

# 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 XII

May 24, 2020

No. 21

### 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 Coblenz..... (256) 232-3312  
Jerry McGlocklin..... (256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith..... (256) 777-6737

#### 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

#### 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*

## *Where Does Encouragement Come From?*

**Carl McMurray**

We hear much of "encouragement" today. Everyone wants some, and there never seems to be enough. Many have equated encouragement with "good times" and as a result some have decided that picnics, fun and games, and entertainment are the way to encouragement. This is dangerous thinking in that it sets us up for other misleading ideas. If good times are the way toward true encouragement then what does that say about "bad times"?

To help understand where real spiritual encouragement comes from, consider when the early Christians (and others) were encouraged. Here is just a sampling list from Acts from which we might draw some conclusions.

**Encouragement came from teaching.** Acts 11:23; 14:22. That's what Barnabas was doing when he came to Antioch, i.e. confirming the faith of those new Christians. He and Paul were warning the Christians of tribulations ahead and the scriptures call it encouragement. Likewise, in Acts 15:32 when two prophets brought a lengthy message, it was described as encouragement and strengthening.

**Encouragement came from understanding.** Acts 15:31. When word came back to Antioch that the doctrinal division they struggled with was discussed and settled by the word of God, there was encouragement and rejoicing. Unity based upon understanding is encouraging.

**Encouragement came from reassurance and concern.** Acts 16:40. That's what Paul and Silas gave the brethren at Lydia's house after their prison release.

**Encouragement came from verbal support and recommendation.** Acts 18:27. That's what Apollos received when he wanted to cross over to Corinth and preach.

**Encouragement came from good news with a confident example.** Acts 27:36. That's what the sailors on Paul's ship received from the apostle. Romans 15:5 speaks truth when it says God gives encouragement. He

gives it in teaching, understanding, loving concern, verbal support and speaking well of others, and in the confidence and examples of good brethren. When we seek ways to encourage others or receive it ourselves (and there are many ways indeed) let's not forget these ways in which God encouraged His children in the difficult days of the beginning kingdom.

~via *Lakeview church of Christ*; Hendersonville, Tennessee.



## *Gift Giving*

**Bubba Garner**

'Tis the season for giving. My family and I have always celebrated this time of year as a family holiday, not a religious holy day. I enjoy the decorations, the weather, and the music of this season. But I especially enjoy the gifts.

Somewhere along the way, probably about the time my children were born, I started to learn why it is more blessed to give than to receive. There is something special about watching someone open a gift that you carefully picked out for them. And there's an even greater joy of hearing those three cherished words from the recipient: "Is that all?"

It's easy during this season to become so focused on what we are giving to others that we neglect giving to the Lord. When we do that, we rob ourselves of one of the greatest joys of life, regardless of the time of year. This giving is for every season.

Both Mark and Luke record an event in the life of Jesus that would have been easy to overlook. It is only four verses in each gospel account, but Mark says that Jesus called His disciples to Him to point out what He saw. It involved "a poor widow" (Mark 12:42) and her gift that she put into the treasury. Through her mighty example, she still speaks about the joy of giving to the Lord.

**Giving is not just about the amount of money.** Money is involved of course because money is a gift from

God. He blesses us with jobs so that we can earn wages to support our families and provide the necessities of life. These funds also enable us to "have something to share with him who has need" (Ephesians 4:28). When we return a portion of our money to the Lord, we are recognizing that "every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights" (James 1:17).

But what if you don't have a lot of money to give? Does that exclude you from this great joy? God forbid! Jesus saw "many rich people" putting in "large sums" of money into the treasury. He did not condemn them for doing such. But He also saw a poor widow put in "two small copper coins, which amount to a cent" (Mark 12:42). This coin, the Greek leptos, was the smallest denomination of money used by the Romans. Yet, Jesus said "she put in more than all the contributors" (12:43). It is not necessarily the monetary value of your gift that matters to God but the measure of your faith in Him.

