

Sunday: 08-27-2023
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Jeff & Kelly Lloyd*)

Tuesday: 08-29-2023
7:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria

Thursday 08-31-2023
12:00 PM **Van Wert County prayer meeting** is at the First United Methodist Church in Van Wert. All are invited to pray with other county churches.

Sunday: 09-03-2023
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Bill & Ruth Evans*)

Announcements:

The **Gymanfa Ganu** is on Sunday September 3. A light supper will be served from 4:30-6 PM. for a free-will donation, and the Gymanfa will begin promptly at 7 pm. The Interment for **George Siler** will be held Sept 3 at 11 AM at the Venedocia cemetery. The **Women's Bible Study** will begin again, Tuesday, September 5 at 7 PM. The **Drive Your Tractor to Church** will be on Sunday, September 17, and there will be an informal potluck meal served following the service.

You're invited to a **Celebration of Life**. This is the 50th anniversary of PJ Burnett and Marylin Foust kidney transplant. It will be at the Venedocia Lion's Club from 1 to 4 PM on September 10th.

If you are interested in a **bus trip to the Ark Encounter** on September 27, contact the Council on Aging at 419-238-5011. Price is \$135 (or \$139 if using a credit card) and they will need 40 travelers to do the trip. Additional details are listed on a paper by the front door of the church.

The **Legacy Grandparenting Summit – 2023** is at the Trinity Friends Church, October 19-20. Please register as soon as possible as there are exceptional national speakers: LegacyCoalition.com/summit

Salem is collecting offerings from the heart to be given to the **Salvation Army**. There is a monthly need, and your generosity is greatly needed. Each month we collect different food. The food for August is Mac & Cheese and September is canned fruit

We are updating the Prayer List; please inform Liz, we need your input.

Upcoming Birthdays

27 th Barb Owens	30 th Kelly Lloyd	Sep 1 Elizabeth Adkins	1 st Kim Ebel
3 rd Pete McCollow	4 th Claudia LeValley	4 Katie McClure	11 th Landon Price

Upcoming Anniversaries

27 th Tom & Carol Emery	Sep 8 Paul & Doris Price	11 th Jeremy & Samantha Morris
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Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | August 27, 2023

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@salemchurch.cc

Prayer Concerns:

Josh Archinal (car accident-critical condition)
Cindy (Davis) Barnes (liver transplant)
Edie Basham (back surgery)
Scott Basham (Bypass surgery)
Charles Boroff (heart issue)
Jason Boyd (terminal cancer)
Dave Burnett (heart issues)
Lynn Collins (cancer)
Stephanie Dillon (lymphoma)
 LaDonna's stepdaughter
Pastor Tom Emery (long Covid healing)
Dave Espinoza (lung transplant)
Marjorie Eutsler
Ellen Friesner
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Greg Glander
Diana Glass (cancer)
Jane Harter
Jerry Holscher
Pat Hunt (breast cancer)
Mandolin Jones (cancer)
Tony Kahle (leg amputation)
John Lloyd
Steve Martz
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)
Wayne McMichael
David Morris (Zeb)
Monica Placke
Paul & Doris Price
Ann Rees (ICU brain swelling)
Evelyn Schwartz
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)
Tori Wells (serious spine injury)
The area Nursing Homes and their residents

Serving Our Country:

Gyer Blackmore (U.S. Army)
Dillon Ellerbrock (U.S. Marines)
Butch Eutsler (U.S. Army)
Phoebe Eutsler (U.S. Army)
Micah Linger (U.S. Marine Corps)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
Madison Pugh (U.S. Coast Guard)

Condolences:

The family of Deb Fair
The family of George Siler- Interment will be held Sept 3 at the Venedocia cemetery.

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Rev. Thomas Emery
“An Encounter with a Burning Bush” Exodus 3:1-15
Salem Presbyterian Church
August 27, 2023

Neither prior faith nor any other personal ability had the slightest part to play in getting a person ready who was chosen by Yahweh for His calling. In our passage, the way God called Moses’ is common in Scripture and our lives. God comes into our lives, usually uninvited, surprisingly invading someone’s life. Then, God asks for something huge. We humans respond with an argument why it won't work, i.e., Moses is a poor speaker, Jeremiah is too young, Isaiah is not holy enough, Jonah hates the proposed recipients of God’s mercy, and Mary is a virgin. But God gave us His divine reassurance.

TEACHING POINTS

First, God calls us.

Second, God isn’t looking for ability, but for our availability.

Third, God has a plan in action for our good.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

²*There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up (Exodus3:2 NLT).*

ACTION POINT

Apparently, God chooses people because they don’t have the gifts or important abilities. God usually just picks average people. It’s about the hand of God, not us. As long as I’m the focus of things, I’ll never discover that mere availability can be the gateway to the astonishing. This text tells about God, and it is God that our lives need to be centered around. God is the one who initiates things to happen. It is God who hears, cares, and then comes down to us and takes on flesh in Jesus. Why not open yourself to God and tell Him. “Here I am, use me, God, to build Your kingdom?”

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