

April 10, 2016



# HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER

**Highway 32 Church of Christ**  
1688 Tri-County Highway  
P.O. Box 642  
Williamsburg, OH, 45176  
[www.highway32coc.com](http://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	Lowell Smith
Song Leader	Tom Mayes
Prayer	Harley Carrothers
Lord's Table Assist	Frank Glover Caleb Watson Alex Watson Ron Glover
Sermon:	Marc Curfman
Closing Prayer:	Don Salisbury
Song Leader Evening	Ashton Hutchinson

### Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	28	36
Morn. Assembly	57	58
Sun Eve.	14	18
Wed. Study	16	14
Contribution	\$****.00	\$1111.00

### Reflecting God

There was a time when God's people were completely out of step with the rest of the world. It was what one author called a "Cross Counter Culture" way of life. God's people looked different, dressed different and often even their hair and beards were different from the rest of the world. You could tell if someone was a part of God's people just by looking at them, but those days seem to be over for various reasons. As followers of Jesus, we come from all nations, races, and cultures. I buy my jeans from the same stores that anyone else does and my car looks about like any other out there on the highway. Just by looks alone, it isn't always possible to tell who is a child of God and who is of the world of darkness (Although surely we are aware of some styles that do not reflect the heart of our Lord).

What makes the distinction even more difficult is that over the centuries, there have been various movements among God's people to try to blend in with society. In western civilization, regardless of life style or actions, everyone claimed to be a Christian. You were born a Christian even before you were aware of it. Today's believers seem more and more determined to fit in with the world. Not just in dress but in language, in actions, in life styles and even in ethics and moral choices. No longer do we see a contrast of light and darkness but I guess a kind of cloudiness. Many believers seem to get their guidance more from the popular opinions and various media outlets than from God's word.

Our Lord was never one to check the weather forecast before deciding what was right or wrong. On one occasion, Jesus declared; ***“The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John; since that time the gospel of the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it. “But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of a letter of the Law to fail”*** Luke 16:16-17. I am sure that people of his day had hoped that he would do away with a lot of those “antiquated rules.” Even in his day there were those who were trying to force their ways, their beliefs and opinions into the words of faith. Emphatically, Jesus stood firm with the eternal, immovable truth of God.

It is Isaiah who said; ***“ The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.”*** (Is. 40:8) God's word is not old fashion, antiquated or irrelevant. It is living and active (Heb. 4:12). Peter reflects on that verse from Isaiah and says; ***“But you are a chosen race, A royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; “*** (1 Peter 2:9) What Peter is saying is that you and I are different. We are that cross counter culture that the world needs. Darkness, the world already has. It is the light of hope and the excellencies of truth that this world needs.

To be different is not easy and often not pleasant. No one wants to be rejected. Yet the followers of the cross have never had a lot in common with this world. We point people to Christ. We set our minds on things above and not of the earth (Col. 2:2). Light is only light when it shines brightly in the darkness. Salt must never lose its strength.

***“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; “nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. “Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven”*** (Matt. 5:14-16). Different is good.

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## **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**

Pre- K thru 5<sup>th</sup> Sue Curfman

Youth

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Lowell Smith

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



**April Teacher:**  
Sheila Gelter



**Building & Communion**  
**Month of April**  
Farryl Adkins &  
Donna Beard

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

### **Sermon Notes: - Faith comes home. Colossians 3:18-4:1.**

In addressing relationships, things become complicated. Motivation is the key to approaching another. The hard question is what is my goal? Is it self? Is it truly the good of the other? Or is my goal truly to honor my Lord? For that we have to constantly seek how Jesus confronted and honored relationships in his life, both those of friends and foe. As Paul states, "**He Himself will come to have first place in everything.**" (Col. 1:17-18). We are knitted together in love... (Col. 2:2)

5:18 "**So wives...**" be subject to your husbands... It is not the modern way but neither is it some "Neanderthal" choice. It is a strong spirit of a woman choosing to be godly in the home even when that woman may be the only holy example in that home. She chooses peace and love. Her example can be the most powerful force in that relationship (1 Pet. 3:1)

5:19 Husbands love your wives (agape). More than warm feelings, it is a sacrificial choice of the leader in the home. It speaks of words, actions, time spent, priorities. Your married, now make that family the center of your life.

3:20 Children be obedient... That son or daughter must first obey Christ but then, their obedience can preach more than a thousand sermons as they honor their parents with their lives.

3:22 Slaves.... Even in such a horrible situation as enslavement, God calls on us to honor Christ first and foremost as we work as if we were serving Christ. How much more today in our employment and jobs should we be the example of honesty, hard work and dependability. We shine for Christ in our jobs.

The introduction of this section was 3:17. "**Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.**"

We do not approach relationships as the world tells us to do. Our priority is not self and in truth, not necessarily the happiness of others. Our goal is to honor God and to seek holiness both for ourselves and holiness for those we encounter. Love the Lord with all of your heart and love your neighbor as yourself. (Matt. 22:37-39)

### **March Birthdays**

3/29 Graci Book

### **April Birthdays**

4/8 Caleb Watkins  
4/11 Brandon Benton  
4/13 Lucille Smith  
4/18 Annie Norvell & Harley Carrothers  
4/19 Yvonne Glover  
4/25 Karen Smith  
4/26 Josh Mercer  
4/29 Lindsey Smith

### **April Anniversaries**

4/17 Steve/Donna Wright  
4/18 Brian/Amy Wright

**Prayers:** Juanita Benton is still at home recovering from her surgery. Jason/Leah Simpson have been down with the flu the pass two weeks and their daughter Aubrey broke her arm. Their other daughter Brystin will be having dental surgery at Childrens this Thursday so a specialist can be on standby due to her blood clotting issues.

**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."*