

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

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| Announcements: | Frank Glover |
| Song Leader: | Tom Mayes |
| Lord's Table | Lowell Smith Steve Wright Les Smith Don Salisbury |
| Opening Prayer: | Keith Pennington |
| Sermon: | Marc Curfman |
| Closing Prayer: | Alan Springer |
| PM Song Leader: | Lowell Smith |

Attendance

| | Last Week | Week Before |
|----------------|-----------|-------------|
| Sun. Bible | 45 | 47 |
| Morn. Assembly | 73 | 85 |
| Sun Eve. | ** | 31 |
| Wednesday | ** | 08 |
| Zoom Class | 14 | 16 |
| Contribution: | \$2475.00 | \$2506.00 |

Just a building

A few years ago while working for the phone company, I walked into an old church. It was beautiful brick structure with an impressive steeple. Inside were those high ceilings and expensive stained-glass windows. I'm sure that over the years that building had so many stories to tell. But today, it told only one story: the death of a church. You see, it was no longer a house of praise but a massive computer server location that handled internet traffic for car part. From the outside it looked like a beautiful church for the local community. Inside it was a soulless structure for a secular, worldly enterprise. The pews designed for worshippers were stacked haphazardly against a wall. So, what stories was this brick building telling the world?

We all know that churches are not buildings but as Christ tells us: ***"where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."*** Matt. 18:20. What should have been a beautiful place for the saints to gather had become a spiritual mausoleum. I am sure it did not happen overnight but over time. When Jesus speaks of ***"gathered together in My name"*** he was speaking about more than a name plate on a building or even a verbal claim of faith. "In the name of Jesus" refers to being under the authority of Jesus. We are baptized in the name of Jesus, we proclaim the word in the name of Jesus and ***"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father."*** Col. 3:17. Far too many gatherings claiming to be "in the name of Christ" do not reflect the heart of Christ. Maybe they have the right baptism or they have the order of worship correct. Perhaps it is a group of believers that reject those manmade secular teachings of secular churches or denominational teachings. But what about the heart of Jesus?

Many believers seem to think you can pick and choose what parts of the gospel matter most. The Pharisees also had this mindset. Jesus tells them and us today that all of God's will matters. And all of God's will is summed up in two commandments: Love God with all of your body, and soul and love your neighbor as you love yourself. A church with all emotion and no obedience is disobedient to saving truth. Yet a church with strict doctrine and no heart is already dead. Selfish cancer has already overwhelmed the body and all that is needed is for the pallbearers to carry away the corpse.

"But I have this against you, that you have left your first love. ⁵Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent."

Eph. 2:4-5.

It isn't the property or building that makes for a church but a devotion to love for one another. Even one hateful soul can bring down God's works if left to infect the body. Paul warns us: ***"For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. ¹⁸And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."*** James 3:16-18.

Many years ago I was sent on a mission to find out if what we called a church really was those gathered in the name (under the authority of) Christ. I found no doctrinal errors and no real worship problems. What I didn't find was the heart of love and compassion. Such a church would be better off if turned into a pizza parlor or maybe a computer server than to continue to malign the name of our Lord. Our Lord's body must be so much more than a building with warm bodies that meet. We must reflect the heart of Jesus, in the name of Jesus.

"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father." Col. 3:17. That especially means our hearts in love for one another.

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.

August Teachers

Cradle Roll - Libby/Melody
Pre-K-K - Nancy Salisbury
1st-6th - Jessica Mayes

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Frank Glover

Wed. Eve. 7:00 pm – Don Salisbury



August Teacher
Lindsey Stith

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



August Building & Communion
Don/Nancy Salisbury

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

Announcements:

Thank you for all those who helped with this years VBS, it was a great success. There were about 50-60 children who participated every night. Special thank you to Lindsey and Kacie for all the hard work putting it together.

Joyce Warman's sister Ruth Barnes passed away Friday she was 72. She will be having services in their home-town of Caldwell (Noble County) on Wednesday the 6th.

Website has been updated and a google calendar reinstalled, all future day events will be put on the calendar (Events) in case you need to check for upcoming dates of events or let me know what needs to go on the calendar.

The Potluck luncheon for the month of August will be on the 17th due to the five weeks in August.

Morgan Gelter will be having a graduation party Sat. August 23rd from 1-4 pm Please rsvp to Morgan if you are able to attend. 513/488-5844.



Ladies Day (Mark your Calendars) this year will be on Saturday 9/13/25. A flyer will be available soon.

Juanita Benton's sister Shirley took a bad fall she is 95. She has multiple stitches and staples in her head. Please keep her in your prayers for her recovery.

August Birthdays

8/6 Mark Book
8/9 Ruth Barnes
8/23 Alex Watkins
8/26 Linda Pennington
8/27 Linda Bukvic

August Anniversaries

****8/3 Bob/Mary Parker**
8/20 Ron/Linda Carter
8/26 Betty/Ted Sutton
8/28 Rich/Jenni Book

****Today is Rachael/Addison & Natalie's last day they will be moving back to Cleveland. We will miss you all.**

****Marian Blakley had fallen and was in the hospital. Keep her in your prayers.**

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

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