



# Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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

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

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January 5, 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, Education & 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 1/1/17

Bible Class: 118

AM Worship: 178

PM Worship: 116

EMBF: \$171.50

**WELCOME!**



# 2017 BUDGET SUNDAY

## JAN. 8

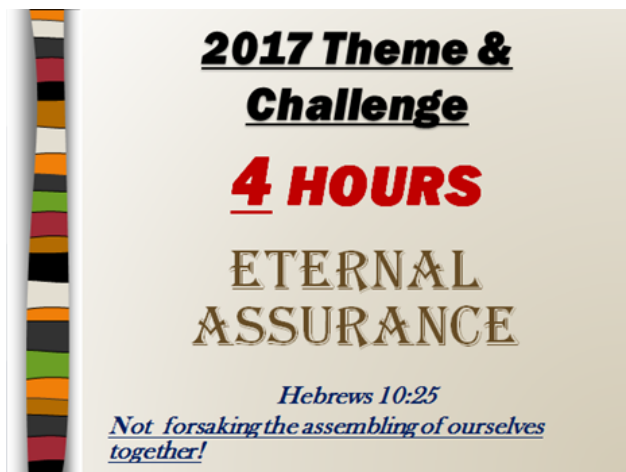
The Elders will present the 2017 Budget this Sunday, January 8th.

# INVOLVEMENT SUNDAY JAN. 15TH



There will be a meeting for ALL EM Men and Ladies on Sunday, Jan. 15, 3:30 PM.

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:



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

**Theme/Challenge.** Thank you shepherds! Sunday morning Ted Norton, for the elders, presented the 2017 theme and challenge. As Elders, Don, Ted, Tim watch for our souls. It is their aim that each of us get to heaven. As such, they realize the importance of regular worship and Bible study and the place it has in helping us get to heaven. The slides above are a sampling of what Ted presented (there were a total of 11 slides. You can watch the video of Ted by going to the link posted above.) Let us follow their leading and be at every service. In so doing, we learn, are edified, and are given a boost to defeat Satan the remainder of the week. Why would we not want to be at every service?

**Our Grandbaby!** Tish and I are excited to announce the birth of Addison Elizabeth Bass. Adam and Beth Bass are the happy parents. Now let me brag. Isn't that what grandparents do? She is beautiful. Of course, all Eastern Meadows babies are beautiful, but, well, she is my grandbaby, so to me she is especially beautiful. Beth had a long night Tuesday and a long day Wednesday before the Doctor advised a C-section. Addie is doing well and Beth has the recovery ahead of her. Thank you for all of your kind words. Thank you for your prayers during Beth's pregnancy.

**In the news. PARDONS.** In an article in the Montgomery Advertiser Saturday, December 31 there was a listing of various pardons and commutations granted by various Presidents. (By the way, a pardon



is a forgiveness of the crime while the commutation is just a reduction of sentence). President Obama, to date, has granted the least number of pardons (148) of any two term president since George Washington. However, he has commuted the sentences of 1,176 people. An interesting contrast is Dwight Eisenhower who pardoned 1,110- and commuted only 47. On the very low side of the numbers, one term George H. W. Bush pardoned 74 and commuted only 3. I found it interesting; you may or may not find it interesting. *This is not a commentary on any president, good or bad.* But do you realize the cost of the President to offer this pardon? Absolutely nothing! Now think spiritually. Christians have been pardoned. Though the word "pardon" is not found in the N.T., the concept certainly is found in the N.T. In the O.T. the word "pardon" is found 14 or more times, depending on the translation. The most familiar verse mentioning pardon is Isaiah 55:7, "let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Note, "he will abundantly pardon." These words give great hope to a fallen world. But the cost? Nothing less than God giving His son (John 3:16) and ultimately the shed blood of His Son, Jesus (Ephesians 1:7). What a cost God paid to pardon our sins!

**In the news. MARRIAGE.** I guess you heard, Zsa Zsa Gabor died at 99. Almost made it to 100. What was interesting was that her 73 year old husband gave the only remembrances of the actress, socialite at the funeral. After 40 minutes, he concluded "You have to take care of your partner. When you get married, it's for better or for worse. I could've changed the rules, but I didn't." This is certainly a tribute to the commitment required in marriage and is reminiscence of the vows we take when we get married. These words came from a man who had been married and divorced SIX times before he married Gabor, a woman who had been married and divorced EIGHT times before marrying the last husband. With the exception of death and fornication (Matthew 19:9; Romans 7:2) that is six and eight times too many marriages. Yes marry for better for worse; sickness and in health, THE FIRST TIME!

