Sermon: The Direction of Worship
John 4:19, 22-24; Isaiah 29:13; Romans 12:1-2; Hebrews 12:28; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; John 17:17; Psalm 95:1–3, 6–7

The Messenger

Newsletter of Whiteland Church of Christ

Loving God / Loving People

The Lord's Day, Sunday, September 13, 2026

Order of Worship
Call to Worship: Rodney Dowell
Scripture Reading: Randy Sowder (John 4:22-24)
Worship Leader: Randy Sowder
Communion: Lonnie Hewitt
Sermon: Ronnie Hewitt (The Direction of Worship)
Announcements / Prayer: Mickey McDaniel

Bible Hour During Sermon
Nursery: Debbie Smith (Sub: Hanna Redden)
Toddler: Lavana Tichenor
4yr old-Pre-K: Edie Short
K-3rd Grade: Kara Littleton

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

Karen DeFord will be having surgery on September 25th.
Isaiah Echols will be having another biopsy on September 23rd. His latest MRI showed an additional lesion that they want to evaluate.
Moe Handy will be having knee replacement surgery at Community South on September 28th.
Rex Hembree (Della's brother) only has one functional lung, which is operating at 40%, and is causing his oxygen level to be extremely low. He is waiting for a report from his oncologist.
Ronnie Hewitt will be having an echocardiogram stress test on September 24th.
Flora Littleton is having a 3-day EEG at Riley beginning September 21st.
Tracy (Gina's daughter) is recovering from back surgery on Thursday.
Sarah Day's dad is recovering from leg surgery after falling last Sunday.

Long Term Concerns

Rhonda Aliff (Pat Stinson's daughter, lupus), **Suzanne Bielski** (Lonnie & Sonya's doctor, chemo treatments for cancer), **Richard Burris** (recovering from neck and discs repair surgery), **Eric Chamberlain** (Logan's dad, infusion therapy for bone cancer), **Susie Crecelous** (GayLee's friend, bone cancer & lupus), **Eddie Culin** (Wiwczaroski's friend, 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), **Neil Kent** (David's brother, lung cancer), **Mary Leachman** (sun poisoning), **Flora Littleton** (seizures), **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), **Belle Magill-Shirley** (Wanda's mom, recovering from a mini-stroke), **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, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma), **Jim Yager** (Hewitt's uncle, recovering from spinal fusion)

Cleaning Crew – 13th—19th
(Team 2)

Finance Record for 2026
Weekly Budget: $3,474.56 Last Sunday Offering: $4,116.00

Attendance Last Week
Sunday: AM Bible Study (22); Worship (59); PM Bible Study (11)
Wednesday Bible Study (14)

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Sunday, September 13	Ezekiel 43-45
Monday, September 14	Ezekiel 46-48
Tuesday, September 15	Daniel 1-3
Wednesday, September 16	Daniel 4-6
Thursday, September 17	Daniel 7-9
Friday, September 18	Daniel 10-12
Saturday, September 19	Hosea 1-7

Celebrations This Week

Birthday
20th Neil Buttram, Amanda Trostle
23rd Cindie Cottingham
24th Rodney Dowell, Hannah Hewitt

Anniversary
24th Randy & Gina Sowder (22yrs)

Announcements

Shults Lewis Annual Day is September 19th from 8am-4pm. There will be music/food/crafts/rummage sale/auction/and family fun for all.

Men's Prayer Breakfast is September 26th. All our men are encouraged to join us for a meal, devotional, fellowship, and prayer.

Renewing Vows: Everyone is invited to join Eric and Lyndsay Trostle as they renew their marriage vows on Saturday, October 3, at 3:30 p.m. here at the building.

Gospel Meeting: The Eagle Valley Church of Christ is hosting their Fall Meeting on Sunday, October 4th – Thursday, October 8th, with guest speaker: Rick Leach from the Central Church of Christ in Bedford.

Women Under Construction: The Morgan Street Church of Christ is inviting our ladies to join them for their Ladies' Day on Saturday, October 17th, from 10am—1pm. There is a flyer posted on the bulletin board.

www.facebook.com/faithappliedddaily

"My Help Comes from the Lord"

Psalm 121 opens with a simple, searching question: "*I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from*?" It is the cry of someone who knows what it feels like to be overwhelmed, uncertain, or weary. It is the voice of a traveler looking toward the mountains, aware of both the dangers and the hopes that lie ahead. And yet, in the very next breath, the psalmist answers his own question with unwavering confidence: "*My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth*." This is a declaration of trust rooted in the character of God Himself. The One who made the hills is greater than anything that hides within them. The One who formed the heavens is more powerful than anything that threatens us on earth. The One who created us is faithful to sustain us.

In ancient Israel, hills symbolized both refuge and risk. They were places where travelers might find shelter, but also where bandits might hide. When the psalmist lifts his eyes, he acknowledges the reality of life's uncertainties. We do the same today. We look at our circumstances, our responsibilities, our challenges, our fears, and we ask, "Where will my help come from?" Psalm 121 teaches us to look higher. Not to deny our struggles, but to see beyond them. Our help does not come from our surroundings, our resources, or our own strength. It comes from the Lord who stands above every circumstance and every season.

Psalm 121 is one of the most tender passages in Scripture. It reminds us that God's care is not distant or general—it is personal and attentive. He watches over you. He will not let your foot slip. He neither slumbers nor sleeps. He is your shade at your right hand. He guards your coming and going. These are not abstract promises. They are intimate assurances. God is not simply aware of your life; He is involved in it. He is not simply present; He is protective. He is not simply powerful; He is purposeful in His care for you.

The psalmist wants us to know that God's help is not occasional. It is constant. It is not reactive. It is proactive. It is not fragile. It is faithful. We all face moments when our strength runs thin. When our patience wears out. When our courage falters. When our hope feels dim. Psalm 121 reminds us that God's help is not limited by our weakness. When we are weak, He is strong. When we are uncertain, He is steady. When we are afraid, He is near. When we are overwhelmed, He is enough.

So let me encourage you: Lift your eyes above your worries, above your burdens, and above your limitations. Lift your eyes to the Lord, your Maker, your Keeper, your Help.

....Ronnie Hewitt