

Text:  
Topic:

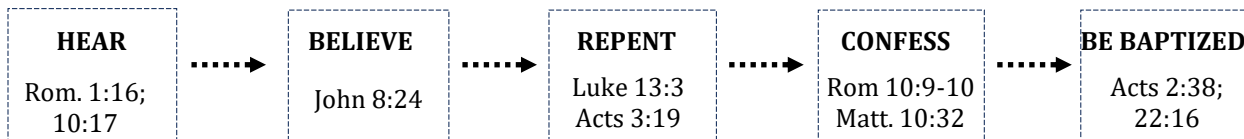
**Sermon Notes**



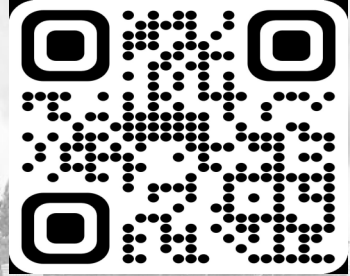
**ORDER OF SERVICE**

Song ~ Announcements ~ Song ~ Opening Prayer ~ Song ~ Scripture Reading ~ Song ~ Sermon ~ Song ~ Lord's Supper ~ Offering ~ Song ~ Closing Prayer

**WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**



# THE MESSENGER



*"This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." **1John 1:5***

**Volume 10** **October 22, 2023** **Issue 4**

**Minister:** Robert Webster  
(708) 752-5589  
(robster67@gmail.com)

[www.westhammondcoc.com](http://www.westhammondcoc.com)

westhammondcoc@gmail.com

1138 173rd St., Hammond IN 46324

**Secretary:** Sis. Ruthie Gamble  
(708)336-3120 *(request/announcements)*  
(708)743-5439  
(whcocsecretary@gmail.com)

**WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS**

If you are one of our visitors today, please know that we are indeed honored to have you. If you are a member of the Lord's body, thanks for choosing to worship with us today. If you are not a member of the Lord's church, we will be happy to meet with you and discuss how one becomes a member of the church which we read about in the New Testament. We aim to speak as they spoke and do as they did. We also offer a free Bible Correspondence Course which can be mailed to you. Or, someone will be glad to meet with you for a one-on-one Bible study. You can indicate your desire on a visitor's card and place it in the collection tray located at the front on the communion table.

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**Sunday**

Children's Sunday School .....10 a.m.  
Young Christians' Class .....10 a.m.  
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.  
Worship Service .....11 a.m.

**Wednesday**

Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.

*I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."  
**Psalm 122:1***

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## The Art of Standing Still

I have fond memories as a child playing freeze tag. If you have never played, a player who is “it” chases other players in an attempt to tag them. Once touched by the “it” player, the individual must stop moving, in effect frozen in whatever position they were in when touched. More recently, there was a “Mannequin Challenge” on TikTok where people stood completely still, often in outrageous positions. This challenge and freeze tag were challenging because it requires participants to stand still.

How often do we find ourselves praying for God to bless us, but when we feel He is moving too slowly we take matters into our own hands? We pray to God for wisdom, but when we feel like his word isn't doing it for us, we turn to other books, other people, even other beliefs. We don't stand still long enough to realize that God is working. In Exodus 14:13-14, we find the children of Israel frantic and afraid. They question why Moses brought them out of bondage and into bewilderment. Moses tells them in verse 13, “Do not be afraid, stand still” (NKJV). In verse 14, Moses says, “The LORD shall fight for you; you need only to be still” (NIV). As Moses speaks to the children of Israel, he also speaks to us. We must, with our whole heart, trust God and believe that he is on our side (Proverbs 3:5; Psalm 124:1). This trust may require us to stand still, no matter the discomfort. The influences of the world will have us to act now and apologize later, but that is not the life we are called to live. Let us continue to step only when and where we are ordered (Psalm 27:23). Let our steps be preceded with prayer (Philippians 4:6).

We live in a world that tells us, “Don't just stand there, do something!”, but God often tells us, “Don't just do something, stand there!”. For it is in our stillness that we begin to witness the movement and wonder of God.

*Submitted by: Eddie Taylor, Jr.*

**We pray to God for wisdom, but when we feel like his word isn't doing it for us, we turn to other books, other people, even other beliefs.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pardon our construction. The classrooms are undergoing a transformation.



### REMINDERS:

~Please silence your *cell phones*.  
~**No eating** in the auditorium.



*New guests* please complete a Welcome Card.  
*Returning guest* please **print** your name in the Returning Guest Log in the foyer.

A *Suggestion Box* and *Prayer Request* cards are located in the foyer. All are welcomed.

*Contributions* can be made electronically via *Zelle (recommended)* using the church's email-[westhammondcoc@gmail.com](mailto:westhammondcoc@gmail.com).

Please send any *requests* and *announcements* to be made or to be included in the bulletin to Sis. Ruthie Gamble at 708-336-3120.

There will be a *Service, Food & Fun* event for *ALL* children on Saturday, October 28th from 3-5pm. Children 10 & over are needed to assist. Please contact Sis. Gamble with a headcount along with the child's age.

The *Men's Class* will now meet *every* Thursday at 6:30 p.m.  
The *Ladies' Class* has been put on hold until further notice.

### ANNUAL LADIES LECTURESHIP RETREAT

The 37th Annual Retreat will take place next year, March 28-31, 2024 in Orlando, Florida. The theme is *Christian Women: A Steadfast Extraordinary Journey*. Registration is now open. Website: [www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org](http://www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org)

Ladies, please do not wait until the last minute to register. Fees go up incrementally as the months go by. For group information see Sis. Webster.

### HOMELESS MISSION

*We need all donations in by, October 31st.* We are accepting canned goods, household items, toiletries, men, women and children's clothing. Put donations inside the room downstairs labeled **Intake Donation Room**. Please indicate “*mission*” on *checks and electronic payments*. Sis. Gamble will be at the church building this Friday, October 28th from 3:30-5:30pm to collect items.

### TRAVELING

Prayers for Sis. Mickles who will be traveling for two weeks.

### FOR PRAYERS:

Tasha Coates, a family friend of Sis. Lennon, Sis. Roya Cossom & family, Bro. Simmons & family, Sis. Ellis, Bro. Craig Conner & family, the Davises, Sis. Blanche and Andriana Mendenhall, Bro. Paul Woodard, Greg Lewis, the cousin of Sis. Davis who is undergoing cancer treatment. Sis. Goldman, Sis. Brantford and Sis Whitney Taylor.

### SUNDAY MORNING CLASSES

*Children's Bible Class* taught by Sis. Carter (lower level).  
*Young Adult Class* taught by Bro. Taylor. (upper level)  
*Adult Bible Class* taught by Bro. Webster (main auditorium)  
*Fortifying the Christian Class* taught by Bro. Ed. Davis (lower level)

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

SIS. YOUNG WED., OCT, 25TH

### NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

### SKILLS BANK

Remember to submit your information to be added to the skills bank and be diligent to do your verification for relevant licensing.

Sis. Webster .....Real Estate Agent  
Sis. Debra Woodard .....Financial Advisor  
Gambles .....Property Preservation & Custom Wood Work Décor/Signs (Home/Business)

### Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	89
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	38
Last Sunday's offering	\$3840.96
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$3,282.00</b>