

MARKET STREET



"And this is the message we have received of Him, and declare unto you..." (1 John 1:5)

MESSENGER

Market Street church of Christ

514 West Market Street
P.O. Box 388
Athens, Alabama 35612
Phone (256) 232-1525

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes..... 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship..... 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes..... 6:30 p.m.

Elders

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843
Tommy Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737

Deacons

Joel Hamm (256) 278-1977
Danny Holt (256) 206-2746
Larry Mitchell..... (256) 230-0185
Marcus Morris..... (256) 232-8871
Russ Wulfekuhl (256) 683-9396

Evangelist

David A. Cox..... (256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.com

MARKET STREET MESSENGER

is published in the interest of New Testament Christianity and to enhance the work of the Market Street church.

David A. Cox, Editor

Volume XV

September 10, 2023

No. 37

Beginning Today

Gospel Meeting

September 10th – 13th

Schedule of Services

Sunday – 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Monday – Wednesday – 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist – Wilson Adams

MARKET STREET

CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET

ATHENS, ALABAMA

“Behold, I Stand At The Door...”

David A. Cox

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” –Revelation 3:20

John records the Lord’s letter to the church at Laodicea. The Lord describes the church as lukewarm and has lost any real spiritual consciousness. They have driven Christ out, and Christ was about to reject them. However, the Lord gives them a remedy to be restored back to a condition of faithfulness. There are three things we can learn from the Lord’s plea.

The Nearness of Christ. Jesus told them, “I stand at the door.” We must see that Jesus is describing His nearness. In his lukewarm, satisfied condition, man could not be exalted to Christ without Him coming down in His goodness and mercy. Jesus left heaven and came to earth to save. Jesus is ever-living to be the intercessor for man. He describes it here as “I stand at the door.” The door of man’s heart. Indeed, the Lord is at hand, ready to give salvation to those who will open their heart.

Christ Respect for Man. Jesus declares, “If any man will...” Jesus is not going to force anyone against their free will. It is up to each individual to “hear” and to “open.” The picture here is Jesus standing and knocking on the door, but the latch to open the door is only on man’s side. Jesus knocks and pleads. Man must open the door. Jesus respects each one and allows them to make their decision. Jesus came to save, but man must open the door to Him.

The Desire for Fellowship. Jesus says, “I will come in to him and dine...” We must see that the Lord is ready to commune with those who have rejected Him. When a man has lost his hunger and his faith has not been what it should have been, Jesus is ready to accept him back in fellowship. The broken fellowship is not because of God but because man walks away. We see the disciples, during Jesus’ earthly ministry, let Him down time and again. But Jesus was always there to receive them back.

These are three vital lessons for us to consider about the Lord and His desire to save. The Lord’s willingness to receive us back. He stands at the door and knocks. Will we open the door and let Him in?

Buy Truth or Trivals?

Dan S. Shipley

Many Christians are faced with the problem of choosing a congregation with which to identify themselves. Regrettably, this important choice is sometimes determined more by trivials than truth. With some, the location and appearance of the church building become influencing factors; with others, the size and friendliness of a congregation are more persuasive. Still, others are swayed by little more than the preacher’s personality. In many cases, little, if any, effort is made to determine whether a church is teaching, practicing and standing for gospel truth. That Christians would allow such trifles to determine so serious a matter is almost unthinkable.

The role of the individual Christian in the local congregation is not one to be assumed or considered lightly. This together arrangement is ordained of God, and its activities are governed by His word. Individual responsibilities are not diminished in this union, no matter how large it may become. The Christian is no less amenable to God’s truth in this collective arrangement than as an individual. Any truth-determined obligation in reference to the local church or its elders is best understood as being an obligation unto God Himself. Therefore, it is not a matter of being faithful to the church or to its elders, but to God and His truth! In view of this principle, one can easily understand how that members of churches who are led into unscriptural practices by the elders are no less guilty than the elders themselves. Every Christian owes primary allegiance to the great Shepherd and Bishop of his soul (1 Peter 2:25). Truth is degraded to trivials in congregations where error is condoned or tolerated. Whether it be in the countenancing of false teachers or ungodly members, truth suffers when sin is allowed. Neither God nor His truth are honored in churches where unqualified men are allowed to continue as elders. Churches do not support human institutions from their treasuries in response to Divine truth. Instead, such truth is being ignored in favor of expedients, human reasoning, sentiment and other such trifles. If God can be honored by individuals in authorized collective efforts, then He certainly can be dishonored in the unauthorized! Every Christian in every congregation sustains a personal obligation to Divine truth for which an account will be given.

The spiritual strength of individuals and churches is reflected in their regard for gospel truth. The Christian who truly loves and respects this truth should seek to join himself with like-minded brethren. Their meeting place may be remote and modest; the members may be few and plain, but such things are mere trifles compared to the precious truth to which they are dedicated and by which they are bound together — and saved.

Submission to only some of God's truth is not enough. It must be allowed to determine every decision and every duty. The individual who do not submit to ALL truth doesn't submit to truth at all!

