



**Sunday:** 07-13-2025 5th Sunday after Pentecost  
9:30 AM Worship (*Nursery with Jason & Danielle Lloyd*)  
10:45 AM Trustee Meeting

**Tuesday:** 07-15-2025  
7:30 AM Men's Bible Study meets in the Global Methodist Church at Crawford and Walnut Streets.

**Thursday:** 07-17-2025  
Noon The Van Wert County Prayer meeting is at the Trinity Global Methodist Church; meet in the "Gate."

**Sunday:** 07-20-2025 5th Sunday after Pentecost  
9:30 AM Worship (*Nursery with Dave & Carla Breese*)

**Announcements:**

The **Vacation Bible School** theme title this year is: "Give with Your Heart: Serving Jesus by Serving Others!" This VBS teaches kids that what matters most to God is not how much we give, but the heart behind our giving—and that when we help others, we are showing love directly to Jesus. The Mission for VBS is The Haven of Hope Men's Homeless Shelter. Please see the signup form to bring items for "Love Packages" the children will assemble for them. The VBS is **July 29 & July 30, 9:00-11:30 AM**, for ages: 4 years old to 6th grade. Hope to see you and your children there!

Salem gives **Offerings from the Heart for the Salvation Army**. Each month, we collect different items; the food we collect for July is canned fruit.

The **Venedocia Lions Club** is activating its yearly recruitment drive. Many Salem men belong and support the organization. If you're interested, you are welcome to drop by a meeting or check it out at [VenedociaLions.org](http://VenedociaLions.org). The next meeting is on July 22 at 7 PM.

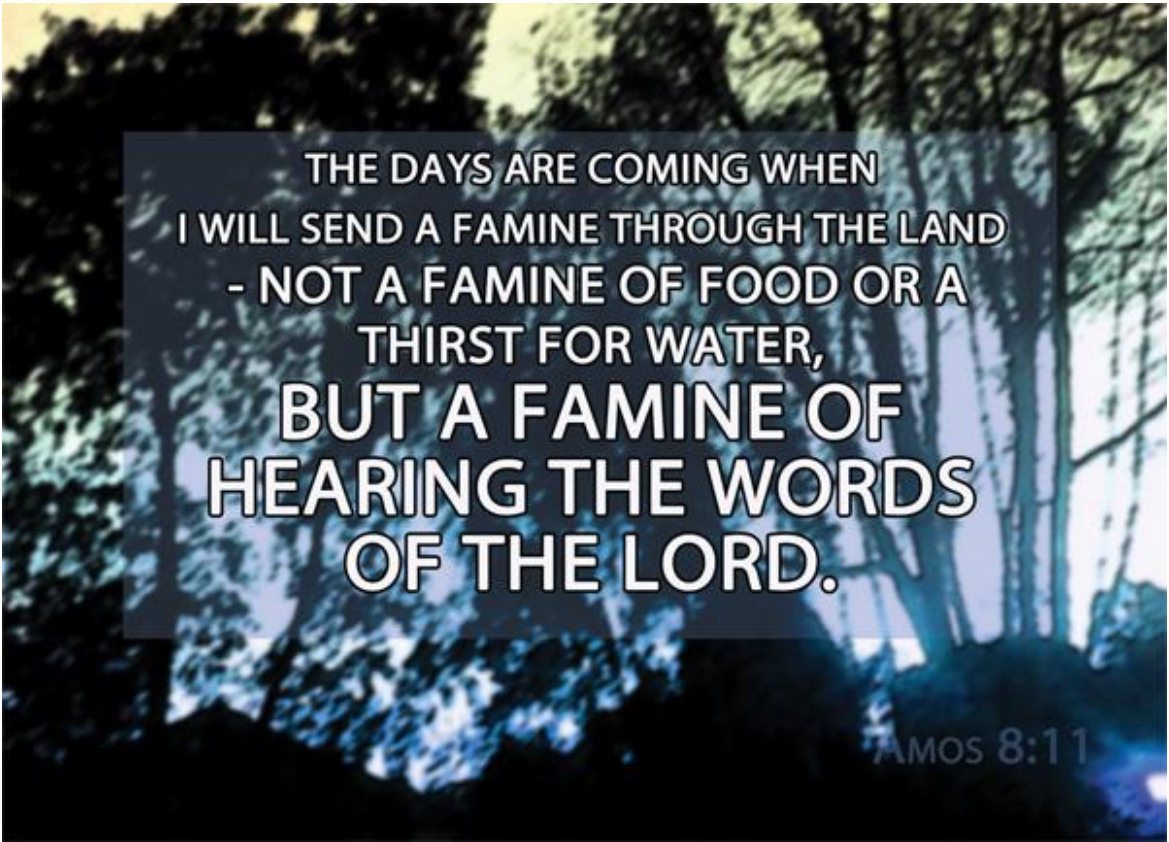
Please take photos and contribute updates, recipes, and ideas for the next **Salem newsletter**, "**Sounds of Salem**." Submit them to [PastorTomEmery@live.com](mailto:PastorTomEmery@live.com)

