



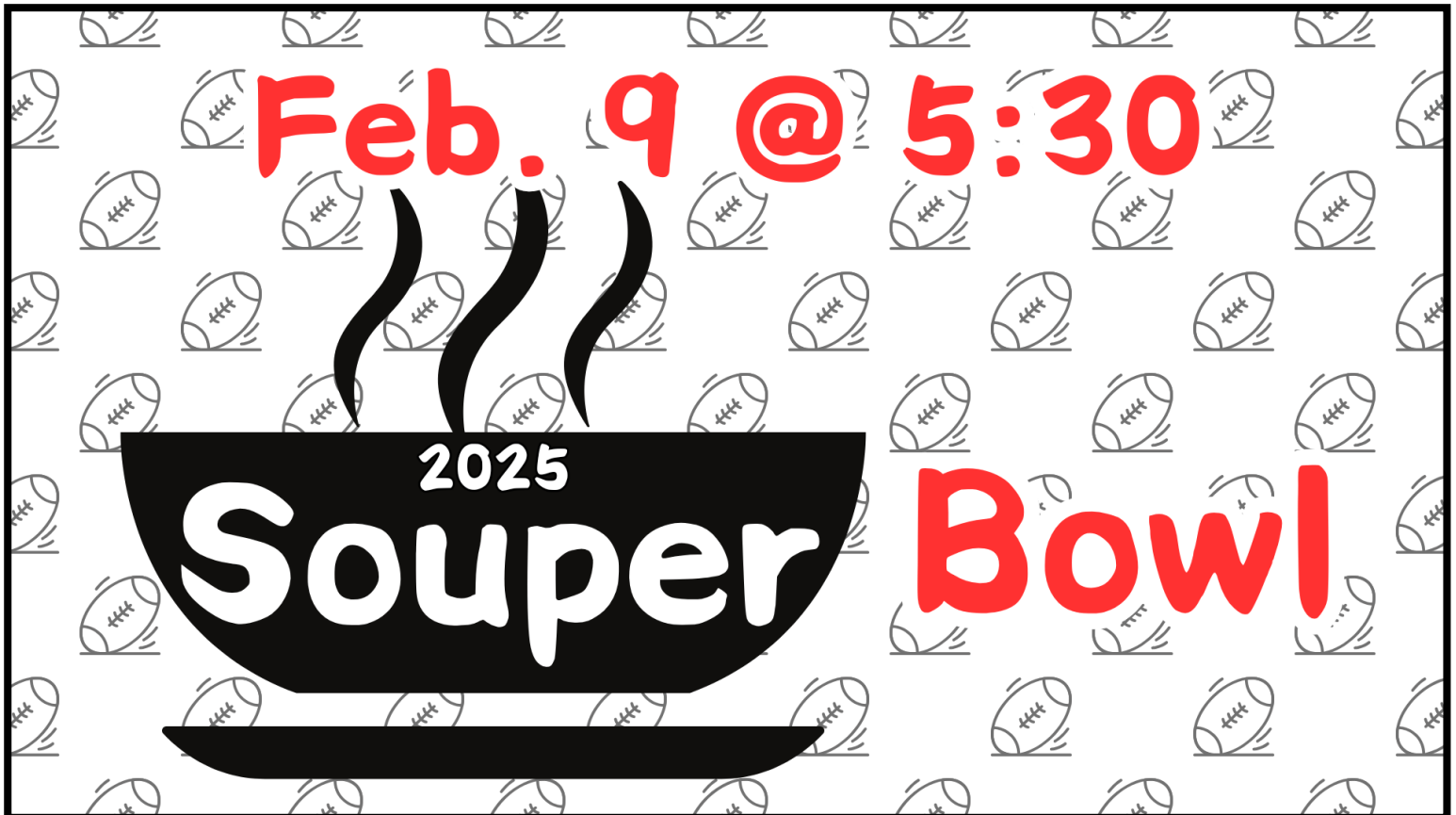
February 2025

Volume 9 #2

THE VISION

EDGERTON
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Edgerton Church of Christ, PO Box 819, Edgerton, OH 43517



LET'S SEE WHO'S SOUP MAKES IT OVER THE GOAL LINE!

WE'RE PLANNING A FUN EVENING OF FOOD, LAUGHS, AND GAMES!

BRING A SNACK TO SHARE AND A SMALL POT OF YOUR FAVORITE SOUP SO THAT EVERYONE CAN TASTE IT.

