

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. 43

A Cup of Cold Water

C. G. "Colly" Caldwell

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) 233-2081

Deacons

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 233-5147
Tommy Coblentz (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
Cell: (256) 614-3757
Jordan Lovell..... (256) 777-8998

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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

"Just a cup of cold water in His name given may the hope in some heart renew... just a small, kindly deed that may cheer another is the work God has planned for you" (J.R. Baxter, Jr.). Jesus said, "Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you he shall in no wise lose his reward" (Matthew 10:42).

Dave Johnson had been an alcoholic for years, had trouble holding a job, and was abusive to his wife. Jean was peculiar in lots of ways (I always thought her hypochondria drove him to his bottle), but she was a faithful Christian and she stuck it out with Dave in marriage through all those miserable years and never lost hope. While I was preaching in Hobart, Indiana, Dave returned to the Lord and gave up the booze. By then his body was dissipated and he was truly sick most of the time. He tried hard, however, to do all he could do in his last years to help the work of Christ. We built a new meeting house during that time and I, too, tried to do what I could. I did not get my degree in "Handyman Skills" (I'm sure I would have been better served if I had) and so, almost immediately, I hit a nail wrong and not only bent the nail but I also broke my hammer. I just threw the hammer aside and went on to another job but, unbeknown to me, Dave slipped my hammerhead into his pocket, took it home, and brought it back the next night with a new handle all set to be broken again by a clutzy preacher. Dave's heart would not take the carpentry work, but his heart was filled to do what he could, and that's what he saw to do.

Many deeds, often taken for granted and seemingly of little value, mean much to those who are the beneficiaries. We think of water as costing almost nothing. We bathe in it, wash our clothes in it, flush it, and waste it without thought. A thirsty traveler or a bed-ridden dying invalid does not see it so. Maybe we should be more ready to notice, and to give things which we have to spare and which we would never miss to those who need them so badly. They may be more valuable than we think.

Death Bed Wishes

Kenny Marrs

Jesus has told us that at the judgment many of us will be turned aside because we did not give a drink to a thirsty person (Matthew 25:37). It would have cost us nothing. It would even have taken little time. It would have been so valuable to the recipient and our expense would have been only a little thoughtfulness and compassion. Jesus' list of little deeds included visiting the sick, providing clothing for those who need it, and feeding someone who was hungry. How difficult would it be for us to pay attention to those around us, whom we say we love, and fulfill Christ's wishes? We could mow our neighbor's yard when he is sick or away from town. We could wash her clothes when she is burdened or grieved or busy. We can help and that is the work God has planned for us.

But you say, "oh, this really isn't much." "They can go to the tap and get their own water with no effort." "Maybe so. Surely Christ was not demanding that the gift itself be so valuable. He said, "a cup of cold water only" because the thing itself was not nearly so important as the thought behind it. We need, more than the needy need. We need to think. We need to care. We need to share. We need to love. "Oh, this really isn't much," you say. The thoughtfulness is much! The concern is much! The love is very much! Too many think that if they cannot do some great thing they should do nothing at all!

The good thing about a "cup of cold water" is that nearly anybody can give one. Most old people in nursing homes can still give one. A child of only three or four years can give one. It doesn't take much effort or strength to give one. We don't have to have much of this world's goods to give one.

Isn't the "cup of cold water" a wonderful illustration of what pleases God? Be assured that He notices. He is not the only one who notices, however. Those to whom we give, notice. And we notice. Don't you feel good when you have paid attention and done something good for someone? Wouldn't you sleep better tonight knowing that last night you had sat with your neighbor's dying father or mother so your neighbor could get his first good night's sleep in many days? Don't you appreciate your meal more knowing that part of it has been shared with the family of your sister in Christ who needs it, or who needs not to have had to prepare it? It truly is "more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35) even if it is just a "cup of cold water."

-via *Christianity Magazine*; January 1985; Vol. 2 No. 1.

A short while ago Jim "Catfish" Hunter passed away. Any baseball fan will readily recognize the name of this Hall of Fame pitcher. Mr. Hunter was in his 50's and died of ALS or "Lou Gehrig's disease."

What was particularly important to me was not just his athletic record, but what he said shortly before he died. Knowing that he wouldn't live much longer, he said he would trade all of his fame and fortune from baseball for an anonymous, average life where he could see his only grandchild grow up.

"Catfish" Hunter was proud of his grandson (as any grandfather would be). A few years ago at an "old timers" game at Yankee Stadium, "Catfish" was to throw out the first ball. The disease had already ravaged his arms to the point of uselessness, so he stood out on the mound next to his young grandson who threw out the ball. The real tragedy here is not just that he died a relatively young man, or that he'll never see his grandchildren grow up, but that others will not learn a lesson here.

In an age where religion is ridiculed and God Himself is maligned, people need to stop and think about the source of real happiness. King Solomon spent much time and resource to find his happiness. Throughout the book of Ecclesiastes, Solomon concludes that there is nothing better in the life, to eat, drink, enjoy the fruit of your labor, and live joyfully with our family, for this is the gift of God (Ecclesiastes 2:24; 3:12-13, 22; ;18; 8:15; 9:9). The world can give fame and fortune, but who can give genuine love and the days of life to enjoy it?

Note that many critics do not deny the existence of God...just His goodness. People who face a life threatening illness, lose a child, or contemplate famine and war, are sometimes quick to indict heaven. This first happened in the Garden of Eden. Satan convinced Eve the God didn't want man to enjoy all of life (...not eat of every tree in the garden? Genesis 3:1). The devil didn't deny the existence of God...just His goodness.

