



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

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

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

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April 20, 2017

ELDERS:

Tim Bagents
Don Brannan
Paul Clements
Alan Kaye
Roy Mulkey
Mike Norman
Ted Norton

DEACONS:

Billy Bush
Allen Clements
Lamon Dees
Ryan Gotkiewicz
Tim Gotkiewicz
Tim Hatch
Steve Housley
Wayne Johnston
Andrew Long
Jimmy Mathews
Danny Moore
Dean Norton
Randy Porterfield
Steve Sewell
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:

6:00 p.m. Bible Study

WELCOME!

EASTERN MEADOWS WORKDAY

This Saturday, April 22nd

Please help if you are able! We are going to be giving the building and grounds a spring cleaning in preparation for our Homecoming and Goal Day. We will work this Saturday from 8 AM until 12 PM. Some work will be outdoors and may require equipment such as brooms, edgers, power washers, etc. Some work will be indoors and may require buckets, rags, dust mops, etc. Coffee and ice water will be provided.



WE NEED ALL WHO ARE ABLE!!!

BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY—APRIL 30TH

Fifth Sunday's have been designated "Benevolence Sunday". On Benevolence Sundays a special contribution will be taken for the EASTERN MEADOWS BENEVOLENCE FUND. This is to be separate from the regular contribution. Checks for this effort should be made out to: Eastern Meadows Benevolence Fund. Envelopes marked "Eastern Meadows Benevolence Fund" will be provided for those who wish to contribute in cash. All contributions made to this fund are tax deductible as are regular contributions.

—Don Brannan, for the elders

SISTER VIOLET ENGLISH

1921 - 2017



Sister Violet English passed from this life, April 13, 2017 after a brief illness. She is survived by her son, Bill (she called him Billy) English of Opelika, Alabama.

Vi was born in Garfield, New Jersey. Her family had two buggies, an everyday buggy and a Sunday buggy. As a teen she saw the Hindenburg pass overhead. Yet she lived into the age of rockets, satellites, and cell phones. She married Bill English of Elba, Alabama and eventually came to live in Montgomery, Alabama. Raised as a Catholic she obeyed the gospel at the Cloverdale church of Christ.

Sister Vi came to us at Eastern Meadows when we moved to Vaughn Road as the Eastern Meadows building was closer to her home. She quickly found her way into our hearts. Sister Vi was always at Sunday worship. She participated in Sunday fellowships, always determined to do her part, bringing fried chicken. Sister Vi was small in body, but big in spirit. Her smile was as big as she was and she always had a smile. No doubt this was a reflection of her positive, kind heart.

We will miss sister Violet English.

HOMECOMING & GOAL DAY

Sunday, May 7 / 9 & 10 AM and 12:30 PM



Goal~300



FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

May 7. This is the date for Homecoming/Goal Day, 2017. This year we have set an attendance goal of 300. This is a very challenging goal! Yet, I am convinced that if *all of us* do *all we can*, God will bless us to meet the goal. Invite everybody! Invite, friends, relatives, and neighbors. Invite people you know and people you don't know. Don't be shy. Let them know you hope they will help us reach 300 and do invite them to the meal and let them know that after the meal we will have a 12:30 p.m. worship.

Great Day This Past Easter Sunday. We had an excellent number here Sunday. Now if all of the Easter visitors would come back on May 7! Please be inviting! Don't be shy to tell them we are hoping for 300 and we need them here to reach the 300. David Hester will be speaking. They will hear a great message! Keep inviting.

Your Help!!!! Thanks for your help sending cards to invite to Goal Day. Please bring them back this Sunday. The office will be mailing them at the right time! By the way, someone took a packet, but failed to take the cards! Please let us know if you don't have the cards!

More Help!!!! WORK DAY!!! When you have company you “spruce up” the place! We need to “spruce up” 8464 Vaughn Road for our guests on Homecoming/Goal Day. And there are some neglected things that need doing. The more that help the quicker it gets done. Plan on being here, Saturday, Apr. 22, 8 AM - 12 noon. Thanks!

FROM THE YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTER – TIM GOTKIEWICZ:

The Lads 2 Leaders convention for 2017 is history. Many thanks for all of your prayers and support. Our youth learned A LOT! Plus, they earned the following awards (Note: Not all attended the convention):

- Luke Ferrell - Top 10 Bible Bowl Test Score, Bible Bowl Competition Finalist, 2nd Place in 12th Grade Speech
- Ammaly Khantisouriya - Top 10 Bible Bowl Test Score, Bible Bowl Competition Finalist
- Grace Mount - Top 10 Bible Bowl Test Score
- Sydney Roberts - Top 10 Bible Bowl Test Score, Bible Bowl Competition Finalist
- Mary Vander Sewell - Top 10 Bible Bowl Test Score
- Norton Sewell - 2nd Place in 7-8 Grade Bible Bowl Team competition, Song Leading Finalist, Year-Round Song Leading Gold Award
- Tennison Norton - 2nd Place in 7-8 Grade Bible Bowl Team competition, Year-Round Song Leading Gold Award
- Carter Benson - Top 10 Bible Bowl Test Score, 2nd Place in 7-8 Grade Bible Bowl Team competition
- Landon Evans - Top 10 Bible Bowl Test Score, 2nd Place in 7-8 Grade Bible Bowl Team competition, Year-Round Song Leading Gold Award
- Lucy Benson - Know the Books - Level 2 Gold Award, Oral Bible Reading Award
- Genesis Kelley - Know the Books - Level 2 Gold Award, Oral Bible Reading Award
- Mason Hatch - Know the Books - Level 2 Gold Award, Oral Bible Reading Award
- Jamya Kelley - Top 10 Bible Bowl Test Score, Know the Books - Level 1 Gold Award



The 2017 Greater than Prom event for high school juniors and seniors will occur on May 5-6, 2017. The setting is the beautiful Harbor Lodge on Lake Martin. The event includes a formal banquet with dinner and entertainment. Then, the rest of the evening through the next afternoon offers a range of spiritual, recreational and fellowship opportunities. Contact Tim if your senior or junior wants to attend. Eastern Meadows Seniors' cost is 30 dollars; cost for guests is 65 dollars. Sign-up deadline is April 23rd.

Our Grad picnic for 2017 is scheduled for Saturday, May 13th at 4 PM. We will be honoring Ammaly Khantisouriya, Gracie Johnston, Cassidy Brown, and Luke Ferrell.

I recently put out an appeal requesting donations for Indian Creek Youth Camp on benevolence Sunday. I am happy to announce that God has blessed us and the needed funds for the new boy's cabin have been given! If you would still like to help out the camp, there are several other important projects that need our help; if you are interested in helping the camp, please let me know and I'll be glad to point you in the right direction.

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last week's question: How many tribes of Israel were there? Answer: 13 (Rueben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Dan, Naphtali, Gad, Asher, Issachar, Zebulun, Ephraim, Manasseh, Benjamin)

This week's question: According to Job 41:15, what does God say is Leviathan's pride? His rows of scales; B. His strong limbs; C. His hard heart; D. His mighty power



ELDER OF THE MONTH / ELDER ON CALL

Effective May 1, 2017 Eastern Meadows will have an Elder of the Month/Elder on Call for each month. The purpose of this is to give the entire membership a contact with the leadership for any issue, need, request, etc., that arises with our assurance that all will be handled orderly, promptly and confidentially. This does not mean that any of us are not available for anything or at anytime. The first elder on the list for the remainder of April and the month of May is **TED NORTON**. Ted's contact information: TED: **334-850-5675 (cell); tnorton@kisaes.com (email)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS 4/20/28

