

Sounds of Salem

Volume 16 Issue 10

October 2014

October 2014
Revised Common Lectionary
Year A

17th Sunday after Pentecost—October 5

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Psalm 19
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46

18th Sunday after Pentecost—October 12

Exodus 32:1-14
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

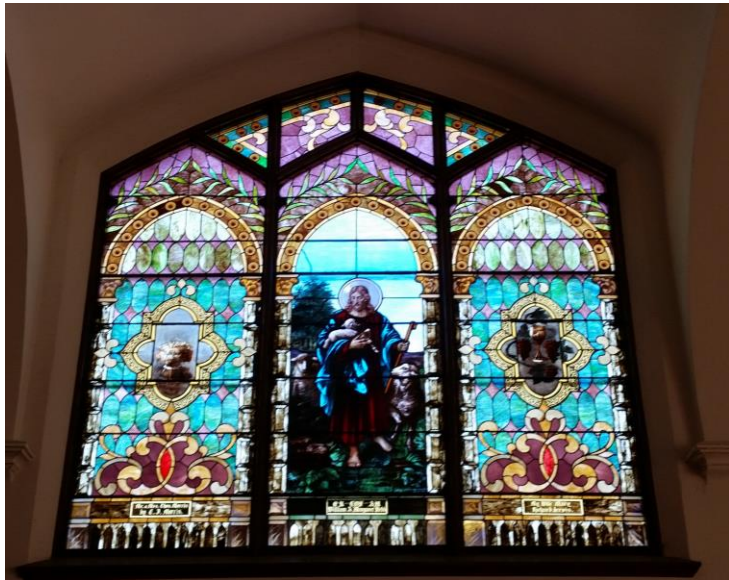
19th Sunday after Pentecost—October 19

Exodus 33:12-23
Psalm 99
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

20th Sunday after Pentecost—October 26

Deuteronomy 34:1-12
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
Matthew 22:34-46

“Jesus Is Our Shepherd” Window



It is good to reflect upon the legacy that our early church members left to point us to reading the Bible and worshipping Christ. The “Jesus Is Our Shepherd” window has much symbolism involved with its images.

The wheat reminds us that Jesus is the bread of life, and that through the bread of communion, we remember His death for us. The shepherd reminds us that Jesus is our Shepherd, and promises to care for us as a shepherd cares for his sheep. The cup with the grapevine wrapped around it reminds us of the cup of the New Covenant in Christ’s blood, of which we partake at communion, and that Jesus is the vine, and we are the branches. Christ is the source of our nourishment and strength, and we are expected to bear fruit.

Read: John 6:35, John 10:11-16, John 15:5.

Reflect: Which of these images of Christ is most important to you right now: the Bread of Life, the Good Shepherd, or the Vine and Cup of the New Covenant?

Pray to God: Tell God what the most important image means to you and why. Start a conversation with God thanking Him for our gifts.

Source: “The Salem Confirmation Class Handbook”

The Woman and the Fork



There was a young woman who had been diagnosed with a terminal illness and had been given three months to live. So as she was getting her things ‘in order,’ she contacted her pastor and had him come to her house to discuss certain aspects of her final wishes.

She told him which songs she wanted sung at the service, what Scriptures she would like read, and what outfit she wanted to be buried in. Everything was in order and the pastor was preparing to leave when the young woman suddenly remembered something very important to her.

“There’s one more thing,” she said excitedly. “What’s that?” came the pastor’s reply.

“This is very important,” the young woman continued. “I want to be buried with a fork in my right hand.”

(Continued on Page 3)



Pastor Tom blessing the tractors and harvest

***Drive Your Tractor to Church Sunday
with its good food and fellowship!***



The Mullenhours



Singing Barbershop Quartet



Salem Country girls

(Continued from Page 1)

The pastor stood looking at the young woman, not knowing quite what to say.

"That surprises you, doesn't it?" the young woman asked.

"Well, to be honest, I'm puzzled by the request," said the pastor.

The young woman explained. "My grandmother once told me a story, and from that time on I have always tried to pass along its message to those I love and those who are in need of encouragement. In all my years of attending socials and dinners, I always remember that when the dishes of the main course were being cleared, someone would inevitably lean over and say, 'Keep your fork.'"

"It was my favorite part because I knew that something better was coming, like velvety chocolate cake or deep-dish apple pie. Something wonderful, and with substance!"

"So, I just want people to see me there in that casket with a fork in my hand and I want them to wonder, 'What's with the fork?' Then I want you to tell them: 'Keep your fork, the best is yet to come.'"

The pastor's eyes welled up with tears of joy as he hugged the young woman good-bye. He knew this would be one of the last times he would see her before her death. But he also knew that the young woman had a better grasp of heaven than he did. She had a better grasp of what heaven would be like than many people twice her age, experience and knowledge. She KNEW that something better was coming.

At the funeral people were walking by the young woman's casket and they saw the outfit she was wearing and the fork placed in her right hand, and over and over, the pastor heard the question, 'What's with the fork?' And over and over he smiled.

