

# 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 VI

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No. 22

### *What God Thinks Of The Church Of Christ*

#### **Gardner Hall**

#### **Schedule of Services**

##### **Sunday**

Bible Classes ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 4:00 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 Coblenz ..... (256) 232-3312  
Joel Hamm..... (256) 278-1977  
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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#### **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*

When God thinks of the church of Christ, He thinks of saved individuals (Acts 20:28). When men think of the church of Christ they think of parties, either a broad conglomeration of alliances such as the "one cup Church of Christ," "liberal Church of Christ," "conservative Church of Christ," etc., or one these parties individually.

When God thinks of the church of Christ, He thinks of a number of individuals unknown to men (2 Timothy 2:19). When men think of the Church of Christ, they think of a loose association of local churches whose numbers can be approximated, for example 1,260,838 in the United States according to Mac Lynn's 1994 directory. Perhaps they will focus more on the numbers given for a more narrow association of churches, "non-institutional," "one cup," "no class," etc., or one of these parties individually.

When God thinks of the church of Christ, He sees an individual body composed of individuals with different levels of spiritual growth (1 Corinthians 1:13; 2 Peter 3:18; Revelation 2, 3). When men think of the Church of Christ, they think of a group of local churches that has divided through the years over issues such as instrumental music, premillennialism and institutionalism. They say that the "next thing that will divide the church" (the conservative alliance, or a collection of churches) will be on the marriage, divorce and remarriage issue.

When God thinks of the church of Christ, He thinks of those growing in Him with obedient hearts in spite of imperfection (John 17:6). When men think of the Church of Christ, they think of those who conform to unwritten creeds, composed of doctrines the "leaders" have declared to be essential.

When God thinks of the Savior of the Church, He thinks only of His Son, Jesus Christ. When men think of the Church of Christ, they think of an alliance of local churches that David Lipscomb "saved" from the Missionary Society, Foy Wallace "saved from premillennialism" and other "leaders" have saved from other dangers.

When God thinks of where to find the church of Christ, He thinks of the hearts of men (1 Samuel 16:7). When men think of where to find the Church of Christ, they think of church directories.

When God thinks of the church of Christ, He thinks of those who have responded to the spiritual attraction for those who are of good ground – the gospel of Jesus Christ (Romans 1:16; 1 Corinthians 2:2). When men think of the Church of Christ, they think of an alliance or movement that itself is the primary attraction to those who are of good ground.

When God thinks of the church of Christ, He thinks of a glorious body of saved individuals who are allowing themselves to be transformed into the image of His Son, in spite of the wrangling and political maneuvering of men (Ephesians 5:25, 26; 2 Corinthians 3:18). When men think of the Church of Christ, they either think of a religious movement that has fragmented itself into dozens of warring factions, each claiming to “have” the truth on dozens of difficult issues, or they think of one of those factions.

What do you think of when you think of the church of Christ?

-via *The Stanley Avenue Bulletin*; Andalusia, Alabama.

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## *My Church*

**Ed Brand**

There is no subject taught in Scripture upon which “believers” are united. I have placed quotation marks around the word believers to indicate I am using the word in a special way. I use it to include everyone who “believes” the Bible. There is not even unanimity among “believers” about the inspiration and authority of Scripture.

This lack of unanimity is neither surprising nor discouraging. There was a variety of reactions to the person and work of Jesus. Some were devoted followers (Mark 1:16-20) while others sought to kill Him (Mark 14:1-2). I expect many were between these two

extremes. Jesus provoked many responses, but this did not stop Him from teaching truth.

Toward the completion of His earthly work, He briefly mentions His church (Matthew 16:18, 18:17). He introduces a new word to describe a new relationship. His usual designation is “kingdom” or “kingdom of heaven (God)” (Matthew 16:19).

Jesus uses this word in two senses, primary and secondary. When He promises to build His church (Matthew 16:18), He speaks about the universal community of saved believers. Later references suggest this relationship transcends time; all those saved by Jesus throughout all time (Hebrews 12:23) are included. There was no power, even that of the Hadean world, which would be able to stop the plan Jesus had set in motion.

