




Salem United Methodist Church – Wolfsville

INSIDE

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



**Bee-lievers
SOUP & SANDWICH
SALE**
from the Lord's Acre menu
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Salem to present inspiring worship topics during Lent: *Final Words from the Cross*

This year, Lent begins in February, with Ash Wednesday on February 13th. The following seven Sundays, Pastor Bob will present a series by Rev. Adam Hamilton titled *Final Words from the Cross*.

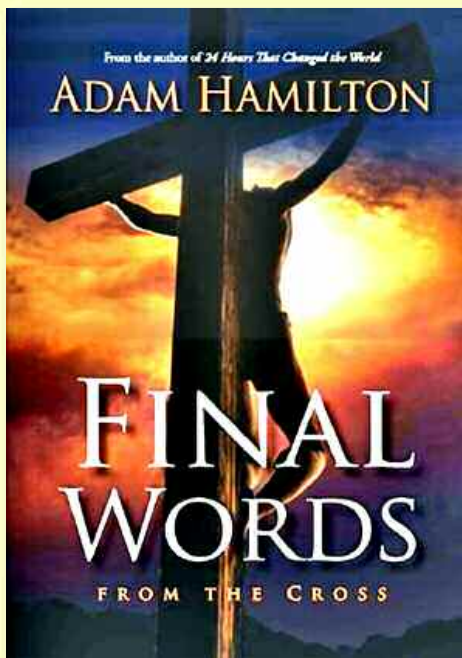
Two years ago, during Lent, the Salem congregation was blessed by Rev. Adam Hamilton's worship series titled, "24 Hours That Changed the World." During that experience, Adam Hamilton took us on a Lenten journey through the last day of Jesus' life.

This year, through a video presentation each Sunday, Rev. Hamilton examines Christ's dying hours and his final words as seen and heard through the eyes and ears of those who stood near the cross.

Then, on Easter Sunday, Rev. Hamilton will conclude the series by moving beyond the cross to Jesus' words to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and to those who were witnesses to the resurrection. The schedule of topics are:

- Sun Feb 17 - Father Forgive Them
- Sun Feb 24 - Behold Your Son...
Behold Your Mother
- Sun Mar 3 - My God, Why Have You
Forsaken Me?
- Sun Mar 10 - Today You Will Be with Me
in Paradise
- Sun Mar 17 - I Thirst
- Sun Mar 24 - (Palm Sunday) It is Finished...
Into Your Hands
I Commit My Spirit
- Sun Mar 31 - (Easter Sunday) On the Road
to Emmaus.

FINAL WORDS from the Cross will be presented in a series of videos by Rev. Adam Hamilton, Senior Pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas— one of the fastest growing, most influential mainline churches in America. At his church, the adult membership has increased to 13,000 since 1990. He is the author of several books, including *Leading Beyond the Walls*, *24 Hours That Changed the World*, and *Making Love Last a Lifetime*.



Sunday Evening Bible Study "FINAL WORDS from the Cross"

6:00 p.m. at Salem
Sun Feb 24, Mar 3, 10, and 17
The Bible Study will be led by Pastor Bob Snyder and will be a more detailed look at the topics covered on Sunday morning.



Rev. Adam Hamilton

The Mountain Shepherd

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SALEM KEY CONTACTS

Lay Leader: *Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer*
Chair, Admin. Council: *Vernon Stottlemeyer*
Outreach: *Barbara Stottlemeyer*
Worship: *Mary Alice Shankle*
Sun. School Superintendent: *Bobby Fogle*
Church Treasurer: *William Burrier*
Sunday School Treasurer: *Mary Fogle*
Chair, Staff-Parish Relations: *Robin Haupt*

SALEM MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Current Membership: 231
Sunday School Enrollment: 92
2013 New Members: 0

SALEM PHYSICAL FACILITIES

Church built 1847
Educational Building built 1967
Parsonage built 1974-75

SALEM WEB SITE

www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org

SALEM MISSION STATEMENT

At Salem, with God's help, we pledge to INVITE others to Christ, HELP each other grow in faith, and SERVE those in need in our congregation, the community, and the world.

COLOPHON

Produced using QuarkXPress 8.12 and Mac OS 10.6.8, on an Apple 20" iMac computer, along with an H.P. LaserJet P3015 postscript laser printer, Epson Perfection 4490 photo scanner, and Ricoh MP-3351 digital laser copier.

OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a means of communicating with our members, their families, and our many friends of the Wolfsville community and surrounding areas. We pray that this newsletter will inspire you, our readers, to regularly attend worship services, Sunday School, and all other activities of the church. For those who are unable to attend, this newsletter is a means of bringing part of the church to you.



2012 MISSION PROJECTS

FINAL for 2012

		Monthly Minimum	Paid Jan-Dec	2012 Goal	% of Goal
1	Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer Retired Senegal Missionaries	\$204	\$3,095.00	\$2,448	126%
2	Operation Christmas Child Postage for Shoe Boxes - Samaritan's Purse - November	—	147.00	\$355	41%
3	Salem Mission & Outreach Supports human needs as determined by Salem	—	\$1,239.16	\$1,180	105%
4	Salem Food Pantry Open every Monday 6:00-7:00 p.m.	—	\$1,195.02	\$1,180	101%
5	Mary E. - Africa Inland Mission Working in Tanzania, Africa	\$85	\$1,293.00	\$1,020	127%
6	United Methodist Board of Child Care Care of Homeless or Abused Children	—	\$1,652.00	\$1,360	121%
7	Gideons International Frederick County/West Camp - Distributing Bibles	\$110	\$1,665.00	\$1,320	126%
8	Potato Project Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, Virginia	\$60	\$892.00	\$720	124%
9	Middletown High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes	\$47	\$693.00	\$564	123%
10	Mission Trip Destination to be determined	—	0	\$2,295	0%
11	Ronnie & Angi Hopkins The Mission Society - Mission Work in Nicaragua	\$64	\$1,020.00	\$768	133%
12	Care Net Pregnancy Center 707 N. Market Street, Frederick, MD	\$64	\$995.00	\$768	130%
13	Compassion International Sponsored children in Ecuador & India	\$76	\$972.00	\$972	100%
14	Local Mission Projects Supporting local repair or renovation needs	—	0	\$1,250	0%
★ 15	Hero's Club After School Ministry (Pre-K through grade 5)	NEW for 2013			

Total 2012 Mission Goal: **\$16,200**

Here's how you can give...

- 1 Make checks payable to Salem United Methodist Church, or place cash contributions in an envelope marked "Missions."
- 2 Tell us which mission project(s) you wish to support by making a note on your check or envelope.

- 3 Place your contributions in the offering plate at Sunday worship. If you do not designate a specific project, your contribution will be distributed to the project or projects needing funds to meet the monthly minimum payout goals listed above.

SALEM MISSION PROJECTS FOR 2013

	2013 Goal
1. Frank & Nancy Stottlemeyer (Retired Senegal Missionaries)	2,448.00
2. Operation Christmas Child (Postage/Shipping for Shoe Boxes)	350.00
3. Salem Mission and Outreach (Local outreach needs)	1,180.00
4. Food Pantry at Salem	1,180.00
5. Mary E. (Africa Inland Missions - Tanzania)	1,020.00
6. Board of Child Care (Auxiliary and Christmas Offering)	1,360.00
7. Gideons (Frederick County West Camp - Distributing Bibles)	1,320.00
8. Potato Project (Society of St. Andrew, Big Island, VA)	720.00
9. Middletown High School Fellowship of Christian Athletes	564.00
10. Mission Trip (Destination to be determined)	2,000.00
11. Ronnie & Angi Hopkins (Mission work in Nicaragua)	768.00
12. Care Net Pregnancy Center (Frederick, MD)	768.00
13. Compassion International (Two sponsored children)	972.00
14. Local Mission Projects	1250.00
15. Hero's Club After School Ministry at Salem	300.00



Salem United Methodist Women "Bee-lievers"

BUSY TIME AHEAD



Bee-lievers plan Food Sale; other activities

By Fonda Gormer

The Bee-lievers will meet on February 7, at 7 p.m. in the church social area. We will be planning for the February 18th Ruritan dinner and the upcoming Soup and Sandwich Sale. We will also be working on Christmas ornaments for the Lord's Acre Festival. Please bring a pair of scissors and Tacky glue for the craft time.

Soup and Sandwich Sale

The Soup and Sandwich Sale will offer items from the Lord's Acre menu, for wintertime enjoyment. Beef vegetable, bean with rivels, turkey noodle and turkey corn soups will be available, along with ham and turkey salad sandwiches.

Orders must be received by February 3, with pick-up on Saturday, March 2, from 4 to 6 p.m., or Sunday March 3, after morning services.

Contact Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer, Barbie Stottlemeyer or Fonda Gormer for more info or to place an order. (Order forms are also available on the table in the church hallway.)

