

# SOUNDS OF SALEM

A MONTHLY PRINT AND DIGITAL NEWSLETTER OF SALEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VENEDOCIA, OHIO

Volume 20 Issue 10

October 2018

## Pastor's Thoughts

A few years ago, a woman in her low-90s was passing her last day in a hospice. Her family came in to be with her in her last moments.

Arriving, one daughter in tears knelt beside the bed of her dying mother and leaned over and kissed her on the cheek. Then, through her tears she said "Mother, you have been such a good mom to me. You always loved me, and you raised us in a godly home. I'm sorry for my rebelliousness and my going my own way. I shouldn't have stayed away. I can look back and see you were always right in what you said. I just didn't listen. I'm sorry. I want you to really know that I love you, and I am thankful for you."

The mother took her hand and though her own tears she managed to say: "That's the first time you've ever told me that." Smiling and squeezing her hand, the mother said, "I can now go in peace."

It took the daughter over seventy years to say, "I love you to her mother."

In John 13:34-35, Jesus told His disciples, "So now I am giving you a new commandment: **Love** each other. Just as I have **loved** you, you should **love** each other. Your **love** for **one another** will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

Let us reflect if there an expression of love you need to speak today? How long has it been since you thanked your Mom or Dad and told them how much you love them and appreciated them? How about your sister, your brother, your mate, and those who have cared for you over the years?

And parents, how about you? Yes, as parents we have to be referees sometimes and that is a loving thing to do, but also we need to be encouragers to build up people. We need to say in a real heart-to-heart simple expression of your love, "I love you."

There is no question about it. One of the best ways we can express love is with words. Jesus makes it clearly known to us that love is our calling as Christians.

*Pastor Tom*

## It's Always Harvest Time



Not just at harvest time,  
do we need to have a reason  
we can plant seeds of hope  
in and out, of every season.

We can reap souls to Jesus,  
no matter the time of year  
it doesn't have to be Autumn  
harvest time, is always here.

Seeds of faith can be planted,  
into the hearts of everyone  
whether under snowy covers  
or the warm blanket of the sun.

We can gather in the lost,  
bring back a wandering soul  
it doesn't have to be Fall  
for the harvest, God controls.

It's always harvest time,  
we don't need to have a reason  
we can sow seeds of eternal hope  
in and out, of every season!

~~~~~  
**Luke 10:2**

*"Therefore said he unto them,  
The harvest truly is great,  
but the laborers are few:  
pray ye therefore the Lord  
of the harvest, that he would  
send forth laborers into his harvest." KJV*

Deborah Ann Belka Copyright 2014



## Fighting Over the Good Seats

Let me tell you a story...

The governor's daughter was getting married. The governor had planned an elaborate wedding and reception. The reception was more than cake and punch. It was a seven-course meal. The governor rented a massive hall in which they would have the reception.

The governor, who was quite popular having been involved in government and politics for a number of years, made a lengthy guest list. Mayors from all over the state were invited, along with senators, congressmen, judges, and even former presidents. Dignitaries would be there like never before.

The governor carefully planned the seating arrangements. With the number of officials and dignitaries there, egos could easily be bruised if the pecking order wasn't followed closely. It proved to be a little difficult as the wedding approached, as some who said they could come backed out. Others didn't respond until the last minute.

As the reception was beginning the name cards got all messed up. It was confusing, but everyone had a good idea where to sit.

The mayor of capitol city was in attendance. In all the confusion, he saw an opportunity to get close to the governor. After all, the governor would not be seeking another term. The mayor thought it would be a great chance to schmooze the governor and get his personal endorsement to be the next governor. He pushed his way through the crowd and slid into the chair right next to the governor. Just as the mayor was ready to chat up the governor, a former president came into the room. The governor had been a cabinet member during the administration of the former president. The governor jumped to his feet to greet the former president.

The mayor glanced around. All the other seats were now taken. The governor asked the mayor to move so the former president could sit there. With everyone looking on, the mayor, red-faced, slipped to the other side of the hall and sat down at the table with all the kids. (That is the equivalent of sitting at the card table with the kids at Thanksgiving dinner.)

What had begun as a political power play by the mayor of capitol city turned into a colossal embarrassment for him.

Can you imagine what the mayor was feeling? The mayor of capitol city was a very honored guest, but an even more honored guest in a former president displaced him.

There was also something else going on at the reception that went virtually unnoticed. The mayor of a small town also came. He had known the governor while they were both in college. The small town mayor, though, knew his place in the political hierarchy. He knew he was not a big player. He sat down with the less distinguished guests.

Before everyone else had taken their seats, the governor noticed his old friend sitting in the corner. The governor rushed over to him and said, "Old friend, why are you sitting here? Come with me." The governor ushered him to the seat next to where the mayor of capitol city was sitting. (This all occurred before the former president came in.) As the events with the mayor of capitol city unfolded, the small-town mayor watched in astonishment as the former president was seated next to him.

Can you imagine what the small-town mayor was feeling? Because of his humility, the small-town mayor was ushered to a seat of very great honor.

Read [Luke 14:7-11](#): Is this just a lesson on table manners? What implication does this have on our lives?

All of this contradicts what values we often hold. We value the pushy politician who climbs the ladder on the backs of the little guy. We value people who are assertive. Seminars are held to help people be assertive. How many seminars have you seen to help people be humble? "Come to the Humble Seminar and learn how to be humbler."

I did a search on the Internet for "humble seminar" and "humility seminar" and got nothing. Do a search on "assertiveness seminar" and you get all kinds of hits.

Humble, self-effacing people are seen as weak. They are often trampled by upwardly mobile people. Though, as one author points out: "Humility is not cowardice."





Humility comes from the realization that we can't do it on our own. We can't save ourselves.

Is this saying that acting humble will get us the seat of honor or whatever we want? No. Acting humble, or even being humble, is not a shortcut to glory.

I remember the story of a man. This man was given a medal because of his humility. Later, it was taken away because he wore it everywhere he went.

Adapted from "A Little Story" by Wesley Bishop

### Venedocia Updates

The street in front of the church is torn-up to provide new sidewalks, curbs, and storm drains. The work is fast underway trying to beat the cold weather.



### The Music Committee

The music committee would like to thank everyone for their support for our recent Gymanfa. Our attendance as compared to some years was less, and we feel the heat really is responsible for that. But, those who attended assured the committee that it was a great evening, filled with good food, fellowship, and beautiful music.

We have started planning for next year, and we are happy to announce that our director will be Christopher Uhl. He has directed several times in the past, and we always enjoy working with him and appreciate his knowledge and leadership in this event that continues to honor our heritage. Joining us on the organ will be Connie O'Neill and on the piano for his first Gymanfa will be David VanTilburg. (David actually had Christopher in his youth choir when he first started at

Van Wert Presbyterian). Looking forward to Sunday September 1, 2019!

If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for special music that they would like to have please notify any music committee member. They are: Kathy McCollow, Carla Breese, Denise Pugh, Lisa Lloyd, Ann Rees, and Jan Jones.

### SHOEBOX PROJECT

For the past 25 years, shoeboxes have been collected, filled with gifts and delivered to children in need around the world. Each box is an opportunity for a boy or girl to experience the love of God in a tangible way and to hear the Gospel. Many boys and girls who receive shoeboxes also participate in the follow-up discipleship program, The Greatest Journey, which teaches them how to faithfully follow Christ and share Him with others. Please plan to fill a shoebox and give Hope and Joy to a precious child. Collection day is Sunday, Nov. 18.

### Frosted Banana Bars by Jean Owens

1/2 Cup Softened Margarine  
2 Eggs  
1 Tsp Vanilla  
2 Cups Flour  
1 1/2 Cups Sugar  
1 Cup Sour Cream  
1 Tsp Baking Soda  
1 Cup Mashed Bananas

Cream Margarine and Sugar. Add Mashed Bananas, Sour Cream, Eggs, Vanilla and mix well. Mix Flour and Baking Soda and add to the batter.

Bake in a Greased and Floured 15 x 10 inch pan at 350 degrees about 25 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Cool before frosting.

### EASY PENUCHE FROSTING

1/2 Cup Margarine  
1/4 Cup Milk  
1 Tsp Vanilla  
1 Cup Brown Sugar  
3 Cups Powdered Sugar

Melt Margarine in a saucepan, stir in the Brown Sugar and bring to a boil and cook for 2 minutes, stirring constantly. Add the Milk and bring back to a boil. Take off heat and add the Vanilla. Cool to lukewarm and add the Powdered Sugar. May need more to get it thick enough to spread.

### Church Financial Update

Needed to Date: \$73,226.00  
Received to Date: \$67,721.55





Sept 26 The Senior Luncheon had the theme of "Back to School." Grade Schooler hosts, Kim Coil and Marylin Foust, ham-it-up.



Sept 16 Drive Your Tractor to Church and Blessing of the Harvest event and potluck – Pastor Tom.



Sept. 23 Time for Children "Sandy Skit" on serving others – Kelly Lloyd and Carol Emery.



Sept 16 John C. Morris driving his John Deere. Fords park on the left side.



Sept 16 Special Music with Sheila Collins and David Van Tilburg.



Sept. 15 Salem packed with the community and family paying last respects to David Hugh Evans.





Sept 12 The County-Wide Prayer Event and reception was held at Salem. Pastor Bill Watson was among seven other pastors and congregations.



Sept 2 The many food volunteers for the Gymanfa supper.



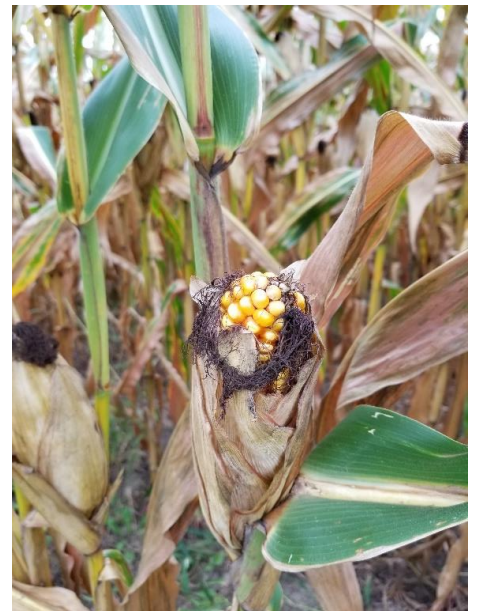
Sept 3 The County Fair ushering event raised additional money for Salem - Jeff and Kelly Lloyd.



Sept 2 Trefor Williams conducting the Gymanfa singing.



Sept. 2 Mary Ann Matthews on the piano, and Connie O'Neill, guest organist.



Sept 9 The corn next to Salem is ready for harvest.



# IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

*Remember our elderly members, soldiers, and college students with cards and visits.*

## **Natalie Morgan Wilkins**

Vancrest Healthcare  
10357 VW—Decatur  
Van Wert, OH 45891

## **Marjorie Rhoades**

Hearth & Home  
1118 Westwood Dr.  
Van Wert, OH 45891

## **Bob Louth**

15113 Main St  
Venedocia, OH 45894

## **Marian Morris**

Hearth & Home  
1118 Westwood Dr.  
Van Wert, OH 45891

## **Warren Summersett**

Vancrest Healthcare  
10357 VW—Decatur  
Van Wert, OH 45891

## **Dorothea Plikerd**

418 East 4th Street  
Spencerville, OH 45887

## **Away at College**

**Evan Pugh** – Aquinas University, Grand Rapids

**Andrew Emery** – University of Cincinnati

**Christina Emery** – University of Cincinnati

**4/C Madison Pugh**- U.S. Coast Guard Academy  
15 Mohegan Ave  
8785 Chase Hall  
New London, CT 06320

## **Serving our Country**

### **Cory McCollow**

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

### **Micah Linger**

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

**Phoebe Eutsler** (Army)

## **Birthdays**

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Kory Mullenhour | 8 Bob McCollow         |
| 13 David Breese   | 13 Kayla Owens/Mumford |
| 13 Carter Dunlap  | 14 Jason Kimmet        |
| 25 Josh Hobbs     | 28 Keaton Adkins       |
| 29 Nancy Swygart  | 30 Jeff Coil           |

## **Anniversaries**

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

## **Condolences**

Condolences to the family of **Thomas Morgan**.

## **Prayer Concerns**

Jerry Agler  
Peggy Burnett (cancer)  
Mark Davis  
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)  
Doris Evans (cancer)  
Daniel Fisher (rectal cancer)  
Suzanne Hadley-Himes (recurrent cancer)  
Bill Harmon (cancer)  
Jeff Hines (kidney transplant)  
Bob Hundley (cancer)  
Tim Hurbert (cancer in lungs & pancreas)  
Jan Jones (health Issues)  
Paula Jones (healing from fall)  
Beverly Koenig (cancer treatments)  
Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer)  
Barbara Lewis (heart attack)  
Linda Lissey (cancer)

Bob Louth  
Becky Martz (health problems)  
Sarah Miller (health issues)  
Marian Morris  
Kim Owens (cancer)  
Dorothea Plikerd  
Walter Poling  
Brent Price (recovering from heart attack)  
Joyce Profit  
Mallory Rentz (blood clot in brain)  
Marjorie Rhodes  
Julie Sheets (lung cancer)  
Shelly (vertigo)  
Bobbie Spyres  
Natalie Wilkins (failing health, 90 years old)  
Noah Wyatt (son of Stuart Wyatt)



# October 2018

| Sunday                                                                                     | Mon | Tue                                  | Wed                               | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
|                                                                                            | 1   | <b>2</b><br>7pm Women's Bible Study  | 3                                 | 4   | 5   | 6   |
| <b>7</b><br>9:30 Worship<br>World Communion<br>10:45 Sunday School<br>5:00 Trustee Meeting | 8   | <b>9</b><br>7pm Women's Bible Study  | 10                                | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| <b>14</b><br>9:30 Guest speaker<br>John Zerbe<br>5:00 Trustee Meeting                      | 15  | <b>16</b><br>7pm Women's Bible Study | 17                                | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| <b>21</b><br>9:30 Worship<br>10:45 Sunday School<br>noon Session Meeting                   | 22  | <b>23</b><br>7pm Women's Bible Study | <b>24</b><br>Noon-Senior Luncheon | 25  | 26  | 27  |
| <b>28</b><br>9:30 Worship<br>10:45 Sunday School<br>Budget & Nominating information is due | 29  | <b>30</b><br>7pm Women's Bible Study | 31                                |     |     |     |

| Week of       | Special Music     | Nursery                 | Flowers          |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| October 7     | Penpark           | Gwenda Blackmore        | Gwenda Blackmore |
| October 14    | No special music  | Mark & Missy Zielke     | Gwenda Blackmore |
| October 21    | Bells-Jr. Choir   | Ross & Alyssa Evans     | Gwenda Blackmore |
| October 28    | Una VanWynsberghe | Toby & Elizabeth Adkins | Jean Owens       |
|               |                   |                         |                  |
| <b>Ushers</b> | The Price Family  | <b>Greeter:</b>         | Gwenda Blackmore |



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



Rex Lloyd and grandson

## *Sounds of Salem Newsletter*

Church Phone: 419-667-4142

Church Web Pages: [www.SalemChurch.cc](http://www.SalemChurch.cc)  
[www.facebook.com/salemchurchvenedocia](https://www.facebook.com/salemchurchvenedocia)

Secretary E-Mail: [Secretary@SalemChurch.cc](mailto:Secretary@SalemChurch.cc)

Secretary's cell: 419-303-2032

Rev. Thomas Emery's cell: 419-863-9131  
Pastor's Email: [PastorTomEmery@live.com](mailto:PastorTomEmery@live.com)

### October 2018 REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY YEAR B

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#### **20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – October 7**

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|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Job 1:1; 2:1-10    | Psalm 26     |
| Heb. 1:1-4; 2:5-12 | Mark 10:2-16 |

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#### **21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – October 14**

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|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Job 23:1-9, 16-17 | Psalm 22:1-15 |
| Heb. 4:12-16      | Mark 10:17-31 |

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#### **22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – October 21**

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|                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Job 38:1-7 (34-41) | Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c |
| Heb. 5:1-10        | Mark 10:35-45          |

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#### **23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – October 28**

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|                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Job 42:1-6, 10-17 | Psalm 34:1-8 (19-22) |
| Heb. 7:23-28      | Mark 10:46-52        |

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