This universal community of saved people is called “the church, which is His body” (Ephesians 1:22-23). Men and women responding by faith, are “baptized into Christ: (Galatians 3:27). It is evident from these verses that obedient believers become a part of the body of Christ upon baptism. They are saved by the blood of Christ (Ephesians 1:7), and consequently are added to His body. This is a community (body) of saved people. They are not added to His body, then saved; but they are saved, then added. Scripture does not suggest any other way to enter this relationship of the saved and Christ.

The secondary use of the word church is congregational. This relationship is smaller than the universal body of the saved. Jesus implies this in Matthew 18:17, “tell it to the church.” It is physically impossible to do this in the primary usage of the word church. No one can gather it and no one can speak for it. Thus Jesus recognized and approved of the congregational aspect of the word. The epistles frequently use the word in this way (Colossians 4:16). Christians can enter this relationship by “trying to associate with the disciples” (Acts 9:26). This local community does not contain all Christians (Colossians 4:16), but only some of them. The association is controlled by men (Acts 9:26-28), and thus is subject to error and mistake (3 John 9-10). Sometimes those who are included should be excluded (1 Corinthians 5:13), and some are excluded who should be included (3 John 10). This relationship is not entered by baptism, but upon the request of one already baptized and the acceptance of the congregation (Acts 9:26-28).

Realizing the primary and secondary uses of the word church in the New Testament will help us avoid a sectarian concept. Carefully examining the context will assist us in making a distinction between the worldwide (universal) and congregational (local) use of this word.

Many people have not learned to make such a distinction. Multitudes believe the universal church is made up of man-made denominations of all kinds. The language of many “believers” reflects this basic misunderstanding. The universal body of Jesus is not made up of churches (denominations), it is made up of people. Sometimes confusion occurs even among Christians. Some believe the universal church is made up of congregations; the same mistake our denominational friends make, only in a different sense. The universal body of Christ is composed of saints and Christ. Our speech and practice should illustrate this distinction.

-via *Think On These Things*; Cortland, Illinois.



## ***Hebrews 11***

**Frank Walton**

Hebrews is written to Jewish Christians whose faith in Jesus is wavering. They are about to apostatize (Hebrews 3:12; 4:1; 10:23, 35-36). They desperately needed a “faith lift,” a Christ-centered “faith to the preserving of the soul” (Hebrews 10:39; 12:2). Hebrews 11 is the uplifting summit of the power of faith in God. Enshrined here is the transcendent power of thrilling, faithful examples who “gained approval” from God (Hebrews 11:2, 39). None of us may be famous before men, but any of us can be famous by faith in God!

### **Faith Defined:**

There are three distinct aspects of wholesome, dynamic faith defined here. “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen... without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (vv.1, 6).

-via *North San Diego Newsletter*; San Diego, California

# ***Vacation Bible School***

June 16-20, 2014 — 10:00 a.m.

## **Market Street church of Christ**

514 West Market Street  
Athens, Alabama

## ***News & Notes***

### **THE SICK:**

Joe Hinkle	Robert & Mot Beasley
Gwen Bullock	Gene Carpenter
Matt Poff	Dorothy Casteel
Charlotte Keenum	Elizabeth Howard
Joey Hinkle	Charles Burns
Phillip Harwell	Una King Carrier
Eli Williams	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Carol Locke	Ava Brooke Campbell
Abby Gilbert	David Holt
Jerry Taylor	Baylor Ritter
Alex Reed	

### ***In The Hospital:***

*Reba Adams*; Athens-Limestone Hospital; rm. 302  
*Crutcher Harbin*; Athens-Limestone Hospital; rm. 301  
*Dianna Ritter*; Huntsville Women’s & Children’s; ICU

### ***Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:***

Nelva Reed, rm. 75	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Dorothy Draper, rm. 97	Mattye Murray, rm. 2
Mable Crafts, rm. 100	Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Judith Groce, rm. 63	Cecil Cox, rm. 77

