



# 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**  
**Frank Norvell**  
**Lowell Smith**  
**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: Bruce Curfman  
 Prayer: Ashton Hutchinson  
 Lord's Table: Alan Springer  
                   Les Smith  
                   Jeremy Schunk  
                   Alex Watkins  
 Sermon: Marc Curfman  
 Closing Prayer: Bob Parker  
 PM Song Leader: Lowell Smith

**Attendance**

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	36	40
Morn. Assembly	54	72
Sun Eve.	22	22
Wed. Study	**	14
Contribution	\$1698.00	\$1488.00

**The Power of Song**

A son went to visit his aged father whose memory and mental skills have all but vanished. The conversation was strained at best as the elderly man struggled for words. Finally, the son just sang to him. He sang familiar hymns of faith. You could see the emotions in the father's eyes as these songs touched something deep inside his spirit. Songs are a powerful force in our lives.

I wish I could say that all music is edifying or healing. But the truth is that far too often music is used to the hurt of those who listen rather than help. How often do you really listen to the words of that music and the message spoken? A talented musician, good musical arrangements and a powerful beat often promotes darkness rather than light. At the same time, God Himself has given us music as a tool of strength, faith and hope. Those 150 psalms were meant to be sung by God's people to keep them focused on what is right and to teach God's path.

The 18<sup>th</sup> century Scottish political activist, Andrew Fletcher once said; *"Let me write the songs of a nation. I don't care who writes its laws."* Songs truly have the power to change lives. It is said that the true strength of the communist revolution in China was not military strategist or overwhelming weaponry but it was the songs of those who marched against the imperialist overlords.

I do think that sometimes we need to be more conscientious about what goes in our ears as we casually drive back and forth to work (and that speaks about more than just music). Maybe we need to go through our own collection of music and understand just what is being proclaimed by the world's most talented artist. But more than that, I think as Christians, we need to empower our own lives with music that blesses, strengthens and guides our lives.

I find it disheartening to worship with brothers and sisters that don't seem to understand the blessing of psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. As nice as it is to listen, there is a wonderful change that takes place in the heart when we sing to God and to one another with our own voices and the words of faith fall from our own lips. So sing. Sing well, or maybe not so well. Sing those old hymns or bless me with a new song of praise. But sing to me, sing to those around you and sing to God. I appreciate good singing and well trained singers but above all, I appreciate voices of God here on earth.

There are well over one hundred verses that call us to sing to God. It is more than a duty or obligation. Singing songs of faith is a joy, a comfort, and a guide that blesses both the singer and those who hear.

***"Hear, O kings; give ear, O rulers! I—to the LORD, I will sing, I will sing praise to the LORD, the God of Israel."*** Judges 5:3.

*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 3rd**

4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> Kacie Smith

**Sunday Morning Adult classes:**

Lowell Smith

**Wed. Eve.** Don Salisbury



**March Teacher:**

Ann Shanklin



**Building & Communion**

**March**

Sheila/Morgan Gelter

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.

**VBS Youth group** will arrive July 15-21. We will be serving food to them as last year.

**Spring Sing Retreat** - Come for Weekend or a Day! March 17-19, 2017 at Fort Hill Christian Camp. Flyer on bulletin board.

### **Sermon notes: Uncomfortable Truths: The Lost**

Although all of us who believe in Biblical faith understand the great commission it seems to be something that doesn't take precedence in our day to day living. It is as if we sing the songs of faith on Sundays but live lives that fail to show that conviction of some are saved and others are lost.

**"Go therefore and make disciples..."** Matt. 28:18-20 doesn't find a place in the practice of individuals. It is as if that were for the Evangelist and missionary but not here at home. Some are too willing to avoid the mandate by saying; **"Judge not that you be not judged"** Matt. 7:1 completely missing the truth of that passage for the sake of not confronting.

The Gospel is a call to faith, obedience and choice. Jesus loved as no one before yet was quick to demand we make the choice of obedience (John 6:53-54). But even more shocking for those familiar with faith is the demand that each of us respond to the invitation (Matt. 22:8-9). Those who in this life reject God's invitation will in the next be rejected by God. The shocking part of this parable is not that those people over there will be lost but even we who claim faith, if we fail to come. For some reason we believe the "heathen" are lost but our neighbors, our relatives, our friends?

In Luke 17, Jesus talks about his return and of those who will be taken and those left behind. He describes those of our family, our friends and our work and maybe even we ourselves if we have not obeyed God's call in our daily life.

Matt. 7:21 is a powerfully convicting passage. Not those who claim faith but those who live the will of God are saved. It is not a matter of how good you think you are nor even how religious but how you follow what God calls us to be.

The plight of the lost is an uncomfortable truth. But it is one that must be on our hearts. For Paul, it was so uncomfortable that he could not be still, he could not be silent and he could not quit sharing the message. As Paul stood before kings and governors, he just had to do his best to persuade others to the only hope of eternity (Acts 26)

The heart of Paul should be our heart. Convinced that God's word is true, Paul never quit sharing. **"Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade me."** 2

Cor. 5:11.

The harvest is plentiful, I do not believe the workers are few. We just need to get busy. We need to reach the lost.

### **March Birthdays**

3/1 Larry Paul  
3/3 Judy Paul  
3/4 Jean Glass  
3/18 Mae Kirschner  
3/21 Clayton Smith  
3/29 Graci Book  
3/30 Henry Mayes

### **March Anniversaries**

3/6 Kevin/Jean Little

\*Ladies Class/Breakfast-Saturday  
March 25th - 9:30am

**Prayers:** Frank Glover, Karen Smith/Rob Nash/Toni Layman's treatment with cancer. Megan Chapman continues to receive chemo-therapy for leukemia. Rob Nash will be going for procedures on Monday & Tuesday. Jessica Mayes, grandmother, Faye Cornett has been diagnosed with lung cancer. Felicia Fetcenko, friend of Alex Watkins has been in the hospital for the past week.

**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."*