During his message, the pastor told the people of the conversation he had with the young woman shortly before she died. He also told them about the fork and about what it symbolized to her. He told the people how he could not stop thinking about the fork and told them that they probably would not be able to stop thinking about it either.

He was right. So the next time you reach down for your fork let it remind you, ever so gently, that the best is yet to come. Friends are very rare jewels, indeed. They make you smile and encourage you to succeed. Cherish the time you have, and the memories you share. Being

friends with someone is not an opportunity, but a sweet responsibility. The BEST is yet to come! God Bless You.

Source: Anonymous

Heaven Is Real



Heaven is a real place prepared for every faithful child of God, and God wants us to fill our mind and to be ever motivated with anticipation for Heaven.

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." (John 14:1-4)

"These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city." (Hebrews 11:13-16)

"For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling." (2 Corinthians 5:2)

"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:14)

"Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing." (2 Timothy 4:8)

As we get a glimpse of the paradise of Heaven, the natural thought is "I REALLY want to go to Heaven." And I want you to go there too. We are each on a journey.

How the Apostles Died

The Apostles were so convinced of their faith that they were willing to die for Christ rather than recant and walk away from persecution. Historical records tell the story of their convictions:

1. **Matthew** suffered martyrdom in Ethiopia, killed by a sword.
2. **Mark** died in Alexandria, Egypt, after being dragged by horses through the streets.
3. **Luke** was hanged in Greece as a result of his tremendous preaching to the lost.
4. **John** faced martyrdom when he was boiled in a huge basin of boiling oil during a wave of persecution in Rome. However, he was miraculously delivered from death. John was then sentenced to the mines on the prison island of Patmos. He wrote his prophetic Book of Revelation on Patmos. The apostle John was later freed and returned to serve as Bishop of Edessa in modern Turkey. He died as an old man, the only Apostle to die peacefully.
5. **Peter** was crucified upside down on an X-shaped cross. According to church tradition, it was because he told his tormentors that he felt unworthy to die in the same way that Jesus Christ had died.
6. **James**, the leader of the church in Jerusalem, was thrown over a hundred feet down from the southeast pinnacle of the Temple when he refused to deny his faith in Christ. When they discovered that he survived the fall, his enemies beat James to death with a fuller's club. This was the same pinnacle where Satan had taken Jesus during the Temptation.
7. **James the Great**, son of Zebedee, was a fisherman by trade when Jesus called him to a lifetime of ministry. As a strong leader of the church, James was ultimately beheaded at Jerusalem. The Roman officer who guarded James watched amazed as James defended his faith at his trial. Later, the officer walked beside James to the place of execution. Overcome by conviction, the officer declared his new faith to the judge and knelt beside James to accept beheading as a Christian.
8. **Bartholomew**, also known as Nathaniel, was a missionary to Asia. He witnessed for our Lord in present day Turkey. Bartholomew was martyred for his preaching in Armenia where he was flayed to death by a whip.
9. **Andrew** was crucified on an X-shaped cross in Patras, Greece. After being whipped severely by seven soldiers, they tied his body to the cross with cords to prolong his agony. His followers reported that, when he was led toward the cross, Andrew saluted it in these words: "I have long

desired and expected this happy hour. The cross has been consecrated by the body of Christ hanging on it." He continued to preach to his tormentors for two days until he expired.

10. **Thomas** was stabbed with a spear in India during one of his missionary trips to establish the church in the Indian Sub-continent.

11. **Jude** was killed with arrows when he refused to deny his faith in Christ.

12. **Matthias**, the Apostle chosen to replace the traitor Judas Iscariot, was stoned and then beheaded.

13. **Paul** endured a lengthy imprisonment, which allowed him to write his many Epistles to the churches he had formed throughout the Roman Empire. These letters, which taught many of the foundational Doctrines of Christianity, form a large portion of the New Testament. Paul was tortured and then beheaded by the evil Emperor Nero at Rome in A.D. 67.

Perhaps, this is a reminder to us that our sufferings here are indeed minor compared to the intense persecution and cold cruelty faced by the Apostles and the disciples for the sake of the Faith. They were fully convinced that Jesus was God and the truth of the Scriptures that they would not deny Christ. Let us pray for the same convictions.

Church Business

Trustee Notes from September 2014



The hardworking Trustees at the manse: Vernon Hobbs, Jeff Lloyd, Jeff Coil, Tim Price and Bob McCollow.

Where we have been: The manse perimeter wall was exposed and a deteriorating outer wall was found. The dirt was removed and a stone backfill was placed down to the basement floor level. A footer was poured with a support wall to the existing crumbling wall. A tile will also

be placed to take the ground water away from the manse. ♦ Where we are at: Bids are being taken to have the church basement painted prior to the Prayer Breakfast in December. The bids will also include finishing the small Sunday School room off the basement. ♦ Where we are going: The parking lot project is presently being discussed as far as gathering bids for the complete project. This project will be bid in both asphalt and concrete. ♦ The next Trustee meeting will be October 12.

