

# SOUNDS OF SALEM

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

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<sup>15</sup>I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it" (Mark 10:15 NLT).

Mark 10:15 says that unless we come to God like innocent children, we can't enter the Kingdom of God. With that, we must believe that God rewards those who seek Him, and that there is great incentive in seeking and serving the Lord.

His Word, the Bible, guides us to understand His will. But, like children, the issue of faith and trust in the Word of God is decided more in our hearts than in our minds. Believing that Jesus is God's Son, he died to pay the price of our sins that we are unable to pay, and giving your heart to Jesus supernaturally opens an eternal relationship. To be faithful doesn't require that you understand everything the Word of God says. Like children, the major thing is to trust in the loving character and integrity of Jesus, and that His Word is an extension of His love for us.

Matthew 28:18-20 tells us that Jesus commissioned His followers to tell the nations of Him and to make disciples. A "witness" is someone who knows something to be true and simply testifies to it.

Over the years, I have participated in groups who have shared their personal stories of giving their hearts to Jesus as their Lord and Savior and the personal fulfillment of having a deep trusting relationship with Jesus. Amazingly, I believe God's Holy Spirit directed us together and opened a door to share our stories. Someone reached out to God, and He orchestrated willing Christ-followers to answer that need.



Ananias told Paul in Acts. 22:15, "You will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard." You see, we are not to be a witness so much as to what

we know, but as to Who we know. Jesus said, "You shall be My witness." We are not to witness to a church, a creed, a code, or a cause, but to Christ. Jesus is the center, the border, and the core of our witness.

Sometimes people talk about "sharing their faith." Well, a Buddhist can share his faith, a Muslim can share his faith, a Hindu can share his faith, but we are to share the person of Jesus. What this world needs is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is alive in this world. He makes us complete.

Jesus is the subject of witnessing. He is the source of witnessing. He is the sustainer of witnessing. He is the strength of witnessing. We are to be His witnesses, because He is the only universal need in all the world.

He is the need of the Republican and the need of the Democrat. He is the need of Americans, and He is the need of Russians, Chinese, and N. Koreans. He is the need of the rich, and He is the need of the poor. The greatest need of every man, woman, and child alive on planet earth is to know Jesus Christ. We all need a personal relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, and we are to be His witnesses. Why not share your faith today?

*Pastor Tom Emery*

## In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found;  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all—  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,

The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine—  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home—  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

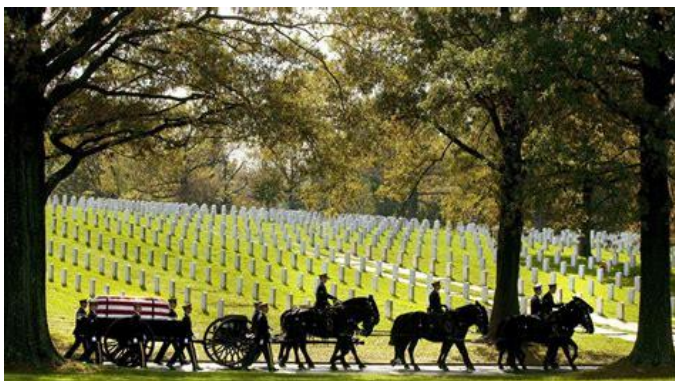
"In Christ Alone." Stuart Townsend [Youtube Music Link](#).

### Celebrate Memorial Day

During his Inauguration, Abraham Lincoln said of future Memorial Days: "The mystic cords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart... should swell a mighty chorus of remembrance and gratitude and rededication on this solemn occasion."

Indeed, it should, but too many young people think Memorial Day is about pool openings or just taking a day off and eating hot dogs and hamburgers.

People died so we might live. It is commonly said that "We don't know them all, but we owe them all." Our fellow citizens in large wars and small conflicts - and more recently in terrorist attacks - gave their lives for this country. Some willingly, some unexpectedly. They



Arlington Cemetery

deserve to be remembered and honored. And our schools and families should teach us to do so.

On each Memorial Day visit a cemetery with children and grandchildren and see if you can find a veteran's grave. Veterans are buried all over the country and if you try, you can find one. Celebrate Memorial Day for the sake of those who gave their lives for us.

