

# MARKET STREET



*"And this 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

Albert Bowers.....(256) 233-4847  
Jerry McGlocklin.....(256) 232-7620  
Kenneth Smith.....(256) 233-2050  
Bonnie Sutton.....(256) 232-2081

### Deacons

Marty Adams.....(256) 233-5147  
Rusty Brand.....(256) 233-7343  
Tim Craig.....(256) 233-4597  
Joel Hamm.....(256) 230-6223  
Bobby McGuire.....(256) 232-7887  
Frank Noblitt.....(256) 777-0725  
Stuart Wilson.....(256) 233-6291

### Evangelists

David A. Cox.....(256) 233-8910  
E-mail: david.a.cox@att.net  
Warren Glass.....(256) 233-6086

### Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.org

### 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 I

September 13, 2009

No. 37

*Starting Today!*

# Gospel Meeting

## September 13 – 17

### Schedule of Services

Sunday – 9:45 a.m.; 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Monday – Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist – Jeff McCrary

Gardendale, Alabama

# MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

514 WEST MARKET STREET  
ATHENS, ALABAMA

## *If It Ain't Broke, Don't Fix It*

**Jeff S. McCrary**

The title is indeed a very common expression in the southern part of the United States. It has been time-tested to the extent that it dominates every part of many an individual's life. Even the church of our Lord has been the recipient of this philosophy. While this thinking is useful and saves time and energy which can be directed toward things that really do need fixing, we would do well to ask ourselves if it helps the Lord's body in all situations.

First, we must decide at what point something or somebody is "broken" in the church. To many people, an engine is broken only when it quits and will not start. To others, however, that little "knock" means trouble and should be attended to as soon as possible. In the same way, many in the church think people aren't in any trouble until they quit attending services. Then their name is added to the "list" and they are contacted and asked why they weren't at church services.. If this doesn't work, in a number of months one or more of the elders show up at their doorstep wondering why they have quit attending worship with their brethren. You know the rest of the story.

Others in the church understand that outward troubles don't spring up as suddenly as they sometimes seem to; that there is a "progression" (actually a regression) as a Christian goes from being faithful to being lost. Paul described this progression thusly, "Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the discouraged, support the weak, be patient toward all" (1 Thessalonians 5:14). Some Christians know that if we wait until the member is unruly, there is little hope of saving his soul. The best chance to really reach someone, thus effecting their thinking as well as their actions, is to begin with patience, support and comfort. Warnings and rebukes might come in time, but even then, because of the patience, support and comfort you have extended, the warnings are much more likely to be received in the love they are extended. Your good intentions will not be questioned because you have proven your love already!

Brethren, it might be true that "you don't fix something unless it's broken", but we need to be closer

attuned to one another to hear that "knock" that suggests something deep inside our brother or sister might be amiss and use the love of God to aright it before the problems multiply and the heart is hardened. "Stop acting from motives of selfish strife or petty ambition, but in humility, practice treating one another as your superiors. Stop looking after your own interests only but practice looking out for the interests of others too" (Philippians 2:3-4, Williams).

Elders of the Lord's body especially need to do their best to keep in tune with the congregation. They are only a few, and have a difficult time chasing after and pleading with wayward brethren. Their job, however, will be infinitely easier when they can spot and tend to a problem before it becomes outward unfaithfulness. Again, as members of the Lord's body we are commanded to make their job joyous, not grievous (Hebrews 13:17). This we can do when we help one another early on.

All of us need "fixing" from time to time. It is a wonderful blessing to have our Lord there always and in all ways to be our Helper, Succor and Savior. But we need each other too. Whether or not others are there for us, we have a responsibility to be brethren to our brethren. There is no greater earthly blessing than the true family of God, who love us, care for us and is there for us when we need them. Are you fixing what's broken?

-via *West Mobile Bulletin*; Mobile, Alabama.

