

HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER



Highway 32 Church of Christ

1688 Tri-County Highway

P.O. Box 642

Williamsburg, OH, 45176

www.highway32churchofchrist.com

Elders

Lowell Smith

Ron Smith

Marc Curfman

(513) 553-3703

Sunday Bible Class	10:00AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	11:00AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00PM
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00PM

Privileged to Serve

Announcements:	Ron Smith
Song Leader:	Lowell Smith
Prayer:	David Turpin
Lord's Table	Jim Hutchings Bruce Curfman Rich Book Keith Pennington
Sermon:	Marc Curfman
Closing Prayer:	Alan Springer
PM Song Leader:	Area-Wide Singing

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	35	45
Morn. Assembly	63	72
Sun Eve.	24	23
Wednesday	24	**
Zoom Class	11	11
Contribution:	\$2588.00	\$4456.00

Indispensable Fathers

I have a friend. We don't agree on a lot of issues. We don't even speak the same language. He doesn't share my convictions of faith, although I know he believes in God. I can quote or paraphrase large portions of God's word. I'm not sure he has ever on his own picked up a Bible and read. But we are friends. Overall, I think he has helped me a lot more than I have ever helped him. I also know that he is someone who will immediately come to my aid when needed. I know that because he has done it before.

In some ways, he lives by Christian principles more than many who enter church buildings weekly. That is not a justification of life. Just an observation. But with all the positive or negative parts of life, here is what I know he does best: He is a father. That is a rare trait these days. I'm not talking about "sperm donors" or even those men who sleep in the same house as their family. A father is so much more.

If you have looked around lately, fathers are a rare commodity these days. By fathers, I mean men who love their family and love their children. Again, I feel the need to clarify. We all proclaim our love verbally when cornered. How many are truly compassionate, protective without being overbearing, how many take out time in the evening for their children?

I'm not proclaiming that my friend is up for "father of the year award." I don't think anyone has even bought him one of those mugs most have at work. But his children do not feel threatened by him but protected. His children have changed his habits of life. His children respect and honor him. With a quiet voice, he can command the room!

Fathers have had a bad reputation for some time in our modern, western society. We praise motherhood as if it were the nearest thing to the throne of God, while men are seen as expendable, optional, and maybe in the way of a good life. Yes, I will praise good mothers, that is, godly mothers. But it is time we go back to God's word and read about fathers. Families rise or fall depending on the fathers. Great kings who failed at fatherhood actually failed both their children and the nation.

Many godless fathers speak of their authority and might even quote a Bible verse. Godly fathers embrace responsibility, obligation and love as the Father loves. Go back and see what God's word has to say about fathers, both good and bad. See what a father must be like in scripture. Read and meditate on that passage in Deut. 6. See what fatherhood looks like in real time. Let me be politically incorrect for a moment. I truly believe that fathers matter more than mothers. Yes, I hear the protest and shock! But we have tried the social experiment of matriarchal families and it has been an utter failure. Praise God for mothers who stood firm when fathers walked away. But God calls on fathers if families are to find their place in this world.

I am shaken to the core of my being as I see the results of fatherless families, The scars often seem to never heal. Years ago a missionary told me about a 90 year old Korean who introduced himself as an orphan. The scars never healed. In our world today there are so many who have been abandoned, both physically and emotionally. Those scars do not heal, even in the church. So, I want to praise God for fathers. Not worldly fathers but those who embrace the duty, the obligation and the love for family. I hope one day my friend embraces God's kingdom. But in the meantime, I see a wholeness in his children rather than an emptiness, all because he chooses to be a father. Were he a father in terms of faith also, I believe angels would rejoice and the heavens would shout. ***"Just as a father has compassion on his children, So the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him."***

Ps. 103:13. Be a father that God would write about.

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

Cradle Roll - Yvonne Glover
Pre-K-K - Kacie Schunk
1st-6th - Ron/Myrna Smith

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Frank Glover

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury - 7:00pm



July Teacher
Connie Daniel

Note: Children will go to Bible Hour during the song before the morning lesson.

July Building & Communion

George Smith



Zoom Meetings - every Thursday evening at 7pm. Let Sue know if you want the link to join in.

Announcements:

Area Wide Singing will be hosted by Highway 32 on Sunday tonight 5pm-7pm. There will be a dinner afterwards instead of the monthly potluck. A menu has been placed on the bulletin board so please sign up and plan on attending the singing we will be hosting. Flyers have been sent out to area wide congregations. There are more on the table in the lobby to invite family and friends.

Jim Hutchings procedure on his back went well.

Felicia's is home recovering from her surgery. Keep her in your prayers.

Joyce Warman will be having surgery on 8/6/24 and Huey Jones will be having a heart ablation as well on 8/6. Keep these ladies in your prayers.

VBS - Monday July 29 – Wednesday July 31st. 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Invite all you can to attend.

Ladies Class will be Saturday 7/27 at 9:30am. Sue Curfman will be teaching.

Direction Change: Kelli Wright has a new address –
1349 U.S. 52
New Richmond, OH 45157

July Birthdays

7/4 Connie Daniel & Kirt Martin
7/6 Ammon Adams
7/7 Adeline Mayes
7/15 Kellie Wright
7/18 Don Salisbury
7/22 Lynn Beard
7/25 Keith Pennington
7/26 Carl Beard
7/27 Betty Sutton

July Anniversaries

7/23 Lynn Prickett

Continue to Remember: Mary Carrothers, Karen Smith, Carol Basham, Joyce Warman and her sister, Ruth Barnes and our church family.

"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."