



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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Email Office: office@easternmeadows.org

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, 2020

ELDERS:

Alan Kaye
Roy Mulkey
Mike Norman
Ted Norton

DEACONS:

Adam Bass
Allen Clements
John Cole
Michael Crow
Ryan Gotkiewicz
Tim Gotkiewicz
Tim Hatch
Steve Housley
Marquez James
Joel Kelly
Jimmy Mathews
Danny Moore
Lindsey Mulkey
Dean Norton
Randy Porterfield
Steve Sewell
Jeff Simpson

MINISTERS:

Brandon Baggett,
Involvement
Tim Gotkiewicz, Youth
& College
Steve Housley, Pulpit
& Education

SCHEDULE:

Sunday:

9:15 a.m. Bible Class
10:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday:

6:30 p.m. Bible Study

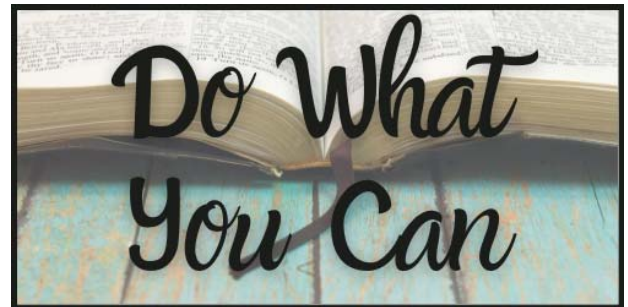
WELCOME!

Our end of year "DO WHAT YOU CAN" campaign is entering the final 3 weeks. This 2 month campaign has delivered great results. There are lots of moving parts to this effort and we greatly appreciate your involvement. And, we can't

say enough about your response to our 5 Sunday November focus on the budget. Your response was beyond our expectations and has even continued through the first Sunday of December, reducing our deficit by 88%!!

Our December focus of "DO WHAT YOU CAN" is on preparation for 2021, considering thoroughly all areas of the Lord's work here. We had a great deacons, ministers and elders meeting Sunday morning focused especially on 2021 plans. We don't recall when SO many have been SO involved in this process. This includes all of your individual and collective work in every area of the Lord's work. Effective planning makes implementation easier and objectives attainable and results rewarding. But, Most importantly, it pleases God!

Remember, we are not asking you to Do What You Can't, just "DO WHAT YOU CAN" when you can. We are greatly appreciative of all you do! Your elders.



LadyBUGS Sign-up

It is time for the ladies to sign up for the 2021 LadyBUGS' Committees. An online sign-up has been sent out by email. If you would rather sign up by paper, sign up sheets are in the main foyer. Please make your choice(s) and give it to Shirley Kaye as soon as possible. Contact Shirley for questions or information.

Budget: **\$12,000.00** Contribution, 12/6: **\$15,428.00**

The guidelines for keeping safe are still in effect. Please come Sunday for 9:15 Bible Class and 10 a.m. worship. Remember it will be a sanitized, masked face, social distanced class and worship assembly. I look forward to seeing you then! -Steve

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

Shepherd's Talk. This past Sunday there was a Shepherd's Talk by Ted Norton. If you are an Eastern Meadows' member and were not present, go to <https://www.facebook.com/EasternMeadowsChurchofChrist/videos/309965190175062> where you can watch it. The Shepherds talks are not internet "live" on Sunday. Shepherd talks are family business and we keep it in the family. Thanks Ted and the elders for keeping the church informed.

Eastern Meadows Website. The Website continues to be improved. It is, in my opinion, the best Website Eastern Meadows has ever had. Recent updates bring the new promotional videos to the Home page and under the "resources" dropdown list there is now a page for the One Minute Meditations. Thank you to Julie Gotkiewicz for these updates. If you have not seen the Eastern Meadows webpage, go to <https://easternmeadows.org/>

Weekly Giving: With this week, Eastern Meadows has had 6 consecutive Sundays meeting the budget. Frankly, I don't know if we have ever had 6 consecutive weeks meeting the budget. Memory fails, and I don't have the time to search records. But you are to be commended in responding to "Do What You Can." This has been a very unusual year!

Plans Ahead. 12-13, The Bible Is . . . 12-20, Jesus Is . . . 12-27, The Holy Spirit Is . . . 1-3 The Devil Is . . . These are my preaching plans, Lord willing.

The Best Gifts Ever

-The Gift of Kindness-

Are you searching for the perfect gift to capture the feelings of your heart and show your family and friends just how much you love them? Focus your attention on those around you and discover ways to demonstrate one of the greatest gifts ever – the gift of kindness! This gift of kindness is the quality of being friendly, generous, and respectful of the feelings and needs of others. Kindness is a remarkable gift that keeps on giving. It will strengthen your relationships and bring more satisfaction to your life. Kindness pays dividends, and expressing this quality will greatly facilitate you being liked and respected. Your words and deeds of kindness will be remembered long after your funeral with every mention of your name. Kindness isn't a trait of the weak and wimpy; it's a hallmark attribute of those who share the loving heart of God.

If you want to be kind, then have eyes to see when others are suffering. Jesus once told the story of a man who "fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead" (Luke 10:30). Others passed by and veered away from his hour of need, "but a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion" (Luke 10:33). His kind actions made all the difference! Today, it only takes a kind word, a warm smile, or a small deed of compassion to change someone's



life. Spotting and serving the needs of others is a power greater than that of any superhero!

