

Sounds of Salem

Volume 16 Issue 9

September 2014

September 2014
Revised Common Lectionary
Year A

13th Sunday after Pentecost—September 7

Exodus 12:1-14
Psalm 149
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

14th Sunday after Pentecost—September 14

Exodus 14:19-31
Psalm 114
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

15th Sunday after Pentecost—September 21

Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

16th Sunday after Pentecost—September 28

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32

Begin to Spend Time with God

It takes time to learn to love somebody, and this fact is applicable in our relationship with God. The more we spend time with God, the more we fall in love with Him. The result is most often a personal desire to live for Him daily by being involved in His work. Phillip Johnson has compiled this simple, yet effective 15 minute daily plan that will help you learn to love God.

1. **Relax** (1 minute)

- Take a minute to focus your mind on God. (Ps. 46:10)

2. **Read the Word** (4 minutes)

- As you read, focus on listening to God as He speaks. Have an open mind and an open heart to the God's Word.

3. **Reflect on the Word** (4 minutes)

- Think through what you just read. How does this passage apply to my life? How does this apply to my relationship with God, with my family, with the church, with others, and with myself.

4. **Record** (2 minutes)

- Write down important questions, observations, and personal applications from your reading. Decide on at least one action step to take based on what you read today.

5. **Request** (4 minutes)

- Pray to God with thanksgiving and express your needs to Him and your dependence on Him.

More ideas for devotionals can be found at Johnson's website at: <http://phillipljohnson.wordpress.com/2011/01/>

Source: "My Glimpses of Glory" by Kevin Langford

Our Chancel Cross



Have you ever paid attention to the Chancel Cross above the podium? The Cross is full of symbolism. While the Cross is the generally accepted imagery of Christianity, the various parts of the Chancel Cross symbolize Christ surrounded by His Apostles, Evangelists and the emblems of His dignity.

The small Cross at the center is taken to represent Christ, Himself. The four rosettes at the end stand for the four Evangelists who wrote the Gospels. The circle is the emblem of eternity and also forms a nimbus which is the emblem of the glory and holiness of God.

The twelve rosettes on the circle of the Cross represent the Twelve Apostles. The crown at the end of each tip of the Cross represents the Kingship of Christ as well as the crown of life that is promised to the faithful.

The interpretation of the circle and the Cross show that eternity extends to us through the Cross and the eternal effect of the redemption secured on the Cross by the death of Jesus Christ. Likewise, the Cross penetrated throughout all eternity.

The small Cross in the exact center of the circle shows that Jesus Christ is at the center of the world, the universe, and all of divine creation. Let us look with new appreciation at the symbolism of Salem Church.

Source: "The Salem Confirmation Class Handbook"

Can a Loving God Display Anger?

Often we talk of God's love, His mercy, His goodness, and His kindness, but we choose to avoid the uncomfortable discussion when it comes to God's wrath.

We think, "God would never send someone to hell, would He?" As such, God's wrath is rarely heard in the pulpits of modern churches. Men of today have convinced themselves that God's sole attribute is love. But, shouldn't the full honest council of Scripture of both His love as well as His holy and righteous vengeance be taught?

Because the full council is not taught, most people in the world today do not to fear or believe that our Lord will bring "wrath and vengeance on those who do not obey His commandments" (2 Thessalonians 1:7-8). Unfortunately, they are naive in this understanding.



The Apostle Paul said, "But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness" (Romans 1:18). Furthermore, when Jesus comes again, "Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ..." (2 Thessalonians 1:7-8).

John 3:36 spoke of "the wrath to come," and Jesus said, "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; he who does not obey the Son shall not see life. But the wrath of God rests upon him." In Scripture one must believe, but one must also *obey* in their actions and lifestyle.

God's anger is righteous, just and reasonable. He knows all facts in any case and is never wrong in His judgment or anger (Psalm 139:7-12; Revelation 19:2). The Old Testament men of Nineveh repented, and thus God spared them from His wrath (Jonah 3:10). Jesus said unless men in His day likewise repented, they "would perish" (Luke 13:3).

We will all be held accountable someday (Romans 14:12). The warning we receive is that the Lord severely punishes those who act in rebellion. We must obey God for His blessings, not adding to, nor taking from His Word and commandments.