Session Notes from September 2014

Session held a regular meeting on September 21. ♦ On November 9, a joint meeting with the trustees is planned to help put together next year's budget. Handouts will be available for the congregation on November 16 and a congregational meeting is set for November 23. ♦ Session is still concerned about the health of the general fund. We know that some members provide major donations only at the end of the year, but it still looks like the 2014 income will be less than what was budgeted for, even though this budget has not increased from 2013. ♦ It was reported that our new church secretary, Tamara, is working out very well at her job and is very knowledgeable with computer data bases and other software. She is in the church office Wednesdays and Fridays. ♦ The next Session meeting will be Oct. 19.

Session is organizing a high school Sunday School class that will include area high schoolers as well as recent young new church members; Stacia Profit and Bob McCollow have volunteered to lead the class.



The adult Sunday School class will meet upstairs to review the world-acclaimed Alpha Course, a practical introduction to the Christian faith, led by Pastor Tom.

Skits, featuring "Sandy" the clueless 11 year old, continue for the Time with the Children during the Sunday morning service.

Music Committee Notes

A very sincere **"thank you,"** to everyone who helped in any way with the recent Gymanfa Ganu! It was a big success with many good comments. Some who attended for the first time were in tears after it was over

as they found the music to be so moving. It is a wonderful tradition and it takes many people working together to plan and complete each year.

Next year will be unique and special with all "home town" people. Eric Foster will be the director, Margaret (Morris) Lopez the soloist, and Bonnie Bolton the organist. This will be their 50th anniversary of their high school graduations and will all be in Van Wert to celebrate the occasion!

Many Thanks,
Jean Owens for the Music Committee

Salvation Army



The Salvation Army has requested that our church collect 500-600 small cans of chicken or beef broth for the Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

Church Family



October Birthdays

Brianna Ebel	10/2
Kory Mullenhour	10/2
Hilda Morris	10/7
Bob McCollow	10/8
Violet Ashton	10/10
David Breese	10/13
Kayla Owens	10/13
Jason Kimmet	10/14
Zach Profit	10/14
Rosemary Strick	10/17
Randy Skanes	10/21
Bart Strick	10/23
Josh Hobbs	10/25
Dolores Skanes	10/27
Keaton Adkins	10/28
Nancy Swygart	10/29
Jeff Coil	10/30
Cathy Smith	10/31

October Anniversaries

Kevin & Heather Matthews	10/2
Jason & Sarah Kimmet	10/7
Bob & Kathy McCollow	10/21

Favorite Memories of Salem

I remember when my mother and father, my two brothers and my twin sister and I used to go to church, and it was packed. Then, I remember when my husband, my two girls and I would go to church. Most of all, what stands out to me as my favorite memory, is the Gamanfa Gannu each year.

~Carolyn Girod



Violet Ashton

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

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

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

Audrey Burnett (under hospice care at home)
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)
Jeannie Etzler (daughter of Warren Summersett)
Vernon Hobbs, Sr.
Linda Howell (Jeff Coil's sister – congestive heart failure)
Jesse (a mother with a heroin addiction)
Margaret Keltner (in hospice—mother of Jan Jones)
Amanda Lamb (granddaughter of Dave & Jean Owens)
Betty Lloyd
James Marshall (mysterious ailment and M.S.)
Hilda Morris (heart problems)
Tim Morris (son of Hilda Morris)
Ione Owens
Aimee Schulte (friend of Sarah Kimmet)
Warren Summersett
Paula Klein (cancer – friend of Evelyn Martz)
Joyce Profit (heart problems)
Marjorie Rhoades (leg pains)
Bill Rowlett (church neighbor, heart problems)
Maxine Stewart (mother of Kim Coil)
Tom Theobald (recurrent cancer)
Jean Faust (stage 4 cancer)

In Mourning

The family of Audrey Burnett
The family of Gerhard Keller

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

October Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 9:30 Worship Communion 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Audrey Burnett funeral	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Celebrate Rec. 6:30 Youth Group 6:30 Trustee Meeting	13	14	15	16 Women's Assoc. Meeting	17	18
19 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Celebrate Rec. 4:00 Session Meeting	20	21	22 12:00 noon Senior Luncheon	23	24	25
26 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School 3:00 Celebrate Rec. 6:30 Youth Group	27	28	29	30	31	

Servants for October

Week of	Greeters*	Ushers	Acolyte	Nursery**
October 5	Kathy McCollow	Price Family	Price Kids	Mark & Missy Zielke
October 12	Kathy McCollow	Price Family	Price Kids	Christina & Catie Emery
October 19	Kathy McCollow	Price Family	Price Kids	Christina & Catie Emery
October 26	Kathy McCollow	Price Family	Price Kids	Kent & Heather McClure

*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.



Salem Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 678
Venedocia, Ohio 45894-0678

Music for October

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, October 5, 2014

Special Music: Communion - Hymn Sing

Sunday, October 12, 2014

Special Music: Junior Bell Choir

Sunday, October 19, 2014

Special Music: First Presbyterian Women's Group

Sunday, October 26, 2014

Special Music: Junior Bell or Choir

