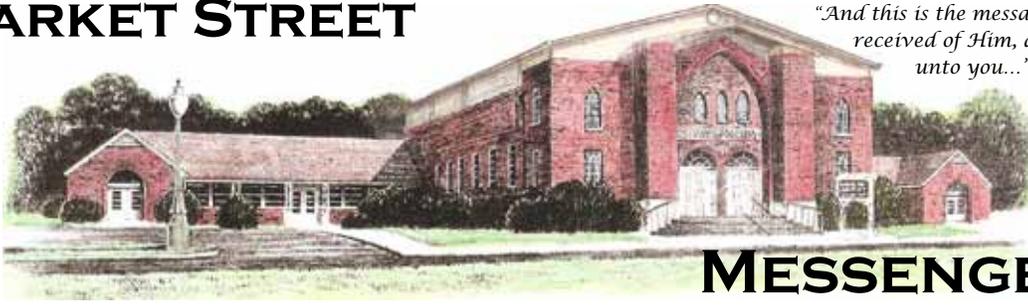


# MARKET STREET

*"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 X

February 25, 2018

No. 8

## *When Do You Pray?*

**Jason Garcia**

### 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

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843  
Tommy Coblentz..... (256) 232-3312  
Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737  
Bonnie Sutton ..... (256) 232-2081

### 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

### Evangelists

Buc Chumbley ..... (256) 777-1065  
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*

This is a question that deserves a thoughtful response no matter where we are in our walk with God. The fact that all personal relationships require communication in order to thrive or even function is axiomatic. God Himself has preserved His Word for millennia, and has gone to great lengths (by human standards) to reach His creation and express to us His person and will. Is it any wonder, then, that He expects us to make an effort to communicate with Him? Why does prayer to God seem to be particularly challenging for some folks, and especially for those who claim to love Him? Shouldn't we long to speak with Him as often as we are able? Let us consider the perfect example we have in our Lord, and strive to imitate the standard He set in His prayer life.

We don't have to look very far in the gospels before we read of Jesus taking time to be with His Father in prayer. He prayed at meal time, early in the morning, at the close of a busy day, before making important decisions, and even when He was being put to death (cf. John 6:11; Mark 1:35; Matt. 14:23; Luke 6:12; Luke 23:34). Do we, as His people, make it a habit to pray before we begin our day? Do we pray and offer thanks before we take our meals? Paul admonishes all Christians that we should pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17), he is not speaking of constant, unbroken verbal conversation with God. If he were, this would contradict other instructions to teach, preach, and work. Instead, we should understand him as speaking to the utmost importance of regular communication with our God. John tells us we are to walk as He walked, that is, imitate His life to the best of our ability (cf. 1 John 2:6). If Jesus, being the Son of God Most High, saw the need to speak often with the Father, should we not all the more make every effort to speak to our God? We must exercise our right and privilege to speak to God in order to be pleasing to Him (cf. 1 Timothy 2:1-3).

We can also learn from the Lord by considering what and for whom He prayed. Some brethren may have limited their prayers to times of distress or in emergencies. This is not the pattern we see in our Savior. Jesus

prayed for the future church, and for His disciples. Think about that! Before you and I were ever born, the Lord prayed for our spiritual well-being (cf. John 17:20-21)! It is clear, then, that our prayers should not be withheld from our Father until we find ourselves in dire straits, spiritual or otherwise, but we should find occasion to pray under any and all circumstances (cf. Ephesians 6:17). There is yet another lesson to be learned from Christ in that He prayed for His enemies. As He was being murdered on the cross He said “Father forgive them, they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34). This is perhaps one of the most challenging examples that we face as Christians. Even though we do not face the same level of persecution in the world today as our first century brethren, we still have spiritual enemies who would see our faith obliterated if it were in their power. These are the very people for whom we should be praying, and they are the same people we are called to love (cf. Luke 6:27). Furthermore, the Lord taught us that we shouldn’t feel ashamed for praying for the same thing until we receive an answer. Consider the parable of the “midnight friend” in Luke chapter eleven. Initially when the friend asks for help in the middle of the night, he is refused. The man persists in his petitions and eventually garners the assistance he needs. The point is this: If a man can acquire help from a reluctant neighbor in the middle of the night, then surely we have all the more reason to expect an answer from our Heavenly Father if we persist in our asking.

Let us close with an examination of our own hearts, and be honest with ourselves. Jesus said you will know a tree by its fruit (Matthew 7:16). If someone says they love music or football we can usually see that evidenced in his or her life. The person will buy tickets to those events, show an interest when speaking about them, and will want to give time to those things. The same is true for those who claim to love the Lord. Do we seek to give time to Him? Do we speak passionately about Him? If we find ourselves praying once a week, once a month, or if we can’t remember the last time we prayed—we need to ask ourselves “why?” Is it because of apathy, or laziness, or lack of love for the Lord? Whatever the reason, it isn’t good enough. Let us no longer deceive ourselves about this issue, and confront whatever is hindering us from spending time with our Lord in prayer.

~via *Faithful Sayings*; Amarillo, Texas.

**Remember Our Service This Evening at 4:00.**

## *Don't Assume*

**Frank Himmel**

When Jesus was twelve years old He went to Jerusalem with His parents to attend the Passover. On the way home, Joseph and Mary just assumed that He was in the caravan. They had gone a day’s journey before they discovered He was not (Luke 2:41-51). If you have ever left a child at church, take comfort!

On Sunday morning after Jesus’ resurrection, Mary and some other women went to Jesus’ tomb, assuming His body would be in it. They planned to finishing anointing the body. Instead, they found the tomb empty. Mary then supposed someone had taken the body, and when she saw a man standing nearby she assumed it was the gardener and asked him about it. Mary was wrong on both counts. It was Jesus (John 20:11-18).

On the day of Pentecost the apostles spoke in tongues [foreign languages]. Some present supposed that this phenomenon was produced by wine. That supposition made little sense: those who are intoxicated often struggle to speak their native language, much less one they have not studied! Luke says these were mockers, so an illogical allegation should be no surprise. The truth was, the tongues were the result of the Spirit, not overdoing “spirits” (Acts 2:1-14).

Paul and Silas were imprisoned at Philippi. About midnight an earthquake shook the prison in such a way that the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. The jailer assumed that his prisoners would take advantage and escape. Knowing his penalty, he was about to take his own life. Paul stopped him, and before the night was over he and his household became Christians. This assumption was almost fatal in more ways than one! (Acts 16:25-40).

Some of Paul’s enemies saw him in the temple at Jerusalem. Earlier they had seen him in the city with Trophimus, a Gentile from Ephesus. “Putting two and two together,” they assumed that Paul had defiled the temple by bringing a Gentile into it. They therefore rushed against him with inflammatory charges and stirred up a mob with the intent of taking his life (Acts 21:27-31).

These examples illustrate how easy it is to make assumptions. Some are reasonable, others are not. Some are cases of people seeing what they want to see.

The Bible cautions us to act on evidence, not as-

sumptions. That is true in our dealings with each other and especially in relation to God. We dare not assume His will, what He does or does not approve. "But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:21-22).

~via *Patblights*; Tucson, Arizona.



## *I Surrender All*

**Jeffery L. Smith**

It goes against human nature to surrender. Only in a hopeless situation with no way out will we consider it. In every field of endeavor we want to win not lose. Ironically, in our relationship with our Lord, surrender means victory. When we surrender all to our Lord and Savior we win.

Judson van de Venter conveyed the idea well in his most famous hymn, "I Surrender All." Born in Michigan in 1855 he attended college, earned a degree in Art, then worked as an art teacher and as a painter. Recognizing his talent for preaching his friends urged him to go into the ministry full-time. In his own words here is what happened next and how this song came to be.

"The song was written while I was conducting a meeting at East Palestine, Ohio, in the home of George Sebring. For some time I had struggled between developing my talents in the field of art and going into full-time evangelistic work. At last the pivotal hour of my life came, and I surrendered all. A new day was ushered into my life. I became an evangelist and discovered down deep in my soul a talent hitherto unknown to me. God had hidden a song in my heart, and touching a tender chord, He caused me to sing."

Not all need to be a full-time evangelists but all need to surrender all to our Lord. The decision is against our nature. But when we give all to Him there is peace. And His blessings surely will fall on us. Have you surrendered all? do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God!"

~via *Haymarket Bulletin*; Gainesville, Virginia.

# News & Notes

## **THE SICK:**

Phillip Vaughn	Lenna Ruth Bates
James Johnson	JoAnn Gilbert
Jim Whitt	Jo Dunnavant
Cornelia Pepper	Marion Mitchell
Bobbie Adcock	Chuck Stiles
Doris Lovell	Ann Bush
Cindy Glass	Wayne Gooch
Linda Jones	

## ***Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:***

Joe Leopard	Jeanette Weir
Irene Inman	Janice Cagle
Patsy Thomas	Priscilla Tucker
Ella Melvin	Bobby McLemore
Matt Poff	Susan Cox
Elizabeth Howard	Everette "Bud" Dollar
Linda Ordonez	Wayne Wooldridge
Cindy Walker	Phillip Harwell
Gene Carpenter	Charles Burns
Betty Christopher	Una King Carrier
Al Pollard	Ava Brooke Campbell

## ***In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:***

*Norman Hamm*; Millenium Rehab - Huntsville

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

Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Dorothy Draper, rm. 73
Mattye Murray, rm. 2	Flossie Smith, rm. 102
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Joyce Martin, rm. 73	Mable Crafts, rm. 39
Ruby Hall, rm. 123	

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

Larry Owens, rm. 114

## ***Shut-In or Away From Home:***

Robert & Mot Beasley, at City Center, Decatur  
 Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor  
 Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville  
 Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison  
 Carl Hargrave, at granddaughter's home in Hartselle  
 Irene Inman, at home  
 William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison  
 Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

## ***Updates:***

*Jim Whitt* has been experiencing some health issues this past week... *Bonnie Sutton* will be having a biopsy done on Monday... *Sherry Davis* had surgery to remove the arthritis from her knee on Thursday... *Lenna Ruth Bates* is improving in her battle with the flu... *Phillip Vaughn*

has been diagnosed with the flu this week.

**OUR 7th ANNUAL SINGING:** This past Friday night we had our 7th Annual singing. The singing was excellent. The song leaders were: *Jim Deason, Jeff Warnke & Johnny Felker* this year and they all did a tremendous job in directing the singing. We had 519 present which is the largest crowd we have ever had for our annual singing. The number speaks well of how many of you work by inviting and telling others about the singing. I appreciate all who worked in helping with the parking, greeting, ushering, and in the audio/visual areas. The worked you did was a great help in making the singing what it was. Many of our visitors comment to me how much they enjoyed the singing and looked forward to coming to be with us again.

A recording of the singing that was done. The songs will be put on the website in time, but if you would like a CD please note it on the members card you fill out today.

**RUBY JEAN TINNON (1932– 2018):** It is with sadness that we note the passing of sister *Ruby Jean Tinnon*. *Ruby Jean* and her husband, *Robert Allen*, were longtime members of the Market Street church. Sister Tinnon has been unable to attend services due to a decline in her health conditions for several years. We want to express our deepest sympathy to all the family. The visitation for sister Tinnon will be this afternoon from 1:30 to 3:00 at Limestone Chapel with her funeral following in the chapel. She will be laid to rest in the Athens City Cemetery.

**AWAY AT SCHOOL:** Remember our young people who are away in college:

- Brettlyn Currier*, at Auburn University
- Keenon Currier*, at the University of Alabama
- Griffin Holt*, at the University of Alabama
- Drew Ogles*, at Auburn University
- Christian Usery*, at LaGrange College
- Elizabeth Usery*, at Mississippi State University.

**OUT OF TOWN: *The Bradleys:*** *Steve & Marilyn* are in Houston, Texas... *Mike Ogles* has been out of town with his work again this week.

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

**THE RECORD:** *Attendance for the week of Feb. 25th*

Sunday:	Bible Classes .....	134
	Morning Worship .....	181
	Evening Worship .....	118
Wednesday:	Bible Classes .....	94

## Men Privileged To Serve:

### *Sunday, February 25th:*

#### *Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting .....	Keith Hinkle
Serving .....	Danny Johnson..... Charles Vaughn
	.....Kenneth Adams..... Russ Wulfekuhl
Closing Prayer .....	Danny Holt

#### *Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader .....	Tyler Cox
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper .....	Harvey Nixon
Closing Prayer .....	Terry Andrews

Other Assignments for Sunday, February 25th:

Ushers.....	Marcus Morris/Ashton Gatlin
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams

### *Wednesday, February 28th:*

Song Leader .....	Larry Holt
Bible Reading .....	2 Timothy 2:16-26
	..... Danny Johnson
Prayer.....	Steve Usery
Invitation .....	Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer .....	Landon Adams

### *Sunday, March 4th:*

#### *Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader .....	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Hunter Cox
Preaching.....	Buc Chmbley
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Holt
Assisting .....	Terry Andrews
Serving .....	Nathaniel Adams..... David Terry
	..... Clayton Hamm ... Matthew Vaughn
Closing Prayer .....	Roger Hammonds

#### *Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader .....	Tyler Cox
Prayer.....	Ashton Gatlin
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Larry Holt
Closing Prayer .....	Jerry McGocklin

Other Assignments for Sunday, March 4th:

Ushers.....	Russ Wulfekuhl/Larry Mitchell
Work Sound System.....	Landon Adams