



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

Website: <http://www.emcofc.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EasternMeadowsChurchofChrist/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EasternMeadows>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/EasternMeadows>

January 12, 2017

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:

Tim Gotkiewicz, Youth
& College
David Hester, Educa-
tion & Involvement
Steve Housley, Pulpit

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 1/8/17

Bible Class: 150
AM Worship: 207
PM Worship: 125
EMBF: \$130.75

WELCOME!

INVOLVEMENT

SUNDAY

JAN. 15TH

There will be a meeting
for ALL Eastern Meadows Men and
Ladies **THIS** Sunday, Jan. 15, 3:30
PM. See you there!



BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY

January 29th

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

2017 Theme & Challenge

4 HOURS

ETERNAL ASSURANCE

Hebrews 10:25
Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together!

4 HOURS

- *Christians are Commanded to Assemble together:*
 - *To Worship – Hebrews 10:25*
 - *For our Spiritual well being – Hebrews 10:24*
 - *To Convict the non-believers – I Corinthians 14:23-25*
 - *To Edify one another – I Corinthians 14:12, 26*

4 HOURS

- *Christians are Commanded to Assemble together:*
 - *For Instruction & Encouragement – I Corinthians 14:31*
 - *To partake the Lord's Supper – Acts 20:7*
 - *To Give as we've been prospered – I Corinthians 16:1-2*
 - *To Discipline the disorderly – I Corinthians 5:4-5*

4 HOURS

2017 Name: Susie Member **4 Hours!!!**
ETERNAL ASSURANCE

1				14				27				40
2				15				28				41
3				16				29				42
4				17				30				43
5				18				31				44
6				19				32				45
7				20				33				46
8				21				34				47
9				22				35				48
10				23				36				49
11				24				37				50
12				25				38				51
13				26				39				52

S = Sick W = Working C = Caretaker T = Traveling

If you did not hear Ted Norton on January 1, please go to this link and listen:

<http://www.emcofc.org/video/01.01.17.Challenge.mp4>

The Challenge. Ted, speaking for the elders, challenged Eastern Meadows’ members with committing to assemble with Eastern Meadows for four hours per week in Sunday Morning Bible Class, Sunday Morning Worship, Sunday Evening Worship, and Wednesday Evening Bible Class. Assembling in worship and Bible Study not only obeys the command to assemble (Hebrews 10:25), but also helps us to have the eternal assurance we all desire. The last slide above is a copy of the Attendance Card that the elders have provided each member. It is for personal use, but can aid us in “tracking” our attendance throughout the year. If you did not get one, more are available on the Welcome Desk.

Great Day Sunday. It is always good to announce someone new at Eastern Meadows. Sunday morning we announced that Trent and Autumn Bailey were placing membership with Eastern Meadows. Trent was born in Ft. Worth, TX but has lived in LOTS of places (his Dad has worked for Walmart, opening stores). Trent came to Faulkner University in 2009 and works full-time at Partners Realty in Property Management, particularly with the Billing Department and also works in Event Management (a part-time job in addition to his full-time job). Trent is also a Senior Bible Ministry major at FU. In the little spare time he has, he enjoys Ala-



Trent & Autumn Bailey

bama Football and preaching when he has the opportunity. Autumn was born in Birmingham, Alabama, and grew up in Dora, Alabama. She grew up worshipping at the Adamsville Church of Christ. She has a B.A. in counseling and a Masters in Business Management from Faulkner University. Autumn now works at Jones School of Law in the Career Development Department. She is a cheerleading coach for UpWord Basketball and is a part of Jr. League of Montgomery, a women's volunteer organization which raises money for charities. Trent and Autumn were married May 28, 2016, so they are still newlyweds. We welcome Trent and Autumn to Eastern Meadows!

