

“So rejoice, O Sons of Zion, and be glad in the Lord your God; For He has given you the early rain for your vindication, and He has poured down for you the rain, the early and latter rain as before. And the threshing floors will be full of grain, and the vats will overflow with the new wine and oil.”

- Joel 2:23-24

Rain gets a bad rap. Most folks simply do not care for rain, or rainy days. I have to be honest, I'm



not crazy about rain. I know that may surprise some of you, given my penchant for storms. While it is true that I am fascinated by hurricanes and tornados and blizzards and the like, a dull, seemingly endless,

steady rain drives me crazy. And, for good reason. Too often, rain has caused cancellations or created dangerous conditions. How many times have our plans for reunions, picnics, ballgames, or outings been destroyed by inclement weather? There's nothing worse than sitting around watching it rain when we are supposed to be doing something fun. And, let's not forget that rain can turn roads into disaster areas. Standing water on highways causes hydroplaning. Cars can be carried away by just a few inches of flood water. It's no different for humans. Slipping and sliding around on wet grass (or other surfaces) can lead to bodily damage. I know that back in the '70s, Eddie Rabbit sang about how he "Loved the Rainy Nights," or that a couple of decades prior, Gene Kelly was famous for "Singin' In the Rain," but I'm afraid rain doesn't cause me to bust out in song ... except, maybe for that rhyme that says, "Rain, rain go away ..."

The Israelites of Old Testament times had a very different view of rain. They lived in a desert, so rain was vital to their

existence. In that environment, it only rained a couple of times, or seasons, during the entire year. And that was when it was a good



year! In an agrarian society, every precious drop of water makes a lot of difference. If they didn't get rain, then the crops wouldn't grow or produce. They were dependent on God to provide the rain, so that their fields, vineyards, groves and flocks would flourish. If there was no rain, they knew that God was not

pleased, and He was executing judgment upon them. Many times, their prayers were of repentance, and seeking God's favor to bless the land with nourishing rain.

Adequate rain could be measured by five results. First, rain provided **Sacrifices**. It was spiritual duty of every person to honor the Lord by bringing the first gathering of the harvest to the Temple as an offering to God. Second, rain provided **Sustenance**. As the fast food commercials used to say, "Ya gotta eat!" A good crop meant that the family would be well fed. Third, rain made **Selling** possible. A good crop could provide extra income for a family. Fourth, rain was necessary so that folks could **Share**. Families

could look out for one another, and those who had surplus were able to help our the less fortunate. And fifth, rain helped people to



Store Up for the future. A good harvest not only met immediate needs, it fulfilled their needs in the bleak months. Maybe that's where we get the phrase, "Saving for a rainy day."

"in order for us to fulfill our calling, we have to endure the hardships"

It may come as a shock to some of you, but there are certain things about my profession as a pastor that I despise. I don't care much for administration stuff ... you know, paperwork, reports, deadlines and the like. And I am not happy when families have to endure difficult circumstances. Don't get me wrong - I'll walk with you every step of the way if you lose a job, or have to have an operation, or a loved one dies. But, I certainly don't want anyone to suffer. When one suffers, we all suffer. I would rather life would be Easter every morning and revival every night! But, as the saying goes, "Into every life, a little rain must fall."

We have to remember that in order for us to fulfill our calling, we have to endure the hardships. We, too, are responsible to Sacrifice, provide Sustenance, Sell, Share and Store Up. But if those things are going to happen, we need some rain. Maybe there are certain aspects of your vocation that seem despicable to you. Maybe there are things in your life you wish would go away. Don't get discouraged. Take heart and know that once the rain stops, you'll have a fine harvest.

Pastor Pete



Church Committee Meetings

It's important that all committee members be present at scheduled meetings. Be sure to contact the Chairperson if you are unable to attend.

Staff/Parish Relations Committee

Monday, Oct. 4th @ 7:00 PM
CHAIR:

Administrative Board

Monday, Oct. 11th @ 6:30 PM
CHAIR: Tim Renn

Trustees

Monday, Oct 25th @ 6:00 PM
CHAIR: Roger Cunningham



Sunday, November 7th

Our All Saints List includes those listed. If there is someone missing and you would like them to be on the list, please let us know by Thursday, November 4th. Messages can be given to Rhonda, Pastor Pete, left on the church answering machine at 740-858-2621, or emailed to Rhonda at secretary@nauvooumc.org.

