



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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Website: <https://www.easternmeadows.org>

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

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

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

December 10, 2019

ELDERS:

Tim Bagents
Alan Kaye
Roy Mulkey
Mike Norman
Ted Norton

DEACONS:

Adam Bass
Billy Bush
Allen Clements
John Cole
Michael Crow
Lamon Dees
Ryan Gotkiewicz
Tim Gotkiewicz
Tim Hatch
Steve Housley
Marquez James
Joel Kelly
Andrew Long
Jimmy Mathews
Danny Moore
Lindsey Mulkey
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!

PLANNED GIVING

This Sunday, December 15

The Elders have designated this Sunday, December 15th, as Planned Giving Sunday. Be prayerfully considering your contribution for 2020.



INVOLVEMENT 2020 PREFERRED AREAS OF SERVICE SURVEY

Don't forget to fill out your survey! The EM Elders ask that each person make at least two choices. Specific details may be given in the comments section. Don't forget to click "Done" when finished. Hard copies may be picked up at the front welcome desk. See Ted Norton for more information.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

Saturday, December 14, 2 PM

The Annual Christmas Dinner is this Saturday, December 14, 2 PM, in the Fellowship Hall.



Budget: **\$13,890.00** Contribution, 12/8: **\$14,050.70** YTD: **-\$5,136.36**
12/8 Bible Class: **126** / AM Worship: **183** / PM Worship: **89** / EMBF: **\$136**

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

Enjoy. This is a joyous time of the year. Most families spend a bit more time together. People want to please others and so many are more pleasant. Let us enjoy this time, but not neglect our Lord. Let us be present at the assemblies. Let us maintain Christian morality (I am amazed that many will drink alcoholic beverages at a Christmas party!)! Enjoy the Holiday Season, but enjoy it *as a Christian!* By the way, enjoy the Eastern Meadows Holiday activities. This Saturday is the annual Christmas Dinner. Saturday, Dec. 21 is the lunch at Story Road House (see the Normans about this!). Dec. 22 is caroling after evening worship. By the way, anyone can participate in the caroling, in fact, the more the better. Remember the midweek services Christmas week will be on Monday!

Sunday Nights Better

- * Dec. 15, *Back to the Bible, 3A*
- * Dec. 22, *Back to the Bible, 3B*
- * Dec. 29, *Down in the Valley*

Thank You. It is great to see the budget met...two weeks in a row. Thank you for your faithfulness.

Each Part Is Working Properly . . . At Eastern Meadows

“Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.” Ephesians 4:15-16 ESV

Years ago, when I read this verse my thoughts gravitated more to “speaking the truth in love.” And how important it is to speak the “truth” (content) in “love” (with the right attitude)! This is exactly what a preacher is to do. This is what *every* Christian is to do.

Today, as I think about this passage, my thoughts gravitate to the phrase “when each part is working properly.” And at the local church, this means every member . . . at Eastern Meadows. If I am a Christian, I am a member of the church, the church that Jesus promised to build, the Lord’s church. Moreover, when I am forgiven of my sins when I repent and am baptized, *the Lord* adds me to His church. (See Acts 2:47 and Matthew 16:18). Once again, in the local church, for me, this means Eastern Meadows.

So am I? Am I doing (working) my part? Am I functioning as I ought to in the local body? You have two very good opportunities *right now*.

Involvement. The link to the Involvement Form was emailed to each member who has an email address. Even Monday of this week a second email was sent, hopefully, to encourage those who have not yet responded. If you are comfortable with using email, links, and responding on surveymonkey, it is very easy. If you do not wish to reply using survey monkey, you can pick up a paper copy of the Involvement form, fill it out, and give it to Ted Norton or any other elder. If there is something about the form that you have a question about or do not understand, call, email, or text Ted Norton. He will be glad to give you an answer.

Planned Giving. The second immediate opportunity for “doing your part” is participating in Planned Giving. Each person should be “purposing” (2 Corinthians 9:7) what he will give. When we participate in purposing/planning our giving, the elders have a more accurate number to work with in preparing the budget for the coming year. As a result of Planned Giving/Budgeting, the Eastern Meadows elders have refined the budget process over the years. This Sunday is Planned Giving Sunday. You will have opportunity to voice to the elders how much you plan to give on a weekly basis in 2020. And thanks for your participation.

That is right. “. . . according to the effective working by which every part does its share” (Eph. 4:16, NKJV). Let us each do our share!

-Steve Housley

FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER – TIM GOTKIEWICZ:


Don't forget to plan for this Saturday, the 14th! The youth group will be serving the congregation at the annual steak dinner.

Don't forget the Youth Group Family Christmas Party after 5 pm worship this Sunday the 15th!

