

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 VII

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No. 47

How To Build Christian Community

Ken Weliever

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 Coblentz(256) 232-3312
Joel Hamm.....(256) 278-1977
Larry Mitchell(256) 230-0185
Russ Wulfekuhl(256) 683-9396

Evangelists

David A. Cox(256) 233-8910
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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

An Army Chaplain tells the story of sitting in the Officer's Club one rainy day. In fact, it was more than rainy. It was a raging storm. The winds were blowing fiercely. The rains were descending in sheets. Nearby, two officer's wives were watching the storm through the big picture window.

Suddenly, through a flash of lightening, one of the women saw a soldier standing outside on guard duty totally at the mercy of the ferocious elements. "Oh dear," she said, "Look at the poor soldier out there in the storm." The other woman caustically replied, "My dear, it's perfectly alright. He's only a private."

Some people view others in this world with the "he's only" attitude. "He's only a student." "She's only a housewife." "He's only a janitor." "She's only a clerk." "They are only a _____." It is an attitude that views one's self as superior and others as less important. Less valuable.

The Bible speaks of our relationship in the Body of Christ as being "members of one another" (Romans 12:5). We belong to the same Body. We have the same Head. We share a common membership. All are important. All are beneficial. All add value. There is not to be "he's only a private" attitude. But that we are all soldiers marching together under the banner of our Commander in Chief.

Our commonality in Christ builds community. Companionship. And comradeship. The many passages in the New Testament that include the phrase "one another" speak to the means, manner and method of building up the Christian community. Consider a few of them.

Because of this special bond that binds us together, we should "be kindly affectionate to one another" (Romans 12:16), "by love serve one another" (Galatians 5:13), and "be kind one to another" (Ephesians 4:32). "Let us consider one another" (Hebrews 10:24), and "Be likeminded one toward another" (Romans 15:5) and extend "hospitality one to another" (1 Peter 4:9).

Because “we love one another” (1 John 3:11), we “do not judge one another” (Romans 14:13). We “lie not one to another” (Colossians 3:9). We “speak not evil one of another” (James 4:11).

We “do not grumble against one another” (James 5:9). We are not guilty of “provoking one another” and certainly “do not envy one another” (Galatians 5:26). As a result, “we do not bite and devour one another” (Galatians 5:15).

This “one another” mind set leads us to a high level of living. We “pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another” (Romans 14:19). We “submit to one another” (Ephesians 5:21). We “comfort one another” (1 Thessalonians 4:18), “bear one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2) and “have the same care for one another” (1 Corinthians 12:25) regardless of their function in the Body. We even “esteem others better than ourselves” (Philippians 2:3-4).

In order that we might help each other grow we “admonish one another” (Romans 15:14), “exhort one another” (Hebrews 3:13), “teach one another” (Colossians 3:16).

In short, those who walk the “one another” way, walk with the Lord and “love one another” (John 13:34).

Whew! I sure have a lot of work to do to be a “one another” brother! But it’s worth it!

By the way, there is room on the “one another road,” come and join us.

-via *What Is True?*; Little Rock, Arkansas.

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Genuine

Carl McMurray

The American College Dictionary defines “genuine” as being truly such, real, authentic, sincere, free from pretense or affectation, natural.

As Christians, one of the terms that ought to come to people’s minds when asked to describe us is this term, genuine. Our greetings before worship should be real and natural because someone has come to be our guest that shares our common interest in and love for Jesus

Christ. No need to “put on airs” here. They desire what we desire here so it should be comfortable and natural to welcome them and want to get to know them.

Take the time to welcome our guests. Our worship should be genuine, coming from the heart, authentic. This is accomplished when one’s heart is full of gratitude and appreciation for grace. Many disagreements over “styles” of worship would disappear if we appreciated worship activities from thankful hearts rather than from traditional comfort zones. Scripture describes worship that is reverent and quiet and crying out in prayer, as well as worship that is joyful and exuberant in praise. Both “styles” were offered from faithful spirits however.

