



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>

July 26, 2018

ELDERS:

Tim Bagents
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:

6:30 p.m. Bible Study

WELCOME!

July 22, 2018 Numbers

2018 BUDGET—\$13,890.00

CONTRIBUTION: \$13,721.25

BUDGET: -\$168.75 YTD: +\$2,891.94

AVG YTD 28 WEEKS: \$13,989.73

Class: 146 AM Worship: 203 PM Worship: 130 EMBF: \$158

BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY JULY 29TH

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.

—Tim Bagents, for the Elders



This Friday, July 27th, 6:30-8:30 PM!

Dinner will kick off the evening at 6:30 pm with a hotdog bar and homemade ice cream, followed with games.

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

If You Were Not Here Sunday. Sunday we had a great worship as the Eastern Meadows elders led the worship assembly emphasizing the theme, Yes! He Did!! Our elders are to be commended for the planning of the worship and leading us in worship. Even if you were not here, you can see the sermon Paul Clements preached. Go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jqMNJ7_Uw_0&feature=em-uploademail. By the way, you can subscribe to the Eastern Meadows channel and you will receive an alert when a new EM video is available. All lessons in the auditorium are recorded and placed on Youtube. A link to the Youtube lessons and an mp3 download can be found at the EM website, <http://www.emcofc.org/sermons.html>. This has become an archive of many lessons, Sunday lessons, Wonderful Wednesday lessons, and Marriage Seminars.

Thanks to David and Paul! David and Paul were the leaders of the Ark Encounter and Restoration Visits. The trip was well planned and everything was according to the plan. I believe all who went thoroughly enjoyed themselves! I know personally that I enjoyed seeing *everything* and enjoyed being with our EM Christian friends!

One more. In June and July we have been studying *Worship* on Sunday mornings. We have completed what I originally intended for us to study, but as the lessons progressed, I think *one more is in order!* The first two lessons were general lessons on worship, followed by five lessons that highlighted each *act* or worship. This last lesson goes back to more of a general study, summarizing and concluding the series, but emphasizing that it is GOD we worship. *Everything* we do in worship is *by* Him (he ordained it! – John 4:23-24) and *for* Him (it is worship to God!). My likes and dislikes mean little. What pleases God rules and reigns. So, one more.

Upcoming! The Thursday Class will begin on the Thursday, September 6! Tim Gotkiewicz will be teaching! Be planning on this good class.

FROM THE YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTER – TIM GOTKIEWICZ:

Our recent Monday Night Motivation class gave me MUCH to think about!

We discussed love and obedience, which got me to thinking about what we do and don't do as Christians.

Consciously or unconsciously, we all determine how we will act and speak. Every action is a choice.

We all have a responsibility to God for our choices since we are called to govern and to control our speech and actions.

I think too, that we would all openly acknowledge that we "*must*" accept that responsibility.

Now...the basic question for every Christian when choosing what to do or say is this: "How do I make the right choice when I decide how I will act and speak?"

The answers to this question by any group of Christians are fairly predictable.

Some will say: "A Christian must determine what is wrong and then refuse to act and speak in that manner."

Others will say: "A Christian must determine what is right and then act and speak in that manner."

Some will even answer: "A Christian must determine both what is right and wrong, and must refuse to do the wrong and conscientiously do the right."

Many Christians would agree that the question had been answered properly with one of these answers.

However, only determining right and wrong isn't sufficient to properly determine Christian conduct.

A third question must be asked and answered: "What influence will my conduct and speech have?"

The neglect of the question of influence is easily illustrated by looking at just about any matter where there is a difference of opinion among Christians.

Some Christians feel their lives are spiritually sound if they determine, "Is it wrong?" They say, "I see nothing wrong with it," They feel their choice is defended.

The Christian who asks, "Is it right?" is considered to be spiritually mature.

Yes, we do need to ask, "Is it wrong?" or, "Is it right?"

But, we need to show our true love for others by asking, "How will this affect my spiritual influence?"

The New Testament clearly emphasizes that Christians individually and collectively are to be concerned continuously about their influence. Christians are godly, honorable people. Paul speaks of how we are to behave as a Christian in Romans 12. In verse 17 he says, "Have regard for good things in the sight of all men" (another translation says it this way, "Try to do what is honorable in everyone's eyes").

Paul's letter teaches that Christians NEVER live only for themselves.

Being honorable in everyone's sight shows our obedience, but also is a powerful demonstration of our love for them and for Christ.