If you want to be kind, then be quick to compliment and be slow to condemn. Those who are skilled in the art of kindness are specialists at giving "honor to whom honor is owed" (Romans 13:7). They are always ready to celebrate those they love and willing to lavish others with frequent, genuine, and heartfelt praise. On the other hand, they shun any comments or conduct that might insult or malign another. As Jesus warned, "judge not, that you be not judged. For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you" (Matthew 7:1-2). Kindness keeps us from being critical, fault-finding, rude, and insensitive. Kindness is giving someone the benefit of the doubt and trying to understand their situation before rushing ahead with judgment. When failures must be confronted, kindness guides us to do so in a gentle way to most benefit the other person.

If you want to be kind, then treat others how you want to be treated. The Savior once said, "whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets" (Matthew 7:12). Kindness is about treating others the best you can no matter who they are or how you feel about them. It's taking the high road and choosing to be kind even when others hurt you and let you down. Kindness is doing what is best for the other person even if you will not get the same in return. Deciding to be kind is to make the choice to extend the same mercy, grace, and love of God from which you have benefited to others.

In a world that can often be crabby, irritable, and rude, let's just be kind! Choosing kindness will help us to fulfill our part to make this world a better, brighter, and more civilized place. Let's make a special resolution this holiday season to restore kindness back to its rightful place in society and demonstrate the love and kindness of Christ to all around us.

— Brandon Baggett

Weary Prodigal Come

We are all likely familiar with the Lord's parable of the prodigal son from Luke 15. One of most touching parts to me has always been that the father saw his son coming while he was yet far off. In my mind's eye, I can see the father looking every day for his lost son to come home. God is the Father in this parable. If you are His unfaithful child, then you are the one He is looking for today.

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"Weary prodigal come "

--Ken Gardner

ANNOUNCEMENTS 12/10/20

With the restrictions caused by COVID-19, it is difficult to have an accurate report of our members who are ill.

SICK: LYDIA EGUEBE is home after being in the hospital with pneumonia. The BAGGETT FAMILY and the BAILEY FAMILY have been in quarantine. GWEN MANN and her parents have tested positive for COVID. WILMA MILLICAN is home after undergoing a heart ablation Monday, Nov. 30. STANFORD JONES and PHYLLIS ALLEN continue to recover from surgery. Continue to remember our members listed on our Sunday-Evening-Evangelism Prayer List. Shut-ins: LANETTE TAYLOR, OPAL SULLIVAN, MARIAN SIKES, MARGARET GRAVES, LEON & CHARLOTTE JACKSON. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN, CHARLES HENDERSON, JAY ROBERTS, DUSTY POUNCEY.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Various Issues): CARSON DAVIS, DON SIMMONS, LINDA DOBYNS, JUDY MILLER, MYRA

HUGHES, BECKY TUCKER, MARY SEARIGHT, BENNIE JINRIGHT. (Battling Cancer): LANISE KIRK, DARNELL STROTHER, NINA JOSEPH, LISA DOBBS, BJ BUCHMANN, PAT NORMAN, SANDRA MISSILDINE, ANDY MULLINS, DANNY MOORE (*This is the Sutton's nephew, Not EM's Danny Moore*), CHRIS HETHCOX, JUDY CURTIN, LEIGH BROWN. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Gladys Clements and family in the passing of her sister, LINDA GARNETT. The viewing will be Friday, Dec. 11, 2 PM with the funeral at 3 P, at Prattville Memorial Chapel.

LADYBUGS NEWSLETTER: Copies of the December LadyBUGS Newsletter are available at the front and midway foyers for those who do not have email.

BABY SHOWER: There will be a Baby Shower in honor of CAITLIN BAGGETT on Sunday, Dec. 27, 1:30-3:00 PM (Come & Go), in the Fellowship Hall. Gift cards to Target or Amazon are requested, or give money to Linda Simpson towards a gift card. COVID guidelines will be observed. A shower sign-up list will be posted soon.



APOLOGETICS Press \$50 K MATCHING CHALLENGE: Apologetics Press has reached 85% of their goal of 50K. For every dollar donated before Dec. 25, their supporter will donate a dollar - up to \$50,000. Any amount of donation will help and every dollar donated will be used to assist in reaching the lost and edifying the saved. You may donate online at <https://store.apologeticspress.org/products/donation> or mail to Apologetics Press, 230 Landmark Drive, Montgomery, AL, 36117.

BIBLE CLASSES: SUNDAYS @ 9:15 AM & WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30 PM

SUNDAY-EVENING-EVANGELISM: Packets containing SEE Prayer List and cards are posted at the front and midway foyers. Be sure to pick up a packet and send cards to the ones you choose.

DECEMBER STANDBY TEAM—#1

ELDER OF THE MONTH / ON CALL: The Elder of the Month for December is **MIKE NORMAN**. Contact information for Mike: (334) 306-7583; mikenorman7583@yahoo.com.

December 13, 2020 / Leading the congregation in:			
Scripture Reading:	Main Prayer:	Closing Prayer:	Singing:
A.M.: Alden Futral	A.M.: Marquez James	A.M.: Jeff Simpson	A.M.: Allen Clements
Security (During Services): James Kelley /		Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Lindsey Mulkey	



CHILDREN'S CRAZY SOCK EXCHANGE

Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

December 16th ♦ 6:30 p.m. / For students in Grades 1 - 6

Each child should bring a pair of 'new' (wrapped) holiday children's socks (unisex please). Before wrapping, stuff inside the socks, one small treat. (Suggested items include: gum, candy, hand sanitizer, ect.) This should be something that can be enjoyed by either a boy or girl. The children will play a game in which they will end up with a pair of socks to take home.

Children are required to wear masks and social distance during class and the game. Hand sanitizer will be used with each child. If your child is sick, please do not attend. A gift will be given to them at a later date. This activity will take place after a review of Sunday morning class and will extend through the auditorium devotional.

