

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

Volume XV

September 17, 2023

No. 38

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

“You Must Be Born Again”

David A. Cox

“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again’” — (John 3:5-6).

Jesus, speaking to Nicodemus, said, “unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3). Jesus continued to explain the new birth and declared to him, “You must be born again” (John 3:6). It is obvious that the reference to “water and the Spirit” refers to baptism. Also, Jesus, in this passage, shows the necessity of the spiritual birth for one to enter the kingdom of God. Let us examine what the scriptures teach us about baptism being a new birth.

What Is the Role of the Spirit?

The Spirit is involved in the revelation of God’s will to man through the word of God, which produces faith (Romans 10:17). Jesus promised His disciples that the Spirit would come and guide them into all truth (John 16:13). The Spirit would bring to their minds all that Jesus had taught them. So, as the disciples preached and wrote, the Spirit guided them in revealing God’s will to man (1 Corinthians 2:13). As the people heard the teaching of God, they were convicted of their sins and were baptized to have their sins forgiven (Acts 2:38; 3:19; 22:16). With their sins washed away they were pure as now newborn babes.

Paul Speaks of the Newness of Life.

Paul tells the Galatian Christians that their baptism resulted from their faith in Christ. Hearing the will of God brought them to have faith and led them to put on Christ by being baptized (Galatians 3:26-27). In putting on Christ, the scriptures speak of being a new man.

- In 2 Corinthians 5:17, Paul writes, “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.”
- Paul, writing to the Romans about their baptism into Christ, says baptism is a burial of the old man, and they were raised to “walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:3-6).

- In Ephesians 4:24, Paul writes, “put on the new man, which is created according to God, in righteousness and true holiness.”

The New Man Is A Changed Man.

The new man or the newness of life is not just the same person who is baptized and now attends worship services. Instead, he is changed, living with a different direction, feelings, goals, and desires for his life. Paul expressed this change in his life when he wrote to the church at Philippi in Philippians 3. “But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ...that I may know Him and the power of the resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:7-8, 10, 13-14). Paul mentions as a new creature, his direction of life changed after being baptized and crucifying the old man. As a new man, his goals and desires are focused on Christ. After the new birth, the new man will not conform to the world but will be living a righteous, holy life and conforming to the image of God.

The new birth is essential; it causes people to change their lives so that they might receive the crown that awaits the faithful (2 Timothy 4:8; Revelation 2:10). If one is not born again by obeying the command to be baptized, he will die in his sins and hear the Lord say, “depart from Me, you cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matthew 25:41). Do not let that be you!



Remember Our Bible Study Periods

Sunday Morning at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evening at 6:30 p.m.

Superficial Standards

Joshua Welch

King Saul, Israel’s first king, was “handsome” and tall and looked kingly. Yet, he did not act like God’s king. Later, God would anoint a shepherd boy, David, and say, “Do not look at his appearance or his physical stature...for the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7). It’s not that David was ugly, but God chose him on the basis of his “heart” and not on the basis of his looks, his pedigree, or his seniority in the family (he had older brothers). David was far more successful than Saul and one of the keys to his success was he was “a man after God’s own heart” (1 Samuel 13:14).

Sometimes single folks date someone because they are beautiful or rich. We love to hear people say we “look like a cute couple.” But, really, how shallow if looks are the only thing that make us attractive! Proverbs warns the young man, “As a ring of gold in a swine’s snout, so is a lovely woman who lacks discretion” (11:22). We need to look deeper than a person’s flesh and wallet or purse before we commit to a lifetime. Samson could be the Bible’s “Exhibit A” of the foolishness of looking at a person’s face without considering their faith (Judges 14:1-3). As Proverbs 15:16 says, “Better is a little with the fear of the Lord, than great treasure with trouble.” Think about the heart.

Sometimes we search for a preacher on the basis of his looks, his family, his eloquence, his flashy style. Yet, these are never standards of success for God’s soldiers. Timothy was told to look for “faithful men who will be able to teach others also” (2 Timothy 2:2). God wants his preachers to have hearts filled with His word, inflamed to share it, and doing so with love. What do his actions say about his heart? Quit looking for just a “pulpit guy” who plays golf every day and look for someone who greets the visitors warmly, takes time to talk to the kids, makes time for the widow, and sacrifices to serve others. Jesus did not tell his disciples the key to preaching success was in tailored suits, Toastmasters clubs, and their preaching prowess. He said, “whosoever would become great among you shall be your servant” (Matthew 20:26).

Let's be careful to avoid creating superficial standards for those who will serve important roles in our lives. Are we looking through God's eyes as we see others?