File Photo March 18, 2010



BEE-LIEVERS "FOOD SALE" ORDER FORM

Please give orders to Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer, Fonda Gormer or Barbie Stottlemeyer, by February 3.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

SOUPS	How many	Amount
all \$4.50 per quart		
VEGETABLE	_____	\$ _____
TURKEY CORN	_____	\$ _____
TURKEY NOODLE	_____	\$ _____
BEAN WITH RIVELS	_____	\$ _____

SANDWICHES		
COUNTRY HAM	\$3.00	_____ \$ _____
TURKEY SALAD	\$2.00	_____ \$ _____
Total Amount Due at Pickup		\$ _____

PICKUP at church (check one)

Sat. March 2, 4-6 p.m. _____

Sun. March 3, after a.m. services _____

Salem Mission Project No. 4

Food Pantry Update

By Dawn Nelson

In November, Salem's Food Pantry became a member of the Maryland Food Bank—Western Branch. Since 1987, this organization has provided charitable organizations with food and other items for their feeding programs. This past year they distributed almost 1.5 million pounds through their partner agencies and touched the lives of over 2,000 families each month. The Maryland Food Bank mission is to lead the movement and nurture the belief, that together, they can improve the lives of all Marylanders by ending hunger. Last year, the Maryland Food Bank distributed more than 26.1 million pounds of food to a network of 600 soup kitchens, pantries and shelters across the state.

As a member, we are offered discounted food to make our money go farther. For example, we can order 12 boxes (18 oz.) of Corn Flakes for \$1.32 a box, 24 cans of chicken at 73 cents each, 24 boxes

of Mac & Cheese for 39 cents each. Then, we can purchase what they call salvage items that are from local grocery stores like Wegman's/Food Lion; like 24 (16 oz.) fruit drinks for \$4.06, making each item costing 17 cents each.

It was like Christmas for Nancy Ferguson and me, when we opened the purchased items. We ordered a box of coffee, tea, sugar, hot cocoa for \$4.00. Inside the box were 5 cans of coffee, 6 boxes of tea and an assortment of hot drinks, which you know at the grocery store you cannot get coffee less than \$7 for a small can. So, becoming a member and taking advantage of the low costs, our money will go farther to help feed the 30 families that come to our pantry.

Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church collects monthly for our pantry. They so much believe in what we are doing, they are making our Food Pantry a Mission Project. The Ruritan Club gives us monetary donations and recently gave us a case (96 rolls) of toilet paper. God is so good to lay on the hearts of many that want to

help our hungry families.

I must share one of the many God-signs that I see weekly at our pantry. A new family that started coming in December shared with me that the husband and wife both lost their jobs before December. They are struggling financially so they told their son that there would not be a Christmas this year. It weighed so heavy on my heart during the holidays and I kept praying for that family and others. A week after New Year's, the mother came in and shared with me that even though they did not have the Christmas that they were accustomed to, they both had found a job and their son was so understanding of not receiving presents at Christmas, that they were so humbled by the experience.

So THANK YOU for your monetary donations, prayers, and food donations—together we can help to end hunger in our community!

Food Pantry Wish List: Shelving for the pantry, metal roller cart, and plastic bags.



Attendance & Offerings

DECEMBER 2012

		Worship*		Sunday School	
Dec	2	96	\$2,527.64	57	\$305.50
Dec	9	97	1,397.00	58	175.00
Dec	16	97	2,199.22	57	201.68
Dec	23	116	2,092.54	68	170.00
Dec	30	76	1,903.00	53	141.00

	Average Attendance	
	Worship	Sunday School
Dec	96	59
Nov	92	57
Oct	84	51
Sept	90	61
Aug	84	53
Jul	80	58

*Worship attendance & offerings include both worship services.

- **Missions:** \$2,449.53
- **Building & Imp. Fund:** \$263.32
- **Pavilion Fund:** \$100.00
- **Cemetery Endowment:** \$35.00

(Missions, Building Fund offerings, etc. are not included in Worship & Sunday School offerings above.)

Average Attendance Jan-Dec 2012
 Sunday Worship: 92
 Sunday School: 56

Salem Mission Project No. 11

NEWS from RONNIE & ANGI HOPKINS

Mission Work in Nicaragua



We want to share some highlights with you and to thank you for being there for us and for the people in Nicaragua. All of us here have been blessed with your involvement... your prayers, your words of encouragement, your financial support. For us it is an honor and privilege to be here and we know none of this would be possible without your faithfulness. May each of you be richly blessed in this New Year as you continue to serve and reach out to others.



