



**Sunday:** 12-20-20  
 9:30 AM Worship (*nursery is not staffed today*)  
 Joy Offering  
 No Sunday School today

**Tuesday:** 12-22-20  
 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study

**Thursday:** 12-24-20  
 9:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

**Sunday:** 12-27-20  
 9:30 AM Worship w/guest speaker John Zerbe  
 (*nursery with Eric & Jenny Pugh*) No Sunday School today

**Announcements:**

A church-wide thank you, for those who decorated the chapel, participated in the Youth Service, cooked cookies and treats, and did the hundreds of things to make the Advent Service and the Christmas Season special.

Cookies and treats were given to the local nursing homes to thank the staff for taking care of our loved ones this COVID crisis.

Please sign up on the new 2021 Flower Calendar on the Bulletin Board.

The 2021 Offering Envelop Boxes can be found on the white table in the Prayer Room. Please sign your name beside the box number you take for the year 2021.

The Session Training Class will be at noon Sunday, January 10th. Please bring a dish to share for lunch. Thanks to those who have served going off the Session and Trustees this year and to those who are newly serving next year.

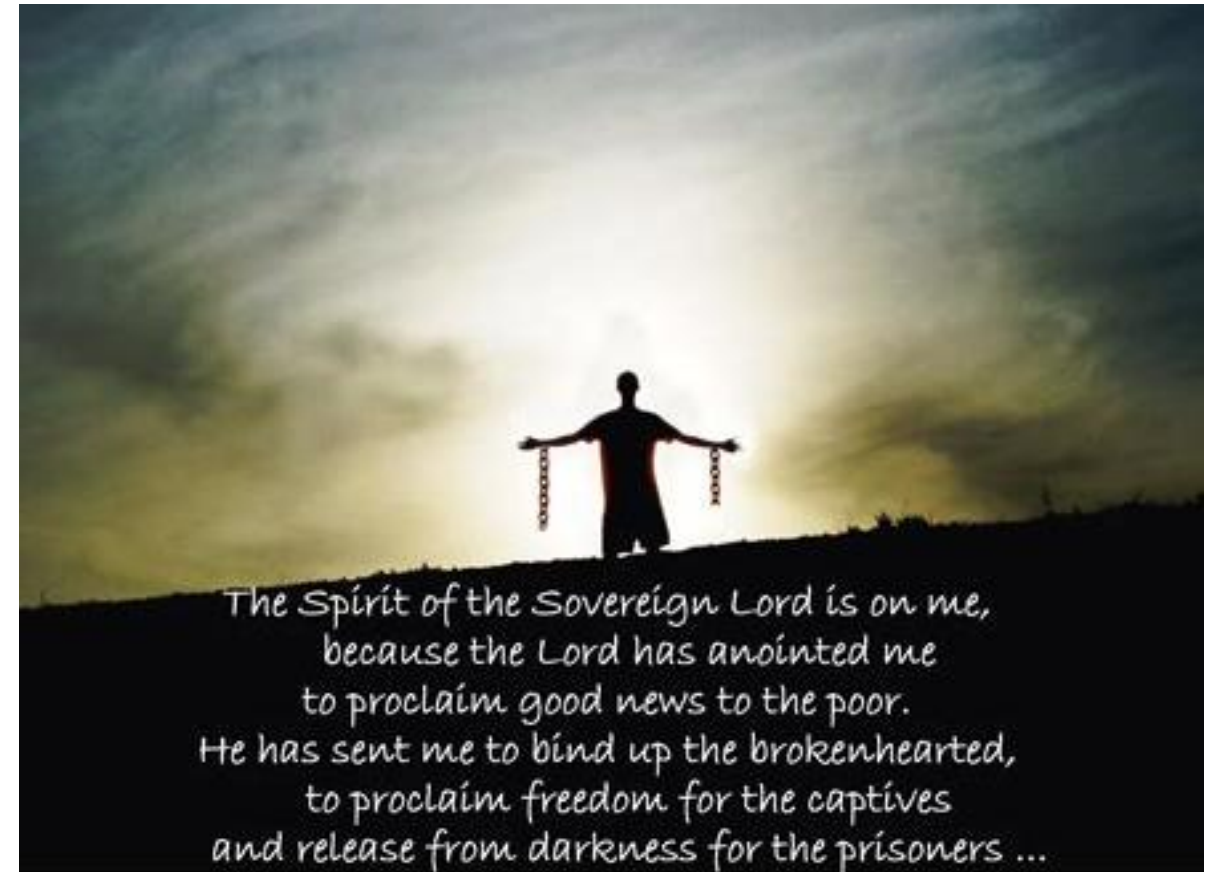
Please take photos and contribute recipes, thoughts, and ideas for the January newsletter. Submit them to [secretary@saalemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@saalemchurch.cc).

**Upcoming Birthdays**

23<sup>rd</sup> Jeff Owens      24<sup>th</sup>-Mary Ellen Lloyd      30<sup>th</sup> Isaiah Pugh

**Upcoming Anniversaries**

28<sup>th</sup> Doug & Marilyn Stickler



Isaiah 61:1-11

# Salem Presbyterian Church

Venedocia, Ohio | December 20, 2020

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

[www.SalemChurch.cc](http://www.SalemChurch.cc) | [secretary@saalemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@saalemchurch.cc)

**Prayer Concerns:**

Katie Adams (recovering from surgery)  
Connie Bassett (breast cancer)  
Barry Coil (stroke)  
Kathy Comer  
Rosemary Cooper  
Asher Eberle  
Catie Emery (nightmares)  
Melissa Fallis (Warren Summersett's granddaughter)  
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)  
Suzanne Hadley-Himes (recurrent cancer)  
Jerry Holscher  
Dale Kiesza (leg operation)  
Nancy Lautzenheiser (colon cancer)  
LuAnn (family issues)  
John Lloyd  
Donald Martin  
David & Becky Martz  
Carol Matthews (Lou Gehrig's disease)  
Byron Mohr  
David Morris (Zeb)  
Marian Morris  
Judy Jones Muhn (health issues)  
lone Owens  
Joe Pavel  
Marjorie Rhodes  
Daune & Denise Schreiber  
Derek Sellers (Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy)  
Doug Smith (Jen Pugh's father)  
Mary Strayer (cancer)  
Betty Tennant  
Curt Whetstone  
Raymond Young  
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)

**Condolences to the family of**

Gretta Waltz-Shaw (sister of  
Dick Waltz)

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Rev. Thomas Emery  
“Who Is This Coming Messiah?” Isaiah 61:1-11  
Salem Presbyterian Church  
December 20, 2017

The logic of Isaiah has been up-to now, “*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 Isaiah 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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