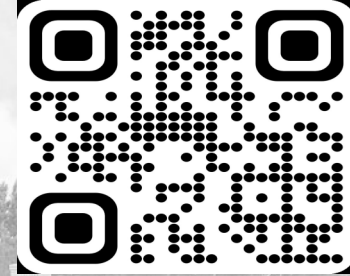


❄️ Sermon Notes ❄️

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 1**

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**Issue 1**

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**Secretary:** Sis. Ruthie Gamble  
(708)336-3120 (request/announcements)  
(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.

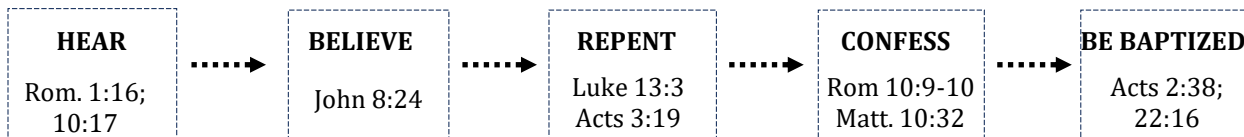
**Wednesday**

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

**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 have Passed from Death to Life

The phrase “pass from death to life” is mentioned in the Bible in 1 John 3:14. The verse reads, “We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our brothers. The one who does not love remains in death.” This verse is a reminder that the love of God is the key to eternal life. When we love others, we are showing that we have been transformed by the power of God and have passed from death to life.

This kind of love finds its origin in God as we are told in 1 John 4:7 “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God...” This contrasts with the hatred that Cain showed toward his brother Abel, (Gen. 4:8), which is of the world. Thankfully, we as Christians have been on the receiving end of this godly love which should naturally motivate us to love one another. 1 John 4:11 says, “Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”

**When we truly love our brothers and sisters, we have undergone an extreme makeover by the power of God and have passed from death to life.**

The Bible teaches that we all have sinned (Rom. 3:23) and consequently, are spiritually dead. However, through faith and obedience in Jesus Christ, we have been made alive and pass from death to life. This change is not something that we can achieve on our own, but it is a gift from God. When we submit our lives to Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we are given new life and are no longer bound by sin and death.

The process of passing from death to life is not a one-time event, but it is a continual process of growth and transformation. As we grow in our faith and knowledge of God, we become more like Him and are transformed into His image. This conversion is a lifelong journey that requires us to continually seek God and His will for our lives.

So, how do we know that we have passed from death to life? It is how much we genuinely love each other and show it. The apostle Peter says “Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren,” (1 Pet. 1:22). When we truly love our brothers and sisters, we have undergone an extreme makeover by the power of God and have passed from death to life.

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.

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

*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 [whcocsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:whcocsecretary@gmail.com) or Text 708-336-3120.

Please **review** your information on the *website* for accuracy. Send any **corrections** or **updates** to: [whcocsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:whcocsecretary@gmail.com) or Text 708-336-3120.

If you would like a *year-end contribution statement*, send an email request to [whcocsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:whcocsecretary@gmail.com) or text to 708-336-3120.

The *Men's Class* meets **every** Thursday at 6:30 p.m.  
The *Ladies' Class* is scheduled to resume the first Thursday in April, 2024.

## ANNUAL LADIES LECTURESHIP RETREAT

The 37th Annual Retreat will take place next year, March 28-31, 2024 in Orlando, Florida. Fees go up incrementally as the months go by. For group information see Sis. Webster.

The theme is *Christian Women: A Steadfast Extraordinary Journey*. Registration is now open. Website: [www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org](http://www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org)

## CONDOLENCES

Bro. Paul Woodard, the late brother of Sis. Woodard will be funeralized on Friday, Feb. 9 in Birmingham, AL.

Sis. Eula Gaddis of the South Holland CoC was funeralized yesterday.

## HOSPITALIZED

Sis. Lightfoot suffered a stroke on Friday. She underwent emergency surgery and will be in the ICU at the University of Chicago for about a week. Contact Bro. Lightfoot for visitation protocols.

## TRAVELING

Sis. Webster & Sis. Taylor will be going to Jamaica this week. Sis. Webster leaves tomorrow and Whitney on Wednesday.

## FOR PRAYERS

The Young and Mabry families, Bell family, Sis. Lightfoot & family, Sis. Thigpen's god-brother, Deno Brown. Sis. Boles of Chicago Heights COC Stacye Forrest, the cousin of the Gamble/Cunningham families, had complications which resulted in an emergency surgery since her admission. Sis. Hardy's mother, Vladis Reynolds. Sis Debra Ellis, Quince Dixon, the sister of Sis Laurene Cunningham, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Sis. Angelice Cunningham-Johnson, Sis. Simpson, Sis. Brantford and Ms. Callahan, a friend of Sis. Webster.

## FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Continue to pray for and encourage our newest members. Sis. Paige Richardson, Sis. Cecilia Williams, Sis. Angelice Cunningham-Johnson and Antekia Ellis.  
\*\*\*New members please see Sis. Gamble to have your *photos* taken for the church's online directory.

## 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)

## NO BIRTHDAYS OR ANNIVERSARIES

### THIS WEEK

#### Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	91
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	45
Last Sunday's offering	\$3,681.32
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$4,069.13</b>