



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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

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

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

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

February 9, 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 2/5/17

Bible Class: 153
AM Worship: 198
PM Worship: 214
EMBF: \$181.25

WELCOME!

Marriage Enrichment

Sunday, February 12

David Hester speaking

- ◆ 9 AM: "Six Keys To Have A Fantastic Marriage!"
- ◆ 10 AM: "What Have They Seen In Thine House?"
- ◆ 1 PM: "Does Your Home Abide In The Doctrine Of Christ?"



Lunch provided after 10 AM service.

NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE—6:00 PM

Beginning the first Wednesday in March (March 1), everyone will meet in the auditorium at **6:00** p.m. for the Devotional **before** going to class. We will dismiss from the devotional to go to class and dismiss from class to go home.

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

This Sunday is Marriage Enrichment Sunday! We will have good preaching from David Hester! We will have good eating, as the food is prepared in our kitchen! We will have good fellowship, as some of the best people on God's planet will be here! So share this with others! Invite, invite, invite! Then make everyone feel welcome!

Facebook Folks! If you are on Facebook, please go here so you can share the Marriage Enrichment Sunday with your friends, <https://www.facebook.com/events/401931133481460/>. Under the picture click share and share with your friends. It should then be shared to your friends on your timeline. You can also go to my page and get it and share it. By doing this we will have many to see it and learn of the event. By the way, there is no cost. You can't beat that! So please share! Thanks!

Sunday, February 12, Evening Service is 1 p.m.

Sunday Attendance. Last week I mentioned the ratio from Sunday morning attendance to Sunday night attendance. Last week we had 87% back on Sunday night, which was excellent. Well this Sunday we had 108% back for Sunday night. Of course, we had a little help, the Faulkner University chorus and friends were here!

Thanks to Allen Clements and the Faulkner University Chorus. Thanks to Allen Clements and the Faulkner University Chorus for a great job Sunday night. Perhaps it won't be another six years of so before they come back to Eastern Meadows!

2017 FAULKNER UNIVERSITY PREACHERS' CHALLENGE

I will once again be participating in the Faulkner University Preachers' Challenge. I have agreed to give or raise \$1,000 in support of the V.P. Black School of Biblical Studies (the Bible Department at FU). I have participated in this challenge since 2005. I think I could conservatively say that you have helped me give at least \$16,000 (it is likely over \$20,000) to the Bible Department in that time.

Brother V.P. Black started the Preacher's Challenge with 27 men participating in 1992. Since that time the Preacher's Challenge has been responsible for raising over two million dollars for the Bible Department. This helps the school not only teach its Bible majors and train preachers and Bible teachers, but it helps fund the Bible teaching to approximately 3,200 students each year. In addition to my gift, you have helped me reach the goal each year. In this way you are helping teach the Bible to these 3,000+ Faulkner Students.

If you can help, make out a check to the FU Bible Department and in the "For" at the bottom of the check, put "Housley Preacher's Challenge." You can give the check to me and I will turn it in. If you give by cash, please give in an envelope with your name and address as all contributions will be acknowledged by me and the FU Bible Department. Of course, all contributions are tax deductible.

Thank you for your help with the Faulkner University's Bible Department.

--Steve Housley

I have never met Cy Stafford. I have heard Cy speak via recorded lessons from Polishing The Pulpit. However, with Cy's illness over the past two years and his subsequent death recently, I heard from man after man, saw in church bulletin after church bulletin, love expressed for this man. As you can see below, he was an effective missionary who helped thousands find their way to heaven through the Gospel. Now why do we need more Kevin Tortorellas? Read below. – Steve Housley

We Need More Kevin Tortorellas!

Let me preface this by saying I did not get to meet Kevin Tortorella. I know next to nothing about him. Here is what I do know. He reached out and brought Cy Stafford to Christ. Ultimately, as we heard from Cy's funeral on Saturday, there are 500 churches that have been planted throughout a quarter century of service by Cy and Stephanie in east Africa. There may be literally thousands of people in heaven connected to the work

God did through the Staffords in their time in Tanzania. It began in Alaska, when Kevin taught Cy the gospel. He is not a full-time gospel preacher. All I know is that his courage and care has made a gigantic impact on the Kingdom, whoever else he ever tells the story of Jesus to.

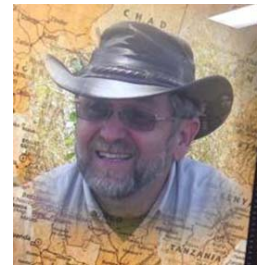
That is the amazing thing about evangelism! God works through men, often even ordinary men, to do extraordinary things which change the world and grow the church. Whatever else we know about Andrew, he brought Peter to Christ and also left an indelible mark on church history. Paul tells us that all, in building on the foundation of Christ, who bring people to Jesus will bring those who will be tried with fire (1 Cor. 3:11-15). While there will be those who do not pass the test of fire, some are said to be gold, silver, and precious stones. It would seem that these are converts who not only pass the test but prove themselves of such great value. Who would question that Cy was a "gold conversion"?

