

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 XV

July 2, 2023

No. 27

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..... 6:30 p.m.

Elders

Marty R. Adams..... (256) 503-8843
Tommy Coblentz..... (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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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

“Come Now Let Us Reason Together”

David A. Cox

“Come now let us reason together, Says the Lord, Though your sins be as scarlet, They shall be as white as snow, Though they be red like crimson, They shall be as white as wool.” — (Isaiah 1:18)

The Lord, through Isaiah, invites, “Come now, let us reason together.” The reason for this invitation is to come to be cleansed from sin. Our sins are described as scarlet or red as crimson but can be made white as snow or wool. Red is descriptive of a color that stains terribly. If you are washing a red shirt, you must not wash it with white or light-colored clothes. Red paint, red ink, or blood is hard to remove, if not impossible. Isaiah gives us a picture of sin, suggesting the irrefutable stain sin leaves on the soul of man. However, the stain of sin can be removed, but the only way to cleanse the stain of sin is by the forgiveness found in the blood of Christ. Through the prophet, the Lord pleads for man to “Come.” Why does the Lord do this? He is not willing for anyone to be lost (2 Peter 3:9). The Father sent His Son to come “to seek and save that which is lost” (Luke 19:10). So the invitation to come to be cleansed. Let us consider three things about the invitation.

It Is the Time to Reason.

As Isaiah pens this invitation, Israel is in deep trouble. The people had rebelled against God. They determined not to consider the will of God; sin was rampant, and corruption, crime, and violence were the rule of the day (Isaiah 1:2-6). The Lord had tried to get them to awaken to the evil they were drowning in, but they would not hear Him. The Lord tells them to come now and reason together. What a picture of the long-suffering of God. What a view of God’s mercy and grace. The lesson is now is the time to reason. We, too, need to see that as we are sinners and need God’s mercy and grace, now is the time to reason.

The Message Comes At An Ungodly Time.

The invitation comes at a time when the people had rejected God. They were wallowing in the mire of their ungodliness. However, God is still calling for them to come and be cleansed. We find in our day a time

of great ungodliness, and so many have turned away from the Lord and are not interested in governing their lives with the teaching of God. However, the invitation is still open from the Lord for people to come to reason and be cleansed.

The Invitation to Be Cleansed.

The invitation from the Lord is to come to find forgiveness and cleansing, to be as white snow. David had committed sin, and after reasoning with the prophet, Nathan, he writes, “Purge me with Hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me and I shall be whiter than snow” (Psalm 51:7). We do not have to reside in sin. We can find cleansing and forgiveness through the blood that Jesus shed for our sins (Revelation 1:5). As we reason and learn that God requires us to submit our lives to Him, repent of our sins, confess with our mouth Jesus the Christ, and be baptized, to receive the cleansing from the stain from our sins and become as white as snow.

Let us see these valuable lessons from this invitation. God still calls for all to come to Him and receive forgiveness and cleansing from their sins. May we all find forgiveness and cleansing from our sins. May we help others to find forgiveness and cleansing from their sins.



Man In His Garden

Michael W. McLemore

Robert Fulgrum’s simple credo, “All I Really Know I Learned in Kindergarten,” swept the nation a generation ago, selling more than 7 million copies, and almost instantly becoming a New York Times number one best seller. His byline is “Uncommon thoughts on common things.” Fulgrum’s premise is valid. Men and women learn how life is lived very early. The beginning Bible story of man agrees. For our purposes, let’s focus on the “man” God made and his “beginning.” He becomes a model for every boy who will grow to be a “man” pleasing to God – “The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it” Genesis 2:16.

God Gave Man Responsibility. Adam was not placed in the garden to be indulged by His Creator.

He was charged with duty in his garden – “to work it.” God gave him a task. Responsibility begins with doing something for another. For a boy to mature so as to please God he must learn that life is NOT a string of never-ending indulgences. He learns competence through his first entry level position, working in the home, as God’s first man learned it in his garden.