The beauty and blessedness of this life is put into sharper focus when we witness a shortened life, however accomplished it may be, that longs for the simple

blessings of a warm and loving family. Where do these things come from? "He who finds a wife finds a good thing, and obtains favor from the Lord" Proverbs 18:22. "Houses and riches are an inheritance from fathers, but a prudent wife is from the Lord" Proverbs 19:14. Children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is His reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. "Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them..." Psalm 127:3-5.

In the end, what did "Catfish" Hunter want? He wanted what only God could give.

-via *Westview Family News*; Athens, Alabama



The New Commandment

Phil Robertson

"A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if you have love one for another." (John 13:34-35).

Have you ever wondered why Jesus called loving one another a new command? Throughout the Old Testament, the Law of Moses repeatedly instructed the children of Israel to love their brethren, neighbors (Leviticus 19:18) and even strangers (Deuteronomy 10:19). So why is it a "new commandment"?

Jesus' command was not a new law as much as it was a new standard. He is taking love to a whole new level. In John 13, the King of Kings stooped to wash His brethren's feet. He did not limit His humble action to those who loved Him and were concerned with His well being because Judas was still at the table. He is commanding a pure, unadulterated, self-sacrificing love that was foreign even to the Lord's disciples. It is a perfect love that cannot be faked or given halfheartedly.

So how do we fulfill this "new" love commandment today?

1. We eagerly seek the company of our brethren (Acts 2:46).

2. We seek to serve the needs of our brethren (Acts 2:44-45).
3. We esteem others better than ourselves (Philippians 2:4).

Ultimately, this new form of love became the hallmark of Jesus' followers. It was one of their greatest tools in reaching the lost (Acts 2:47; Romans 13:8-10). A sound church is measured by more than "doctrine." Jesus expects His disciples to love as He loved.

-via *The Hueytown Church Bulletin*; Hueytown, Alabama.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Irene Inman	Mot Dollar
Lona Killen	Fay Ferguson
Carl Hargrave	Carol Dean
Helen Blankenship	Betty Pepper
Marjorie Dunnivant	Gwen Bullock
Crutcher Harbin	Robert & Mot Beasley
Michael Vaughn	Una King Currier
Pat Goodin	Adam Davidson
Ruth Lawson	Matt Poff
Ann Bush	Marcelino Ordonez-Zetino
Gene Carpenter	Elizabeth Kate Miller
Dorothy Casteel	Ava Brooke Campbell
Phillip Harwell	Charles Burns
Shawn Felker	Dianna Ritter
Eli Williams	Analynn Tegg
Anita Willis	Kim Pressnell

In The Hospital:

Amy McGuire; Huntsville Hospital; ICU

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 75	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Gayle Mills, rm. 15
Robert Johnson, rm. 18	Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
Judith Groce, rm. 63	Mable Crafts, rm. 100

Limestone Health Facility:

Albert Norton, rm. 36	Buddy Pepper, rm 113
Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E	

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:

Wynell Casteel, 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 studying the book of "Proverbs". All the ladies that can are invited to be a part of this class.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy **Buddy Pepper** and *all the family* in the passing of Buddy's sister, **Louise Hagood**, this past Thursday. Her funeral was Saturday morning at Limestone Chapel... We extend our deepest sympathy to **Nikki Ogles** and *all the family* in the passing of her uncle, **Fred Yarbrough**. He passed away early Friday morning. His funeral will be this afternoon at 2:00 at Spry Funeral Home.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at the **Athens Rehabilitation and Senior Care**. Come to sing, you will enjoy it and you will encourage the residents there.

OUT OF TOWN: The Coxes: *Kerry, Hunter and I* are in Auburn this weekend... **The Williams:** *Todd, Julie, Philip and Matthew* are back after being in Sulligent last weekend.

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

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Oct. 19th

Sunday:	Bible Classes.....	141
	Morning Worship	184
	Evening Worship.....	131
Wednesday:	Bible Classes.....	112



**The Market Street
church of Christ Website at:
MarketStreet-church.com**

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, October 26th:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Tommy Coblenz
Song Leader	Stefan Fudge
Prayer	Terry Andrews
Preaching	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Bonnie Sutton
Assisting	Jerry McGlocklin
Serving	Danny Johnson Bill Claxton
.....	Mike Ogles..... Kieth Hinkle
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements	Tommy Coblenz
Song Leader	Marty Adams
Prayer	Hunter Cox
Preaching	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Bonnie Sutton
Closing Prayer	Joel Ham

Other Assignments for Sunday, October 26th:

Usher	Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System	Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, October 29th:

Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Bible Reading.....	Romans 6:15-23
.....	Tony Thomas
Prayer	Dwayne Allfrey
Invitation	Jordan Lovell
Closing Prayer	Marcus Morris

Sunday, November 2nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Hunter Cox
Prayer	Jerry McGlocklin
Preaching	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding	Norman Brown
Assisting	Marcus Morris
Serving	Russ Wulfekuhl James Johnson
.....	Heath Dollar Jason Conn
Closing Prayer	Mike Ogles

Evening Worship

Announcements	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Todd Williams
Prayer	Bonnie Sutton
Preaching	Jordan Lovell
Lord's Supper	Norman Brown
Closing Prayer	Joel Hamm

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 2nd:

Usher	Paul Hasting
Work Sound System	Landon Adams