

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 XIV

November 20, 2022

No. 47

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
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
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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

Three Admonitions of Paul

David A. Cox

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

– (1 Thessalonians 5:16)

We will often look back during Thanksgiving and see how God has blessed us in the past. The origin of Thanksgiving in this country was as the early settlers took time to remember to thank God for the many ways they were blessed, even in difficult circumstances. Paul quickly gives the Thessalonians three admonitions for all times.

Rejoice Always

The Thessalonians had faced and would face very difficult situations in their service to God. There was persecution from Jewish or Roman authorities, and there could be division among families. It could be that the Christians were unwilling to use their skills to make idols, causing their income to be lost. As they would go to tell others about their faith and introduce them to Jesus, they faced severe persecution (1 Thessalonians 1:6; 2:2). Regardless of all these things, Paul said, "Rejoice always." There are times when we face hardship and great difficulties in life. But we can still rejoice. It does not mean we are in a constant state of happiness or exuberance. The joy we are to have is something more profound than superficial feelings. Joy goes beyond the circumstances we are in at the time and is contentment based on God and His promises to us. Paul demonstrates this when he writes about rejoicing even while in prison ((Philippians 1:12-18).

Pray Without Ceasing.

Praying without ceasing may be an impossible command, many think. Some may ask, "How can I pray when I am asleep?" The point Paul makes is that we need to cultivate discipline and focus on God in our life. As we live in this world, ruthless distractions will not push God aside, so we cannot talk to Him in prayer. Paul is encouraging us to always be in the place to bring our lives, desires, needs, and our concerns

to God at all times.

In Everything, Give Thanks

Things do not always go as we would plan. When things are not exactly what we want, thank God that He is helping us in our lives. Remember, James said, “Count it all joy when you fall into various trials” (James 1:2). The things we do not desire may be the very things we need to test our faith and let it produce the patience and the qualities to make us more like Christ. Jesus did not get everything the way He desired it to be, but He first and foremost desired the will of God to be done. Paul said to give thanks in everything, for it is God’s will. The things we do not want may be the very things that move us and change us to be stronger in our faith. There are three reasons why we can “give thanks in everything:”

- We can give thanks because we know God is there with us (Hebrews 13:5-6).
- There is no circumstance in life that is more than God can handle.
- We know God’s wisdom and knowledge far surpass what we know and think.

God wants us to be a people of joy. He wants us to pray to Him. He wants us to give thanks. In doing these, God will be pleased, and it will help keep our perspective where it should be.



Daily Blessings

Stacy D. Crim

I hope we haven’t gotten lazy with our thankfulness for our daily blessings. I can understand why it might happen. Countless farmers have patiently waited for the time of harvest which is all around us this time of year. They have waited for the early and latter rains hoping to be blessed with a fruitful crop. (James 5:7) Me? I just take my paycheck to the grocery store to shop the countless isles of stocked shelves of food, but Jesus has taught us to pray “Give us this day our daily bread”.

Daily food is such a blessing in the United States

of America. I saw a statistic that says 1.3 billion tons of food is wasted each year around the world, which is nearly a third of the world’s food. Is it any wonder that parents use to encourage their children to eat all of the food on their plate so as to not waste any food? An abundance of food and the ease of obtaining it does not excuse one from being thankful to God for their daily blessing of nourishment.

If I understand just how blessed I am to live in a country that has an abundance of farmland and food I will be thankful for the daily blessings God has showered me with. It takes rain and the rich nutrients of snow and hail (Job 38:22) to replenish the ground. Elements we often grumble and complain about, “I wish it would stop raining” or “I hate snow”. These are the very blessings that God provides for the earth to yield its fruit and for us to sit back at the table and proclaim, “Wow that was so good” or “I am so full”.

The Israelites received this admonition, “For the land which you go to possess is not like the land of Egypt from which you have come, where you sowed your seed and watered it by foot, as a vegetable garden; but the land which you cross over to possess is a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven, a land for which the LORD your God cares; the eyes of the LORD your God are always on it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year. And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the LORD your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil. And I will send grass in your fields for your livestock, that you may eat and be filled.’ Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them” (Deuteronomy 11:11-16)

I may not worship and serve a wooden image, but idolatry comes in other forms such as a desire for material things. (Colossians 3:5) I may be so wrapped up in my house, car, boat and hobbies that I never or rarely say “thank you” to God for my daily blessing of bread. Has my heart been deceived?

A Christian knows their “heavenly Father knows that you need” food and clothing each and every day. (Matthew 6:32) And because of His daily care, I need to be thankful each and every day for my “daily blessings”.

With the harvest coming to an end as fall gives way to winter God does not leave us without witness of His goodness unto all of mankind "...He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." Acts 14:17

Let us fill our hearts with gladness for the food that we have received today.

~via *Tri-Cities Edifier*; Muscle Shoals, Alabama



The Smell of Prayers

Scott Beyer

"...and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints." (Revelation 5:8b)

Smells are powerful things. A skunk along the highway will get every motorists' attention, and the wafting scent of baking bread draws crowds toward the local bakery. Smells are hard to ignore, and they have a way of permeating things.

We are told that our prayers are like the smell of incense to God. They fill His senses, and they reach Him all the way up on His heavenly throne. Our painful cries for help are pungent smells which get His immediate attention, and our words of thankfulness bring joy to the air He breathes.

