



Salem Church of the Brethren

6037 Phillipsburg Road • Englewood, Ohio 45322 • (937) 836-6145

Email: salemcob@gmail.com

Continuing the work of Jesus: Peacefully. Simply. Together.

Salem Church of the Brethren

November 2020 Issue

Greetings Sisters and Brothers

Psalm 146:3 - Do not put your trust in princes, in human beings, who cannot save

If you weren't aware, we are in election season. If you weren't aware of that, can you please tell me how you were able to avoid the phone calls, the mailings, the commercials, the emails, the yard display signs, the billboards, the carrier pigeons, the pony express...

So much energy, so much rhetoric, so many half truths spewed from all sides. Let's be clear on that point; no matter who you are voting for, there have been things said about them that are not true and they have said things that are not true. Getting elected to a public office has become quite the spectacle. The energy and money that is spent to get a person elected is obscene. No matter how we might try and rationalize it, it is obscene.

Psalm 146 is especially poignant during election seasons. Public leaders, government officials, kings, or any other title given are not necessarily evil, but they are most certainly disappointing. There is no way for any political figure to fully live up to the expectations and promises that they have made. The Psalmist points out that the reason for their disappointment is because no matter what, they will die, they will return to the earth, they will fall. This reality should give perspective to this season.

Whoever we are voting for, they are human. Whoever we are not voting for, they are human. They are human. They are not God. The Psalmist highlights what sets the princes of this world apart from God. Whereas the princes (i.e. leaders) will die and their plans will end with them, God does not die and God's plans continue each day. What do God's plans display? How can we see God at work? "He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry...sets prisoners free...gives sight to the blind...lifts up those who are bowed down...watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow...frustrates the way of the wicked." (6-9) As God's people we are called to serve God's purpose and reflect God's righteousness in all that we do.

How can we live into that call in this season? We can see the humanity in the other: the other person, the other party, the other side...We can see that their work, their plans, well crafted and well presented as they may be, will end. But God, God's plan does not end after a season. God's plan lives on in each and every breath we take when we live life as God's plan reflects in our lives.

This season, as in all seasons, do not be enamored, do not be smitten, do not be wowed by the princes of this world. Instead, be active agents of God's way in this world, because the plans and works of God do not end even if our breath does.

Blessings,

Pastor Lee

In Our Prayers

Shirley C., John E., Genevieve F., Norma H.
Leon & Waneta M., Phyllis W.

Long Term Needs: Elois C., Barbara C., Janet H.,
Bill L., Aaron M., Sam P., Chad P., Reta S.

Churches and more: Our district churches, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Church of the Brethren in Nigeria (Godiya Bitrus), Bethany Theological Seminary, for those struggling in various ways during this pandemic

Our shut-ins are grateful for letters and cards. Addresses can be found in our current directory or by emailing or calling Carrie in the office.



Worship

You can access previous worship services and services to come via YouTube. The link is below. Simply copy the link in your internet browser. If you would like a CD or DVD of any worship service, please contact Pastor Lee. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy2IR7-Re6vMQ092LxcLvyA>

Parking lot worship-10:30am each Sunday!

We invite you to join us on Sundays for our parking lot worship. Come to the parking lot on the Phillipsburg-Union Road side of the building and remain in your cars for the duration of the worship service, which will be broadcast through your car radio. These services are also live-streamed to our YouTube channel.



October Offering

*You can still mail in your offering. Your offering continues the work of Jesus in our community and world!
For more detailed offering information, you can contact Doug Schaurer.*

email: salemcob@gmail.com

Lee Saylor, Pastor

Office Hours 9:30am-12:00noon, Tues.-Fri.

937-540-4533; iamleebob@gmail.com

Carrie Smith, Administrative Assistant

Karen Dillon, Director of Christian Ed.

Tom Hissong, Board Chair 937-931-3099; Tanger15@aol.com

Randy Schauer, Deacon Chair; 937-231-7627

Look for information soon regarding our Fall Congregational Business Meeting.

November Birthdays ***Happy Birthday!!***

4-Kendra B.

30-Nicole S.

5-Bryan D.

30-Stacy W.

8-Mark S.

12-Lori D.

18-Jane C.

20-Samantha D.

20-Rachel P.

22-Brian P.

27-Jacob S.

29-Stephanie S.

29-Kent W.



This & That

In person worship, Sunday School, Sew What, Wednesday meal & activities, District events, etc. will resume at a later time. We look forward to joining together again. Until then, connect with your church family via phone calls, One Call, emails, and Facebook. We miss seeing everyone, but we can still be a community doing the work of Jesus! You can view the Sunday worship services via YouTube. You can also access the services through our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/salembrethren/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCy2lR7-Re6vMQ092LxcLvyA>

Keep up to date with various information by having your number added to our **One Call system**. Announcements, meetings, and special events are communicated through One Call. Contact Carrie in the office at 836-6145, if you'd like to be added.

Does Carrie in the office have your updated email address? Email her at salemcob@gmail.com to stay informed.

If you have a **prayer request** you'd like to go through the prayer chain One Call, please call Randy Schaurer at 231-7627. If he cannot be reached, please call Pastor Lee at 836-6145. If you'd like to get prayer requests, please let Carrie in the office know.

Did you know?? **The District sends a monthly newsletter via email.** You can sign up at sodcob.org or pick up a hard copy on the narthex table (or call Carrie in the office).

The Church of the Brethren sends out news and such via email. You can sign up for a number of communications by going to brethren.org.

Bible Study! Pastor Lee is offering a Zoom bible study on Tuesdays from 1:30-2:30pm. Join at any time. He is using a study of Unlikely Heroes in the Book of Judges available from Brethren Press. Contact Pastor Lee with any questions. See you on Tuesday!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84949535033?pwd=UINMMllqSVRkYWgvNjZTQkF0VWZkUT09>

We continue to gather via Zoom on Wednesday evenings to just say hi and connect. You are invited to join us using this link each Wednesday from about 7:00-8:00pm.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85143803031?pwd=MXlCZHI1S092TzIzbVklM01Bb0dkZz09>

Meeting ID: 851 4380 3031

Password: 022471

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,85143803031#,,022471# US (New York)

Carrie Smith is in the office from 9:00am-12:00noon, Monday-Friday. Don't hesitate to call her if you need anything.

Salem Pandemic Quilt

Salem members and friends can help create a quilt to remember this time. The quilters will compile squares from members and friends representing this time in our lives. The square needs to be 10.5 inches with an additional inch border on all sides. The fabric does not have to be stitched. You can use markers, fabric paint or some other way to make a square to represent you or your family during this time. If you have any further questions, please reach out to Carol Shroyer.

This & That Continued

Offerings and tithes can still be mailed to the church or put in the church mailbox. Your offering supports the work of Salem in the community and world!

If you have a prayer request you'd like to go through the prayer chain, please call Deacon Sue Wampler at 937-286-4590. If she cannot be reached, please call Pastor Lee at 937-540-4533.

Sue Wampler continues to take items to St. Vincent. Please drop your donations off at the church. St. Vincent does not take stuffed animals. **Thanks to all who have donated items!**

We continue to partner with **Fairview Church Food Pantry.** Please consider bringing a food pantry donation to the church. Needed items include: canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned meat, tuna/chicken helper, canned stew, canned beans, jelly, peanut butter, cornbread mix, mac & cheese, canned chili, cereal, oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup, evaporated milk, and cake or brownie mix. **Thanks to all who have donated items!**

2021 Directory!! Please get Carrie any directory updates as she starts to work on the 2021 Directory. You can respond to this email with updates or call her in the office at 937-836-6145. Thanks for your prompt responses.

New Address: Please contact the office for Betsy D.'s new address.

Please update all the Stebbins addresses in the directory-They now live on North Montgomery County Line Rd. instead of Miami County Line Road.

Norma J. is thankful for the many cards and prayers during her illness and recovery. Thank you!

Kent and Phyllis W. express their gratitude for the many cards, prayers, and wonderful food provided by their friends at Salem! Thank you Salem!



Salem CoB-Thank you for your financial support to the Southern Ohio/Kentucky District! Your giving provides resources that fulfill God's vision. Thanks you!

Friends of Brethren Retirement Community, thank you for your kind donation to BRC. We are mindful that we are not in this ministry alone and are grateful for your generous donation. God's Blessings, John L. Warner President and CEO

SUNDAY DRIVE IN WORSHIP SERVICE
 6037 Phillipsburg Union Road
 Englewood OH 45322

YOU ARE INVITED!
10:30 AM



TUNE YOUR RADIO TO 91.5
www.salemcob.org

FIERCE

JOIN US VIA ZOOM!
 BIBLE STUDY AVAILABLE FROM BRETHREN PRESS

FLAWED



**BIBLE STUDY:
 UNLIKELY HELPERS IN THE
 THE BOOK OF
 JUDGES**

FAVORED

**EVERY
 TUESDAY
 AT 1:30**

District News

Some articles adapted/taken from the district newsletter. You can email sodcob@brethren.org to receive the district newsletter. There are also hard copies available on the narthex table.