Budget Presentation. Thank you Ted Norton for the Budget presentation. Your help in purposing your giving helped our elders prepare the budget. 72% of the membership participated in purposing, a good percentage, but admittedly, I would love it to be above 90%. The amount purposed was \$12,033, a 14.4% over last year and the largest amount ever purposed at Eastern Meadows. Combined with the purposed amount and the historical data, the Elders have set the 2017 Eastern Meadows Budget at \$13,500, a 4.41% increase over 2016. If you need to know more about the budget - the details - just talk to the elders. There has always been an open books policy at EM. In the past the Budget Presentation was much longer, with more details, but this year the choice was to spend more time in worship and less time in a budget presentation. Thank you church for purposing and then giving. Thank you Elders for planning the Eastern Meadows work responsibly and most of all, thank you, God, for blessing us in every way!

Involvement Sunday! Sunday, January 15, is an important Day for Eastern Meadows. This is the first Annual Involvement Sunday. There will be an emphasis in the Singing and Sermons on our work for the Master! We will especially be encouraging the Eastern Meadows members to involve themselves in the Lord's work at Eastern Meadows. Tim Bagents will begin the lesson time in the Sunday Morning service with a call to action. Then at 3:30 p.m. all Eastern Meadows members will assemble again, specifically for the purpose of considering the works each of us can be involved in during 2017. Sunday evening worship will be at 5 p.m. as usual. Be sure to be a part of all services and opportunities for service this Sunday!

Look at this link! Ron Hoskinson has done an excellent job posting scripture slides each day on the Eastern Meadows Facebook page. If you have not seen these posts, (if you have Facebook) go to the Eastern Meadows Church of Christ page and "like" it. You should see the updates from Eastern Meadows. (It does not work right for me, but hopefully it will for you!). Go to this link and you can see what he is doing. <https://www.facebook.com/EasternMeadowsChurchofChrist/videos/1220158658020104/> Thanks Ron for your work with FB!

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last week's question: When Naomi returned to Bethlehem, what did she tell the others to call her? Mara, which means "bitter" (Ruth 1:20)

This week's question: According to Ruth 2:9, what commandment did Boaz tell Ruth that he had given the young men concerning her? A. Not to touch her; B. To help her; C. To talk to her D. Not to help her



FROM THE YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTER – TIM GOTKIEWICZ:

7th - 12th grade members of the youth group - If you plan to attend A. P. week (June 4-9) at ICYC, return your application form to me no later than this Sunday morning, January 15th. I will be registering the EM Youth Group on the 15th. If you need a form or some other information, please contact me as soon as possible.

The College devo for February will be in conjunction with the Faulkner Chorus performance on February 5th after the evening worship assembly. We (the college group) will dine on pizza and have a short devo after the completion of the singing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS 1/12/17

SICK: DEAN NORTON is recovering from an auto accident. JIMMY ALLEN suffered a fractured vertebrae in a fall last week. ELVERNICE DEES continues to recover from surgery. WILMA MILLICAN is in rehab in Auburn recovering from a fall. Sick at home Sunday: PHYLLIS ALLEN, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, JAMES & SARAH HAGAN, LORI HAGAN, JACQUE HAGAN, ALICE HANDLANG, ANN MILAM, RANDY & CECILIA PORTERFIELD, DOROTHY SULLIVAN, OPAL SUTTON, and MARSHA SUTTON. Continue to remember our members listed on our Sunday-Night-Service Prayer List. Shut-ins: TAM LOWERY, PATSY LOWERY, CATHERINE LEINHEISER, LOURINE BLACK, JACKIE JOHNSTON, JEWEL BARNES, and RED & LANETTE TAYLOR. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Kim Wilson in the passing of her father, DONALD F. WILSON. A memorial service will be held Sunday at Good Hope Baptist Church in Troy.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Thomas Anderson in the passing of his niece, TAMEKA ANDERSON. Thomas has requested prayers for his sister, MARY ARCENEUX, and her son and his wife, JOSEPH & NANCY ANDERSON, in the passing of his niece.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to the family of LINDA STEELE in her passing Wednesday, Jan. 11. Linda's son, LaShawn Steele, has worshipped with us often over the last two years and Linda has been on our prayer list as she battled cancer.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues): KAY PEARSON, BRIAN & ERIN WAITS, ELIZABETH ENGLEBERT, RUTH ROBERTS, JEAN WILSON, and MYRA OSBORNE. (Battling Cancer) RAELEIGH JANE MCCARTHA, GERMAINE HARDIN, IMOGENE GRACE, LINDA STEELE, JAN KELLEHER, KYLE PURVICAL, ANUDLA CURD, and ALAN BROWN.

