

# HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER



## Highway 32 Church of Christ

1688 Tri-County Highway

P.O. Box 642

Williamsburg, OH, 45176

[www.highway32churchofchrist.com](http://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: Ron Smith

Song Leader: Tom Mayes

Lord's Table: Jim Hutchings  
Dylan Ruhstaller  
Ashton Hutchinson  
David Turpin

Opening Prayer: Keith Pennington

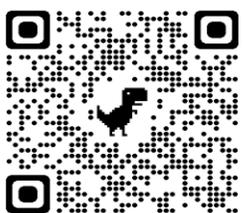
Sermon: Marc Curfman

Closing Prayer: Griffin Stith

PM Song Leader: No Pm Service

### Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	39	33
Morn. Assembly	61	74
Sun Eve.	27	16
Wednesday	11	12
Zoom Class	15	14
Contribution:	\$2186.00	\$4653.00



Visitors:  
Scan QR  
Code and  
let us  
know you  
were here.

### A House Divided

Jesus asked a question about faith: ***“Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save a life or to kill?”*** <sup>Mark 3:4.</sup> That particular Sabbath day Jesus was working to do good while the Pharisees were working to do evil. Later, Jesus cast out a demon and is accused of collaborating with Beelzebul. Our Lord points out the absurdity of such an idea. ***“And if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand.”*** <sup>Mark 3:25.</sup>

Jesus came to the nation of Israel and that was a nation divided. Some fought to do good while other to harm, all claiming loyalty to God. But such is not loyalty to God but to one's own wants and wishes. Some wanted freedom from God's will by imposing their will upon others while other only wanted blessings with no obligations. It was a house divided. Yet, Jesus defines the true house of God when he said: ***“For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother.”*** <sup>Mark 3:35.</sup>

While it is easy to look back in history and see the failings of the Pharisees, the crowds and even the flesh and blood family of Jesus, what we often fail to grasp is our own place in this story. Are we a house divided? I don't ask about “those people” but our house, our family. Far too often the Christian claim comes from a house divided. We seem to be an assembly of people divided to the point that a preacher must worry each week which group might be offended by God's truth. We worry about appeasing the “membership” more than submitting to God. Perhaps the preacher should pray before each lesson he prepares these words: “Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” Perhaps the entire assembly should also audibly and in unison pray this same prayer of submission. It is the only answer to a house divided.

A house divided is also the woeful reality of many “Christian families.” We claim faith and obedience and perhaps at one time taught God's absolutes until it was no longer convenient, no longer soothing. Over the years I have personally witnessed the compromise of truth within families of faith as we accommodate the choices and rebellions of family members; children brothers and sisters. What once was taught as an absolute will of God now must acquiesce to accommodate the will of “junior.” Moral boundaries are malleable. Selfish behaviors are tolerated. Life choices are determined not by the word of God but sympathies and pseudo-love for that one who you value more than Jesus. One desperately tries to hold on to relationships by compromise but the prophetic reality is exactly as Jesus predicted: ***“if a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand.”*** <sup>Mark 3:25.</sup>

The hope for a house divided is also found in Mark 3. It was Jesus who chose the twelve. He did not ask for volunteers who would grace Jesus with their service but Jesus decided, Jesus chose, Jesus is the one who rules. God's will must be lord of our lives in our gatherings as a church and in our families and in our own lives. When we do the will of God, and only when we submit to the will of God can we be God's people, and God's family. A house divided cannot stand. Look around and see the results of ignoring this truth, then look within the four walls of your life, your family and our fellowship. Are we willing to make those difficult choices of faith or do we live by the seductive forces of compromise? Do you think Jesus enjoyed rejecting the will of even his own mother, brothers and sisters? Did it not cause ache deep inside? Faithful obedience is not about the happy or sad emotions but about our devotion to God.

Humbly resolve to know your scriptures. Make those difficult and sometimes painful choices of “Thy will be done.” Build your house, your home and our fellowship on a firm foundation of God's word (Matt. 7:24). Let us not seek hope in a house divided.

*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.

### February Teachers

**Cradle Roll** - Lindsey Stith  
**Pre-K-K** - Lindsey Stith  
**2nd-6th** - Sue Curfman

### **Sunday Morning Adult classes:**

David Turpin

**Wed. Eve.** 7:00 pm – Don Salisbury



**February Teacher**  
Donna/Steve Wright

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



**February Building & Communion**  
Keith/Linda Pennington

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

## Announcements:

When Sue gets back from Arkansas we will finish up with picture taking and info on the directory. Still confirming a few more members info and then it will be ready to go for 2026.

**Christian Help Center** – Debbie Colonel will be heading up our donations to the Christian Help Center in Batavia. There will be a box in the lobby to collect can goods. The specified items are needed Can Fruit, Jelly, Can Raviolis and Can SpaghettiOs. Any questions please contact Debbie and only bring the specified items. Thank you.

Ladies Class will be Saturday 2/28/2026. Sue will be teaching. See you there 9:30am. (II Corinthians – Be Encouraged)

We will be needing volunteers to clean the building in the month of July. Let Sue know if you can do that.

TODAY - Potluck Luncheon after services. See you all there.

Congratulations **Seth Shell** on his decision to be baptized 1/18/2026. Welcome him to the family.

**Edna Bradshaw** will be having hip replacement surgery. Please keep Edna in your prayers.

### **February Birthdays**

2/3 Ron Smith  
2/10 Howard Basham  
2/11 Cade Hutchings  
2/12 Robyn Cassidy  
2/19 Joyce Norvell & Caleb Hutchings  
2/20 Frank Glover  
2/24 Melodie Watkins  
2/27 Kain Girshovich  
2/27 Alan Springer & David Goble

### **February Anniversaries**

2/24 Les/Lashanda Smith

**Continue to Remember:** Mark Book, Karen Smith, Carol Basham, Bob/Mary Parker, Lynn Prickett, Emma Posey, Paul Sena and our church family.

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