

# 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 V

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No. 12

### *A Living, Transforming Hope*

**Paul Earnhart**

#### **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 ..... 7:00 p.m.

#### **Elders**

Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737  
Bonnie Sutton..... (256) 232-2081

#### **Deacons**

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147  
Tommy Coblentz ..... (256) 232-3212  
Joel Hamm..... (256) 230-6223  
Larry Mitchell ..... (256) 230-0185  
Todd Williams..... (205) 541-8304  
Russ Wulfekuhl ..... (256) 683-9396

#### **Evangelists**

David A. Cox ..... (256) 233-8910  
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[MarketStreet-church.com](http://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*

It is reported that several years ago researchers did a study to determine the effect hope has on those undergoing hardship. Two sets of laboratory rats were placed in separate tubs of water from which they could not escape unaided. The researchers left one set in the water and found that within an hour the exhausted rats all drowned.

The other rats were periodically lifted out of the water and then returned. These animals swam for over 24 hours. Why? Not because they were given rest, but because they had hope! They had come to believe that if they held out just a little longer, someone would reach down and rescue them. Without defending what seems to have been a rather cruel experiment, we simply observe that if this is the effect of hope on unthinking rodents, what must its power be in the lives of human beings?

There is nothing so critical to the success of gospel teaching as that it gives genuine hope to sincere hearers. Any supposed teaching of Christ which drives honest searching hearts to despair is a subversion of God's gracious purpose. "Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who had fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us" (Hebrews 6:17-18).

We do not speak here of the proud, the insincere, the worldly hearers. The gospel is designed to cause them to stumble in their lusts. But genuine and humble souls should be made to rejoice at the implications of the story of the cross. However much tempered with sobriety, the response of such people to the preaching of Jesus should always, at last, be joy.

This is not to deny that the gospel begins with a profoundly painful indictment of sin, but it is easy to say that such should not be the final impact of the message. If the preaching of Christ begins by driving us to our knees in repentance, it must end by lifting us to our feet in confident faith and hope. Paul says that we are saved "in hope" (Romans 8:24)

and truer words were never spoken. It is the confidence we feel in God's gracious promises and the assurance He gives us of our power to obtain them by faith that keeps us going and growing, serving God through good times and bad.

Indeed, it is this living by hope alone, having seen none of those blessed things which are the driving influence of our lives, which causes us to be so profoundly changed in character and attitude. We have to do right when not only is the reward for right nowhere in sight, but when punishing consequences for doing it are very near and very tangible. So is faith deepened and hope brightened (1 Peter 1:3-9).

And there is every reason that those who have trusted in Christ should have a bright and confident hope. The most wonderful thing has already happened. God, in the cross, has demonstrated His love for us so powerfully that we can never again have cause to doubt the depth of His commitment (Romans 5:8, 8:31). As Paul wonderingly asks, if that is what God is willing to do for His enemies, what would He be willing to do for His friends (Romans 5:10-11)? It is beyond imagining!

But it is not just God's overwhelming love for us that gives us hope, but the immensity of the power that works that loving purpose. Some have love, but no power. Others have power, but no love. God has both. "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus through all ages, world without end. Amen" (Ephesians 3:20-21).

On March 5, 1979, scientists noted what was then called the most powerful energy burst every recorded. This burst of gamma radiation picked up by satellites lasted only one-tenth of a second, but in that brief instant it emitted as much energy as the sun does over a period of 3,000 years. That kind of energy, coming from our sun, would have vaporized the earth.

We marvel at the power that God sends pulsating through the universe, but it is dwarfed by the power that a loving God has exercised to save a lost humanity. Even the power that created the world is small by comparison to the enormous energy which God wields to produce spiritual rebirth in a single human being. That power, Paul says, beggars our wildest imaginings, and it is working in us!

How great, then, our hope should be, and how powerfully such a hope should affect how we live our lives and how we face our troubles and our failures. If we should grasp even a measure of this truth, would it not revolutionize us?

Lord, increase our faith --and our hope!

-via *The Stonegate Standard*; Port Arthur, Texas.



## *Before Discipline*

**Johnie Edwards**

Discipline, in the form of withdrawing fellowship from a disorderly church member, is the last resort. There are a number of things that must be done first, before withdrawing.

1) **Teaching:** Much disorderly conduct could be prevented if there were more teaching on preventive measures. Many places have gotten away from pointed sermons on sins that cause folks to be subjects of discipline. How long has it been since you heard a plain, simple sermon on sin? That is, where sins were named like the Bible names them. We would do well to preach on 1 Corinthians 6:9-10. Here Paul noted some specific sins: "Unrighteousness, fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, effeminate, abusers of themselves with mankind, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, and extortioners." The "works of the flesh" of Galatians 5:19-21 would be another good topic to preach on from time to time.

2) **Convert The Erring:** James penned, "Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him, Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins" (James 5:19-20). We too often think of outsiders needing converting; sometimes church members do too!

3) **Warn the Unruly:** Quite often we see church members being unruly and nothing is said or done about it in time to prevent a falling away. Paul told the Thessalonians, "Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly..." (1 Thessalonians 5:14). Sometimes

warning the unruly may be all that is needed to get them to behave themselves.

4) **Support The Weak:** Sometimes brethren become weak spiritually and no one comes to their rescue. Paul said, "...support the weak" (1 Thessalonians 5:14; Acts 20:35). The Romans were told, "We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves" (Romans 15:1). Have you taken the time to help a weak Christian bear his load?

