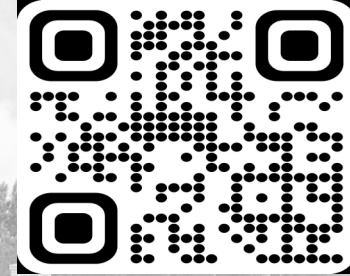


Text:  
Topic:

**Sermon Notes**



# 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 4**

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**Issue 2**

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(219)742-9520 (*request/announcements*)  
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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**

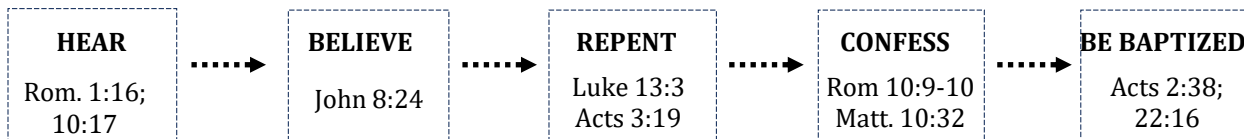
- Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.  
*Access through the website*

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.

**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

## Be Transformed or Else...!

In today's fast-paced and ever-changing world, we, Christians, must embrace change. The phrase "Be Transformed or Else!" may sound daunting at first, but it serves as a wake-up call for us to strive for a life of purpose and fulfillment in Christ. Transformation is not merely a suggestion or an option; it is a commandment that is embedded throughout the pages of the Bible. In Romans 12:2, we are urged not to conform to the patterns of this world, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. This verse highlights the importance of renewing our thoughts, actions, and attitudes to align with God's will. So, what does it mean to be transformed? It is certainly not changing God's Word but allowing Him to work in us and through us, molding us into the image of His Son, Jesus Christ. It involves surrendering our old ways, our fears, and our self-centeredness, and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us towards a life of love, compassion, and service.

Transformation is a lifelong journey, and it requires intentional effort on our part. It involves studying and meditating on God's Word (Psa. 1:1-2), spending time in prayer and worship, and engaging in fellowship with fellow Christians. It also requires us to step out of our comfort zones and be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. As members of the West Hammond spiritual family, we have a responsibility to create an environment that fosters change. This includes providing opportunities for spiritual growth through Bible studies and meaningful worship services. It also means cultivating a culture of authenticity and vulnerability, where individuals can share their struggles and find support and encouragement. However, the "or else" in the article's title should not be viewed as a threat, but rather as a reminder of the consequences of resisting transformation. Where there is no transformation, there will be conformation! Therefore, instead of being led by the Holy Spirit, we will be led by the ways of the world which will lead us away from God (1 John 2:15-17).


Let us commit ourselves to seeking God's transformational work in us, both individually and as a church family. May we be instruments of change and agents of God's love and grace in a world that desperately needs it.

**Bro. R. Webster**

**Where there is no transformation, there will be conformation!**

# 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-[westhammondcc@gmail.com](mailto:westhammondcc@gmail.com).

Please contact the church's secretary at 219-742-9520 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* resumed *this past Thursday* and will meet *every* Thursday at 6:30 p.m.  
A huge shout out to all who were able to make it last Thursday, and also to Sis. Taylor for leading a very thought-provoking and moving session.

## 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

Next year's retreat will be April 10th-13th in Chicago, IL.

The theme is [Christian Women: Surrendering All](#)  
Website: [www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org](http://www.ladieslectureshipretreat.org)  
\*\*\*Check the Ladies Retreat website for updated information.

## FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Please continue to pray for and encourage our newest member Sis. Ahmaya Richardson who was baptized this past Sunday, along with all of our other new members.

## FOR PRAYERS

The Carter family, Sis. Lightfoot had a successful surgical procedure this past Thursday. Stacye Forrest, the cousin of the Cunningham/Gamble. Ms. Callahan, a friend of Sis. Webster, Sis. Simpson Sis. Angelice, Sis. Cotton & family, the Conners, Quince Dixon, the sister of Sis Laurene Cunningham. Sis. Ellis, the Simmons and Sis. Brantford.



## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

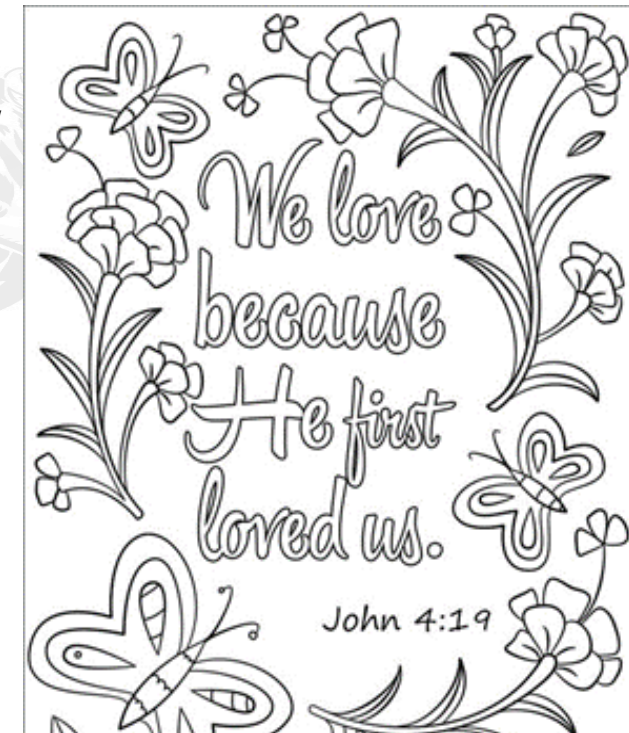
Bro. EJ Taylor



Wed. 4/17

## NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

## A LITTLE COLORING FUN



## Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	99
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	39
Last Sunday's offering	\$4,760.32
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$4,069.13</b>