Will God punish? Yes, He must if He is holy and perfect. We are His lost rebellious children. Before we challenge God, we should recall the Biblical stories that God absolutely means what He says in His Word! This being said, God, our Creator, truly is loving, merciful, good and kind. That is why He sent His only Son to die to pay for our sins. Will you accept Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Friendship by Audrey Burnett

We all have a need for friendship,
To each of us God gave the key.
It's giving and sharing with others,
That makes us friends, and it's free.

Sometimes we take a friend for granted,
Because we see them every day.
But I wonder "Would we notice---
If one day they just drifted away."

If our paths took a different direction
And never criss-crossed again-
Would we miss that warm affection?
Their absence would cause us pain---

Would we miss someone to turn to?
Our hopes and dreams to share,
And a friendly shoulder to cry on,
When life's trial seem too hard to bear.

This feeling called friendship's a miracle,
That grows within our heart.
We may not know when it happens,
Or how it got its start.

But like a rose it opens to sunshine,
And like a ring there is no end.
And it will never lose its fragrance;
Because it blooms in our hearts, my friend.



Potato Chips

A little boy wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with a bag of potato chips and a six-pack of root beer and started his journey.

When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old man. He was sitting in the park, just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to him and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old man looked hungry, so he offered him some chips. He gratefully accepted it and smiled at him.

His smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered him a root beer. Again, he smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word.

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-The 2014 Gymanfa Ganu-



Trefor Williams, Gamanfa Ganu Guest Conductor



Joe Consiglio, Soloist



Joyce Morris, Pianist



Connie O'Neill, Organist



People arriving to new benches, landscaping and parking lot



Kitchen Helpers



Lots of food by church members



-Other Salem sights-



Fans were passed out for the hot and humid evening



Lots of Welsh songs



A dynamic evening for Gymanfa Ganu 2014!



Always in style



LaDonna Allenbaugh, Organist



John Morris at the Lion's Sausage trailer at the Van Wert County Fair

(continued from page 2)

As twilight approached, the boy realized how tired he was and he got up to leave; but before he had gone more than a few steps, he turned around, ran back to the old man, and gave him a hug. He gave him his biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later, his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied, "I had lunch with God." But before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? He's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old man, also radiant with joy, returned to his home. His son was stunned by the look of peace on his face and he asked, "Dad, what did you do today that made you so happy?"

He replied "I ate potato chips in the park with God." However, before his son responded, he added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around. People come into our lives for a reason, a season, or a lifetime! Embrace all equally! Have lunch with God.....bring chips.

Source: Anonymous

Activities and Events

Drive Your Tractor to Church Day

This Second Annual event will take place **September 14th** after the church service in the church parking lot with a meal afterwards. Bring your tractor to the line-up to be blessed and to thank God for the harvest!



Blessing of the Tractors

Church Business

Trustee Notes for September 2014

Where we have been:

The parking lots were resealed and repainted. This is the last year that we will be able to reseat prior to a new surface application. The carpets were cleaned in the sanctuary.

Where we are at:

The manse drainage issue will be worked on Saturday September 5th/6th. The manse perimeter tile will be updated due to the old tile not being able to keep the water out of the basement. The approach to the manse garage will be leveled off to help with the backflow of rain from going into the garage.

Where we are going:

The parking lot was sealed and this will keep the surface intact for another 12-18 months. The asphalt needs to be taken up and the base and top layer reapplied. This is standard for the life cycle for that kind of surface.

The next Trustee meeting will be September 14.

Church Family



September Birthdays

Elizabeth Adkins	9/1
Kim Ebel	9/1
Pete McCollow	9/3
Claudia LeValley	9/4
Katie McClure	9/4
Rob Wiss	9/7
Cassie Thompson	9/8
Landon Price	9/11
Jayne Morris	9/18
Morgan Pugh	9/18
Megan Jones	9/20
April Ellerbrock	9/23
Darlene Jones	9/25
Cindy Davis	9/26
Marian Morris	9/26
Brian Ellerbrock	9/27
Lisa Lloyd	9/27
Jon Friesner	9/28
Stephanie Beck	9/29
Jack Blackmore	9/30

September Anniversaries

Doris & Paul Price	9/8
Randy & Sue Ann Skanes	9/9
Doug & Jan Jones	9/11
Bob & Denise Pugh	9/15
Eric & Jen Pugh	9/28



Violet Ashton
c/o Roselawn Manor
420 E. 4th Street Apt. 109
Spencerville, OH 45887

