



## Eastern Meadows Church of Christ

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November 5, 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:

Brandon Baggett,  
Involvement  
Tim Gotkiewicz, Youth  
& College  
Steve Housley, Pulpit  
& Education

### SCHEDULE:

#### *Sunday:*

9:15 a.m. Bible Class  
10:00 a.m. Worship

#### *Wednesday:*

6:30 p.m. Bible Study

**WELCOME!**



The kickoff of our "DO WHAT YOU CAN" effort for the end of 2020 got off to a great start this week, especially in the budget area. We have four more November Sundays to help in the budget area. Please consider all of the works that we are involved in and make an extra effort to do your part in making each one more successful than it has been. 2021 is coming and we want to be ready. Remember, we are not asking you to Do What You Can't, just "DO WHAT YOU CAN" when you can. We are greatly appreciative of all you do!

—Your elders

Budget: **\$12,000.00** Contribution, 11/1: **\$17,847.55**

The guidelines for keeping safe are still in effect. Please come Sunday for 9:15 Bible Class and 10 a.m. worship. Remember it will be a sanitized, masked face, social distanced class and worship assembly. I look forward to seeing you then! -Steve

### FROM THE MINISTER – STEVE HOUSLEY:

**Special Announcement by Ted Norton.** If you were not present two weeks ago, I encourage you to watch the announcement from Ted Norton for the elders. If you are a member at Eastern Meadows and on Eastern Meadows Members Facebook page, please listen to Ted's announcement. <https://www.facebook.com/EasternMeadowsChurchofChrist/videos/1231695693873459>. We can appreciate the leadership from the Eastern Meadows shepherds in all matters. Thank you for your participation in the first week of "Do What You Can."

**Sunday Morning Bible Class!** Brandon started us off in a grand fashion in our study of 1<sup>st</sup> John (ultimately the Epistles of John) on Sunday morning. If you were not present, please go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l00Ro9kq02U> and you can watch it. You will then be prepared for next week's Bible Class. Brandon will also be sending out an email Study during the week for further study in 1<sup>st</sup> John. You will need to email your address to Brandon at [wbb.preacher@gmail.com](mailto:wbb.preacher@gmail.com) or text him at 334.549.9249 to receive this weekly email.

**Wednesday Night Class!** We got off to a great start on the study of Paul's Missionary Journeys. Thanks Karl! If you were not in class get caught up by watching <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihqKwvupdXI>

**Great Song We Are Singing Sunday Morning.** Yes we always sing some great songs. We did last Sunday; in fact, two would have been among some of my favorites! This Sunday, among the good songs we are singing is *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*. Read the lyrics and be prepared to praise God with these lyrics on Sunday.

#### I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Verse 1: I sing the mighty power of God, that made the mountains rise, That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

Verse 2: I sing the goodness of the Lord, that filled the earth with food, He formed the creatures through the Word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye, If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.

Verse 3: There's not a plant or flower below, but makes Your glories known, And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Your throne. Creatures as num'rous as they be, Are subject to Your care. There's not a place where we can flee But God is present there.

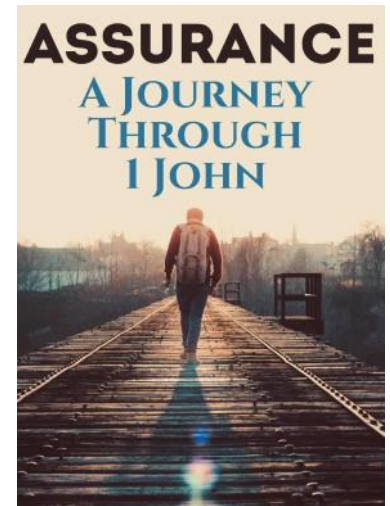
Verse 4: In heav'n He shines with beams of love, With wrath in hell beneath; It's on His earth I stand or move, And it's His air I breathe. His hand is my perpetual guard, He keeps me with His eye; Why should I then forget the Lord Who is forever nigh?

## A Journey Through 1 John

This past Sunday, we began an exciting new study of the book of 1 John in our adult auditorium class. Like most textual studies, we began with a brief introduction to the book. Before the last bell rang and our time expired, we were able to move through most of our introductory material. We explored some things about the author who wrote the book and the audience to whom the book was

written. Next week, Lord willing, we will wrap up our preliminary observations about the book so that we can move into the textual portion of our 1 John study in the coming weeks. The tentative plan is to then move into a study of the 2 John and then 3 John after we finish our journey through the book of 1 John.

We are entitling our study *Assurance: A Journey Through 1 John*. There are so many ways to approach any book of the Bible and stay true to author's original intended meaning. In my estimation, however, assurance is one of the most predominant themes of the book of 1 John. John's aim is to explain and defend the idea of Biblical fellowship with God as he writes to faithful first century Christians. He wants God's people to be fulfilled in the Christianity (1:4), know that they have an advocate in Heaven helping them (2:1-2), and be completely sure that they are saved and going to Heaven (5:13-14). Therefore, the book of 1 John helps us to understand and appreciate the fellowship we have with God and be confident in our Christianity. Even though this message was written long before our time, the message of 1 John is still relevant and needed as we live in world filled with doubt and uncertainty. Christians can be sure!