WE'LL HAVE SOME SMALL BOWLS SO THAT WE CAN TASTE THEM ALL AND DECIDE WHICH IS THE BEST.

**THE WINNER WILL BE CROWNED THE "2025 SOUPER BOWL" CHAMPION.
THEY'LL RECEIVE THE COVETED "GOLDEN LADLE" WELL AS BRAGGING RIGHTS FOR THE YEAR.**

BRING ALONG YOUR CARDS AND GAMES AND WE'LL MAKE AN EVENING OF IT!

(OH YEAH... THE GAME WILL BE ON IF YOU WANT TO WATCH IT.)

2 Timothy 2:15 WordWise

Jeff Lyon

I'm sitting here, all bundled up in long sleeves. For those of you who know me, that should tell you something about the weather outside. It is freezing. I'm so grateful for the warmth of our furnace, offering refuge from the biting wind—something many people can't claim this winter. It's a stark reminder of the contrast between comfort and hardship that seems to weigh heavily on my mind this time of year.

For some reason, I think about that a lot this time of year. I don't know whether it's because of all of the stuff that I get for Christmas and the fact that my closet is fuller than it used to be or whether it's because I'm usually just finishing up all of the goodies that we had around the house for the holidays. Maybe it's just because the weather forces me to stay inside more, so I have more time to think. Or it could be that the cold affects my brain. This time of year always seems to have me self-evaluating more so than any other time of the year.

Self-evaluation is a good thing. Of course, the biggest problem with self-evaluation lies in the person who's doing the evaluation. I tend to see myself as smarter than a 5th grader, wiser than an owl, more cunning than a fox. The problem is I **don't** see myself as more stubborn than a mule, proud a peacock, and dumb as an ox. As I said, the problem with self-evaluation lies in the evaluator.

So maybe I'd be better off if I asked other people to evaluate me. Perhaps I can develop a questionnaire that lets people tell me what they think about me. Or maybe I can come up with some kind of a scale from one to ten and they can tell me where my personality traits fall on that scale. The problem with that is going to be the evaluator as well. If I give it to some people, they will be ridiculously kind and highly score me.

Other people would want to grind their axe and score me very low.

So, if you want to know about yourself and how you're doing, how do you find that out? Where do you go to get an honest evaluation of who you are and how you're doing? You won't like my answer, and I know that because I don't like my answer. The only place we can go to get a proper evaluation of who we are and how we're doing is to read scripture.

If we want to check ourselves before we go out the door in the morning and see how we look, we stop and look in the mirror. It's no different for our spiritual lives. If we want to see how we are, we need to look in the mirror of scripture. Remember what James says? *"But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it."*

"If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless. Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you."

I can't even make it through this passage, look into this one mirror that James holds up, and say I'm doing OK. Can I be honest? Reading that passage in James hits hard. Controlling my tongue? That's a tough one. And allowing the world to shape my values? I so wish I could say that not true.

In the past few weeks, we've talked a lot about the two commandments that Jesus gave us: love God and love others. So, if we're going to be honest with ourselves, how are we doing with that?

Like I said at the beginning of this article, this time of year, my closet is overfull. And yet, I know there are people who need clothing. So, if I'm going to love others, how does that affect my overfull closet? My refrigerator and freezer are full, too. Does loving God and loving others affect how full my freezer is?

Maybe this self-evaluation thing isn't as tricky as I want to make it out to be. Perhaps I don't want to know how I'm doing because I'm ashamed of where I'm at. But that's the good news of the gospel: It's not about what I can do, but it's all about what Jesus has already done. You can't earn grace; that's why it's called a gift.

The cold wind still howls outside, but as I sit here with these thoughts swirling in my mind, I feel a flicker of hope. Yes, I still need to go home and clean out my closet. I hope the free store is ready for some large men's clothing. As for the freezer, Lisa and I will have to eat through what we have, and maybe that will free up some funds to help someone else who doesn't have.

And as for what James says, "looking into the mirror and forgetting what I look like," I think I will be OK there, too. Not because I've got this Christianity thing down cold. Not because I'm living this perfect life and never making mistakes. You all know better than that. But I'm going to be OK because of Jesus. Because he loves me, and if I let him, he won't leave me where I am. I will come out on the other side, and maybe even by next February, a more dedicated Jesus-follower than I am today. And you know what? You can be, too.