5) **Pray For Them:** Our most vital tool in restoring the lost is to pray for them. John uttered, "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask..." (1 John 5:14). Sometimes we don't have because we don't ask. Remember Jesus said, "Ask and it shall be given you..." (Matthew 7:7).

6) **Show Care:** Too often church members get to feeling no one really cares. May it never be said of us. "I looked on my right hand, and behold, but there was no man that would know me, refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul" (Psalm 142:4). May we as "members, have the same care one for another" (1 Corinthians 12:25).

-via *The Melrose Memo*; Richardson, Texas.

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## *No Comparison*

### **Patrick Farish**

Hurting? Listen: "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to usward" (Romans 8:18).

Life involves suffering - "... All that would live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12); and beyond that suffering experienced because of the Way, there is the common-to-all-men suffering because of illness or injury, from family problems, or from financial reverse. Words cannot adequately communicate the misery and anguish of heart at the death of a loved one; or the pain brought about by a wayward mate, or a child gone astray - the overwhelming sense

that this pain will never be eased, this hurt never be healed, this person never know serenity again. Romans 8:18 provides motivation to endure the suffering, here; in view of the recompense of reward, there.

And from the throes of our grief we should lift up our hearts to heaven, encouraged in spite of ourselves by God's promise. "The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to usward."

Imagine that! As miserable as we may be now in our sufferings, so overburdened that we think we can never rise again, that misery and those sufferings are not worthy to be compared with that which is in store. How beautiful heaven must be!

-via *Bible Viewpoints*; Houston, Texas.

## *News & Notes*

### **THE SICK:**

Judy Vaughn	Gwen Bullock
Wynell Casteel	Bob Richter
Jilya Gossett	Jerry Taylor
Charles Burns	Matt Poff
Una King Currier	Bruce Mordecai
David Hartsell	Ronald Harrison
Phillip Harwell	Abby Gilbert
Ava Brooke Cambell	Shelia Dunnivant Douglas

### *In The Hospital:*

*Ava Brooke Campbell*; Children's Hospital - Birmingham

### *Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:*

Beulah Pope, rm. 100	Matty Murray, rm. 60
Harvey Pope, rm. 100	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dyral Allfrey, rm. 80	Ann Moore, rm. 49
Mary Ursery, rm. 65	

### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Janet Berryhill, rm. 75-B	Albert Bowers, rm. 115-B
Albert Norton, rm. 36	Frances Bower, rm 116
Jack Cannon, rm. 112	Rosella Pugh, rm. 74
J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E	

### *Limestone Lodge:*

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 29-E

**Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:**

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

**Shut-In:**

Reba Adams, at home

Lola Colwell, at home

Mary Ruth Gardner, at home

Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

**LADIES BIBLE CLASS:** The Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 in the west wing auditorium. They are going to begin a study on "Proverbs". All the ladies that can be invited to be a part of this class.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Keenon Currier* is in Auburn this week for a few days visiting with Brettlyn... are in Gatlinburg, Tennessee this weekend... *Hunter Cox* is in Tampa, Florida this week... *The Workmans: Whitney and Mia* are in Dothan today... *The McLemores: Alvis and Ann* have been in Gatlinburg on vacation.

**WORK GROUPS:** **Work Group two** will be meeting this evening after our evening service. If you are in group otwo, remember to meet with your group tonight.

**CONFESSION:** *Janice Cagle* came forward last Sunday morning confessing sin and asking for prayers for forgiveness and strength. We appreciate Janice and her desire to please God.

**GOSPEL MEETING:** The *Chapman Acres church* in Huntsville is beginning a meeting today and it will continue through Friday with services at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. *Bob Waldron* will be the speaker in this meeting.

**THE RECORD: Attendance for Week of March 17th**

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes..... 120

Morning Worship ..... 162

Evening Worship..... 122

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes..... 90



**The Market Street  
church of Christ Website at:  
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**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, March 24th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Wayne Vaughn  
Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
Prayer ..... Joel Hamm  
Preaching ..... Jordan Lovell  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Assisting ..... Terry Andrews  
Serving ..... Delmer Carter ..... Paul Hasting  
..... David Terry ..... Landon Adams  
Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Burns

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Wayne Vaughn  
Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox  
Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell  
Preaching ..... Song Service  
Lord's Supper ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Closing Prayer ..... Kenneth Adams

**Other Assignments for Sunday, March 24th:**

Usher ..... Ronnie Locke  
Work Sound System ..... Marty Adams

**Wednesday, March 27th:**

Song Leader ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Bible Reading ..... Isaiah 63:15-19  
..... Dan Reed  
Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Invitation ..... Kenneth Smith  
Closing Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams

**Sunday, March 31st:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Keith Hinkle  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Assisting ..... Kenneth Smith  
Serving ..... Mot Dollar ..... Stefan Fudge  
..... Danny Johnson ..... Keenon Currier  
Closing Prayer ..... Ronnie Locke

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Joel Hamm  
Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Prayer ..... Tommy Coblenz  
Preaching ..... Todd Williams  
Lord's Supper ..... Jerry McGlocklin  
Closing Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell

**Other Assignments for Sunday, March 31st:**

Usher ..... Marvin Putman  
Work Sound System ..... Landon Adams