At the end of November, Ronnie and Pastor Carlos as well as several of the youth leaders made a trip down the Rio Bocay to start plans for a team coming in February. This team helped the community of Kayaskita build a school two years ago. Plans for the upcoming team include a medical outreach, helping the community build playground equipment for the school as well as doing Sunday School training. Several people traveled from the river to attend our Youth Directors Conference and Sunday School Conference.

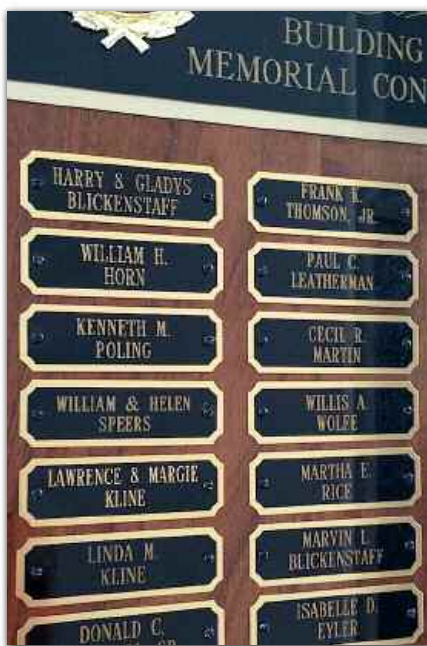


Nicaragua — For both the Youth Directors' Conference and the Sunday School Conference, we had LARGE turnouts!



Nicaragua — The Youth Leadership Team at our recent conferences. This team was responsible for the planning and logistics of the Youth Directors' Conference, as well as the Sunday School Conference.

NOTE: Salem provides a minimum of \$64 each month to The Mission Society for support of Ronnie & Angi's mission work in Nicaragua.



The Building Fund Memorial Plaque, pictured above, was updated in January to add the name of Margie Kline who died September 24, 2012. (Margie's name was added to the same marker as her husband Lawrence who died April 24, 1999.) The marker now reads Lawrence & Margie Kline.

Salem's policy is to place the name of one who is deceased on the plaque when memorial funds are designated for Salem's Building and Improvement Fund.

At the time of her death, Margie's family requested that memorial donations be made to Salem's Building and Improvement Fund. The plaque can be seen on the hallway wall near the elevator.



February

Calendar of Events

Tue	5	Adult Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m. at Salem (continues each Tuesday unless otherwise announced)
Thu	7	UMW Bee-lievers - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
Thu	7	Board of Trustees - 7:30 p.m. at Salem
Sat	9	Women's Valentine Prayer Breakfast - 8:30 a.m. at Salem
Sun	10	WildFire Youth Group - 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Wed	13	Ash Wednesday Service - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
Thu	14	Administrative Council - 7:00 p.m. at Salem
Sun	17	Skating Party - 4:30-7:00 p.m. at Cosmic Skate & Play, Waynesboro, PA
Mon	18	Wolfsville Ruritan Club Dinner - 2:00 p.m. prepare, 7:00 p.m. serve
Sun	24	Lenten Bible Study - 6:00-7:15 p.m. at Salem

NOTES: Food Pantry is open every Tuesday 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Salem
 Walking Group meets every Saturday morning at Doub's Park at 8 a.m.
 Praise Band practices every Wednesday evening at Salem at 7:00 p.m.
 Ladies Exercise Group meets every Wednesday evening at Salem at 5:30 p.m.
 Hero's Club meets every Monday 3:30-6:00 p.m. when school is open
 Faith Builders Youth Group meets every Thursday evening 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Salem



Newsletter Distribution

- E-Mail** — We are currently sending this newsletter to 178 of our readers via e-mail. Our desire is to obtain as many e-mail addresses as possible.
- Pick Up Paper Copy at Church** — We are printing 85 copies for members who do not have e-mail and can pick up their copies at church.
- First Class Mail** — We are mailing about 30 copies, using the 46 cents First Class postage rate.

Sitting on Grandpa's Lap

A little girl was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek.

She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again.

Finally she spoke up, "Grandpa, did God make you?"

"Yes, sweetheart," he answered, "God made me a long time ago."

"Oh," she paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?"

"Yes, indeed, honey," he said, "God made you just a little while ago."

Feeling their respective faces again, she observed, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?"



NEWS & NOTES

Adult Choir News

■ By Sandy Lewis



It is the beginning of February and time to think about starting choir practice after a short break. We will begin practices for our spring session on Tuesday, February 5, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary, weather permitting.

