

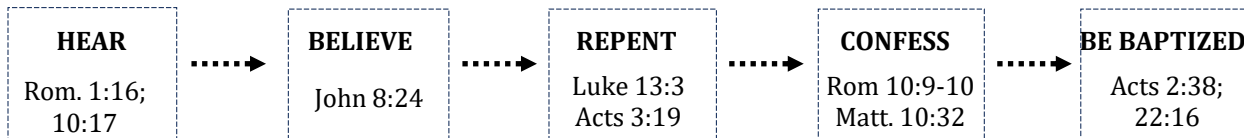
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### Sermon Notes

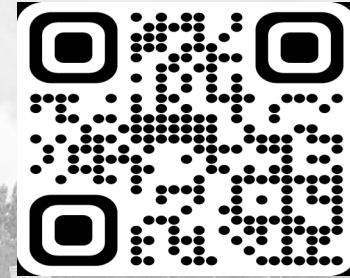


**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
Song ~ Announcements ~ Song ~ Opening Prayer ~ Song ~ Scripture Reading ~ Song ~ Sermon ~ Song ~  
Lord's Supper ~ Offering ~ Song ~ Closing Prayer

#### **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 3**

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### WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

##### **Sunday**

- Children's Sunday School ....10 a.m.  
*Sis. Carter (lower level)*
- Young Christians' Class .....10 a.m.  
*Bro. Taylor. (upper level)*
- Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.  
*Bro. Webster (main auditorium)*
- Fortifying the Christian Class.. 10 a.m.  
*Bro. Ed. Davis (lower level)*
- Worship Service ..... 11 a.m.

##### **Wednesday**

- Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.  
*Access through the website*

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.

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

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## Keep it True!

The Bible speaks of various forms of worship. It speaks of vain worship (Matthew 15:8-9) where one goes through the acts of worship, but his or her heart is not engaged. The Bible speaks of ignorant worship (Acts 17: 23) where one's heart is engaged, but the actions are not in line with God's will. Finally, the Bible speaks of true worship (John 4:23-24) where both body and mind are in tune with God's will for worship. Yet, as we survey the spiritual landscape, we see a type of worship that is growing popular - Youth Worship.

Youth worship is a time where unbaptized (and sometimes baptized) youth participate in a service that is separate from the general assembly. Reasons for this other service vary from the young not understanding the sermons being preached, to young men needing to practice how to lead in worship. This "worship" takes place on the same day and often at the same time as the true worship. In addition to this practice not being found in scripture, it does more harm than good to the Body of Christ. In Proverbs 22:6, we are encouraged to "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (NKJV). What are we training or not training children to do within these Youth Worshipers?

First, we are not training or instructing the youth to ask questions. Our knowledge comes not from trusting the words of man, but from trusting the words of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17; Acts 17:11). Clarification should be sought, not delayed. When the Ethiopian eunuch did not understand what he was reading, he asked questions (Acts 8:27-35). If our youth are not understanding what is being taught, we should not put them away (Matthew 19:14) but instead teach them. Isn't that what we were instructed to do (Matthew 28:19-20)? How can we invite others to worship with us, but send children to "worship" elsewhere? We must teach the youth about worship not only by example, but by engaging in Bible studies with them. A parent who can lead and teach the family through God's word is a great asset to both the congregation and the entire Kingdom of God! This is a foundation for spiritual leaders within the church (Titus 1:9; 1 Timothy 3:1-13).

Second, we are teaching youth that there are options to worship. We teach, "if one worship isn't working for you, there's another worship happening in another room". I wouldn't be surprised if this is how contemporary worship came to be. Instead of worshiping and learning with the true worshipers, the youth are given the option to worship somewhere else? How are we to endeavor to keep the unity if we can't even worship together (Ephesians 4:3)? Are there adult Christians who are participating in this youth worship? (If the youth are being left unattended, that's an article for another bulletin.) Why are these saints not worshiping "together" with the rest of the congregation (Acts 20:7)? This leads to confusion. We cannot excuse this confusion with fond memories of previous experiences. We are led by scripture, not our emotions (again, read 2 Timothy 3:16-17).


Let's keep our worship scriptural. Let's keep it true.

Eddie Taylor Jr.

**We are led by scripture, not our emotions.  
Let's keep our worship scriptural. Let's keep it true.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## REMINDERS

~Please silence your *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 contact the church's secretary for any of the following:

- ◆ *Requests* or *announcements* to be made or to be included in the bulletin.
- ◆ *Corrections* or *updates* to your information in the church's online directory.
- ◆ Year-end contribution *statement*.

The *Men's Class* meets *every* Thursday at 6:30 p.m. The *Ladies' Class* is scheduled to resume April 4, 2024.

## CONGREGATIONAL EVANGELISM TRAINING SEMINAR

Bro. & Sis. Whitacre, from House to House School of Evangelism, will be presenting an impactful 3-day evangelism seminar. Please mark your calendars!

**Topic:** *Training The Saved to Reach The Lost*  
**Location:** West Hammond Church of Christ  
**Time:** June 5th-7th at 6:30pm

## ANNUAL LADIES LECTURESHIP RETREAT

Four ladies from our congregation will be traveling to the retreat in Orlando, Florida next week. We pray that they will return spiritually uplifted and fortified. Pray also for their safe travels.

## FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Bro. Tyler Mack was baptized last week Sunday. Please continue to pray for and encourage our newest members.

## FOR PRAYERS

Sis. Lightfoot had a successful surgery on Thursday. She is currently admitted at the Univ. of Chicago. For more information please contact Bro. Lightfoot.  
Ms. Callahan, a friend of Sis. Webster, Sis. Simpson has not been feeling well. Sis. Angelice

Cunningham-Johnson, Sis. Cotton & family, the Conners, Sis. Lightfoot & family, Quince Dixon, the sister of Sis Laurene Cunningham. Sis. Ellis, the Simmons and Sis. Brantford.



## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sis. Dana Davis

Wed. March 27th



## NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

## ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S T or F

T, T, F, F, F, T, F, T, F, T



## Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	96
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	40
Last Sunday's offering	\$4,792.51
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$4,069.13</b>