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## *Comfort Zone Christians*

**Jim Lee**

It is said that "He who aims at nothing will hit it," and "He who has no goal in mind will get there fast." I wonder, in the realm of Christianity, how many of us go through our lives as Christians with no goals, no objectives, and no plans? "Comfort Zone Christians" is a term that is growing in popularity which describes this behavior, and I believe that many of us fit into this category. Why do I believe this? For the simple fact that it's easy to just do as you please if you have

no objectives, goals, or plans in life. No plans means no failures! What an easy life! This with this attitude everything is nice and safe with our “Comfort Zone.” But is that where Jesus wants us to be? Oh yes, He did say in Matthew 11:28, “Come unto me...and I will give you rest.” But I really don’t think He meant for us to just “kick back and get comfortable” (cf. 2 Timothy 3:12). Rest assured my brethren, one is not going to suffer any form of persecution while in their “Comfort Zone.” I believe that God expects us to reach out beyond our private domain.

Let me illustrate with the following example: When a baby eagle is left in its nest, it is in its “Comfort zone.” In order for it to learn to fly, it **must** leave its “Comfort Zone.” Often, the mother eagle will begin to pull the feathers from the bottom of the nest, leaving the baby eagle sitting on the hard, sharp sticks that make up the nest. Get the picture? Many of us are like that baby eagle. We snuggle down into padded pew; we get comfortable and don’t want to go out into the real world. What would happen to that eagle if it never left its nest? It would live and die never knowing the thrill of flight, never reaching its potential (cf. Revelation 3:1). It’s sad to say, but it’s worth repeating, many of us are like that baby eagle. We’ll never know the thrill of flight because we never leave the nest. We’ll never reach our potential, or even know what it is, because we won’t leave our “Comfort Zone.”

When Peter left the boat and walked to Jesus on the sea (Matthew 14:22-31), he had to leave his “Comfort Zone.” How many of us would get out of the boat and go to Jesus if He would bid us to come? Now, before you answer that too quickly, consider the fact that He commanded us to “Go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled” (Luke 14:23). Jesus didn’t ask us to walk on water, just to go out and invite them to come in. But when going out of is our “Comfort Zone”; the water we must walk on is the unsure ground of a new experience. This may be a hard road for some to conquer, and some of you may be thinking, “Ill never be able to conquer that road.” If this is your thinking, let me remind you of something. A long, long time ago, this same Jesus had to conquer the road that led to Golgotha, “that is to say, a place of a skull” (Matthew 27:33). In conquering that road, He has afforded you and me the hope of conquering the road that leads to heaven. But in order to conquer that road we must

leave our “Comfort Zone.” If this means out of our seats and into the streets, then let’s go! Remember, **Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All!**

-via *The Manslick Road Speaker*; Louisville, Kentucky

## News & Notes

### THE SICK:

#### *In The Hospital:*

*Gladys Johnson*; HealthSouth - Huntsville, rm. 223

*Marie Weldon*; UAB Hospital - Birmingham, rm. 223

*Bayless Romine*; Huntsville Hosp., rm. 1553

#### *At Home:*

Peyton Rogers

Lola Colwell

Polly Davis

James Craig

Molly Weeks

Tim Dean

Matt Poff

Charles Burns

Jeff Waddell

Henrietta Word

Krysten Brown

Tony Corsbie

#### *Athens Convalescent Center:*

Betty Bates, rm. 17

#### *Limestone Health Facility:*

Essie Belle Bates, rm. 118

Jerry Gilbert, rm. 111

Albert Norton, rm. 100

Mary Smith, rm. 85

Lorene Bradford, rm.117

J.D. Clanton, rm. 11E

Rosella Pugh, rm.

#### *Limestone Manor:*

Ruth Owens, rm. 80

#### *Shut-In:*

Sarah Halbrook, Glade Retirement, Memphis, Tenn.