~via *Anderson Church Bulletin*; Anderson, Indiana.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Jennifer Threet	Paul Adcock
Betty Pepper	Jeanette Weir
Steve Stringer	Pat Nixon
Shirley Miller	Doris Lovell
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	Brenda Wilson, rm. 77
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Auteen Campbell, rm. 96
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Connie Brock, rm. 62

Limestone Health Facility:

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

Patricia Abernathy; Huntsville Hospital, rm. 847

Updates:

Paul Adcock is taking his treatments. He has been unable to take them as scheduled due to being sick from them ... *Patricia Abernathy* suffered a stroke last Saturday. She is in Huntsville Hospital and is making progress in her recovery. The family requests no visitors for her at this time... *Betty Pepper* learned she has a stress fracture in her right foot. She will be having a bone scan this week ... *Doris Lovell* had skin cancer removed this past Wednesday. They were able to get it all removed, and the tests were clear ... *Sharon Nave* continues to wait on the doctor to call her after looking at the images from her CAT scan... *Kerry Cox's mother, Fredia Lowman*, has been diagnosed with herniated disk and will continue to have further tests... *Larsen Plyler* is scheduled to go to M.D. Anderson in Houston, Texas on Friday to meet with the doctors there... 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.*"

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.

OUR MEETING: This past week, we have been engaged in our gospel meeting with *Wilson Adams* preaching. The lessons Wilson presented were very good and building to our faith. I appreciate all of the work everyone did in preparing for the meeting, your attendance at the services of the meeting, and your prayers for the effort. We averaged 135 for each service of the meeting.

THE FLOWER FUND: There is a flower fund maintained by the members of the Market Street church for the sending of flowers and plants to families during periods of bereavement. If you would like to participate in this work, please contribute your money to *Ida Nell Griffin*, who looks after this fund.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: The *Ephesus church* is beginning a gospel meeting today, and it continues through Wednesday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be *Mitchell Dalrymple*... The *Pepper Road church* is engaged in a gospel meeting this week through Thursday evening. The speaker in this meeting will be *Stephen Rouse*... The *Mt. Zion church* is beginning a meeting today, and it will continue through Wednesday. The speakers in this meeting will be: Sunday Morning—*Kyle Ellison*; Sunday afternoon—*Greg Chandler*; Monday—*Jeff May*; Tuesday

– *Mike Richardson*; Wednesday – *Paul Sheehan*... The **Jordan Park church** in Huntsville is beginning a gospel meeting today, and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Lance Blackburn*... The **South Cullman church** in Cullman is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Wednesday. The speaker in this meeting will be *Wiley Deason*.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS TO BEGIN: A Ladies' Bible class is beginning on Monday night at 6:00, 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**.

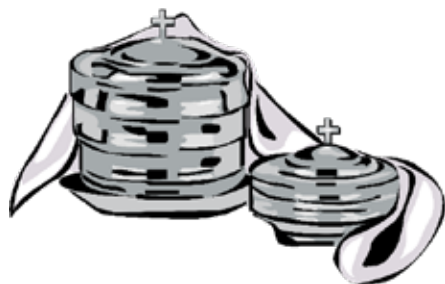
NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember we are planning to restart the singings on Tuesday evenings at 5:30 at the **Athens Senior Care and Rehabilitation**. You may have done this in the past, or you have not, but we meet and sing for about 30 to 45 minutes. The residents and rehab patients thoroughly enjoy 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.

CARDWRITING: A card writing group meets regularly to write and mail cards to people for appreciation and encouragement. The group will meet next Monday morning, September 25th, at 10:30. If you would like to participate, join them next Monday morning.

OUT OF TOWN: The Holts: *Larry & Sheila* are in Dothan this weekend for Griffin's white coat ceremony... **Marilyn Bradley** is in Tampa, Florida this weekend with her sister ... **Addison Holt** is in Birmingham as she will begin her new job.

THE RECORD: *Attendance the week of September 10th:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	132
	Morning Worship	157
	Evening Worship	150
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	113



Communion Preparation for September

Communion Bread — Wanda Baker
Communion Cups — Larry Mitchell

Men Privileged To Serve:

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
Closing Prayer	Marvin Putman
.....	Marcus Morris

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
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

Wednesday, September 20th:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading	Albert Haraway
.....	(Acts 15:30-41)
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblentz
Invitation.....	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds

Sunday, September 24th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Marcus Morris
Preaching.....	Nathaniel Adams
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Snell
Assisting	Hunter Cox
Serving	Roger Hammonds
.....	Heath Dollar
.....	Matthew Usery.....
Closing Prayer	Harold Davis
.....	Hayden Pierce

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Jerry Baker
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Larry Snell
Closing Prayer	Terry Andrews
Other Assignments for the week of September 24 th :	
Usher	Danny Johnson/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt