

# SOUNDS OF SALEM

Volume 18 Issue 5

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May 2016



**MAY 2016**

**Revised Common Lectionary  
Year C**

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## **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – May 1**

Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67
Rev. 21:10; 21:22-25:5	John 14:23-29

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## **7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – May 8**

Acts 16:16-34	Psalm 97
Rev. 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21	John 17:20-26

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## **Day of Pentecost – May 15**

Acts 2:1-21	Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Romans 8:14-17	John 14:8-17, 25-27

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## **Trinity Sunday – May 22**

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	Psalm 8
Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15

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## **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – May 29**

1 Kings 18:20-39	Psalm 96
Galatians 1:1-12	Luke 7:1-10

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## **Pastor's Thoughts**

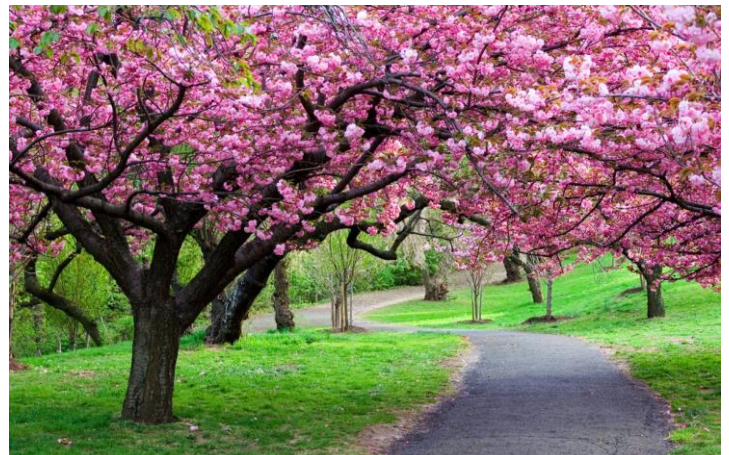
After the cold winter weather, I see with each new day the unveiling beauty of the earth with the blossoming flowers and lush greenery arriving with the springtime warm weather.

I can't but thank God for what I see. Have you ever wondered why God created us when He created the world? Upon meditating upon Genesis 1:26 we find some answers, *"And God said, 'Let us [plural for the Trinity] make man in our image, after our likeness...'"*



From that verse, you can realize two things: that God, our Creator, was already in his own relationship called "the Trinity of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Further, we were also created in God's image for fellowship with Him and with others. Our Creator gave Adam and Eve the duties to rule over the rest of creation and to fill the earth with Adam's descendants also made in God's image. God gave us the ability to make our choices including of loving Him or rejecting Him. We were given free will, and unfortunately, through the trickery of Satan, Adam and Eve chose to reject God.



Not giving up on us, God waits for us to return to Him as just a perfect loving Father would do. He offers us the unconditional love of a perfect parent. He wants to adopt us into His eternal family, by declaring that we are forgiven and fully accepted through Christ. Jesus defeated the devil through His payment for our sins on the cross, and any tormenting demons must give way before His name. Romans 8:1 tells us, *"So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus."*

God made the way for us to restore our relationship with Him through his own Son, Jesus Christ. The world awaits its renewal under God. John 1:12 tells us: *"the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay."*



One of my favorite old hymns is: *"This is My Father's World."* It describes the Father's love in the world. The final verse testifies of the final reinstatement of the link between us and our Father, God:

*This is my Father's world, O let me ne'r forget  
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,  
God is the ruler yet.*

*This is my Father's world, the battle is not done,  
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,  
And earth and heav'n be one.*

This fallen world is not the way that God meant it to be. Springtime offers us a glimpse of how beautiful things can be under God. Out of God's love for us, God provided the way for that broken connection to be restored. It was through the death of Jesus on the cross and His resurrection that *"...earth and heav'n be one."* Let us rejoice at the springtime beauty and praise God for it!

Pastor Tom Emery

*"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid" (John 14:27 NLT).*

The peace of which Jesus speaks is not simply the end of conflict nor is it, for that matter, even the lack of inner struggle.

