



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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February 6, 2020

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!

FROM THE ELDERS:

Your elders greatly appreciate your attention to our Budget presentation on Sunday morning January 26th. We have a good, solid, workable budget for 2020. We estimate that we had approximately 70-80 members give input to our various areas of work within the budget. The Finance team did an excellent job putting it all together. In next weeks bulletin we will highlight a single area of work for the bulletin. This will provide more detail and some updates. It will be submitted by an elder or deacon involved in that particular area. This will be a weekly bulletin occurrence focusing on a different area each week. Hopefully this will provide you with even more insight on the work here at Eastern Meadows in which we depend on you for success. Our weekly budget is \$14,100. Thank you for your commitment.

— Ted Norton, for the elders



Budget: \$14,100.00 Contribution, 2/2: \$13,542.45 YTD: + \$836.10
2/2: Bible Class: 128 / AM Worship: 182 / PM Worship: 213 / EMBF: \$182.25

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

Marriage Sunday! Begin planning. Marriage Sunday is March 1. The speaker is Dan Wheeler. Plan around this Sunday so you can be in town and at Eastern Meadows.

New Class Began Sunday! Alan Kaye began teaching a new class Sunday centered on Personal Evangelism this past Sunday. The only thing that would have made it better was more people in the class! The class will be a sharing of ideas, discussion of some “nuts and bolts” in personal evangelism, and opportunity for class members to encourage one another and pray for the gospel to be spread. All are welcome in this new class; men and women; any age!

What is Important? I was listening this morning, for the third time, to a lesson by Kirk Brothers about the Rich Man and Lazarus. It was one of my favorites that I heard at Polishing the Pulpit last year. As you think about the Rich man and where he ended up, you can be sure that many, if not all, things that were of importance to him in this life were of *no* importance to him as he was in torment. But even with Lazarus, I can imagine that some things he thought were important in this life were of *no* importance to him as he was in Abraham’s bosom. Apparently, however, Lazarus had the emphasis on the right things in this life, in contrast to the Rich man. So what about us? Are the things that we value *now*, the things that we will value *after we die*? Will the things we value *now*, determine our destination *after we die*? Let us learn what is really important and focus on the things that are important!

Elsewhere in the Bulletin. Please read and take note of the changes for the fellowship meals in the coming year. Many of you voiced your opinion and it is reflected in the coming plans for the year. Please read Ted’s Budget News for upcoming bulletins.

Praise God and Praise God for His Grace! “...to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved” (Ephesians 1:6 ESV). “...so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory” (Ephesians 1:12 ESV).

FROM THE YOUTH/COLLEGE MINISTER – TIM GOTKIEWICZ:

This Saturday, the youth group will prepare freezer meals. It is a GREAT opportunity to serve. We will meet at 1 PM in the kitchen and should be finished by 3:30 PM. I encourage all youth group members to take part and be active in serving others!

The van may not be available for the area-wide at Holt Street, so we may need several parents to drive and attend with us. Please get with Tim or Sally if you can help out.

ICYC (AP week is June 7-12) registration for the youth group is NEXT WEEK! Be sure to let me know if your teen is going!

Next Wednesday, the 12th, we will host a dinner for the college students in the fellowship hall at 5:30 PM.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

- **Feb. 8:** Service Project (Freezer Meals), 1:00 PM
- **Feb. 9:** Area Wide Youth Devo, PM
- **Feb. 15:** ICYC AP week Registration (June 7-12)
- **Feb. 16:** Youth & Family Devo, PM

TIM’S TRIVIA CORNER:

Last question: Who was the first Hebrew to be named king? Answer: Abimelech (Judges 9:1-6)

This week’s question: How old was Joseph when he was given the coat of many colors?

COLLEGE EVENTS:

- **Feb. 12:** Supper Club @ Fellowship Hall
- **Feb. 23:** Devo @ Tim & Sally’s Home



Sunday Nights Better

- * **Feb. 9,** *Killing Babies*
- * **Feb. 16,** *Luke*
- * **Feb. 23,** *Luke*
- * **Mar. 1,** *Dan Wheeler*

2020 FELLOWSHIP MEALS & FOOD TEAMS

According to the surveys we participated in last year, many wanted/suggested that changes be made to our fellowship schedule this year. The Fellowship Committee has met, discussed, made changes, and planned for 2020. Our Food Teams will remain the same, but with new Team Captains. Each month there will be a Standby Team and a Special Events Team. The Standby Team will continue to operate as before. The Special Events Team will be assigned the responsibility of set-up, serving, and clean-up of fellowships and/or events for a month on a rotating basis. Fellowships have been added to the calendar and team assignments have been made.

The 2020 Food Team Captains are RANDY & CECILIA PORTERFIELD (Team 1), DAVID & BRENDA HESTER (Team 2), and RYAN & JULIE GOTKIEWICZ (Team 3). Food Teams Lists may be picked up at the front and midway foyers.

There will not be a "church-eat-church" every first Sunday of the month, rather it's scheduled just four times this year: March 1, April 5, May 3, and November 1.

An addition this year is a Wednesday Night Meal. We will have one March 11 and another April 15 and will operate on a trial basis. More information will be coming.

See the schedule below, mark your calendars, and plan to participate.

- ♦ **January: Standby Team = #2**
- ♦ **February: Standby Team = #3 / Special Events Team = #1**
Sunday, Feb. 2 - Faulkner University Chorus, PM (Team 1)
- ♦ **March: Standby Team = #1 / Special Events Team = #2**
Sunday, Mar. 1 - Marriage Enrichment Day, 9 & 10 AM & 12:30 PM (Team 2) / Meal provided.
Wednesday, Mar. 11 - Meal, 5:30 PM - Catered/Each Pays
- ♦ **April: Standby Team = #2 / Special Events Team = #3**
Sunday, Apr. 5 - Teaching Rocket, 9 & 10 AM & 12:30 PM (Team 3) / All cook.
Wednesday, Apr. 8 - Meal, 5:30 PM - BYO
- ♦ **May: Standby Team = #3 / Special Events Team = #1**
Sunday, May 3 - Homecoming, 9 & 10 AM & 12:30 PM (Team 1) / Meal provided.
- ♦ **June: Standby Team = #1 / Special Events Team = #2**
Friday, June 12 - Area Wide Singing @ EM, 7 PM (Team 2) / Food provided.
- ♦ **July: Standby Team = #2 / Special Events Team = #3**
- ♦ **August: Standby Team = #3 / Special Events Team = #1**
- ♦ **September: Standby Team = #1 / Special Events Team = #2**
Sunday, Sept. 13 - Congregational Meal, 9 & 10 AM & 5 PM (Team 2) / All cook.
- ♦ **October: Standby Team = #2 / Special Events Team = #3**
Sunday, Oct. 25 - Trunk-Or-Treat, 6 PM (Team 3)
- ♦ **November: Standby Team = #3 / Special Events Team = #1**
Sunday, Nov. 1 - Thanksgiving Meal, 9 & 10 AM & 12:30 PM (Team 1) / Meal provided.
- ♦ **December: Standby Team = #1 / Special Events Team = #2**
Saturday, Dec. 12 - Annual Christmas Dinner, 2 PM (Team 2)

--Wilma Berry, for the Fellowship Committee

The Training and Involvement Program (T.I.P.) Sunday evening class for preschool and elementary age children

T.I.P. - Sundays @ 4:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS 2/6/20

February 9, 2020 / Leading the congregation in:

Scripture Reading:

A.M.: Eli Porter

Main Prayer:

A.M.: Jeff Simpson

P.M.: Ted Norton

Closing Prayer:

A.M.: Lamon Dees

P.M.: Thomas Anderson

Singing:

A.M.: Jon Timbes

P.M.: Jon Timbes

Security (During Services) - Sunday AM: Danny Moore / Sunday PM & 2/12: Michael Crow

Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Lindsey Mulkey

SICK: DUSTY POUNCEY is at UAB receiving a treatment, but hopes to come home Sunday. BETTY DAVIDSON is scheduled for surgery Feb. 6. ELVERNICE DEES is recovering from medical procedure. Sick at home Sunday: JIMMY ALLEN, WILLIAM & MONICA DILL, MICHAEL & BONNIE CROW, SHIRLEY HANCOCK, STEVEN HULETT, SHIRLEY KAYE, WILMA MILLICAN, DREW MOORE, LILLIE THOMPSON. Continue to remember our members listed on our Sunday-Evening-Evangelism Prayer List. Shut-ins: LANETTE TAYLOR, OPAL SULLIVAN, MARIAN SIKES, MARGARET DAVIS, and MARGARET GRAVES. Battling Cancer: MIKE NORMAN, HOLLY THOMASSON, CHARLES HENDERSON, JAY ROBERTS, ALICE HANDLANG, SARAH HOUSLEY, DUSTY POUNCEY.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Various Issues): CARSON DAVIS, DEXTER HART III (TRIPP), WAYNE JOHNSTON, ERIN FOLDS, MIKE TIMBES, MAE JONES. (Battling Cancer): CAROL ANN WOODALL, CHANDRA JOHNSON, JESSE BARRY, KATY PENICK, DEREK MAY, WILL HICKS, LANISE KIRK, WENDY GRANT, BETTY WASHINGTON. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

NEW PRAYER REQUEST: Prayers have been requested for SHAN & COURTNEY NORMAN, Mike Norman's cousin, whose baby passed away. Shan & Courtney are members with Liberty Church of Christ.

THANK YOU: Dear Eastern Meadows, Thanks for all the cards, calls, visits, and flowers. The meal following Virginia's funeral was delicious. I appreciate your prayers so much. Bill Evans

NURSERY ATTENDANTS - 2/9: AM—ELVERNICE DEES & CARRIE LONG; PM—JEAN BERRY & WILMA BERRY

THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS: 10:30 AM

AREA WIDE SINGING: Panama Street Church of Christ will host the Area Wide Singing this Friday, Feb. 7, 7 PM.

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING: There will be a Business Meeting for ALL the Men of the congregation this Sunday, Feb. 9, 7:30 AM. BILLY BUSH is responsible for breakfast, which will be served at 7 AM.

EDUCATION MEETING FOR TEACHERS (Cradle Roll—6th Grade): There will be an Education Meeting for the Teachers of Cradle Roll through 6th Grade on Sunday, Feb. 9, 3 PM. See DAVID HESTER for more information.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE MEETING: The Sunshine Committee will meet Sunday, Feb. 23, 4 PM, in the Tea Room.

MONDAY-NIGHT-MOTIVATION: M-N-M will be Monday, Feb. 24, with the meal at 6:30 PM and class at 7 PM.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SUNDAY: Marriage Enrichment Sunday will be Mar. 1. DAN WHEELER will be speaking at 9 & 10 AM and 12:30 PM. Lunch will be provided after the 10 AM service.

LADIES' DAY: There will be a Ladies' Day at Wetumpka Church of Christ on Saturday, Mar. 7. Registration and breakfast at 8:30 AM with the program beginning at 9:30 AM. The speakers will be TISH HOUSLEY and JANIA OTEY and their topic is "The Fruit of the Spirit". RSVP: 334-567-6561 or secretary@wetumpkacoc.org.

AREA WIDE LADIES' DEVO: Eastern Meadows will host the Area Wide Ladies' Devo on Monday, Mar. 9, 6:45 PM. ALL ladies are invited to attend.

FEBRUARY STANDBY TEAM—3 (R&J GOTKIEWICZ)

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.



LADYBUGS



- ◆ Feb. 10 & 17: FSC/Exodus Community, 6-7 PM
- ◆ Feb. 24: M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM

- ◆ Mar. 2, 9, 16: FSC/ Exodus Community, 6-7 PM
- ◆ Mar. 3: Dorcas Deeds, 10 AM



“And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2).

Wednesday Night Auditorium Class

Fundamentals of the Faith:

PREACHING AS WORSHIP

ANDREW LONG, speaking February 12



Upcoming Events

2020

- **March 1:** Marriage Enrichment Day/Dan Wheeler
- **April 5:** Teaching Rocket Seminar/Michael Whitworth
- **May 3:** Homecoming/Goal Day
- **June 1-4:** VBS

- **June 12:** Area Wide Singing, 7 PM

2021

- **March 12-13:** Ladies' Retreat

2022

- **Feb. 11-12:** Marriage & Family Seminar (Glenn & Cindy Colley)

Congregations grow when...

