

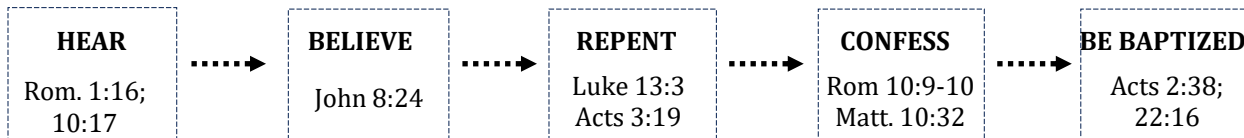
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### Sermon Notes

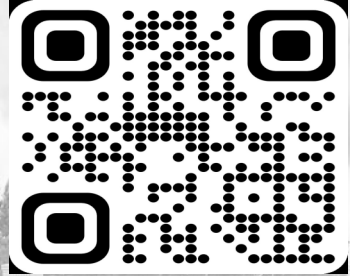


**ORDER OF SERVICE**  
Song ~ Announcements ~ Song ~ Opening Prayer ~ Song ~ Scripture Reading ~ Song ~ Sermon ~ Song ~  
Lord's Supper ~ Offering ~ Song ~ Closing Prayer

#### **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***

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#### 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)*
- Sunday A.M. Service .....11 a.m.
- Sunday P.M. Service .....6 p.m.

##### **Wednesday**

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

#### WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS

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 when it is being passed around.

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

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## I Am an Unprofitable Servant?

In Luke 17:10, Jesus says, "So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have only done our duty.'" This statement can be perplexing, but it holds profound truths about our relationship with God and our role as His servants. When Jesus refers to us as "unprofitable servants," He does not mean that our service is worthless. Instead, He emphasizes that our good works do not earn us merit or favor with God. Our salvation and standing before God are based solely on His grace, not on our deeds. This concept counters on the idea that we can earn God's favor through our actions. As Ephesians 2:8-9 reminds us, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast."

A servant's duty is to obey the master's commands without expecting special recognition or reward. In the same way, our obedience to God is simply fulfilling our duty as His creation. We are called to serve God out of love and gratitude for what He has done for us, not to gain His approval. This perspective shifts our focus from seeking personal glory to glorifying God in all we do. It reminds us that our best efforts are still insufficient to earn salvation (Isa. 64:6). This truth should inspire us to serve God with a pure heart, motivated by love rather than obligation.

Let us, therefore, remember that any good we do is by God's grace. This humility prevents pride and fosters a spirit of gratitude, while at the same time we commit to obeying God's commands, knowing that our service is our duty and privilege as His children. May we extend grace to others, understanding that we all rely on God's mercy. This grace should be evident in our interactions and relationships. As unprofitable servants, we acknowledge that our worth comes from God's grace, not our works. This understanding frees us from striving for approval and allows us to serve God with joy and gratitude. Let us embrace our role as humble servants, faithfully doing our duty and trusting in God's abundant grace.

~Bro. R. Webster

**...our good works do not earn us merit or favor with God.**

# 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.

## OUR CONGREGATION'S EVANGELISM PROGRAM

We implore every member to pray for the success 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)

\*\*\*See Sis. Webster for group information\*\*\*

**This year it's literally at our doorsteps, eliminating the cost of air fare to go to another state. Do make the effort to attend.**

## SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

All members are encouraged to attend Sunday evening worship service at 6:00pm, as we endeavor to abide by Hebrews 10:25 "not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together." Invite friends and families to attend.

## FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

Continue to pray for Sis. Tiarra Thompson who placed membership with us last Sunday. Also, Bro. Ahmad Powell who was baptized last Sunday. Please continue to encourage our newer members.

## TRAVELING

Bro. Oddman is in Jamaica for funeral services.  
 Sis. Ann-Marie Webster is in Alabama.  
 Bro. Ahmad Powell is traveling on college visits.

## FOR PRAYERS

Sis. Ricks & family whose brother is ill. Bro. Goldman who had a recent surgery. Sis. Washington & family, Sis. Ellis, Bro. Oddman & family, the Mendenhall family. Sis. Hardy's mother, Vladis Reynolds. Quince Dixon, family member of the Cunninghams. Sis. Lightfoot, Sis. Angelice Cunningham, Sis. Brantford, and Sis Della White. Bro. Romeo Tomlinson and Sis. Kaye Baggett of AL. who are suffering from serious health issues.



SIS. SERENA WEBSTER

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



SAT. 9/7

## ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

#58 THE GOLDMANS  
 #54 THE DAVISES



TUES. 9/3  
 THURS. 9/5

# Appointing Elders

We will be hosting a two day lesson on "The church and Eldership" on Wednesday, September 11th and Thursday, September 12th, starting at 6:30 pm. Our presenter will be Bro. Eddie Taylor. This is very important as we aspire to appointing qualified men as elders to oversee the church, here, at West Hammond.

# ATTENTION

We are planning a whole church trip to **Goebbert's Farm & Garden Center** on October 19, 2024. While you may drive, we will be chartering a bus, hence we will need a head count by the 3rd Sunday in September. Cost is \$25 at the gate and \$23.50 online.

## Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship	66
Sunday PM Worship	24
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	39
Last Sunday's Offering	\$4,005.71
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$4,069.13</b>