Sermon Notes:

The Messenger

Weekly Newsletter of Whiteland Church of Christ
Loving God / Loving People

The Lord's Day, February 15, 2026

Order of Worship

Greeting: Rex DeFord
Scripture Reading: Clinton Nalley
Worship Leader: Lonnie Hewitt
Communion: Rodney Dowell
Sermon: Isaiah Echols
Announcements / Prayer: Ed Tichenor

During Sermon

Nursery: Hannah Redden (Sub: Rhonda Denzio)
Pre-K & K: Gina Sowder & Edie Short
1st-3rd Grade Bible Hour: Crystal Miller

Schedule of Services

Bible Studies: Sunday 9:30am & 5:00pm / Wednesday 7pm
Worship: Sunday 10:30am

Connect with Us

Church Office	(317) 535-1627
Church Text:	(317) 953-5095
Website:	www.whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Email:	info@whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Prayer:	PrayerRequest@whitelandchurchofchrist.com
Social Media:	www.Facebook.com/WhitelandCOC
	www.Instagram.com/WhitelandCOC
	www.Instagram.com/WhitelandCOC_Youth
	www.X.com/@Whiteland_COC
Online Worship:	www.YouTube.com/@WhitelandCOC

Mail In Contributions

Whiteland Church of Christ / PO Box 85 / Whiteland, IN 46184

Leadership

Elders
Stan Davis (317) 507-1936 / Ed Tichenor (317) 412-2416
Minister
Ronnie Hewitt (317) 966-2029

Welcome

Thank you for being with us today. We hope you find your time here to be a source of renewal, hope, and belonging.

Recent Prayer Requests

Landry Johnson will be having tubes inserted in his ears on the 20th. **Karen DeFord** will be having hip replacement surgery on the 26th. **Ronnie & GayLee Sutton** have both been sick. **Drew Burton** is requesting prayers for his grandmother. She recently had surgery for melanoma and will be doing immunotherapy. Also, his finance's grandmother had an aortic rupture due to a heart attack and had to have surgery. **Suzanne Bielski,** Lonnie & Sonya's doctor, has cancer and is undergoing chemo. **Missy Downs,** Sonya Hewitt's cousin, has stage 3 kidney disease. **Neil Kent,** David's brother, has lung cancer and has been in the ICU in Houston with breathing issues.

Long Term Concerns

Gavin Brooks (son of Keith Huesman's friend, heart issues), **Juanita Brunnemer** (shut-in), **Eric Chamberlain** (Logan's dad, chemotherapy for bone cancer), **John Collins** (Hewitt's uncle, stage 4 prostate & stomach cancer), **Susie Crecelous** (GayLee's friend, bone cancer & lupus), **Eddie Culin** (Wiwczaroski's friend, cancer), **Tonya Dowell** (health issues), **Nancy Duncan** (Rodney Dowell's sister, needs kidney transplant), **Pam Dowty** (Ronnie Sutton's sister, Parkinson's), **Robert Ewing** (GayLee's nephew, bone & liver cancer), **Gloria** (friend of Hagan's, kidney & heart issues), **Moe Handy** (shut-in), **Rex Hembree** (Della's brother, lung issues), **Angie Hewitt** (looking for employment), **Jamie Jones** (Hagan's nephew, coronary artery bypass & kidney transplant list), **Martin Julian** (shut-in), **Neil Kent** (David's brother, lung cancer), **Pam Lasiter** (Lougene's daughter, ongoing health issues), **Sharon Lasiter** (Rosegate Nursing Center, Rm#120, hospice), **Lynn** (Lonnie & Sonya's daughter-in-law's aunt, breast & spine cancer), **Clayton Marrott** (intestinal issues), **Pat Martin** (Amy Wiwczaroski's dad, Parkinson's), **Brett Mason** (Rodney & Tonya Dowell's son, Leukemia), **Leah Raker** (Kent's great-granddaughter, Rett syndrome), **Bruce Roberts** (Lyndsay Trostle's uncle, colon cancer - hospice), **Anthony Ross** (Gay Logsdon's nephew, dialysis), **Heather Schmidt** (Amy Wiwczaroski's cousin, chemo), **Tim Scott** (Cindy Strope's brother, palsy), **Charles Speer** (friend of Ronnie & Angie, blood cancer and is receiving infusion treatments), **Benny Stephens** (oxygen), **Gayle Stephens** (cancer), **Vonnie Stonebraker** (Sowder's neighbor, palliative care), **Barb Surber** (Compass Park, Rm 1304), **GayLee Sutton** (wet macular degeneration), **Blanche Taylor** (shut-in), **Delbert Vibbert** (Lougene's nephew, COPD), **Tiffany Waskom** (Crystal Miller's co-worker, immunotherapy for cancer), **John West** (Dawn Elliott's friend, cancer), **Wanda Weaver** (kidney disease & lupus), **Jimmy Wooten** (Lougene's son, Parkinson's); **Kevin & Mary Wooten** (Lougene's son & daughter-in-law, Kevin - Cardiac Amyloidosis, chemo; Mary - Alzheimer's)