So, please consider your influence on others in all that you do, and God will use you powerfully in any situation.

TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last question: An ancient Biblical scholar named Jerome once noted that this prophet's prophecies are so accurate that they read like actual history, rather than something written before the fact. Answer: Daniel

This week's question: Who was cremated in Jabesh Gilead in 1 Samuel?

A. Samuel; B. Ahimelech; C. Saul

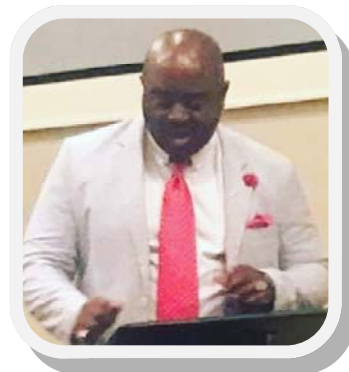


College Devo, Sunday, July 22

The lesson was titled, "Going Through the School of Hard Knocks and dealt with the film of "Annie."

When we talk about going through "the school of hard knocks," we're referring to the difficult experiences in life that have instructed us. Although it's part of human nature to avoid pain, as "Christians," we can learn and grow from painful and difficult circumstances.

—Brad Jackson



ANNOUNCEMENTS 7/26/18

July 29, 2018 / Leading the congregation in:

Scripture Reading:

A.M.: Tim Hatch

Main Prayer:

A.M.: Joel Kelly

P.M.: Allen Clements

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Billy Bush

P.M.: Ryan Gotkiewicz

Singing:

A.M.: William Dill

P.M.: William Dill

Security (During Services) - Sunday AM: Russ Chandler / Sunday PM & 8/1: Randy Porterfield

Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Brooks Housley

SICK: GEORGE DAVIDSON continues to deal with severe pain. TIM GOTKIEWICZ, KERRY ROBERTS, and FRANCIS NELSON continue to recover from surgery. RED TAYLOR remains under hospice care (no visitors, please). Sick at home Sunday: RUSS CHANDLER, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, CHARLES HENDERSON, JAN HILYER, MARIAN SIKES, and MARSHA SUTTON. Continue to remember our members listed on our Sunday-Night-Service Prayer List. Shut-ins: CATHERINE LEINHEISER, JEWEL BARNES, RED & LANETTE TAYLOR, and FRANCIS NELSON. Battling Cancer:

MIKE NORMAN, HOLLY THOMASSON, CHARLES HENDERSON, and JAY ROBERTS.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Veotha Smith in the passing of her brother, ZEBBIE LETHRIDGE Sunday morning in Lubbock, Texas.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Health Issues): DONNA KLINE, CARSON DAVIS, JEAN WILSON, AVA GILLEY, and ELI MORGAN. (Battling Cancer) CAROL ANN WOODALL, PAUL MEACHUM, DEREK MAY, VERENA JONES, and LARRY WINFIELD. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

NEW PRAYER REQUEST: Prayers have been requested for SANDRA HONAKER, whose cancer has returned.

PRAYER REQUEST UPDATE: ELI MORGAN, has received an artificial heart as he waits for a heart transplant.

BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY - This Sunday, July 29th.

MOUNT DORA CHANGE FOR CHILDREN: If you have any of the cans for the Mount Dora Change for Children please turn them in this Sunday July 29th. If you would like to make a donation such as a check or cash you can also do that. Please see Ron Hoskinson for more information.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR FSC: We have an opportunity to help the children at the Family Sunshine Center's Exodus Community gather the necessary supplies for the upcoming school year. If you would like to help with this project, please sign the list for specific items you want to bring. The list of most needed supplies is available in the LadyBUGS' Room. Please leave your items in the LadyBUGS' Room by this Sunday, July 29. The supplies will be delivered to Exodus Monday, July 30. If you need further information, please see Haley Steelman.

AREA WIDE SINGING: Prattville Church of Christ will host the Area Wide Singing Friday, Aug. 3, 7 PM.

CHOOSING THAT GOOD PART LADIES' RETREAT: The 4th Annual "Choosing That Good Part" Ladies Retreat will be October 18-20 at ICYC in Oakman, AL. The study will be on 1 Peter. Cost is \$75 each. Registration forms are available at the Front and Midway Foyers. Ladies, mark your calendars and make plans to attend.

