

March 13, 2016



HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER

Highway 32 Church of Christ
1688 Tri-County Highway
P.O. Box 642
Williamsburg, OH, 45176
www.highway32coc.com

Elders
Lowell Smith, Morris Wright
Frank Norvell
Minister
Marc Curfman
(513) 553-3703

Sunday Bible Class 10:00AM
Sunday Morning Assembly 11:00AM
Sunday Evening Assembly 6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30PM

Privileged to Serve

Announcements Frank Norvell
Song Leader Bruce Curfman
Prayer Rich Book
Lord's Table Don Salisbury
Assist Steve Wright
 Harley Carrothers
 Frank Glover
Sermon: Marc Curfman
Closing Prayer: Bob Parker
Song Leader Evening: Ashton
 Hutchinson

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	38	41
Morn. Assembly	57	61
Sun Eve.	33	29
Wed. Study	16	**
Contribution	\$1031.00	\$1074.00

The Right Legacy

Steve Jobs, the man behind Apple computers is almost worshipped by techno geeks today because of the enormous success of his company. Yet up close, he was known for how difficult, unfriendly and distant he was toward other people, such cold heartedness even applied to his own family. Although he leaves behind a great legacy as an innovator and inventor in the tech industry, as one created in the image of God, he leaves behind a trail of broken and damaged lives. I would love to say that such failures are foreign to the church and those of faith, yet our history is filled with stories of those who succeeded as leaders, yet failed to be what matters most; the image of God.

From Moses to Eli and Samuel to kings like David and Hezekiah, we have great leaders who either struggled or completely failed to live a life of love toward those closest to them. Even today we hear stories of preachers and ministers and even the common brother or sister in the church who find success in their work yet fail to really live lives of godly love.

Our God is love ^{1 John 4:7}. Of all the descriptions one can give of God; His justice, his mercy, his awesome power, his creative genius, even his judgment and wrath, when John describes God, John says that God is love. From the dawn of creation to the final chapter of eternal life, the core nature of our God is love, love for you and me. The Cross of Christ is the story of victory, not because Jesus succeeded to overcome death and the grave but because our Lord loved and continues to love us. **"We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."** ^{1 John 3:16}. You and I can find great success in the eyes of the world and yet fail to be what God designed us to be. God calls us to love.

We are created in the image of God. To honor that blessing, we love. No matter how many children you feed, no matter how many poor you clothe, no matter how many sermons you preach or lessons you teach, if you fail at loving others, you fail at life. We live in a world where success is measured on graph charts and with mathematical statistics. Even in the church we measure success in terms; numbers of baptisms, attendance and contributions. It is not that such things do not matter but if love does not motivate and describe our family of faith or your own personal life, then none of the above matter.

Love is not just lip service. Far too many say the right words and teach the truth yet live lives foreign to their own claims. Love is not to be lived out in a closet or behind a pulpit. If our lives do not reflect our claims, then our words are hollow. **"Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth."** ^{1 John 3:18}. Love is an all encompassing facet of life. Love is honest, dedicated, enduring, kind, forgiving... Just look at passages such as 1 Corinthians 13 or Romans 12 to see love in action. Love embraces the hearts and needs of others. Love is always close up and personal. There is no better legacy that we could ever leave behind at the end of our days than to be remembered for our lives of love. No greater success can be had than to live like God Himself. For God is love.

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.

March Teachers

Pre- K thru 5th Karen Smith

Youth

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Lowell Smith

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



March Teacher:
Kacie Smith



Building & Communion
Month of March
Sheila & Morgan
Gelter

Note: Children will go to Bible Hour during the song before the morning lesson. Children ages 2 thru the 6th grade may attend.

Sermon Notes: Colossians - Marks of a successful church

What is it that makes some churches grow and others not. Although we may never understand the work of God, Colossians gives us important keys to a successful church. Unlike Jerusalem who experienced phenomenal growth because of the signs and wonders, and unlike Corinth that grew under the guidance of great prophets and even an apostle, Colossae had none of that.

The Colossian church was not started by Paul nor a famous Evangelist. As far as we know, it was an unknown man named Epaphras (2:7; 4:12). Perhaps one who spent time in prison with Paul (Philemon 1:23). It appears that this simple believer, convinced of the message, took the word to his home town and shared God's redemption in Jesus Christ.

Colossae was not without its challenges. Paul writes to correct false teachings of those who believe Christ alone is not sufficient for life. Rituals and mysterious knowledge are claimed as needed by some. Instead, Paul reminds them of the all sufficiency of Christ. Our knowledge, love and faith practiced daily is all that was ever required.

1:1-6. Saints: We are chosen by God. Saved by his power. Our faith, love and hope are all that are needed. (1:4-5) A life of such commitment and vision cannot help but bear fruit. (1:6).

Today's churches rely on gimmicks, programs, gadgets and "things" to share the Gospel. Paul tells us to rely on Christ. It was the faith, love and hope that caused such growth.

1:9-10. ***"to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord.*** It is not the latest fad or a big building that shows the truth of Christ, but lives transformed; saints.

1:28-29. Living according to the message of Jesus, we are complete in Christ. No need for hidden mysteries, no ritualistic prayers, no latest technology but the message of the cross seen in your life and mine are the marks of a successful church of our Lord.

March Birthdays

3/1 Larry Paul
3/2 Joe Sena
3/3 Judy Paul
3/18 Mae Kirschner
3/21 Clayton Smith
3/29 Graci Book

Anniversaries

3/1 Ernie & Janice Fowler

***Please sign up today to teach or clean the building for the 2016 Year.**

Prayers: Juanita Benton is having heart rhythm issues. Carol Basham is home recovering from knee replacement surgery. Yvonne Glover's niece, Kylie West has been diagnosed with bone cancer, she is 10 years old.

Continue to remember: Mark Book, Joe Cassinelli, Mary Chapman, Megan Chapman, Mary Carrothers, Josh Cornett, Karen Creamer, Ray Curfman, Sara Davis, Maralah Morgan, Clayton Wagner, Laura Wilkey, Our church family.

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