Working Together...Empowering Disciples.

2020 District Conference Wrap Up

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God." 2 Corinthians 5:20

Another Southern Ohio/Kentucky District Conference is now a part of our history. And now we know that yes, we can have a virtual district conference. A heartfelt thank you goes to Andrew Wright (Interim Pastor at Oakland CoB) and Mike Sievers (Brookville CoB) for putting together all of the pieces for the Friday night worship. Thank you also to Pastor Lee Saylor, (Salem CoB) and our Zoom Guru for compiling and playing all of the various reports that made up the conference as well as setting up all of the technology required to make the conference work. Even though we were not able to be in the same room, it was good to see everyone on our screens and share together all of the ministry that has happened in SOKD even in the midst of a global pandemic. On Friday, pastors and church leaders were given two opportunities for learning. In the morning Dana Cas-sell spoke about the challenges and rewards for congregations and pastors who are in a part time pastorate. In the afternoon, a panel of leaders shared ideas and experiences of leading a church during a pandemic. Friday night worship featured an inspiring message from Moderator Sandy Jenkins and an original song by Mike Sievers about being an Ambassador for Christ. Click here if you would like to watch the worship service. On Saturday morning delegates affirmed the 2021 Slate, and heard reports for our District Commissions, District Staff and Denominational Agencies. The 2021 Budget was passed in the afternoon. The conference concluded with passing the gavel to next year's Moderator, Nick Beam. Our 2021 theme will be "Move in Our Midst, Thou Spirit of God."

Denominational News

Some articles adapted/taken from Church of the Brethren Newslines.

You can sign up online to receive these newsletters and other communications at brethren.org.

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Special prayer for Nigeria-October 27, 2020

There has been considerable unrest in Nigeria over the past week. It began Oct. 20 with the police shooting of civilians at an #EndSARS protest near Lagos, in the south of Nigeria. The movement using the hashtag #EndSARS is seeking to abolish a federal police unit called the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) that is accused of multiple abuses. “Amnesty International said it has recorded 82 cases of SARS abuses over the past three years, including beatings, hangings, mock executions, sexual assault, and waterboarding,” reports the Washington Post. This sparked more protests and looting around the country, and 24-hour curfews have been put in place in 20 states across Nigeria (including Plateau State – where Bethany student Sharon Flaten resides, and Adamawa State – the headquarters of Ekklesiyar Yan’uwa a Nigeria (EYN, the Church of the Brethren In Nigeria). Reports from Rev. Yuguda Mdurwua, director of EYN Disaster Relief Ministry, said warehouses across the country which contained COVID-19 relief supplies had been broken into, items taken, and buildings destroyed. While the rural areas have not experienced this looting and destruction, they remain targets of Boko Haram attacks and many locals are afraid to sleep in their villages at night. Flaten reported from Plateau State: “The first curfew was relaxed Friday morning but then people discovered several large warehouses that were full of palliatives that (we think) were meant to be distributed as aid months ago for COVID-19 relief. On Saturday thousands of people went to these warehouses to take any/all food that they could carry. As a result, the governor reinstated the 24-hour curfew which we are still under now. And while it seems that many people are obeying the curfew, some still are not. As for me, I’m doing okay, I am just so thankful for this house, and this compound, and the people who live here. I was able to find some small food stuffs close to the compound here on Friday and one of my closest friends helped me on Saturday to get some supplies. Today we are waiting to hear what will happen next.” Please pray for Nigeria and the members of EYN.

Workcamps 2021

By Hannah Shultz

The Workcamp Ministry is announcing formal plans for the 2021 workcamps. We are grateful for those who participated in the informational survey last month and have taken the feedback into account while developing options for next summer. The four workcamp options, and their costs, can be found below. This fall, we will begin planning with individuals and groups who are interested in attending a workcamp next summer. If you would like to attend a 2021 workcamp please be in touch with the Workcamp Ministry to let us know of your tier preference by Dec. 1. Those who are planning to attend a workcamp can either fill out a preference survey or contact cobworkcamps@brethren.org or 847-429-4337. Please note that filling out a preference survey does not count as registering for a workcamp. Registration dates for the 2021 workcamps will be announced soon—stay tuned!