SICK: LINDSEY MULKEY was in the hospital being treated for kidney stones, but is scheduled to go home today and undergo a procedure Monday. JOY DAVIS and SUSAN BROOKS continue to recover from surgery. FRANCIS NELSON remains in New Day Senior Care at Community Hospital in Tallassee. JACKIE JOHNSTON has returned home from the hospital. TERESA LYNN NICHOLS, Ann Milam's daughter, is in Baptist South. Prayers have been requested for JERRY WARD, SR., Aaron Ward's grandfather, who suffered injuries in an auto accident, that will require two surgeries and extensive rehab. NORBERT SCHAEFER, Linda Schaefer's husband, is in Tyson Manor. Sick at home Sunday: EMMA ALLEN, MARGARET GRAVES, ARLETTE POSTMA, and SAM SULLIVAN. Continue to remember our members listed on our Sunday-Night-Service Prayer List. Shut-ins: CATHERINE LEINHEISER, JACKIE JOHNSTON, JEWEL BARNES, and RED & LANETTE TAYLOR. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN and HOLLY THOMASSON.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues): ELIZABETH ENGLEBERT, JEAN WILSON, JACKIE BARBAREE, DONNA KLINE, SUE EDWARDS, DONNY ANGLIN, ORAN BARRY, FRED SMITH, JENNY PATTERSON, ANN KAYE, LANDIS COOK, BLAKE BATCHELOR, NORBERT SCHAEFER, TERESA LYNN NICHOLS, and JERRY WARD, SR. (Battling Cancer) RAELEIGH JANE MCCARTHA, GERMAINE HARDIN, IMOGENE GRACE, JAN KELLEHER, ANDULA CURD, ALAN BROWN, SHERRY WADSWORTH, RANDY POST, DEBBIE GUTHRIE, A.J. CARPENTER, LARRY KIMBREL, JUDY ALLARD, and WAYNE EDWARDS.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Aaron Ward and family in the passing of his great-uncle, JIMMY WARD. The visitation will be Friday, 12-1 PM, at Frazer with the funeral at 1 PM. No graveside services.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL: Teams 1 (Futral/Norman) & 2 (Hester) will host the Fellowship Meal following the AM worship service this Sunday, Apr. 23. Team 1 is responsible for set-up and Team 2 is responsible for clean-up.

MAY CALENDAR: All events for the May Calendar must be turned in by this Sunday, Apr. 23, to Wilma Berry.

HOMECOMING/GOAL DAY INVITATIONS: Don't forget to return the Homecoming/Goal Day invitation cards this Sunday, Apr. 23. The office will mail them out. Thanks for your help!

MONDAY-NIGHT-MOTIVATION: The next M-N-M is Apr. 24, with a meal at 6:30 PM and Bible study at 7. A meal sign-up list is posted in the LadyBUGS Room.

HOMECOMING & GOAL DAY: Homecoming and Goal Day will be Sunday, May 7th. Service times will be 9 & 10 AM and 12:30 PM. Lunch will be provided after the 10 AM service. Our goal is **300!** Here is a direct link to the Homecoming Event Page on Facebook. You can click share and invite friends from here. Of course you have to have a facebook account to get to it. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1125209494258092/>

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Faulkner University would like to announce the following open positions: Director for Student Activities - Main/Montgomery Campus; Golf Coach for Men and Women - Athletics. These positions are being advertised to internal and external candidates. The complete position announcements can be viewed on our website at <http://www.faulkner.edu/about-faulkner/human-resources/current-openings/>.

VANGUARD PREACHING CAMP AT FAULKNER: Vanguard Preaching Camp is for 7th - 12th grade boys who are interested in training to be leaders in the church and having the tools to be godly men in all aspects of life. Camp is May 25-28 and the cost is \$75.00. To register, visit: www.faulkner.edu/vanguard/register

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS - 10:30 AM / APRIL STANDBY TEAM - Team 3 (Norton)



May 14th—DOUBLE-UP SUNDAY

Contribution Goal—\$27,000.00

2017 BUDGET—\$13,500.00

4/16/17—CONTRIBUTION: **\$12,381.00** / BUDGET: **-\$1,119.00** / YTD: **-\$3,930.31**

STATISTICS 4/16/17

Bible Class: **160** / AM Worship: **259** / PM Worship: **118** / EMBF: **\$127.00**

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

Our April Wonderful Wednesdays ends the 26th with DAVID HESTER'S last session of "Explanation and Refutation of the A.D. 70 Doctrine."

La dybugs

- ◆ **Apr. 24:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM. Sign-up list posted in LadyBUGS Room.
- ◆ **April Baptismal Garments & Communion:** Bonnie Warren
- ◆ **May 2:** Quilting, 10 AM-2 PM
- ◆ **May 8:** Area Wide Ladies' Devo, 7 PM, Panama Street church

MEMBERS IN THE MIDDLE

- ◆ **Benevolence Project Needs—April:** Travel Size Shampoo, conditioner, lotion, and soap. Collection baskets in main foyer.

YPYF

- ◆ **May 14:** Family Devo, PM, hosted by Porterfields and College Group

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- **May 5-6:** Prom Alternative
- **May 13:** Graduate Cook-out, 4 PM

April 23, 2017 / Leading the congregation in:

Announcements:

A.M.: Mark Evans

P.M.: Mark Evans

Opening Prayer:

A.M.: Mike Norman

P.M.: Dean Norton

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Tim Hatch

P.M.: Jeff Simpson

Singing:

A.M.: Dean Norton

P.M.: Dean Norton

ADVERSITIES, AFFLICTIONS AND ATTITUDES

We are often overwhelmed with the adversities in life that are very difficult to accept and hard to understand. At the moment, it seems that all is loss, that life is not worth living and that our sorrow is too much to bear. No doubt, Job felt this way when he experienced the tragedies in his life. The problem is with our perception of matters. We deal more with the immediate and not the overall view of life. That which is seemingly against us at the present may, in fact, work out for our good. The Psalmist declared, "Before I was afflicted I went astray; But now I keep Your word." Again he writes, "It is good for me that I have been afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes" (Psalms 119:67, 71). The Psalmist had lived long enough beyond his traumatic experiences to grasp the significance of his sorrows.

Not all men are able to perceive the silver lining amidst the clouds of despair. As finite beings, we are so limited in our knowledge and we often fail to grasp the ultimate reasons for our conflicts and sorrows in life. In contrast, the infinite Heavenly Father, who is from everlasting to everlasting, is able to see the panoramic scene; and, in His great providence, He is powerful enough to ultimately work out everything for our eternal welfare (Romans 8:28). It is a real challenge to our faith in God to seek the lessons to be learned from our failures, injuries and our losses in life. It isn't necessary that we fully comprehend nor is it even possible that we always understand the tragedies that we may experience; but, it is important that we trust in God, knowing that He cares for us and that He can overcome evil with good. In all his grief, Job expressed himself in this manner, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust him..." (Job 13:15 KJV).

Let us remember that afflictions, sicknesses, tragedies and death come to all men, saints and sinners. It is important therefore that the children of God understand that it is our acceptance of these experiences and our attitude toward them that distinguishes us from the people of the world who manifest no faith or trust in the providence of God. The unbeliever's heart is often hardened when calamities come his way. In contrast, the believer's heart is made more sensitive and responsive to God's design and purpose in the perplexities of life. We are like small children in our understanding and we should place our trust in our Heavenly Father even as David when he wrote in Psalms 131:1, 2: "Lord, my heart is not haughty, Nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound for me. Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, Like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child is my soul within me."

We all have, no doubt, heard the expression, "The same sun that melts ice, hardens clay." Adversities, sorrows and heartaches in life will have different effects on various people. It depends largely on the recipient. In John 6: 66-69, after some hard sayings of Jesus we read, "From that time many of his disciples went back and walked with him no more. Then Jesus said to the twelve, do you also want to go away? But Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Disciples of Jesus who really trust in Him have no one else in whom they can find refuge and strength in the times of trouble in this life. So, whatever sorrows and afflictions may occur in life, it is to Jesus that we must go. He is the great physician and there is healing in His wings.

—Raymond Elliott