



## Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

8464 Vaughn Road, Montgomery, AL 36117

Phone: 334-273-0001 / Fax: 334-273-0375

Email Office: [office@easternmeadows.org](mailto: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>

April 1, 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!**

# EASTER EGG HUNT

**This Saturday, April 3, 2021**

**3pm - 5pm**

**Eastern Meadows Church of Christ**

Activities will be behind the Fellowship building.

Please park in front or side parking lots.

**Age Groups:** Babies & Toddlers, 4 - 5 years old, Grades 1- 5, Grades 6 & above / Hide eggs



Bring your lawn chair and a dozen eggs per child (plastic or boiled) to be hidden. Plan to enjoy an afternoon of fellowship. Goodie bags of pre-wrapped snacks, and drinks, provided. Any questions, see Caitlin Baggett, Sara Clements, or Barbara Norman.

**Budget: \$11,500.00 / Giving, 3/28: \$16,300.51**

## IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM YOUR ELDERSHIP

[On Sunday, April 11, 2021](#), we will be going to 'Mask Optional' for all services and functions here at the Eastern Meadows facilities. We will still practice social distancing during worship services and the auditorium and classrooms will continue to be marked and setup that way. We appreciate that you have cooperated with us up until now and pray that will continue as we move another step closer to normalcy.



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

**On A Personal Note:** We have been taking this week as a vacation week to move and settle in a new home. My family moved to Montgomery, Alabama to work with the Eastern Meadows church the last week of November, 1987. It has been an incredible blessing to work with the Eastern Meadows church, and believe me, you, as the Eastern Meadows church are dear to my heart. It has been a joy to raise my family here. It was wonderful that our family, my Dad (deceased in 2012), and sisters, Sara and Charlotte have been a part of Eastern Meadows as well. And, after moving from our first house, we were blessed to live with all of our family in the same neighborhood for many years. For about 29 years we lived on Lakewood Drive, until Monday this week. Tuesday we woke up after the first night at our new home at 521 County Downs Road. Moving after this long in one place has been difficult in many ways. All of this was made more difficult after Tish broke her wrist last week, but she has worked very hard . . . too hard for what she is dealing with! By the way, soon the Lakewood Drive home will be up for sale. David Barley, an Eastern Meadows member, will be the realtor handling the sale of the home. We love you all.

### *FROM THE INVOLVEMENT MINISTER – BRANDON BAGGETT:*

## God's Goodness Helps Us To Be Good

In Romans 1-3, the apostle Paul launched the book of Romans by demonstrating the common need for redemption among both Jews and Gentiles. In chapter 1, Paul proved that the Gentiles, though without the Law of Moses, were responsible to God for their behavior. They stood before God condemned, and they needed God's salvation! In chapter 2, Paul revealed how the Jews were no better. Though they had the Law of Moses, they were guilty of the same sins as the pagan Gentile world! Despite their privileges as the chosen nation of God, they also stood before God condemned, and they needed God's salvation just like the Gentiles. In chapter 3, Paul presented the sobering conclusion to his arguments – all (i.e. both Jews and Gentiles) are under sin (see 3:10, 23).

Keeping these contextual observations in mind, consider an interesting statement Paul said of the Jews back in chapter 2. The apostle wrote, "Do you suppose, O man – you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself – that you will escape the judgment of God? Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, **not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?**" (Romans 2:3-4 ESV). Did you catch that? Paul is reminding the Jews of how good God has been to them! An honest look back over their history would reveal that God had been so good to the Jewish people. Jehovah didn't just give them the Law of God, but He showered them with acts of mercy, grace, kindness, and patience. God's goodness should have motivated them to repentance! God's goodness ought to have encouraged them to be good!

Do you remember one of the most tragic chapters in the life of David? He greatly sinned with

Bathsheba, and he later compounded sin upon sin by his actions in 2 Samuel 11. However, it wasn't until chapter 12 that God revealed David's guilt through Nathan. When He did address David, though, the Lord reminded him of His goodness (2 Samuel 12:7-9)! Oh yes, God had been so good to David! God chose David to be king, He blessed him abundantly, He advanced and protected his kingdom, and He loaded his life with blessings. Yet, David got caught up in a moment of passion, forgot God's goodness, and sinned against the One who greatly blessed him. He should have remembered God's goodness, for remembering God's goodness would have compelled him to be good!

