

Sunday: 12-22-2019
9:30 AM Worship (*nursery is not staffed*)
10:45 AM Sunday School

Wednesday: 12-24-2019 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

Sunday: 12-29-2019
9:30 AM Worship with guest speaker John Zerbe
No Sunday School (*nursery with Eric & Jenny Pugh*)

Sunday: 1-5-2020
9:30 AM Worship with guest speaker Glenn Hux
No Sunday School (*nursery with Rex & Lisa Lloyd*)

Announcements:

Don't forget the **Prayer Sheet** is on the back table which will be read during our prayer time.

Pastor Tom is attending the **Archaeological Institute of America** convention in Washington DC January 2-5th for his study leave.

Women's Bible Study starts again **Tuesday, January 7th, at 7 PM.** All women are invited.

The next **Session meeting** is at 12:30 PM on Sunday, January 19.

The **Confirmation Class** starts up again 11:30 AM on the 19th and 6:30 PM on Wednesday, the 22nd.

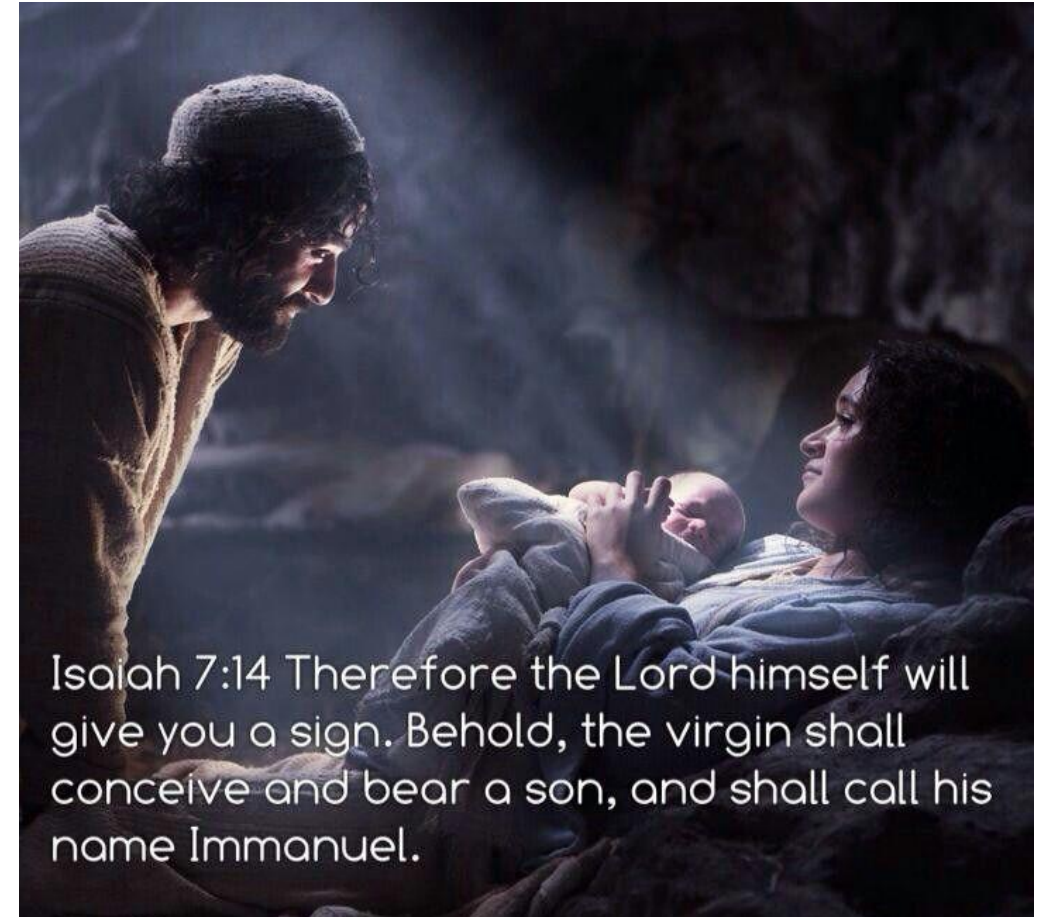
The next **Congregational Meeting** is on January the 26th.

Be sure to sign up for the 2020 Flower Chart on the back bulletin Board.

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

Upcoming Birthdays:
23rd-Jeff Owens 24th-Mary Ellen Lloyd 30th-Isaiah Pugh

Upcoming Anniversaries:
28th-Doug & Marilyn Strickler



Isaiah 7:10-17

Salem Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894

419-667-4142 Office

Secretary 419-303-2032 (call/text)

secretary@salemchurch.cc

December 22, 2019

Prayer Concerns

Connie Bassett (breast cancer)
Kyle Baxter (brain cancer)
Barry Coil (stroke)
Kathy Comer
Amy Cunningham (Fibromyalgia)
John Davis (stroke)
Cathy Donnal (health issues)
Kent DuCheney (surgery)
Aiden Ellerbrock (injuries from a fall)
Betty Ellis (rapidly failing health)
Catie Emery (nightmares)
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Suzanne Hadley-Himes (cancer)
Bill Harmon (cancer)
Tim Huster (cancer)
Connie Johnson (cancer)
Jan Jones (health Issues)
Paula Jones (healing from fall)
Dale Kiesza (leg operation)
Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer)

Linda Lissey (cancer)
Bob Louth (heart problems)
Bob Louth, Jr. (prostate health)
LuAnn (family issues)
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)
Marian Morris (failing health)
Dorothea Plikerd
Terry Profit (chemotherapy)
Mallory Rentz (blood clot in brain)
Marjorie Rhodes
Julie Sheets (lung cancer)
Sherry Silar (cancer)
Bruce Taylor (had a liver transplant)
Martha Jean Evans Vasquez
Natalie Wilkins (failing in health)
Noah Wyatt (brain surgery)

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Serving our Country:

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

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Rev. Thomas Emery
4th Sunday of Advent
“God Uses the Unlikely” – Isaiah 7:10-16
Salem Presbyterian Church
December 22, 2019

In Isaiah 7, the circumstance of the passage prophecy is that the foolish King Ahaz of Judah refuses to trust in God for deliverance from the powerful Israelite-Syrian alliance against him. Ahaz even turned down God’s offer of a divine sign meant to build his faith in the confidence of God’s care for him. But, God gives him a sign anyway—a young woman (NLT, “virgin”) will give birth to a child called Immanuel (“God is with us”). In Isaiah 9, however, it is indicated that there are spectacular characteristics about the future coming child that will be fulfilled only through the Messiah. Isaiah calls Him “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Ahaz did not show faith in God for God’s care for him, but here to us, God is asking if we will have faith in His Son who is “God with us” to show His care for us.

TEACHING POINTS

POINT ONE – *God uses what He wants to accomplish His purposes.*

POINT TWO – *It pleases God to use the unlikely.*

POINT THREE – *Then, God can use any of us.*

THIS WEEK’S VERSE

All right then, the Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means ‘God is with us’) (Isaiah 7:14 NLT).

ACTION POINT

When God offered the gift of salvation, He didn't send a technical book for us to figure it out; He sent his only Son. A young couple experiences the miraculous in their lives. A humble carpenter husband shows extraordinary love and trust. And God enters into human experience so we can know and trust Him. Christmas is a time for reflecting on God reaching out to us in love. God’s Son is reaching out to you to begin a relationship with Him. Why not take the time this Christmas season and receive by faith the gift of salvation that God is offering to you?

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