

# SOUNDS OF SALEM

Volume 17 Issue 2

www.SalemChurch.cc

February 2015

## February 2015 Revised Common Lectionary Year B

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany—February 1

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalms 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany—February 8

Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

### Transfiguration of the Lord—February 15

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalms 50:1-6

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

### Ash Wednesday—February 18

Joel 2:102, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalms 51:1-17

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent—February 22

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

## The Balance Window

Balances were used to measure and weigh things. They remind us of the judgment when our lives will be weighted to see if we have served well.

Matthew 18:32-33 reads: *"Then the king called in the man he had forgiven and said, 'You evil servant! I forgave you that tremendous debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn't you have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?'"* (NLT)



The center crosses are entwined within the circle and remind us of Christ's crucifixion. Holly is in the blue green along the side of the window. The three leaves remind us of the three persons of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. According to an unconfirmed legend, Mary prayed and hid the baby Jesus under a holly bush when they were fleeing to Egypt. The bush put forth leaves and hid the baby from the pursuing soldiers, who had orders to kill all babies. Since then, the holly has kept its leaves all year.

Read: Matthew 18:21-35. Reflect: Who do you need to forgive? Pray: Seek Christ's forgiveness and the love and grace to forgive others.

Source: The Salem Confirmation Class Handbook

## Pastor's Thoughts

It's important to take moments for meditation upon God. We are still in winter with its on-going snow storms and drifting snow. The white layers over the farmer's fields give thought to a favorite poem by Robert Frost that I read in high school named "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." It gives insight of that perfect white covered world that cries out for you and me to stop and take a quiet time with God and to take in the beauty.

Stopping his horse, the horse used to busyness thinks it unusual and shakes his bell wanting to move on...

He gives his harness bell a shake  
To ask if there is some mistake,  
The only other sound's the sweep  
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.  
But I have promises to keep,  
And miles to go before I sleep,  
And miles to go before I sleep.

Yes, we have things to do and places to be. Yet, God wants us to take time to worship Him and to observe His creation. For a sample of heaven's beauty, there's nothing like a sunset's dancing colors over the whitened fields. Let us take time to stop and to say, "thank you, God for the beauty I see."

*Pastor Tom Emery*



Finding Beauty in Venedocia Winters  
Manse Backyard Photo by Pastor Tom

### Without Excuses, Doing God's Will

Some people say, "Oh, if I only knew what God's will is for my life." But, is that their real problem? Their real problem is motivating themselves to do the

things they already know God wants them to do. This was shown clearly by an action of Judge Woodrow Seal, a U.S. District Court judge.

Mr. Seal founded The Society of St. Stephen in the Methodist Church. It was a national program with the sole purpose of helping people in need. One day a church invited Mr. Seal to come to their congregation to explain to them how they could begin a Society of St. Stephen in their church. So the judge came. The plan was for him to speak on the various ministries the Society engaged in and then there would be some time for discussion.

While the people took their seats the minister began to introduce Judge Seal and the work of the Society. The judge took some cookies and poured himself some coffee. When the introduction was completed, Judge Seal walked over to the piano, put his coffee cup on top of it, and began to fumble in his coat pockets. Finally, he pulled out a wrinkled piece of paper and from it he read the name of a mother and her four children, including their ages and their clothing sizes.

He noted several other needs this particular family had, and said the address was on the paper, and he laid it on top of the piano. The Judge then said, "If you want to start a Society of St. Stephen, then you should contact this woman by 11:30 AM tomorrow morning. If you are not able to help her, don't worry, I'll be in contact with her tomorrow, and get her help by mid-afternoon." With that, Judge Seal remarked, "Now, forgive me, but I really must be going. Thank you for inviting me and for the coffee and the cookies." Then he walked out the door. It all took less than five minutes.



Charlie Good greeting in the cold

Judge Seal wasn't content to sit around helplessly waiting for God to give him some direction. He knew what God wanted him to do. He knew what God

wanted this church to do. The problem is not lack of knowledge of God's will, rather an unwillingness to do God's will. God is calling us to action. Let us do God's will.

Adapted from, *WORD AND WITNESS*, Sept. 24, 1989, Vol.14, No.1(4).

### A Real Christian

Andrew Young was a former Ambassador to the United Nations, an influential political leader, and an ordained clergyman. James McCormick tells of the conclusion of one of Young's talks where he told about his youngest daughter, and he described her, "She has always been the unpredictable one." While his other children excelled as students, she always made it a point not to try hard.

She wanted to be a dancer or an actor or a singer. And, while the other children paid attention, her father's stern voice only made her eyes flare with rebellion.

Several months before, she came home and announced, "Daddy, I'm going to Uganda to work with 'Habitat for Humanity.'" Andrew Young was shocked. He said, "Do you realize that Idi Amin has wrecked Uganda?" "Yes," she said.

"Do you understand that there is no real government in Uganda?" "Yes," she said. "Are you aware that anybody there can do anything they want to do to you in Uganda, and there is no recourse against them?" "Yes," she said. "And you still want to go to Uganda?" "Daddy," she said. "I am going to Uganda."

And so, three days before he told this story, Andrew Young, powerful political leader, stood helplessly as his youngest daughter boarded a plane and flew off to Uganda to build houses. And there, at the conference, half in jest, and half in fatherly pride, he concluded, "I always wanted her to be a respectable Christian...not a real one!"

What kind of Christian are you? A respectable Christian, a conventional Christian, a "sort of" Christian, or a real Christian? Are you an admirer of Jesus or a follower of Jesus? Why not step out in faith for Christ?

Source: Illustration from "To Be a Christian" James McCormick

### Church to Celebrate 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Gymanfa Ganu!



According to church records, this will be our 100<sup>th</sup> Gymanfa Ganu! So this year, we want to make it a special celebration. The Music Committee is

requesting that if you have any pictures, articles, stories, memories of the Gymanfa through the years, that you share them! Please give such items to any member of the music committee or take them to the church office. You may also email attachments or stories to the church email: [secretary@saalemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@saalemchurch.cc) Thank you!



Sunday Morning Special Music Guest, Chris Cowdery

### Thank You

*"I would like to take this time to thank everyone who sent cards or kept me in prayer during my recent foot surgery. I would also like to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers, and cards during the loss of our daughter, Tammy Tribolet. We are truly blessed to have such a good church family."*

*~Jack & Gwenda Blackmore*

### Session Notes

Session met in January for training. The meeting also covered handling the new funeral meal arrangements and vision casting for the church. The training uses the "Your Job as a Church Officer" material to look at the duties at Salem. The Westminster Confession was understood as the foundation of the Reform tradition for Protestants.



The Myers-Briggs personality test was given as homework along with an exercise to write out and give your Christian testimony in three minutes to someone who asks how you became a Christian. Both homework assignments are on our website for anyone in the church who would also be interested. The new members for this year are Liz Hobbs, Jenny Pugh and Bob McCollow. We thank them for their service!



*Left to Right:* Jenny Pugh, Rev. Thomas Emery, Kim Coil, Rex Lloyd, Carolyn Girod, Bob McCollow, Charlie Good, Gwenda Blackmore, Liz Hobbs

**Potato Supper**

The early Christians were caught up in the community of friendship through the power of the Holy Spirit. They made up a word for it. You cannot find it anywhere else except in the New Testament. It was called “koinonia.” It was the fellowship of kindred minds.

It was Christians coming together with the same mind and the same hope and the same dream. The Lord said to Adam, “It is not good for you to be alone. I will make a helpmate for you.” We were made for community. The Church is God’s best hope for “loving and being loved.” While we are certainly not perfect at it, the Church does offer community, extend compassion, and offer prayers for those in need.

This year’s prayer meeting will be on February 11 at 7:00 pm after the 6:00 pm Potato Supper. It is a time to pray together in community with the focus on Jesus Christ.


Jesus meets us at our point of need through prayer. He comes to us where we hurt. To the imprisoned, He is the key to freedom; to the sick, He is the great physician; to the trapped, He is the door; to the hungry, He is the bread of life; to the thirsty, He is living water; to the wanderer, He is the way; to the confused, He is the truth; to the dead, He is the resurrection and the life.

