Sermon: Suit Up! Clothed with Christ
Colossians 3:12-14; Ephesians 1:4; 1Peter 2:9; 1John 3:1

The Messenger

Newsletter of Whiteland Church of Christ

Loving God / Loving People

The Lord's Day, Sunday, August 16, 2026

Order of Worship

Call to Worship: Dan Strope
Scripture Reading: Heath Reeves (Colossians 3:12-14)
Worship Leader: Lonnie Hewitt
Communion: Rick Lowe
Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt (Suit Up!)
Announcements / Prayer: Stan Davis

Bible Hour During Sermon

Nursery: Hanna Redden (Sub: Kayla Stanton)
Toddler: Lavana Tichenor
4yr old-Pre-K: Edie Short
K-3rd Grade: 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 Prayer Text Line:(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

Recent Prayer Requests

Richard Burris has been doing physical therapy and taking medication for his slipped vertebrae that is pressing on nerves in his back. He has a follow up with the surgeon on Monday.
Moe Handy saw an orthopedist on Friday concerning having knee replacement surgery.
Ronnie Sutton had a cardioversion procedure, but that didn't help the A-Fib. He is scheduled to go back to the hospital on the 25th to finish the heart cath procedure.
Wade, son of GayLee's friend Lendola, is still in the hospital and has MRSA and pneumonia. He also has a drain tube through his back to assist his weakened kidney. He is responding slowly.
Shirley Hewitt, the Hewitt's stepmom, has been placed on hospice care.
Eric Chamberlain, Logan's dad, had surgery Thursday to address the cancer on his arm.
Belle Magill-Shirley, Wanda's mom, suffered a mini-stroke and is undergoing testing and treatment.

Long Term Concerns

Rhonda Aliff (Pat Stinson's daughter, lupus), **Kathy Ashley** (Rachel's mom, is recovering well from hip replacement surgery), **Suzanne Bielski** (Lonnie & Sonya's doctor, chemo treatments for cancer), **Eric Chamberlain** (Logan's dad, infusion therapy for bone cancer), **Susie Crecelous** (GayLee's friend, bone cancer & lupus), **Eddie Culin** (Wiwczaroski's friend, recovering from treatments for Hodgkin's Lymphoma), **Tonya Dowell** (health issues), **Pam Dowty** (Ronnie Sutton's sister, Parkinson's), **Nancy Duncan** (Rodney Dowell's sister, needs kidney transplant), **Robert Ewing** (GayLee's nephew, bone & liver cancer), **Gloria** (Hagan's friend, kidney & heart issues), **Angie Hammitt** (Wiwczaroski's friend, colon & liver cancer, aggressive chemo treatments), **Moe Handy** (shut-in), **Rex & Susan Hembree** (Della's brother, lung issues; sister-in-law, severe abdomen issues), **Jamie Jones** (Hagan's nephew, coronary artery bypass), **Martin Julian** (shut-in), **Lillian Kelley** (mother of George's friend, Chelsea, hospice), **Neil Kent** (David's brother, lung cancer), **Mary Leachman** (sun poisoning), **Flora Littleton** (seizures), **Amanda Magner** (former member, recovering from bone cancer surgery), **Clayton Marriott** (lost his way spiritually), **Pat Martin** (Amy's dad, Alzheimer's), **Brett Mason** (Rodney & Tonya Dowell's son, Leukemia), **Norma Nelson** (Della's friend, heart & lungs), **Leah Raker** (Kent's great-granddaughter, Rett syndrome), **Anthony Ross** (Gay Logsdon's nephew, dialysis), **Heather Schmidt** (Amy Wiwczaroski's cousin, radiation treatments), **Elise Short** (Edie's mom, recovering from gallbladder surgery), **Barb Surber** (Dementia; Compass Park, Rm 1304), **Tiffany Waskom** (Crystal Miller's co-worker, immunotherapy for cancer), **Wanda Weaver** (lupus & kidney disease), **John West** (Dawn Elliott's friend, cancer), **Ayden** (Wanda Weaver's 14yr old neighbor, chemo treatments for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma)

