

Sunday: 10-05-2025 17th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship with Rev. Thomas Emery
Worldwide Communion
(Nursery with Jeff & Kelly Lloyd)

Tuesday: 10-07-2025
7:30 AM Men's Bible Study meets at the Trinity Global Methodist Church in Van Wert.
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study at Salem Church

Thursday: 10-09-2025
Noon The Van Wert County Prayer meeting is at the Portal 2:20 Teen Center, 634 N. Washington Street.

Sunday: 10-12-2025 18th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30 AM Worship (Nursery with Bill & Ruth Evans)
10:45 AM Trustee Meeting

Announcements:

Salem gives **Offerings from the Heart for the Salvation Army**. Each month, we collect different items; the items we collect for October are shampoo and conditioner.

There is a **sign up sheet** in the front vestibule to help teach Sunday School.

All Saints Day is a day of remembrance of the faithful people of God who have died in the past year. If you would like your friend or family member's name read during the service on November 2, please contact Jen Pugh no later than October 26th.

The **Shoebox 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. Pamphlets and shoeboxes are in the prayer room. The collection day is Sunday, **November 16**.

Please take photos and contribute updates, recipes, and ideas for the next **Salem newsletter**, “**Sounds of Salem**.” Submit them to PastorTomEmery@live.com

Upcoming Birthdays

8 th Bob McCollow	13 th David Breese	13 th Carter Dunlap
13 th Kayla Owens/Mumford	14 th Jason Kimmet	22 nd Ashley Finn

Upcoming Anniversaries

7 th Jason & Sarah Kimmet	21 st Bob & Kathy McCollow
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“Look and see if there is
any sorrow like my sorrow...”

~ Lamentations 1:12

Salem Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH 45894

419-667-4142 Office (call/text)

October 5, 2025

Prayer Concerns:

Allen Breece
Tom Burnett (recovering from an accident)
Jeff Coil (recovering from back surgery)
Pastor Tom Emery (long COVID healing)
Millie Fletcher
Ellen Friesner
Shana Fryer
Stephanie Gamble (eye issues)
Charlie Good (prostate cancer)
Carla Hillabrand (medical issues) sister to Nancy Breese
Elizabeth Holscher
Mike Hyatt (thyroid cancer)
Jim Lloyd (at Van Wert Manor)
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)
Loretta Williams (recovering from a broken leg)
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
“Feeling Grief” Lamentations 1:1-9
Salem Presbyterian Church
October 5, 2025

Our passage from Lamentations speaks of the great reversal of fortune of Jerusalem. The rebellious people who turned their backs on God and have lived in comfort and wealth must now endure poverty and exile. Likewise, in many parts of the world today, wars and natural disasters have brought people accustomed to a comfortable life face-to-face with the harsh reality that no human institution can guarantee either safety or security. Nothing can defend our earthly treasures, and no person can guarantee world peace. Only the grace of God in Jesus Christ secures the eternal treasure that has been entrusted to us. Jesus is the creator and guarantor of true peace.

TEACHING POINTS

Hebrew Language Acrostic

POINT ONE – *A is for Feeling Abandonment.*

POINT TWO – *B is for Feeling Brokenness.*

POINT THREE – *C is for Crying.*

THIS WEEK’S VERSE

She defiled herself with immorality and gave no thought to her future. Now she lies in the gutter with no one to lift her out. “LORD, see my misery,” she cries. “The enemy has triumphed” (Lamentations 1:9 NLT).

ACTION POINT

Jerusalem feels that she has no one to whom she can turn. Her illicit lovers have rejected her. Her false God-denying priests are dead. Her enemies laugh at her. She is alone in her grief and disappointment. When a catastrophe strikes, one of a few responses is possible. One can allow grief to overpower us, and we fall under its weight. Or, one can turn to God, believing in God’s love despite the facts before us. Why not choose to believe in the God of the Covenant? Why not also reach out and help others, sharing with them the story of our faithful and merciful God?

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