



## Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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

February 4, 2021

### 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  
5:00 p.m. Worship

#### *Wednesday:*

6:30 p.m. Bible Study

**WELCOME!**

## ***ONLINE GIVING CHANGE***

Giving Tools is ready for you to use for your online giving convenience. Simply go to [www.easternmeadows.org/giving](http://www.easternmeadows.org/giving). You will have 2 options, Contribution or Benevolence Fund, then enter your information. Your information will be saved for future giving. You may make a one-time contribution or set up recurring contributions. This literally takes seconds to do. To 'Text to Give' text 'easternmeadows' to 1-888-554-8664. We will be discontinuing our PayPal link immediately.

## **Sunday Night Praise!**

**Sunday Night Worship is Back,  
Beginning February 14!**

**Sunday Night, February 14, Brandon will present his third lesson on Marriage for the day!**

**Budget: \$11,500.00**



# Marriage Enrichment

Sunday, February 14th

Brandon Baggett Speaking

## ***FROM THE PULPIT & EDUCATION MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:***

**Requesting Prayer.** Leigh Sandlin has requested prayer for health problems leading to a leave of absence from work. Please pray.

**Sunday Nights.** BEGINNING FEBRUARY 14 EASTERN MEADOWS WILL AGAIN HAVE SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP. We have a large building. We have PLENTY of room to “social distance.” Everyone wears masks during worship. We believe we can be safe. Like Sunday morning, Sunday evening will be a shortened worship assembly (45 minutes) to encourage everyone to keep their masks on. Please be making your plans. Sunday nights will be streamed as are Bible classes and Sunday morning worship.

**Marriage Sunday Looking Forward Update.** February 14, will be Marriage Sunday at Eastern Meadows. Brandon Baggett will be speaking on Marriage at 9:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. There will be no fellowship meal and no afternoon service. We will then return for a 5 p.m. worship assembly with Brandon again speaking on Marriage. We will have three lessons, albeit, each lesson will not be as long as some in the past. We all need to be reminded about the special nature of our marriage and be encouraged to be the husband and wife we ought to be. So be making your plans for February 14!

**F-HU Online Lectureship.** The Freed-Hardeman University Bible Lectureship began in 1926 and was presented in various forms at various times over the years. In 1961 it has been held the first full week of February. This year, due to the pandemic, other than students already on campus, it is an “online” lectureship February 7-11. The theme will be the book of Ecclesiastes. You can watch it and learn. Go to <https://www.fhu.edu/lectureship> To the right is a grey box titled “Lectureship” with a link there to the schedule. I would encourage you to take advantage of this good opportunity.

## ***A Song: Come, Ye Disconsolate***

OK. This is not one of my favorites. Actually, quite the opposite. I have sung it a few times but never really liked it. I am not a fan of the rhythm, (it is a bit too slow, in my opinion) and I don't care for the vocabulary. But, I listened to the song again today, as for the first time. While I appreciated the beauty of the song a bit more, *I really appreciated the message* – not the vocabulary, but the meaning. Read the first verse:

*Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish, Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel. Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.*

These words tell exactly where hope is; exactly where you go when you are disconsolate; when you languish. Go to God in prayer. There you find a help that earth cannot give. Perhaps I like the song better now...If you have never heard it listen to it at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR1Ha9Z27luBNv1FiSotQa\\_2WUSK54VAv2IVkZENNXYUMN2JKht2TJCtK8yE&v=06q9am18p9k&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?fbclid=IwAR1Ha9Z27luBNv1FiSotQa_2WUSK54VAv2IVkZENNXYUMN2JKht2TJCtK8yE&v=06q9am18p9k&feature=youtu.be) Just copy and paste into your browser.

