

SOUNDS OF SALEM

Volume 18 Issue 2

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February 2016

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**Revised Common Lectionary
Year C**

Transfiguration of the Lord

Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-43

1st Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13

2nd Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 Psalm 27
Philemon 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35

3rd Sunday in Lent

Isaiah 55:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 1:-1-13 Luke 13:1-9

Pastor's Thoughts

Many times, I have been asked to explain how to get God's blessings, and what is a lifestyle of a person committed to God. In answer to the question, I usually offer several proven "Simple Godly Principles" of connecting with God.

We need to put God first, above everything else. The greatest wealth is knowing God. Make time each day to study God's Word and to pray. Put God first in your business. Whenever you meet someone new, find out if that person knows Christ and look for a time to share your faith. Make Christ first in your home, and make an example of commitment to fully love God more than anything else.

Recognize God as the source of every material blessing. The Lord is our Provider even though we may work a job for our income. Be utterly dependent on God to provide when we have a regular income as when we have no visible means of support.

Acknowledge God's right to give and to take away material blessings. Be grateful and content in times of material loss as in times of tremendous gain. Through all your trials, your faith, joy, and serenity will never diminish if you trust the goodness and sovereignty of God.

Recognize yourself not as a recipient, but as a channel of God's blessings. God gives to us, not so they can hoard things that don't last, but so we can help others. Next to leading others to Christ, the privilege of giving can be the greatest joy of your life. Acts 20:35 tells us that, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Ask the Lord, when you receive anything, "How do You want me to invest this in Your kingdom?" When I hear of a personal need or a ministry in need, the question is, "Lord, do You want to use me and my resources to help meet that need?" And, then listen with your heart for his answer.

Genuine revival begins with the willingness and the inner joy to give everything of ourselves and our resources back to God and to be channels through whom God can bless and meet the needs of others.

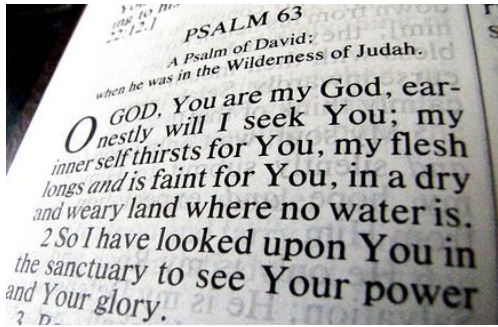
Christ gave us the example of His modeling in 2 Corinthians 8:9 (NLT), "Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich."

Pastor Tom Emery

IT IS MORE
blessed
TO
Give
THAN TO
RECEIVE
-ACTS 20:35-

8 Ways to Start a Scripture Memory Plan

We know that in order to accomplish **family goals**, we need a **plan**. We plan meals, events, daily schedules, and more. With the crazy pace of family life, including meeting the basic physical needs of our children, our spiritual intentionality can slide to the back burner. We really want to read and memorize God's Word as a family. But ah, yes, we need a plan.



The **fresh start** of a new year is a great time to intentionally choose to **memorize Scripture** as a **family**. Today I'm sharing **8 ways to start a Scripture memory plan** this year. These creative prompts will help you choose the plan most conducive to your family dynamic. Though starting a plan at the first of the year boasts an enthusiasm all its own, this list of tips would be great to use any time of year to start a scripture memory plan. Ready?



Choose one verse at a time from your daily Bible reading plan and post it on the refrigerator for the week. Read it together aloud daily before dinner. At the end of the week, move the note from the fridge to a poster board stored in a visible place. At the end of the year, you'll have two poster boards of 52 verses you've worked to memorize!



Select 12 of your favorite Bible verses, perhaps allowing each family member to choose their personal favorite as part of the 12. Use a chalkboard or whiteboard and keep the verse visible in your kitchen or family room for a month. Say it together at breakfast each day for the entire month and by the end of the year, your family will not only know 12 Scriptures, but they'll also remember that which verses are which family member's favorite!



Pick a Scripture passage of 26 verses with the goal of memorizing the passage in a year's time. Using a notepad or journal, have each family member write out verse 1 of the passage one time a day for two weeks. The next two week period, add

verse 2 to the passage, writing both verses each day. Continue Scripture journaling by copying the verses in this format for the year and your family will have a 26 verse passage memorized by the end of a year!



Choose a short-term Scripture memory plan of memorizing **one verse a week for a month**. Maybe it could be based on a recent sermon you heard or Bible study you participated in. It could be from your child's Sunday School or small group lesson. Set the goal of memorizing 4 verses this month at one per week and evaluate your progress at the end of the month before determining how to move forward.



Use a group of **topical Bible verses** ([like this one on winning over worry](#)) to create a smartphone graphic album you can thumb through anytime. This style of digital memory verse cards provides the opportunity to read over your "cards" during wait times at farming downtime, school pickup line, in restaurants or doctor's offices or any other waiting room. You can use this album as a family to test each other on the progress of the memorization and have fun in the process!



