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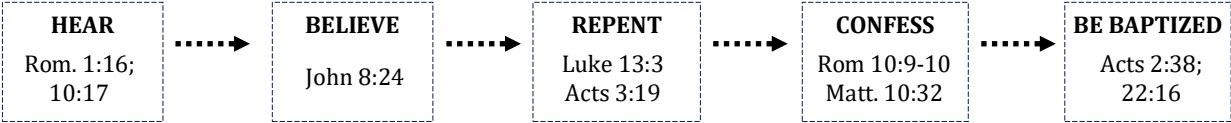
Sermon Notes



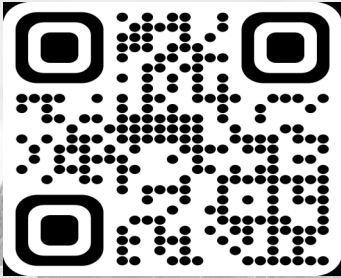
ORDER OF SERVICE

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." **1 John 1:5***

Volume 4


April 13, 2025


Issue 2

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WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sundays

Children's Sunday School10 a.m.
Sis. LaDonna Carter (lower level)
Young People's Class10 a.m.
Bro. Ej. Taylor (upper level)
New Christians' Class10 a.m.
Bro. Webster (upper level)
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.
Bro. Lightfoot (main auditorium)
Sunday A.M. Service11 a.m.
Sunday P.M. Service6 p.m.

Wednesdays

Bible Study (on Zoom)7 p.m.
Access through the website
Thursdays
Men's & Ladies' Classes6:30 p.m.

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.

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

The Songs of Our Lives

There is no doubt that songs play an important role in our lives. This was even more evident in the culture of those in the middle east. The book of Psalms is filled with Hebrew poems that were originally songs. The song sung by Moses and Miriam at the Red Sea is one such song (Exo. 15). When God gave Israel water in the wilderness, they sang the Song of the Well (Num. 21:17, 18). Moses arranged his final warnings and instructions to Israel into a song, which he taught them (Deut. 32). The Song of Deborah (Judges 5) was sung to celebrate a victory over the Canaanites. The Song of Hannah (I Sam. 2) was the song of a mother's thanksgiving for the birth of her son, Samuel. The Song of Solomon was a song celebrating the love between the Lord and Israel, His bride.

Songs play no less a role today in the church. They take up almost half the time we come for worship. Song leaders generally choose songs that will set the tone or create the right environment for worship. However, here are some important reasons why we sing songs.

Firstly, it is commanded by the scriptures. Eph. 5:19 *"speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,"* and Col. 3:16 *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."*

Secondly, we sing because songs are an expression of our hearts toward God. As we worship Him, the Psalmist encourages us to *"Come before His presence with singing and into His courts with praise"* (Psa. 100:4). Take for example, the songs entitled *"To God Be the Glory,"* or *"O Lord my God."* These ascribe the honor, majesty and power that belong only to God. These are facts that we not only learn from the Bible but through observation and experiences (Psa. 19:1). As a result, every success and blessing we experience we should channel the glory and praise to God. Thankfully, being as forgetful as we are, these songs re-position our thoughts on the Lord.

Thirdly, we are to be *"speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs..."* Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16. At the forefront of our minds is the reality that each member is going through different life experiences as we fellowship together. Others are discouraged and overwhelmed by issues, still some are overjoyed because of God's blessings in their lives. Consequently, songs like, *"Hold to God's Unchanging Hand"* or *"Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul"* are extremely uplifting and inspirational.

Let's continually sing to the glory of God and to the edification and encouragement of each other.

~Bro. R. Webster



ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMINDERS

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

New guests please complete A **Welcome Card**.
Returning guest, upon **each** visit, 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-
westhammondccoc@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.

NEW CHRISTIANS' CLASS

Bro. Webster is teaching this class for all new Christians dating back to 2022.

OUR CONGREGATION'S EVANGELISM PROGRAM

Every member is encouraged to get involved in the evangelistic mission of the church. Following Jesus' example and teachings we, too, are expected to seek and save the lost. Luke 19:10

The **Men's Class** and **Ladies' Class** are on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

Sunday evening worship service needs the support of our members. It starts at 6:00pm, and we endeavor to abide by Hebrews 10:25 *"not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together."* Invite friends and families to attend.

NEW BIRTHS & MEMBERSHIP PLACEMENT

Continue to pray for and encourage all our new additions to the body of Christians who meet here at West Hammond Church of Christ.

TRAVELING

The Bells will be traveling for several weeks.
Bro. & Sis. Eddie Taylor and Jameka are in Arizona.

CONDOLENCES

Continue to keep Sis. Doris Davis and the Hamilton family in prayers. Norman Hamilton, the brother of Sis. Doris Davis was funeralized yesterday, April 12th.

The Melson family, relatives of Sis. Washington, recently lost their mother.

Johnny Bailey, the cousin of the Cunningham family passed away this past Monday after a very short battle with cancer. Funeral arrangements to follow.

PRAYERS

Bro. & Sis. Eddie Taylor & family, Conrad Morgan, the grandson of the Hardys, Bro. Lanz Cossom of Harvey CoC, Bro. Oddman and the Willory family, Sis. Thigpen, the Mendenhall family, Levell Chaff, the brother of Sis. Chaff, Sis. Simpson, Bro. Darrell Hicks, Sis. Mickles co-worker who is diagnosed with cancer. Sis. Elsie Gilliam of N.C, the chairperson of the Ladies' Lectureship Retreat, Sis. Lennon's mother who broke her leg, the Brantfords, the Goldmans, Vladis Reynolds, the mother of Sis. Hardy, Sis. Brooke Gamble, Sis. Lightfoot, Sis. Ellis, Sis. Angelice Cunningham, Bro & Sis. Arthur Davis, Sis. Laurene Cunningham, Quince Dixon, and Vera Johnson relatives of the Cunningham family who are all facing some serious health issues.



BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

Bro. EJ Taylor

Thurs. 4/17

NO ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK



TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY

Contact Bro. Mendenhall if you, or anyone you invite to church, will need a ride to get here.

CONGRATULATIONS

Sis. Paige Richardson has been inducted into the National Honor Society. Sis. Akeelah Webster has made the Honor Roll for the 3rd quarter at H-F High School.

LADIES' LECTURESHIP RETREAT

The ladies are back from the 38th Annual Ladies' Lectureship Retreat. It is certain that they have been spiritually uplifted and edified.

Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship	77
Sunday PM Worship	24
Wednesday Bible Class	45
Last Sunday's Offering	\$3,751.00
Weekly Budget	\$4,069.13