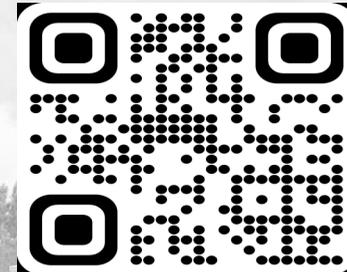


Sermon Notes

Text:
Topic:



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 12

December 28, 2025

Issue 4

Minister: Robert Webster

(708) 752-5589

(robster67@gmail.com)

Secretary: Ruthie Gamble

(219)742-9520 *(requests/announcements)*

(whcocsecretary@gmail.com)

www.westhammondcoc.com

 westhammondcoc@gmail.com

 1138 173rd St., Hammond IN 46324

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

- Morning Service10 a.m.
- Children's Sunday School12 noon
Sis. LaDonna Carter (lower level)
- Young People's Class12 noon
Bro. Ej. Taylor (upper level)
- New Christians' Class12 noon
Bro. Webster (upper level)
- Adult Bible Class.....12 noon
Bro. Eddie Taylor (main auditorium)
- Evening Service6 p.m.

Wednesdays

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

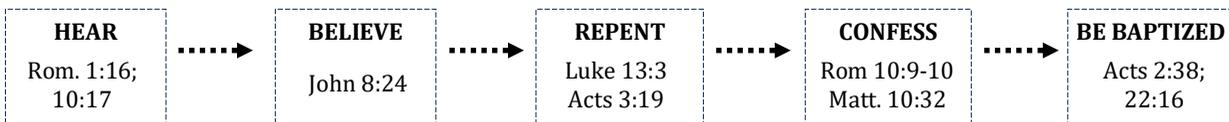
Thursdays

- Men's & Ladies' Classes6:30 p.m.

ORDER OF SERVICE

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

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?



CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Counting Down to 2026

As the final pages of 2025 turn, our eyes naturally look toward the horizon of a new year. While it is true that a calendar is merely a man-made tool—a collection of paper and numbers we use to organize our lives—the passing of time is a divine creation. God Himself established the lights in the heavens *"for signs and seasons, and for days and years"* (Genesis 1:14). Therefore, how we transition from one year to the next matters to God.

This countdown is not just about changing dates; it is about changing hearts. It provides us with a natural *"spiritual checkpoint"* to pause, reflect, and realign our lives with the will of the Father.

Stewards of our Time

The most precious resource we possess is not our money, but our time. Once spent, it can never be regained. The Apostle Paul warns us in Ephesians 5:15-16: *"See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil."* To *"redeem"* means to buy back or make the most of every opportunity. As we approach 2026, we must ask ourselves: Did we spend 2025 wisely? Did we invest in the Kingdom, or did we squander our moments on temporary things?

The Brevity of Life

A new year reminds us that life is moving fast. Moses prayed in Psalm 90:12, *"So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."* We do not count our days to live in fear, but to live with focus. Realizing that our time is limited forces us to prioritize what is truly important.



Your Charge for the New Year

As we stand on the threshold of 2026, here is your charge:

- * **Look Back with Gratitude.** Do not let the struggles of 2025 blind you to its blessings. *"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"* (1 Thessalonians 5:18).
- * **Look In with Examination.** Check your spiritual temperature. Are you closer to Christ now than you were last January? If not, repent and return.
- * **Look Forward with Faith.** Do not carry the failures of the past into the future. Trust that God's mercies are *"new every morning"* (Lamentations 3:23).

Let us finish 2025 strong, not coasting towards the finish line, but running with endurance, ready to give more serve our King in 2026.

~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.

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

CONDOLENCES

*The Conner family has lost several family members this year and two close relatives in the recent weeks.

*The family of Mel Kirksy upon his passing.

Please continue to pray for the Knott-Lawrence, Cunningham, Herron, Hardy, Reynolds, Webster, Williams, Francis and Sanders families.

PRAYERS

Sis. Webster has been ill with the flu. The Salazar's niece, Glorimar had a successful surgery. Sis. Woodard and her mother, Evelyn Woodard. Sis. Hardy's sister, Elaine. Roger Gray friend of Bro. & Sis. Eddie Taylor. Sis. Derrell Porter of Sheldon Heights, Sis. Nadia Hawks, Bro. Billie & Rachel Shaw & family, Greg Kenner the father of Sis. Bell, the Brantfords, Khalid Scott & Tanya DePeiza, friends of Sis. Strickland, Sis Chaff's grandson, and friend Lonnie Halloway, Sis. Chambers' niece, Danny Powell & family, the Simmons, Bro. & Sis. Arthur Davis, Bro. Darrell Hicks, the Goldmans, Sis. Ellis, Sis. Laurene Cunningham, her niece Rose Ann Hillard, the Dixon & Herron families.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE CLASS

We will resume on Wednesday, January 7th. Please read the book of 2 Peter in preparation.

NEW BIRTHS IN CHRIST

Bro. Jose Salazar, the husband of Sis. Fanny Salazar was recently baptized. Continue to pray for and encourage him and all of our other new converts.



BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK

Sis. Thigpen Today, Sun. 12/28
Sis. Ahmaya Richardson Wed. 12/31
Sis. Lennon Wed. 12/31



ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

#8 The Conners Wed. 12/31

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.

JAMAICA HURRICANE RELIEF COLLECTION

A huge thanks to all who have given to this humanitarian cause. The recovery process will take years for many severely affected. In January, Bro. Webster will travel to Jamaica to oversee the use and distribution of the love offering from the West Hammond congregation.

BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

There will be a fellowship breakfast for members and guests ages 60 and up. Sign up on the sheet in the foyer and indicate how many guest(s) will be in attendance with you. Other members are being asked to show up to serve.

Venue: Fellowship Hall downstairs

Date & time: Saturday, January 17 @ 10:00 am



Last Week's Record

Sunday AM Worship	57
Sunday PM Worship	21
Wednesday Bible Class (was not held)	
Last Sunday's Offering	\$16,795.00
Last week's Jamaica Relief Support	\$50.00
Total Jamaica Relief Support	\$11,865.00
Weekly Budget	\$4,069.13