To anyone willing to listen, He is the King of kings and Lord of lords. O, what a relief it is to find Him as a friend. What are you looking for? What could Jesus do for you today?

Come experience prayer in community together.


**Church Family**

*February Birthdays*

- 

2/1	John Lloyd
2/1	Ashley McClure
2/4	Andrew Emery
2/4	Colt Thompson
2/4	Jerry Foust
2/5	Ruth Morris
2/10	Spencer McGee
2/11	Evelyn Martz
2/12	Madison Pugh
2/15	Ryan Fair
2/16	Jeff Lloyd
2/16	Scott Lloyd
2/18	Dalton Ellerbrock
2/18	Marylin Foust
2/19	Corey Hobbs
2/21	Paul Price
2/23	Alice Gamble
2/23	Shonda Marley
2/24	Tim Price
2/25	Bill McGee
2/27	Kevin Fair
2/28	Jean Owens

*February Annioersaries*

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2/15	Brian & April Ellerbrock
2/15	John C. & Anne Morris

**Salem Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Emery

**Venedocia, Ohio**

Pastor's Email: [pastortomemery@live.com](mailto:pastortomemery@live.com)

Secretary's Email: [secretary@salemchurch.cc](mailto:secretary@salemchurch.cc)

Church Website: [www.salemchurch.cc](http://www.salemchurch.cc)

Address: P.O. Box 678, Venedocia, OH

Pastor's Cell: 419-863-9131

Church Phone: 419-667-4142

Sunday Worship: 9:30 AM

Sunday School: 10:45 AM

**Church Officers 2015**

**Clerk of Session:** Carolyn Girod

**Auditors:** John Smith

**Financial Secretary:** Kim Coil

Johnathan Morris

**Head Usher:** Kelly Lloyd

**Treasurer:** Lisa Lloyd

**Church Secretary:** Tamara Mullenhour

**Organist:** LaDonna Allenbaugh

**Session:**       **2015**  
Charlie Good  
Stacia Profit  
Dave Rees

**2016**  
Gwenda Blackmore  
Kim Coil  
Rex Lloyd

**2017**  
Jenny Pugh  
Liz Hobbs  
Bob McCollow

**Trustees:**       **2015**  
Dan Lloyd  
Tim Price  
Eric Pugh

**2016**  
David Breese  
Bruce Eutsler  
Jason Lloyd

**2017**  
Mark Zielke  
Jeff Coil  
Todd Morris

**Music**           **2015**  
**Committee:** Lisa Lloyd  
Ann Rees  
Bells: Kathy McCollow

**2016**  
Carla Breese  
Jean Owens  
Sr. Choir: Jan Jones

**2017**  
Claudia LeValley  
Jayne Morris  
Jr. Choir: Jenny Pugh

**Nominating**    Congregation: Kelly Lloyd, Joyce Profit  
**Committee:**   2 Session, 1 Trustee, 1 Youth, 1 Music Committee, 1 Women's Assoc.

**Women's**       Secretary: Jean Owens   Co-Moderators: Ann Rees & Gloria Leiter  
**Association:**   Treasurer: Doris Price

**Sunday**         Superintendent: Paul Price       Assist. Superintendent: Ron Richards  
**School:**        Secretary/Treasurer: Jim Lloyd

**Violet Ashton**  
c/o Roselawn Manor  
420 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 109  
Spencerville, OH 45887



**Serving our Country**

**Evelyn Hoverman**  
Hearth & Home  
1118 Westwood Drive  
Van Wert, OH 45891

**Lee Lare**  
P.O. Box 654  
Venedocia, OH 45894

**Betty Lloyd**  
Van Wert Manor  
160 Fox Rd.  
Van Wert, OH 45891

**Gordon Morgan**  
Vancrest of Convoy  
510 Tully Drive  
Convoy, OH 45832

**Marian Morris**  
Hearth & Home  
1118 Westwood Drive  
Van Wert, OH 45891

**Ruth E. Morris**  
Vancrest Healthcare  
10357 Van Wert—Decatur Rd.  
Van Wert, OH 45891

**Evelyn Pugh**  
Vancrest Healthcare, Room 100  
10357 Van Wert—Decatur Rd.  
Van Wert, OH 45891

**Warren Summersett**  
Vancrest Healthcare  
10357 Van Wert—Decatur Rd.  
Van Wert, OH 45891

**Becky Zirkle**  
Vancrest Health Care, Room A8  
10357 Van Wert—Decatur Rd.  
Van Wert, OH 45891

**Cory McCollow** (U.S. Coast Guard)  
311 Oak Street #109  
Oakland, CA 94607

**2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Pete McCollow** (U.S. Marine Corps)  
116 HAC Street  
Jacksonville, NC 28540