**Giving is something everyone can do.** In Jesus' day, to be a widow was to be neglected. Just the verse before, the Lord warned about the scribes "who devour widows' houses" (Mark 12:40). Most of them had no one to protect them or to represent them in court. And if you think being a widow was bad, what about a poor widow? What could she possibly have to offer? Still, Jesus said that she gave "out of her poverty" (Mark 12:44).

From the youngest to the oldest, from the newborn babe in Christ to the seasoned saint, everyone has something they can contribute. You can give a handshake or hug. You can give an encouraging word. You can give a smile. You can give a warm welcome. You can give your time. You can give a lot. And when we do such things for one another, Jesus said, "to the extent you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me" (Matthew 25:40). Giving to your brethren is a way you give to the Lord.

**Giving involves the greatest gift of all: yourself.** Jesus saw a difference in the rich people who were putting in large sums of money and the poor widow who put in two small copper coins. She "put in all she owned, all she had to live on" (Mark 12:44). The selfish keep what they have from themselves. The selfless give it up for a higher purpose.

When we needed God the most, do you know what He gave? Himself. He so loved the world that He "gave His only begotten Son" (John 3:16). The Father did not

withhold Him who was beloved and precious to Him. When we give to the Lord, we should not choose out of a pile of things we were going to get rid of anyway. We should not select from a surplus that we didn't need in the first place. We should give the most valuable thing we possess: our whole heart and soul. Such is the response of those who first give "themselves to the Lord" (2 Corinthians 8:5).

~via *Creekview Bulletin*; Gallatin, Tennessee.



## ***Could You Not Watch One Hour?***

**Bryan Matthew Dockens**

Frustrated that His disciples allowed themselves to be overcome by fatigue as he agonized in the garden, Jesus sternly inquired "Are you sleeping? Could you not watch one hour?" (Mark 14:37). It is truly disappointing that the dramatic spiritual events unfolding before them failed to sustain the attention of the apostles. Is Jesus any more satisfied by the attention He receives now?

Movie-goers arrive early to preview upcoming movies, concert-goers crave an encore, and sports fans are thrilled by games that go into overtime. Yet worshippers presented with a sermon lasting longer than anticipated depart in a state of discontent. Evidently, they do not share the sentiment of the psalmist who wrote, "Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day" (Psalm 119:97).

Those who insist on brevity would have been rather unhappy to worship in Troas when Paul visited. Would they continue to glance at their watches as the apostle "continued his message until midnight" (Acts 20:7)? Certainly, they would be horrified at the prospect of gathering before the Water Gate with Ezra the scribe as he read from the law "from morning until midday" (Nehemiah 8:1-3).

It is a matter of priority (Matthew 6:33) and zeal (Romans 12:11) which marks the difference between a bored worshipper and a satisfied one.

~via *Northside Proclaimer*; Hillsboro, Ohio.

# ***News & Notes...***

## **THE SICK:**

Marcella Coblenz	Arvid McGuire
Helen Blankenship	JoAnn Gilbert
Bobbie Adcock	Loretta Warner
Doris Lovell	Alvis McLemore
Ann Bush	Joyce Tucker

## ***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
Carrie Warner	Kevin Belue
Lloyd Adams	

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

*Norman Hamm*; Millenium - Huntsville

## ***Athens Health & Rehabilitation:***

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Mattie Murray, rm. 2
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	

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

Virginia Meyer, rm. 69	Bettye Harrison, rm. 59
Alice Roberson, rm. 49	

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

Elease 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:***

*Sherry Davis'* surgeries went well on Monday and Wednesday last week. She is at home recovering... *Steve Bradley's* surgery went well on Monday and he came home on Tuesday... *Arvid McGuire* got a good report

on the test he had done last Friday... *Alvis McLemore* is not doing well and is at home... *Larry Tucker's mom, Joyce Tucker*, continues at home... *Betty Lovell* continues her therapy at home.

**MEN'S BIBLE CLASS:** The *Men's Bible Class* is scheduled for Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**OUTOFTOWN: The Parks:** *Charles, Meredith, Aharon, Harper & Carson* are in Missouri this weekend visiting with family... **The Rogers:** *Mark, Kim & Peyton* have been in Pickens county visiting family this past week... **The Stiles:** *Chuck & Benita* are in Vicksburg, Mississippi with Chuck's work... **Christian Usery** continues his nursing work in Long Beach, California.