Cleaning Crew – 16th-22nd
(Team 3)

Finance Record for 2026
Weekly Budget: $3,474.56 Last Sunday Offering: $4,563.00

Attendance Last Week
Sunday: AM Bible Study (23); Worship (72); PM Bible Study (10)
Wednesday Bible Study (14)

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, August 16	Jeremiah 14-17
Monday, August 17	Jeremiah 18-22
Tuesday, August 18	Jeremiah 23-25
Wednesday, August 19	Jeremiah 26-29
Thursday, August 20	Jeremiah 30-31
Friday, August 21	Jeremiah 32-34
Saturday, August 22	Jeremiah 35-37

Celebrations This Week

Birthday
18th Mickey McDaniel
19th Kaitlynn Parrott
22nd GayLee Sutton

Anniversary
18th Ed & Lavana Tichenor (47yrs)

Announcements

Men's Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday, August 22nd at 9am. All our men, young and old alike, are encouraged to join us for a meal, fellowship, and a devotional on the theme: The Man You're Meant to Be

Back to School Bash: Saturday, August 22nd from 3-7pm (Eat around 5pm). This will be a fun event for the whole family. The main meal will be provided. You are asked to bring a dessert. There will be water balloons, a bounce house, and beach ball games. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the youth group bulletin board. You can contact Eric or Amy for more information.

Mark your Calendar: the Boys to Men Campout has been scheduled for Friday, November 6th.

www.facebook.com/faithappliedaily

"The Church and the World Around It"

The church has always lived at the intersection of two realities: the kingdom of God, where Christ reigns, and the secular world, where cultural winds shift, values collide, and pressures rise. Understanding how God calls His people to live faithfully in this tension is essential for every believer and congregation.

The church does not take its identity from the world around it. It receives its identity from Christ Himself. Jesus said, "*My kingdom is not of this world*" (Jn 18:36). This means the church is not defined by political movements, cultural trends, or social expectations. We belong to a kingdom that is eternal, holy, and unshakable. Yet, we live within a world that often does not recognize that kingdom. Therefore, Paul reminds us: "*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind*" (Rom 12:2). The church must resist the pressure to blend in so completely that its witness becomes invisible. Transformation, not conformity, is the call.

Even though the church is not of the world, it is certainly in the world. Jesus prayed to the Father: "*I do not ask that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil one*" (Jn 17:15). Therefore, Christ does not remove His people from secular society; He sends them into it as "salt and light" (Matt 5:13-16). The church's mission is not withdrawal but faithful presence – living out the gospel in our workplaces, neighborhoods, schools, and communities. We are called to show the world what Christ looks like through our character, compassion, and convictions.

Let's be honest, we face a challenge as we live in this secular world. The world often promotes values that conflict with Scripture: self-exaltation, moral relativism, and the pursuit of pleasure without accountability. These pressures can tempt us as Christians to compromise our faith or to grow silent. But Jesus said: "*You are the light of the world. A city on a hill that cannot be hidden*" (Matt 5:14). The challenge is not simply resisting sin; it is resisting invisibility. The church must speak truth with grace, hold convictions with humility, and live differently without becoming distant or dismissive.

We have an opportunity. Every cultural moment, no matter how secular, creates opportunities for the spread of the Gospel. People are hungry for meaning. Families are searching for stability. Communities are longing for hope. Hearts are quietly asking whether there is more to life than what they see. We, the church, carry one message that answers all these longings. John 1:4 says, "*In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.*" When the church lives faithfully, lovingly, and courageously, the secular world sees Christ through us. We must not retreat in fear, nor blend in without conviction. Instead, we are called to walk the same path Jesus walked – fully present in the world, yet fully devoted to the Father.

Let us be a people who shine brightly, speak truth lovingly, and live faithfully so that the world may see the beauty of Jesus through His church.

...Ronnie Hewitt