

# NORTH BENTON CHURCH

# NEWS



## North Benton Presbyterian Church

Web Site: [www.northbentonchurch.org](http://www.northbentonchurch.org)  
[www.facebook.com/northbenton.church.1](https://www.facebook.com/northbenton.church.1)

May 2025  
Vol. 51, Issue 5

Greetings, May flowered people,

We sure had a lot of April showers this year so we are going to be in store for a lot of flowers this month. If you go on the driveway on the north side of the church, you will see a whole bunch of flowers in the woods. They are beautiful. Here is a question I have been thinking about for a while: Is it okay to question or even doubt your faith? Will too many questions and doubts get you in trouble from God? Will you have bad luck?

It is quite common for Christians to experience questions and doubts. Think of them as having a sickness of some kind. If you ignore the sickness, it will only get worse. Sadly, because of doubts, faith is weakened and some will give up on their faith all together.

Jesus does say several times as to why do you doubt or why do you have such little faith. Trust Him. In the case of questions and doubts from sincere people, Jesus welcomed those seekers. Those who are truly seekers, Jesus goes out of His way to address their concerns and not only are they answered, but we get something great out of it.

Think of Nicodemus. He had some questions for Jesus. Jesus not only met with him and answered His concerns, but out of it we get the great verse John 3: 16 that grew out of the answer.

Think of the woman at the well. Jesus took the time to talk to her and answer her questions. This happened even though she was

a Samaritan woman. The gospel of John takes 42 verses to report on what happened. Not only did she have her questions answered but the Bible tells us that “Many of the Samaritans from that town believed because of the woman’s testimony.” (John 5: 39)

When the expert in the law questioned Jesus, we received the Parable of the Good Samaritan.

The most famous ‘doubter’ of all (even though it is a bad mischaracterization), ‘Doubting Thomas,’ not only did Jesus answer his concerns but came out with the great declaration “My Lord and My God!” (John 20:28)

There are many other instances not only in the Bible but in the lives of Christians ever since who have been changed by honestly seeking the answers to their questions and doubts. There is an answer to every one of them. It is said that if you break a bone, the healed bone is stronger than the bone around the break. Questions and doubts answered make that part of our faith stronger.

Jesus did promise in Matthew 7: 7-8: “Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened.” Opened to a deeper faith.

Blessings,  
**Pastor Herb**

PS: If you ever have a question or doubt, feel free to ask me. I look forward to talking with you about them.





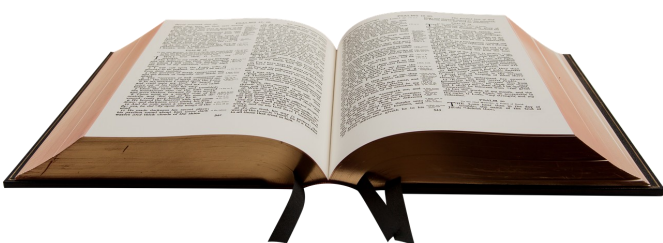
May sermon titles, scriptures and themes:

May 4, 2025 Third Sunday of Easter. There was always a "PLAN A" is a sermon based on Acts 5: 27-41. Is there a difference between the God of the Old Testament and the New Testament? What does the Bible say?



May 11, 2025. Fourth Sunday of Easter. Mother's Day. Proverbs 31:10-31 talks of someone who has "Noble Character." Could this be giving us a glimpse of God?