We will be preparing songs for worship, Holy Week and Easter, which is early this year coming on March 31, 2013.

I hope to see all of our faithful singers back with us and also welcome any new folks who would like to join us.

In addition to praising the Lord in song, we always have a great time of fellowship at our practices. So, come out on Tuesday evenings and join us!

Board of Trustees selects new chairperson

Salem's Board of Trustees, at their January meeting, selected Donald Stottlemeyer as their chairperson for 2013.

Our thanks to Donald for accepting this important position; and our thanks to George Stottlemeyer for serving as chair for the past several years. George will continue to serve on the Board of Trustees and will continue as contact for the new section of Salem's cemetery.

Salem's Trustees for 2013 are: Donald Stottlemeyer (Chair), Robin Haupt, Todd Raynor, George Stottlemeyer, Bobby Fogle, George Harne, Gary Barkdoll, Richard Harshman, and Brandon Leatherman.

SKATING PARTY



Sunday, February 17, 2013

4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Cosmic Skate & Play

**11870 Buchanan Trail East
Waynesboro, PA
717-762-7177**

FREE ADMISSION • FREE SKATES

Invite your friends.

For more information contact:

**Joe Hawkins
240-818-0006
jch1973@comcast.net**

Additional Mission Funds Distributed

The Salem congregation is to be commended for its outstanding commitment to missions. Your mission offerings exceeded expectations and, as a result, the excess funds were distributed to our mission projects at the end of the year. Many projects received more than the planned minimum in 2012. Praise God!

Who's Doing What, When?

FEBRUARY

9:00 A.M. TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Lay Reader

3 - Steve Leatherman
10 - Mary Cline
17 - Robin Haupt
24 - Brenda Freysz

Ushers

3 - Dick Kline & Steve Leatherman
10 - Vernon Stottlemeyer & Robin Haupt
17 - Donald Stottlemeyer & Meredith Harshman
24 - Philip Koons & Brandon Leatherman

Organist

3 - Susan Koons
10 - Susan Koons
17 - Joann Leatherman
24 - Susan Koons

Greeters

3 - Curtis & Dawn Nelson
10 - Dennis & Ruth Draper
17 - George, Barbie, & Matt Stottlemeyer
24 - Richard & Anita Harshman

Acolytes

3 - Paul McCormick
10 - Jadie Buhrman
17 - Kenslie Buhrman
24 - Joshua Koons

11:15 A.M. CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

An informal **FAMILY FRIENDLY** service with contemporary Christian music, pastor's sermon, children's time, sharing of joys and concerns, prayer, and multimedia to enhance the worship experience.

It's Your Day!

February Anniversaries

16 - Olvey & Delores Myers

February Birthdays

3 - Michael Burrier
3 - Ruth Draper
6 - David Woods Jr.
9 - Robin Haupt
9 - Robert Keller Jr.
9 - Patrick Waite
9 - Jim Bullock
10 - Trista Wright
10 - Linda Hessong
13 - Emma Waite
16 - Polly Miller
19 - Samuel Sowers
21 - Dianna Poling
23 - Rev. H. Ronald Ellis
24 - Scott Wisner
24 - Grace Adams
26 - Wesley Beall

NOTE: To have your anniversary or birthday added, contact Bill Burrier.



CHILDREN are welcome to stay with their parents during the worship services. Children activity bags are available in the hallway just outside the sanctuary. The small tote bags contain Bible story books, small games, activity books, crayons, activity cards, etc. Please return it to its place at the end of the service.

When You Say...

When you say, "I am tired..."

God tells you "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28-30)

When you say "No one really loves me..."

God tells you "I love you." (John 3:16, John 13:34)

When you say "I don't know how to go on..."

God tells you "I will show you the path." (Psalm 32:8)

When you say "What path does God have for me...?"

God tells you "My beloved son Jesus Christ." (1 Timothy 2:5, Acts 4:12, John 3:16)

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

Holy Communion

February 3, 2013

9:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Worship



NEW CEMETERY Now Open



To purchase a burial lot, contact
George Stottlemeyer at 301-293-2372

BULLETIN BOARD
with a message

KEEP USING MY NAME
IN VAIN . . .
I'LL MAKE RUSH HOUR
LONGER. —GOD

Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman



Read the **OUR DAILY BREAD**
Daily Devotional
at www.SalemChurchWolfsville.org



INSPIRATIONAL Reading

February

By Lois Anne Williams

February is the bridge
That crosses into spring;
A hint of springtime magic
Is the gift that he would bring,
And smiling through each snowstorm
That winter sends our way.
He knows the snow will vanish
In a not too distant day.



