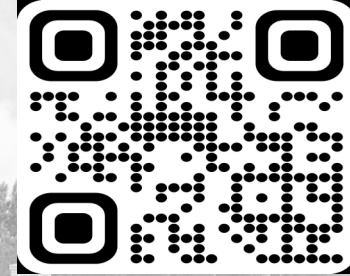


Text:
Topic:

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***

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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. 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

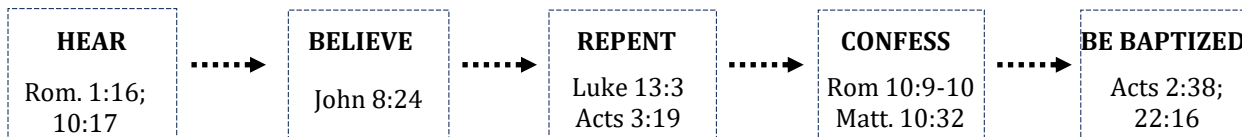
- Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.
Access through the website

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."
Psalms 122:1*

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Stand Firm!

Living for Christ will inevitably come with its challenges and adversities. Yet, amidst the trials, the call to stand firm in our faith could not be more relevant. The phrase "Stand Firm" captures the essence of the Christian's unwavering commitment to serve God, no matter the circumstances.

Throughout Scripture, we find numerous examples of steadfast faith. One such instance is the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in Daniel 3. Faced with the fiery furnace, they declared their unwavering trust in God, saying, "If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it... But even if He does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up" (Daniel 3:17-18). Their refusal to retreat or surrender in the face of imminent danger is a powerful testament of their faith.

Similarly, the apostle Paul, despite numerous persecutions, hardships, and imprisonments, never wavered in his mission to spread the Gospel. In 2 Cor. 4:8-9, Paul writes, "*We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.*" His resilience and determination still serve as a profound encouragement to us all.

Standing firm means anchoring ourselves in God's promises, trusting in His sovereignty, and relying on His strength. It means not compromising our faith, even when the world pressures us to do so.

As children of God, today, we may not face literal furnaces or physical imprisonments, but we do encounter spiritual battles, societal pressures, and personal struggles. In these moments, the call to "stand firm" resonates deeply. Ephesians 6:13-14 urges us to "*put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then...*"


Standing firm means anchoring ourselves in God's promises, trusting in His sovereignty, and relying on His strength. It means not compromising our faith, even when the world pressures us to do so.

Let us, therefore, embrace this call with courage and conviction. Let us face our challenges head-on, knowing that with God by our side, we can stand firm. We must stand firm – for we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us (Romans 8:37).

~ Bro. Robert Webster

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 NOTE****

Children are not allowed in the kitchen without adult supervision.

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.

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

*****Online registration is now open.****

CHURCH LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

This will be hosted by the Park Forest CoC in conjunction with the Sunset Academy of Leadership Training.

Friday, 7/12 6:30 - 8:00pm
Saturday, 7/13 9am - 3pm (lunch will be served)
**** Equipping brothers to become deacons and elders.**

TRAVELING

Sis. Laurene Cunningham, Ahmad Ricks, the grandson

of Sis. Ricks, Sisters Ahmaya & Paige Richardson, Sis. McGee, the Young & Cossom families,

WELCOME

Warm welcome to Sis. Jameka Taylor who placed membership with us this past Sunday.

FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Continue to pray for and encourage our new members: 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

Sis. Brantford had a short stint in the hospital last week. She is now home and recovering. Jermaine McDowell, the son of Sis. Chambers. Tristan Neal, the newborn grandson of Bro. & Sis. Arthur Davis. Linda Williams, niece of the Youngs. Andriana Mendenhall and the Mendenhall family. Sharon Mason, friend of Bro. Conner. Sis. Hardy and her mother, Vladis Reynolds. Quince Dixon, family member of the Cunninghams was hospitalized yesterday with Covid. Bro. Oddman and family, Sis. Lightfoot, Sis. Angelice Cunningham, Sis. Chambers, Sis. Conner, Sis. Janiece Carter, Bro. Hardy and Sis. Ellis.



BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

SIS. LIGHTFOOT
BRO. CARTER

TUES. 7/9
THURS. 7/11



NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK



Instead of a physical membership directory, we are inviting members to download the "Online Member Directory" from the App or Google Play store. This makes it easier for each member to have the most updated information as our directory is constantly changing.. For those who need help, please see Sis. Ruthie

Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship	94
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	37
Last Sunday's offering	\$4,422.71
Weekly Budget	\$4,069.13