### What to Do When You Fall out of Love with Your Spouse?

We must be deliberate and intentional with the one to whom we pledged our hearts, love and lives. Here are six ways to fall back in love:

#### 1. Remember What Drew the Two of You Together

It's been said that whatever first attracted you to your spouse is often the same thing that irritates you about him or her later. But when we trace back what is irritating us to why we fell in love with that person in the first place, it reminds us of who we married and why, and will help us bring back that loving feeling.

What was it about your spouse that stole your heart? Was it his smile, her sense of humor, the way he or she could make you laugh? Was it his gentleness toward you that made you feel cherished and loved? Was it the soft way she talked to you? Was it his integrity and his determination to love you as God does? *Remember* and let it draw you back to the way you once felt toward your spouse.

#### 2. Refocus on Intimacy

Getaways (even on a budget) have been very important in my 32-year marriage to Hugh. But if you can't get away together, focus on how to bring the intimacy home by carving out time together, getting creative about expressing how much you love one another. Refocusing on intimacy – through intentional time together -- can recharge your romance and give clarity and perspective about how your focus or direction may have changed. Be extravagant in showing your love to each other, even though the cost does not have to be extravagant. It pays huge returns in the short term *and* the long term.

If you can't get away together now, start planning your next getaway (or second honeymoon). Just making the plans together can be a boost to your relationship. Then, when you go, *act* like you're on your honeymoon. It's been proven that going away together with your

spouse decreases your stress, deepens your friendship, increases your sexual intimacy, and reminds you why you got married.

### 3. Recommit to One Another

Re-read your wedding vows to one another. Just reminding yourself and your spouse of the commitment you two once made can bring you into perspective and bring back those feelings. Some couples do this every year on their wedding anniversary. If you don't have written-down vows, then write new ones and share them with each other. There's nothing quite like your spouse hearing from you that you would still say "I do" all over again.

### 4. Revisit Fun

It's a tragedy when life becomes so busy that you and your spouse don't have time to have fun anymore.

Think about what used to make the two of you laugh and recreate it. Revisit memories that drew the two of you together. Reinvent some new, exciting habits like 5-minute back and neck massages during your spouse's favorite television program. Each of you wants to feel desired by the other, so write your sentiments on a sticky note and place it where only your spouse will see it and blush. Start a weekly date night incorporating something each time that once meant something to one or both of you. Be creative and make it happen.

### 5. Reminisce about Yesteryear

The longer you and your spouse remain together, the longer you collect a history – a history rich with experience, lessons learned, and opportunities to show each other grace. You've been learning how to do life together and that is precious. And just remembering all you've been through together can help usher you both to a place of renewed intimacy.

Take time regularly to reminisce about how the two of you met, dated, fell in love, and what you have loved about each other over the years. Take time to have specific conversations about how things may have changed and how you would like to see things change to make your marriage better. Be willing to have the difficult conversations, too. That's another way to connect and bring things back to the days when you were constantly monitoring your relationship.

### 6. Remember to Flirt

Admit it. You loved it when your spouse flirted with you back in the day. So, bring that back by continuing to flirt with your husband or wife. Remain playful and look for ways to have fun with your spouse, even if it's with the children or extended family. Intentionally speak words of encouragement, affirmation and respect every day (which can come in the form of flirting, or gentle encouragement). Think about it. Who wouldn't want to be around a person who is constantly encouraging them and pointing out their good qualities?



### How to Fall Back in Love After Being Hurt

We've all been hurt. And we've all hurt each other. The Bible says "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) and that means we have sinned against our spouses, as well. The best way to bring back that loving feeling in your marriage after being hurt is to love your spouse *God's way*. Not *your way* – which can be conditional, one-sided, or dependent upon your mood and your own happiness. But *God's way* – unconditionally and sacrificially.

Agreeably the best description of love is found in the Bible in First Corinthians 13:4-8. Verse 7 sums it up perfectly: "[Love] bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (NASB).

Can you be a husband or wife who *bears all things* when it comes to your spouse's shortcomings, *believes all things* good about your spouse even when they've slipped up, *hopes all things* simply because they haven't given up on you, and *endures all things* with them? Christ endured all things for you – even death on a cross – so you could live with Him eternally. Love your spouse *God's way* and you will have the kind of love that doesn't run out or fade through the years.

Adapted from "What to Do When You Fall out of Love with Your Spouse" by Cindi McMenamin. Crosswalk.com



## The Music Committee Update



2023-05-13 Visiting organists instructed on playing the carillon.

The Music Committee along with the Trustees, Pastor Tom and the Congregation dedicated the new Carillon System on Sunday, May 28, in the morning worship service. David VanTilburg showed his virtuoso skill playing the instrument.



2023-05-28 Organist Dave VanTilburg shown here explaining the Carillon piece he was about to play.



2023-05-28 Carillon Reception with Music Committee members Carla Breese, Kathy McCollow, and Jen Pugh.

Afterward, there was a short social time after the Service in the Prayer Room with refreshments provided by the Music Committee. We sought to honor those donors who gave in memory of loved ones and those who are dedicated to our church heritage.

The Music Committee Members are:

Carla Breese, Ann Rees, Lisa Lloyd, Jen Pugh, Denise Pugh, Jan Jones, and Kathy McCollow.

## Church Financial Update

Prayerfully consider donating to Salem Church. Offerings should be mailed to the church at:

Salem United Presbyterian Church  
PO Box 678  
Venedocia, Ohio 45894

Needed to Date:	\$47,951.88
Received to Date:	\$56,110.00

## Sights of Salem



2023-05-29 Memorial Day celebrated at Memorial Park with Eric Pugh as the master of ceremonies.



The Lincolnview Marching Band played at the Memorial ceremony.





2023-05-21 The Senior Luncheon at the Lion's Club Building. Shown below is Makenna Kimmet playing flute.



2023-05-18 Van Wert County prayer warriors meeting for the month of May each Thursday at noon at Salem's Prayer Room.



2023-05-14 The play, "The Purse," performed during the service by Liz Hobbs, Kelly Lloyd, and Kim Coil. Shown below is the play and the recording for Facebook Live viewers.



2023-05-04 National Day of Prayer event at the Van Wert Courthouse steps. Pastor Tom Emery, area pastors and politicians spoke and led prayers for our nation.



# IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

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

## "Young at Heart"

### **John Lloyd**

20155 Venedocia-Eastern  
Venedocia, OH 45894

### **Marilyn Stockton**

Lochhaven Apt 220  
1640 Allentown Rd  
Lima, OH 45805

### **Bartie Jones**

Parkvue Healthcare Ctr  
3800 Boardwalk Blvd  
Sandusky, OH 44870

### **Paul & Doris Price**

18890 Bebb St  
Venedocia, OH 45894

### **Charles Boroff**

311 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Apt. 104  
Odessa, Texas 79761

### **Marjorie Eutsler**

15044 Main St  
Venedocia, OH 45894  
(Temporarily at the Van  
Wert Homestead)

## Away at College

**Landon Price.** Ohio State University,  
160 Woodruff, Columbus, Ohio 43210

**Evan Pugh** University of Pikeville  
147 Sycamore St, Pikeville, KY 41501

**Isaiah Pugh** University of Toledo  
3030 Residence Drive, Ottawa East Room 4205-A  
Toledo, OH 43606

## Condolences

Condolences to the family of John Stutz

## Serving our Country

### **Cory McCollow**

(U.S. Coast Guard)  
7225 Altura Place  
Oakland, CA 94605

### **Lloyd (Butch) Eutsler**

(National Guard)  
14975 Van Wert-Mercer  
Co. Line Road  
Venedocia, OH 45894

### **Sgt. Micah Linger,**

(U.S. Marine Corps)  
814 Strawberry Hill Rd. E  
Columbus, OH 43213

### **Dillon Ellerbrock** (Marines)

Grandson of Gloria Leiter

### **Madison Pugh -USCGA**

8800 Pine Forest Rd  
Apt 6303  
Pensacola, FL 32534

## Birthdays

2 Barb Owens	4 Chad Pugh
6 Cassy Yeboah Mantey	7 Breck Nicole Morris
7 Brezlynn Mae Morris	8 Tammy Wells
10 Dillon Ellerbrock	11 Doris Evans
13 Kevin Price	14 Sandra Caffro
18 Charlie Good	22 Ann Rees
25 Tamara Mullenhour	29 Tom Evans
17 Shania (Profit)Lloyd	

## Anniversaries

2 Ron & Barb Owens  
14 Jeff & Kim Coil  
17 Bill & Elgarda McGee  
22 Todd & Jayne Morris  
24 Owen & Karen Pugh  
25 Rex & Lisa Lloyd  
28 Larry & Sandra Caffro

## Prayer Concerns

Cindy (Davis) Barnes (liver transplant)  
Edie Basham (back surgery)  
Marion Morris's daughter  
Charles Boroff (heart issue)  
Jason Boyd (cancer)  
Dave Burnett (heart)  
Lynn Collins (cancer)  
Stephanie Dillon (lymphoma)  
Pastor Tom Emery (Long Covid recovery)  
Dave Espinoza (lung transplant)  
Marjorie Eutsler  
Deb Fair (cancer)  
Shana Fryer  
Stephanie Gamble (eye & knee issues)  
Greg Glander  
Diana Glass (cancer)

Jane Harter  
Jerry Holscher  
Mandolin Jones (cancer)  
Tony Kahle  
John Lloyd  
Steve Martz  
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)  
Wayne McMichael  
David Morris (heart issues)  
David Morris (Zeb)  
Kason Perez (shot)  
Paul & Doris Price  
Evelyn Schwartz  
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)  
Tori Wells (spine surgery)  
The area Nursing Homes and their residents

# June 2023

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Noon - Van Wert County Prayer Mtg. at Liberty Baptist Church in Van Wert	2	3
4 9:30 Worship Morris Baptisms Communion	5	6 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study, VW Hosp. Cafeteria.  7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	7	8 Noon - Van Wert County Prayer Mtg. at Liberty Baptist Church in Van Wert	9	10
11 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 Session Meeting 5:00 Trustee Meeting	12	13 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study, VW Hosp. Cafeteria. [The Women's Bible Study breaks for the summer]	14	15 Noon - Van Wert County Prayer Mtg. at Liberty Baptist Church in Van Wert	16 Ice Cream Social at the Lion's Club 4:30-7:00 PM	17
18 9:30 AM Worship Father's Day Recognition	19	20 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study, VW Hosp. Cafeteria.	21	22 Noon - Van Wert County Prayer Mtg. at Liberty Baptist Church in Van Wert	23	24
25 9:30 AM Worship	26	27 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study, VW Hosp. Cafeteria.	28	29 Noon - Van Wert County Prayer Mtg. at Liberty Baptist Church in Van Wert	30	

Week of	Nursery	Flowers	Organist
June 4	Dave & Carla Breese	Gloria Leiter	Lexi Greer
June 11	Kevin & Kristen Price	Gloria Leiter	Becky Reichard
June 18	Rex & Lisa Lloyd	Vern & Liz Hobbs	Cindy Bowsher
June 25	Vern & Liz Hobbs	Vern & Liz Hobbs	LaDonna Allenbaugh
		<b>Greeter:</b>	Kim Coil



*Salem Presbyterian Church*  
*P.O. Box 678*  
*15240 Main Street*  
*Venedocia, Ohio 45894*



2023-05-14 Baptism of Michael Garza shown held by his parents Elizabeth and Alex Garza.

## *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)

### June 2023 REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY YEAR C

#### **Trinity Sunday – June 4**

Gen. 1:1-2:4a	Psalm 8:2
Cor. 13:11-13	Matt. 28:16-20

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – June 11**

Gen. 12:1-9	Psalm 33:1-12
Rom. 4:13-25	Matt. 9:9-13, 18-26

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – June 18**

Gen. 18:1-15 (21:1-7)	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
Rom. 5:1-8	Matt. 9:35-10:8 (9-23)

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – June 25**

Gen. 21:8-21	Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17
Rom. 6:1b-11	Matt. 10:24-39