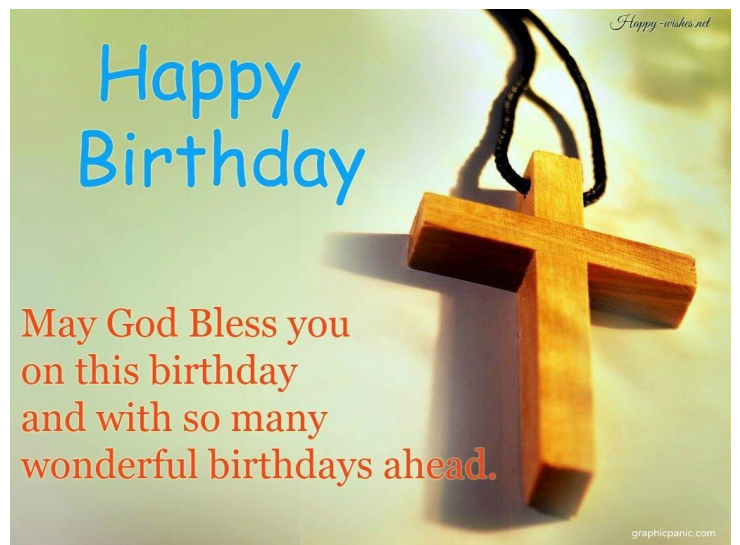
May 18, 2025. Fifth Sunday of Easter. Acts 9: 36-43 is an interesting passage dealing with the growth of the church. The sermon is titled "Stew!" Can we be a part of it?

May 25, 2025. Sixth Sunday of Easter. Certain conditions have great rewards. The greatest of all comes from Jesus in the sermon "If You Love Me..." It is based on John 14: 15-24.

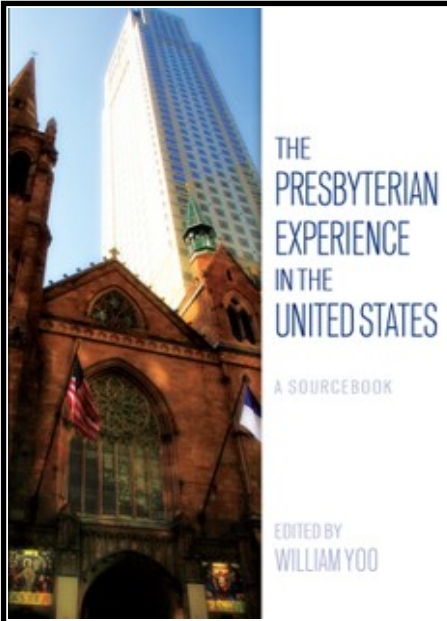


May 2025

- 5/2 Stan Jozwiakowski
- 5/3 Lora White
- 5/6 Val Winters
- 5/11 Stephanie Klinkowicz
- 5/14 Joe & Stephanie Klinkowicz 
- 5/18 Michael & Tammy Collins 
- 5/20 Emily Winters
- 5/21 Alisha Gamble
- 5/24 Kathy Eshelman
- 5/25 Cindy Ruffier



*If you do not want your birthday listed, please contact the office.*



## Book Review

This book introduces readers to the Presbyterian movement in the United States as told by those who lived through and contributed to its history. William Yoo has drawn together essential documents from the colonial period to the present that illustrate and illumine U.S. Presbyterianism across diversities of race, ethnicity, geography, gender, age, and theological position. Readers will follow the church's journey from modest origins as a Scots-Irish immigrant church to prominence on the national stage, from early revivals and tent meetings to large-scale theological debates, from defense of slavery and racial intolerance to the pursuit of social justice and racial reconciliation, and from retreat into theologically narrow enclaves to active engagement with national and international politics and culture. Yoo weaves together a coherent and compelling narrative using the voices of those who sought a faithfully Presbyterian witness to the gospel.

## CHRISTIAN SYMBOL



**ALPHA MU OMEGA** — The Greek letters that begin the words **yesterday, today and forever** remind us of Jesus' constant presence with us personally and his eternal nature that transcends time as we know it. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8, NIV). Dozens of psalms and other Bible passages also proclaim that the Lord's "steadfast love endures forever" (for example, Psalm 100:5, NRSV). What reassurance when life seems tough and fleeting!



## Favorite Recipes of Old

*Recipes are chosen at random from the North Benton Church "Favorite Recipes" cookbook.*

### Strawberry Dessert In A Bowl

*(June Peterson)*

- 1 21-oz. can Comstock strawberry filling
- 1 20-oz. can crushed pineapple
- 1 14-oz. can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 large container Cool Whip, plus 1 small container Cool Whip
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 pint fresh strawberries

Blend together the sweetened condensed milk and crushed pineapple, undrained. Fold in the strawberry filling, the large Cool Whip, and nuts. Mix for 2-3 minutes. Gently fold in fresh strawberries, reserving a few for the top. Place this mixture in a large serving bowl and top with small container of Cool Whip. Garnish with the reserved fresh strawberries. Chill for several hours. Serve. Yields: 10-15 servings.

