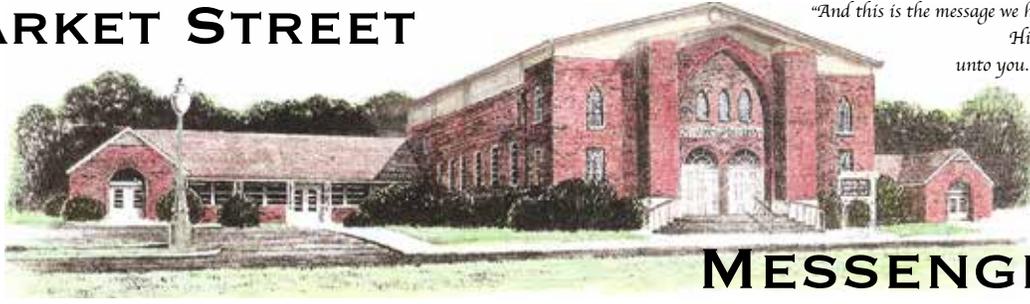


MARKET STREET



“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

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

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

Volume XII

June 7, 2020

No. 23

Where Do I Fit?

Dee Bowman

My Dad was a great fellow. He was rather introverted, even bordered on being timid. But there was a kind of inner stability about him that made you know that his timidity was not a sign of anything—except the wisdom it takes to be quiet and listen. He had a philosophical bent about him and when he did say something, you could usually put it in your pocket and use it later because it was something that made good sense.

We moved to the Plains of West Texas when I was 5 years old. My Dad kept books at the Cotton Gin for Hume Russell. Later, when we had saved up a little money, he bought a dry cleaning shop in Morton. In addition to cleaning clothes, Dad ordered tailor-made suits for the National Tailoring Company in Chicago. We still have a nice quilt Mom made out of the wool suit samples he would show to prospective buyers. He was an expert at measuring a person for clothes and “that’s the key to having satisfied customers,” he would say. We didn’t always have much—didn’t even have a car until I was 12 or 13—but we had nice clothes, so everybody thought we were better off than we were.

One thing my Dad said about clothes has stayed with me all these years. “Things wear out where they don’t fit,” he said. In other words, if you buy things that fit you, you can wear them much longer. Things wear out where they don’t fit.

That’s true of humans, too, you know. Folks soon wear out where they don’t fit.

If you’re in a crowd where you don’t fit, chances are you won’t stay long—mainly because you don’t think you look good there. When you feel welcome—that is, when you fit—you’ll more likely stay longer and be more of a part of the overall picture.

Where do you fit here? Let’s look at some things that are necessary for a good fit.

A good fit begins with a good measurement. You have to measure

yourself. Introspection may be the hardest kind of inspection. First of all, it requires complete honesty. You have to take a long look at your assets and liabilities and see how you can best use what you have and try and do better at what you lack. That's not easy, but just remember, not everybody fits into every slot, and you're apt to wear out if you force yourself into some area where you don't fit. Paul said, (Galatians 6:4), "But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone and not in another." Self-examination always begins with a good heart (Psalm 15:1-2).

You have to want to. You won't fit if you don't want to. Many times people who complain about not being a part, don't fit in because deep down, they don't really want to. If you want to, you can fit. How sad to see some folks who complain bitterly—and talk loudly—because they don't have a place when they never tried to fit in. The one talent man (Matthew 25:25) didn't fit into his master's plan not because he couldn't, but because he decided not to.

You have to stay in your own place. Not everybody fits everywhere and not everybody can do everything. Sometimes you have to just be satisfied with where you fit and try to fit nicely into your own spot. Actually, if you try and force yourself into a place where you don't fit, you mess up the whole picture and someone who actually fits where you're trying to is left to fit where he doesn't fit either. And that makes for trouble. The various parts of the body function together to make the whole body strong, but the liver doesn't try to be what it is not and the feet don't try and take the place of the ears (see 1 Corinthians 12:14-f).

Everybody fits. There are no unimportant parts in this picture. Every single part—no matter how small or seemingly insignificant it may seem—has a place. When a part is missing, it messes up the entire picture and, rather than blending in to the whole, the void causes people to see only the missing part, thus distracting terribly from the big picture. And how wonderful just to know that you have a place, and one that no one else is fitted for. When Paul says we are "knitted together," he says the knitting is supplied by every joint contributing its part by "the effective working by which every part does its share" (Ephesians 4:17). Only when every part does its part can the whole body be effective.

So, let's get together. Let's gather together all the parts of this church and fit them into the over-all scheme

of things and get to the business of being lights in the world—a picture that will reflect to the world around us that we're serious about the business of going to heaven and that we're interested in taking as many people with us we can.

~via *Southside Sunday*; Pasadena, Texas.

Editors Note: Dee Bowman has held several meetings at Market Street over the years and around the area. Recently he fell and broke his hip and is at home continuing to recover. Please keep Dee and Norma in your prayers.



Resurrection a Hoax?

Mike Thomas

Let us assume for a moment that the critics of the Bible are correct and Jesus was not raised from the dead. How then did His body leave the tomb?

Did the disciples take it? This was impossible because of the extensive security in place as requested by the Jews. See Matthew 27:62-66. Notice, "So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard." Plus, it seems unlikely that so many of the apostles and first Christians would have died for preaching and believing in the resurrection if they knew the story was a hoax.

Did the Jews take it? The very thing the chief priests and Pharisees were trying to avoid was Jesus' body leaving the tomb. "Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first" (Matthew 27:64). Ironically, since no one could enter the tomb, the security they demanded actually gives further evidence of the resurrection. Plus, since they were bothered by the apostles' message of the resurrection, all they had to do to silence their Christian enemies was produce the body of Christ. Can you imagine the thrill they would have had in proving the apostles were lying than to display the body of Christ? The Bible says "the priests, the captain of the temple,

and the Sadducees came upon them, being greatly disturbed that they taught the people and preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead” (Acts 4:1-2). Yet, they could not do anything about it because they did not have the body of Christ.

