



# 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)

July 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  
David Hester, Educa-  
tion & Involvement  
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 7/10/16

Bible Class: 157  
AM Worship: 212  
PM Worship: 111  
EMBF: \$155.00

*WELCOME!*



## HESTER / PRESTON

### 70 AD Debate

## July 14–15, 2016

The David Hester - Don Preston Debate begins tonight, July 14-15, 7 PM, in Ardmore, OK at the Ardmore Convention Center. You can log in to the debate at: <http://www.tikilive.com/show/annual-ppw0conference> with the password: **PPWLIVESTREAM.**



**David, we send best wishes and love!**

## **FROM THE MINISTER:**

**Welcome to Eastern Meadows.** Sunday morning we announced C. A. "Red" and Lanette Taylor placing membership at Eastern Meadows. They are the parents of Dianne Hoskinson (Ron) and grandparents of Luke and Aaron Ferrell. Red and Lanette have been long time members of the Capitol Heights Church of Christ in Montgomery having had their first date attending church there in 1957, and then having their marriage ceremony at the congregation in 1958. Red served as a deacon and led singing at Capitol Heights for many years. Lanette taught children's Bible Classes at the Capitol Heights congregation. Red is retired from the insurance business and Lanette is retired from Faulkner University.



While Red's health has declined over the past couple of years, it has become more convenient for the Taylors to attend services with their family. The Taylors share many friendships with members of E.M. and are happy to be a part of the congregation. Due to their health they are not able to be in worship very much. We welcome Red and Lanette to Eastern Meadows.

**Two-talent man.** In the parable of the talents, five talents were given to one man; two talents to another; and one talent to a third man. There was no three-talent man.

**August Summer Sunday Nights.** In August there will be an emphasis on singing. If you have a song you would like to be sung; a new song you would like Eastern Meadows to learn; or a song that you would like to be the "center-piece" of a sermon, turn in the white sheet (they are located on the welcome desk) to Steve Housley or put it in the Sunday Night Service box.

**Be Praying Today!** As you receive this - most of you - Thursday morning, be praying today for DAVID HESTER. His debate begins tonight.

**Pray for Christians in Russia.** This past week, Russian President Vladimir Putin approved a package of anti-terrorism laws that usher in tighter restrictions on missionary activity and evangelism. The restrictions particularly affect religious groups that meet in homes (many churches of Christ). The law places broad limitations on missionary work, including preaching, teaching, and engaging in any activity designed to recruit people into a religious group. To evangelize, citizens must secure a government permit through a registered religious organization, and they cannot evangelize anywhere besides churches and other religious sites. The restrictions even apply to activity in private residences and online. All of this is very sad. Had these laws been in place in the 1990s till today, the missionary activity of the church would have been prevented or greatly limited. No doubt part of this legislation is the effort on part of the government to protect the priority of the Russian Orthodox Church in Russia. Please pray for Christians in Russia.

## **July Summer Sunday Nights, Ten Questions, July 17**

1. Feminism - is being a feminist good as a Christian? Should it exist in the church? David Hester will answer this question.
2. Did Jesus have to die? If "yes," why? If "no," why did He die? Tim Gotkiewicz will answer this question.

## TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

**Last question:** Who was Ruth's first husband? Mahlon (Ruth 4:10)

**This week's question:** Paul told the Christians at Philippi: "Let your \_\_\_\_\_ be known to all men. The Lord is at hand." A) Joy; B) faith; C) gentleness



## FROM THE YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTER:

Youth and College Group - Popcorn and a Movie this Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at the Fellowship Room.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS 7/14/16

**July 17, 2016 / Leading the congregation in:**

**Announcements:**

A.M.: Greg Edwards

P.M.: Greg Edwards

**Opening Prayer:**

A.M.: Alan Kaye

P.M.: Troy Steelman

**Closing Prayer:**

A.M.: Ted Norton

P.M.: Banks Sewell

**Singing:**

A.M.: William Dill

P.M.: William Dill

**SICK:** DIXIE BRANNAN is in Baptist East recovering from surgery. CHARLOTTE PATTERSON received a good report from a heart catheterization on July 7. TAM LOWERY is recovering at home following an out-patient procedure done July 7. MARCIA GRAVES, RANDY PORTERFIELD, and MARSHA SUTTON continue to recover from surgery. Sick at home Sunday: ANNEGEN DAVIS, MARGARET GRAVES, ALICE HANDLANG, and DOROTHY SULLIVAN. 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, JEWEL BARNES, RED & LANETTE TAYLOR. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN.

**NEW PRAYER REQUESTS:** Prayers have been requested for KYLE & CAROLE THOMASSON, Holly Thomason's parents. Kyle is recovering from a wrist injury and surgery and Carole is recovering from a broken leg. Prayers have been requested for FRED SMITH, Veotha Smith's husband, who is battling several health issues and will undergo surgery at the end of the month. Prayers have been requested for BEN MEDINA, SR., (wife Ann), who has suffered renal failure, has begun dialysis, and is awaiting a kidney transplant.