You and I encounter various people throughout life who we have the power to influence. We may fear or hesitate to speak to them about Jesus. We may think it will do no good to speak to them. We may think they are not interested. We might even fail to realize how much they, through our influence and the influence of others, could amount to. But if we will look at the Peters and Cys that have come along in the history of the church, we will be encouraged to take that first step and have that conversation. Don't worry about what comes next. Just step up. Be a soul-winner. Be a Kevin Tortorella!

—Neal Pollard



Kevin Tortorella



Cy Stafford

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last week's question: According to Job 2:3, to what did the Lord say that Job still held fast? His integrity

This week's question: According to Job 3:11-13, why does Job wish he would have died at birth? A. He would have been safe; B. He would have been at rest; C. He would have been with God



FROM THE YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTER – TIM GOTKIEWICZ:

Lads to Leaders training, practice, and preparation – **Every Sunday at 3:30 p.m.** except on Sundays when we go to Area-Wide worship. Have your songs ready, your speech in work, and your Bible Bowl questions rehearsed.

Area-Wide worship THIS Sunday! We will worship at the Liberty Church of Christ and hear a lesson entitled, "Peter, the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly." The van will depart the parking lot at 4 p.m. and return approximately 7:45 p.m.

The College devo for March will be Sunday, March 5th at the home of Barney and Shirley Bell after the evening worship assembly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS 2/9/17

SICK: MARSHA SUTTON underwent surgery Tuesday, Feb. 7. JEROME THOMPSON is recovering at home from surgery. Prayers have been requested for DEBBIE GUTHRIE, co-worker of Kim Patterson (Jerry & Charlotte's daughter), who has been diagnosed with cancer. Prayers have been requested for A.J. CARPENTER, 4-year-old daughter of a former ACA student, who has a brain tumor. Sick at home Sunday: VIRGINIA EVANS, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, SALLY GOTKIEWICZ, 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, RED & LANETTE TAYLOR, and WILMA MILLICAN. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues): KAY PEARSON, MILO WAITS, ELIZABETH ENGLEBERT, JEAN WILSON, JACKIE BARBAREE, DONNA KLINE, and SYBIL DAVIS. (Battling Cancer) RAELEIGH JANE MCCARTHA, GERMAINE HARDIN, IMOGENE GRACE, JAN KELLEHER, KYLE PURVICAL, ANUDLA CURD, ALAN BROWN, SHERRY WADSWORTH, and RANDY POST.

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS - 10:30 AM

YOUNG AT HEART BANQUET: This Saturday, February 11, a Young at Heart Banquet will be held in honor of Eastern Meadows members who are age 65+ and their spouses. Dinner will begin at 5:00 PM with entertainment to follow.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: We will have a Fellowship Meal this Sunday for all members and guests. The meal will be provided. Teams 2 (Hester) & 3 (Norton) will be responsible for set-up. Teams 4 (Hatch) & 5 (Milam/Kelley) will be responsible for clean-up.

GOING-AWAY FINGERFOODS FELLOWSHIP: There will be a Going-Away Fingerfoods Fellowship in honor of DON & CAMILLA WATES Sunday, Feb. 19, after the PM worship service. They will be moving to the Vandiver, AL area where Don has begun a new job. Monetary donations may be given to Wilma Berry, Tim Gotkiewicz, or Steve Housley.



Don & Camilla Wates

E.M. MCKINNEY FUND APPLICATIONS: The E.M. McKinney Fund Applications are now available for the ACA 2017-18 school year. Families must apply for this fund each school year. In order to receive full credit, the deadline for receipt of the application by the ACA office is Mar. 1st. These forms are available at the church building at the Front Welcome Center.

FAULKNER LECTURES: The 2017 Faulkner Lectures are scheduled for Mar. 5-9 with the theme, “The Holy Spirit.” Our own Steve Housley and David Hester will be speaking at the lectures. Steve Housley—Tuesday, 2:30 PM, “Your Body Is a Temple of the Holy Spirit.” David Hester—Tuesday, Mar. 7, 11:00 AM, “The Holy Spirit and Conversion.” David will moderate a panel discussion Wednesday, Mar. 8, 3:30 PM, “Indwelling of the Spirit.” You may pick up a lecture program at the Front Welcome Center or go to <https://www.faulkner.edu/undergrad/academics/college-of-biblical-studies/faulkner-lectures/>.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Alabama Christian Academy has possible faculty positions available—Language Arts 6-12, Mathematics 6-12, Social Studies 6-12, Science 6-12, Bible 6-12, and Physical Education 6-12. If you also have qualifications and experience coaching and leading Basketball (Boys or Girls), or assisting with Basketball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Tennis, or Volleyball programs, please indicate such in your application. For online applications, go to www.alabamachristian.org.

DIRECTORY PICTURES: Plans are in the making for a new pictorial directory and dates have been scheduled to take pictures on April 19, 20, 21, & 22. More details coming soon.