**GRENADA TRIP:** This July the *Archibald Avenue church* in St. George's, Grenada has planned a Vacation Bible School and meeting that Kerry and I, along with some from the Anderson church, will be going down to help them to conduct. There are several supplies that we will be shipping down to Grenada before the trip. In the past, some of you have expressed interest in helping to send supplies that are needed. Below I am giving a list of some of the things that will be needed:

- |                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Writing pads      | Pens                      |
| Pencils           | Highlighters              |
| Crayons           | Glue/GlueSticks           |
| Permanent Markers | White board markers       |
| Copy Paper        | Scissors                  |
| Liquid Hand Soap  | Pocket Folders            |
| Hand Sanitizer    | First Aid Supplies        |
| Bibles            | Playdough                 |
| Towels/Tissue     | Copies of The Big Picture |

If you would like to participate in this, you can purchase the supplies and bring them to the building, or you can give money, and the items will be purchased to pack in the barrels. All of the items will need to be here at the building before June 3rd. The shipping company will come on that day to pack the 55-gallon drum to be shipped.

**GRADUATE:** We want to congratulate *Addison Holt* who will be graduated this past Friday evening at West Limestone High School. We rejoice with Addison over the accomplishments that she has obtained. May the Lord bless Addison in her future educational endeavours.

**THE RECORD:** *Attendance for week of May 17th:*

- |            |                          |
|------------|--------------------------|
| Sunday:    | Bible Classes .....      |
|            | Morning Worship..... 117 |
|            | Evening Worship..... 70  |
| Wednesday: | Bible Classes .....      |
|            | 72                       |

**Remember Our Service This Evening at 5:00.**

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

*Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>:*

*Morning Worship*

- |                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Announcements.....   | Harvey Nixon                      |
| Song Leader .....    | Tommy Burns                       |
| Prayer.....          | Harold Ash                        |
| Preaching.....       | David Cox                         |
| Lord's Supper        |                                   |
| Presiding.....       | Dwaine Allfrey                    |
| Assisting .....      | Marty Adams                       |
| Serving .....        | Nathaniel Adams... Russ Wulfekuhl |
| .....                | Danny Holt ..... Roger Hammonds   |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Jerry McGlocklin                  |

*Evening Worship*

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Announcements.....   | Harvey Nixon   |
| Song Leader .....    | Joel Hamm      |
| Prayer.....          | David Barnett  |
| Preaching.....       | Song Service   |
| Lord's Supper .....  | Dwaine Allfrey |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Landon Adams   |

Other Assignments for the week of May 24<sup>th</sup>:

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ushers.....            | Keenon Currier/Marcus Morris |
| Work Sound System..... | Terry Andrews                |

*Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>:*

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Song Leader .....    | Tony Thomas     |
| Bible Reading .....  | Russ Wulfekuhl  |
| .....                | Hebrews 11:1-12 |
| Prayer.....          | Albert Haraway  |
| Invitation.....      | Tommy Coblenz   |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Hunter Cox      |

*Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>:*

*Morning Worship*

- |                      |                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Announcements.....   | Terry Andrews                    |
| Song Leader .....    | Joel Hamm                        |
| Prayer.....          | Dwaine Allfrey                   |
| Preaching.....       | David Cox                        |
| Lord's Supper        |                                  |
| Presiding.....       | Tommy Coblenz                    |
| Assisting .....      | Marcus Morris                    |
| Serving .....        | Landon Adams..... Keenon Currier |
| .....                | Danny Johnson..... Marvin Putman |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Tony Thomas                      |

*Evening Worship*

- |                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Announcements.....   | Terry Andrews |
| Song Leader .....    | Tommy Burns   |
| Prayer.....          | Harold Ash    |
| Preaching.....       |               |
| Lord's Supper .....  | Tommy Coblenz |
| Closing Prayer ..... | Dan Reed      |

Other Assignments for the week of May 31<sup>st</sup>:

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ushers.....            | RussWulfekuhl/Heath Dollar |
| Work Sound System..... | Larry Holt                 |