



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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July 16, 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:

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!

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



“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).

Budget: \$14,100.00 Contribution, 7/12: \$13,395.00 YTD: -\$29,850.56

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

Thank You. I so appreciate all those who have attended our sanitized, masked face, social distanced worship assembly. I also appreciate those who are not getting out *anywhere* and worship with us at home via streaming. “Well done thou good and faithful servant” is what the 5-talent servant heard and what the 2-talent servant heard. And this is what we all want to hear.

Thank you. I also appreciate those who have given faithfully. It may seem strange when we give by mailing a check or give by PayPal, or even putting our contribution in a tray in the foyer, but it is giving. There is nothing in the Bible that would make passing a contribution basket an exclusive way of giving. So many have maintained their faithfulness in giving, in spite of these strange circumstances these past 5 months! And be assured your faithful giving is needed at Eastern Meadows.

Challenge. It is a challenge to our nation’s leaders, state leaders, and local leaders to know the best way to deal with the corona virus pandemic. No one knew the best way to deal with it. The “experts” are still learning about the corona virus. Let us pray for good judgment of all.

Stay-in-touch. If you are on Facebook, sign up for the Eastern Meadows Facebook page. This has been an excellent way to keep us Eastern Meadows members informed. It is a closed group. Only Eastern Meadows members can see what is posted. This allows “keep-it-in-the-family” posts to be made about sick folks or other needs that would not be suitable on a “public” page. Call! Use your phone and call someone. We need each other!

“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 be most likely 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 am a 'peacemaker' or a 'peacebreaker'?

–Raymond Elliott

ONE RACE LEAVES NO ROOM FOR RACISM

During a time when our nation should be coming together to battle a common enemy (cornavirus), it seems that we are more divided than ever (politically and socially). Unfortunately a big part of this is racism. This is not God's plan for man.

God designed humanity - all of humanity - to be made in His image (Gen. 1:26; Acts 17:28-29). There should be no prejudice against any human, as they are a creation of and made in the likeness of God and all consist of one race - the human race.

When Jesus designed the church, He made it a place that was to be without race, social status, or gender. "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." (Gal. 3:28).

God's plan for the church is that people from all backgrounds come together and are equal. The saved in heaven (which were the church upon the earth) are described in Rev. 7:9 as coming "from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages." They were all equal in God's eyes.

Racial injustice is incompatible with the message of the gospel in which Jesus came and died for all (Heb. 7:27; 1 John 2:2).

Peter, through inspiration, referenced the church as "a chosen race" in 1 Pet. 2:9. This shows the church as perfectly unified with no "outsiders." Think about it, God declares that in His church, there are not different ethnic groups, but they all consist of one ethnic group regardless of background, upbringing, or geographic origin.

In essence, we could look at it this way: In the church, we are made to be one race - and within one race there can be no racism.

Thus, in the church, we must condemn all forms of racism, bigotry, prejudice, and discrimination. We must call it for what it is: sin! Racial injustice is incompatible with the message of the gospel in which Jesus came and died for all (Heb. 7:27; 1 John 2:2).

It's time to look beyond politics and prejudices and see people. People that God created. People that can be made one through the gospel.

–Edd Sterchi, *BulletinGold*

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR YOUR CHILDREN?

The question in the title could be asked of moms as well as dads. You've heard the cliché "like father, like son." Scripture also recognizes the tendency of sons to imitate their fathers and even previous ancestors (Acts 7:51).

So, dads, what do you want for your children? For your grandchildren? Are you teaching them by word? I hope so! But the effect of your words will be diminished unless you lead by example!

Do you want your children to learn and obey the gospel? (How could any father not want his children to become Christians?) Have you, yourself, confessed Christ as Lord and been immersed into Him?

Do you want your children to meet regularly with the brethren? You know what's right, and you know it goes far beyond a single hour on Sunday morning. Your children will imitate your example

above your words.

Do you want your children to put God first? Yes, even before ball games? birthday parties? fishing? hunting? golfing? God holds you responsible not just to tell them what is most important, but to show them!

Do you want your children to serve others joyfully? When last did you take them with you to visit someone homebound? (What a bright spot that puts in everyone's day!)

Do you want your children to be evangelistic? If you don't set the example, the secular world will most definitely teach them, "keep your religion to yourself!"

The list goes on endlessly. What do you want for your children?

—Joe Slater, *BulletinGold*

ANNOUNCEMENTS 7/16/20

July 19, 2020 / Leading the congregation in:			
Scripture Reading:	Main Prayer:	Closing Prayer:	Singing:
A.M.:	A.M.: Jimmy Mathews	A.M.: Mark Evans	A.M.: Allen Clements
Security (During Services) - Sunday AM: Ron Hoskinson / Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Henly Khantisourlya			

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

SICK: STEVEN HULETT is home recovering from cataract surgery. PHYLLIS ALLEN and MARSHA SUTTON continue to recover from surgery. Sick at home Sunday: ALAN KAYE, STAN NEUENSCHWANDER, THELMA WOOLFOLK. 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.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is extended to Randy Johnston and family in the passing of his father, WAYNE JOHNSTON. Wayne was a former Eastern Meadows member, serving as a deacon for many years. He had moved to assisted living in Arkansas, near his daughter. The funeral was Monday at Leak Memory Funeral Home.

PRAYER REQUEST LIST: (Various Issues): CARSON DAVIS, DON SIMMONS, KATHRINE LESTER, LINDA DOBYNS, LUKE & HEATHER BROOKS. (Battling Cancer): CAROL ANN WOODALL, CHANDRA JOHNSON, KATY PENICK, LANISE KIRK, DARNELL STROTHER, NINA JOSEPH, LISA DOBBS, BJ BUCHMANN, SAMEER HOQUE, PAT NORMAN, SANDRA MISSILDINE, ANDY MULLINS, DANNY MOORE. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

NEW PRAYER REQUEST FOR:

- LINDA DOBYNS, friend of David & Lydia Eguebe, who is scheduled for surgery July 20.
- LUKE & HEATHER BROOKS and their two children, Susan Brooks' son and daughter-in-law, who have tested positive for Covid-19.

THANK YOU: Eastern Meadows Church Family, I want to sincerely thank you all for huge outpour of love and support during my mom's death. To all of you who sent cards and extended your love and concern, I truly appreciate your heartfelt gestures. You have been a huge blessing. Thank you, Shirley & John Mixon

GOSPEL ADVOCATE: Since March there have been several issues of the Gospel Advocate to arrive at Eastern Meadows. On the cushions in the foyer are stacks of Gospel Advocate. Each stack has different issues. If you are interested in Gospel Advocate take an entire stack. On some of these stacks are a Spiritual Sword as well. Please take the entire stack! (This manner of distribution is used to minimize touching).

SUNDAY-EVENING-EVANGELISM: Our usual method of conducting Sunday Night Evangelism is now impossible. However, we want to encourage all to continue to send cards. Bundles of 5 cards, along with a Prayer List (most listings of sick and prayer needs have an address), are also available in the foyer. Please take a bundle and write cards this week! (This manner of distribution is used to minimize touching).

SONGS & OUTLINE FOR SUNDAY'S WORSHIP: The songs and sermon outline for Sunday's worship will be emailed on Saturday to EM members.

ELDER OF THE MONTH / ON CALL: The Elder of the Month for July is **TED NORTON**. Contact information for Ted: (334) 850-5675; tnorton1946@gmail.com.