If you have any questions or concerns, please see or call Tim or Sally.

| YOUTH ACTIVITIES: | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dec. 14: Serve Christmas Dinner Dec. 15: Youth & Family Christmas Party | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dec. 22: 10 Minute Update Dec 27–30: Exposure Youth Camp |

| COLLEGE EVENTS: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dec. 16-Jan. 3: Faulkner Christmas Break |
|------------------------|---|
|------------------------|---|

| TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER: | |
|---|---|
| <p>Last week's question: In Luke, Chapter 9, Jesus told the twelve as He sent them out to take what for their journey? Answer: all demons, cure diseases (Luke 9:1)</p> <p>This week's question: When Jesus was transfigured on the mountain, a voice came out of the cloud and said, "This is my beloved Son. _____!"</p> <p>A) In whom I am well pleased; B) In Him are my blessings; C) Hear Him</p> |  |

Fundamentals of the Faith: BELIEVE

JIMMY GEE, speaking Wednesday, Dec. 11

Jimmy Gee is Assistant Professor of Old Testament in the V. P. Black College of Biblical Studies, and the Kearley Graduate School of Theology. Jimmy received his Ph. D in Old Testament from the Turner School of Theology at Amridge in 2013. Prior to coming to Faulkner, Jimmy was for many years the Director of the Andrew Connally School of Preaching in Tanzania, Africa. He has been involved in mission work for many years, as well as local work in the States. Jimmy and his wife Trina are blessed with a large number of children whom they love dearly.



Fundamentals of the Faith: REPENT

BRUCE MORTON, speaking Wednesday, Dec. 18

Bruce Morton is Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at Faulkner University, Montgomery, Alabama. Additionally, he has served as a guest teacher at Korea Christian College (Seoul, Korea). He and his wife, Sharon, have three children. He holds a bachelor's degree from Freed-Hardeman University, a master's degree from Harding University, and has done additional study in Medieval religion at Gettysburg Theological Seminary. He is the author of four books: *Deceiving Winds*, *Renewed*, *Young Faith*, and *Compassionate Creator*.



December 15, 2019 / **Leading the congregation in:**

Scripture Reading:

A.M.: David Eguebe

Main Prayer:

A.M.: Blaine Benson

P.M.: Paul Clements

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Carter Benson

P.M.: Josh Cochran

Singing:

A.M.: Dean Norton

P.M.: Dean Norton

Security (During Services) - Sunday AM: Danny Moore / Sunday PM & 12/18: Michael Crow

Security (Building Lock-up After Services): John Cole

ANNOUNCEMENTS 12/10/19

SICK: DUSTY PONCEY has been diagnosed with acute leukemia and is in UAB Hospital for treatments (No visitors, please). DEIDRE COLE, is recovering at home following a C-section. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, WESLEY BERRY, VERA DEKLE, RAELYNN EVANS, ELLA HANKINS, GLORIA HARVEST, JAN HILYER, MARSHA SUTTON, TIMBES FAMILY. Continue to remember our members listed on our Sunday-Evening-Evangelism Prayer List. Shut-ins: LANETTE TAYLOR, VIRGINIA EVANS, OPAL SULLIVAN, MARIAN SIKES, MARGARET DAVIS, and MARGARET GRAVES. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN, HOLLY THOMASSON, CHARLES HENDERSON, JAY ROBERTS, ALICE HANDLANG, DON BRANNAN, SARAH HOUSLEY, ANN MILAM, DUSTY PONCEY.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Various Issues): CARSON DAVIS, DEXTER HART III (TRIPP), WAYNE JOHNSTON, JENNY PATTERSON, ERIN FOLDS, JEAN BAILEY. (Battling Cancer): CAROL ANN WOODALL, CHANDRA JOHNSON, JESSE BARRY, KATY PENICK, DEREK MAY, GENE SULLIVAN, WILL HICKS, LANISE KIRK, WENDY GRANT, DAVID PEEL. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

NEW PRAYER REQUEST: Prayers have been requested for EVELYN (Evie) MEDINA, Wesley & Wilma Berry's granddaughter, who is scheduled for surgery this Thursday, Dec. 12.

THANK YOU: With much gratitude, I would like to thank you for all the calls, prayers, and random acts of kindness shown me during the passing of my sister, Yvonne McQuees. To the Dorcas Deeds Committee, she really enjoyed the quilt you made for her. I will always treasure your thoughtfulness. Your sister in Christ, Gloria Harvest

NURSERY ATTENDANTS - 12/15: AM—KRISTY HATCH & MIRANDA PORTERFIELD; PM—KALLIE FUTRAL & BARBARA NORMAN

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER: Our Annual Christmas Dinner is this Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 PM. A great time of fellowship!

DECORATE A TABLE: This year all interested ladies are invited to decorate ONE individual table for the Annual Christmas Dinner. Hunter green table coverings will be provided for each table. If you would like to decorate ONE table for the dinner, please sign the list available in the LadyBUGS' room. Eastern Meadows plates, flatware, and glasses will be used for all tables. You will be able to decorate your table from Thursday, December 12, until Saturday, December 14. All decorations need to be completed by 1:00 pm on December 14. If you need more information, please see TERRY BAGENTS.

