

Sunday: 2023-10-15
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Jeff & Kim Coil*)
10:45 AM Session Meeting

Tuesday: 2023-10-17
7:30 AM Men's Bible Study at Van Wert Hospital Cafeteria
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

Thursday: 2023-10-19
Noon Van Wert County prayer meeting is at the Apostolic Church on 1017 S. Shannon Street.

Sunday: 2023-10-22
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery with Todd & Jayne Morris*)

Announcements:

The **Session Meeting** is today after the Service. The **Budget and Nominating Committees** are to have their 2024 information completed by October 22nd.

The next **Senior Luncheon** will be held on October 25, at noon. All are welcome.

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. The October items are shampoo and conditioner.

The **Shoebbox Project** - For the last 30 years, shoeboxes have been collected, filled with gifts, and delivered to children in need around the world. Please plan to fill a shoebox and give hope and joy to a precious child. There are pamphlets and shoeboxes in the prayer room. Collection day is Sunday, **November 12**.

Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the **November Newsletter**. Submit them to secretary@saalemchurch.cc.

Upcoming Birthdays

22 nd Ashley Finn	23 rd Remi Finn	25 th Josh Hobbs
28 th Keaton Adkins	29 th Nancy Swygart	30 th Jeff Coil

Upcoming Anniversaries

21 st Bob & Kathy McCollow	30 th Kevin & Kristen Price
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Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | October 15, 2023

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

www.SalemChurch.cc | secretary@saalemchurch.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)
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 (in Van Wert Vancrest)
Evelyn Schwartz
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)
Doug Smith
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)
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)
Madison Pugh (U.S. Coast Guard)

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Rev. Thomas Emery
The Golden Calf” Exodus 32:1-14
Salem Presbyterian Church
October 15, 2023

Moses had become the central figure of stability for the Israelites. After all, he had been the leader of God’s people even before they were set free from Egyptian captivity. They had grown to depend on him, and his presence among them became vital. As long as he was with them, they felt safe. If they couldn’t see him, especially for an extended period, they apparently began to get insecure. That’s when against the commands of God, they started to jump to wrong conclusions. Satan used that time of testing to conduct spiritual warfare against the Hebrews, and they fashioned a golden calf and worshipped it as their god while acting out sensual pagan rituals from their Egyptian past.

TEACHING POINTS

First, God tests us for us to realize that we have idols in our lives.

Second, during times of the silence of God, avoid the dangers of spiritual warfare from idle minds and lazy syncretism (combining pagan and Christian beliefs).

Third, God wants us to be intercessors for others.

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY PASSAGE

So the LORD changed his mind about the terrible disaster he had threatened to bring on his people (Exodus 32:14 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Your journey with God is about the others who join us, who don’t know the way as well as we do. It’s about leading them to stay committed in the days when God is silent. It’s about holding on to the promise that just because He’s silent, we can’t conclude that He’s absent. It’s about helping them to see that they’re asking for trouble when they think about bailing out on God in favor of another way that seems to make sense at the moment.

So, welcome the tests that God brings our way. He’s not trying to hurt us. He’s trying to help us so we will be fit for the journey called living in this world. We have been given eternal life through Jesus Christ. When God tests us along the way, it’s to help us stay on track so we can experience His fulfillment in our relationship with Him. Why not trust in God no matter what the circumstances?

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