The peace of God is an internal strength and tranquility which exists in spite of turmoil whether in the world around us or deep within us.

An old story which illustrates this point concerns a little boy who sat calmly aboard a ship which was tossed about like a toothpick by the wind and waves.

Another passenger asked him, "Aren't you worried? Doesn't the storm frighten you?"

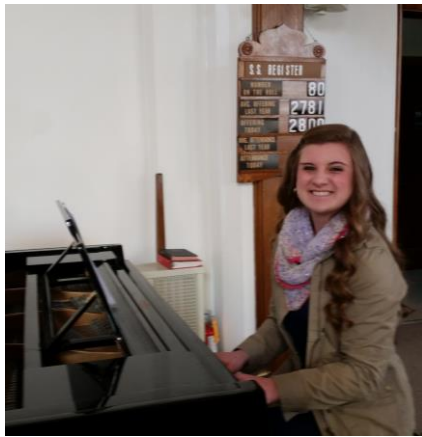
"No," replied the boy. "If I sit here I can look through that hole and I can see the captain at the helm. He is my father, and he has brought this ship through many storms. As long as my father is at the helm, he will get us safely through; I am not afraid."

Our Father God is in control, not us. Why not cast all your cares upon Christ? Give Him the heavy emotional loads that you carry. Ask Him in return to give you the gift of peace that He offers us! Remember, His Name is God - not yours. Claim His peace right now!





## Look Back on April



April was full of beautiful music! Clockwise: Christina Emery, Kaitlyn Wendell, Spencerville Junior High Choir. *Not pictured: Evan Pugh*



Evelyn Martz with grandson, Elijah Martz.



"Scarecrow" and Kim Coil never cease to entertain everyone at the monthly Senior Luncheon meals!



## New Addition at Memorial Park



This week, a vision became reality when an artillery piece was parked on a new cement pad at Venedocia's Memorial Park. This was made possible by the hard work of Boy Scout, Dominic Adkins, working for his Eagle Scout project with assistance from John Lloyd. Now that they got the cannon, they are beginning this month to fundraise \$1,500 to pay for the site expenses and to sandblast and to paint the cannon with 30- year lasting paint. They want to have it prepared for the Memorial Day celebration next month in the park. They need your help: make checks out to the Memorial Park Cannon Fund, PO Box 662, Venedocia, OH 45894. Finally, make a point to walk the beautiful park this summer and enjoy the history walk, memorials, and gardens.

## Birth Announcement



Bob & Kathy McCollow welcomed a new grandchild on April 2. **Adelina Leon**, daughter of Cory & Silvia McCollow. She weighed 7 lb 2 oz and both she and her parents are doing very well. Congratulations!

## Senior Luncheon

Join us on Wednesday, May 24, 12:00 pm at the Lion's Club, for food, fellowship, and fun! Enjoy the photos from the previous page.

## National Day of Prayer

The first Thursday of May is set aside annually for National Day of Prayer observances across the nation. The day will again be celebrated in Van Wert with a directed season of prayer in front of the Van Wert Court House at 12:00 Noon.



## Tribute to Mothers

What is a Mother?

She's someone who shares in all of your problems, your joys and your cares.

Someone who gives you right from the start, the warmth and the love of a Mother's heart. Someone who is loyal and helpful and dear, and seems to grow more wonderful year after year. Life is much brighter and happier too, because there are mothers;

Mothers like you!



Grandma, you are so wonderful!  
On Mother's Day I think of you,  
The love you give and sweet things you do;  
You make a difference in my life.  
I love you more than I can say!  
That's why this poem is especially for you,  
To wish you Happy Mother's Day!

