

HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER



Highway 32 Church of Christ

1688 Tri-County Highway

P.O. Box 642

Williamsburg, OH, 45176

www.highway32churchofchrist.com

Elders

Lowell Smith

Ron Smith

Marc Curfman

(513) 553-3703

Sunday Bible Class	10:00AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	11:00AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00PM
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00PM

Privileged to Serve

Announcements: Keith Pennington

Song Leader: Lowell Smith

Lord's Table
Les Smith
Don Salisbury
Bruce Curfman
Griffin Stith

Opening Prayer: Rich Book

Sermon: Marc Curfman

Closing Prayer: Alan Springer

PM Song Leader: Ron Smith

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	42	38
Morn. Assembly	84	74
Sun Eve.	24	12
Wednesday	**	13
Zoom Class	17	15
Contribution:	\$4583.00	\$2419.00

Love covers a multitude of failures

Here recently two of the most powerful voices in the world used their voices to attack one another. Only a week or so earlier, they spoke with one voice, not always complete agreement but at least in support of one another. The word battle went from a disagreement over what ought to be to a word battle over character. And the world was watching. Regardless of your political views, surely you can see that such personal attacks only weakened the cause of both men.

In scripture, there are countless verses that call God's people to unite. We are our brother's keeper, "a cord of three strands is not easily broken," "Let love of the brethren continue." It is Peter who tells us: ***"Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins."*** ¹ Peter 4:8.

That word "sins" is that Greek word ἁμαρτία (hamartia), meaning to miss the mark or to fail at one's purpose. I think it is vital to remember this as the church. We are a group of people who far too often miss the mark. We often fail to be what God designed us to be. Individually, it calls us to pray for our own personal forgiveness, but it also calls us to love those people who fail in life. Peter doesn't just say to pray for those sinners among us but to fervently love each other. Why? Because love covers a multitude of failures.

Those two powerful voices I mentioned may have been disagreeing for quite some time before it became public. Yet the true damage was done not because they didn't agree but because they failed to love one another. I guess no one ever thinks in terms of love when it comes to politics or the media. Here lately it seems those in the public eye have an attitude of "take no prisoners." Whatever you do to me, I will do worse to you. We live in a culture that doesn't believe in forgiveness but what is called cancel culture, where you wear the marks of your failures forever like Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter.

But God's people are those who have been forgiven and we are those who forgive from the heart.

"For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions." ¹⁵ Matt. 6:14-15.

And why would we expect any different? The greatest gift we offer the world is the gift of forgiveness. We share that message of the cross, the grace, the mercy, and the redemption of souls. We call people to bow before the Lord who forgives our sins. So, what would the world conclude when they come among us to find out that such love and forgiveness is not our practice? I have often heard it said that the church isn't made up of perfect people but that we are forgiven people. I also know that we are to imitate Christ. Yes, we can disagree about many things. Maybe your wife is a terrible cook. Maybe you think I should not sing so loud. Maybe you what you said hurt someone's feelings. Love covers a multitude of failures. That is what the world needs to see and that is what people long to experience.

I have heard about God's forgiveness. I know the stories of the cross and the grace we receive but have I experienced your love in spite of my failures? And I know that I am not all that easy to love. That is why Peter prefaces his words by saying ***"keep fervent in your love..."*** People are not always so easy to love, so we dig in our heels, take a deep breath, and choose to love even those difficult souls. When the world sees that, then the world might finally understand the love of God. Love covers a multitude of failures.

marc

Welcome to Highway 32 Church,

We are a group of Christians worshipping God according to the Teaching in the New Testament. May we all worship our loving Father today with sincere hearts, open and receptive to His Spirit and His love.

June Teachers

Cradle Roll - Kacie Schunk
Pre-K-K - Lindsey Stith
1st-6th - Penny Goble

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Marc Curfman

Wed. Eve. 7:00 pm – Don Salisbury



June Teacher

Kacie Schunk

Note: Children will go to Bible Hour during the song before the morning lesson.



June Building & Communion

Mayes Family

Zoom Meetings – Zoom meeting (II Kings) every Thursday 7pm. See Sue for the link if you would like to participate.

Announcements:

Myna Smith is in rehab recovering from her fall.

Her address: Monarch Meadows
299 Commerce Dr.
Seaman, OH 45679

Joyce and Huey's brother George passed away Wednesday 6/4 at the age of 95. Services will be held in Alabama on Monday. Keep this family in your prayers.

There will be no Ladies Class for June, Sue will be in Romania. We will get together for the month of July.

June Birthdays

6/2 Brian Bukvic
6/4 Bruce Curfman
6/12 Felicia Claire

June Anniversaries

6/3 Frank/Yvonne Glover
6/6 Alan/Debbie Springer
6/6 Keith/Linda Pennington
6/22 Joe/Sandra Sena
6/24 Carl/Donna Beard
6/25 Lowell/Karen Smith

Continue to Remember: Mark Book, Monty Gillespie, Karen Smith, Carol Basham, Ruth Barnes, Paul Sena and our church family.

"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."