Engage in "**Scripture Typer**" or one of these other five of [6 Ways to Help You Memorize Scripture](#).



[Bible Minded](#) is a new **app** I recently downloaded to help memorize Bible verses. I haven't fully assessed this app just yet, but it might be the one for you. I'd love to hear what you think about it, especially if you've already used it!



What if you had a resource for parents and children that provided a devotion AND a weekly verse to memorize? And *what if* that resource was written on your own level, one for parents and one for children, but coordinated beautifully for family discussion? Meet this fabulous pair of books, **The Joshua Code** and **I Can Learn the Bible**. The Joshua Code consists of 52 Scripture Verses every believer should know. Through studying one a week, you can implement one of the above ideas and memorize one verse a week this year. Your children can join in through using The Joshua Code for Kids, known as I Can Learn the Bible, 52 Scriptures Every Kid Should Know.

Adapted from [Rachel Wojo.com](#)

"For Cooks Only"



Welsh Cakes

By the "Richards Family"

Submitted by Mary Staas

3 c. flour
1 c. sugar
½ t. salt
3 t. baking powder
1 t. cinnamon
1 t. nutmeg
1 c. currents
3 eggs
¼ c. milk



Roll on floured surface to 1/8" thickness. Cut with cookie cutters. Bake on dry griddle at 325 degrees.

Happiness Cake

Submitted by Evelyn Pugh

1 c. good thoughts
1 c. kind deeds
1 c. consideration for others
2 c. sacrifices
3 c. forgiveness
2 c. well beaten faults



Mix thoroughly. Add tears of joy, sorrow, and sympathy. Flower with love & kindly advice. Fold in 4 cups of prayer & faith. After pouring all this into your daily life, bake with heat of human kindness and serve with a smile anytime.

Church Family

Samantha Jones graduated Saturday, December 19, 2015 from Wright State University, Dayton. Sami wanted to thank her church family and friends for the love and support during her "learning" years.



Thank You

We are so very grateful to our church family for all your support through prayers and actions in the recent death of our loved one, **Larry Profit**. At a time like this you realize how important it is to have family and friends, and most of all, the Lord, to lean on and help you cope with grief.

A special thanks to Reverend Emery for the beautiful memorial service. Also, we would like to thank all who brought food for the lovely meal. And to those who set up, served, and cleaned up. We so much appreciate all you did!



Thanks again for your prayers and concerns and we ask for your continued support as we work our way through the grieving process of losing our loved one.

May God bless you,

The Larry Profit Family



Lee Lare, 94, passed away on January 13, 2016. Funeral services were held at Salem Church with an Honor Guard. A U.S. Navy veteran, Lee was a long time resident of Venedocia, member of the Venedocia Lion's Club, and member of Salem Presbyterian who always fondly recalled his service as chorister.

Salem Church Family



Youth Group bowling night



Potato Soup put on by the Youth Group



Left: Marylin "Scarecrow" Foust serves as greeter in the cold. Right: Sheila Chilcote-Collins sang "Panis Angelicus" by Cesar Franck in both Welsh and Latin for special music January 17, accompanied by David Van Tilburg.



Three of our youth were selected from Spencerville for the District 3 Concert Band and Choir which performed at the Nighswonger Performance Center in Van Wert. Madison Pugh (choir), Evan Pugh (choir), and Christina Emery (band—clarinet, pictured above).



The Installation of Church Officers for 2016 was held on January 17. Above: Session and Trustees.



Above: Though we have experienced a much milder January than the last two years, it did not pass without a cold snap and blustery snow! Church was cancelled on January 10.

Left: Janet Mohr, Mary Ellen Lloyd, and Doris Price stand with the new Welsh Flag given by Wayne & Glynis Orchard

Community Lenten Services

Everyone is invited to the Community Lenten Services (Spencerville and surrounding area). The local services this year will begin on Sunday evening, February 14 and continue each Sunday evening through Good Friday, March 25. All services will begin at 7:00 pm and will be followed by a time of food and fellowship.



February 14 – Monticello UB Church

Speaker – Pastor David Howell

February 21 – Spencerville Friends Church

Speaker – Pastor Andrew Adkins

February 28 – Salem Presbyterian Church

Speaker – Pastor Tom Shobe

March 6 – First Baptist Church in Spencerville

Speaker – Pastor Justin Furman

March 13 – Trinity UM Church in Spencerville

Speaker – Pastor Tom Emery

March 20 – Kossuth UM Church

Speaker – Pastor Jim Fletcher

Good Friday – March 25

Nazarene Church in Spencerville

Speaker – Pastor Charles Johnson

Congregational Meeting Notes

At the Congregational Meeting held on January 24, Trustee Eric Pugh brought up a financial disclosure for transparency before the congregation. \$14,000.00 of interest purposed for operational expenses from the Major Improvement Fund was discussed; it was used by the Trustees in 2015 to have cash flow for 2015 current expenses. The discussion stated that the church has that money now in hand, but it is needed for the carry-over of expenses. Eric explained that the giving is the same. The shortfall is from those who once gave, but are now

deceased over the last two years. It was emphasized that there needs to be more giving, fundraising, and Legacy Giving to make up that amount. A motion was made on the floor and seconded to approve the decision by the Trustees in their use of Major Improvement Funds. The vote was unanimous in favor of the approval.

Financial Update

Needed Weekly: \$2,067.00	Needed to Date: \$10,335.00
Rec'd 01-31-16: \$1,522.25	Rec'd to Date: \$6,903.24

Give God Your Brokenness

You long to heal the inner man
Where we are bruised and scarred
The memories of the hurts we have
Still linger from the past

We need to give the past to you
So you can begin to mend
The brokenness within our souls,
To bring wholeness once again

Lord, you see the deepest part
Where others cannot see
And only you can feel the pain
That's there inside of me

Lord, you saw what I went through,
You held each tear I cried
You wanted then to show yourself,
To pour your love inside

I couldn't see you reaching out;
I didn't know you were there
I felt so very much alone;
I didn't know you cared

But now, as I look back, I see
You cared about my life
When I was in my darkest times,
You were there by my side

So help me now to reach to you,
To know you so much more,
To really know the depth of your love,
To know you as my Lord.

© By M.S.Lowndes



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

Violet Ashton

c/o Roselawn Manor
420 E. 4th Street, Apt. 109
Spencerville, OH 45887

Marian Morris

Hearth & Home
1118 Westwood Drive
Van Wert, OH 45891

Betty Lloyd

Van Wert Manor
160 Fox Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Evelyn Pugh

Vancrest Healthcare
10357 VW—Decatur Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Gordon Morgan

Vancrest of Convoy
510 Tully Drive
Convoy, OH 45832

Becky Zirkle

Vancrest Health Care, A8
10357 VW—Decatur Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Warren Summersett

Vancrest Healthcare
10357 VW—Decatur Rd.
Van Wert, OH 45891

Away at College

Andrew Emery

Siddall Hall, 102
2540 Corbett Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45219

Cassy Emery

Box 564
c/o Cincinnati Christian U.
2700 Glenway Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45204

Serving our Country

Cory McCollow

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

Pete McCollow

(U.S. Marine Corps)
116 HAC Street
Jacksonville, NC 28540

Micah Linger

(U.S. Marine Corps)
Grandson of Doris Evans

Condolences

Lee Lare

Nicholas Poling (grandson of Charles Good)
Bev Hefner (aunt of Jenn Pugh)

Prayer Concerns

Norma Adams (diabetic issues)
Brendan Daily (friend of Morgan Pugh)
Aiden Ellerbrock (serious injuries from a fall)
Natalie Ellerbrock (Stacia Profit's niece)
Hope Eutsler (leukemia)
Eric Fancher (chemotherapy – son of Rev. Jon Fancher)
Melanie Huddleston (cancer – sister of Kim Coil)
Jesse (seeking help from heroin addiction)
Betty Lloyd (broken hip)
Evelyn Pugh
Marjorie Rhoades (leg pains)
Dave Slygh (organ transplant problems)
John Stutz
Thad Summersett (brain tumor – grandson of Warren S.)
Kevin Thatcher (ALS)
Steve West (son-in-law of Jeff & Marcia Pollock)
Noah Wyatt (recovering from surgery – son of Stuart)
Elaine Siler (cancer returned – cousin of Ann Rees)
Bob Allenbaugh (heart & lung issues – LaDonna's husband)





February Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

15 Brian & April Ellerbrock
15 John & Anne Morris

February 2016

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Communion  9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School	8	9	10 Ash Wednesday 6:00 pm – Meal  7:00 pm - Service	11	12	13
14 1st Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School 4:00 PM Session Meeting <i>Community Lenten Services begin</i>	15	16 Presbytery Meeting	17	18	19	20
21 Lincolnview Bible Board  9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School 6:30 PM Trustee Meeting	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 AM Sunday School Lenten Service @ Salem  7:00 pm – visiting pastor	29				 LENT	

Week of	Greeter	Special Music	Ushers	Acolyte	Nursery
February 7	Kim Coil	Communion	Kim Coil Gwenda Blackmore Tuzz & Lizz Hobbs	Price Children	Tuzz & Lizz Hobbs
February 14		Hymn Sing			Jeff & Kim Coil
February 21		Lincolnview Bible Speaker			Todd & Jayne Morris
February 28		Jake Wilder			Gwenda Blackmore



Salem Presbyterian Church
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Sounds of Salem Newsletter

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Rev. Thomas Emery cell: 419-863-9131
Email: PastorTomEmery@SalemChurch.cc
Church E-Mail: Secretary@SalemChurch.cc

Ash Wednesday Service
February 10 at Salem Church
6:00 pm – Meal
7:00 pm - Service

