

# 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    6:00PM  
 Wednesday Bible Study       7:30PM

**Privileged to Serve**

Announcements:    Ron Smith  
 Song Leader:        Lowell Smith  
 Prayer:                Frank Glover  
 Lord's Table:        Don Salisbury  
                               Larry Paul  
                               Harley Carrothers  
                               Bruce Curfman  
 Sermon:                Alan Springer  
 Closing Prayer:      Bob Parker  
 PM Song Leader:    Tom Mayes

**Attendance**

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	37	43
Morn. Assembly	77	70
Sun Eve.	29	27
Wed. Study	**	**
Contribution	\$1388.00	\$1261.00

**Envy and Rivalry**

*“ Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice. To Live Is Christ Yes, and I will rejoice”, - Philippians 1:15-18*

It is hard to know exactly what Paul is talking about here. What were the problems? Who would preach Christ motivated by envy or rivalry? We don't know the circumstances at that time. Yet today in the 21<sup>st</sup> century church, you can see ministers, evangelists, pastors and Christian groups that do seem to be envious of one another and there are those rivalries. The temptation is to dive into the controversies, debates and choose sides. Yet over the years, I have yet to see any good accomplished by those who become sidetracked in these schisms. Instead, souls that we should be searching for are never encountered. Even worse, some of those seeking God's truth are caused to stumble by what they see in the so-called Christian culture.

Another story from the gospels similar to that above is when *“ John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us. “But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. - Mark 9:38-39*

I understand the need for truth and doctrinal purity. We should ever strive to come closer and closer to not just a better understanding of God's word but a more godly practice of His truth. I also know that God's word corrects, rebukes and admonishes (2 Tim. 3:16). But there seem to be those who feed and thrive on the scandals, even to the point of finding it necessary to invent problems where none exist.

I am determined to know God's word, practice and teach God's word and live the love of the gospel and the message of the cross of our Lord. As such we should seek to bless and not curse, be at peace and above all remember that there are times when we need to just brush off the dust and move on because the time is short and the harvest is ever growing.

I truly am convinced that so called peace by keeping armies sent throughout our world accomplish less good than missionaries. Christian parents who live the message of Jesus accomplish more than all of the above. But only when we focus on blessing, loving, and saving souls.

Do not allow the bad inside the faith or outside to keep you from being faithful. Do not allow the Pharisees of this world to keep you from serving the God of love and salvation. As for those Pharisees of division and self-righteousness, follow our Lord who said; *“Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.” - Matthew 15:14*

or what Jesus said to Peter when Peter fretted over John; *“If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!” - John 21:22*  
 Nothing should ever separate us from the love of God nor the work of love; *“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. - Romans 8:38-39* May we also add to that list Envy and rivalry.        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.

### **September Teachers**

**Pre-K thru 3rd** Myrna Smith  
**4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>** Ann Shanklin

**Sunday Morning Adult classes:**  
Ron Smith

**Young people's class:** Tom  
Mayes

**Wed. Eve.** Don Salisbury



**September Teacher:**  
Sheila Gelter



**Building & Communion**  
Les/Lashanda Smith

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.

**Ladies Class & Breakfast** will be Saturday  
9/23/17 at 9:30am. Teacher: Ann Shanklin

New Member: Linda Qualters  
2536 Swings Corner-Point Isabel Rd  
Bethel, OH 45106  
513-313-1802  
[qualtele@aol.com](mailto:qualtele@aol.com)

### **September Birthdays**

9/4 Steve Wright	9/24 LaShanda Smith
9/5 Marc Curfman	9/27 Lorelei Mayes
9/9 Ray Cassinelli	9/30 Madi Book & Lowell Smith
9/12 Ashton Hutchinson	
9/12 Nancy Salisbury	
9/13 Farryl Adkins	
9/23 Sheila Gelter	

### **September Anniversaries**

9/2 Larry/Judy Paul  
9/5 Ron/Virginia Glover  
9/19 Harley/Mary Carrothers

**Prayers:** Karen Smith/Donna Beard/Toni Layman's treatment with cancer. Kim Wright's Son in-law, Robert Hall is battling with cancer.

**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."*