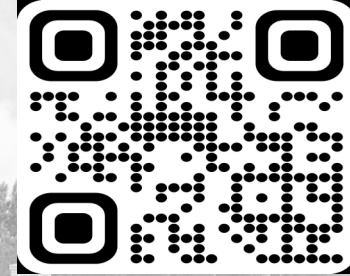


Text:
Topic:

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


April 21, 2024

Issue 3

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WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday

- Children's Sunday School10 a.m.
Sis. Carter (lower level)
- Young Christians' Class10 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

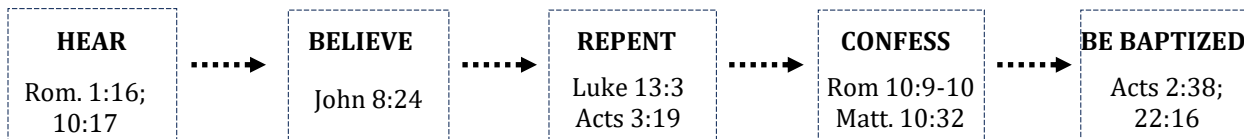
- Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.
Access through the website

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

How It Started vs. How It's Going

Despite our best efforts, we can't help sharing our lives on social media. Every success, every embarrassment, and every thought is shared on social media. Someone once said, "Think about everything you post, but don't post everything you think." and I couldn't agree more. A social media trend known as "How It Started vs. How It's Going" involves someone posting a clip displaying their excitement at the start of a life event, a new job for example, then a comparative clip showing their (often diminished) zeal sometime later on. For example, a teacher will post a smiling face of how the school year started, but then share a picture of someone driving on their way to work showing how it's going. When we think about New Year's resolutions, we have fond memories of how it started, but hang our heads in shame as we think about how it's going (I lasted a solid month...I think).

If we think about our lives as Christians, we all started the same. We all heard and believed the same gospel (1 Corinthians 15:1-4), we all changed our lives, we all confessed our belief in Jesus Christ, and we all were baptized in order to "put on Christ" (Galatians 3:27-28). Some of us may have posted photos or videos of our baptism on social media. But if we were to share on social media how it's going currently, what would that look like? Has our attendance dwindled? Do we applaud all online/virtual options, but avoid all in-person commands? Are we stronger in the faith? Or have we ventured off the old paths (Jeremiah 6:16)? We must be ever mindful of our progress and status during our Christian walk. This is why Paul tells us to walk "circumspectly" or carefully (Ephesians 5:15). We must never lose focus on our Heavenly goal and what is required for success.

Ask yourself "How have I grown as a Christian this month?" and be honest with your answers.

How is your Christian walk going? Ask yourself "How have I grown as a Christian this month?" and be honest with your answers. While we laugh at how soon we default on our New Year's resolutions, it is no laughing matter when we think about how we are slacking in our New Life's resolutions (2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:1-4). Slacking on promises may be something man takes lightly, but God does not (2 Peter 3:9). Let us, together, resolve to do better and make good on the promises we made to God. For if we, Christians, admit and confess our faults, God is faithful to forgive (1 John 1:9). Let our smiles and our lights (Matthew 5:16) be as bright as the first day we accepted Christ.

Eddie Taylor, Jr.

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.

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
***Check the Ladies Retreat website for updated information.

FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Sis. Brooke Gamble was baptized this past Monday. Please continue to pray for and encourage sisters Paige & Ahmaya Richardson, Bro. Tyler and all of our new members.

FOR PRAYERS

The James family and Bro. Brian Gamble who lost two of his cousins this past week. Sis. Della White who suffered a bad fall last week. Beautilyn Forbes, friend of Sis. White whose cancer has returned, as well as Sis. White's nephew who has been ill for several months. Darryl Hicks, a good friend of Bro. Cunningham. The Carter family, Sis. Lightfoot, Stacey Forrest and Tanika McBride, the cousins of the Cunningham/Gamble who both are battling cancer. The Young family, 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, and Sis. Brantford.



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sis. Laurene Cunningham



Sat. 4/27

NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

MOTHER'S DAY EDUCATION AWARDS LUNCHEON

DATE: Sunday, May 12, 2024
VENUE: Orland Chateau Banquet
14500 S LaGrange Road
Orland Park, IL 60462
COLORS: Lilac & Purple
COST: \$50.00
Proceeds in aid of educational scholarships
Sponsored by the Sheldon Heights Church of Christ
See Sis. Webster for tickets

Gospel Broadcasting Network is a brotherhood sponsored television station. Go to www.GBNTV.org. You can also find very useful videos on YouTube. Just type in GBNTV.

Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	94
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	37
Last Sunday's offering	\$3,328.32
Weekly Budget	\$4,069.13