

# 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              Ron Smith  
 Lord's Table Assist    Frank Glover  
                               Caleb Watkins  
                               Alex Watkins  
                               Ron Glover  
 Sermon:              Marc Curfman  
 Closing Prayer:    Don Salisbury  
 Song Leader Evening: Lowell Smith

**Attendance**

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	30	45
Morn. Assembly	53	62
Sun Eve.	30	26
Wed. Study	15	14
Contribution	\$1535.00	\$1132.00

**Keep Pedaling**

As a boy, I spent my summers on a bike. Leaving early in the mornings, it was common to ride, explore and just travel around on those two wheels and ten gears. One time my sister wanted to do the same. We planned out a long trip that was sure to exhaust every hour of daylight. But knowing she had never taken a long trip, I suggested a few shorter trips to prepare. On our first out, in less than two miles from home, she was exhausted. All of us have a little of that problem in us in one way or another. It is easy to dream or imagine some great task. The doing is often much more difficult. Still, if it is a worthy task, the doing needs plans for success. Very few great things in life are ever accomplished without that long term commitment to succeed.

In Colossians 4 Paul is giving his final greetings to various brothers and sisters in that young church. Then he calls attention to someone named Archippus. We don't know a lot about this young man. Paul calls him a "fellow soldier" in the letter to Philemon. In fact, he might have been living in Philemon's house or at least, he was a member of that particular house church (Philemon 2). But Archippus was responsible for some particular ministry. Was it evangelism, teaching or preaching? Or did he minister to the poor or some other outreach of the church? We don't know. But Archippus seems to be a lot like the average person. He had started a good work but since then things had changed. Was it a bigger commitment than he had anticipated? Was it keeping him up late, was he tired or maybe it just wasn't as exciting as it had been in the beginning? Regardless, Archippus needed to refocus, recommit, and see to it that the work of the Lord was not forgotten, ignored nor cast aside. Col. 4:17, Paul writes; **"Say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it."**

The first thing that is vital to understand is that Archippus' ministry was from the Lord. It was not a bike ride in the summer or a part time job to earn spending money. Although it is good to see all of our task through to the end, when it is the work of the Lord, then our actions are a direct reflection of our faith and obedience. Our choice to fulfill our work for God touches eternity for ourselves and for others. We are those whose only goal in life is to **"keep seeking the things above."** (Col. 3:1) No more noble work exist than that of serving our Lord.

Today, God's work desperately needs workers. **"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few."** (Matt. 9:37) And it is not that the workers don't exist in the Lord's body, the church. But it seems that far too many workers are busy with other things. Meanwhile, the church lacks for preachers, teachers, evangelist. Poor need clothed, sick and elderly need a helping hand, meals need prepared and delivered and so many other needs go unmet. Not because of a lack of abilities or a lack of people but just like Archippus, brothers and sisters need to fulfill those works of God.

I know that I myself am not the best example of faith to follow but one thing I committed to many years ago was that if asked, I would say yes to the best of my ability. I am not the best teacher but I try to always be willing. I don't always know what to say at someone's hospital bed but I will visit. My home is God's home, my car is God's car, etc.

Have you grown weary of God's work? Is it more demanding than you anticipated? It is time to sit down and pray to God for the heart of a "fellow soldier." As long as the battle continues, God depends on you. He has no other plan. I strongly believe that Isaiah 6 was written not for the person next to you but it was written for you and you alone; **"Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"** (Isaiah 6:8).

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.

### **June Teachers**

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

Youth: Tom Mayes

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Lowell Smith

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



**June Teacher:**  
Karen Smith



**Building & Communion**  
**Month of June**  
Tom/Jessica Mayes

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: Giving in the church**

The one area of faith that causes more strife than any other is probably the topic of money. While some preachers constantly preach on giving and more giving, the majority of preachers I know are very hesitant to bring up the subject for fear of criticism. Yet our money/wealth and our use of money is the largest topic of faith in the Bible. Jesus Himself spoke on wealth and giving more than any other single topic of faith.

In Col. 3:5, we are told that greed is idolatry. (no wonder it says; "In God we trust" on the dollar)

As far as offerings to God, we see them as far back as Cain and Abel as they gave "first fruit" offerings of thanksgiving (apparently, Cain wasn't too thankful; I John 3:12; Jude 1:11)

In Israel, the tithe among other offerings supported the priesthood that was responsible for teaching, leading worship, medical care and even work as lawyers. The fields and vineyards were not to be gleaned to the edge, so that the poor would be taken care of also.

Yet corruption always finds its way into everything, especially the purse or wallet. In Malachi, people offered the lame and blind to God. In Matt. 15, Priest had concocted a way to collect money at the expense of the elderly.

All changes in the New Testament. People share what they have with one another. Yet soon things needed to be more organized, so deacons were appointed to take care of widows in Jerusalem.

Paul initiated a weekly system of contributions so that one massive collected would not be taken at the last minute. That money was for the famine in Jerusalem (1 Cor. 16:1-4)

For us today, it is unimaginable that we would not seek to use our monies to further the work of the Lord. Care for the poor, and support for the work of evangelism continue to be a priority. While there is not specific command to tithe (10%), we should be careful to not set the bar too low. Even Abraham, before the law of Moses saw tithing as pleasing to God (Gen. 14).

In the end, it is a matter of giving first your heart to God. The wallet will naturally follow. God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9).

Giving has always been a mark of one's faith. We do not compare ourselves to one another but in devotion to God, we give of our lives and our means. The God sees and God rewards. (Matt. 6:4)

### **June Birthdays**

6/1 Savana Beard  
6/4 Bruce Curfman  
6/4 Makenzie Hahn

### **May Anniversaries**

5/30 Ron/Myrna Smith

### **June Anniversaries**

6/3 Frank/Yvonne Glover  
6/21 Cotton/Marian Blakley  
6/22 Joe/Sandra Sena  
6/24 Carl/Donna Beard  
6/25 Lowell/Karen Smith

**Prayers:** Karen Smith's coworker, Christian Jent is 32 weeks pregnant and doctors may have to take the baby early. Curfman friends, Larry/Connie Zinck, missionaries in Brazil lost their son Daniel of 34 years this past week, went to sleep and did not wake up. Cotton Blakely during this difficult time of rehab.

**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."*