How do I become a Christian?

Hear the Word (Romans 10:17) / Believe the Word (John 20:31, Acts 16:31) / Repent of your sins (Luke 13:5, 15:7) / Confess Jesus to others (Matthew 10:32-33) / Be Baptized in the name of Jesus for salvation (1Peter 3:21, Romans 6:4-5, Acts 2:37-38)

Announcements

Celebrations This Week

Birthday

15th Phil Cottingham
17th Rick Lowe
19th Isaiah Boner

Anniversary

(None to Report)

Winter Blues Youth Event

There is a youth event scheduled for all our kids on Saturday, February 21st from 1-4pm, here at the church building. For more details, please see Eric and Amy.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

All our men, young & old alike, are invited to join us for our next breakfast fellowship on Saturday, February 28th at 9am in the Fellowship Hall.

Area Wide Singing & Chili Supper

Our annual singing is scheduled for Saturday, February 28th at 5pm. We have invited sister congregations to join us. If you signed up to bring chili, please let George know if you are still able to do so. We also need some volunteers to provide desserts.

Assistance Needed

We are looking for a couple more people to assist in the sound booth during worship services. If you are willing to help with this, please see George.

Ministry Updates

There are a few updates on the main bulletin board from our missions. Please take the time to stop and read them and pray for our missionaries and their ministries.

Cleaning Crew – February 15-21 (Team 4)

Finance Record for 2026

Weekly Budget: $3,474.56 Last Sunday Offering: $3,697.00

Attendance

Sunday: AM Bible Study (20); Worship (66); PM Bible Study (11)

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, February 15	Numbers 8-10
Monday, February 16	Numbers 11-13
Tuesday, February 17	Numbers 14-15
Wednesday, February 18	Numbers 16-17
Thursday, February 19	Numbers 18-20
Friday, February 20	Numbers 21-22
Saturday, February 21	Numbers 23-25

RONNIE HEWITT
MINISTER

Perfected in Love

John's words in 1John 4:7–21 remind us that the defining mark of God's people is not talent, knowledge, or activity—it is love. Not the shallow love our culture often celebrates, but the deep, sacrificial, Christ-shaped love that flows from God Himself.

John begins with a simple but searching command: "*Let us love one another, for love comes from God*." Love is not optional for the believer. It is the evidence that we have been born of God and truly know Him. If God is love, then His children must reflect His character.

John does not leave us guessing about what love looks like. He points us to the cross: "*This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins*." Real love takes initiative. Real love sacrifices. Real love moves toward the undeserving. God didn't wait for us to love Him first—He loved us while we were still sinners. Because of this, John says we "ought" to love one another. That word means we owe it. Those who have received such mercy are called to extend mercy. Those who have been forgiven must forgive. Those who have been loved must love.

John also makes a remarkable statement: "*No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us.*" In other words, the world sees the invisible God through the visible love of His people. When the church loves well, God becomes recognizable.

This love also gives us confidence. John writes, "*There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear.*" As we grow in God's love, fear loses its grip—fear of judgment, fear of rejection, fear of not being enough. The more we understand His love, the more we rest in His grace.

John concludes with a truth that brings the whole passage together: "*We love because He first loved us.*" Our love is not self-generated; it is a response to the love we have received. And because God has loved us so completely, He commands us to love our brothers and sisters with that same spirit.

May we be a people whose lives make the love of God visible. May our homes, our conversations, our fellowship, and our service reflect the One who loved us first.