



Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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August 20, 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!

BENEVOLENCE SUNDAY – AUGUST 30

Fifth Sunday's have been designated "Benevolence Sunday". On Benevolence Sundays a special contribution will be taken for the EASTERN MEADOWS BENEVOLENCE FUND. The EMBF helps fund:

- Congregational Needs
- Community Needs
- Rainbow Omega
- Mount Dora Children's Home
- North Alabama Christian Children's Home

This is to be separate from the regular contribution. Checks for this effort should be made out to: Eastern Meadows Benevolence Fund. All contributions made to this fund are tax deductible as are regular contributions.

Funds are running low and we need your help to replenish them. Please give serious consideration to what you can contribute.

—Roy Mulkey, for the Elders



Budget: **\$12,000.00** Contribution, 8/16: **\$13,237.00** Revised YTD: **-\$434.00**

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:

Elder-Led Worship last Sunday. Great job by our elders as they led us in worship emphasizing the theme, “Shelter in the Time of storm!” I think we would all say that this was a very appropriate theme for last Sunday’s worship in 2020. If you were not able to be here or to join in the streaming, you can see it at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6y-C5Tsmha0> Note: towards the end there was a “blink-your-eye-and-you-miss-it” power outage that caused all equipment essential to the streaming to reboot, so you miss the end, but only the end.



Depression. I am not now talking about a depressed economy. I am talking about depression that is defined as “feelings of severe despondency and dejection.” I am talking about depression whose synonyms might be “misery, sadness, unhappiness, sorrow, woe, gloom.” I had been thinking that with the Covid days we have experienced since March that it was inevitable that the incidents of depression were likely increasing. Today I saw a headline about depression in the UK. The headline was, “Depression in British adults may have doubled during coronavirus pandemic.” Doubled. Then I saw this headline about depression in the United States, “Depression, anxiety up 3-fold since start of COVID-19 pandemic.” Tripled! Another report said depression had increased 4-fold over the previous year. I hope you are not one who has experienced this depression. With such an uptick in those experiencing depression, however, you probably know someone who has experienced depression, even if they have not told you. Some depression may be the result of economic backsets due to loss of job. Some may be the result of isolation as a result of the “social distancing” that our nation is practicing. Some depression may be the result of other causes. What can we do? If you are experiencing depression, if it is severe, seek help from a doctor. Even if social distancing, stay in touch with your friends and family. And of course, always seek to draw closer to God. Ultimately it is God upon whom we must depend.

Sunday Evening Evangelism. Each Sunday morning packets of 5 cards along with the Sunday Evening Prayer List are to be found in the wire basket on the foyer counter. Some are also on the round table in the midway foyer. 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.

Upcoming Benevolent Sunday. Eastern Meadows members are aware that benevolence needs are funded by the extra contributions we make “Benevolence Sundays” and from the weekly “envelope” that is passed in adult classes. Of course, we have not had the envelope passing since last March. So presently funding benevolence is largely dependent on “Benevolent Sundays.” Just as the contribution was trending downward resulting in a revised 2020 budget and a great need for us to give faithfully, the same can be said of the Benevolence Funds. Please consider what you can do for Benevolence Sunday.

Sunday Sermon. This Sunday I will present the lesson “Unity Among Brethren #4: Meats Vs. Vegetables (Romans 14).” This lesson is taken from Romans 14, but we will not read the entirety of the Romans 14 due to time. Please read Romans 14 before coming to worship!

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.

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*

August 23, 2020 / Leading the congregation in:			
Scripture Reading:	Main Prayer:	Closing Prayer:	Singing:
A.M.: David Barley	A.M.: Mike Norman	A.M.: Lindsey Mulkey	A.M.: Jon Timbes
Security (During Services): Danny Moore / Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Joel Kelly			

ANNOUNCEMENTS 8/20/20

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

SICK: KALLIE FUTRAL is home recovering from surgery. WILMA MILLICAN is home after being in rehab. BETTY DAVIDSON was scheduled for an out-patient procedure last week. TA’NISHA NORMAN is down in her back. 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,

JUDY MILLER, MARTHA HUGGINS, MYRA HUGHES. (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:

- MYRA HUGHES, Donna Boutwell's aunt, who is suffering with a lot of health issues.
- JUDY CURTAIN, Kristy Hatch's mother, who is undergoing medical tests and to see specialists soon.

THANK YOU: E.M. Family, Thank you for your concern, support, phone calls, sweet cards, and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. God bless all of you! In Christian love, Phyllis Allen

SUNDAY-EVENING-EVAGELISM: Packets containing a prayer list and cards are available at the front and midway foyers. Pick up a packet!

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!

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.



Senior Youth Group Movie Night—This Saturday, Aug. 22

One Night Only

Saturday
August 22
7 PM

EM Fellowship Room

*Join us for the entertainment extravaganza of the Covid-19 season!!
For one showing of ...*

THE PRINCESS BRIDE

**Popcorn and sodas will be provided
Feel free to bring your favorite snacks**

We will be wearing our masks and following social distancing.
(just in case you were wondering)