*FROM THE INVOLVEMENT MINISTER – BRANDON BAGGETT:*

## Experience God’s Peace in 2021

### -Think The Right Thoughts-

The human mind is an incredible creation from the almighty hand of God! The mind is our inner control system, and the potential it possesses to influence our emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being is unquestionable. As Solomon once said, “as he thinks in his heart, so is he” (Proverbs 23:7 NKJV). We are what we think! Our behavior is the byproduct of our thinking! This reality, though, is a double edged sword. Just as positive and constructive thinking can help put us on a course for happiness and success, negative and destructive reasoning can deadlock us on a path of misery and disappointment. It’s hard to live a happy and fulfilled life when your mind is overflowing with negativity. Learning how to shift our thinking patterns is essential to combat anxiety and experience the peace God promises.

The apostle Paul understood the importance of controlling what thoughts live in our mind. As he was closing his prison letter to the church at Philippi, he said, “finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things” (Philippians 4:8 ESV). Paul’s been writing with a heavy focus on conflict, stress, and anxiety. His final teachings in this chapter are designed to help the child of God experience “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding” (Philippians 4:7). Paul has just written about the importance of a healthy prayer life in battling anxiety, but he now follows up this teaching with a few words about our thinking. The implication is that our perception must change right along with our prayers. Casting a burden on the Lord will do us no good if we pack up that problem, continue to carry it around, and analyze it in our mind. We’ve got to pray the right prayers and think the right thoughts! Both are essential to experience God’s peace. Therefore, as Paul teaches, believers must meditate on things that are Biblical and beneficial!



If you really want to make this year count and experience God’s peace in 2021, challenge yourself to take small steps each day to shift your thinking. Perhaps, though, one of the best ways to challenge your thinking is to confront some of the leading causes of destructive thinking: fear of the future, anxiety about the present, and shame about the past. So, instead of thinking bad thoughts because you fear the uncertain future, deeply ponder God’s power and providence. Rather than dwelling on nervous thoughts about the chaotic present, try to meditate on God’s presence in your life. Instead of feeling shame about long past failures, fill your memory with God’s promises of love and forgiveness. Think the right thoughts! You don’t have to succumb to a life of bad thinking and discouragement! You can have “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding” (Philippians 4:7).

<b>February 7, 2021 / Leading the congregation in:</b>			
<b>Scripture Reading:</b>	<b>Main Prayer:</b>	<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	<b>Singing:</b>
<b>A.M.: Aiden Futral</b>	<b>A.M.: Karl Strother</b>	<b>A.M.: Charles Brown</b>	<b>A.M.: Jon Timbes</b>
<b>Security (During Services): Danny Moore / Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Michael Crow</b>			

## ANNOUNCEMENTS 2/4/21

**SICK:** SARA BLACK NORTON, JOY DAVIS, STEVEN HULETT, GENESIS KELLY, BECKY NEUENSCHWANDER, and THELMA WOOLFOLK continue to recover from surgery. MARIAN SIKES is moving to The Harbors at Hickory Hill in Prattville. Sick at home Sunday: ADAM BASS, JEAN BERRY, WILMA BERRY, TAMMY EVANS, LEENA FUTRAL, MARCIA GRAVES, MARGARET GRAVES, TISH HOUSLEY, JOHN & SHIRLEY MIXON, ROY MULKEY, DEAN & SARAH NORTON, TED & BECKY NORTON, JAMES & DONNA PILGRIM, STEVE SEWELL. 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.

**SYMPATHY:** Our sympathy is extended to Shirley Jones in the passing of her brother-in-law, WILLIE MOSS.

**SYMPATHY:** JANICE RANDOLPH died in an auto accident Saturday, Jan. 30. Many of Eastern Meadows knew her. Our sympathy is extended to her family. The visitation will be Monday, 5-7 PM, and the funeral on Tuesday, 10 AM, at Dalraida church of Christ.