God Gave Man Discipline. Adam was taught that life is not about leisure. Daily discipline was his calling – “keep it.” God’s first man learned discipline through putting and keeping his house in order. Boys learn discipline over the mundane events of life in the same way. How? By making their bed, keeping their room, and keeping the lawn, as Adam kept his garden. God taught every boy a powerful lesson, “Order is a precondition for freedom.” The freedom to enjoy play begins by having one’s garden in order.

Responsibility and discipline are sadly missing in modern culture. These trends must be reversed among God’s people. We learn these two powerful lessons from the man in his garden.

~via *Weatherly Weekly*; Huntsville, Alabama.



The Importance of the Apostles

Gary Henry

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

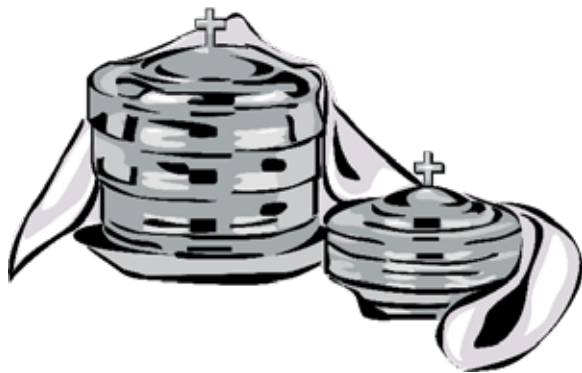
In God’s Plan To Save Us From Our Sins, The Apostles Had An Importance That Needs To Be Understood. The entire message of the gospel depended on the resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:13–17), and the apostles served, first and foremost, as eyewitnesses of that event. Each of them had seen Jesus after He had been raised (Acts 1:21–22). And while the apostles were not the only eyewitnesses (1 Corinthians 15:3–8), their testimony was invested with nothing less than the authority of Christ Himself (Matthew 28:18–20; Acts 1:8). In addition, the

apostles could perform miracles that guaranteed the truthfulness of their account (Hebrews 2:3-4). So, the apostles were not just disciples or followers of Christ; they were the definitive, authoritative emissaries of Christ. They could regulate the practice of the church in its foundational period. And what we have today in the New Testament is the written record of their definitive teachings. These documents provide the permanent, unchangeable “constitution” of the Lord’s church.

In the first century, of course, many people claimed to be apostles who were not. So, to separate the false apostles from those actually appointed by Christ, the true apostles were able to miraculously confirm their authority. Paul wrote to the Corinthians (some of whom were questioning his apostleship), “The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with utmost patience, with signs and wonders and mighty works” (2 Corinthians 12:12).

Jesus said that after His resurrection the Holy Spirit would finish revealing to the apostles the things He had only just begun to teach them (John 14:25-26; 16:12-15). So, to get all of Jesus’ teaching, we have to study not only what He personally taught, but also what was revealed to His apostles. Taken together, this body of teaching is definitive. It is authoritative and foundational. So we must not say, as many do, that we should ignore the apostles and only study the teachings of Jesus. The truth is, we can’t have Jesus without the apostles. They were His designated, not-to-be-ignored spokesmen.

~via *Custer Connections*; Plano, Texas.



Communion Preparation for July

Communion Bread — Kerry Cox
Communion Cups — Russ Wulfekuhl

News & Notes...

THE SICK:

Margaret Carter	Doris Fisher
Ronnie Locke	Jeanette Weir
Steve Stringer	Pat Nixon
James Adams	Dan Lovell
Helen Blankenship	Shirley Miller
Doris Lovell	Virginia Lovell

Those Undergoing Treatments or Chronic Illness:

Harvey Nixon	Sharon Nave
Priscilla Tucker	Peggy Pepper
Vicki Stringer	Anita Wheeler
Nikki Ogles	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
Jerry Lawrence	Henry Fusch
Liz Fusch	Kimberly Pressnell
Tim McGuire	Wynell Romine

Athens Health & Restore Rehabilitation:

Mildred Lambert, rm. 15	Evelyn Hogan, rm. 36
Brenda Wilson, rm. 77	Valeria Dalton, rm. 7
Connie Brock, rm. 62	Auteen Campbell, rm. 96