THANK YOU: To my Eastern Meadows Family, I want to thank you for all the prayers, visits, food, phone calls, cards, and concern on my behalf as I have been out dealing with severe pain. May God bless all of you. Love, George Davidson

THANK YOU TO THE ARK ENCOUNTER & RESTORATION TRIP GROUP: Dear Brothers and Sisters, What a grand time we had with all of you as we encountered the Ark and the trek through the Restoration trail. We were blessed with fun and Christian fellowship every day! Renewing a long-time friendship with the Berrys was delightful, and Billy Bush kept us on our toes as he reminded us that he had heard us "cutting up" the night before! Sometimes, of course, you can't believe everything you hear! We'd love to have all of you come visit us in Ramer; when you come, we'll sit on the cabin porch and visit a spell! God bless you all! Ever in prayer, Knox & Pat Norman

NEW CONTACT NUMBER: CHARLIE & MACKIE BODDY no longer have a landline phone. Please use cell number (334) 546-2849 to contact them.

JULY STANDBY TEAM 1 (LONG) / AUGUST STANDBY TEAM 2 (BENSON)

ELDER OF THE MONTH / ON CALL: The Elder of the Month for July is **ALAN KAYE**. Contact information: (334) 322-7363; nantahalan@gmail.com. The Elder of the Month for August is **TIM BAGENTS**. Contact information: (334) 303-3571; tbagents@southlandtrucks.com.

Yes! HE did!!!

T.I.P Sundays at 4:30 PM

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

• **August 29:** Youth Prayer Dinner, 5:30 PM

COLLEGE EVENTS

August 26: Devo following PM worship service



The average family pays off \$5,300 in debt and saves \$2,700 within the first 90 days!

FPU (Dave Ramsey) has nine classes on Personal Finance which will be taught by Tim Hatch. Classes begin Sept. 11, 6:30 PM. Tim may be contacted at timhatch@charter.net.

LADYBUGS

- ♦ **Aug. 5:** A Time To Pray, 4:30 PM
- ♦ **Aug. 6, 13, & 20:** Outreach/FSC, 6-7 PM
- ♦ **Aug. 7:** Dorcas Deeds, 10 AM-2 PM
- ♦ **Aug. 13:** MVP Lunch @ Cracker Barrel, 11:30 AM
- ♦ **Aug. 13:** Area Wide Ladies' Devo, 7 PM
- ♦ **Aug. 27:** M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM
- ♦ **August Communion Prep:** Linda Simpson
- ♦ **August Baptismal Garments:** Latasha Kelley



2018 SUMMER SERIES - AUGUST 1

"WHAT THE CHURCH NEEDS..."

"...Members Who Are Good Fathers, Mothers, Husbands, Wives"

—Steve Wages, of Faulkner University—

Just Two Percent Matters

One time I had trouble with mice, so I bought some d-CON. I noticed on the package that only 2 percent of its contents was actually poison. The rest was edible.

Now if some educated mouse could read, he might reason: "But there is so much good in it, a little bit won't harm me, and besides, I'm hungry." Yet all that food didn't do that poor creature a bit of good, because the little bit of poison either killed him or gave him some mighty nasty indigestion. The 98 percent nourishment was useless if that 2 percent killed him! The 98 percent was not enough to offset the 2 percent. The makers of d-CON know they have to put much good-tasting food in before mice will be tempted to eat that little bit that kills him.

This is parallel with a situation we often find in religion. Many feel that if there is so much good in their doctrines, a little bit of error won't hurt them. However, the devil is smart enough to give people enough of the truth to make his lies appear wholesome, but just enough error to condemn. No one will benefit from 98 percent truth if there is 2 percent error mixed in with it. Man won't go 98 percent to heaven and 2 percent to hell; he'll go to either one place or the other. Did not James say, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all"? (James 2:10). The person who rejects 2 percent of the truth of God is guilty, just like the person who rejects all. "The wages of sin is death," (Romans 6:23).

Think about it.

—House To House/Heart To Heart



Stay Strong in the Lord

"If all your friends jumped off a cliff ... would you jump too?"

How many times did your mom ask you this question growing up? I know my mom asked me a LOT. I soon learned to come up with better reasons for what I wanted to do than, "All my friends are doing it!" But you have to admit, Mom's logic is sound. Just because a lot of other people do something, it doesn't make it a good idea. When we see others make mistakes, we should learn from them rather than saying, "I want to go, too!"

In 1 Corinthians 10, Paul points out to the Corinthian church that the evil which befell Israel was given as an example so Christians could learn from Israel's mistakes. Verse 6 of that chapter says, "Now these things happened as examples for us, so that we would not crave evil things as they also craved." In this chapter we also read about how God delivered Israel from Egypt and how most of the Israelites rebelled and displeased God.

We read about the sins they committed and the destruction they suffered as a result. After all of that, Paul says in verse 12, "Therefore, let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall."

Through the sacrifice of Christ, we have been delivered from sin, and now we are to live righteously (Romans 6:17-18). We must be careful not to get arrogant in our salvation and fall into sin like Israel did. The good news is that God won't let us be tempted more than we can handle. God doesn't make rules that are impossible to keep. He always provides a way for us to escape sin and do the right thing (1 Corinthians 10:13). One of the best ways I have found to escape sin is to do a good work for Christ in lieu of the evil with which I am tempted. You remember the saying, "Idle hands are the devil's workshop." We should take a few minutes each day to ask God to help us recognize temptation and find those avenues to escape sin. We won't be able to overcome temptation if we don't see it coming, and we won't be able to take the escape route if we don't know what it looks like or where to look for it. Jesus when teaching the disciples to pray and giving us an example prayed, "lead us not into temptation, and deliver us from evil" (Matthew 6:13).

The ancient nation of Israel has provided us with an example of how even God's people can slip into sin and fall away. The question is, will we learn from that example and avoid their mistakes, or will we blindly follow them and jump off a cliff to our destruction?

—Travis Robertson, *Bulletin Gold*

Why We Know the Bible is from God!

The origin, accuracy and inerrancy of the Bible must be established before it can benefit the soul. Once established as a Divine message, then the soul can be addressed. Thus, how do we know and on what basis do we say that the Bible is the Word of God? The reasons are important and as follows.

First, the Old Testament writers affirmed that they were speaking the Word of God and not the words of men. The phrase "Thus says the Lord" or an equivalent is found more than 2,000 times in the Old Testament (cf. 2 Samuel 23:1-3; Isaiah 8:1, 11; Jeremiah 1:9; 5:14; 7:27; 13:12; Ezekiel 3:4; Micah 5:10; Habakkuk 2:2; etc.). Consequently, the Old Testament speaks from the perspective of divine inspiration. Should we do any less?

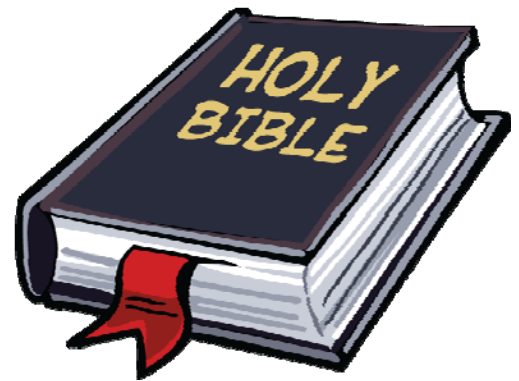
Secondly, the apostles regarded the whole of Scripture as the infallible Word of God (1 Corinthians 14:37; Galatians 1:11-12; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21). Notice the word "all" in 2 Timothy 3:16. Second Peter 1:20-21 informs us that the Holy Spirit did not provide an imperfect revelation!

In the third place, Jesus without reservation endorsed the Scriptures as the inspired Word of God (Matthew 5:18; John 10:35; 12:48). Jesus taught that the whole of Scripture is inspired.

Fourthly, fulfilled predictive prophecy unmistakably demonstrates the authoritativeness of Scripture (Deuteronomy 28:37, 63-65; Isaiah 13:19-22; Jeremiah 46:19-20; 51:37; Ezekiel 29:15; 30:6; Nahum 3:1, 4-6; Zephaniah 2:13-14; Luke 21:24). Fulfilled prophecy is evidence that God is the Author of the Bible.

Fifthly, biblical archaeology confirms the accuracy of Scripture. From the discovery of the Cyrus Cylinder in 1879, to the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947, to the Pool of Siloam in 2004, archaeology has provided an independent witness to the truth of God's Word.

The pragmatic test shows the Bible to be the Word of God (i.e., it performs what it promises). The principles and precepts of God's Word work in actual human experience in response to faith. Paul characterized the transformed life of a sinner as one that "proves" the will of God for others to see (Romans 12:2). Therefore, it can and must be said, "It works!" (cf. Psalm 34:8; John 7:17).



--Mark N. Posey, *Gospel Gazette Online*