**Marriage Sunday.** February 12, DAVID HESTER will be presenting three lessons on Marriage. Plan to be here and invite someone to come!

**Young Professional/Young Family Class on Marriage.** Beginning January 4, David will be teaching *Magnificent Marriage* to the Wednesday night YPYF class. If you have not been in that class and are in the target age range (20s to early 40s), why not start ASAP! David is an excellent teacher teaching a most needed subject.

**Fellowship Meal Sunday.** Sunday is the first Fellowship Meal of 2017. The team captains for this meal are the Futral/Norman Families and David and Brenda Hester, teams one and two. Of course if you are not on these teams, you too can stay. Just be sure to bring food! We will have a great time of fellowship.

## **FROM THE YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTER – TIM GOTKIEWICZ:**

January 8<sup>th</sup> – Central Alabama Area-Wide at the Mt. Hebron Church of Christ. Our Good, Bad, and Ugly character this month is David! Van will depart the building at 4:00 p.m. and we'll drive directly to Eclectic. We will worship at 5p.m. and eat at 6 p.m. We will return to the building at approximately 6:45 p.m.

7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> 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 Sunday morning, January 15<sup>th</sup>. I will be registering the EM Youth Group on the 15<sup>th</sup>. If you need a form or some other information, please contact me as soon as possible.

### **TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:**

**Last week's question:** After Naomi's two sons took wives in Moab, how long did they live there before they died? C) 10 Years (Ruth 1:4)

**This week's question:** When Naomi returned to Bethlehem, what did she tell the others to call her?

A) Blessed of the LORD; B) Mara; C) Orpah



January 8, 2017 / Leading the congregation in:

**Announcements:**

A.M.: Brooks Housley

P.M.: Brooks Housley

**Opening Prayer:**

A.M.: Josh Cochran

P.M.: Alan Kaye

**Closing Prayer:**

A.M.: Steve Sewell

P.M.: Tim Gotkiewicz

**Singing:**

A.M.: Dean Norton

P.M.: Dean Norton

## ANNOUNCEMENTS 1/5/17

**SICK:** CINDY DENDY, DAVID WARREN, and ELVERNICE DEES are recovering from surgery. WILMA MILLICAN is recovering from a fall. Sick at home Sunday: WESLEY & WILMA BERRY, BILL & VIRGINIA EVANS, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, KIM MOUNT, SAM SULLIVAN, and KIM WILSON. 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.

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT:** ADDISON ELIZABETH BASS was born Wednesday to ADAM & BETH BASS. Addie weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. and was 21 1/2 in. long. STEVE & TISH HOUSLEY are the proud grandparents. Congratulations to all!

**SYMPATHY:** Our sympathy is extended to Mike Norman and family in the passing of his uncle, FELIX NORMAN, yesterday. Mr. Norman was a member of Vaughn Park Church of Christ.

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

**PRAYER REQUEST UPDATE:** Our daughter-in-law, Lisa Hankins, has recently undergone 3 days of intensive tests at Cancer Centers of America in Atlanta, and doctors report no evidence of cancer remaining in her body. They will continue to monitor her in the months to come. We thank you for your prayers and praise God for answering them. He continues to bless our family. Your cards, quilt and other acts of kindness were a source of encouragement to Lisa at a time when things were very bleak in her life. Thanks/Ella & Pete Hankins

**THANK YOU:** I want to thank everybody for all of the wonderful gifts I received for my upcoming graduation and all the other various items from the congregation. I want to also thank you for the Biblical lessons and books I received. I have a lot of studying to do. I was able to open a bank account with all the money I received. I cannot express in words how much all the prayers have meant to me. May the Lord bless all of you. In Christian Love. David Moore.

**AREA WIDE SINGING:** Elmore church of Christ will host the Area Wide Singing this Friday, Jan. 6, 7 PM.

**FELLOWSHIP MEAL:** Teams 1 (Futral/Norman) & 2 (Hester) will host the Fellowship Meal this Sunday, Jan. 8, following the AM worship service. Team 1 will be responsible for set-up and Team 2 will be responsible for clean-up.