**PRAYER REQUEST LIST:** (Health Issues): QUENTIN CROWE, DOROTHY STUBBS, KAREN KAEHR, LAURA MAE NICHOLS, SEAN LAWTON, and JAMI GOLDEN. (Battling Cancer) GERMAINE HARDIN, IMOGENE GRACE, MARC MCDANIEL, MARK CHESSOR, GLEN BARRON, MARK CHAMBLESS, RICKY MORROW, MICHELLE MITCHELL, LINDA STEELE, and RAELEIGH JANE MCCARTHA.



**AREA WIDE SINGING:** Alex City Church of Christ will host the Area Wide Singing Friday, July 15, 7 PM.

**JULY 17 NURSERY ATTENDANT:** TAMMY EVANS & KELSEY EVANS

**TUESDAY-NIGHTS-TOGETHER:** T-N-T continues on July 19 & 26. FOR ALL. Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. eat. 7 p.m. class.

**FELLOWSHIP MEAL:** There will not be a meal this Sunday, July 17.

**AUGUST CALENDAR:** All events for the August Calendar must be turned in by July 24 to Wilma Berry.

**AUGUST SUMMER SUNDAY NIGHTS:** August Summer Sunday Nights is *Come Let Us All Unite to Sing*. To help us prepare for August you are invited to turn in a song you would like Eastern Meadows to learn, a song

you would like for Eastern Meadows to sing, or a song that you would like to be considered in the Sunday Night Sermons. Turn in the white sheet to Steve Housley or put in the Sunday Night Service Box.

**NEW MEMBER'S ADDRESS:** C.A. "RED" & LANETTE TAYLOR, 553 East Moye Drive, 36109, 272-6758 (home), 315-1725 (cell).

## FELLOWSHIP MEAL SCHEDULE:

**July 24—Teams 3 & 4.** Both teams are to bring food, drinks, bread, and desserts. Team 3 is responsible for set-up and Team 4 is responsible for clean-up.



**July Standby Team—Team 5:** The Standby Team is the first responder for the food needs of the congregation (not just their team!) in cases of sickness and death.

## LADYBUGS

- ♦ **July 16:** BLD Club Breakfast, 9 AM, Chappy's @ Peppertree
- ♦ **July 19:** T-N-T, 6:30/7 PM
- ♦ **July 23:** Brunch, 10:30 AM–1 PM. Gwen Mann will speak on Mental Health and Breast Cancer. Please sign the list in the LadyBUGS' Room by Sunday July 17 if you plan to attend. Turn in \$8.00 to Tonna Johnson, for the cost of the catered meal.
- ♦ **July 26:** T-N-T, 6:30/7 PM

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **July 15:** Popcorn and a Movie in the Fellowship Room, 7 PM
- **July 24-29:** ICYC—Jerry Martin Week

## Sunday Bible Classes—July 17

Auditorium: *Revelation—David Hester*

Young Ladies: *Parables of Jesus*

Experienced Ladies: *OT Women, Lesson 17*

## 2016 BUDGET—\$12,930.00

7/10/16 CONTRIBUTION: \$11,534.00 / BUDGET: **-\$1,396.00** / YTD: **+\$30,414.92**

Average Weekly YTD: **\$14,016.24**

## YOU CANNOT GO BY FEELINGS ALONE!

It was late at night and my wife and I had retired and all of sudden she asked, "Did you close the garage door?" My, my, why did she have to ask me that question so late at night! I am positive that I closed the door but she has aroused my curiosity so I got out of bed and made the trip to prove that I had closed the garage door but much to my surprise, the door was still up! I was sure that I had closed that door and I felt as safe as you could be in believing that all the doors were locked leading to the inside of our house. But, I was wrong!

Now let me tell you about the latest concerning our feelings that we were safe in our house. This morning I took a birthday card to the mail box and when I returned to open the front door

there was a set of keys in the lock. Someone had left them there over night. You see, I was in Montgomery all day. My wife used our truck to do her shopping. She entered the house through the front door. So, it was not me this time in not securing the house. But, you know, we slept soundly through the night feeling that we were safe as we possibly could be. But we were wrong!

My friends, feelings alone can be deceptive. This is true in the realm of religion as well in other areas. The reason is explained by the prophet Jeremiah: "The heart *is* deceitful above all *things*, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (17:9). The wise man wrote in Proverbs 14:12: "There is a way *that seems* right to a man, But its end *is* the way of death." One biblical example of a person having deceptive feelings is that of Jacob who thought Joseph had been killed by a wild beast but later learned that he was alive in Egypt. How often have you heard someone say, "I feel that I am saved"? We must remember that salvation takes place in the mind of God and not according to how a person feels in his heart.