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS - 10:30 AM

CAPITAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: There will be a Capital Prayer Breakfast Friday, Jan. 20, 8:30 AM at the Capital City Club. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Email Jimmy Benson to let him know if you plan to attend. jcbenson@knology.net

FEBRUARY CALENDAR: All events for the February Calendar need to be turned in by Jan. 22 to Wilma Berry.

MONDAY-NIGHT-MOTIVATION: M-N-M is Jan. 23 with a chili supper at 6:30 PM and class at 7. Supper sign-up sheet is posted in the LadyBUGS Room.

MOUNT DORA CHILDREN'S HOME BENEFIT DINNER: Mount Dora Children's Home invites you to attend the Montgomery Area Benefit Dinner at 6 PM Thursday, February 9, at Faulkner University (Rotunda Building), 5345 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery. Enjoy an evening of good food and fellowship and learn more about the ministry of Mount Dora Children's Home. Tickets are required for the dinner but may be obtained for free by contacting Dianne or Ron Hoskinson.

NEW PHONE NUMBER: DON & CAMILLA WATES, (205) 234-4186

January 15, 2017 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:	Opening Prayer:	Closing Prayer:	Singing:
A.M.: Alan Norton	A.M.: Tim Stevens	A.M.: Austin Brown	A.M.: Allen Clements
P.M.: Alan Norton	P.M.: Dean Norton	P.M.: Tim Gotkiewicz	P.M.: Allen Clements

La dybugs

- ◆ **Jan. 15:** LadyBUGS Meeting, 3:30 PM
- ◆ **Jan. 23:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM

*Marriage Enrichment Sunday
February 12 / 9 & 10 AM & 1 PM
David Hester, speaking*

YPYF

- ◆ **Jan. 29:** Family Devo, PM, @ Steve & Tish's
- ◆ **Feb. 11:** Help with Young at Heart Banquet

ELEMENTARY L2L/L

- * **Sunday's, 4 PM:** Bible Bowl Prep
- * **Wednesdays, 6:20 PM:** Song Leading
- * **Bible Class:** Know the Books

COLLEGE EVENTS:

- **Feb. 5:** Faulkner Chorus, 6 PM
- **Feb. 12:** Marriage Enrichment Sunday

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **Jan. 22, & 29:** L2L/L Prep, 4 PM

FELLOWSHIP MEAL SCHEDULE:

January 22: Teams 3 (Norton) & 4 (Hatch). Both teams are to bring food, bread, and desserts. (Sweet & unsweet tea provided.) Team 3 is responsible for set-up and Team 4 is responsible for clean-up.

Team 5 (Milam/Kelley) - January Standby Team: The Standby Team is the first responder for the food needs of the congregation (not just their team!) in cases of sickness and death.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2017

- **JAN. 23:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM
- **JAN. 29:** BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY
- **JAN. 29:** YPYF FAMILY DEVO, PM, @ STEVE & TISH'S
- **FEB. 5:** FAULKNER UNIVERSITY CHORUS, 6 PM
- **FEB. 12:** MEN'S EAT & MEET, 7/7:30 AM
- **FEB. 12:** MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SUNDAY, WITH DAVID HESTER

Sunday Bible Classes—Jan. 15

- ⇒ Auditorium: *Gospel of John*
- ⇒ Young Ladies: *Prayer*
- ⇒ Experienced Ladies: *NT Women*

2017 BUDGET—\$13,500.00
1/8/17—CONTRIBUTION: **\$13,046.47**
BUDGET: - **\$453.47**

4 Hours!!!! ETERNAL ASSURANCE

“I resolve to attend every service of the Eastern Meadows church in 2017”

Think Priorities and Commitment

HOW MOTIVATED ARE WE TO SERVE GOD? DOES IT SEEM A CHORE TO DO CHURCH? OR A BLESSING?