In short, your prayers matter to Him. They are heard, and they will not be ignored.

~via *Bible Bites*; Louisville, Kentucky

News & Notes

THE SICK:

Scottie Reed
James Adams
Shirley Miller

Bonnie Sutton
Peggy Pepper
Dan Lovell

JoAnn Gilbert

Doris Lovell

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Sharon Nave

Peggy Pepper

Freddie Mae Elmore

Anita Wheeler

Judy Vaughn

Doris Reid

Charles Burns

Kenneth Fisher

Matt Bassford

Wynell Romine

Tim McGuire

Henry Fusch

Betty Lovell

Keith Holt

Priscilla Tucker

Vicki Stringer

Nikki Ogles

Lona Jackson

Jeanette Weir

Lloyd Adams

Cindy Walker

Al Pollard

Sadricia Wilson

Anthony Sutton

Barbara Piper

Liz Fusch

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15

Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36

Valeria Dalton, rm. 7

Connie Brock, rm. 62

Brenda Wilson, rm. 77

Limestone Health Facility:

Marie Nave, rm. 84a

Ann Bush, rm. 75

Bobby Ogles, rm. 113

Alice Roberson, rm. 49

Shut-In or Away From Home:

Nell Barksdale; at home

Deanie Britton; Limestone Lodge

Gwen Bullock; at granddaughter's in Huntsville

Barbara Carter; Goldton at Athens

Unaking Currier; Summerford Health, Falkville

Irene Inman; at home

Stan Stanford; at home

William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison

Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

JoAnn Gilbert; Athens--Limestone Hosp. rm. 312

Cassidy Craig; UAB Hospital; - Birmingham

Updates:

Peggy Pepper is at home following her hip replacement

...**Helen Blankenship's great-granddaughter, Cassidy**

Craig, is in the hospital in Birmingham with a brain

bleed. She is scheduled for a procedure on Wednesday

of this week...**Bonnie Sutton** is dealing with issues with

the collection of fluid and hinders his ability to be out

as he would like...**Doris McGuire's son, Tim McGuire**

continues his chemo treatments and has been able to

continue working...Remember our expecting mother,

Heather Cox in your prayers.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The

Ladies' Bible class meets on Tuesday morning at 10:30.

They are b studying on "*The Parables of Jesus.*"

BRADLEYBROWN(1973–2022): It is with sadness that we note the passing of Brad Brown. Brad passed away on Friday morning. Brad had been a member at Market Street for many years. Brad was special to the church here, and he loved coming to worship and seeing all the people here. Brad lived with difficulties, but he lived with a happy and joyful disposition. We have missed Brad for the last several months as he could not come to services. We will continue to miss his presence here for a long time. May the Lord bless Judy and all the family at this time.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Doris Fisher* in the passing of her sister, *Norma Cook*, in Olney, Illinois. She passed away last weekend, and her funeral was in Illinois on Monday. May the Lord bless Doris and all the family at this time... We also want to express our deepest sympathy to *Danny Holt, Larry Holt, & Tim Dean* in the passing of their cousin, *Randy Dean*, this past Monday. His funeral was on Friday at Limestone Chapel. May the Lord bless all this family at this time.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Hamms: Joel, Sharma & Ragan* returned last night from the trip to the Northeast states... *The Ashes: Harold & Barb* have been in Indianapolis, Indiana this past week... *Brenda Haraway & Doris Fisher* are back home after being in Florida last week.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet next Monday morning, November 28th at 10:30 to write and mail out cards. If you would like to do this, join them next Monday morning.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT Q&A: For the next several Wednesday nights, I will be doing Question & Answer sessions. If you have questions that you would like for me to deal with, please write the question or topic you are interested in hearing about, and I will deal with them.

AWAY FROM US: Some of our people are away from home. Keep them in your prayers.

Kenneth Adams is in Auburn for school.
Keenon Currier is stationed in Monterey, California.
Addison Holt is in Birmingham for school.
Christian Usery is in Birmingham for work.

THE RECORD: *Attendance for the week of Nov 13th:*

Sunday:	Bible Classes	117
	Morning Worship	153
	Evening Worship	100
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	73

**Remember Our Bible Study
 Wednesday Evening at 7:00.**

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, November 20th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Harvey Nixon
Assisting	Keith Hinkle
Serving	Matthew Usery..... Charles Vaughn
.....	Landon Adams.... Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer	Tommy Coblentz

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Harold Ash
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Keith Hinkle
Closing Prayer	Roger Hammonds
Other Assignments for the week of November 20 th :	
Ushers.....	Danny Johnson/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt

Wednesday, November 23rd:

Song Leader	Griffin Holt
Bible Reading	Landon Adams
.....	(Psalm 100)
Prayer.....	Stephen Lynn
Invitation.....	Joel Hamm
Closing Prayer	Keith Hinkle

Sunday, November 27th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Prayer.....	Kenneth Smith
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Hunter Cox
Assisting	Keith Hinkle
Serving	Matthew Usery..... Charles Vaughn
.....	Landon Adams.... Nathaniel Adams
Closing Prayer	Tommy Coblentz

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Landon Adams
Preaching.....	Song Service
Lord's Supper	Hunter Cox
Closing Prayer	Danny Holt
Other Assignments for the week of November 27 th :	
Ushers.....	Larry Mitchell/Russ Wulfekuhl
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews