

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: Frank Glover
 Song Leader: Lowell Smith
 Prayer: Les Smith
 Lord's Table: Rich Book, Don Salisbury, George Smith, Griffin Stith
 Sermon: Marc Curfman
 Closing Prayer: Bob Parker
 PM Song Leader: Bruce Curfman

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	40	31
Morn. Assembly	67	73
Sun Eve.	28	20
Wednesday	09	07
Zoom Class	19	16
Contribution:	\$2410.00	\$5885.00

"I have fought the good fight"

So, where will you go on vacation this year? Maybe your idea of the good life is just a good book and a cup of Joe. We all see those advertisements for cruise ships or mountain getaways. And far too many people have the goal of early retirement. It is why people play the lottery. We tire of the daily grind, the rat race and the battles to keep ahead. I understand, though I'm not sure retirement will be all that we hope for when it comes. What about faith? Or a better question: what about faithfulness to Jesus our Lord? What is the goal of your faithfulness? Early retirement? A mountain getaway? Maybe we need to explore the words of Jesus deeper when he said: **"Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword."** ^{Matt. 10:34.} Read that entire chapter. For 42 verses, Jesus talks about our faithfulness to sharing God's word, evangelization of the lost and the cost for the faithful follower to understand that this task is also the call to take up your cross and follow.

Jesus is telling us that it won't be easy. The work of the gospel often causes great stress, sleepless nights and rather than everyone cheering you on for your hard work, you might find new enemies around the next corner. Paul even said that we need to carry a sword in each hand when fighting the good fight: **"the word of truth, in the power of God; by the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and the left,"** ^{2 Cor. 2:6:7.}

In Judges 3 the writer tells us that every generation needs the experience of warfare and battle. In the days of the Judges it was with literal sword and shield. With us it is the battle for the truth of God and the hope of lost souls. Each generation must decide if they will learn warfare or if they will become complacent and allow the enemy to have the high ground. Judges says: **"Now these are the nations which the LORD left, to test Israel by them (that is, all who had not experienced any of the wars of Canaan; ²only in order that the generations of the sons of Israel might be taught war, those who had not experienced it formerly)"** ^{Judges 3:1-2.}

Is it any different today for God's people? We too must be **"taught war."** Our spiritual battle is all about our own faithfulness as we battle for the hope of those living in darkness. But I fear that the current environment of the church does not involve warfare but complacency and ease. We want God's blessings as if that were the goal of life here on earth. In truth, we must follow Christ who tells us to pick up our cross and follow.

When you read Judges 3, God's people failed the test. **"The sons of Israel lived among the Canaanites, ... they took their daughters for themselves as wives and gave their own daughters to their sons and served their gods."** ^{Judges 3:6.} In other words, living in the world became comfortable when it should have been their battlefield. In fact, what you notice in the book of Judges is the only time Israel is on track with God is when they are on the frontlines of the war.

I believe it is even more vital today that we stay on the frontlines of the battle for the lost. Yes, it will be frustrating at times. People on the outside are so difficult to reach and often those who should be our family of faith... well, they can be difficult too! But we are not looking for the beachside resort or the mountain top cabin. Not in this life, not on this planet. Instead, with God's grace and our proclaimed purpose, we too will fight the good fight of faith. Remember how Peter describes our lives: **"so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;"**

¹ Pet. 2:9.

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.

April Teachers

Cradle Roll - Yvonne Glover
Pre-K-K - Sue Curfman
1st-6th - Marc Curfman

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Frank Glover

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury - 7:00pm



April Teacher
Lindsey Stith

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

April Building & Communion
Keith/Linda Pennington



Zoom Meetings - every Thursday evening at 7pm. Let Sue know if you want the link to join in.

Announcements:

Joyce Warman has been diagnosed with breast cancer and has began chemo treatments on Tuesdays at Tri-Health. Treatments will go 4-6 months. Keep her in your prayers.

Karen Smith is home and recovering from her successful hip surgery 4/4 and Carl Beard had to have 3 muscles repaired during his hip surgery and will be recovering for 12 weeks. Keep them in your prayers.

Ladies class will be Saturday, April 27th. We will also prepare vbs for July at this time.

Potluck Luncheon for May will be a Graduation Luncheon for Melody Watkins on May 19th due to May 12th is Mothers Day. Melody will be graduating from Live Oaks on 5/14/24.

Libby Watkins will be having a tumor removed in her brain at Childrens Hospital on May 2nd. Keep her in your prayers.

Work Day is May 4th and Ron has put a sign up sheet on the bulletin board of projects that need to be done around the building. Frank Glover will be grilling out hamburgers on the work day so come, work and enjoy a luncheon together.

Jovi Harrison put on Christ in baptism on Sunday March 31st. A directory page will be coming soon. Jovi Michelle Jean Harrison
52 Sixth Street
Milford, OH 45150
Birthday: 5/2
Email: joviharrison51@gmail.com

April Birthdays

4/1 Liam Adams 4/19 Yvonne Glover
4/18 Harley Carrothers 4/25 Karen Smith
4/18 Annie Norvell 4/29 Lindsey Smith

April Anniversaries

4/28 Jeremy/Kacie Schunk

Continue to Remember: Mary Carrothers, Karen Smith, Carol Basham, Joyce Warman's sister, Ruth Barnes and our church family.

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