The reason we have decided to take this exciting and challenging journey through 1 John is because we absolutely need it! We all struggle with doubts, fears, and concerns regarding our relationship with God from time to time. We each know that we have weaknesses, sins, and shortcomings, and it's quite easy to become unsure of where exactly we stand with God. However, a careful and reflective study of 1 John has the power to comfort our hearts, educate our minds, and literally revolutionize our walk with God. Will you take this journey with us? Make a commitment to be present for and participate in each class. Likewise, join many others who have signed up to be a part of the "Making it Stick" application email that is going to be sent out each week. This is an extra step to help each of us digest the contents of 1 John and make them a part of our daily Christian life. You can join this study group by emailing me your name and email to [wbb.preacher@gmail.com](mailto:wbb.preacher@gmail.com). Greater, fuller, and deeper Christian assurance awaits! Come along for this exciting spiritual journey through 1 John with us!

— Brandon Baggett

## ANNOUNCEMENTS 11/5/20

<b>November 8, 2020 / Leading the congregation in:</b>			
<b>Scripture Reading:</b>	<b>Main Prayer:</b>	<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	<b>Singing:</b>
<b>A.M.: Norton Sewell</b>	<b>A.M.: Mike Norman</b>	<b>A.M.: Mark Evans</b>	<b>A.M.: Jon Timbes</b>
<b>Security (During Services): Marquez James / Security (Building Lock-up After Services): Allen Clements</b>			

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

**SICK:** GEORGE DAVIDSON is in Jackson Hospital ICU following colon cancer. SARA BLACK NORTON is recovering from her second carpal tunnel surgery. STANFORD JONES' surgery was rescheduled for today, Nov. 5. MIKE NORMAN is scheduled for a heart ablation on Nov. 9 in Birmingham. Sick at home Sunday: SARITA STROTHER. 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, HOLLY THOMASSON, CHARLES HENDERSON, JAY ROBERTS, ALICE HANDLANG, SARAH HOUSLEY, DUSTY POUNCEY.

**PRAYER REQUEST LIST:** (Various Issues): CARSON DAVIS, DON SIMMONS, LINDA DOBYNS, JUDY MILLER, MYRA HUGHES, BECKY TUCKER, MARY SEARIGHT. (Battling Cancer): LANISE KIRK, DARNELL STROTHER, NINA JO

SEPH, 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, JUDY CURTIN, LEIGH BROWN. (Other) The SPIRITUALLY ILL—weak and wayward members.

**SUNDAY-EVENING-EVANGELISM:** There are 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.

**TEEN CLASSES:** The Sunday and Wednesday teen classes are held in the teen room.

**AREA WIDE YOUTH DEVO AT EM / HELP NEEDED:** Eastern Meadows will host the Area Wide Youth Devo on Sunday, Nov. 8 at 5 PM. We need volunteers to wipe down the auditorium after morning worship, help with the set-up the fellowship meal, serving, and clean-up. Please let Tim, Sally, or Dean know if you can help.

**LADYBUGS HOLIDAY THANKSGIVING PROJECT:** The LadyBUGS' will be providing gift cards this year for 5 Family Sunshine Center Families. Because of COVID, they are asking for Walmart Gift Card donations. We will be collecting money for this Thanksgiving Project and then we will purchase the gift cards. You may make your donation through Eastern Meadows' PayPal with a notation that is for the LadyBUGS Holiday Project. **Please give your monetary contributions to Sarita Strother or Shirley Kaye by November 11.**

**NOVEMBER STANDBY TEAM—#3**

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

## Some Things Change, but Some Things Don't

A lot of things have changed in my lifetime. When I was a kid, I heard about fender skirts, curb feelers and continental kits (they covered the spare and attached to the rear of the auto and made your car look like a Lincoln!). Did you ever get all dressed up in your "Sunday go-to-meetin' clothes" (maybe "store bought") and go into town on Saturday to a matinee at the "picture show"? Then, we didn't have to "rate" movies because most of them were "G" movies. Morality was promoted instead of immorality.

A lot has changed. Some things have changed for the good. We have better medical care and safer cars, and many inventions benefit our lives. Yet, some of the changes are not good. Not too long ago, marriage was sacred, sex outside of marriage was sin, and promiscuity was neither condoned nor excused. Unmarried people didn't live together. "Day care" was provided by mother in the home! Just a generation or two back, a man's word was his bond, children had prayer and read the Bible in school, and "in God we trust" on our money meant something.

Fortunately, there are some things that have not changed. God has not changed (Malachi 3:6). He is the same loving God Who created this world for us and Who gave His only Son to die for us. Jesus has not changed. He "is the same yesterday, and today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). The Bible does not change (Psalm 33:11). God's Word has been once for all time delivered to us (Jude 3). It is sacred and not to be altered (Deuteronomy 4:2; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:19). The plan of salvation has not changed. By the grace of God, Jesus died for all men that we might die to sin and purify our souls in obedience to the truth (Titus 2:11; Romans 6:2; 1 Peter 1:22). If man today will comply with God's terms of pardon, he can wash away his sins in baptism (Acts 22:16) and have a hope of eternal life (Romans 6:22-23; Titus 3:7)

—Paul Clements

## The Lesson from the Dead Sea

Do we all understand why the Dead Sea is a dead sea? Because water from the Jordan River flows in and nothing flows out. It's dead because it receives but doesn't give back. What a more wonderful world this would be if people would grasp the powerful lesson of the Dead Sea!

—Ken Gardner