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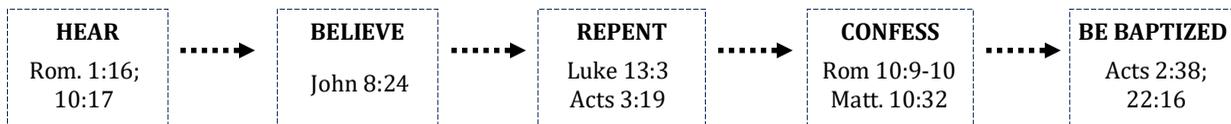
### Sermon Notes



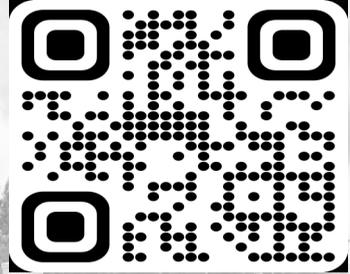
#### ORDER OF SERVICE

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 6** **June 8, 2025** **Issue 2**

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### 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.

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

#### Sundays

- Children's Sunday School .....10 a.m.  
*Sis. LaDonna Carter (lower level)*
- Young People's Class .....10 a.m.  
*Bro. Ej. Taylor (upper level)*
- New Christians' Class .....10 a.m.  
*Bro. Webster (upper level)*
- Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.  
*Bro. Lightfoot (main auditorium)*
- Sunday A.M. Service .....11 a.m.  
*Access YouTube- West Hammond Church of Christ*
- Sunday P.M. Service .....6 p.m.

#### Wednesdays

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

#### Thursdays

- Men's & Ladies' Classes .....6:30 p.m.

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## Stay Focused!

In a world filled with distractions, the call to stay spiritually focused is vital for every believer. Hebrews 12:2 urges us to do this by, **"keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith. Because of the joy awaiting him, he endured the cross, disregarding its shame. Now he is seated in the place of honor beside God's throne"** (NLT).

This powerful verse reminds us that our faith begins and ends with Christ, and He alone is our example and strength.

Life's challenges—trials, temptations, busyness, and even good things—can easily shift our attention away from Jesus. Proverbs 4:25-27 warns, **"Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways. Do not turn to the right or the left."** (NIV). Distraction leads to spiritual drift, but intentional focus on Christ keeps us anchored.

### How to Stay Focused

- ◆ **Remember Christ's Sacrifice** – Jesus endured the cross because of the joy of redeeming us (Philippians 2:8). When hardships come, we must look to His example (1 Peter 2:21).
- ◆ **Keep Eternity in View** – Like Paul, we must forget what is behind and press forward (Philippians 3:13-14). Jesus' resurrection assures us that our struggles are temporary, but His victory is eternal.
- ◆ **Abide in His Word** – Psalm 119:15 says, **"I meditate on Your precepts and consider Your ways."** Daily Scripture reading keeps our minds fixed on God's truth.
- ◆ **Pray Without Ceasing** – 1 Thessalonians 5:17 calls us to continual prayer, keeping our hearts aligned with Christ.

When we fix our eyes on Jesus, everything else falls into place. Matthew 6:33 says, **"Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you as well."** Distractions lose their grip when we prioritize Christ!

This week, let's examine our hearts: Where is my focus? If it's not on Jesus, let's repent and realign. The Christian life is a race of endurance, but we don't run alone—Jesus is our strength, our goal, and our prize. Stay focused—He is worth it all!

~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- [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.
- ◆ If you would like a list of the **absent members**.

## SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

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

## OUR CONGREGATION'S EVANGELISM PROGRAM

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

## PRAYERS

Sis. Simmons' sister, Brenda Howard, Malachi and Sis. Shannon Payne, Sis. Janece Carter-Riley, Sis. Hardy, CJ Johnson, friend of Bro. Brantford, the O'Connor & Longstreet families, relatives of Sis. Tene Mendenhall, Bro. James Mendenhall & the Mendenhall family, Bro & Sis. A. Davis, the Hamilton & McLaurin families, Sis. Martina Davis, Sis. Thigpen, Levell Chaff, brother of Sis. Chaff, Sis. Simpson, Bro. Darrell Hicks, the Brantfords, the Goldmans, Sis. Ellis, Sis. Laurene Cunningham, Irene Herron, Quince Dixon, and Vera Johnson, sisters of Sis. Laurene Cunningham.

## TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY

We are in need of volunteers for this position. In the interim, let Bro. Webster know if you or anyone you invite to church needs a ride.

## NEW CHRISTIANS' CLASS

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

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

\*Bryce Bell  
 Bro. Simmons  
 Bro. Croom  
 \*Addison Wolfolk

\*Denotes not a member

Today, 6/8  
 Today, 6/8  
 Tues. 6/10  
 Sat. 6/14

## LADIES CLASS NEWS

The ladies had a great time painting their choice of ceramic pieces, fellowshiping and snacking. Many want to have a repeat.

We are planning on hosting a **Ladies' Day** this year. The proposed date is October 25th. All ladies are needed to be on board to be on committees and to start preparations for this big event. A meeting with the ladies after church will be announced soon.

## CONDOLENCES

Bro. Darrell Hicks lost his sister, Denise Hicks. Lyric Dyson, the granddaughter of Sis. Ellis, lost her father, Anthony Dyson. Sis. Pam Lennon lost her mother, Mattie Yarbrough of TX. Sis. Washington lost her cousin, Willie Pendleton. Sis. Matthews lost her sister, Jessie Mae Rhymes.

The funeral services for Sis. L. Carter's aunt, Willeva Harris are as follow:

**Visitation**– Friday 6/13/25 (4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.)  
 Travis Funeral Home- 14338 S. Indiana, Riverdale, IL. 60827

**Funeral**– Sat. 6/14/25 (10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.)  
 Apostolic Pentecostal Church– 11401 S. Vincennes, Chicago

## CONGRATULATIONS— CLASS OF 2025

Sis. Ahmaya Richardson graduated from 8th grade. Sis. Akeelah Webster and Bro. Ahmad Powell both graduated from Homewood-Flossmoor High School. Bro. Deonte Rice graduated from Morton High School in Hammond, yesterday. Please let us know if there are any other 2025 graduates.

We will celebrate our graduates is Saturday, June 14, at 3:30 p.m., here at the church building.

### Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship	74
Sunday PM Worship	24
Wednesday Bible Class	41
Last Sunday's Offering	\$ 4,312.43
<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>\$4,069.13</b>