



# Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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Website: <http://www.emcofc.org/>

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

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

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

September 19, 2019

### ELDERS:

Tim Bagents  
Alan Kaye  
Roy Mulkey  
Mike Norman  
Ted Norton

### DEACONS:

Billy Bush  
Allen Clements  
Lamon Dees  
Ryan Gotkiewicz  
Tim Gotkiewicz  
Tim Hatch  
Steve Housley  
Andrew Long  
Jimmy Mathews  
Danny Moore  
Dean Norton  
Randy Porterfield  
Steve Sewell  
Jeff Simpson

### MINISTERS:

Tim Gotkiewicz, Youth & College  
David Hester, Education & 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

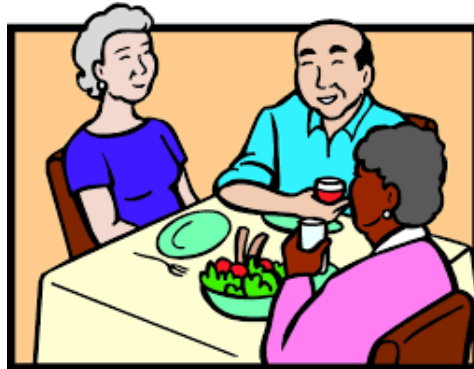
**WELCOME!**

**BUDGET CATCH-UP SUNDAY GOAL: \$20,500.00**

**CONTRIBUTION: \$22,369.09**

**YTD: \$1,170.73**

We are truly grateful for your response to our Budget Catch Up Sunday. We exceeded our goal by \$1,869.09. We don't have these very often but, when we do the results are always the same. Thank you for being faithful in your giving and to Eastern Meadows.  
-Eastern Meadows' Elders



## SENIOR MEMBERS APPRECIATION LUNCH

The Senior Members Appreciation Lunch is **this Sunday, September 22**, following the AM worship service. ALL Senior Members are invited to attend. **Hope to see you there!**

**1st ANNUAL BROTHERHOOD-WIDE  
DOOR-KNOCKING DAY  
OCTOBER 5TH**

Budget: **\$13,890** Contribution, 9/15: **\$22,369.09** YTD: + **\$1,170.73**  
9/15 Bible Class: **168** / AM Worship: **198** / PM Worship: **123** / EMBF: **\$115**

## FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

**Door-Knocking!!** Eastern Meadows is planning to spend 2 hours in the neighborhood on October 5! We will meet at the Eastern Meadows building at 9:30 a.m. that day and knock doors from 10 til 12! We need door knockers. Please sign up on one of the sheets in the midway foyer or at the welcome desk in the front foyer. But please pray for this effort and encourage others to do it.

**Watch these videos.** It speaks of the great things that can be accomplished from door-knocking. Copy and paste it to your browser.

The video is only 2 minutes 40 seconds. Take the time and watch this short video! [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZwrLF4zRpM&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR1fl-tkXrc74Wyx-PPJNcm8RyCD\\_0JJWZJS9iWc5zD9La0ryc2YrdaCfU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZwrLF4zRpM&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR1fl-tkXrc74Wyx-PPJNcm8RyCD_0JJWZJS9iWc5zD9La0ryc2YrdaCfU).

Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mA2ys7MYlnE>. This is a one minute video telling you why Eastern Meadows is participating in door-knocking on October 5.

The last video is found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XXM41jaPe9w>. It is only a minute thirty seconds. This is the first time I have mentioned this video. For the man in this video door-knocking mattered!

Please take the time to watch this one minute video.

**Thank You for Participating in Last Sunday's Special Giving.** The goal of 1 ½ times was met. It was met because God blessed us. It was met because you gave sacrificially. It was met because you responded to the elder's leading to keep us at budget. Personally, I like success! Last Sunday was a success. Thanks!