~via *Plain Talk*; Burnet, Texas.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Mitzi Carruth	Judy Brown
Margaret Carter	Betty Lovell
Jeanette Weir	Steve Stringer
Pat Nixon	Dan Lovell
Shirley Miller	Doris Lovell
Stephen Smith	Larsen Plyler
Amy Gill	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Priscilla Tucker	Sharon Nave
Harvey Nixon	Peggy Pepper
Vicki Stringer	Anita Wheeler
Nikki Ogles	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Lloyd Adams	Charles Burns
Cindy Walker	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Wynell Romine
Anthony Sutton	Jerry Lawrence
Henry Fusch	Liz Fusch
Kimberly Pressnell	Tim McGuire
Wynell Romine	Monica Nelson

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Connie Brock, rm. 62	Auteen Campbell, rm. 96

Limestone Health Facility:

Ann Bush, rm. 75	Marie Nave, rm. 84a
------------------	---------------------

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home
 Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville
 Barbara Carter; Goldton at Athens
 Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville
 Irene Inman; at home
 Bobby Ogles; Story Point West, Knoxville, Tennessee
 Stan Stanford; Goldton at Athens
 William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
 Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Linda Meeker, Crestwood Hospital- Huntsville

Updates:

Paul Adcock is scheduled to go to the doctor on Monday to prepare to begin his series of treatments ... *Judy Brown* was able to go home from rehabilitation on Friday... *Margaret Carter* was released from rehabilitation on Saturday... *Doris Lovell* is scheduled for skin cancer surgery on Wednesday... *Harold Davis's sister, Linda Meeker*, is in the Crestwood Hospital and they are doing a number to tests... *Larsen Plyler* will begin treatments in the next week or two for his cancer. It will be six weeks of treatment ... Remember our expecting mother, *Lynsey Adams*, in your prayers.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday morning at 10:30, and is studying "*Preparing To Teach My Neighbor.*"

LADIES BIBLE CLASS TO BEGIN: A Ladies' Bible class beginning in September. The class will meet in the evening at 6:00. The first class will be next **Monday, September 18th**, at the home of *Sheila Holt*. That will be a good opportunity for our ladies to get together to study and share some time together. If you have any questions, see *Marcella Coblentz* or *Sheila Holt*.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: Remember the Children's Bible Drill this afternoon at 4:45 before our evening service. I hope all our children can come and participate in this time of instruction and learning.

MEETING BEGINS TODAY: Our gospel meeting with *Wilson Adams* is beginning this morning. Wilson will be preaching at 9:45 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. The services Monday through Wednesday will be at 7:00 p.m. Continue to tell others about the meeting and invite them to come. Remember to pray for the meeting.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Ida Nell Griffin* in the passing of her brother, *David Richardson*. He passed away on Thursday. There was a private graveside service yesterday afternoon at Dement Cemetery. May the Lord this family at this time.

CARDWRITING: A card writing group meets regularly to write and mail cards to people for appreciation and encouragement. The group will meet on Monday morning at 10:30. If you would like to participate, join them in the Monday morning.

MEN'S LEADERSHIP: The *New Hope church* near Cross Key will be having a Men's Leadership Day on Saturday, September 16th. There will be three sessions.
10:00 a.m. Leadership in the Home –

David Cox

10:45 a.m. Leadership in the Church –

Bobby Graham

1:00 p.m. Leadership in Your Everyday Life –

Kasey Harbin

NURSING HOME SINGING: Before the restrictions due to the virus, we met and sang on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 at the *Athens Senior Care and Rehabilitation*. I talked with the coordinator of events again this week, and they are ready for us to restart the singing. You may have done this in the past, or you have not, but we meet at 5:30 to begin singing for about 30 to 45 minutes. The residents and rehab patients thoroughly enjoy us coming. If you can come, please do, and we will be encouraged as much as we encourage. The plans are to begin this on *Tuesday, October 10th*. Tell others about it.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Hinkles: Keith & Angie* are in Gulf Shores this week ... *The Coxes: Hunter, Heather, Beckett & Luke* are in Gatlinburg this weekend ... *The Hammonds: Roger & Wendy* are in Gatlinburg this weekend... *The Farris': Larry & Courtney* are in Nashville, Tennessee today... *Sam Gregory* is out of town today ... *The Hamms: Joel & Sharma* have been out of town this week.

THE RECORD: Attendance the week of September 3rd:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	125
	Morning Worship	153
	Evening Worship	120
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	90



"Faith Is The Victory!"

MARKET STREET FOCUS – 2023

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, September 10th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Preaching.....	Wilson Adams
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Tucker
Assisting	Jerry Baker
Serving	Roger Hammonds Sam Gregory
.....	Landon Adams..... Harold Davis
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	Wilson Adams
Lord's Supper	Larry Tucker
Closing Prayer	Kenneth Smith
Other Assignments for the week of September 10 th :	
Usher	Tommy Coblentz/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System.....	Russ Wulfekuhl

Wednesday, September 13th:

Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Bible Reading	No Reading
.....	Gospel Meeting
Prayer.....	Larry Holt
Invitation	Wilson Adams
Closing Prayer	Clayton Hamm

Sunday, September 17th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harold Ash
Assisting	Harvey Nixon
Serving	Nathaniel Adams... Charles Vaughn
.....	Luke Vaughn Marvin Putman
Closing Prayer	Marcus Morris

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Harold Ash
Closing Prayer	Landon Adams
Other Assignments for the week of September 17 th :	
Usher	Larry Mitchell /Sam Gregory
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews