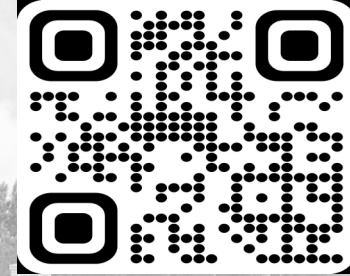


Text:  
Topic:

**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 7**


**July 28, 2024**

**Issue 4**

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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. Webster (main auditorium)-Temporary*
- 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**

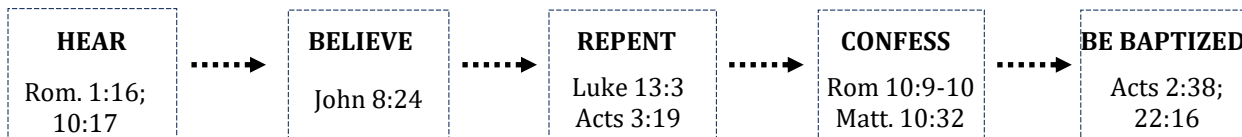
- Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.  
*Access through the website*

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

## Are We Ready for Worship?

Worship is more than a routine—it's an encounter with the Living God. As we step into worship, we should come with hearts expectant and ready to meet Him. Let's investigate what it means to be prepared for worship.

We must come with prepared hearts. Our hearts can easily become cluttered with worries, distractions, and sin. We must take time, before worship, to examine our hearts. A prepared heart is receptive to His presence. "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." (Psalm 51:10). Are we filled with anticipation? This is something that we should really pray about. David said, in Psa. 122:1, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." When we reflect on what God has done for us and how He sacrificed His Son to procure our salvation, we should be energized to worship Him. In fact, David felt so indebted to God that he asked "What shall I give back to God for all His benefits towards me?" Psa. 116:12.

We must be ready to engage with scriptures. The psalmist says, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." (Psalm 119:105) God's Word is central to worship. Read and meditate on Scripture throughout the week. When the Word is proclaimed during the service, listen attentively. Let it guide your thoughts, prayers, and responses. **Sing with Purpose.** Singing is a powerful way to express our praise. Engage wholeheartedly in worship songs. Whether you have a beautiful voice or not, God delights in your worship. Sing with purpose, knowing that your praises reach His throne. "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth." (Psalm 96:1). We should expect God's presence. Believe that God is present when His people gather. He communes with us when we partake in the Lord's Supper (Matt. 26-28-29). **Worship is not a performance;** it is an encounter with the Almighty. "For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:20)


So, as we prepare for worship, let's remember that God desires our hearts more than our rituals. Let's come ready to meet Him, knowing that He eagerly awaits our worship. May we encounter the living God and leave changed.

~Bro. R. Webster

**"What shall I give back to God for all His benefits towards me?"**  
Psa. 116:12.

# 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).

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.

### **\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\***

*Children are not allowed in the kitchen without adult supervision.*

## OUR CONGREGATION'S EVANGELISM PROGRAM

We implore every member to pray for the successful implementation of this program, which will allow each and every member to play an integral role.

The *Men's Class* and *Ladies' Class* meet **every** Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

## 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)

**\*\*\*Do not wait for the last minute to register\*\***

## TRAVELING

Sis. Washington is traveling this week to South Carolina

## FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Continue to pray for and encourage our new members: Sis. Jameka Taylor, Sis. Jesseann Taylor, Sis. Joy Washington, Sis. Fannie Salazar, Sis. Alexis McLaurin, Bro. & Sis. Cavitt, Bro. Darrell Hicks, Sisters Paige & Ahmaya Richardson, Sis. Brooke Gamble and Bro. Tyler Mack.

## FOR PRAYERS

Jermaine McDowell, the son of Sis. Chambers. Andriana Mendenhall and the Mendenhall family. Sis. Hardy's mother, Vladis Reynolds. Quince Dixon, family member of the Cunninghams. Sis. Lightfoot, Sis. Angelice Cunningham, Sis. Brantford, Bro. Oddman, Sis. Harley-Simpson Sis. Janece Carter, Sis. Conner and Sis. Ellis.



## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

SIS. BRENDA SIMS



SAT. 8/3

## ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

#18-BRO. & SIS. BELL

MON. 7/29

#7- BRO. & SIS. TAYLOR

MON. 7/29



**Annual Giveaway Day**

**Sat. Aug. 3, 11am - 4pm**

New or very gently used items only. Bring in your **FINAL** donations by **today**, July 28, to give enough time to be sorted. Household and Back to School items are needed. This will be another community evangelistic effort.

Volunteers are needed. Refreshments will be served.

# ATTENTION

**Sunday morning Zoom has been discontinued with immediate effect. However, Wednesday evening Bible class will continue on Zoom.**

**Sunday morning sermons will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube by the end of day each Sunday.**

### Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship	86
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	45
Last Sunday's Offering	\$4,870.91
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$4,069.13</b>