*Howard Weghorst
Lily Harris
Pat Coleman
Scotty Brown
Ron Browning
Cindy Cookson
Roger Livingston*

*Kathy Litz
Don Reynolds
Richard Crager
Ava Brown
Donna Lykins
Beverly Flowers
Nancy Oiler*

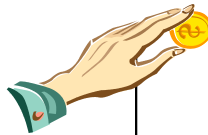
ATTENDANCE

Sept 5	46
Sept 12	36
Sept 19	36
Sept 26	34



OFFERINGS

Sept 5	\$2,689.00
Sept 12	\$2,248.00
Sept 19	\$2,267.00
Sept 26	\$2,883.00



Please make the following changes to your church directory:

Michelle and Debbie Stahler's new address is 1296 Mohawk Dr., Lucasville, OH 45648

Donnie & Pam Richard's new home phone number is 740-372-3568

Karen & Ed Ciraso's new address is 330 Coleman Rd, W Portsmouth, OH 45663. Home phone number is 740-858-2605.



Shawnee Valley District Mission Trip

Shawnee Valley District would like to take a mission trip to Louisiana in February 2022 to help with hurricane cleanup. It will be a weeklong trip which includes travel time and cost about \$250.

If you might be interested, please see Pastor Pete or call the district office at 740-851-5243. They must be notified by November 1st.



Daylight Savings Time Comes to an END!!!

(Boooo!!)

Don't forget to set your clocks **BACK** 1 hour before going to bed on **Saturday, November 6th**



- 12 — Vince Shirey
- 17 — Rowan Cutlip
- 18 — Wyatt Terry
- 20 — Nora Netzer
- 23 — Ken Renn
- 23 — Taylor Keen
- 26 — Kimmy Sparks
- 27 — Keeli Baldrige
- 28 — Connie Snyder
- 30 — Drew Cunningham
- 31 — Carmen Rayburn



October

- 18 — Emily & Carl Weghorst
- 20 — Dave & Pam Lester
- 25 — Dave & Diann Reese
- 25 — Teresa & Richard Book

With Thanks

Thanks for your August support for House of Faith Orphanage. We have all the uniform money ready to send for all the boys. Help us pray for the book and entrance fees. They say school will start in September, but with the government in such a bad way, they probably won't start until October. This is how it is most years. For some reason the riots start right before school opens and then school is cancelled for a month. The children suffer so much from this. The earthquake did not touch the orphanage.

Jim and I are just getting over Covid and feeling tired and still have some lingering symptoms. I hope the church is doing well at this time. May God continue to bless you.

Love, "Mom" Barb Richter

Thanks so much to the girls in the kitchen. The food was wonderful, as always. My family was late getting back to the church, then we stayed a long time. That's a lot of hours to keep them (the girls) standing. We really appreciated the meal.

Love, Nora

Shoebox Alert!

A **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who has helped us on this home stretch for Operation Christmas Child! We are getting closer to our numbers everyday. We are still in need of the following supplies or finances to help purchase them:

Item	Number Needed
Scissors	395
Crayons	176
Bars of Soap	209
Wash Cloths	100
Coloring Books	200
Small toys, puzzles, etc.	295
Snack or Sandwich bags	1,000
Financial donations for shipping.	



If you would like to make a monetary donation please mark your check or donation envelope OCC.

We are scheduling some OCC work days to remove packaging and price tags from items, put labels on boxes, fold boxes, put small gloves in Ziploc bags, sort flip flops by size, etc. We will be practicing social distancing and open the windows when the weather permits. ANY donated time is much appreciated!

Tuesday, Oct 5th 5—8:00 PM, Friday Oct 8th, 10:00 AM—2:00 PM, Tuesday, Oct 12th 5—8:00 PM

**Nauvoo United Methodist Church
1403 Fifth Street
West Portsmouth, OH 45663-6109**

Rev. Pete Shaffer, Pastor

E-mail: pastor@nauvooumc.org

(740) 858-2621 Church

(740) 370-5490 Cell Phone

Website: www.nauvooumc.org



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Light the Night with JESUS

Saturday, October 30, 2021
Trick or Treat Time is: 5:00 - 7:00 PM



Once again in lieu of "Trick or Treat", Nauvoo UMC will celebrate this evening by sharing the "Light of Jesus" with the children of our community. All members of the congregation are encouraged to come and share their treats with the children as they come past the church parking lot on that evening. The church will be giving out special treat bags. Plan on 500 treats needed this night.

We will have posters made for you to place at your residence the week prior explaining you will be passing out your treats at the church.

If you would like to help defray the cost of this project, please mark your donation "Light the Night" and place it in the offering.



Please PRAY that God will help us successfully reach the children of our community with the LOVE of JESUS.