February 12, 2017 / Leading the congregation in:			
Announcements:	Opening Prayer:	Closing Prayer:	Singing:
A.M.: Tim Hatch	A.M.: Steve Housley	A.M.: Billy Bush	A.M.: Dean Norton
P.M.: Tim Hatch	P.M.: Trent Bailey	P.M.: Austin Brown	P.M.: Dean Norton

Sunday Bible Classes—Feb. 12

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

4 Hours!!!!
ETERNAL ASSURANCE

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- ♦ **Feb. 16:** Visitation Team Lunch, 12 noon, at Taylor Road Zaxby's. Then make visits.
- ♦ **Feb. 27:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM
- ♦ **Mar. 7:** Quilting, 10 am-2 PM. Bring your lunch.
- ♦ **Mar. 13:** Area Wide Ladies' Devo, 7 PM, @ EM

MEMBERS IN THE MIDDLE

- ♦ **Mar. 31:** Snacks & Movie

YPYF

- ♦ **Feb. 11:** Help with Young at Heart Banquet
- ♦ **Feb. 12:** NO 2nd Sunday Night Fellowship

2017 BUDGET—\$13,500.00

2/5/17—CONTRIBUTION: \$13,039.00

BUDGET: -\$451.00 / YTD: -\$4,786.47

COLLEGE EVENTS:

- **Feb. 12:** Marriage Enrichment Sunday

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **Feb. 19 & 26:** L2L Convention Prep, 3:30 PM
- **Feb. 12:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM

ELEMENTARY L2L/L

- * **Sunday's, 3:30 PM:** Bible Bowl Prep
- * **Wednesdays, 6:20 PM:** Song Leading
- * **Bible Class:** Know the Books

4 Hours!!!!

ETERNAL ASSURANCE

STAND-BY TEAM SCHEDULE:

February Standby Team: The February Standby Team is Team 1 (Norman/Futral) the first responder for the food needs of the congregation (not just their team!) in cases of sickness and death.

Pictured below: (Left) Addie Bass attending Bible class for the first time. (Right) 4 & 5 Year Olds Class — "Little Lambs."

We have Bible classes for all ages. Are YOU in Bible class?



A Good Place to Be

“And Peter answered and said to Jesus, ‘Master; it is good for us to be here: and let us make three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias’” (Mark 9:5). Where are you right now? The place we now occupy is either a good or a bad place. Usually the place where we live and serve is by choice. However, there are a few exceptions where someone may be forced into someplace by circumstances. However, wherever you find yourself, it can be transformed into a place of usefulness and joy by the presence of Jesus. It is His presence and companionship that makes the difference.

In Mark 9:5, we see Jesus, Peter and John on the Mount of Transfiguration where Jesus was transfigured; most likely this was Mount Hermon. When Jesus was transfigured with radiant, shining garments of white, Elijah and Moses appeared with Him. Peter, in his excitement, said that the place was good where they were and desired to build tabernacles (tents of meeting). Indeed, it was a good place to be.

It is good to be where Jesus is. With Him, we have a sense of security, and we are closer to heaven’s glory with Him. We are in great fellowship with other believers because of Christ.

It is good to be above the lower things in life so that we may have a proper evaluation of things, and that enables us to reinforce our convictions on certain issues. It is good to be in a place where the center of eternal goodness is Christ Jesus.

It is good to be where God’s glory is manifested. We must have a clear vision of our purpose in life to serve God. It warms our hearts and prepares us for the “valley” times ahead. With this, our wills are empowered, and we are strengthened for greater activity.

It is good to be where we can share Christ with others. What do we need to do this? Complete resignation to His will and purpose. We must always be obedient to His Word while we display a genuine love for the Savior and for a lost and dying world.

The Lord speaks to us through His Word. Let us yield to Him that we might ever be found with Him on all occasions, with our affection on things above, ready to share with Him in His suffering and sacrifice. May our lives be “transfigured” and transformed to one of service and usefulness for the Master (Romans 12:1-2).

--Russ Vickers, via *Gospel Gazette Online*

Times Have Changed

"Times have changed" is a common refrain from those who find themselves in contradiction with the Word of God. This happens especially when moral standards are involved.

First of all, one might question what folks mean when they say “Times have changed.” Are they talking about a changing culture? Are they talking about changing attitudes—one’s view of the world? It is most likely the latter.

The idea that times have changed seems to indicate to many folks that somehow God’s standards have changed with regards to the sanctity of marriage, sexual improprieties, and myriads of other sins. There is a fundamental truth that is lost in this thinking which leads many to lives of sin: “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law” (I John 3:4). Clearly, sin is sin, regardless how much human attitudes may change. Not only so, neither God nor his Word changes: “For I am the Lord, I change not...” (Mal. 3:6); “God is not man, that he should lie; neither the son of man that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? Or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good? (Numbers 23:19); “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away” (Matthew 24:34).

It is certain that there will be the judgment day coming. Sadly for many, what people think will not be the standard. Jesus said, “He that rejecteth me and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge hm in the last day” (John 12:48).

--A.C. Quinn, via *BulletinGold*