Lucy Richardson moved to a house near the state capitol building in Frankfort, Kentucky. Lucy's elderly neighbors got her interested in gardening, and soon she had a yard full of beautiful flowers. She enjoyed seeing passing tourists peek through the fence to see all the blooms.

To maintain the gardens, Lucy often found herself working outside from sunup to sundown. She enjoyed being outdoors, though, and she especially enjoyed seeing the pleasure her flowers brought to others. She sometimes delighted a stranger by picking a bouquet and handing it across the fence. She even gave flowers to street people, common in her urban neighborhood.

Early one morning, Lucy was working next to the sidewalk when a homeless man who was a regular in the area passed by. Normally, he just shuffled by, but on this morning he stopped and spoke. "Excuse me, lady," he said. "May I tell you something?"

"Sure," Lucy replied, expecting a compliment on her flowers.

Instead, he said, "Whoever owns that house works you way too hard!"

Lucy found that amusing. The gentleman didn't understand that she was working hard, not from a sense of duty, but out of love. To Lucy, working in her gardens was not a chore, but a privilege.

So it is with church involvement. To many passing by, and even to many members, church attendance and service seems to be a great chore. They wonder why the owner of the house works his staff so hard. Far too many steer clear of church because they fear being drafted into service.

Some understand, though. Serving God is not forced labor. It's not just duty. It's a labor of love.

Jesus told a story of two borrowers. "Two men owed money to a certain moneylender," he said. "One owed him five hundred denarii (think \$40,000), and the other fifty (\$4000). Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he canceled the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?" (Luke 7:41-42).

The correct answer is: the one with the greatest amount forgiven. The more we comprehend the great debt from which God releases us, the more we see serving him as an honor.

How does your garden grow? Is it a dreaded duty or something you love to do?

--Keith Wisham

"YOU HAVE NOT PASSED THIS WAY BEFORE"

The great leader, Moses, had died and the Lord God had chosen the faithful warrior, Joshua, to be the leader of the children of Israel. They were encamped on the east side of the River of Jordan and the time had come for them to cross over the River of Jordan and into the land of 'milk and honey', the land of Canaan. God had assured Joshua several times that He would be with him as he was about to enter the promised land (Joshua 1:6-9).

In Joshua 3, the priest, carrying the ark of the covenant, were to lead the people across the River of Jordan and into the land that God had promised to Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3). Joshua, in charging the people to follow the priest at a certain distance, said this to the people, "FOR YOU HAVE NOT PASSED THIS WAY BEFORE". The children of Israel were about to enter a land they did not know.

As we enter this new year of 2017, it could also be said of us, "For you have not passed this way before." We do not know what this new year will bring. It might be weal or woe, sadness or happiness, life or death, success or failure, etc. For the child of God, we should read what God said to Joshua and to know that basically He tells us the same: "Be strong and of good courage", "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord you God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:6, 9). In Hebrews 13:5, we read, "Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Because we are children of God, this is the blessed assurance we have in our Lord. Here are some suggestions that will strengthen you as you enter the uncharted course in this new year of 2017:

- ◆ Trust in the Lord with all your heart (Proverbs 3:5, 6).
- ◆ Love God with all your heart, soul and mind (Mark 12:30).
- ◆ Love your brethren and your neighbors (John 13:34, 35; Mark 12:30).
- ◆ Do good to all men and especially your brothers and sisters in Christ (Galatians 6:10).
- ◆ Attend the assemblies of the church to worship God and to exhort/edify/build up one another in the most holy faith (Hebrews 10:24, 25).
- ◆ Be steadfast in prayer (Romans 12:12; 1 Thessalonians 5:17).
- ◆ Increase your knowledge of the Word of God by reading and studying it daily (Psalm 1:1-3; 119:97; Matthew 4:4).

I close this article with the words of the apostle Peter as found in 2 Peter 1:10, 11: "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these thing you will never stumble; for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

--Raymond Elliott