

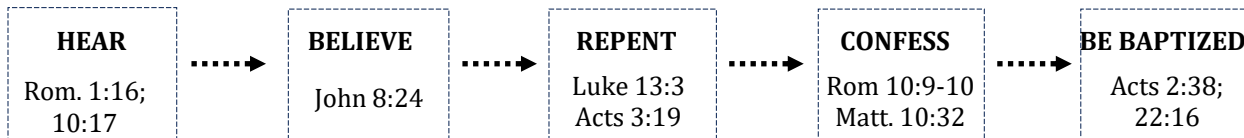
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Sermon Notes

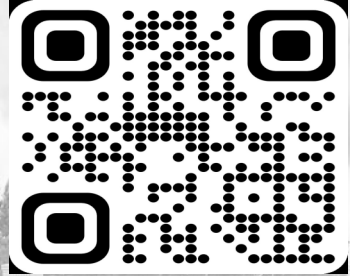


ORDER OF SERVICE
Song ~ Announcements ~ Song ~ Opening Prayer ~ Song ~ Scripture Reading ~ Song ~ Sermon ~ Song ~
Lord's Supper ~ Offering ~ Song ~ Closing Prayer

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***

Volume 10

October 13, 2024

Issue 1

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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)
- Sunday A.M. Service11 a.m.
- Sunday P.M. Service6 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

A Friend of God

There is a word that has such a sweet sound to everyone who hears it. It's the word "friend." Is that not just a most beautiful word? It's a word that brings a smile to the face of everyone who hears it. Friendship is something that we crave, like food and water. We seek it out. When we move into a new town or start a new job, what is the first thing we begin to look for? We are looking for friends. We do this because friends are so meaningful to us. Some friends are just as close as blood relatives. "A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." (Prov. 18:24)

Though there are many other things we could say about friends, consider the following passage with me. "And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, 'Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.' And he was called the friend of God." (Jam. 2:23) Notice that Abraham is identified as "the friend of God." This is not the only time in the scriptures where this statement is made. "But you, Israel, are My servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, The descendants of Abraham My friend." (Isa. 41:8) "Are You not our God, who drove out the inhabitants of this land before Your people Israel, and gave it to the descendants of Abraham Your friend forever?" (2 Chron. 20:7) What a compliment! When God thought of Abraham, He not only thought of him as His friend but His friend forever. What caused Abraham to be the friend of God? He was obedient to the Lord in the life he lived. "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going." (Heb. 11:8) "By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, 'In Isaac your seed shall be called,' concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense." (vs. 17-19) Because of his continual life of obedience, he was recognized as the forever friend of God.

What about you? Does God think of you as His friend? Do you live every day knowing that God is always going to be your friend? God wants to be our friend just as He was the friend of Abraham. What does it take to be a friend of God? Listen to the scriptures. "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you." (Jn. 14:15) In other words, it takes obedience. Was that not true of Abraham? He lived a life of obedience and as a result, he was the friend of God. When we live a life of obedience, striving to keep the commandments of the Lord, we too can live every day with the constant assurance that we are friends with God.

David E Paden Jr

What caused Abraham to be the friend of God? He was obedient to the Lord in the life he lived.


What about you?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDERS

~Please silence your *phones*. 
~**No eating nor drinking** inside the auditorium.

PARDON OUR DUST

Over the next few weeks, we will undergo several phases to install two new restrooms. 

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.

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.

MINISTER MEETING WITH NEW CHRISTIANS

Bro. Webster will have a brief meeting immediately following today's service for all new Christians, dating back to year 2022. Please stay for the meeting.

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.

FALL HOMELESS MISSION

We are accepting canned goods, bottled water, toiletries, **gently** used **men's** clothing & outerwear items **only**. Donations can be placed in the donation room on the lower level. Please indicate "**mission**" on **checks and electronic payments**.

***** 15 days left- All donations due by, Sunday, October 27th *****

Our target outreach date to deliver bags is scheduled for Sunday, November 3rd, immediately after worship. Volunteers are needed. Please mark your calendars!

CONDOLENCES

With deep sadness we announce the passing of Sis. Baggett of AL. Sis. Baggett was a dear friend of the Websters. She was laid to rest 10/5/24 in AL. Please continue to pray for her husband, Bro. Baggett, and family.

NEW BIRTH IN CHRIST

The angels in Heaven rejoice upon the baptism of Deonté Garza last Sunday. Welcome our new brother. Let us all pray for and encourage him and all the other new converts.

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 PRAYERS

Stacye Forrest, the cousin of the Cunninghams is scheduled for another surgery tomorrow, Bro. Arthur Davis, the Boles family, Sis. Ricks, Sis. Hardy's mother Vladis Reynolds, Quince Dixon, sister of Sis. Cunningham, Sis. Lightfoot, Sis. Angelice Cunningham, Sis. Brantford, Sis. Washington, Sis. Ellis who is undergoing extensive diagnostic testing/evaluations, Sis. Washington's daughter, the entire Webster family and Bro. Tomlinson and family.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sis. Trevon McLaurin
Sis. Lydia Chaff

Mon, 10/14
Mon, 10/14 

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

#12 The Mendenhalls 

Today, 10/13

ATTENTION

The trip to Goebbert's Farm & Garden Center is this **Sat**, October 19, 2024. Be at the building by **8:30 am** if you are riding the bus. Notify Bro. EJ if you plan to drive.

You are required to buy your own tickets. Select the **10:00 a.m. time slot** when purchasing your tickets.

Cost is **\$25 at the gate** and **\$23.50 online**.

*****See Bro. EJ Taylor for any questions*****

Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship	86
Sunday PM Worship	17
Wednesday Bible Class	44
Last Sunday's Offering	\$4,449.00
Weekly Budget	\$4,069.13