

Sunday: 12-31-17
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Toby & Elizabeth Adkins*)
No Sunday School today

Tuesday: 01-02-18
10:00 AM & 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study
7:00 PM Teens for Christ (Spencerville)

Sunday: 01-07-18
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Dave & Carla Breese*)
10:45 AM Sunday School
noon Session Retreat

Announcements:

A church-wide thank you, for those who decorated the chapel and cooked and provided food dishes for the recent events.

Please sign up on the new 2018 Flower calendar.

The boxes with offering envelopes can be found on the white table in the prayer room. Please sign your name beside the box number you take for the year 2018.

Please take your poinsettias home after the service today. They will be donated elsewhere if not picked up today.

Women's Bible Study begins Tuesday 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. The Teens for Christ continues this Tuesday at 7:00 pm at the Spencerville Nazarene Church.

The Session training class will be at noon next Sunday. Please bring a dish to share for lunch. Thanks to Jenny Pugh, Bob McCollow, and Liz Hobbs that have served on the session the past three years.

We would like to thank our Church family for the funeral home visits and coming to the funeral. Also we would like to thank all who made a food donation and helped with the dinner, and Thank you for cards and prayers. Dan and Jim Lloyd

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the February newsletter. Submit them to secretary@salemchurch.cc.

Upcoming Birthdays

2nd-Chris Beck
6th-Jim Lloyd

3rd-Emily Blackmore
7th-Nell Jean Wienken

5th-Karen Pugh
7th-Loretta Williams



Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | December 31, 2017

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894 | 419-667-4142

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Elizabeth Adkins (liver issue)
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)
Doris Evans (cancer)
Suzanne Hadley-Himes (recurrent cancer)
Larry Howell
Linda Howell
Tim Hurbert (cancer in lungs & pancreas-friend of Barb Good)
Jan Jones (health Issues)
Paula Jones (healing from fall)
Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer - friend of Evelyn Martz)
Jason Lloyd (appendix removed)
Becky Martz (health problems)
Janet Mohr
Marian Morris
Ronnie Neate (throat cancer)
Kim Owens
Dorothea Plikerd
Walter Poling (heart attack & possible kidney failure)
Lewis Price (bladder cancer, stones, Paul Price's brother)
Joyce Profit
Mallory Rentz (blood clot in brain)
Randy Richards (mowing accident)
Laura Saylor (Viral Meningitis, wife of Pastor Mike Saylor)
Keith Stoller (surgical complications)
Thad Summersett (malignant brain tumor – grandson of Warren S.)
Warren Summersett (cancer)
Natalie Wilkins (90 years old and failing in health)
Noah Wyatt (son of Stuart Wyatt)

***Condolences to the family of Martha Droll**

Serving our Country:

Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)
Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
Pete McCollow (U.S. Marine Corps)

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Rev. Thomas Emery
"To Know the Real Messiah" Isaiah 61:1-11
Salem Presbyterian Church
December 31, 2017

The logic of Isaiah has been, "This is why you ought to take me seriously and turn back to Yahweh" (or why you should have). But, the prophet now speaks of a new day for the people. The transgressions of the past, those that led to the exile, will be forgotten. God will not concentrate on what happened before, but will look to the future. It is a new day. God says to the prophet that He will clothe the community with "the garments of salvation... a robe of righteousness." God will care for Israel as a bride and groom care for each other on their wedding day. The nation will be embellished with flowers and jewels as if preparing to marry the Lord.

TEACHING POINTS

First. The world offers idols, not the Messiah.

Second. The authentic Messiah was entirely defined by God seven hundred years in advance.

Third. We need to decide what we will do with the real Messiah who has come to us.

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY PASSAGE

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon me, for the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released, and prisoners will be freed (Isaiah 61:1 NLT).

ACTION POINT

The Prophet was sent to announce a transformation, and thus to bind up the people who are crushed in mind. Jesus, the Messiah, came to rescue us from fear. People are instinctively afraid of the unknown and the future; uncertainty is always filled with fear. Jesus came to save us from ourselves. Too often harmful practices, addictions, laziness, apathy, and indifference enter our lives causing a sense of unease or possible darkness that obscures the light. Jesus came to rescue us from sin. The proper road to take is not the natural path, but it is the only path that leads to life. Jesus gave us a formula for life today and the way that will lead to eternal life tomorrow. That route is a relationship with God by making Christ your Lord and Savior. Jesus died to set us free. Why not take a serious examination of this Messiah who loves you more than you can fathom?

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