**PRAYER REQUEST LIST:** (Various Issues): CARSON DAVIS, DON SIMMONS, LINDA DOBYNS, JUDY MILLER, MYRA HUGHES, BECKY TUCKER, JAY CONNELL, RICHARD BURLESON. (Battling Cancer): LANISE KIRK, DARNELL STROTHER, NINA JOSEPH, LISA DOBBS, BJ BUCHMANN, PAT NORMAN, SANDRA MISSILDINE, CHRIS HETHCOX, LEIGH BROWN. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

**THANK YOU:** Dear Eastern Meadows Family, Thanks to everyone who showed concern through your comments, cards, and prayers following the death of my sister, And also following my surgery and recovery. It meant so much! Thanks again. Love you all, Gladys Clements

**THANK YOU:** To the Ladies of Eastern Meadows, Words cannot express how appreciated the food you brought to us was. It was so delicious and so very helpful. My sister and I are so appreciative of your kindness to us, but especially to our mother, Marian Sikes. I hope to be able to bring her to services soon. In Christ, Barbara Fields

**BABY SHOWER:** There will be a Baby Shower in honor of LYDIA EGUEBE this Sunday, Feb. 7, 1:00-2:30 PM, in the mid-way foyer. Lydia is expecting a boy and is registered at Amazon and Target. This will be a come and go shower with masks and social distancing guidelines observed. A sign-up list will be posted in the front foyer. All ladies are invited to attend.

**MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING:** There will be a Business Meeting for ALL the Men of the Congregation on Sunday, Feb. 14, 8:30 AM.

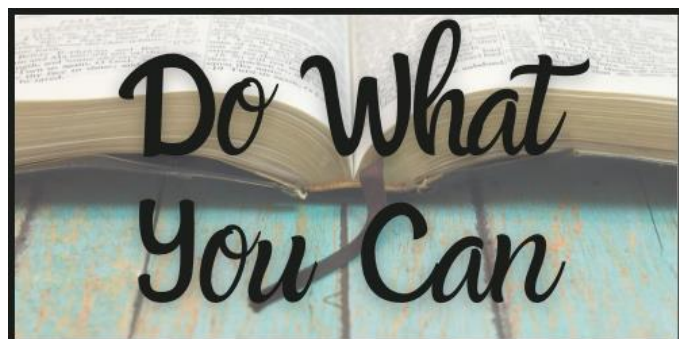
**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SUNDAY:** Sunday, Feb. 14, will be Marriage Enrichment Sunday. BRANDON BAGGETT will be speaking. Be inviting others!

**NEW LADIES WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY:** We have a new opportunity for the ladies of Eastern Meadows. A new Bible class will be meeting on Wednesday nights, beginning on March 3rd in room 114. "The Life of Abraham" will be an 18-week study. We will learn how to grow our relationship with God by learning from Abraham and God's relationship. Please see Emmy Kelly or Caitlin Baggett for more information.

**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.

**ELDER OF THE MONTH / ON CALL:** The Elder of the Month for February is ROY MULKEY. Contact information for Roy: (334) 531-5253; roymulkey43@yahoo.com.



## Don't Grow Weary of Doing Good

Let's take a second and be honest about something: Doing good can be very hard. This is not to say that it's hard to know what "good" is, but simply that doing good things can be challenging. It's hard to find motivation to do a good job when the rest of your team doesn't care and doesn't try. Unfortunately, you constantly get lumped in with everyone else's bad work. It's tiresome doing things for people who never say, "Thank you," and never return the favor, especially when you have gone out of your way to help. Times like these are when character and integrity are important. We do good because of who we are, not because of the people for whom we do good. As Christians, we represent Jesus. We work hard and we serve others because of who He is and what He has done for us. What we always need to remember is that when we work, we do so for the Lord (Colossians 3:23), and when we serve others, we are serving Jesus (Matthew 25:31-46). Don't grow weary in doing good. Keep things in perspective and keep moving forward. "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart" (Galatians 6:9 NKJV; cf., 2 Thessalonians 3:13).

--Thomas Baxley, *Gospel Gazette Online*

*Transform the negative into a positive.  
Choose the better side of life.*

Hate has 4 letters, so does Love.

Enemies has 7 letters, so does Friends.

Lying has 5 letters, so does Truth.

Negative has 8, so does Positive.

Anger has 5 letters, so does Joy.