**Upcoming Birthdays**

13 <sup>th</sup> Cory McCollow	15 <sup>th</sup> Tootsie Young	15 <sup>th</sup> Barb Good
16 <sup>th</sup> Johnathan Young	18 <sup>th</sup> Marjorie Eutsler	22 <sup>nd</sup> Dave Rees

**Upcoming Anniversaries**

15 <sup>th</sup> Scott & Katey Lloyd	15 <sup>th</sup> Tuzz & Liz Hobbs	15 <sup>th</sup> Peter & Morgan McCollow
19 <sup>th</sup> Cory & Sylvia McCollow	24 <sup>th</sup> Bill & Ruth Evans	25 <sup>th</sup> David & Nancy Jo Breese



Amos 8:1-12

*Salem Presbyterian Church*

*P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894*  
*[www.SalemChurch.cc](http://www.SalemChurch.cc) | 419-667-4142*

**July 13, 2025**

**Prayer Concerns:**

Allen Breece  
Tom Burnett (recovering from an accident)  
Bill Culver  
Pastor Tom Emery (long COVID healing)  
Marjorie Eutsler  
Millie Fletcher  
Ellen Friesner  
Shana Fryer  
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)  
Charlie Good (prostate cancer)  
Carla Hillabrand (medical issues) sister to Nancy Breese  
Elizabeth Holscher  
Jim Lloyd (at Van Wert Manor)  
Pete McCollow  
Mary Lou Morgan (Eleanor Morgan’s daughter)  
David Morris (Zeb)  
Steve Muhlenkamp (cancer) Jen Pugh’s stepdad  
Ann Rees (in Van Wert Hearth & Home)  
Bianca Richards (leukemia)  
The area Nursing Homes and their residents

**Serving Our Country:**

Dillon Ellerbrock (U.S. Marines)  
Corbin Evans (U.S. Marine Corps)  
Cory McCollow (U.S. Coast Guard)  
Butch Eutsler (U.S. Army)  
Madison Pugh (U.S. Coast Guard)

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**Rev. Thomas Emery**  
**“Israel Ripe for Punishment” Amos 8:1-12**  
**Salem Presbyterian Church**  
**July 13, 2025**

Amos was one of Israel's great prophets, and he took pains to remind listeners that he was just an ordinary migrant worker. God spoke to him through a series of visions when Amos was in worship. The fourth vision given to Amos was a basket of summer fruit. It was the annual offering of the first fruits of the harvest. People would bring a fresh basket of the finest of their harvest and place it on the altar as a gift of thanksgiving to God. The offering took place as it did each year, but suddenly something stirred within Amos. For Amos, God was saying the ripe fruit suggested not thanksgiving for harvest and trust for winter rains, but an "end" to the relationship with God. What looked so ripe and beautiful was on the verge of spoiling and rotting.

**TEACHING POINTS**

**POINT ONE** – *The people have lost the sense that they are to reflect God in their lives.*

**POINT TWO** – *Having lost their identity, the people pushed the envelope of what is acceptable behavior.*

**POINT THREE** – *God will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or thirst for water, but of hearing the Words of the Lord.*

**THIS WEEK’S VERSE**

<sup>2</sup> “What do you see, Amos?” he asked. I replied, “A basket full of ripe fruit.” Then the LORD said, “Like this fruit, Israel is ripe for punishment! I will not delay their punishment again (Amos 8:2 NLT).

**ACTION POINT**

Amos was fearful that God would reach the limits of divine patience and give up on the people. God is telling Amos that the people have gone on too long in their sins and have neared a point of no return where the nation will suffer an unwanted fate. And that is precisely what happened. Less than thirty years later, Israel fell to the Assyrians, and many of the people were dispersed to other lands. The people of Israel didn't like what they heard. They liked how they lived. They wouldn't listen. They ran Amos out of town. He went home and wrote it all down in hopes that someday, somewhere, someone would hear the Word of the Lord about the way to live with Him and with each other -- and then live it out. Jesus likewise said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." Why not seek the righteousness of God found in reading His Word and be blessed, not cursed, with judgment?

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