**Souls.** October 5 is about souls. That is the door-knocking Saturday. But really every day ought to be about souls!

**Preaching.** Thank you to David for preaching last Sunday. I will watch his lessons when I have good internet (not so good where I am!). In two weeks (9-29), Karl Strother and Blaine Benson will be preaching. I look forward to watching their lessons! We will be gone for our second week of vacation which has been planned for months, before there was ever talk of door-knocking. But we will be back for the door-knocking!

*Mike Swims lost his two year old son in a drowning incident. Mike is a faithful preacher of the gospel, but has struggled with grief as any of us would after suffering such a loss. This is a recent Facebook post from Mike. I am including this in our bulletin to help us think about grief and how we can help those who are grieving. Of course everyone handles grief differently, but patience and a little education can help us when we seek to comfort the bereaved. Read this. It will touch your heart and hopefully help you too.*

### Sunday Nights Better

- \* **Sept. 15**, David Hester
- \* **Sept. 22**, Gospel of Luke
- \* **Sept. 29**, Blaine Benson
- \* **Oct. 6**, Tim Gotkiewicz

## Confession #2

-Mike Swims-

(Warning: it's kind of a long one. I just had a lot on my heart that I needed to offload. Let me just say this right out of the gate: I'm a little confused by how our society handles grief. Please allow me to explain...)

Today marks the 18th anniversary of 9/11, a tragedy of unequal proportion in our nation. And with this anniversary comes the flood of promises to "Never Forget", and "Always Remember", the bell tolls, and somber roll calls of those loved ones we lost on that fateful day. Our nation has done such a great job giving proper respect to the tragic loss of 9/11.

Which brings me to my confusion. Because as a father who lost his two year old son in a tragic acci-

dent about a month and a half ago, I've noticed we don't handle individual tragedies the same way we do as mass tragedy. In the past month and a half, I've already heard whispers and well-meaning suggestions to me that we need to "rip the bandage off", or "just get back on the horse", or that we just need to "pull the trigger and get back home and back to normal".

So, excuse my confusion, but how can this be so? How can we pay such proper respect to the grief of 9/11 victims 18 years later, and yet be so impatient with grieving parents a mere month and a half after? Is the pain and grief I feel any less important? Answer: Not to me it's not. I knew Cooper. I loved Cooper. So it hurts now that I've lost Cooper so early. My pain is just as real and just as tragic in my little corner of this big old world.

But one thing I've learned through my grief process is that the amount of grief you feel toward the loss of a loved one is directly proportional to the amount of love you had for them. So, for example, if you loved your father beyond measure and he dies unexpectedly, chances are you're going to experience a grief beyond measure. And yes, that includes the measure of time.

When it comes to grief, time has no friends. Time is finite and therefore can't heal the pain of an infinite love turned into an infinite loss. Only an infinite God can do that, and He works on His own time. He waited 2,000 years before sending His son after promising Abraham He would. He waited 450 years between the two testaments before sending Israel a prophet and His son Jesus. He waited another 33 years before sending Jesus to the cross. And so far He's waited another 2019 years before sending Jesus back to collect us, His other children. Each one of these time periods had people grieving in one way or another begging God for His presence. Yet, He waited and did each of these things on His own time, and we have the benefit of looking back and seeing how God's timeframe may be different than ours, but it's always – and I mean always – better than ours, too.

With all this being said, can we please give our grieving loved ones longer than a month before we start pushing them to "get back to normal"? Because the normal we once knew doesn't exist anymore. It exists for you as soon as you left the funeral home and went home with all your family in tow. But those of us left behind at the graveside? We're going through the painful process of being reborn and experiencing a crash course on how to live life all over again with this huge gaping hole that can never be filled in our lives.

As a side note, it's interesting to me that within US Federal Law mothers get a minimum of 12 weeks of maternity leave to learn to adjust to the new way of life that comes with the birth of a child, yet there's no bereavement law to help people learn to cope to the new way of life that comes at the loss of a loved one.

