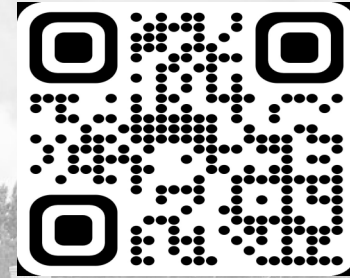


❄️ Sermon Notes ❄️

Text:
Topic:



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 12

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Issue 2

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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 School10 a.m.
Young Christians' Class10 a.m.
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.
Worship Service11 a.m.

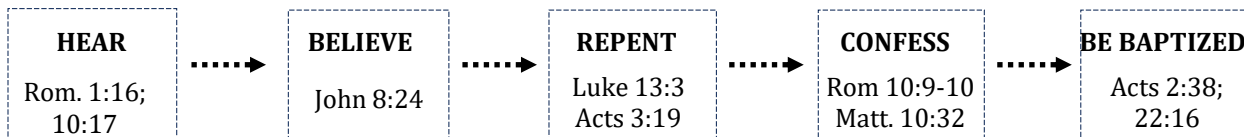
Wednesday

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

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?



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

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

WE NEED EACH OTHER!

Each of us comes into the church with strengths and weaknesses. Regardless of what we bring to the table, we all need Christ to mold us after His will so that we can truly reflect who He is. This is the very thought that Paul conveyed to the Philippians in Phil. 1:6 when he says, *“being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”*

We must, however, bear in mind that our growth comes also through our fellowshiping - working with and helping our brothers and sisters. This is what the Ephesian church was told in Eph. 4:16 that Christ *“... makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.”* The church functions best when each of us looks out for each other because *“...none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s”* Rom. 14:7.



So important is this divine concept that Paul said the same thing to the Philippian church, *“Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too”* Phil. 2:4. How did this idea play out in the lives of the first century disciples? In his early years as an apostle, Peter was confronted by Paul for displaying hypocrisy and *“not following the truth of the gospel”* in Gal. 2:13, that even Barnabas was influenced by him. Several years later, the same apostle Peter, (except that this time he was more spiritually mature), wrote to Christians telling them to *“...put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander”* I Pet. 2:1. Peter needed the help of Paul to live in accordance with truth of the gospel. On another occasion Paul, as a new convert, was given *“the cold shoulder”* by fellow members. Because of his prior life as a persecutor of the church, they were still not ready to accept him as one of theirs (Acts 9:26).

Thankfully, Barnabas came to his defense in v. 27. Later, Paul, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, wrote in Rom. 15:7 *“Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.”*

The strength of a congregation is evidenced by how much the members complement and help each other. Consequently, no congregation will ever make serious progress when its members are living selfishly. As an old African proverb says: *“If you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go together!”*

Bro. R. Webster

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDERS:

~Please silence your *cell phones*.
~No *eating nor drinking* inside the auditorium.



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

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-westhammondcc@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.

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.

Do you want to have your **bible restored**? Contact Susan Reinsma. Rusticjournals on Etsy (708) 878-3002, Highland, IN

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

Fees go up incrementally as the months go by. For group information see Sis. Webster.

HOMELESS MISSION

We will be heading downtown Chicago to distribute care packages to the homeless immediately after worship today. Volunteers are still needed to drive their vehicles. Please see Sis. Gamble if you are able to assist. Please keep us lifted in prayer as we travel and serve.

FOR PRAYERS

The Bell family, Sis. McNeal, the mother of Sis. Young, the Ricks family, the Webster family, Bro. & Sis. Arthur Davis & the Lloyd family, Sis. Simpson & family, the Strickland family, Sis. Roya Cossom & family, Sis. Ellis, Sis. Blanche and Andriana Mendenhall, Bro. Paul Woodard, Sis. Goldman and the Brantfords.

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. Lightfoot (main auditorium)

Fortifying the Christian Class taught by Bro. Ed. Davis (lower level)



BIRTHDAYS

SIS. AKEELAH WEBSTER



TUESDAY, DEC. 12TH

NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Happy Holidays



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. WebsterReal Estate Agent
Sis. Debra WoodardFinancial Advisor
GamblesProperty Preservation & Custom Wood Work Décor/Signs (Home/Business)

Last Week’s Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	85
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	43
Last Sunday’s offering	\$4,053.12
Weekly Budget	\$4,069.13