Audrey Burnett
PO Box 671
Venedocia, OH 45894

Evelyn Hoverman
Hearth & Home
1118 Westwood Drive
Van Wert, OH 45891

Lee Lare
P.O. Box 654
Venedocia, OH 45894

Betty Lloyd
Van Wert Manor
160 Fox Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Gordon Morgan
Vancrest of Convoy
510 Tully Drive
Convoy, OH 45832

Marian Morris
Hearth & Home
1118 Westwood Drive
Van Wert, OH 45891

Ruth E. Morris
Vancrest Healthcare
10357 Van Wert—Decatur Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Evelyn Pugh
Vancrest Healthcare, Room 100
10357 Van Wert—Decatur Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Warren Summersett
Vancrest Healthcare
10357 Van Wert—Decatur Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Becky Zirkle
Vancrest Health Care, Room A8
10357 Van Wert—Decatur Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Serving our Country

Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
311 Oak Street #109
Oakland, CA 94607

2nd Lt Pete McCollow (USMC, OCS)
116 HAC Street
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Away at College

Cassy Emery Box 564
c/o Cincinnati Christian University
2700 Glenway Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45204

Sammi Jones

Those with Health Concerns

Gretchen Baut (friend of Silers—cancer, kidney problems)
Audrey Burnett (trouble breathing)
Brendan Daily (friend of Morgan Pugh)
Ralph Du Cheney (father of Stacia Profit)
Bob Drewyore (son of Bette Richards)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)
Cassy Emery (juvenile rheumatoid arthritis)
Jeannie Etzler (daughter of Warren Summersett)
Bree Gosshanbler (friend of Elizabeth Hobbs – paralyzed)
Vernon Hobbs, Sr.
Linda Howell (Jeff Coil's sister – congestive heart failure)
Margaret Keltner (in hospice—mother of Jan Jones)
Amanda Lamb (granddaughter of Dave & Jean Owens)
Betty Lloyd
James Marshall (mysterious ailment and M.S.)
Tim Morris (son of Hilda Morris)
Ione Owens
Evelyn Pugh
Aimee Schulte (friend of Sarah Kimmet)
Jennifer Pugh (diagnosed with MS)
Warren Summersett
Hilda Morris (heart procedure)
Paula Klein (cancer – friend of Evelyn Martz)
Joyce Profit (heart problems)
Maxine Stewart (mother of Kim Coil)

In Mourning

The family of Frank Hayba
The family of Margaret A. Hukill
The family of Jim Beougher
The family of Iona Evans

Please remember our elderly members, soldiers and college students with cards & visits

September Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:30 Worship Gideon's Sunday	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 9:30 Worship 10:45 Blessing of the Tractors/Meal 3:00 Celebrate Rec. 6:30 Youth Group 6:30 Trustee Mtg.	15	16	17	9:30-11:00 am Women's Association	19	20
21 9:30 Worship Lincolnview Bible Board 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Celebrate Rec. 4:00 Session	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Celebrate Rec. 6:30 Youth Group	29	30	27	28	29	30

Servants for August

Week of	Greeters*	Ushers	Acolyte	Nursery**
September 7	Stacia Profit	Dan Lloyd, Jim Lloyd Don Owens, Jeff Owens	Adkins Boys	Jeff & Kim Coil
September 14	Stacia Profit	Dan Lloyd, Jim Lloyd Don Owens, Jeff Owens	Adkins Boys	Todd & Jayne Morris
September 21	Stacia Profit	Dan Lloyd, Jim Lloyd Don Owens, Jeff Owens	Adkins Boys	Deb Fair & Gwenda Blackmore
September 28	Stacia Profit	Dan Lloyd, Jim Lloyd Don Owens, Jeff Owens	Adkins Boys	Bill & Elgarda McGee

*Besides greeting with a smile, greeters should be at the outside landing to watch the steps and parking lot as well as assist with the elevator to help those in need.

** Nursery workers please bring snacks for 15 children.



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Music for September

Church Phone: 419-667-4142
Church Web Page: www.SalemChurch.cc
Church E-Mail: Secretary@SalemChurch.cc

Rev. Thomas Emery cell: 419-863-9131
Email: PastorTomEmery@SalemChurch.cc

Sunday, September 7, 2014
Special Music: Gideon Service

Sunday, September 14, 2014
Special Music: Barbershop Quartet

Sunday, September 21, 2014
Special Music: Dave Lusk

Sunday, September 28, 2014
Special Music: Junior Choir



Blessing of the Tractors – September 14th