


Topic:  
Text:

# 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.” I John 1:5*

Volume 3

March 24, 2019

Issue 4

## Southland Area Church of Christ

**Address:**  
Eisenhower Community and Fitness Center, 2550 178th St, Lansing, Illinois 60438  
**Mailing address:** P.O. Box 1009, Homewood, IL 60430  
**Minister:** Robert Webster : (708) 752-5589 (robster67@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Sis. Erica Dockens –312-399-4958 (efdockens@yahoo.com)

### Schedule of Services

Sunday	Wednesday
Bible Class.....10 a.m.	Bible Study .....7:00 p.m.
Worship .....11 a.m.	Prayer Meeting (Last Wed. each month @ 7 pm)

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 would 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 would 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.

### What Must I Do to be Saved?

HEAR the Gospel of Christ: Rom. 1:16; 10:17  
BELIEVE in Jesus: John 8:24  
REPENT of your sins: Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30  
CONFESS your faith in Jesus Christ: Matt. 10:32; Rom. 10:9-10  
BE BAPTIZED for the forgiveness of sins: Acts 2:38; 22:16  
REMAIN FAITHFUL until death: Rev. 2:10

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

## The Value of a Faithful Friend – Robert

The popular social media platform, Facebook, allows us to have hundreds of friends, most of whom we will never ever meet. In contrast, Prov. 18:24 tells us that “*there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother*” Not all friends are the same and many of them can only be described as “*fair-weather*” friends (Prov. 14:20; 19:4, 6, 7) that we are oftentimes surrounded by. The older we get though the more we realize that it is better to have one good faithful friend, than to have many reliable professed friends. There are those however, who unfortunately feel “*unimportant*” because they have only a couple of really good friends. The value of real friendship, thankfully, is demonstrated for us by Johnathan’s faithfulness to David especially when he really needed it (1 Sam. 18:1-4; 19:1-7; 20:17-24; 23:15-18).

Many so-called friends will avoid telling you the truth so as not to hurt your feelings and will avoid us when we are experiencing serious challenges in our lives. The divine Word informs us in Prov. 17:17a that “*A friend loves at all times.*” He or she will tell us the truth lovingly but frankly because they hate to see us get hurt or destroy ourselves. Thankfully, adversity has a way of filtering out the unfaithful from the faithful friends. The true friends stick by us in those times. Prov. 17:17 says “*...a brother is born for adversity.*” Valuable friendship will encounter rough times but that’s the price one must pay for such friendship!

One of the great things about genuine friends is that you do not have to pretend to be perfect or someone “*exciting*” in their presence. They will love you, in spite of your mistakes and imperfections. We are sometimes quick to drop these kinds of friends who we sometimes may find boring and seek those who make life seem “*great.*” Let me advise you that someone may seem interesting and exciting but lacks substance. Such a friend you can well do without!

Remember, true friendship means appreciating people, not for their appearance, material wealth, or what they can do for our image, but because of who they are. Be very careful then how you go about choosing your friends because the most popular is not necessary the one who will add value to your life!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our monthly prayer meeting will be held this Wednesday 7 p.m. There’s much to petition our Father for and to give Him thanks. Remember that “*the effectual fervent prayer of the righteous availeth much.*” James 5:16.

Erica Dockens know.

We need volunteers to take the Communion to Sis. Ursula Ware who lives in Hazel Crest. If you’re interested please see Bro. Webster.

**Prayers needed:** Sis. Lennon’s 2 nieces who lost their father, Sis. Mickles friend who got injured from a fall, Sis. Miklosic’s co-worker who lost both mother and grandmother in the same week, Sis. Rachel Shaw’s uncle diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Sis. Ursula Ware (shut-in), Sis. Laurene Cunningham with thyroid issues, Sis. Sandra Mutlab, Sis. Herschenia Brown, Rob Hardy, Sis. Doris Davis, and Bro. Clarence Harley.

It was great having our college students with us on their spring break. Some have gone back while others will be leaving this week. Please remember to fervently pray for them.

## Our College Students

**Paris Mickles** -SIU  
**Darren Jackson** –SIU  
**Bria Gamble** Illinois State  
**Denee Webster** U of I (Urbana/Champagne)

Sisters Carter and Webster will be attending the 34th Annual Ladies Lectureship Retreat in San Antonio, Texas, April 18-21, 2019. Please keep them in your prayers.

If you did not see your birthday or anniversary mentioned in the bulletin, please let Sis.

We have a Suggestions/Comments Box placed on the table at the back.

**Out of Town:** The Bells and Sis. Mutlab.

No birthdays nor anniversaries this week..

## Order of Service

Song  
Announcement  
Song  
Opening Prayer  
Song  
Scripture Reading  
Song  
Sermon  
Song  
Lord’s Supper  
Offering  
Song  
Closing Prayer

## Last Week’s Record

Sun. AM Class	30
Sun. AM Worship	54
Contribution	\$2711.19
Wed. Bible Class	14