I guess what I'm trying to say is God bless you if you've never had to experience the grief of the tragic death of a child or the untimely death of a parent or loved one, but don't forget to be gracious to those who have. Allow God both the time and the room to work in these people's lives.

And if all else fails and you can't think of anything nice to say....well, you should know the rest.

I love you, and God does too!

***FROM THE YOUTH & COLLEGE MINISTER – TIM GOTKIEWICZ:***

Sunday evening after the 5PM worship: Youth Group Family Devotional. It will be held in the fellowship hall. Food and dessert will be provided. There will be a challenge between the teens and the parents. EMYG parents: Please make plans to attend!

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

- **Sept 22:** Devo in Fellowship Hall, PM
- **Sept 25:** Prayer Dinner, 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall
- **Sept 29:** 10-minute parent update after morning worship
- **Oct. 5:** Door Knocking Day
- **Oct 13:** Area-Wide Devo @ Wetumpka
- **Nov 10:** Area-Wide Devo @ Eastern Meadows
- **Dec 8:** Area-Wide Devo @ Walnut St.
- **Dec 27–30:** Exposure Youth Camp

## COLLEGE EVENTS:

- **Sept. 25:** Prayer Dinner, 5:30 PM in Fellowship Hall
- **Oct. 5:** Door Knocking Day

### TIM'S TRIVIA CORNER:

*Last week's question:* Luke tells us that Jesus left the synagogue and came to Simon's (Peter's) house and Simon's \_\_\_\_\_ was sick with a fever. A) Brother; B) Mother-in-law; C) Neighbor

*This week's question:* Luke tells us that Jesus left the synagogue and came to Simon's (Peter's) house and Simon's \_\_\_\_\_ was sick with a fever. A) Brother; B) Mother-in-law; C) Neighbor

# ANNOUNCEMENTS 9/12/19

**September 22, 2019 / Leading the congregation in:**

**Scripture Reading:**

**A.M.:** Lindsey Mulkey

**Main Prayer:**

**A.M.:** Paul Clements

**P.M.:** David Barley

**Closing Prayer:**

**A.M.:** Joel Kelly

**P.M.:** Tim Hatch

**Singing:**

**A.M.:** Jon Timbes

**P.M.:** Alan Kaye

**Security (During Services) - Sunday AM: Brooks McDonald / Sunday PM & 9/25: Danny Moore**

**Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Steve Housley**

**SICK:** SARAH HOUSLEY is tentatively scheduled for surgery on Wednesday, Sept. 25, at UAB. JAMES BERRY is at Rehab First, recovering from hip-replacement surgery. SHIRLEY HANCOCK continues to recover from surgery. 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, and DON BRANNAN.

**PRAYER REQUEST LIST:** (Various Issues): CARSON DAVIS, DEXTER HART III (TRIPP), JUSTIN SANKEY, WAYNE JOHNSTON, TYLER JOHNSON, MARY CORBETT, JENNY PATTERSON, ERIN FOLDS, and MICHAEL ADKINS. (Battling Cancer): CAROL ANN WOODALL, CHANDRA JOHNSON, JESSE BARRY, KATY PENICK, DEREK MAY, GENE SULLIVAN, WILL HICKS, ANGELA TAYLOR, LANISE KIRK, AMY BERMAN, WENDY GRANT, and MARGAN CARTER. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

### **NEW PRAYER REQUEST FOR:**

- **JENNY PATTERSON.** Jenny is Monica Dill's mother, and is in the hospital in Houston, TX, recovering from open-heart surgery.
- **ERIN FOLDS.** Erin is a friend of Charles & Michele Brown, whose 18-year-old son passed away in August.
- **MARGAN CARTER.** Margan, a friend of Jaqueline Vaughn (a visitor), who has stage-4 brain cancer.
- **JEAN WILSON,** Sheron Campbell's mother, who is now under hospice care.
- **MICHAEL & CANDICE ADKINS.** Candice is a co-worker of Tim Hatch in north Alabama and her husband (Michael) is undergoing surgery and a biopsy.