February is promise
To those who patient be,
That flowers soon will appear
And leaves will clothe each tree.
The white will be transformed
To fresh green everywhere,
As February ushers in
A warmer bit of air.

Winter Valentines

By Earle J. Grant

February is the month
Of frosty pines,
Silver etchings on windowpanes,
And valentines.



February means snowflakes
Lazily drifting down
That add a lacy edge
To the balsam's gown.

The month of February
Is a blessing indeed,
With beauty on every hand
To meet each heart's need.



The Little Things

By Virginia Katherine Oliver

It's the little things in life that count,
The things of every day;
Just the simple things that we can do,
The kind words we can say.
The little things like a friendly smile
For those who may be sad,
The clasp of a hand or kindly deed
To help make someone glad.
A knock on the door of lonely homes,
Or flowers bright and gay,
For someone to whom you might bring cheer
With just a small bouquet.
Just the little greetings here and there
On which so much depends,
The little pleasures that all can share,
The joy of making friends.



RECIPE



RASPBERRY-ALMOND SHORTBREAD COOKIES

Prep: 30 minutes Chill: 1 hour Bake: 10 minutes per batch
Cool: 1 minute per batch Oven: 350 degrees

1 cup butter, softened	Coarse sugar
2/3 cup granulated sugar	1 cup powdered sugar
1/2 teaspoon almond extract	2 to 3 teaspoons water
2 cups all-purpose flour	1 1/2 teaspoons almond extract
1/2 cup seedless red raspberry jam	

1. In a medium bowl, beat butter with an electric mixer on medium to high speed for 30 seconds. Add the granulated sugar and the 1/2 teaspoon almond extract. Beat until combined. Beat in as much flour as you can with the mixer. Using a wooden spoon, stir in remaining flour. Cover; chill 1 hour or until dough is easy to handle.

2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Place balls 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Using your thumb, press an indentation into the center of each ball. Spoon about 1/2 teaspoon of the jam into each indentation. Sprinkle with coarse sugar. Bake about 10 minutes or until edges are light brown. Cool on cookie sheets for 1 minute. Transfer to wire racks; cool.

3. Meanwhile, for icing, in a medium bowl combine powdered sugar, 1 teaspoon of the water, and the 1 1/2 teaspoons almond extract. Add enough of the remaining water to make drizzling consistency. Drizzle cookies with icing. Makes about 36 cookies.

To Store: Layer cookies between sheets of waxed paper in an airtight container; cover. Store in the refrigerator for up to 3 days or freeze for up to 3 months.

Anita Harshman made these cookies for the Bee-lievers cookie exchange and provided the recipe.



Love is a Gift of God

By Dorothy Bettencourt Elfstrom

Love is a gift of God. It is far more precious than any material thing one could ever hope to possess. It can't be purchased, for along with all of the best things in life, it is free. Its magic can change a dreary world into a heaven on earth. Its radiance is beyond human power of description. It is not restricted by race, creed or public opinion and has nothing to do with physical appearance, for "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." There is no fault or shortcoming that love cannot overcome with charity and understanding. It does not imprison, but rather, in loving, one is set free. There is no limit to what love can accomplish, for its depth finds qualities that would otherwise remain undiscovered. It is the most beautiful, the most absorbing, and the most rewarding thing in life and by far the most important. For love is truly a gift of God.



Just for Today

By Esther Baldwin York

Life is a series of todays which so quickly turn into yesterdays that some of us spend our time looking regretfully backward. Still others, through worry or procrastination, are always waiting for tomorrow. In either case, there's the real danger of overlooking a very important day . . . today. For this is the place and the time for living. Let us live each day abundantly and beautifully while it is here.

Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

—1 John 3:18

*From the
Pastor*



Pastor's Notes — ...Worship in February

By PASTOR ROBERT E. SNYDER

During the first two weeks in February, we'll complete the sermon series we began on January 27, "The Journey to Acceptance." Then on February 13th, Ash Wednesday, we'll once again begin the season of Lent. This year's Lenten sermon series is based on Adam Hamilton's book, *Final Words from the Cross*.

Beginning on February 17th and continuing each Sunday during Lent, we will explore one of the seven last words spoken by Jesus on the cross and the application those words have in our everyday lives today.

Starting on Sunday, February 24, from 6:00-7:15 p.m., a four-week Bible Study on the *Final Words from the Cross* provides an opportunity for more in-depth study, discussion, and Christian fellowship.

Lent is a wonderful opportunity each year for asking the questions, "Where am I in my relationship with Christ?" and "Where do I need to go from here?"

I pray this year's Sunday sermon series and Bible Study during Lent will help each of us answer those important questions.

Sermon Series

"The Journey to Acceptance"
February 3 – Holy Communion
"I was helped"

John 9

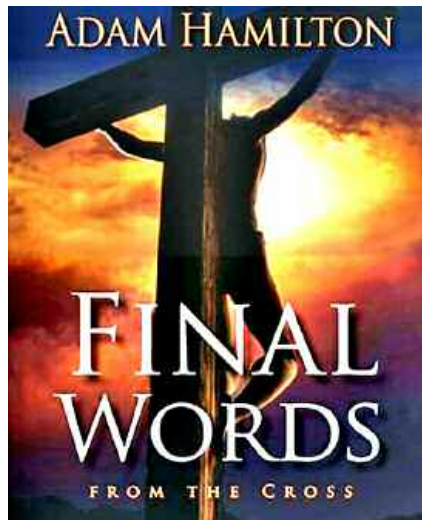
God sees us during the difficult times in our lives and offers help. In John Chapter 9, "Jesus saw a man blind from birth" (9:1) and healed him.

Sometimes God helps through direct intervention; many times God's help flows through other people. We open the door to God's help when we are willing to help ourselves, ask for help, and give help to others in need.

I can't get started on the journey to acceptance if I'm not willing to help myself. I can only go so far on the journey alone, without any help from others, and I can't reach acceptance if I'm not willing to stop at times on my journey to help others.



LENT



.....
Sermon Series
"The Journey to Acceptance"
February 10 – Transfiguration Sunday
"I was accepted"
Luke 17:11-17

Luke 9:28-36 tells of Jesus' transfiguration. "As he [Jesus] was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning" (9:29). "A voice came from the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him.'"

On Transfiguration Sunday we hear these words and think back to God's words spoken at Jesus' baptism, "And a voice came from heaven: 'You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased'" (Luke 3:22b). True acceptance only comes when we bow down to the source of all true love and help: Christ our Lord and Savior.

In Luke 17, Jesus helps ten lepers. He heals all ten, but only one returns to praise God: "He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him — and he was a Samaritan" (17:16).

February 13

Ash Wednesday Service
7 p.m. at Salem

Sermon Series

"Final Words from the Cross"

February 17 – First Sunday in Lent

"Father Forgive Them"

Luke 23:34

The four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) relate the last words of Jesus from the cross. No one Gospel contains all of them. As we've said before, it takes all four Gospels to tell the full story of the life of Jesus.

When Jesus spoke the last words he would ever speak, several groups were there to hear him: his mother and other women who had followed him, perhaps John one of the Apostles, the religious leaders, the Roman soldiers, and the two other men being crucified with him.

When Jesus said, "Father forgive them," some hearts were broken, some were made even harder, but before it was all over some were changed. A Roman soldier, witnessing all that had happened, confessed "Truly this man was God's Son!" Had we been there, would we have confessed Christ as the Son of God? Do we confess it now with all our heart, and soul, and mind? Do we live our lives with him as Lord?

Sermon Series

"Final Words from the Cross"

February 24 – Second Sunday of Lent

"Behold Your Son..."

Behold Your Mother"

John 19:26

Can you imagine Mary's sorrow? Thirty some years earlier, when she and Joseph took their baby to be presented in the temple, Simeon said to Mary, "a sword will pierce your own soul too." How sorrowful must Mary's piercing been to see her son falsely accused, humiliated, brutally beaten, and now tortured on the cross?

With all the sins of humanity pushing down upon him on the cross, Jesus is still caring for individual people. He first turns to his mom and says, "Behold your Son" – (Mom, I love you. John will take care of you from now on mom, don't be afraid.) Then he turned to John and said, "Behold your Mother" – (I still love you John no matter what and I choose you to take care of my mother for me.)

In the same way, Jesus calls out from the cross to each one of us, "I love you, don't be afraid, I have good work for you to do in my kingdom."

ROCK THE THEME WAS: "TRANSFORMED FROM THE INSIDE OUT"
Back from the "ROCK Youth Retreat"

Photos by Sue Ellen Stottlemeyer

Salem Youth and Adults enjoy ROCK Youth Retreat

Salem's youth spent three days in Ocean City, Maryland, for the annual ROCK Youth Retreat, January 11-13, sponsored by the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church.

The purpose of the retreat was to "ROCK" the lives of our youth and help them into a new or deeper faith in, and personal relationship with, the ROCK of our Salvation, Jesus. The annual event is for youth in middle and high school.

Music was presented by Jeff Deyo and Urban Street Level, and the guest speaker was Reggie Dabbs.

On the Sunday following ROCK, the youth conducted Youth Sunday at Salem's morning worship services and told of their experiences at ROCK.

SCENES from ROCK YOUTH RETREAT, Ocean City, MD



A CHILLY DIP — Pictured here are Salem's brave youth and adults who took the polar bear plunge into the ocean while at the ROCK Youth Retreat in Ocean City, January 11-13, 2013.



Ocean City, MD — At left, Salem's youth enjoyed ice skating at the rink located in the Carousel Hotel where they stayed in Ocean City. Above, in addition to the inspirational messages presented at ROCK by the speakers and musicians, our youth also created lasting friendships and memories which will not soon be forgotten. Thanks to all the chaperones who went with the youth and provided guidance for their experiences.



The season of Lent is 40 days, not including Sundays... devoted to fasting, abstinence, and penitence.

Children in Church

- A little girl became restless as the preacher's sermon dragged on and on. Finally, she leaned over to her mother and whispered, "Mommy, if we give him the money now, will he let us go?"
- The Sunday School teacher asks, "Now, Johnny, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?"

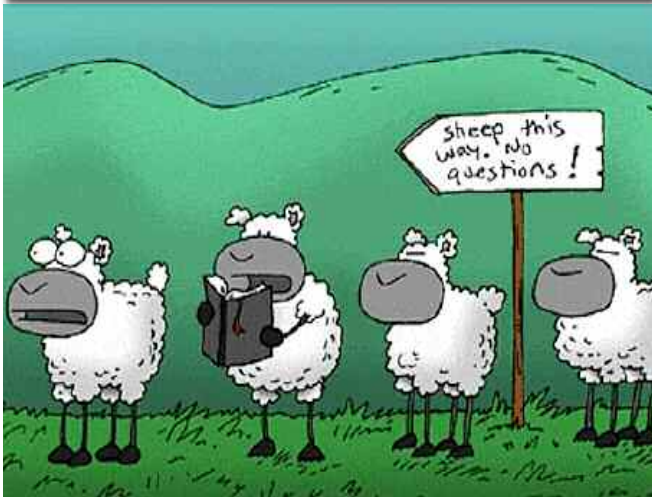


"No ma'am," little Johnny replied, "I don't have to. My mom is a good cook."
 ■ A boy was watching his father, a pastor, write a sermon. "How do you know what to say?" he asked. "Why, God tells me." "Oh, then why do you keep crossing things out?"

Heavenly Humor

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HERE IT IS, "LED LIKE A SHEEP TO THE SLAUGHTER"
... WHAT THE HECK IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

Five More Minutes...



While at the park one day, a woman sat down next to a man on a bench near a playground. "That's my son over there," she said, pointing to a little boy in a red sweater who was gliding down the slide.

"He's a fine looking boy," the man said. "That's my son on the swing in the blue sweater." Then, looking at his watch, he called to his son. "What do you say we go, Todd?"

Todd pleaded, "Just five more minutes, Dad. Please? Just five more minutes." The man nodded and Todd continued to swing to his heart's content.

Minutes passed and the father stood and called again to his son. "Time to go now?" Again Todd pleaded, "Five more minutes, Dad. Just five more minutes."

The man smiled and said, "O.K."

"My, you certainly are a patient father," the woman responded.

The man smiled and then said, "My older son Tommy was killed by a drunk driver last year while he was riding his bike near here. I never spent much time with Tommy and now I'd give anything for just five more minutes with him. I've vowed not to make the same mistake with Todd. He thinks he has five more minutes to swing. The truth is, I get Five more minutes to watch him play."

Life is all about making priorities, what are your priorities?

—Submitted by Marilyn Leatherman

Some thoughts to ponder . . .

We can't all play the same part in God's band of service, but we should all play in harmony.

Believers help the lost to find their way home when their life shines brightly.

Nothing speaks more clearly of God's love than the cross.

To bridle your tongue, give God the reins of your heart.

The Mountain Shepherd

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Myersville, MD 21773-9303

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TWO WORSHIP SERVICES
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10:15 a.m. Sunday School
11:15 a.m. Contemporary

COME GROW WITH US

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