Jimmy Killen, at home

Reba Adams, at home

Majorie Lambert, at home

Mary Norton, at home

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Remember all those that are serving on foreign soil in the military for our country. Those who are among us or have connections to the Market Street church are:

- Brandi Lawrence; Afghanistan
- Joel Smith; Iraq
- Whitney Smith; Japan

**WORK GROUPS:** Tonight is the night for Work Group 2 to meet. If this is your group, remember to meet with your group tonight following our evening service.

**NURSERIES AVAILABLE:** There are two nurseries available for those who will need them. One is in the west wing and the other in the east wing.

**MEETING BEGINS TODAY:** Our gospel meeting is beginning today. Brother *Jeff McCrary* and his wife, *Melody*, are with us today and this week. We look forward to the work that Jeff will do in preaching the gospel this week. The topics he plans to speak on are as follows:

- Sunday Bible Study – *Devoted To Prayer*
- Sunday Morning – *Jesus, The Hope of the World*
- Sunday Night – *Sowing Wild Oats*
- Monday evening – *Is The Bible Inspired?*
- Tuesday evening – *God's Promise That Christ Will Return*
- Wednesday evening – *Are You Guilty of Being A Christian?*
- Thursday evening – *Putting Baptism In Its Place*

Let's all remember to be present at all the services. Tell others and remind those you have already invited. Pray for the efforts that are being made to reach the lost.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS:** This week there are a number of meetings that are going on in the area. We list them so that you might pray for them, but we expect you to be present here with us. The *Eastside church* with *Jeff May*; *Pepper Road church* with *Gary Henry*; *Old Moulton Road church* in Decatur church with *Tim Junkin*; *Brookhill church* in Killen with *Darrell Hymel*.

**THE RECORD:** Attendance – Week of September 6th

**Sunday:**

- Bible Classes..... 127
- Morning Worship ..... 140
- Evening Worship..... 110

**Wednesday:**

- Bible Classes..... 89

**Remember our Service This Evening 5:00.**

**Men Privileged To Serve:**

**Sunday, September 13th:**

*Morning Worship*

- Announcements ..... Stuart Wilson
- Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox
- Prayer ..... Dwaine Allfrey
- Preaching ..... Jeff McCrary
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding ..... Marty Adams
- Assisting ..... Marion Mitchell
- Serving ..... Tim Craig ..... Dan Lovell
- ..... Hunter Cox..... Nathaniel Adams
- Closing Prayer ..... Wayne Vaughn

*Evening Worship*

- Announcements ..... Stuart Wilson
- Song Leader ..... Tyler Cox
- Prayer ..... Kenneth Smith
- Preaching ..... Jeff McCrary
- Lord's Supper ..... Marion Mitchell
- Closing Prayer ..... Tommy Burns

Other Assignments for Sunday September 13th:

- Usher ..... Delmer Carter
- Work Sound System ..... Frank Noblitt

**Wednesday, September 16th:**

- Song Leader ..... Jerry McGlocklin
- Bible Reading.....(Proverbs 21:1-10)
- ..... Hunter Cox
- Prayer ..... Jack Cannon
- Preaching ..... Jeff McCrary
- Closing Prayer ..... Rusty Brand

**Sunday, September 20th:**

*Morning Worship*

- Announcements ..... Rusty Brand
- Song Leader ..... Frank Noblitt
- Prayer ..... Larry Mitchell
- Preaching ..... David Cox
- Lord's Supper
- Presiding ..... Jerry McGlocklin
- Assisting ..... Joel Hamm
- Serving ..... Tyler Cox ..... Delmer Carter
- ..... Raymond Brown..... Cory Nelson
- Closing Prayer ..... Bonnie Sutton

*Evening Worship*

- Announcements ..... Rusty Brand
- Song Leader ..... Frank Noblitt
- Prayer ..... Marion Mitchell
- Preaching ..... Warren Glass
- Lord's Supper ..... Jerry McGlocklin
- Closing Prayer ..... Nathaniel Adams

Other Assignments for Sunday September 20th:

- Usher ..... David Terry
- Work Sound System ..... Danny Johnson