Our speech should be genuine, sincere, and free from pretense. People should not have to wonder if we’re speaking with double meanings. Our jokes should be humorous, not hurtful. Our encouragements should come with serious tones (and perhaps a light touch) that says, “I love you,” not “I’m flattering you.” Words have great power to build up or to tear down and the person who is not genuine in his or her speech robs themselves of the ability to accomplish much.

Our friendship should be genuine, truly such, authentic. Not a friendship that faces you with a smile then “slams” you to others. Our friendship should be the friendship of “brothers” who may disagree face to face, but will “brag” on each other when apart. A friendship that says, “I will correct you because I love you,” but with others says, “Because I love them I will defend them.” We might have many acquaintances with which we deal on a daily basis, but do not confuse that surface friendship with the world with the real depth of relationship that comes from genuine friendship between brethren.

Genuine. Natural, authentic, real, sincere. Is that us?

-via *Good News*; Anderson, Indiana.



Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Just When

Bubba Garner

The conversion of Saul is one of our favorites in the book of Acts because it gives us the assurance that everyone is a prospect of the gospel of salvation, even the chief of sinners (1 Timothy 1:15). As one author put it, he was “the most zealous and unrelenting opponent of the gospel transformed into its foremost proponent.” We have no doubt that Saul of Tarsus, persecutor and reviler of the church was saved from the sins of his horrible past; the question, is when was he saved?

He was not saved when he had the vision. In his defense before his Jewish brethren in Jerusalem, Paul related what he had seen on the road to Damascus (Acts 22:6). Some have told me in conversation that the Lord has appeared to them and has called them to be His disciple. Since it’s difficult to convince someone what they have and haven’t seen with their own eyes, I simply try to remind them that the Lord Himself said before His ascension that disciples are made by teaching and baptizing them (Matthew 28:18-20). Though Saul had seen and was made a believer in the resurrected Christ, he was still subject to His conditions of discipleship. He was not saved yet.

He was not saved when he found out he was a sinner. Saul learned that the voice from heaven belonged to Jesus, Whom he was persecuting, and he responded by asking, “what shall I do, Lord?” (Acts 9:10). If he was already saved by calling on the name of the Lord, he wouldn’t need to do anything. But he had the same reaction that the Jews did on Pentecost when they were convicted of their sins; they cried, “men and brethren, what shall we do?” (Acts 2:37). The realization of sin brings about the need to do something about it—either sweep it under the rug or make it right. Saul chose the latter but was not saved yet.

He was not saved when he prayed and fasted for three days (Acts 9:9-11). I can’t imagine what must have been going through his mind during that time—how he had scattered, imprisoned and executed innocent Christians and delivered damaging blows to the cause of Christ. He was so overcome with guilt and humiliation that he devoted himself to the purification of his body and the restoration of his soul through prayer and fasting. His outward expressions of repentance were certainly sincere and contrite, but he was not saved yet.

“How do you know”, you ask? Saul could not have been saved at any of these points because the Bible says that he was still in his sins. Ananias came to him after his vision, after his recognition, after his prayer and fasting and commanded him to “arise, and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name” (Acts 22:16). His belief was foundational, his realization of sin pivotal, his repentance essential, but his iniquities were not erased until he was washed in the blood of the Lamb. His salvation was then made possible because of his willingness to submit to the divine terms of pardon. Saul was saved because he made an appeal to God for a good conscience through which baptism now also saves you through the resurrection of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 3:21). “‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’ Peter said to them, ‘Repent and let each one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins’” (Acts 2:38-39).