Cry has 3 letters, so does Joy.

Under has 5, so does Above.

Wrong has 5 letters, so does Right.

Hurt has 4 letters, so does Heal.

## FEBRUARY BIBLE

### READING

1 Leviticus 1-4

2 Leviticus 5-7

3 Leviticus 8-9

4 Leviticus 10-12

5 Leviticus 13

6 Leviticus 14, 15

7 Leviticus 16-18

8 Leviticus 19-21

9 Leviticus 22, 23

10 Leviticus 24, 25

11 Leviticus 26, 27

12 Numbers 1, 2

13 Numbers 3, 4

14 Numbers 5, 6

15 Numbers 7

16 Numbers 8-10

17 Numbers 11-13

18 Numbers 14, 15

19 Numbers 16-18

20 Numbers 19-21

21 Numbers 22-24

22 Numbers 25, 26

23 Numbers 27-29

24 Numbers 30, 31

25 Numbers 32, 33

26 Numbers 34-36

27 Deuteronomy 1, 2

28 Deuteronomy 3, 4

## Where Is Your Fire?

Jeremiah was called into the prophetic office at an early age. When God called him, he tried to excuse himself by saying that he was just a child. However, God told him that He was going to put His Word in Jeremiah's mouth and that it would be his responsibility to proclaim that Word to His people. According to Jeremiah 1:10, he was set by God over the nations and over the kingdoms, and by the command of the Lord he was "To root smoulders and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant." Jeremiah was instructed by God to "not be afraid of their face," indicating that the people to whom he was sent would be hard of heart and have their faces set against any messenger who would try to change them.



Jeremiah's message was not one of "suggestion," of which we hear so much today. It was a message that **laid it on the line** to idolaters, ungodly priests and false prophets. A sample of his style is seen in 5:30-31 where he observed, "An astonishing and horrible thing Has been committed in the land: The prophets prophesy falsely, And the priests rule by their own power; And My people love to have it so. But what will you do in the end?" This great prophet called God's people to "stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and to walk in it. But they said, 'We will not walk in it'" (Jeremiah 6:16).

After going to the people, being threatened by them and told by them that they had no intention of listening to his preaching, he determined that he would quit. Beginning in verse seven of chapter 20, Jeremiah made his complaint to the Lord, reminding Him because of his preaching what the Lord commanded that he was made "a reproach and a derision daily." In verse nine, he voiced his determination in the following way. "Then I said, 'I will not make mention of Him, nor speak anymore in His name.'" The next word in the text is "but." This word lets one know that he is to look for a contrast. The words that follow the word "but" have been a source of encouragement to many preachers, teachers and others. The prophet continued, "But His word was in my heart like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; I was weary of holding it back, And I could not." So intense was Jeremiah's love for God's Word that it burned in him like a fire in his bones. His love for God's people caused him to realize that he neither could nor would hold back the proclamation of it.

Where is our "fire" today? There are those in the church today who have a fire to be like all the denominations around us. Their hearts are as cold as ice concerning the biblical teaching of the oneness of the church. Their interests are no longer focused on what pleases God but on what makes one feel good. Their remedy for this is like those of Ephraim who had "joined" themselves to idols (Hosea 4:17); instead, they joined themselves to the false doctrines of men. To them it is much better to have the ear soothed with machinery in worship and to have the fellowship of men than it is to be pleasing to God by obeying His Word.

There are others whose fire is the obtaining of material goods or of participating in the things of the world. Their fire smolders on a Sunday morning, but soon after leaving the meetinghouse, the fire dies, to be revived a week later, if something more interesting doesn't attract them.

If a fire isn't kindled in us by the Word of the Lord that causes us to be more zealous for His cause, we can be assured that on that great and final day that we will be "on fire" in the place where the worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched. Brother, sister or friend, where is your fire? Is there in you a burning fire in your bones to find and to obey the truth, then to walk in that truth? Will you not rekindle it today before it dies and you die with it?

--Ernest S. Underwood, *Gospel Gazette Online*