**NURSERY ATTENDANTS - 9/15:** AM—CECILIA PORTERFIELD, MIRANDA PORTERFIELD, & GENESIS KELLY; PM—TISH HOUSLEY & MYA KELLEY

**SENIOR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON:** There will be a Senior Appreciation Luncheon for all Eastern Meadows senior members this Sunday, Sept. 22, immediately following the AM worship service. If you are in that group, please make plans to attend.

**OCTOBER CALENDAR:** All events for the October Calendar must be turned in by Sunday, Sept. 22 to Wilma Berry.

**MONDAY-NIGHT-MOTIVATION:** M-N-M will be Sept. 23. We will be on Lesson 5 in our study from "The Domino Effect." The meal is Italian Pot-luck at 6:30 PM with STAN & BECKY NEUENSCHWANDER hosting. Class begins at 7 PM with TIM GOTKIEWICZ teaching the men's class and SHIRLEY KAYE teaching the ladies' class.

**BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY:** Fifth Sunday's have been designated "Benevolence Sunday". **Sept. 29th** will be Benevolence Sunday. On Benevolence Sundays a special contribution will be taken for the EASTERN MEADOWS BENEVOLENCE FUND. This is to be separate from the regular contribution. Checks for this effort should be made out to: Eastern Meadows Benevolence Fund. Envelopes marked "Eastern Meadows Benevolence Fund" will be provided for those who wish to contribute in cash. All contributions made to this fund are tax deductible as are regular contributions. —Tim Bagents, for the Elders

**A TIME TO PRAY:** The ladies will meet for A Time To Pray on Sunday, Sept. 29, 4:30 PM, in room 119. Please give prayer requests to SALLY GOTKIEWICZ.

**DORCAS DEEDS:** All participating in Dorcas Deeds will meet Tuesday, Oct. 1, 10 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. See MARGARET DANIEL or BECKY NEUENSCHWANDER for more information.

**DOOR KNOCKING DAY:** We will be participating in the Door Knocking Day on Saturday, Oct. 5. Your help is needed! We need people to door knock, drive, fold material, and fix lunch. Please sign-up in the area/s you will be able to help with—there are four different areas on the sheets, which are posted at the front and midway foyers.

**DOOR KNOCKING PREPARATION:** We need to get the materials ready for door-knocking! What this basically means is the counting out and getting the materials ready. If you can SIT and count, you qualify to help with this. This is an ideal work for those who cannot walk and participate in the actual door-knocking. We will do this Monday, **SEPTEMBER 23 at 10:00 a.m.**

**FELLOWSHIP MEAL:** There will be a Fellowship Meal for ALL Teams on Sunday, Oct. 6, following the AM worship service. All teams are to bring food and desserts. Team 1 (Dees) will be responsible for set-up and Team 3 (Kelly) will be responsible for clean-up. The afternoon service will be at 12:30 PM.

**MOUNT DORA CHILDREN'S HOME FOOD & SUPPLY DRIVE:** The Mount Dora Children's Home Food & Supply Drive is October 6-11. Lists of the items needed may be picked up from the front and midway foyers. All items/donations must be turned in by October 6. Monetary donations/gift cards may be turned in to Wilma Berry.

**TEACHER'S APPRECIATION BANQUET:** The Teacher's Appreciation Banquet will be Thursday, Oct. 10, 6 PM. Be sure to sign-up on the lists posted at the front and midway foyers if you plan to attend.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST:** There will be a Men's Fellowship Breakfast on Saturday, Oct. 12, 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall. ALL men are invited to attend.

**LEADERSHIP EAT & MEET:** There will be a business meeting for all the leadership (elders, deacons, & ministers) on Sunday, Oct. 13, 7:30 AM. Breakfast will be served at 7.