**YPYF 2ND SUNDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP:** The YPYF 2nd Sunday Night Fellowship for January will be this Sunday, Jan. 8, following the PM worship service at .

**THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS:** The Thursday Bible Class will resume Jan. 12, 10:30 AM, and will continue with the study of Genesis.

**EM MENS & LADIES MEETING:** There will be a meeting for ALL Eastern Meadows' Men and Ladies on Sunday, Jan. 15, 3:30 PM. Be sure to be there!

**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.

**4 Hours!!!!**

**ETERNAL ASSURANCE**

*Sunday Bible Classes—Jan. 8*

⇒ Auditorium: *Gospel of John*

⇒ Young Ladies: *Prayer*

⇒ Experienced Ladies: *NT Women*



## ELEMENTARY L2L/L

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

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **Jan. 8:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM
- **Jan. 15:** ICYC AP Week (June 4-9)  
Registration Forms due
- **Jan. 15, 22, & 29:** L2L/L Prep, 4 PM

## COLLEGE EVENTS:

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

## YPYF

- ◆ **Jan. 8:** 2nd Sunday Night Fellowship, TBA
- ◆ **Jan. 29:** Family Devo, PM, @ Steve & Tish's
- ◆ **Feb. 11:** Help with Young at Heart Banquet

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2017

- **JAN. 8:** 2017 BUDGET SUNDAY
- **JAN. 8:** YPYF 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP, PM
- **JAN. 12:** THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS, 10:30 AM
- **JAN. 15:** INVOLVEMENT SUNDAY – MEETING FOR ALL MEN & LADIES, 3:30 PM
- **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:** MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SUNDAY, WITH DAVID HESTER

## La dybugs

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

## FELLOWSHIP MEAL SCHEDULE:

**January 8:** Teams 1 (Futral/Norman) & 2 (Hester). Both teams are to bring food, bread, and desserts. (Sweet & unsweet tea provided.) Team 1 is responsible for set-up and Team 2 is responsible for clean-up.

**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.

## Turn It Around

“Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country!” This challenge, made famous during the Kennedy presidency, suggests a like principle which should guide every Christian's attitude toward the church. We should be less concerned about what is being done for US and more attentive to what we are doing for others.

Ask not, therefore...

...whether this is a good congregation to be a member of, but ask whether I am a good member of the congregation.



...how much I am loved, but how much love have I shown.

...how many get well cards I received, but how many I have sent to others.

...who visited me, but who have I visited.

...how much I get out of classes, but how much I contribute to make the classes interesting and edifying.

...whether I was remembered in prayer, but whether I faithfully prayed for others.

...who did or did not speak to me, but how many others I greeted.

...whether my good work is recognized, but whether I have given honor to whom honor is due.

...how many of my prayer requests God has granted, but how grateful have I been for His innumerable blessings.

...to what extent my deeds have profited me now, but how my life will be remembered when I am gone.

"Look not every man on his own thing, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus" who "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister" (Phil. 2:4-5; Matt. 20:28).

--David Pharr, *BulletinGold*

## Ready or Not ... 2017

Can you believe another year is in the books? Time marches relentlessly onward without asking for either our consent or approval. 2016 isn't even cold yet and 2017 is already three days old. Nothing you and I can do will ever get that time back. With each passing day we creep closer towards time's end. But, as always, with Jesus there is good news.

2017 will bring with it days of defeat and success.

2017 will bring with it both sadness and great joy.

2017 will bring days of suffering balanced with days of healing.

2017 will bring with it days of loss and others of enrichment.

# 2017

For some 2017 will bring with it a day of finality.

But there will not be a single day in 2017 that you will have to encounter alone! We have One who can lift us up from defeat, comfort us in sadness and sustain us through suffering. There is One who can truly place momentary loss into eternal perspective. And not to be forgotten, we have each other, charged with the duty of sharing in life's highs and lows (Romans 12:12-15) and with bearing "one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2).

While we are powerless to keep time from sifting through our lives like sand through our fingers, we can do something about how we spend it. While much time will fall wasted at the feet of humanity, as a follower of Christ you can use your time to God's glory and time will ultimately deposit you in His timeless glory.

--David Bragg, *BulletinGold*

***4 Hours!!!!***

***ETERNAL ASSURANCE***

***"I resolve to attend every service of the Eastern Meadows church in 2017"***

***Think Priorities and Commitment***