# Engage Your Mind



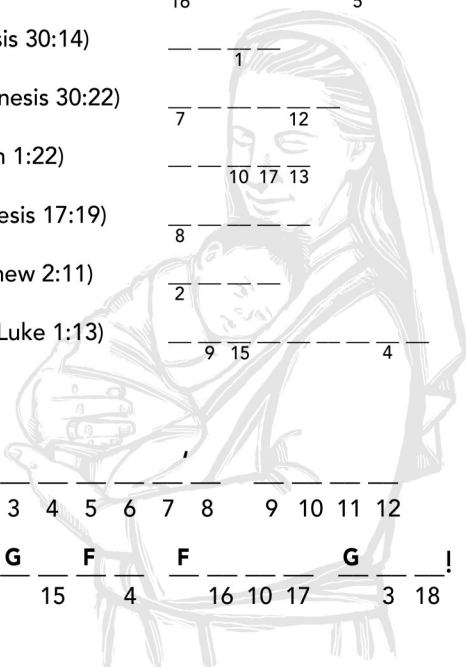
## Puzzle!

Unscramble the names of these biblical mothers. Look up the verse if you need help. Then use the letters on the numbered blanks to complete the message below.

- VEE (Genesis 3:20)      6 11 —
- NNAHAH (1 Samuel 1:20)      — — — — 14 —
- RBAHEOD (Judges 5:7)      18 — — — — 3 — — — —
- KREEHAB (Genesis 27:5)      16 — — — — — 5
- EHLA (Genesis 30:14)      — — — — 1 — — — —
- CLEHRA (Genesis 30:22)      7 — — — — 12 — — — —
- MOIAN (Ruth 1:22)      — — — — 10 17 13
- RAAHS (Genesis 17:19)      8 — — — — — — — —
- AMYR (Matthew 2:11)      2 — — — — — — — —
- ZEBLEHATI (Luke 1:13)      — — — — 9 15 — — — — 4 — — — —

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 8 14 **G** **F** **F** **G** !  
15 4 16 10 17 3 18



Answers: Eve, Hannah, Deborah, Rebekah, Leah, Rachel, Naomi, Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth: A mother's love is a gift from God!



What was the name of the wealthy merchant of purple cloth who met Paul and his companions, was baptized and became a leader in the Philippian church?

- A. Priscilla
- B. Lydia
- C. Dorcas
- D. Joanna

Answer: B (See Acts 16:11-15, 40.)



### A NOBLE EXAMPLE

Proverbs 31 describes a God-honoring woman. How are the women in your life like her? How can you follow their example?

Directions: Use the word bank to complete all the Bible verses. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Proverbs 31:30, NIV.



#### WORD BANK

bread, household, women, laugh, children, clothed, speaks, husband, tongue



She is          with strength and dignity; she can       at the days to come.

She       with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her      .

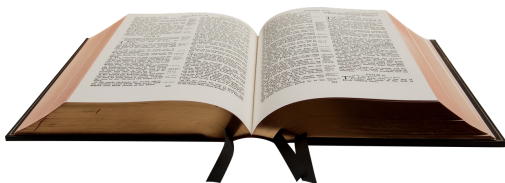
She watches over the affairs of her    and does not eat the       of idleness.

Her       arise and call her blessed; her       also, and he praises her:

"Many       do noble things, but you surpass them all." Proverbs 31:25-29, NIV

Charm is    eceptive, and be    ty is fl    eting; but a woma    w    o f    rs the Lo    d is to be prais    d.

Proverbs 31:30, NIV



Answers: clothed, laugh, speaks, tongue, household, bread, children, women, husband, husband, women, Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30, NIV

OFFERING/ATTENDANCE

**March 2025**

	Offering	Attendance
3/2/25	1268.50	40
3/9/25	4722.50	28
3/16/25	840.50	43
3/23/25	1607.55	35
3/30/25	433.50	39

DEACON GREETERS

**May 2025**  
**Karen Fay**  
**Sherry Kelly**

Coffee & Pastry May 11,  
 9:00 a.m.



CONTINUED PRAYER

Nursing Home/Homebound

**Dan Rowe**

(Essex #1 Salem, Rm. # 210, Salem, OH 44460)

**Ongoing Health Concerns**

Denton Herron, Maggie Hilles, Stan Jozwiakowski,  
 Sandy Jozwiakowski, Val Winters,

FAMILIES FOR PRAYER BECAUSE WE CARE

**May 2025**



**Jerry & Angela**  
**Gossiaux**  
**Mariann Greiner**

MISSION CAUSE FOR PRAYER

Youth Initiatives/Ireland - Doug Smith

Campus Crusade - Lisa (Smith) Wyss

Vacation Bible School



**Mother's Day Picture Wall**

Pictures will be taken in the Narthex on Mother's Day and posted on our Mother's Day wall.





**Gospel Light's Son Spark Labs  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Date: June 9 - 13, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Grades: Age 4 yrs. Old through  
completed grade 6

Contact: Cindy Gaines or Beth Smith at  
330-584-2989



**WOMENS BANQUET**

Saturday May 3, 2025

6:00 p.m.

Please meet in  
sanctuary before  
dinner

Program: Butterflies  
Tickets available from  
Linda Goetz and  
Cindy Gaines

**Graduate Luncheon**

**May 18, 2025**

*After Worship Service*

**Class of  
2025!**



# MAY 2025

Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat

				1 6pm Ruritans 7:30 pm Session Mtg	2	3 <b>Women's Banquet 6pm</b>
4 <b>Birthday Sunday</b> 9:30 Worship 10:45 Searchers Class Deacon's Meeting	5	6 <b>Primary Election</b>	7	8 7:30 Session Mtg	9	10
11 <b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> <b>Mother's Picture Wall</b> <b>Coffee &amp; Pastry</b> 9:30 Worship 10:45 Searchers Class	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 9:30 Worship 10:45 Searchers Class 10:45 <b>Graduate Luncheon</b>	19	20	21	22	23	24 Fellowship Hall Reserved
25 9:30 Worship 10:45 Searchers Class	26 <b>Memorial Day</b>	27	28	29	30	31

# NBC News

North Benton Presbyterian Church  
19070 North Benton West Road  
North Benton, OH 44449



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**44460**  
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**Sunday Service: 9:30 am Worship Service**

**"A church where everybody is somebody, and Jesus Christ is Lord"**

## **Listening For God's Voice**

In the early twentieth century, New York City had become a noisy place. With an overhead train, cars, trolleys, newsboys yelling, and people rushing around - life was loud! Yet, one day at Broadway and 34th Street, a man named Charles Kellogg declared to his friend, "Listen, I hear a cricket."

"Impossible," his friend answered. "With all this racket you couldn't hear a tiny sound like that." Yet, Mr. Kellogg insisted, and eventually found a cricket, chirping in the window of a bakery. "What astonishing hearing you have," his friend proclaimed. "Not at all," Mr. Kellogg replied. "It's a matter of where you focus your attention."

Elijah was a prophet of God who'd just seen Him perform an amazing display of His power, but now the

prophet was hiding in a cave for fear of the pagan queen (1 KINGS 19:1-9). This time, however, God didn't want to communicate in a powerful way. Even though He had sent a great wind, an earthquake, and even a roaring fire (VV. 11-12), it was time now for Elijah to commune with God personally and quietly. God wanted to speak to the prophet in "a gentle whisper" (V.12).

Today, there's a surplus of noise in our lives, yet God still speaks in a quiet voice through the Scriptures and by His Spirit. Taking time to prayerfully focus our attention on God will help us tune in to His comforting, guiding voice.

- Brent Hackett

**What noises are crowding in on your life? How can you listen for God's voice in your busy world?**

***Dear Father, I thank You that I can listen for Your Spirit to speak to me quietly.***

*Reprinted from "Our Daily Bread"*

*May 1, 2025*

*Our Daily Bread is provided FREE of charge can be found on the information counter in the lobby.*