-via *The Folsom View*; Folsom, California

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Mitzi Carruth	Margaret Carter
Jim Whitt	Mot Dollar
Ella Melvin	Reba Byram
Gilbert Hardy	Robert & Mot Beasley
Essie Hardison	Irene Inman
Carl Hargrave	Marjorie Dunnivant
Gwen Bullock	Jeanette Weir
Donald Cole	Abi Gilbert
Betty Hamm	Ava Brooke Campbell
Linda Ordonez	David Richardson
Phillip Harwell	Gene Carpenter
Ann Bush	Pam Perry
Ben Hinkle	Al Pollard
Anita Willis	Helen Rushing
Matt Poff	Una King Currier
Charles Burns	Analynn Tegg
Eli Williams	Elizabeth Howard

In The Hospital:

Athens Rehabilitation & Senior Care:

Nelva Reed, rm. 111	Grady Tomerlin, rm. 102
Matty Murray, rm. 2	Dorothy Draper, rm. 97
Judith Groce, rm. 21	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36

Terry Camp, rm. 91 Mildred Frantz, rm. 31
 Gayle Mills, rm. 15 Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
 Mable Crafts, rm. 98 Helen Trousdale, rm. 43

Limestone Health Facility:

Bobbie Adcock, rm. 110
 Mildred Landers, rm. 103
 Geneva Davis, rm. 14-E

Limestone Lodge:

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 20W

Limestone Manor:

Mary Ruth Gardner, rm. 86

Shut-In:

Hazel Brooks, at home
 Wynell Casteel, at home
 Ruby Jean Tinnon, at home

OUT OF TOWN: The Whites: Jason, Joy, Addison and Mason have been in Orlando, Florida this past week...

The McLemores: Alvis and Ann are back home after a trip to the mountains... **Kerry Cox and Ida Nell Griffin** continue on their trip with the Athens Bible School senior class. They are in New York City.

NURSING HOME SINGING: Remember the singing at the Athens Rehabilitation and Senior Care on Tuesday afternoon at 5:30.

PICTURES: Remember that we are trying to finish up the pictures for our directory. Pictures will be made after services this morning and this afternoon in classroom 20 in the east wing. If you have not had your picture made, or need to have it re-made, please do so after services today.

CONFESSION: On Wednesday night **LeAnn Hughes** came forward to confess that she had not been faithful in living the life that a Christian should live and allowing the wrong influences in her life. We appreciate the desire that LeAnn has expressed in living a life that is pleasing to God. Let us continue to encourage her as we all encourage one another to live our lives as children of God.

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

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Nov. 15th

Sunday: Bible Classes..... 146
 Morning Worship 186
 Evening Worship..... 143

Wednesday: Bible Classes..... 114

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, November 22nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements Marcus Morris
 Song Leader Tyler Cox
 Prayer Norman Brown
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Jerry McGlocklin
 Assisting Dwaine Allfrey
 Serving Bonnie Sutton Matthew Vaughn
 Danny Johnson ... Nathaniel Adams
 Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements Marcus Morris
 Song Leader Tony Thomas
 Prayer Keith Hinkle
 Preaching Steve Usery
 Lord's Supper Jerry McGlocklin
 Closing Prayer Russell Melvin

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 22nd:
 Usher Russ Wulfekuhl
 Work Sound System Marty Adams

Wednesday, November 25th:

Song Leader Joel Hamm
 Bible Reading..... (1 Corinthians 14:29-40)
 Dan Reed
 Prayer Terry Andrews
 Invitation David Cox
 Closing Prayer Seth Todd

Sunday, November 29th:

Morning Worship

Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
 Song Leader Tommy Burns
 Prayer Joel Hamm
 Preaching David Cox
 Lord's Supper
 Presiding Larry Mitchell
 Assisting Marty Adams
 Serving James Johnson Bill Claxton
 Russ Wulfekuhl Keenon Currier
 Closing Prayer Tommy Burns

Evening Worship

Announcements Jerry McGlocklin
 Song Leader Stefan Fudge
 Prayer Hunter Cox
 Preaching Song Service
 Lord's Supper Larry Mitchell
 Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Other Assignments for Sunday, November 29th:
 Usher Marvin Putman
 Work Sound System Terry Andrews