- Each member has a deep concern for the lost.
- Each member enters into the worship service with much feeling and enthusiasm.
- Each member is interested in an aggressive Bible school program, and supports it by attending and challenging everyone to grow in Bible Knowledge.
- Each teacher is interested in improving his/her teaching ability.
- Each elder and deacon is dedicated to the work.
- The preacher preaches the Word with love.
- Each member is personally involved in the work.
- Each member is willing to purpose and give as he/she has been prospered.
- Each member lets brotherly love express itself to every other member – his own brotherly love.
- Each member is willing truthfully to say, “Here am I Lord, send me!”

– Copied

WITH RESERVATIONS

“I will follow you, Lord, but...” How modern it all sounds. A willingness to follow Jesus quickly followed by a “But.” Have you ever found yourself guilty of that same ploy? What is the “But” here? “Let me first say farewell to those at my home” (Luke 9:61). At first this sounds like a reasonable request. But the whole Eastern custom of such a situation would involve this man in a long delay. There would be a season of feasting, revelry and fun. To this man who wanted to put off his decision so that he might enjoy himself a bit longer, and not cut the ties immediately, Jesus said, “No one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

Some things are so urgent they have to be done immediately. They cannot wait; farmers understand

this. I have seen men work during wheat harvest. It's from can to can't. When the wheat is ready, you had better be. There's no time to waste. I have seen the same urgency displayed during sandstorms in Texas. With dust blowing at 30-40 miles an hour I have seen them on tractors doing everything possible to save their land. Fun and frivolity can wait.

To understand the words of Jesus we must interpret them in the light of Palestine custom. Between the months of May and October there is scarcely any rain at all and the ground becomes dry and hard. Everyone is waiting for the early rains that come somewhere at the end of September or the beginning of October, and continue through the winter until April, when there is the latter rain of which the Scriptures speak. The plough-man is eagerly awaiting the moment the early rains come. He cannot touch the ground till the rain has fallen, as it is too hard. Without a moment's delay, when the rain begins to fall he gets his hand on the plough, and he never looks back. His eye is on the furrow all the time. Everything in terms of harvest depends upon this man's immediate response to the rain. He must plough, he must sow, and he must reap a harvest when the time comes if he is going to glean. He can't sit around and discuss it. He can't turn it over to a committee. The work has to be done NOW!

The man in Luke 9 is saying in effect, "I will follow you, but I want to put off my decision for a little while." Does that sound like anybody you know?

--John Gipson

"BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS"

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God." These are the words of the "Prince of Peace", Jesus Christ, as found in Matthew 5:9. This beatitude is somewhat different from the rest, such as those who are "poor in spirit", "those who mourn", "the meek", "those who hunger and thirst after righteousness", and, "the merciful". The reason being, the expression, "the peacemakers" implies an action on the part of the disciples. It is an adjective signifying peace-making. The "peacemaker" is to give "diligence to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesian 4:3). The 'peacemaker' has to have "the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7) in his heart. Paul wrote in Romans 5:1,2: "Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." We are not only to be 'peaceful', we are to be "peacemakers".

Abraham Lincoln said: "Die when I may, let it be said of me that I always pulled up a weed and planted a flower where I thought a flower would grow." Today, we need more people who will 'plant flowers' and 'pull up the weeds'; meaning, there is a great need in our world to have more 'peacemakers' instead of 'peacebreakers'! The Lord knows we have too many 'peacebreakers' in His church, in our community and in our nation. We live in turbulent times. Everywhere we find hatred, bigotry, prejudice, racism and violence existing, even in our own nation.

It doesn't take much skill to cause confusion in a family, in the church or in our society. It isn't easy, however, to be a 'peacemaker' because you will most likely be criticized from every side. But, the 'peacemaker' is one who had rather suffer injury than to inflict injury upon others. He had rather settle difficulties through prayer than through force.

This is the first beatitude "which shows blessedness pronounced as alighting upon a person, not in the first for some personal quality, grace or virtue, but his works sake in the interest of others, whether of family, the world or the church" - "For they shall be called sons of God." The apostle Peter wrote in 1 Peter 3:8-11, that if we love life, we should "seek peace and pursue it". Christians are to "Pursue peace with all people" (Hebrews 12:14). Of course, there is not to be compromise when truth is involved. The question is, Am I a 'peacemaker' or a 'peacebreaker'?

--Raymond Elliott