### ***Limestone Health Facility:***

Albert Norton, rm. 36	Jack Cannon, rm. 13
Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E	Ruth Lawson, rm. 94

### ***Limestone Lodge:***

Yvonne Sherbert, rm. 11

### ***Limestone Manor:***

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

### ***Brookshire Healthcare - Huntsville:***

Rachel Grubbs, rm. 112-C

Floyd E. "Tut" Fann Veterans Home - Huntsville:  
Albert Bowers, rm. 115-C

**Shut-In:**

Reba Adams, at home  
Wynell Casteel, at home  
Lola Colwell, at home  
Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

**OUT OF TOWN: The Wulfekuhls:** Russ and Lisa have been on vacation this week... **Helen Blankenship** has been in the mountains this week... **The McLemores:** Alvis and Ann have spent several days in the mountains this week.

**MAURICE JACK CANNON (1928 – 2014):** With sadness we note the passing of brother Jack Cannon. Brother Cannon was a longtime member of the Market Street church. He had taught classes, led singing and assisted the work here in many ways for many years. He was a great support for the preaching of the word and the work that Market Street was involved in. He led the singings on Tuesday nights at the nursing home for many years until the last few years when he was not able to stand. He continued to faithfully attend services here until his health declined to the point that he was unable to come. Brother Cannon did much good for the cause of Christ. He has left us the greatest gift of an example of what a Christian is and we will all be better through his influence. May the Lord bless his family.

**GOSPEL MEETING/VBS:** The **Pepper Road church** will be engaged in a gospel meeting this week. It will begin today and continue through Wednesday. **Lowell Sallee** will be the speaker in this meeting... The **New Hope church** will be having their Vacation Bible School this week. It will be each evening at 7:00. The speakers in the adult class will be: **Monday – Everett Conn;** **Tuesday – Matt Burns;** **Wednesday – Aaron Andrews;** **Thursday – Steve Klein;** **Friday – Jordan Lovell...** The **Oakland church** will be having Vacation Bible School each morning at 10:00. **Jason Shackelford** will be the adult class speaker.

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

**THE RECORD:** Attendance for the week of May 25th

<b>Sunday:</b>	Bible Classes.....	139
	Morning Worship .....	183
	Evening Worship.....	131
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Bible Classes.....	107

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, June 1st:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Keith Hinkle  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Tyler Cox  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Joel Hamm  
Assisting ..... Larry Mitchell  
Serving ..... Steve Usery ..... Bill Claxton  
..... Delmer Carter ..... Landon Adams  
Closing Prayer ..... Jerry McGlocklin

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Keith Hinkle  
Song Leader ..... Stefan Fudge  
Prayer ..... Kenneth Smith  
Preaching ..... Jordan Lovell  
Lord's Supper ..... Joel Hamm  
Closing Prayer ..... Norman Brown

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 1st:

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

**Wednesday, June 4th:**

Song Leader ..... Tommy Burns  
Bible Reading..... Mark 14:51-65  
..... Mot Dollar  
Prayer ..... Ross Melvin  
Invitation ..... Keenon Currier  
Closing Prayer ..... Kenneth Adams

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**Sunday, June 8th:**

*Morning Worship*

Announcements ..... Tommy Coblenz  
Song Leader ..... Todd Williams  
Prayer ..... Marcus Morris  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper  
Presiding ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Assisting ..... Keith Hinkle  
Serving ..... Keenon Currier ..... Danny Johnson  
..... Bart Brown ..... James Johnson  
Closing Prayer ..... Norman Brown

*Evening Worship*

Announcements ..... Tommy Coblenz  
Song Leader ..... Hunter Cox  
Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton  
Preaching ..... David Cox  
Lord's Supper ..... Dwaine Allfrey  
Closing Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell

Other Assignments for Sunday, June 8th:

Usher ..... Steve Usery  
Work Sound System ..... Landon Adams