PLANNED GIVING SUNDAY: The Elders have designated Dec. 15 as Planned Giving Sunday. Be prayerfully considering what will be contributing to the Lord's work at Eastern Meadows in 2020.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY: There will be a Christmas Party for ages 4 years old—6th grade on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3:30 PM. See TISH HOUSLEY for more information.

YOUTH GROUP & FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY: There will be a Christmas Party for the Youth Group and their families on Sunday, Dec. 15, following the PM worship service. See TIM or SALLY GOTKIEWICZ for more information.

WIDOWS LUNCHEON: JAN HILYER invites all the Eastern Meadows widows to lunch at 12 noon on Friday, Dec. 20, at her home, 615 Pine Hill Road. Please park at the front of the house. All widows planning to attend need to RSVP Jan at 356-3784.

HERE-WE-GO-A-CAROLING: Here-we-go-a-caroling will be on Sunday, Dec. 22. Those interested will meet after the PM worship service, eat, and then go caroling. See TISH HOUSLEY for more information.

STORY ROAD HOUSE CHRISTMAS LUNCH: There will be a Christmas Lunch at the Story Road House on Saturday,

Dec. 21, 12 noon. MIKE & BARBARA NORMAN will provide the meats. A sign-up list for sides and desserts will be posted. See Barbara Norman for more information.

DECEMBER STANDBY TEAM - 1 (DEES)

ELDER OF THE MONTH / ON CALL: The Elder of the Month for December is **ALAN KAYE**. Contact information for Alan: (334) 322-7363; nantahalan@gmail.com.

MAKE NOTE OF CHANGE!

Mid-Week Bible Study Wednesday to Monday

The “mid-week” Bible study the week of Christmas has been moved from Wednesday, Dec. 25 to Monday, Dec. 23. We will have Bible classes as usual. Make note of this change!



“Go ye therefore, and teach nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.” Matthew 28:19-20



2019 LadyBUGS
Ladies Being Useful in God's Service
TOGETHER

- ◆ **Dec. 14:** Decorate A Table for the Christmas Dinner
- ◆ **Dec. 29:** A Time To Pray, 4:30 PM

Upcoming Events

- 2019
- **December 14:** Annual Christmas Dinner, 2 PM
- **December 23:** Mid-Week Bible Study, 6:30 PM
- 2020
- **February 2:** Faulkner Chorus
- **March 1:** Marriage & Family Day (Dan Wheeler)
- **April 5:** Teaching Rocket Seminar with Michael Whitworth
- **May 3:** Homecoming/Goal Day
- **June 1-4:** VBS
- 2021
- **March 12-13:** Ladies' Retreat
- 2022
- **Feb. 11-12:** Marriage & Family Seminar (Glenn & Cindy Colley)

*“Every **ONE** to his work” (Neh. 4:15).*

WANTED: INVOLVEMENT

A preacher in the Midwest tells of a woman phoning him and expressing her dissatisfaction with a program of the church. He invited her to come to his office and talk the program over with him. She accepted the invitation and brought to his attention some of the things that were needed and could be done. He gratefully acknowledged her wisdom and her ideas. He then said, "This is wonderful that you are so concerned and interested in this. You are the very person this congregation needs to head this program. Will you take the job?" Her reply was just as immediate, "Oh no, I don't want to get too involved. With my club work and the hours I put in on other things, I don't have time. But I will be glad to advise you any time." The preacher's answer was classic and well put. "Sister, that's the problem now. I already have 400 advisors. I need someone who will work." Every Christian needs to get involved in working for the Lord. Today is not too late to start . . . how about you? What about your involvement? GENUINE CHRISTIANS DO NOT WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN ALONE!

—Copied

Display Light By Not Joining Those in Darkness

In Eph. 5:7-10 Paul reminds us that we are "in Christ" and that our lives must reflect that identity. In the first of four short articles based on that theme he says that we must display our lives by not joining those in darkness." Paul has warned the Ephesian Christians and us that if we live like the ones who revel in the "works of the flesh" instead of living a life permeated by "the works of the Spirit," we will share in the punishment of the ones who rebel against God.

Eph. 5:7 reads as follows,"Therefore do not be partakers with them." We are to be the salt of the earth. Remember, we are to live in the world, but not of the world (1 John 2:15-17). The folks in the world must be able to see the love of Christ in us. They must know by our lives that we love them, while not loving their sin. It is not easy to separate the sin and the sinner, but we must always ask the Lord to help us attain that and live in the Spirit as we seek the lost and strengthen the saved.

—Larry Miles, BulletinGold



**Annual
Ladies'
Ornament
Swap
at the
home of
Jane
Sewell**