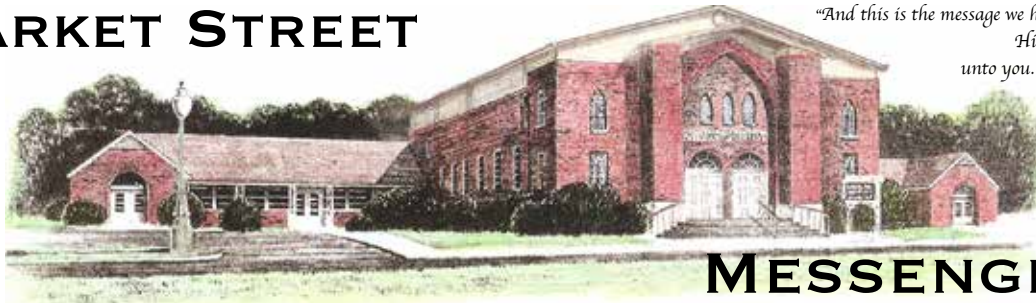


# MARKET STREET



*"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 XI

December 15, 2019

No. 50

### *A Very Black Friday*

**Shawn Jeffries**

#### 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

#### 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*

Did you do any shopping on Black Friday? Most Americans did. Black Friday is often regarded as the beginning of the Christmas shopping season. Millions of people rush to the nearest Wal-Mart, Target, Best Buy, or Macy's in order to find the best deals on big-screen televisions, tablets, video game consoles, clothing, smartphones, Blu-ray players, and a host of other items. Each year, I try to tell myself, "I won't get involved with Black Friday," but the super deals and ability to save hundreds of dollars consistently change my mind. I am a huge fan of getting more while paying less!

Where did the term "Black Friday" come from? Many retailers are said to traditionally operate at a financial loss ("in the red") from January to November. But Black Friday indicates the point at which retailers begin to turn a profit, or get "in the black." For a store like Wal-Mart, their net income is positive starting on January 1, and Black Friday can boost their year to date net profit from \$14 billion to \$19 billion. I always thought the name "Black Friday" was given due to aggressive crowds in many stores. There is something negative about annual reports of assaults, shootings, and throngs of people trampling on other shoppers (in an attempt to get the best deal on the product they want before it runs out).

Our culture is obsessed with "Black Friday." But did you know there is a "Black Friday" in the Bible? Don't misunderstand. There wasn't a day when hundreds of Jews went to a Macy's or Wal-Mart to purchase expensive products for half the price. But there was a Friday in which the land of Judea was literally dark for hours because God's plan to save us from our sins was at work.

"Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" Even the robbers who were crucified with Him reviled Him with the same thing. Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. And about the ninth

hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” that is, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” (Matthew 27:41-46).

Although the death of the perfect and sinless Son of God provided a literal dark time on the face of the earth, spiritually men have never seen anything brighter. Because of our sin, we deserve to be lost in hell forever (Romans 3:23; 6:23). But through the death of Jesus, the debt for our sins was paid (Romans 5:6-9). Now we can be reconciled to God and be saved. This is only made possible because 2,000 years ago, Deity stepped out of heaven, walked on this earth, lived a perfect life, and gave Himself as a sin sacrifice.

What a paradox we find at the cross! What happened at the cross was the darkest moment in human history (a literal black Friday). And yet, humanity has never seen a brighter moment. While sinful men were killing the Son of God, He was giving the wonderful gift of salvation. While there is nothing wrong with shopping on the day our culture calls “Black Friday,” never forget to praise God for the events that took place on that Friday 2,000 years ago.

~via *Monte Vista Family*; Phoenix, Arizona.



## *Praying When You Hurt*

**Richie Jenkins**

Pardon me while I ask a very serious question: “How do you pray and continue to pray when it does not seem like God hears and answers?” Oh, I know a preacher or elder is not supposed to ask that. He is not supposed to feel that way. After all, he is the preacher. He is an elder. How can he ask something like that? But, seriously, when you do not feel like God is hearing and answering, where do you go? What do you do?

See, it is so easy to preach that God hears. God answers. It is easy to preach, “You need to keep your faith strong. You need to spend more time in the word of God.” I have said that. But until I lived it, I have learned what I may say can really be very empty to the one who is feeling God has left the building.

Yes, on an intellectual level we may know that is not

true. But how many of us operate on an intellectual level when we are hurting? When our hearts are breaking? When we feel all alone? When we feel like our world is coming apart? When a relationship that has meant everything is lost? When a disaster has ruined a relationship? How do we go on?

Here is my answer. Please don't look down on me. “I don't know.” I used to think I did, but I have realized I don't know. I don't have the answer, but I have a seventeen-year-old grandson who helped me. He made a talk recently and this is what he said:

“He (God) is right there. Watching over you all day, every day. Once you hit rock bottom the only way is up. The negative always get our attention. I have tried being positive. I have learned it works. ‘A cheerful heart is a good medicine.’ The cure for our troubles is a cheerful heart. Seeing the positive in every circumstance. ‘Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things’ (Phil. 4:8). In our spiritual lives we cannot put ourselves down before the race even starts. A positive attitude is a must in order to succeed. We fail more than we like to admit. Satan is always bumping us off. Our God is a God of love, grace, and forgiving. ‘As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us’ (Psalms 103:12). He gave us a gift that keeps on giving. He sent His son so that we have unending grace and mercy. ‘Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us and will subdue our iniquities’ (Micah 7:18-19). His love, grace and mercy are beyond our imagination.”

