

July 10, 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	Tom Mayes
Prayer	Frank Glover
Lord's Table Assist	Ron Smith Rich Book Don Salisbury Brian Caldwell
Sermon:	Mike Grose
Closing Prayer:	Harley Carrothers
Song Leader Evening	Ashton Hutchinson

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	**	31
Morn. Assembly	**	56
Sun Eve.	**	25
Wed. Study	**	25
Contribution	\$****.00	\$****.00

For God so loved... yeah, even that one!

The boy was filthy, hair unkempt and skinny. His family didn't have a good reputation, the mother was no where to be found while the father drank too much and worked too little. He wasn't the kind of boy you wanted on your team or even to have seated next to you at school. He was kind of a lost cause. But the boy grew and became a man. Now older and seeking to make his life a good life, his one memory he held onto was that of his mother, who had passed away when he was very little. The one fond memory he had of her was that in spite of the hard life and short life she lived, she believed in God and made God's church a part of her life. So as a young man, he also made God the center of his life, marriage and family. Now nearly ninety and coming to the end of life here, he has a hope laid up for him in the eternal home of the God he worshipped all of his life. His mind is no longer sharp and his body is frail but about seventy years ago, he put on Christ in baptism and never wavered from that choice. His legacy is four Christian children; one a preacher, and one married to an elder, multiple Christian grandchildren; one a preacher, two missionaries and others also deeply committed to the church. He even baptized his own great granddaughter. That formerly filthy, unkempt street urchin is my father who blessed me with his faith.

It is that time of year again. VBS is upon us. For a week, we have the opportunity to reach out to the communities around us, to share the love of Christ with children of all ages and backgrounds. Some will come well dressed from fine families, the kind of families we would love to have in our congregations. Some will not be so attractive. Maybe not so well dressed. They might even knock over a glass, scratch a table and talk way too loudly. But they are children who desperately need to see a better path, a better hope and an eternal purpose for their lives. It is not our "duty" to teach them, it is our God-given privilege to be their servants for a week and hopefully years to come.

I just re-read the passage from Mark 10 where the disciples rebuked the children who were coming to Jesus. We all know the passage; **"Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."** Mark 10:14. And I have seen the painting depicting the moment. What if the artists got it all wrong? What if these children were normal children; loud, excited and maybe not the best behaved? No, I have never seen that painting but that might be the truer picture. Do you think Jesus would have rebuked such children like the disciples did? No, I think he would have been the same loving Savior. He still would have taken them in his arms and blessed them, runny noses, unkempt hair and full of energy (maybe one of them even got mud on Jesus' robe).

Yes, I like nice things. I like rules and order and as adults we will teach these children not only about Jesus but about respect, how to behave and maybe even how to clean up after themselves. But more important than clean floors, quiet rooms and spilled cups are the hearts and lives of that next generation of faith. The task we have is one of the most important task God gives us; imparting God's love to a new generation of faith. How many will believe? We don't know. What we do know is that despite the difficulties that children can present, caring for such souls is God reaching out in hope and love through our hands, our words, and our smiles. More important than snacks and crafts and Bible stories, we are the nearest thing to Jesus they will ever see. **"He took them in His arms and began blessing them."** 10:16. I see no reason that we cannot do the same.

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.

July Teachers

Pre- K thru 5th Jessica Mayes

Youth & Tom Mayes

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



July Teacher:
Sheila Gelter



Building & Communion
Month of July
Ron & Myrna Smith

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

Romanian group will be returning to the states on 7/13.

Sermon notes:

July Birthdays

7/1 Frank Norvell	7/26 Carl Beard
7/3 Cotton Blakley	7/27 Nancy Cassinelli
7/15 Lyman Smith	7/31 Ray Curfman
7/15 Kellie Wright	
7/17 Stefanie Hahn	
7/17 Jean Wilkey	
7/17 Tyler Wright	
7/18 Don Salisbury	
7/25 Elmer Wilkev	

July Anniversaries

7/2 Tom/Becky Wright
7/10 Lyman/Lucille Smith

Prayers: Work of our volunteers in the community with the upcoming VBS in July. Lucille Smith recovery from hip replacement surgery. Mayes dad, Keith Mayes biopsy on a tumor found on his bladder. Mary Carrother's recovery from her surgery 7/5.

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."