**MONTHLY VISITATION PROGRAM LUNCH:** The MVP Lunch will be Monday, Oct. 14, 11:30 AM, at Cracker Barrel.

**AREA WIDE LADIES' DEVO:** There will be an Area Wide Ladies' Devo on Monday, Oct. 14, 7 PM, at University church. ALL ladies are invited to attend.

**CHOOSING THAT GOOD PART LADIES' RETREAT:** The Annual "Choosing That Good Part" Ladies' Retreat is Oct. 17-19 at ICYC in Oakman, AL. The study will be 2 Peter. Registration forms are posted at the front and midway foyers. Cost is \$75. (Checks should be made out to Eastern Meadows Church of Christ.) Registration forms are due Oct. 1 and may be turned in to Wilma Berry.

### **SEPTEMBER STANDBY TEAM - 1 (DEES)**

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

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|  <p><b>2019 LadyBUGS</b><br/><i>Ladies Being Useful in God's Service</i><br/><b>TOGETHER</b></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ <b>Sept. 23:</b> M-N-M, 6:30/7 PM</li><li>◆ <b>Sept. 29:</b> A Time To Pray, 4:30 PM</li><li>◆ <b>Oct. 1:</b> Dorcas Deeds, 10 AM—2 PM</li><li>◆ <b>Oct. 14:</b> MVP Lunch @ Cracker Barrel, 11:30 AM</li><li>◆ <b>Oct. 14:</b> Area Wide Ladies' Devo @ University, 7 PM</li></ul> |
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# Upcoming Events:

## 2019

- **October 5:** Door Knocking Day
- **October 16:** LifeSouth Blood Drive, 5:30-8:30 PM
- **October 17-19:** Choosing That Good Part Ladies' Retreat
- **October 27:** Trunk-Or-Treat, PM
- **November 25:** Mid-Week Bible Study, 6:30 PM
- **December 14:** Annual Christmas Dinner, 2 PM

- **December 23:** Mid-Week Bible Study, 6:30 PM

## 2020

- **February 2:** Faulkner Chorus
- **February 15-16:** Marriage & Family Seminar (Dan & Grace Wheeler)
- **April 5:** Teaching Rocket Seminar with Michael Whitworth
- **May 3:** Homecoming/Goal Day

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

## *The Beginning of Wisdom*

Proverbs 1:7 says, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” This is one of my favorite proverbs because not only does it tell us about the majesty of God but also of the great value in learning. There are many who would seek to replace the wisdom of the Word of God with the ignorance of the prideful. These people would seek to replace God as the supreme being with themselves or another lesser, imagined power. These people are described as fools in Psalm 14:1.

In the Holy Scriptures, we find the true source of knowledge: our mighty God. The “fear” mentioned in the verse is not the kind of which we immediately think in English, which is a “terror.” Rather, as the *Pulpit Commentary* says of “terror” here, it means “to fear or reverence,” which is a “holy fear.” It is a fear by which we are afraid to offend God...that fear of Jehovah which is elsewhere described as “to hate evil” (Proverbs 8:13). This fear or fear to offend God is the beginning of true wisdom, for if we keep God and His will, and use that as our motivation, we will surely prosper in our lives.

God is the source of all reality and, therefore, of all that is good and all that we should desire to know. However, we are told of those who don't want to know the path of a God-centered knowledge. A great many people have decided that, for whatever reason, to hate God is the beginning of wisdom. Atheism has little to offer its believer except that of a moral-free environment, in which a person can indulge in whatever he or she wants without fear of consequences. In this respect, it sounds very much like old fashioned idolatry where worshipers made gods to suit their own desires. This kind of belief offers its follower only a cold grave and a meaningless universe, which they think comes from nothing, becomes nothing and offers only sorrow.

It's no wonder the Holy Bible describes those who adhere to such godless doctrines as fools. The Proverbs are full of wise sayings and deep thoughts. They encourage us and admonish us, and in Proverbs 1, we learn where to begin, by acknowledging the simple truth that God is.

—George McNulty, *Gospel Gazette Online*

*“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...” (Proverbs 1:7).*