**M** .... is for **my** Mother.

**O** .... is because there is no **o**ther.

**T** .... is because you **t**ake me places.

**H** .... is for **h**appy faces.

**E** .... is for **e**ver my love for you will be.

**R** .... is **r**emembering all you are to me!

*"Thank you to everyone for the prayers, beautiful cards, delicious food and calls after my recent fall and surgery. It is so comforting to know that people care."* ~Jean Owens



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

#### **Violet Ashton**

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

#### **Marian Morris**

Hearth & Home  
1118 Westwood Drive  
Van Wert, OH 45891

#### **Betty Lloyd**

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

#### **Warren Summersett**

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

#### **Serving our Country**

##### **Cory McCollow**

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

##### **Pete McCollow**

(U.S. Marine Corps)  
116 HAC Street  
Jacksonville, NC 28540

##### **Micah Linger**

(U.S. Marine Corps)  
*Grandson of Doris Evans*

##### **Nick Fuller**

*Grandson of Dave & Ann Rees*

#### **Away at College**

##### **Andrew Emery**

Siddall Hall, 102  
2540 Corbett Drive  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

##### **Cassy Emery**

Box 564  
c/o Cincinnati Christian U.  
2700 Glenway Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

#### **Anniversaries**

Bart & Rosemary Strict	5/13
Mark & Melissa Zielke	5/20

*"We would like to thank all of you for your care, visits, cards, prayers and thoughtfulness for Mom & Grandma – Becky Zirkle. You were all family to her and had a special place in her heart. God bless each of you." ~Jean & David Ringwald*

#### **Church Financial Update**

Needed Weekly: \$2,067.00	Needed to Date: \$37,206.00
Rec'd 05-01-16: \$1,098.55	Rec'd to Date: \$30,752.78

#### **Prayer Concerns**

Norma Adams (diabetic issues)  
Bob Allenbaugh (lung cancer – husband of LaDonna)  
Arlene Barrientos (Alzheimer's & foot surgery)  
Brendan Daily (friend of Morgan Pugh)  
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)  
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)  
Hope Eutsler (leukemia)  
Eric Fancher (chemotherapy – son of Rev. Jon F.)  
Colin Good (emphysema – son of Charlie Good)  
Phyllis Holmes (cancer – sister of Jack Blackmore)  
Melanie Huddleston (cancer – sister of Kim Coil)  
Betty Lloyd  
Elizabeth Markus (depression and salvation)  
Ronnie Neate (throat cancer)  
Jean Owens (fall and hip plate operation)  
Marjorie Rhoades (leg pains)  
Dave Slygh (organ transplant problems)  
Elaine Siler (cancer)  
Thad Summersett (brain tumor – grandson of Warren)  
Steve West (son-in-law of Jeff & Marcia Pollock)  
Noah Wyatt (son of Stuart Wyatt)  
Marian Morris (stage two cancer)  
Doris Evans (cancer)  
Jeremy Hughes (recovering from Mersa)  
Bob Thompson (heart attack – dad of Lori Williams)  
Ann Rees (knees)  
Vernon Hobbs (cancer)

#### **Birthdays**

5/1 Logan Friesner	5/2 Audrey Hobbs
5/3 Alyssa Evans	5/3 Kim Coil
5/3 Eric Pugh	5/3 Deb Fair
5/4 Heather Matthews	5/4 Rod Eutsler
5/6 Emma Jones	5/7 Josh Lloyd
5/8 Bob Pugh	5/9 Linda Howell
5/10 Rex Lloyd	5/12 Sandy Clayborn
5/14 Bob Louth	5/15 Dane Ebel
5/16 Chance Mosier	5/17 Mary Haines
5/17 Delayna Profit	5/17 Stacia Profit
5/18 Ione Owens	5/19 Holden Price
5/22 Dawson Kimmet	5/23 Carolyn Girod
5/25 Taylor Hoehn	

## Hospitality

Hospitality is a spiritual discipline and a moral obligation of all who call themselves Christian. It is considered as important in the Bible as prayer, Bible study and worship. It is in the air; it is a feeling that you have when you gather in a certain place to worship God. The Church is called to create a safe place where people are encouraged to disarm themselves, lay aside their occupations and preoccupations, and to listen, with love, to one another and God.

In the Bible, strangers were considered messengers of God. Abraham received three strangers at Mamre, offering them water, bread, some fine tender beef, and they revealed themselves as messengers of God. They came with news that Abraham and Sarah were to bear a son in their old age and name him Isaac. When the widow of Zarephath offered food and shelter to Elijah, he revealed himself as a man of God even capable of raising her dead son.



