



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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

August 6, 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!



Budget: \$12,000.00 Contribution, 8/2: \$11,066.00 YTD: -\$934.00

NOTES FROM THE SHEPHERD'S TALK

For several weeks now we have been working on revising our budget to reflect the realistic expectations we have for the remainder of 2020. We have determined that our new weekly budget number will be \$12,000. This is a reduction of \$2,100 per week - 15% less than the amount with which we began the year. Collectively, all expense areas were reduced by an across the board average of 15%. Economic conditions attributed to COVID - 19 and membership changes together have caused us to make this change. Simply stated outgo cannot exceed income. Details were shared in presentations to our men's meeting and after worship during the shepherd's talk to the congregation Sunday morning August 2nd. For the remainder of this year all numbers shared will reflect the budget from August 1st through the end of the year. We commend you for your faithful giving. You have always met the challenge of meeting our budget and this year will be no exception. Copies of the new budget are available in both foyers and can be sent electronically if needed. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact one of us.

Your elders

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!

-Steve

FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

Sunday. Be one the lookout for visitors. Sunday we had visitors. It is not easy to recognize visitors under masks! And with social distancing it is not as easy to greet them, but let us do our best to let our visitors know they are welcome!

Sunday's Shepherd's Talk. We can all be thankful that the elders keep the congregation informed; that the elders share with us the good and the bad. Unfortunately not all they presented Sunday was good, but it was good that they have made adjustments for the good of the Lord's work at Eastern Meadows. Thank you, as most of you that have been faithful in your giving during the Covid crisis times.

Sunday Evening Evangelism. Each Sunday morning packets of 5 cards along with the Sunday Evening Evangelism Prayer List are to be found in the wire basket on the foyer counter. Though there is no card assignment within the packet you can choose those you think need encouragement and drop them a note. Thank you for your help with this good work.

Deuteronomy. Deuteronomy, the last book of the Pentateuch, is now being taught in the Sunday 5 p.m. streamed class. Last Sunday was the first lesson. If you did not get a chance to watch you can go to <https://youtu.be/W3uIXSLThYs> and watch it. You will then be ready for this Sunday's lesson. David always does a good job with the class.

JESUS KNOWS ME THIS I LOVE

Most believers in the Lord have sung or have heard the song "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so..." However, the expression 'Jesus (God) knows me' is equally as scriptural, and we all should love this great truth and the One who knows us. In 2 Timothy 2:19 we read, "Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: 'The Lord knows those who are His,' and, 'Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.'" The church of our Lord has a sure foundation, and the gates of hades cannot successfully prevail against it (Matthew 16:16-18; 1 Corinthians 3:11). In the New Jerusalem, the wall "had twelve foundations, and on these were the names of the twelve apostles of

the Lamb" (Revelation 21:14). The house of God (the church) has this seal, "The Lord knows those who are His..." In Nahum 1:7 the prophet wrote these comforting words, "The Lord is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him."

God is all knowing. The Psalmist declared this in Psalm 139:1-6, "O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O Lord, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it." Rather than being a frightening thing to me, as His child I should be so thankful that the Almighty God, the Creator and Sustainer of life, knows my heart's intentions, my weaknesses, my heartaches, my cares, my trials and tribulations, my desires, my needs and yes, even the number of hairs on my head. He knows my name. He knows more about me than my wife, my children, my friends, my brethren and even the federal government.

The mere thought is overwhelming. To know that He cares for me moves me emotionally, and I love it so. Among the teeming millions who live on this earth, He hears me when I pray to Him. How can this be? There is not a place I can go but that He is there (Psalm 139:7-12), and I love it so. He knew me when I was in my mother's womb and He knows the way I shall go (Psalm 139:13-16). The Psalmist closes the chapter with these words, "Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting" (Psalm 139:23-24).