Eli reminded his grandad; God is still there. God hears. God will take care. Grandad just needs to trust in God. You see, I cannot fix a broken heart. I cannot fix my own. But God can! I really believe that. “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief.”

~via *Kings Ridge Reminder*; Lubbock, Texas.

## **Remember Our Study Periods**

Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

## *Building a House is not the same as Building a Home*

**Dick Mercear**

On July 21, 1983, 288 construction workers were waiting for the sound of the gun that would mark the beginning of construction on a house in Palmer, Alaska.

They were going to be timed to see how fast they could build a house. They were encouraged by a crowd of 6,000 spectators and a country band. The record they set was incredible. In just 3 hours, 53 minutes, and 59.49 seconds the lucky couple, Rocky and Pat Weldon of Anchorage, stood on the steps of their brand new house. The two-bedroom house cost \$80,000.

To top things off, a furniture company then furnished the house in less than four minutes.

“Instant houses” are possible, but not instant homes. Homes take time to build. They are not built out of brick and mortar, but out of love, hope, patience, and trust. There will be no band playing, no crowd of spectators to watch, not much fanfare. It takes perseverance and commitment. There is never a time when you can sit down and say, “It’s finished.” There is always need for consideration, tenderness, and thoughtfulness.

But there is a real joy that comes from the building. Seeing your children grow up into fine Christians is a great thrill. Watching your mate mature and grow is exciting. With love as the foundation and a Christian home as your goal—building can be one of life’s greatest pleasures.

~via *Neighbor To Neighbor*, Huntington Beach, California..

## *Ninth Annual Singing*

February 28, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Wiley Deason & Johnny Felker



**MARKET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
514 WEST MARKET STREET  
ATHENS, ALABAMA

## *News & Notes...*

### **THE SICK:**

Sherry Davis	Jennifer Threet
Marci Bassett	Gina Werka
Arvid McGuire	Helen Blankenship
Beverly Sutton	Minnie Carter
JoAnn Gilbert	Bobbie Adcock
Loretta Warner	Doris Lovell
Alvis McLemore	Yvonne Strickland
Ann Bush	Lloyd Adams

### ***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	Denny Smith
Carrie Warner	

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

*Flossie Smith*; Athens-Limestone Hosp. – rm. 302  
*Norman Hamm*; Millenium - Huntsville

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

Mattie Murray, rm. 2	Dorothy Draper, rm. 73
Valeria Dalton, rm. 7	Johnnie Leigeber, rm. 121
Brenda Wilson, rm. 73	Christine Hudson, rm. 77
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Connie Brock, rm. 62

### ***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:***

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:***

*Charles Vaughn* as he awaits surgery for his thigh

muscles...*Virginia Meyer* was released from the hospital on Tuesday afternoon and moved to Limestone Health Facility ...*Ross Melvin* began his treatments on Thursday of this week. He received good news that he would only need five treatments instead of the ten they had originally scheduled...*Vicki Stringer* has been unable to be at services due to her blood count being low...*Minnie Carter* is doing better with her back, but is having trouble with her blood pressure...*Freddie Mae Elmore* is beginning to feel better working to get her strength back ... *Kim Rogers niece, Carrie Warner*, is continuing treatments for cervical cancer.

**TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS:** The *Ladies Bible Class* that meets on Tuesday morning in the West Auditorium, will resume their regular weekly meetings on Tuesday, January 7th at 10:00 a.m.

**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

**MEN'S BIBLE CLASS:** The *Men's Bible Class* will meet next tomorrow night, December 16th at 7:00p.m. We will be studying "*Be An Encourager*". The study is based on episode 36 on *Excel Still More*.

**OUT OF TOWN:** *Bradleys: Steve and Marilyn* are in Houston, Texas.... *Christian Usery* is in Long Beach, California with his work.

**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 Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>:

Sunday:	Bible Classes .....	136
	Morning Worship .....	165
	Evening Worship .....	114
Wednesday:	Bible Classes .....	96



**Men Privileged To Serve:**

*Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>:*

*Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Marty Adams
Assisting .....	Larry Holt
Serving .....	Tommy Burns..... Marvin Putman
.....	Keenon Currier..... Charles Vaughn
Closing Prayer .....	Larry Mitchell

*Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Tommy Coblentz
Song Leader .....	Albert Haraway
Prayer.....	Larry Tucker
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Marty Adams
Closing Prayer .....	Roger Hammonds

Other Assignments for the week of December 15<sup>th</sup>:

Ushers.....	Heath Dollar/Marcus Morris
Work Sound System.....	Nathaniel Adams

*Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>:*

Song Leader .....	Tony Thomas
Bible Reading .....	Bob Broadus
.....	Hebrews 6:9-12
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Invitation .....	Mike Ogles
Closing Prayer .....	Clayton Hamm

*Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>:*

*Morning Worship*

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader .....	Tommy Burns
Prayer.....	Harvey Nixon
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Tucker
Assisting .....	Mike Ogles
Serving .....	Landon Adams..... Matthew Vaughn
.....	Sam Gregory .....
Closing Prayer .....	Wayne Vaughn

*Evening Worship*

Announcements.....	Joel Hamm
Song Leader .....	Hunter Cox
Prayer.....	Tony Thomas
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper .....	Larry Tucker
Closing Prayer .....	Jerry McGlocklin

Other Assignments for the week of December 22<sup>nd</sup>:

Ushers.....	Russ Wulfekuhl/Danny Holt
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews