

Sunday: 11-6-2022
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Kevin & Kristen Price*)
 10:45 AM Joint Session & Trustee Meeting

Tuesday: 11-8-2022
 7:30 AM Men's Bible Study at the Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria.
 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study (meet at Manse to watch The Chosen)

Thursday: 11-10-2022
 Noon Van Wert County Prayer Meeting at Van Wert First United Methodist Church.

Sunday: 11-13-2022 Honor Veterans today
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Rex & Lisa Lloyd*)
 Thank Offering
 2023 Budget and nomination information will be available

Announcements:

The **Shoebbox Project** – Today is the **last collection day**.

A **free concert** will be held on Saturday, November 12, at 7:00 pm at the First United Methodist church. There are sheets at the back of the church with more details. Dave Van Tilburg and Sheila Chilcote-Collins will be performing.

Van Wert County is having a county-wide **Thanksgiving Service** at the First United Methodist Church Sunday evening **November 20, at 7 PM**.

The next **Senior Luncheon** event is Wednesday, December 7, at noon at the Lions Club.

Christmas Gravy Packets are being collected for the Salvation Army this year. Our goal this year is 500 packages, and the due date is **December 11th**.

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

Upcoming Birthdays:

10th Lucas Mullenhour 11th Sarah Kimmet 12th Catie Emery
 18th Boone Finn



Salem Presbyterian Church
P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894
419-667-4142 Office
Secretary 419-303-2032 (call/text)
secretary@salemchurch.cc

November 6, 2022

Prayer Concerns:

Edie Basham (back surgery)
Jason Boyd (limited time to live - terminal cancer)
Charles Boroff (heart issue)
Jeff Coil (open heart surgery)
Lynn Collins (cancer)
Kathy Comer
Stephanie Dillon (lymphoma)
 LaDonna's stepdaughter
Pastor Tom Emery (Long Covid healing)
Marjorie Eutsler
Deb Fair (cancer)
Nikki Ford (surgery & funds for surgery)
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Jane Harter
Jerry Holscher
Ann King (cancer)
John & Mary Ellen Lloyd
Steve Martz
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)
David Morris (Zeb)
Paul & Doris Price
Evan Pugh
Evelyn Schwartz
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)
The area Nursing Homes and their residents

Serving Our Country

Gyer Blackmore (U.S. Army)
Dillon Ellerbrock (U.S. Marine Corps)
Butch Eutsler (U.S. Army)
Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)
Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
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Rev. Thomas Emery
“God Is the First Priority” – Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Salem Presbyterian Church
November 6, 2022

God had told Judah fifteen years earlier to get started in rebuilding the Temple, yet they had not even started. In this passage, Haggai challenges the people in Jerusalem to rethink their priorities. The returned exiles in Jerusalem had been able to finish their houses but had ignored the rebuilding of God’s house. Through Haggai, God declares that this kind of self-centered behavior dishonors God; thus, they were not receiving God’s blessings. It is a question of justice. These people have good homes. God's house is a shed. It wouldn't matter if everyone lived in a shack. But if you can spend money on yourself, you can spend money on God. Unlike the people in Jerusalem during the time of Jeremiah, these people listen to the prophet and do indeed reconstruct the temple. God then restates His central covenant promise with His people, “I am with you,” a promise of comfort and power (1:13).

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – *A church doesn't matter. It's just a place. It is about the relationship with God!*

POINT TWO – *What matters is that God is first. God is the GOAL!*

POINT THREE – *If God inspires you with a task, have the courage to get started on it!*

THIS WEEK'S VERSE

³Then the LORD sent this message through the prophet Haggai: ⁴“Why are you living in luxurious houses while my house lies in ruins (Haggai 1:3-4 NLT)?

ACTION POINT

Scripture does not mention Haggai saying much about tithing to ancient Israel, but I doubt that he had to. Those people knew what the standard was - one-tenth of their income. Haggai's challenge was to go even beyond that for the accomplishment of a monumental task. Here in this church, that kind of challenge is not presented to us right now. All we need to do is be faithful with the tithe, with gifts, and offerings beyond that. Jesus tells us that we are to be hilariously joyful givers to God’s Kingdom. It is up to us to put God first in our lives, just as it was up to the people of Haggai's day. If you do put Him first, He will be with you.

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