When the two travelers to Emmaus invited the stranger who had joined them on the road to spend the night, he made himself known to them in the breaking of bread as the Risen Christ. "Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing, some have entertained angels unaware."

It is the mission of the Church to bring people together who do not know one another. Hospitality is an atmosphere. It is a feeling that you create in a place.

There are some things that you do out of gratitude. Hospitality rises from an attitude of gratitude about life. Our practice of hospitality is always in response to God's gracious offering of hospitality to us. When we are overwhelmed by the power of God's grace in our lives, then we are set free to share with those who are around us; and how can we do otherwise?

In Deuteronomy 24:17-18, Moses instructs the children of Israel not to deprive the alien or the fatherless of justice, or take the cloak of a widow as a pledge. He says, "Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you from there." When you have been there in that position, in that situation, and someone has come to help you, you won't soon forget what has happened in your midst. Only when we know how to behave as guests will we have the honor to act as hosts.

A young mother in her old Honda loaded down with children pays for the next five cars at the turnpike toll booth. Can you

imagine what those motorists thought when they drove up and the attendant at the toll booth said, "It's a free ride today, the lady in front of you just performed a random act of kindness"?

A homebound lady writes five notes a day to friends, acquaintances, and strangers extending acts of kindness and love to people she does not even know.

Love does not call for as much organization, structure, programming and planning as we would like to think. We need to just do it. That is hospitality; just create the space and get the attention to just do it.

Hospitality is characteristic of community. In I Peter 4:9 we read, "Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling." If we cannot love the people we know, how can we think about loving strangers?

When fallen TV evangelist Jim Baker was released from prison, he got a call from Ruth and Billy Graham. They helped him find a place to live and invited him to worship with them at Montreat Presbyterian Church the following Sunday. "I had been out of prison less than forty-eight hours and there I sat next to Ruth Graham as she announced to the world that I was still her friend," said the humbled evangelist. "They invited me up to their cabin for lunch and began to help restore my soul." Are we going to help one another in the community?




The Bible is full of one anothering, love one another, pray for one another, care for one another, bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Hospitality is expanded into the neighborhood. Dr. Bob Goodrich was pastor of First United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas when President Kennedy was shot. With tears in his eyes the following Sunday, he lamented to his congregation, "Lee Harvey Oswald lived only three blocks from our church, but so far as we know no one from our congregation ever called on him, or invited him to church, or expressed any interest at all in him during that time. Do we have any responsibility for what has just happened in our world?"

If we want a safer, more hospitable world, we might begin by building hospitality centers that are known as churches who are as concerned for their community as they are for themselves. Look all around you and find someone in need. Help somebody today. Though it be little, a neighborly deed, help somebody today. Isn't it time we put the moral punch back into that Biblical word called HOSPITALITY?

Adapted from Faith Breaks by Dr. J. Howard Olds

# May 2016

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School	2	3	4	<b>5 National Day of Prayer</b> V.W. Co. Courthouse 12:00 pm	6 <b>Piano Recital</b> 7:00 pm	7
<b>8 Mother's Day Bell Choir Recognition</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School 6:30 PM Trustee Meeting	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>15 Pentecost Offering</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School 4:00 PM Session	16	17	18	19	20	21
<b>22 Communion Graduate Sunday</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School 4:00 PM Session	23	24	<b>25 Senior Luncheon</b> 12:00 noon	26	27	28
<b>29 Memorial Sunday</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School	<b>30 Memorial Service</b> 11:00 pm Venedocia Memorial Park	31				

Week of	Greeter	Special Music	Ushers	Acolyte	Nursery
May 1	Liz Hobbs	Maddie Dunn	Dave Rees, Ron Richards, Dave & Carla Breese	Catie Emery	Jeff & Kelly Lloyd
May 8		Bell Choir			Bill & Ruth Evans
May 15		Chris Bendel			Eric & Jenny Pugh
May 22		Communion			Rex & Lisa Lloyd
May 29		Patriotic Hymn Sing			Tuzz & Lizz Hobbs





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

# **Sounds of Salem** **Newsletter**

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