February 2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

						1
2 10:30 am Worship	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10:30 am Worship 5:30 pm Souper Bowl	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
Ginny Pippin						
16 10:30 am Worship	17 President's Day	18	19	20	21	22
23 10:30 am Worship	24	25	26	27	28 Jeff & Cheryl Suffel	

Ben & Angela



WEDDING SHOWER



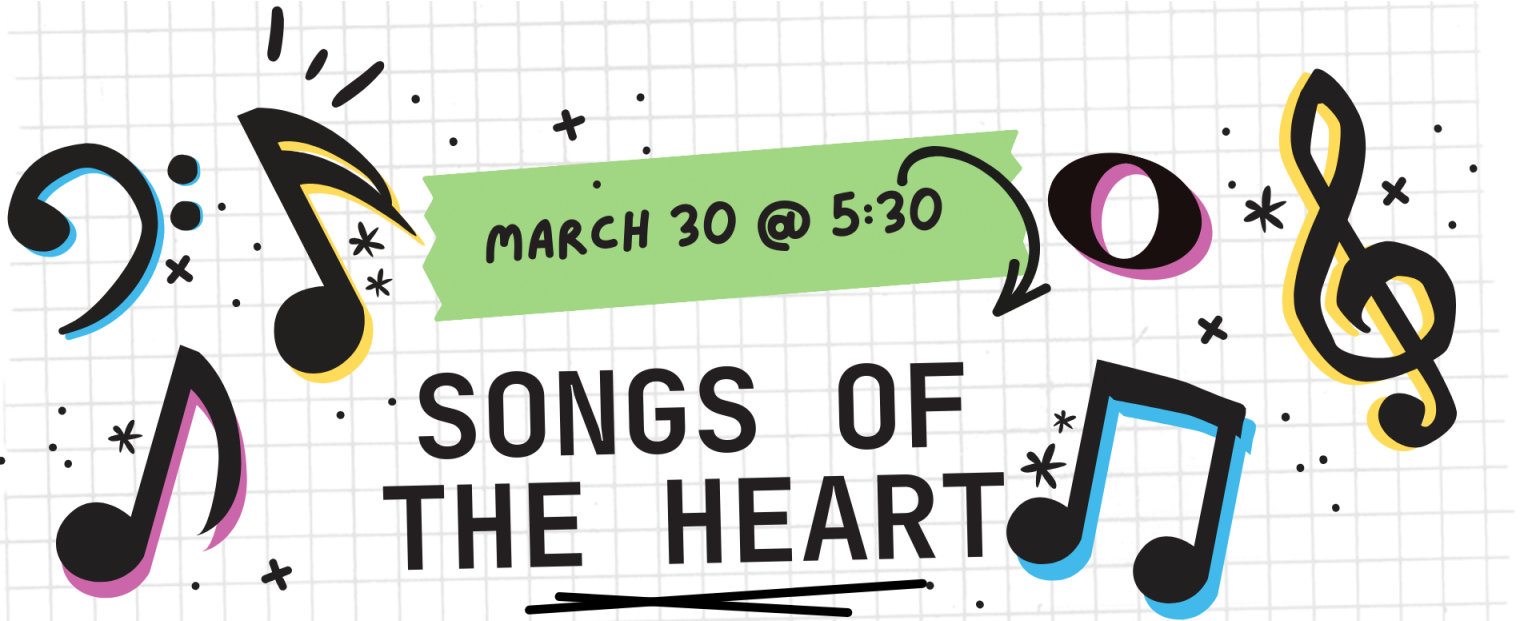
03 | 23 | 25

Join us as we celebrate Ben & Angela's upcoming wedding!

We'll have our Family Dinner following the service on March, 23, but then, we'll "shower" the couple with our best wishes.

Gifts are welcome but not expected!

Join us in wishing Ben and Angela all the best as they begin this new chapter in the story of their lives together!



Songs of the Heart is an evening dedicated to the timeless hymns and cherished melodies that have shaped our faith and uplifted our spirits through the years. Together, we will sing, reflect, and rejoice in the beauty of worship, celebrating the music that has touched our hearts and connected us to God and each other.

Pray For Our Church

Outreach to the community	Priority of Prayer
Spiritual and numerical growth	Wisdom to move forward

By the Numbers - December, 2024

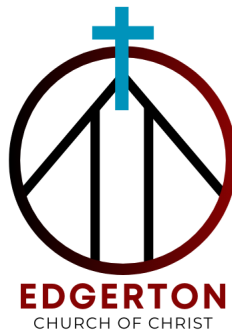
Savings	\$7,126.47	Income	\$9,452.00
Checking	\$30,095.00	Expenses	\$7,006.05
Ladies	\$630.66	Net Income	\$2,445.95

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EDGERTON
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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