

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 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
Cell: (256) 614-3757

Visit Us On The Web

MarketStreet-church.com

MARKET STREET MESSENGER

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David A. Cox, Editor

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No. 52

Immanuel – God With Us

David A. Cox

‘Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call his name Immanuel,’ which is translated, ‘God with us’

(Matthew 1:23).

Throughout scripture, many titles or names have been given to Jesus, which carry rich meanings. Names such as: “Wonderful Counselor,” “Bright and morning star”, “the Alpha and the Omega,” “Savior,” and the “Lamb of God.” The name “Immanuel” is no exception. The name “Immanuel” literally means “God with us.” What great importance for us to realize that God, who created all things in the beginning, took on flesh to live as a man to save us and give us an eternal home in heaven. With that in mind, let us consider what blessings are available to man through Immanuel — God With Us.

God With Us — As Our Redeemer. Every person living and every person that has ever lived, besides Jesus, has been in need of redemption. Romans 3:23 says, “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” From the day that Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, sin has been the greatest plague upon man. God began then to work His plan to redeem man. What did man need to be redeemed from? The guilt and the penalty of sin. God sent his only begotten Son to this earth to save man by paying the ransom for his sin. It is through the blood of Christ we are redeemed (Ephesians 1:7). Because of Christ’s coming to earth, living among man, and dying the death on the cross, man can now be free from the guilt and bondage of sin.

God With Us — As An Example. Good examples can be hard to find. Many people, especially young people, often look for examples in entertainment or the sports arena. Often the people in these areas of life leave their example very short of what it ought to be. The example of Jesus is a perfect example and one that we can count on to lead us in the right way. Peter and Paul both speak of Jesus’ example and mindset in His life (1 Peter 2:21; Philippians 2:5). It is the example Jesus left that

we can see and how we are to walk in it..

God With Us — Always. It was a blessing that God came in the flesh to be with man, but today He is always with us. Jesus reminds the disciples of His presence said, "... I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). The Hebrew writer reminds us that Immanuel has said, "I will never leave you, nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). "I am with you always" should give us great comfort. When tough times and trials of life come, the Lord is with us. God is with us among job losses, financial difficulties, marriage problems, family difficulties, and even the persecution of our faith. David spoke of the comfort and awareness of God being with us: "The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, A refuge in times of trouble. And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You" (Psalm 9:9-10). When it seems that everyone around us is gone, we know that the Lord is with us. When we have failed to live as God desires, God is with us. We all have sinned and fallen short of what God wants. However, we are promised that "if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). 1 John 1:9 states, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." God does not turn His back on us. In the everyday "ordinary" moments of life, God is with us. Peter describes it this way in his epistle, "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears open unto their prayers" (1 Peter 3:12). God is always with us.

Does the name Immanuel mean anything to us? It should, because of His redemption, example, and the ever presence of strength that He provides in my life as a child of God. May each one of us live with confidence and awareness of God's presence.

Beacon of Truth

Radio Program

Sunday Mornings

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



**MARKET STREET
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

The Power of Simplicity

Bill Hall

Jesus Christ had a deep appreciation for simple things. His teaching was profound, but always simple. He reached the hearts of His hearers, not with high-sounding philosophical jargon, but with illustrations and "to the point" teaching. He could see in a farmer sowing his seed, or a lily showing forth its beauty, or a shepherd leaving his flock to seek one lost sheep, or a loving father welcoming a wayward son, a lesson that could teach some spiritual truth.

His apostles were chosen from the humble class. He could appreciate people, not for what they possessed, but for what they were; and, in some cases, not for what they were, but for what they could become. He recognized true quality, and true quality is often found in the simple and humble.

The worship He ordained was simple in nature. "*Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul...spoke to them...*" (Acts 20:7). Even the poorest could worship, for all that was required of a material nature was a little bread and fruit of the vine. Those of little talent could worship, for God was listening in view of the heart rather than the beauty of the voice.

He authorized a simple organization for His church, with each congregation appointing its own bishops and deacons (Philippians 1:1). There were no denominational associations, conferences, or synods. There were no inter-church organizations or societies. Yet, through the simple organization given the church by the Lord, the world of the first century was thoroughly evangelized and the needy among them provided for. The Lord knew that success in His work would not be brought about through complexity of organization, but through dedication, faith, and commitment on the part of His followers. We make a terrible mistake when we try to substitute the former for the latter.

Why this simplicity? "*That no flesh should glory in His presence*" (1 Corinthians 1:29). The complex systems which men devise tend to bring glory to themselves rather than to God.

To return to the simplicity which our Lord ordained might not be impressive to the worldly-minded, but, then, Jesus Himself is not very impressive to the

worldly-minded. Besides, our purpose is not to impress the worldly-minded, but to please God and bow in submission to His will. Let us do away with our super projects and complex systems. Let us learn to appreciate simple teaching and simple ways. Above all, let us learn to appreciate Bible teaching and Bible ways.

Someone has said: "How foolish we are to think that God will be impressed with our voices when we sing; after all, He hears the angels sing! How foolish to think He will be impressed with our cathedrals; remember, He made the Grand Canyon!" What He is seeking for is a heart that is pure, loving, and obedient to His will. And that's simple.

~via *The View*; Folsom, California.