It is true that a saved person can have a clear conscience and a feeling of peace that passes all understanding in the Lord - when he complies with the directives of the Lord (1 Peter 3:21). This comes about when a person responds by faith to the grace of God (Romans 5:1, 2). This saving faith is one of obedience (Hebrews 5:8, 9). So, when a penitent believer is baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit he receives forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). He will know that his sins have been washed away by the precious blood of the Son of God (Acts 22:16; Ephesians 1:7).

*"Is thy heart right with God, Washed in the crimson flood, Cleansed and made holy, Humble and lowly, Right in the sight of God?"*

--Raymond Elliott

## WHEN YOUR CHILDREN ASK ABOUT BAPTISM

The conversations have started, but they are still very sporadic. With a 10-year-old and a soon-to-be 9-year-old, we are not surprised that our children have started asking questions from time-to-time about baptism.

If you raise your children going to church and Bible classes, the questions are going to start, and likely, they are going to start quite early in life. After all, they hear preachers extend the invitation constantly. Hopefully, they have been present to see people put Christ on in baptism. And probably, they have studied God's plan of salvation in Bible school, at least a time or two. Their classrooms may even have a chart that is always there, constantly showing them the plan of salvation.

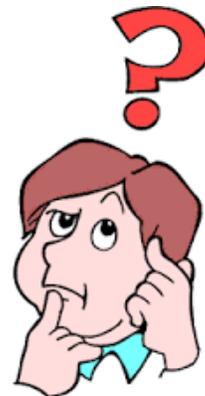
So, it is in their mind, and that's a good thing!

How are parents to handle these conversations? While this is not meant to be a perfect list, I want to share some principles that we are trying to adhere to as our children ask about baptism. We certainly are not exact in this, but we are trying.

- \* ***Treat Every Question Respectfully and Seriously.*** Even if your child asks what you might consider to be a silly question, they are still talking about the most important decision that could ever be made. Treat it with respect, and show them Scripture to point out either their truth or the error of what they are saying.
- \* ***Let Your Children Bring It Up.*** Too many parents of smaller children are so concerned with "getting their kids baptized" that they force the conversation. Your child, most likely, will bring it up when it is on his/her mind. Let the conversations happen at their pace. But always—and I

mean, *always*—be willing to talk about it when it is brought up!

- \* ***Always Appeal to Scripture.*** This should go without saying, but if anyone—including your kid—is considering becoming a child of God we dare not take them anywhere but to the standard of God’s Word. These do not have to be hour-long explanations of passages, but a look at Acts 2:38; Mark 16:15-16; Matthew 28:19-20; Romans 6:1-4; and other verses needs to always stand as the basis of our conversation.
- \* ***Talk Clearly about Sin.*** One of the most difficult things for many parents to do is to talk about the actual, Biblical purpose of baptism: to liberate us from our sins. While children make mistakes and even do things that are “wrong” at times, a person must have a clear understanding of the need for forgiveness of sins before he/she is ready to be baptized.
- \* ***Ask about Repentance and the “Need” for Baptism.*** Especially when I was a youth minister, I would often have a very young person ask to be baptized. I never tried to push them away, but I always tried to talk about if they needed to “repent.” If they said, “No,” I knew they weren’t ready. Also, ask about when they think they might want to be baptized. If they say, “Maybe next week,” or “in a few days,” they simply aren’t prepared. When one knows his/her need for salvation and to turn from sin, only then are they ready—but they are ready right then!



The final tip I will give is one that I have borrowed many times from the excellent little book *Am I Ready to be Baptized?* by Kyle Butt and John Farber. When a child is seriously considering being baptized, have that child write down *why* he or she is preparing to be baptized, and write date the paper (or notecard). Remember, let the child write this in his/her own words. Once they have written this down, put the paper or card away.

One of these days, that child will likely question his/her baptism. *Did I know enough? Was I sure what I was doing?*

When those questions arise, simply pull out that paper or card and read. The language may be child-like, but it will let him/her know if they were ready. Typically, if a child is willing to write it down, they are ready, because, in a child-like fashion, they can express just what they needed to do, and it lines up perfectly with the simple plan that God has in place to save people.

It is hard to think of anything that is holier as a parent than the honor and privilege of talking to your children about becoming a brother or a sister in Christ. Treat it as the important thing that young person will ever talk about, because it is!

--Adam Faughn, *A Legacy of Faith*, <http://www.faughnfamily.com/when-your-children-ask-about-baptism/>

## GLORIOUS EXCHANGE

I brought Him all my sorrow  
And all my falling tears;  
I brought Him all my loneliness  
And all my wasted years.

He took them all upon Himself,  
With all my load of sin,  
And gave me in exchange

His love, His joy, His peace within.

He took away my sorrow  
And gave me back a song;  
And now my heart can only praise  
My Savior all day long.