### **Away at College**

**Cassy Emery** Box 564  
c/o Cincinnati Christian University  
2700 Glenway Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45204

**Sammi Jones**

### **Prayer Concerns**

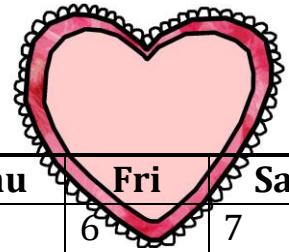
Brendan Daily (friend of Morgan Pugh)  
Ralph Du Cheney (father of Stacia Profit)  
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)  
Jeannie Etzler (daughter of Warren Summersett)  
Hope Eutsler (leukemia, shingles)  
Ralph Eversole (recovery from hospital)  
Jesse (a mother with a heroin addiction)  
Margaret Keltner (in hospice—mother of Jan Jones)  
Amanda Lamb (granddaughter of Dave & Jean Owens)  
Betty Lloyd  
James Marshall (mysterious ailment and M.S.)  
Tim Morris (liver transplant)  
Marjorie Rhoades (leg pains)  
Aimee Schulte (friend of Sarah Kimmet)  
David Slygh (organ transplant)  
Warren Summersett  
Tom Theobald (recurrent cancer)  
Stacia Profit (painful sciatic pinched nerve)  
Taylor Stephens & Family

### **In Mourning**

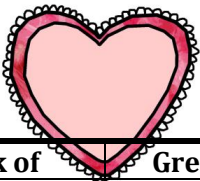
The family of Vernon Hobbs, Sr.  
The family of Chris Adams

*Please remember our elderly members, soldiers and  
college students with cards & visits.*

# FEBRUARY EVENTS



Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 Super Bowl of Caring</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School  6:00 PM Super Bowl Party	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>8 Communion</b> 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School  6:30 PM Trustee Meeting	9	10	11  6:00 PM Potato Supper 7:00 PM Prayer Meeting	12	13	14
15 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School  4:00 PM Session Meeting	16	17	<b>18 Ash Wednesday</b>   7:00 PM Ash Wed. Service	19	20	21
22 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School	23	24	25	26	27	28



## SERVANTS FOR FEBRUARY

Week of	Greeters*	Ushers	Acolyte	Nursery**
February 1	Kim Coil	Jeff & Kim Coil Tuzz & Liz Hobbs	Price Children	Jeff & Kim Coil
February 8				Todd & Jayne Morris
February 15				Gwenda Blackmore
February 22				Bill & Elgarda McGee

\*Besides greeting with a smile, greeters should be at the outside landing to watch the steps and parking lot as well as assist with the elevator to help those in need.

\*\* Nursery workers please bring snacks for 15 children.



**Salem Presbyterian Church**  
**P.O. Box 678**  
**Venedocia, Ohio 45894-0678**

## **Music for February**

**Church Phone: 419-667-4142**  
**Church Web Page: [www.SalemChurch.cc](http://www.SalemChurch.cc)**  
**Church E-Mail: [Secretary@SalemChurch.cc](mailto:Secretary@SalemChurch.cc)**

**Rev. Thomas Emery cell: 419-863-9131**  
**Email: [PastorTomEmery@SalemChurch.cc](mailto:PastorTomEmery@SalemChurch.cc)**

**Sunday, February 1, 2015**

Special Music: Junior Bells

**Sunday, February 8, 2015**

Special Music: Jake Wilder

**Sunday, February 15, 2015**

Special Music: Sheila Collins

**Sunday, February 22, 2015**

Special Music: Tamara Mullenhour