--Raymond Elliott, *Gospel Gazette Online*

August 9, 2020 / Leading the congregation in:			
Scripture Reading: A.M.: Michael Crow	Main Prayer: A.M.: Roy Mulkey	Closing Prayer: A.M.: John Cole	Singing: A.M.: David Hester
Security (During Services): Brad Jackson / Security (Building Lock-up After Services): James Kelley			

ANNOUNCEMENTS 8/6/20

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

SICK: WIMA MILLICAN is home after a stay in the hospital and rehab. LEIGH SANDLIN is home recovering from surgery. STEVEN HULETT is scheduled for hip-replacement surgery Aug. 17. PHYLLIS ALLEN and MARSHA SUTTON continue to recover from surgery. Sick at home Sunday: SHIRLEY HANCOCK, ELLA HANKINS, TA'NISHA NORMAN. 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, DON SIMMONS, KATHRINE LESTER, LINDA DOBYNS, LUKE & HEATHER BROOKS. (Battling Cancer): LANISE KIRK, DARNELL STROTHER, NINA JOSEPH, LISA DOBBS, BJ BUCHMANN, PAT NORMAN, SANDRA MISSILDINE, ANDY MULLINS, DANNY MOORE (*This is the Sutton's nephew, Not EM's Danny Moore*), CHRIS HETHCOX. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS FOR:

- CALVIN ROGERS, an elder at Westbury church of Christ in Houston, TX, who is in the hospital with Covid-19.
- JUDY MILLER, a member of the church and a friend of Randy & Marsha Sutton, who is very ill and would enjoy receiving cards (11330 US HWY 160 W, Doniphan, MO, 63935).

PANAMA MISSIONS OPERATION CHRISTMAS JOY: The empty shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Joy, Panama Missions are available for pickup in the Resource Room. Please indicate the number of boxes taken as well as your name on the sign-up sheet. If you would like to donate money to purchase candy or to have someone else purchase items to fill a box, please do so. The filled boxes are to be returned to the Resource Room no later than Sunday, September 13, 2020. Please indicate that you have returned your filled box(es) in the space indicated on the sign-up sheet. If you have any questions, please see Sarita Strother, Latasha Kelley, or Sally Gotkiewicz. Thank you so much for your willingness to brighten the life of a child!

ELDER LED WORSHIP

The Sunday, Aug. 16, Worship Service will be led by the Eastern Meadows Elders.

GOSPEL MEETING: There will be a Gospel Meeting at Georgia Road Church of Christ Aug. 9-12 with Mel Futrell speaking. Sunday schedule—9 AM Bible Class, 10 AM & 1 PM Worship. Monday-Wednesday—7 PM.

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

AUGUST STANDBY TEAM—#3 (GOTKIEWICZ)

ELDER OF THE MONTH / ON CALL: The Elder of the Month for August is **MIKE NORMAN**. Contact information for Mike: (334) 306-7583; mikenorman7583@yahoo.com.



Eastern Meadows Elders

Mike Norman, Ted Norton, Roy Mulkey, and Alan Kaye



“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).

AREN'T WE ASKING THE WRONG QUESTION

- I've never heard the avid fisherman say, “Do I *have* to go back to the lake?”
- I've never heard the shopaholic say, “How often do I *have* to go to the store?”
- I've never heard the committed sports fan say, “How many games do I *have* to watch?”
- I've never heard the foodie say, “How often do I *have* to try a new restaurant or dish?”
- I've never heard the head-over-heels-in-love say, “How many times do I *have* to see him/her each week?”
- I've never heard the devoted mom say, “How often *must* I hold my baby?”

We've lost the battle when our sermons, articles, and classes center around answering the question, “How often must I assemble? How many times a week do I have to come to church? Are Sunday night and Wednesday night mandatory?”

How unnatural for a disciple, a committed follower of Jesus who is in love with Him and who has such a relationship with Him that He is priority number one, to approach the assemblies in such a way! *Must? Have to?* You see, the question is wrong. The mentality and approach is where the work needs to occur.

When Jesus and His church are my passion, the thought-process becomes “I get to,” “I want to,” and “I will!” Neither parents, grandparents, spouses, elders, preachers, siblings, nor anyone else have to get behind anyone and push the one who has put Jesus at the heart and center of their lives.

Not a legalistic or checklist mindset. Instead, an outgrowth of what's happening in my life between my God and me. Church “attendance” is but one evidence of this, but it certainly is an evidence of this. Church and religion are not just a slice of the pie of a committed Christian's life. Christ is the hub in the wheel of their life, and each spoke of the wheel is attached to that hub. The difference could not be more dramatic!

—Neal Pollard