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Bonnie Sutton	Rickey Chaney
Steve Stringer	Helen Blankenship
Pat Nixon	Dale Adcock
Harvey Nixon	Shirley Miller
James Adams	Betty Lovell
Doris Lovell	Keith Holt
Preston Howard	

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Sharon Nave	Priscilla Tucker
Peggy Pepper	Vicki Stringer
Freddie Mae Elmore	Nikki Ogles
Anita Wheeler	Lona Jackson
Judy Vaughn	Jeanette Weir
Doris Reid	Lloyd Adams
Charles Burns	Cindy Walker
Kenneth Fisher	Al Pollard
Matt Bassford	Sadricia Wilson
Wynell Romine	Anthony Sutton
Tim McGuire	Barbara Piper
Henry Fusch	Liz Fusch

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Dan Lovell; rm. 110
Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36	Brenda Wilson, rm. 77

Valeria Dalton, rm. 7 Connie Brock, rm. 62

Limestone Health Facility:

Marie Nave, rm. 84a Alice Roberson, rm. 49
Ann Bush, rm. 75

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
Bobby Ogles; Story Point West, Knoxville, Tennessee
Stan Stanford; at home
William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

JoAnn Gilbert; Athens--Limestone Hosp. – rm. 222

Dan Lovell; Huntsville Hosp. – MICU-7

Bobbie Higginbotham; Huntsville Hosp. –

Updates:

JoAnn Gilbert is in the Athens-Limestone Hospital and is not well at all...*Dan Lovell* is in the Huntsville Hospital, and they did a bone marrow test on Friday to determine the causes for his platelets being so low...*Dale Adcock* continues her recovery at home. She is unable to have weight on her ankle for 6-8 weeks...*Ricky Chaney* has continued to battle a kidney infection...*Harvey & Pat Nixon* have been unable to be at services due to the virus ...*Steve Stringer* was dismissed from the hospital to go home on Monday, and he is doing better in getting around ...*Hayden Pierce's grandmother, Bobbie Higginbotham*, is in the Huntsville Hospital and is not expected to be any better ...*Bonnie Sutton* has continued to battle cold/flu issues and has not been able to be out...*Vicki Stringer* will begin a series of treatments on Tuesday of this week...Remember our expecting mother, *Heather Cox*, in your prayers.

SYMPATHY: We want to express our deepest sympathy to *Jewel Dean Kennemer* in the passing of her sister, *Gladys Brock*, on Wednesday. The arrangements are incomplete at this time.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' CLASS: The Ladies' Bible class meeting on Tuesday morning at 10:30 will not be meeting again until Tuesday, January 3, 2023. They will be studying "*The Parables of Jesus*."

OUT OF TOWN: *The Parks: Charles, Meredith, Aabron, Harper & Carson* left Wednesday to spend time with family in St. Louis, Missouri...*Joe Hinkle* has been in West Palm Beach, Florida with his son. He will also

spend time with his daughter in Port St. Lucie, Florida.
BACK HOME: In the last few weeks, we have begun to see some of our young people away from us able to be back with us. We are glad to see them and look forward to having them back regularly in the next few weeks.

BIBLE DRILL: Sunday January 8th, we will begin to have a Bible Drill at 4:45 before our evening service. I hope that all of our children will be able to come and participate in this time of instruction and learning.

CARD WRITING: The card writing group will meet Monday morning, January 9th, at 10:30 to write and mail out cards. If you would like to do this, join them Monday morning January 9th.

THE YEAR END: It is hard to believe, but this is the last Sunday of 2022. As we reflect on the past year, I hope we can all truly say that we are closer to God now than when the year began. This year we have looked at the Focus *“Revive Us Again,”* and I hope we all are stimulated to greater service to the Lord. As I look to 2023, I anticipate the new year will provide us with many opportunities to share the Lord with others. May we all be diligent to that end, and we would do well to remember to put the Lord and His will as a focus in our lives. I remind you of the Lord’s instructions to Joshua as he began leading the people of God. The Lord admonished, *“The Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success”* (Joshua 1:8).

THE RECORD: Attendance for the week of Dec. 18th:
 Sunday: Bible Classes 126
 Morning Worship 154
 Evening Worship 111
 Wednesday:
 Bible Classes 94

Eleventh Annual Singing

February 24, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Song Leaders: Jim Deason, Johnny Felker & Tim Stevens



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

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, December 25th:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
 Song Leader Albert Haraway
 Prayer..... Marcus Morris
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord’s Supper
 Presiding..... Harvey Nixon
 Assisting Keith Hinkle
 Serving Roger Hammonds Luke Vaughn
 Matthew Vaughn..... Landon Adams
 Closing Prayer Bob Broadus

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Larry Holt
 Song Leader Griffin Holt
 Prayer..... Jerry Baker
 Preaching..... Song Service
 Lord’s Supper Keith Hinkle
 Closing Prayer Hayden Pierce
 Other Assignments for the week of December 25th:
 Ushers..... Tommy Coblentz/Heath Dollar
 Work Sound System..... Russ Wulfekuhl

Wednesday, December 28th:

Song Leader Bob Broadus
 Bible Reading..... Tommy Coblentz
 (Acts 2:14-39)
 Prayer..... Stephen Lynn
 Invitation..... Harvey Nixon
 Closing Prayer Roger Hammonds

Sunday, January 1st:

Morning Worship

Announcements..... Tommy Coblentz
 Song Leader Stephen Lynn
 Prayer..... Harold Ash
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord’s Supper
 Presiding..... Albert Haraway
 Assisting Larry Tucker
 Serving Ronnie Locke Danny Johnson
 Sam Gregory Nathaniel Adams
 Closing Prayer Dan Reed

Evening Worship

Announcements..... Tommy Coblentz
 Song Leader Clayton Hamm
 Prayer..... Terry Andrews
 Preaching..... David Cox
 Lord’s Supper Albert Haraway
 Closing Prayer Landon Adams
 Other Assignments for the week of January 1st:
 Ushers..... Marvin Putman/Heath Dollar
 Work Sound System..... Larry Holt