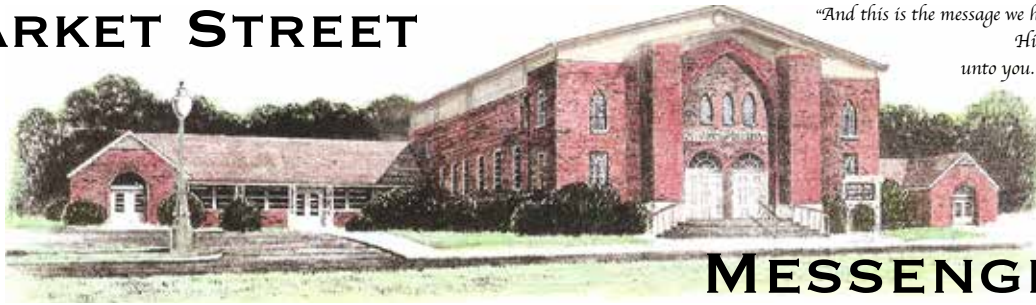


MARKET STREET



"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
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Athens, Alabama 35612
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January 12, 2020

No. 2

The Greatest Procrastinators in History

Wilson Copeland

I recently did a Google search of the "greatest procrastinators in history." No, my name and picture were not there, although they could have been. I admit my propensity for putting things off. I was going to do an article on procrastination last year, but just never got around to it. The internet list included well-known names like Mozart, Frank Lloyd Wright, Leonardo Da Vinci, and President Bill Clinton. Apparently Mozart wrote the overture for his famous opera Don Giovanni the night before it premiered. During the premiere of the opera, the ink on the music sheet had still not dried and it was performed by the orchestra without a rehearsal. President Clinton was known by his aids for finishing up speeches at the last minute. Even Vice President Gore once said that the President was "punctually challenged." Frank Lloyd Wright once promised to draw up plans for a home of a wealthy entrepreneur, but he kept putting it off. One day he received a call from the man saying that he was going to be in Wright's city later that day and wanted to see the plans. Wright finished them up in two hours.

Concerning Da Vinci the article said, "Throughout his life, Leonardo Da Vinci created some of the world's most famous pieces of art. But despite his accomplishments, he wasn't particularly focused. He only completed 20 total paintings in his lifetime, because much like modern students he got distracted doodling. His most famous work The Mona Lisa took him 16 years to finish. ... Today, many of Da Vinci's famous works are technically unfinished."

Are you a procrastinator? In some areas procrastination is harmless. If one never gets around to finishing that project, cleaning the garage, or organizing their recipes, it is not threatening to the soul. But there are some things that are a lot more consequential.

1. Obedience to the gospel of Christ. For a variety of reasons people procrastinate in obeying the gospel of Christ. I talked to a lady in China recently that has put off being baptized. She works at Hainan University, and as an employee of the university she is considered a government employee. They ask teachers from time to time if they have any religious

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

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

Evangelist

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910
Cell: (256) 614-3757

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Market Street church.*

David A. Cox, Editor

faith. She does not want to lie. She does not want to be a hypocrite. But she is afraid of losing her job. These are real life situations, and they are not easy. I wish I could report a “happy ending,” but as of now she is still not a Christian. Folks in our country often procrastinate to obey for lesser reasons. They are having too much fun and they know being a Christian will “cramp their style.” They don’t want to face the criticism of husband, wife, children, family, or friends for leaving the family denomination. There is no threat of danger, just family opposition, or the “embarrassment” of the changes they would have to make. If you are not a Christian, don’t put it off any longer. Don’t be afraid. Don’t be ashamed. Stand up and be counted. Take a stand for Jesus today.

2. Regular Bible study and prayer. Now is the time to start doing what you know you should be doing in the area of prayer and Bible study. Our lives get so filled with daily activities; work, cooking, cleaning, the children, lawn care, car care, responsibilities to children or grandchildren. The list goes on and on, doesn’t it? I could list many passages which emphasize the value of God’s word, the importance of prayer, the example of the prayer life of our Lord as well as other great men of faith like David, Daniel, and Nehemiah. But you know the passages. Let’s stop procrastinating and begin a regular time of Bible study and prayer in our lives. Take the time. Force it into the schedule. Let’s do better!

3. Others. I was talking the other day about the song “Others”. It is a great song, and we need to be singing it more often. The chorus says, “Others, Lord, yes others, let this my motto be. Help me to live for others, that I may live like thee.” How often do we think of others, only to fail to follow-up. “I really need to go visit sister ____.” But then we get busy and fail to do it. Let’s stop putting it off. Get out the church directory and make a list of those that need your attention, and then get busy seeing to their needs.

A group of old friends decided to start a procrastinator’s self-help group to help one another overcome their bad habits. But no one ever got around to calling a meeting.

~via *Lake Gibson Bulletin*; Lakeland, Florida.

Remember Our Study Periods

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Come Join Us As We Study Together

The Value of Your Faith

Carlton McPeak

Peter writing to the Christians who were “scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia” (1 Peter 1:1) said their faith was “more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire” (1:7). Peter uses this very valuable metal to illustrate the value of our faith.

God will use this faith to protect us. This faith will result in our “praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1:7). Ultimately this faith will result in “the salvation of our souls” (1:9).

With all these benefits and blessings resulting from our faith, how valuable do we consider our faith?

Things which are valuable to us, we take special care to protect them. Extreme care is exerted when we move that special piece of furniture. Huge amounts of time are spent polishing that special automobile, which is the “apple of our eye.” Future generations will see us taking special care of that family heirloom and we will spend hours telling them about its history.

If our faith is special to us, should we not be taking the same actions? Would we not try to be constantly trying to “polish it up”? If it is more valuable to us than an heirloom, would we not be trying to “pass along” our faith to the next generation? Would we not take some pride in knowing that our faith is going to help us in praising God as well as one day saving our souls?

Our faith comes as a result of our hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). If our faith is extremely valuable to us would we not want to spend time hearing the word of God so that our faith would be growing? It seems reasonable to me that we would want to take advantage of every opportunity to learn something about God, His message, His Son and how the body of believers are to conduct themselves within the church and the community.

Attending multiple weekly services would be considered a joy and not a burden. A daily devotional would be something that we make sure we put into our schedule as an appointment which cannot be missed. Opportunities to discuss the word of God with people, especially fellow Christians, would be something we would consider as an extremely valuable use of our time.

Evidence shows that people who value something will spend time with that item. They will pay attention to the care and protection of the asset. Faith is something which we own and it should be extremely valuable to us. The value of your faith will be seen in your life as you are living God's way.

~via *Chiefland Bulletin*; Chiefland, Florida.

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Gina Werka	Barbara Ash
Dale Adcock	Mildred Lambert
Tommy Greene	Janice Cagle
Helen Blankenship	Minnie Carter
Beverly Sutton	Bobbie Adcock
Loretta Warner	Doris Lovell
JoAnn Gilbert	Alvis McLemore
Yvonne Strickland	Lloyd Adams
Ann Bush	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Donna Wright	Freddie Mae Elmore
Nikki Ogles	Anita Wheeler
Lona Jackson	Janice Cagle
Judy Vaughn	Ella Melvin
Jeanette Weir	Cornelia Pepper
Wayne Wooldridge	Cindy Walker
Kenneth Fisher	Al Pollard
Charles Burns	David Collier
Phillip Harwell	Una King Currier
Matt Poff	Gene Carpenter
Brittany Bates Carter	Carrie Warner

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mattie Murray, rm. 2	Dorothy Draper, rm. 73
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Johnnie Leigeber, rm. 45
Brenda Wilson, rm. 73	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Flossie Smith, rm. 96	

Limestone Health Facility:

Mot Beasley, rm. 105	Bettye Harrison, rm. 59
Virginia Meyer, rm. 99	Alice Roberson, rm. 49

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Elese Barksdale, Limestone Lodge
Deanie Britton, Limestone Lodge

Frances Bowers, Limestone Manor
Gwen Bullock, at granddaughter's in Huntsville
Mary Ruth Gardner, at Merrill Gardens, Madison
Irene Inman, at home
Stan Stanford, at home
William Thomas, Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales, Limestone Manor

Updates:

Helen Blankenship continues to work with the medications for her Afib... *Marci Bassett* went to the emergency room on Wednesday evening due to dehydration, but is doing much better now... *Arvid McGuire* is at home following his hospitalization for pneumonia.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The *Ladies Bible Class* that meets on Tuesday morning in the West Auditorium, will be meeting this Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. at the Limestone Manor.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *David Barnett*, in the passing of his son, *Derrick Barnett*, early Saturday morning. The visitation will be Monday evening, 6:00 to 8:00 at Spry Funeral Home. The funeral will be Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 in the chapel. May the Lord bless David and all the family in this time of grief... Also, we want to express our sympathy to *Jeanette Stinnett* in the recent passing of her granddaughter, *Sonya Davenport*. She was laid to rest last week in the Roselawn Cemetery.

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS: The *Men's Bible Class* will meet January 20th at 7:00p.m. We will be studying "*Be An Encourager*".

AWAY AT SCHOOL: Remember our young people who are continuing their education in college: *Kenneth Adams*, University of Alabama - Huntsville
Keenon Currier, Auburn University
Clayton Hamm, University of North Alabama
Griffin Holt, University of Alabama
Elizabeth Usery, Mississippi State University
Matthew Usery, University of North Alabama

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

PICTURES: We are needing to finish the process of making and updating pictures of everyone for the Market Street directory. If you have not had your picture made yet or have not updated it, please do so this week or next. Pictures will be made in room 20 in the east wing.

OUT OF TOWN: *Tena Wells* is now back home after

being away for the holidays.... *The Bradleys: Steve and Marilyn* have been in Houston, Texas and are returning home.

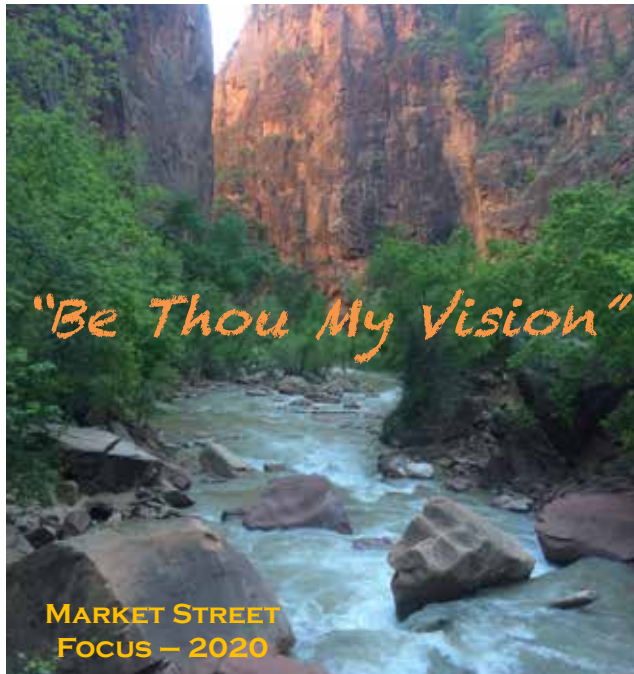
MAKE EVERY DAY BETTER: A couple of weeks ago I presented in class the idea of making our days better. I had several that have ask for the the suggestions that I presented in the class. The suggestions are as follows:

- Read God’s Word
- Pray Fervently
- Give a Sincere Compliment
- Pray for a “Prospect”
- Check on a Shut-in or a Widow
- Send a Message Out of the Blue To Someone for Encouragement
- Laugh, Have Fun, Rejoice
- Do Something Evangelistic
- Talk to Someone about God/Jesus
- Tell Someone “I Love You”
- Give Someone a Hug
- Learn from a Book/Social Media

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

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Jan. 5th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	136
	Morning Worship	171
	Evening Worship	119
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	86



Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, January 12th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Bill Eden
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblentz
Assisting	Terry Andrews
Serving	Sam Gregory
	Tommy Burns
	Tim Griswold.....
	Harold Davis
Closing Prayer	Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Keith Hinkle
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Marty Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Dwaine Allfrey

Other Assignments for the week of January 12th:

Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Danny Holt
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams

Wednesday, January 15th:

Song Leader	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading	Mike Ogles
	Hebrews 7:20-28
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblentz
Invitation	Bob Broadus
Closing Prayer	Joel Hamm

Sunday, January 19th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Dan Reed
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	
Presiding.....	Albert Haraway
Assisting	Larry Tucker
Serving	Danny Johnson.. Roger Hammonds
	Marvin Putman
	Kenneth Adams
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord’s Supper	Albert Haraway
Closing Prayer	Mike Ogles

Other Assignments for the week of January 19th:

Ushers.....	Hunter Cox/Dwaine Allfrey
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews