

# WEST HENRIETTA BAPTIST CHURCH

1815-2017

## THE LINK



**"Living with Violence in our Society"**

**May 2018**

*Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ (Phil. 1:2)*

I have been thinking about how violent we have become as a nation when bullying in schools has become a drop in the bucket compared to frequent occurrences of mass shootings in our schools, colleges, night club, movie theater, military base, mall, workplaces, concert in the park, workers' end of year luncheon, and church services. Sadly, we have reached the point where we can't send a loved one to school, to church, to work, a social gathering, shopping at the mall or the movies without concern that they could get gunned down by a deranged person with guns. My conclusion is that gun violence in America has reached critical proportions.

The root of violence reaches deep into society, tapping into such complex conditions as poverty, family failures, hopelessness, and mental illness. Each episode of gun violence triggers "knee-jerk" calls for legislation and quick fixes. Our politics is so divisive that it seems like our state or federal legislators might not be able to provide our nation with meaningful legislations to protect us from senseless gun violence. As a clinical person, I am particularly concerned that owing to the frequency of school shootings, children may experience anxiety, fear, a sense of personal risk, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). If a good number of our students already have learning problems, what will be the findings the next time a major relevant study is undertaken. The well-being of our children in school is under siege. It seems like, as a nation, we have lost or are about to lose the moral high ground to scold other nations about their violent behavior.

As Christians, we must address the issue of violence in our society. It's not too late for Christians to make a difference by our word and deed. We live in a fallen world (Genesis 3), and even those who love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ are not exempt from violence against us. Many of the victims of gun violence in the aforementioned incidents were Christians. We live by faith and we know that God watches over us and keeps us safe (Psalm 46:1), but we must do the following: Talk honestly about our own feelings with family members regarding the rise of violence. Discuss safety procedures that are in place at our child's school, our workplace and church. Create family safety plans for places and events we visit.

Pray for people we know who have destructive ambitions or tendencies.

Pray for those who have been desensitized to the value of life and the loss of life.

Pray for law enforcement, criminal justice, mental health professionals, and educators.

Pray for actual and potential victims.

Pray for actual and potential aggressors that God might change their plan and intent.

Finally, we need to understand that violence is the result of a pathology of the soul. Perpetrators of violence, especially at the current magnitude are morally bankrupt and spiritually sick. They fail to recognize or accept that violence against human beings is wrong because human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. There is a worth, a value, a dignity to every human life, and that makes selfish and wanton violence a moral offense.

Let the Bible speak: In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus said, **"You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment."**

Your Pastor, Rev. Dr. Peter E. Grinion

# Worship Servants

## May 6

**Invocation:** Betty Heisig  
**Scripture:** Connie Necaster  
**Offering:** Betty Heisig  
**Kids' Moment:** Marti Spaker  
**Greeter:** Connie Newcater  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Ginny hase

## May 13

**Invocation:** Leanna Shirley  
**Scripture:** Kathy Gosnell  
**Offering:** Leanna Shirley  
**Kids' Moment:** Marti Spaker  
**Greeter:** Connie Newcater  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** TBD

## May 20

**Invocation:** Valerie Bandemer  
**Scripture:** Mike Shirley  
**Offering:** Valerie Bandemer  
**Kids' Moment:** Leanna Shirley  
**Greeter:** Roberta Miller  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Valerie Bandemer

## May 27

**Invocation:** Betty Heisig  
**Scripture:** Debbie Covill  
**Offering:** Betty Heisig  
**Kids' Moment:** Marti Spaker  
**Greeter:** Connie Newcater  
**Nursery:** BOCE  
**Fellowship:** Gretchen Young

Our poets speak of Spring, Re-  
newal, and Love. Pastor speaks  
of the violence & hate sur-  
rounding us. Wouldn't it be  
wonderful if everyone em-  
braced God's Love & followed  
Jesus's Commandment to "Love  
Your Neighbor as Thyself."  
Mark 30:31



*Grove of Grace*  
By Evelyn Marie Shoots

### SHHH!

Can you hear the Blue-  
bells ring?  
Or the tulips softly sing?  
Watch the action which  
entails  
When the Ivies scale  
porch rails.

Rambling roses make their way  
Up a trellis for a stay;  
Quiet beauty just surrounds  
In the woods where calm abounds.

My heart answers all they say  
With a thankfulness each day!  
Flowers of life.

--Evy Shoots, Poet

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### The Greatest Love

The greatest love is from above.  
He loved us first and gave  
us thirst  
To embrace one another.  
We are all reaching  
To obtain His teaching.  
Working together can be  
fun,  
Coming together will  
make us one.

--Marshall Smith, Poet  
1996



And attend!!

**Prayer Meeting**  
9 a.m. Saturdays

**Bible Study**  
10 a.m. Wednesdays

**Choir Practice**  
6 p.m. Wednesdays

**Deacons' Meeting**  
10 a.m. May 11 @  
Leanna Shirley's

**Trustee's Mtg.**  
11:30 a.m. May 20

**BOCE Mtg.**  
10:30 a.m. May 19

**Cabinet Mtg.**  
6 p.m. May 29

**Advisory Council**  
6 p.m. June 4

**LINK submissions due:**  
**May 18 to Sharon**



**May 1-** Chris Heisig

**May 8 -** Marlene Thayer

**May 11 -** Josina McCarroll

**May 12 -** Devonne Buskey

**May 15 -** Shawn Teeter

**May 17 -** Jessica Lyn Heisig

**May 23 -** George Zima

# Upcoming Events to take notice of:

## Special Services/Events:

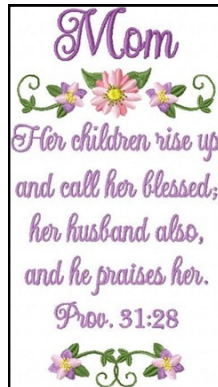
- **May 5 - 11 am** - Marshall Smith Memorial
- **Sunday, May 6.** We have three walkers who need your support. They are: Connie Ne-caster, Mike Shirley, and Michael Young. You can pledge your donation to them in person or go online to donate. The web site is <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/henriettany>. Once you are there, click on the team and enter West Henrietta Baptist. Then you can donate to the team or select a walker to support. Gretchen Young is the Team Captain. Thank you for helping end hunger.



- **May 13 - Happy Mother's Day**

### Mother's Day

This is Her day, the one who gave us birth:  
Who paved the road that led to our own worth.  
With pain, with pride, with tender care, she built:  
Our life -- "God guide howe'er Thou wilt."



To MOTHERS then we all make loud acclaim --  
Kind and surging; always scant with blame.  
She's there to laud, or, if need be, to gently chide,  
But always to Love as she stands by our side.

Truly MOTHERS are made of the salt of the earth!  
They make us to treasure the warmth of our hearth,  
We'll never ever repay their devotions,  
Though with fondness and flowers we do make our motions.

May 9, 1971  
Roger H. Cross

- **May 20 - Pentecost Sunday -- Family & Friends Service & Pot Luck Fellowship**
- **Memorial Day (celebrated), May 28, 2018**



- There will be another SAVERS Fundraiser.
- Your donations will be taken to Savers on Saturday, June 30 between 10 AM and Noon.
- Start collecting your items, and bring them to church the week of June 30th. We will need volunteers to help take what is donated.
- The Fundraiser supports our music ministry.
- See Gretchen Young with any questions.

### Friday, Sept. 21 - Details to Follow



Rev. Alan Newton , our guest Minister Sunday, April 22 announced his retirement reception will be held Friday, September 21, 2018 (further details TBD). He cordially and sincerely invited all of us to attend his farewell reception.

He and his wife are moving to Rhode Island for their retirement years. She has moved at this time, and he will be living in an apartment here while he continues to serve until he joins her in September.



## April's Photo Album



April 8th, Betty Heisig, Anne Greco, Connie Necaster, and Joyce Shutts were honored to attend Ryan Chan's Organ Concert. It was a most enjoyable concert, and we were so proud of our very talented Ryan Chan. His friend, Wendy Yuen is likewise very talented and gifted. They played together and separately throughout the concert. What a blessing Ryan gives us each Sunday.

Music so enriches us as it did wonderfully on Easter Sunday. We were blessed to have Eastman School of Music students: Shannon Steigerwald, Cindy Lan, Ellen Bergeron, Paul Bergeron, Sean Knapp, and Merih Ozden, Conductor (from Turkey) with us providing special music accompanied by Ryan. To quote Sharon Scurlock, "they were wonderful."

Easter photos by Sharon Scurlock.



## MISSIONS

The Mission Committee gives God the Praise and Glory for the continued support of the WHBC family with our mission work. We have a marvelous caring and very generous family and we are truly thankful to serve you. Our mission is to lead by example by putting God first.



The Noisy Offering in March was approx. \$160 for the Coffee Connection. The Coffee Connection helps women who are released from jail back into the community to get assistance with on-the-job training so they have the opportunity to become produc-

tive citizens. We collected approximately \$246.00 for the America for Christ Offering (one of our four main offerings) to help citizens in America & Puerto Rico rebuild when disaster strikes. Please support the CROP Walk, May 6 (see upcoming events for further information). Our Noisy Offering this month will go to The Heeds for their continued work in Tanzania. We hope to see them later this year when they come for a visit. Our next scheduled meeting is Thurs., May 17 @ 1 PM at church. Again, Thank you so much for your continued giving.

--The Mission Committee