Haven't you found this to be true in your life? Taking the time to pause, reflect on God's goodness, and relish God's blessings helps us to act right! Being mindful of God's goodness is a major incentive to want to honor Him and structure our lives according to His divine will. The more mindful we are of how good God has been to us, the more inclined we will be to resist sin and seek holiness. God is so good to us every single day of our lives, and reflecting continually upon God's perfect goodness helps us to be good! Take to heart the words of the sweet singer of Israel who said, "Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!" (Psalm 34:8)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS 4/1/21

<b>April 4, 2021 / Leading the congregation in:</b>			
<b>Scripture Reading:</b>	<b>Main Prayer:</b>	<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	<b>Singing:</b>
<b>A.M.: Carter Benson</b>	<b>A.M.: Ken Gardner</b>	<b>A.M.: Nathan Futral</b>	<b>A.M.: William Dill</b>
<b>Security (During Services): Danny Moore /</b>		<b>Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Joel Kelly</b>	

**SICK:** TISH HOUSLEY is recovering from a broken wrist. SHIRLEY KAYE and STEVEN HULETT 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.

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT:** NEHEMIAH IRHIKFE EGUEBE was born to DAVID & LYDIA EGUEBE, via C-section, on Wednesday, Mar. 31. Nehemiah weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Congratulations to David & Lydia!

**PRAYER REQUEST LIST:** (Various Issues): CARSON DAVIS, DON SIMMONS, JUDY MILLER, MYRA HUGHES, JAY CONNELL, PAT NORMAN, RICHARD BURLISON, LISA O'NEAL. (Battling Cancer): LANISE KIRK, DARNELL STROTHER, NINA JOSEPH, LISA DOBBS, BJ BUCHMANN, SANDRA MISSILDINE, CHRIS HETHCOX, SUSAN JOHNSON, DAWN DEAN. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

**EM QUILTERS:** The EM Quilters will meet Wednesday, Apr. 7, 10 AM—2 PM.

**YOUNG MEN'S SINGING TIME:** The Young Men's Singing Time is Sundays, 4:50 PM. See JON TIMBES for more information.

**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 March is MIKE NORMAN. Contact information for Mike: (334) 306-7583; mikenorman7583@yahoo.com.



**DAVID, LYDIA, & NEHEMIAH EGUEBE**

## **A PLAN FOR PERSONAL EVANGELISM**

In John 1:35-37 two disciples of John the Baptist heard Jesus speak and they followed him. "One of the two," we are told in verse 40, was "Andrew, Simon Peter's brother."

Verses 41 and 42 tell us that Andrew "first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus. Therein, I suggest, lies a three-part process of personal evangelism that will work. It is simply a process of following, finding and bringing.

First, like Andrew, we must follow Jesus ourselves! Those who do this hear his voice (John 10:27) and will serve him and obey him. In John 12:26 Jesus said, "If anyone serves me, let him follow Me! And where I am, there my Servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor." It is futile to think that any other type of evangelism will work.

Second, like Andrew, those who follow Jesus truly follow Him, and will find another who needs to do likewise. In the case of Andrew, he found his brother who happened to be Simon Peter. Have you ever considered how much of the Scripture would be different if Andrew had not found his brother who became the apostle Peter? Finding implies seeking, hunting, searching. Jesus was a finder by nature and purpose (Luke 19:10). Those who truly follow Jesus will not, cannot rest until they have found someone to join them.

Third, those who follow Jesus, and are compelled to find others who need to follow him will keep looking, seeking, searching until they are able to bring someone, one at a time, to "the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ."

The church will never have more bringers than it has finders, and there will never be more finders than there are true, genuine followers.

—Frank Morgan, Valdosta, GA, 11/15/1987

## **DON'T BRING THE WORLD TO CHRIST - PREACH CHRIST TO THE WORLD!**

I keep beating the same old drum . . . to know counterfeit money you must know real money. The better the knowledge of the real the easier to spot the phony. In conversations concerning the "mega churches" others argue, "They must be doing something right!"

Tragically, the evaluation is built upon statistics, not scripture. The issue is not, "what is truth?" but "Will it work?"

Said brethren don't understand me when I tell them "Super Preachers" may do many things right, but they are entirely wrong in their concept. They are in the "religion business" . . . they do that well. We are in the "Gospel business" . . . this we must learn to do well.

Re-read, memorize our title! We are not here to bring the world to Christ . . . we are here to preach Christ to the world. These concepts contradict. We are proclaimers . . . the Kerygma. We are evangelists, the evangelism! The power is in the message! We don't have a message - the message has us. We preach! Consumer churches force God to adapt to the whims of sinners. God has to come on their time and terms. This is blasphemy. Consumer churches strive to make the gospel acceptable not available.

Consumer churches try to connect with the world, not convict the world.

The unique work of the church is preaching. The gospel still saves. God has determined to save the world via preaching. The church does use wisdom in the best ways to preach. . . but not in ways to save without preaching. If ever the church was preaching it must be now! Put God's pulpit back into the church! Thunder out against sin! Proclaim Jesus as our only Savior! **PREACH CHRIST TO THE WORLD!**

—Charles Hodge Keynoter 11/10 1994