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; Goldton at Athens
William Thomas; Madison Manor, Madison
Kathleen Wales; Limestone Manor

In The Hospital/Rehabilitation:

Wynell Romine; N. Alabama Medical Ctr. – Florence

Updates:

Frank Melton was able to come back to his home in Athens following his Rehabilitation in Ootewah,

Tennessee on Thursday... *Sharon Nave's* mammogram showed that she was cancer free. They will do additional testing on July 13th to confirm this result... *Joyce McGlocklin's sister, Wynell Romine*, was admitted back to the hospital in Florence due to fluid collecting around her heart... *Meredith Parks aunt, Sheridan Goodwin* is scheduled to repeat her surgery on July 5th due to the leg not healing right... *Jeanette Weir* continues her recovery at home... Remember our expecting mother, *Laura Adams*, in your prayers.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: There will be a memorial service for *JoAnn Gilbert* on July 8th at 11:00 a.m. here at the Market Street building. JoAnn passed away on January 4th. The family desired to wait to do the memorial at a later time. The building will be opened at 10:00 a.m. and the family will be here to receive friends. JoAnn's remains will be buried in the Athens City Cemetery in a private service following the memorial. May the Lord bless all of this family at this time.

CHILDREN'S BIBLE DRILL: Remember the Children's Bible Drill this afternoon at 4:45 before our evening service. I hope all our children can come and participate in this time of instruction and learning.

VBS THIS WEEK: This past week we had our 2023 Vacation Bible School. The VBS went very well. We averaged 119 each day. I appreciate all of the hard work done all those who taught the VBS this year. The material this year was material written/sembled for the classes by the teachers here. The theme was "*Lost and Found*" from Luke 15, and Luke 19. Thank you to everyone that came and supported the efforts by your attendance and encouragement. Thank you all of you that invited and brought people with you. Also, I appreciated those that helped in setting up, cleaning up and working the sound and video. Without the help of everyone that worked the VBS would not have been able to have been accomplished.

OUT OF TOWN: *The Tuckers: Larry & Theresa* have been in Kansas City, Missouri... *The Parks: Charles, Meradith, Aahron, Harper & Carson* are in St. Louis, Missouri this week... *The Wulfekubls: Russ, Lisa & Ali* are on a road trip in the eastern states this week.

THE RECORD: Attendance the week of June 25th:

Sunday:	Bible Classes	121
	Morning Worship	146
	Evening Worship	142
Wednesday:	Bible Classes	110

Remember Our Children's Bible Drill at 4:45p.m.

Men Privileged To Serve:

Sunday, July 2nd:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Larry Holt
Prayer.....	Tommy Coblentz
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Larry Snell
Assisting	Jerry Baker
Serving	Landon Adams..... Matthew Usery
.....	Danny Johnson..... Sam Gregory
Closing Prayer	Clayton Hamm

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Marty Adams
Song Leader	Bob Broadus
Prayer.....	Nathaniel Adams
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Larry Snell
Closing Prayer	Tommy Burns
Other Assignments for the week of July 2 nd :	
Usher	Keith Hinkle/Hayden Pierce
Work Sound System.....	Terry Andrews

Wednesday, July 5th:

Song Leader	Stephen Lynn
Bible Reading.....	Clayton Hamm
.....	(Acts 12:1-19)
Prayer.....	Bob Broadus
Invitation.....	David Cox
Closing Prayer	Tony Thomas

Sunday, July 9th:

Morning Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Joel Hamm
Prayer.....	Stephen Lynn
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	
Presiding.....	Tommy Coblentz
Assisting	Hunter Cox
Serving	Matthew Vaughn..... Landon Adams
.....	Danny Johnson..... Jerry Baker
Closing Prayer	Albert Haraway

Evening Worship

Announcements.....	Larry Tucker
Song Leader	Clayton Hamm
Prayer.....	Terry Andrews
Preaching.....	David Cox
Lord's Supper	Tommy Coblentz
Closing Prayer	Christian Usery
Other Assignments for the week of July 9 th :	
Usher	Hayden Pierce/Marvin Putman
Work Sound System.....	Larry Holt