. 12:1,2

BE A DOER OF THE WORD - JS. 1:22-25

FLEE & FOLLOW - 1 TIM. 6:10-12

SET AFFECTIONS ABOVE - COL. 3:1,2

TEACH - ACTS 8:4

RUN TO WIN - 1 COR. 9:24

WILL YOU?



TAKE TIME TO BE HOLY

In 1 Peter 1:13-19, there are three commands that relate to something that must be done regardless of how much time it takes to complete. They are, "fix your hope completely on grace" (13), "be holy in all your behavior" (15), and "conduct yourselves in fear" (17). There's a fourth command of this type in verse 22: "Love one another from the heart." All of these are done as the result of a salvation taught by the prophets and revealed to us. Because we've been saved, we should fix our hope on grace, be holy in behavior, conduct ourselves in fear, and love one another from the heart. Considering what God has done for us, we should be eager to do what He tells us to do. At the heart of the discussion, Peter calls for holiness. "Holy" is found 10 times in 1 Peter, but there are synonyms in the book, too ("behavior" or "manner of life"-7 times; "do good" or "right"-13 times). We want to be holy, do good, and behave, and this letter says a whole lot about how that looks. It's faithfulness in suffering, distinctiveness in daily living, and keeping heavenly in focus. It's captured in Peter's petition (2:11). Our world places more emphasis on happiness than holiness, and if you have to choose one the world says choose happiness. But, God calls us to choose holiness. How do we do that?



- Look within (13). Moral behavior begins in the heart. So, he says to keep sober in spirit and fix your hope on grace. These are both heart matters.
- Look out (14,17). Sanctification and obedience appear together in three different verses in chapter one (2,14,22). Holiness is a matter of obeying the truth. This has a negative aspect (14-"Don't be

conformed") and a positive aspect (17-"Conduct yourselves in fear"). To be holy, we've got to keep our eyes peeled and be vigilant. We're going to look out for the traps and tricks of this world because we know we're only strangers here.

- Look up (15-16). This letter is about our need of God's help to be holy. There's a wide gap between our holiness and God's holiness, and we can never forget that. Peter says to be holy like He is holy. That is an endless aspiration, a goal we'll never achieve but must constantly work at.
- Look ahead (17). God is going to impartially judge according to each one's work. We should be holy now because we will stand before the Perfect Judge some day.
- Look back (18-19). I love the way Peter ends the paragraph. It gives us such hope! The way to take time to be holy is to turn around and look back-at our salvation (1:4) and at our Savior (1:2,21). I can't look at sin in my life and glorify it, rationalize it, defend it, hide it, or minimize it. Peter reminds us why He had to die (2:24-25).

We take the time for what is most important to us-sports, social media, hobbies, work, shopping, and the like. None of that ultimately matters. As we do anything, these or other things, we must make sure that we are holy in heart and conduct. It's worth the time and will be worth it when there is no longer time.

-Neal Pollard

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who the called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28).

Adversity or Opportunity?

Maybe you've heard the story of the farmer who began digging a well one afternoon. By the end of the day, the well was quite deep, and due to darkness, the farmer decide to "call it a day" and resume digging in the morning. However, that very evening, under the cover of darkness, an unsuspecting cow wandering near and fell into the freshly dug hole. The next morning, the farmer and his three sons tried every way imaginable to pull this unfortunate cow out of the hole, but with no success. Finally, the frustrated farmer instructed his sons to give up on trying to rescue the cow and to just take their shovels and cover him up. So the farmer's sons did as they were instructed. However, with every shovel of dirt thrown on the cow's back, the cow would shrug, and the dirt would fall around it. Pretty soon, they had thrown so much dirt into the hole that the cow was simply able to walk out of the hole without any help.



The point is this: "What may be intended to 'bury' us may just become our 'salvation.'"

Next time you face adversity, shrug it off. Who knows whether that experience may end up being a stepping-stone to your success and spiritual growth. Give it some thought.

-Steve Higginbotham, via *BulletinGold*