Did the Romans take it? This is not even plausible since this would have meant an immediate death sentence for the guards.

No, friends, the only reasonable conclusion regarding Jesus’ empty tomb is that He was raised from the dead, as the Bible states. The apostles were eyewitnesses of it. “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life” (1 John 1:1).

Because of Jesus’ resurrection, we can know several things:

1. Jesus is truly God’s Son. He is “declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead” (Romans 1:4).
2. A judgment awaits us in the afterlife. “He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead” (Acts 17:31).
3. We have legitimate hope of eternal life with God. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3).

Are you ready to meet this risen Savior? Is your faith rooted in the evidence He has given of His deity? Have you obeyed His gospel? (Mark 16:15-16).

~via *Courtland Avenue church of Christ*; Kokomo, Indiana.

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Sunday Mornings

on WNN 770AM – 92.5 FM

8:30a.m. - 9:00a.m.

**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Marion Mitchell	Sherry Davis
Helen Blankenship	JoAnn Gilbert
Bobbie Adcock	Loretta Warner
Doris Lovell	Ann Bush
Tessa Bacci	Para Stewart

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	Lloyd Adams
Joan Carpenter	

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Norman Hamm; Millenium - Huntsville

Athens Health & Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Elease Barksdale, rm. 106
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Mattie Murray, rm. 2
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Connie Brock, rm. 62
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Christine Hudson, rm. 77

Limestone Health Facility:

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

Shut-In or Away From Home:

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:

Donna Wright is sick this week with pneumonia. She received a good report from her PET scan this week ... *Marion Mitchell* is at home after suffering a light stroke and will be doing therapy ... *Sherry Davis* continues her recovery at home. She is to return to the doctor on Tuesday... *Tena Wells’ granddaughter, Tessa Bacci*, was released from the hospital this past Thursday ... *Lona*

Jackson's sister-in-law, Joan Carpenter, is undergoing tests at Vanderbilt. She will return to Vanderbilt this Wednesday ... *Duane Thomas' daughter, Para Stewart*, had surgery this past Thursday and is now at home ... *Betty Lovell* continues her therapy at home.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Stiles: Chuck & Benita* are in Vicksburg, Mississippi with Chuck's work... *Christian Usery* continues his nursing work in California... *The Parks: Charles, Meredith, Abron, Harper and Carson* are back home now after being in Missouri last week.

ALVISMCLEMORE (1929—2020): It is with sadness that we note the passing of *Alvis Marion McLemore*. Alvis passed away Sunday evening at his home surrounded by his family. Alvis has been failing in health for some time and we have missed his presence among us. Alvis loved the Lord, the Market Street church and his family deeply. We are thankful for the time that we were able to share with Alvis. We extend our deepest sympathy to *Ann*, his sons, *Carl (Elmina) and Rick (Sherry)*; daughters *Sandra Sandlin; and Shelby (Ralph) Smith*. May the Lord bless this family at this time.

SYMPATHY: We want to extend our deepest sympathy to *Larry Tucker and all the family* in the passing of Larry's mother, *Joyce Tucker*. Joyce passed away early Thursday morning at her home. Her visitation and funeral will begin at 1:00 at the Oneal church. The funeral will be at 3:00. She will be laid to rest in the Oneal Cemetery. May the Lord bless this family at this time.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP: We want to extend a warm welcome to *Frank Melton* from the church here at Market Street. Frank has been visiting with us over the last several weeks and he has decided to join us in our work here. We are thankful to have him with us.

GRENADA TRIP: I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to a great number of you who helped with the supplies that were needed to be sent to Grenada for the upcoming VBS. The items were brought to the building and on Wednesday morning the shipping company arrived here to get the shipment. The shipment is scheduled to arrive June 29th in Grenada about 3 weeks prior to the VBS. Again, I want you to know how deeply appreciative I am for your generosity and concern about this work.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for week of May 31st:*

Sunday: Bible Classes
Morning Worship 115
Evening Worship 87
Wednesday: Bible Classes 82

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, June 7th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Albert Haraway
Song Leader Larry Holt
Prayer..... Bob Broadus
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Bill Eden
Assisting Tony Thomas
Serving Harold Ash..... Tim Griswold
..... Keith Hinkle Larry Tucker
Closing Prayer Arvid McGuire

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Albert Haraway
Song Leader Griffin Holt
Prayer..... Joel Hamm
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Bill Eden
Closing Prayer Harvey Nixon

Other Assignments for the week of June 7th:
Ushers..... Tommy Coblentz/Hunter Cox
Work Sound System..... Marty Adams

Wednesday, June 10th:

Song Leader Marty Adams
Bible Reading Clayton Hamm
..... Hebrews 11:30-40
Prayer..... Steve Usery
Invitation Keenon Currier
Closing Prayer Tommy Coblentz

Sunday, June 14th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Albert Haraway
Prayer..... Larry Holt
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper
Presiding..... Joel Hamm
Assisting Steve Usery
Serving Griffin Holt..... Charles Vaughn
..... Matthew Vaughn..... Heath Dollar
Closing Prayer Wayne Vaughn

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Tucker
Song Leader Bob Broadus
Prayer..... Larry Mitchell
Preaching..... David Cox
Lord's Supper Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer Kenneth Adams

Other Assignments for the week of June 14th:
Ushers..... Keith Hinkle/Steve Bradley
Work Sound System..... Nathaniel Adams