

BEN SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WHERE TO REACH US:

MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 128, Andreas, PA 18211

STREET ADDRESS:

1965 Church Hill Road
Lehighton, PA 18235

One in
Christ

Church Phone: 570-386-3870

Social Hall Phone: 570-386-4990

E-mail: bensalemucc@verizon.net

Website: www.bensalemucc.com

Fax: 570-386-3870 [call, speak to secretary, then call back]

Pastor Michael McGowan: Home – 610-759-9126

Office e-mail: pstrbens@verizon.net

BEN SALEM UCC
PO 128
ANDREAS PA 18211-0218

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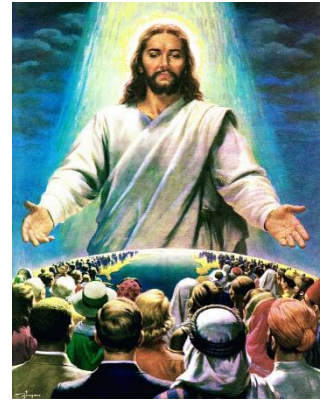
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BEN SALEM VOICE

October 2016

Ben Salem United Church of Christ
PO Box 128, Andreas, PA 18211



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

I read a story once from the gifted and respected theologian Paul Tillich. In the story he wrote about how when he was in confirmation class at the age of 15 and the time came for him to decide if he would accept the reward at the end of the quest he had begun; his classmates and him were told to choose a passage from the bible that "represented their personal approach to the Biblical message and to the Christian Church."*

The words he chose of course are the words above taken from Matthew's gospel. As he revealed his choice he said it was met with astonishment and even irony. It seems the pastor wanted to know why a 15 year old young man would pick such a passage when he lived under happy conditions without any apparent labor or burden to speak of. Mr. Tillich wrote that at the time he felt a bit intimidated and even embarrassed as he couldn't come up with an answer for the pastor all the while knowing that he was right in choosing those words.

And he was right, because while these words are simple on the surface they are words that are inexhaustible in their universality since they fit all periods of life. Jesus was wonderful in the way He left us with words and phrases that grow and expand in their meaning as we grow and expand in our faith. These particular words not only expand as our faith grows but they are words that hold meaning regardless of who you are or what conditions you face.

While an adult may think that a child doesn't have burdens or labors on the same level as they do – it is certainly true we all struggle with the burdens we face. Whether we are two, twenty, fifty or one hundred years old we all face burdens in our life. And while this is true it is also true that we are all looking for rest from our burdens and somewhere we can find peace. And that is why these words hold such profound meaning. Because no matter who we are or where we are in life, no matter what status we hold or what season of life we are in, Jesus has said it is He that will relieve our weariness. He is the One who we can always turn too, the One who will always listen so that we can begin to find peace from the burden we are facing. It is in Him that we find true rest.

*Tillich, Paul, *The Shaking of the Foundations* (1949), (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1955), 53.

Blessings to you all,
Pastor Mike

October Worship Services Services at 8:00 and 10:30 AM

October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30



Communion:

Sunday, October 2nd
8:00 and 10:30 AM



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Mornings
10AM – 12 Noon

Fellowship Hall Board Room

*Please consider joining our
group as we begin
a new study....*

*"Be Basic" (Genesis 1-11)
by Warren Wiersbe.*

Worship Schedule for November & December 2016

November	6	8AM and 10:30AM Worship/Communion
	13	8AM and 10:30AM Worship
	20	8AM and 10:30AM Worship
	27	8AM and 10:30AM Worship/Advent I
December	4	10:30AM Worship/Congregational Meeting/Advent II
	11	10:30AM Worship/Hand Bells/Advent III
	18	8AM and 10:30AM Worship/Advent IV
	24	2PM and 7:30PM Christmas Eve Service
	25	9:15AM Christmas / Unity Worship Service



Sunday, October 9th **Lehigh Canal Park in Weissport**

Registration from 1-2PM. Walk begins at 2PM.

Sponsored by Lehighon Interfaith Fellowship to help serve our brothers and sisters in our community and around the world. 25% will be donated to Trinity Pantry and 75% to Church World Services.

Sponsor forms are available on the table in the Narthex. If you are unable to walk, please consider sponsoring someone from the Youth Group. See Kevin Lusch.

Coffee Hour – Coffee hour has resumed!

We need volunteers to help! *If you enjoy coffee hour
and wish to see it continue, please volunteer.*

Church Business

- How to Contribute to Our Operating Budget: to pay Ben Salem's bills]
- + Use your weekly envelope [in your envelope packet]
 - + Designate "Current Expenses": [Benevolence is only for Missions – OCWM]
 - + Place in offering plate or send to the Church:
Ben Salem UCC, P.O. Box 128, Andreas, PA 18211

2016 Church Board Members:

Officers: Sharon Elder, President
Barry Fink, Vice President
Robert Pope, Church Board Secretary

Elders: Sharon Elder, Walter Keeck, Terry Lusch, Dayle Smith

Deacons: Terry Blair, Barry Fink, Doris Lusch, Kevin Lusch,
Kenneth Oswald, Robert Pope, Barry Reed, David Rex, Jr.

Pastor: Rev. Michael McGowan

Church Secretary: Dollie Behr

Treasurer: Dawne Beidleman

Financial Secretary's Address: Susan Messina, 66 River Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252

Ben Salem History Books – Still available
\$60 – Contact the Church Office 570-386-3870

Cemetery Association Officers:

Next Meeting: October 6 at 7 PM

President: Bernice Steigerwalt Vice President: Evan Beblavy
Caretaker: David Fritz Secretary: Walter Keeck
Treasurer: Doris Lusch Trustee: Richard Bealer

Cemetery Lot Prices: \$300 [with perpetual care]

Scheduling Events at Ben Salem Church:

To prevent scheduling problems...prior to calling meetings or events, please check with the Church Secretary at 570-386-3870 to make sure that the date you have planned is available.

Hospitalization ? If you or someone you know is going to be in the hospital for surgery, please let the church office know a day or two before the surgery. This way the Pastor will make every effort to be there to visit and pray with the patient before the surgery.

Altar Flower Sponsors:

[Checks payable to Ben Salem UCC]

A sign up sheet is located in the narthex. The cost of flower sponsorship is \$20.00. If you would like to sponsor flowers, please call Cindy Smith at 570-386-4248. ***Payment should be sent directly to: Cindy Smith, 707 Hoffman Rd., Lehighton, PA 18235.

Note: All bulletin and flower sponsorship should be paid in advance.

Bulletin Sponsorship: [Checks payable to Ben Salem UCC]

Please call Sue Messina at 570-386-2880 with your sponsorship information or e-mail her at suemes@ptd.net. The cost of Bulletin Sponsorship is \$7 per week. *** Payment should be sent directly to: Susan Messina, 66 River Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252.

Please do not call the church office with sponsorships!



Note from Church Office & Financial Secretary:

Remember, it is important to keep us informed of any address changes. Please give changes of address to either Dollie Behr or Sue Messina.

Have you moved recently?

Members can help by updating the church office with their new address prior to moving. It is also helpful to provide the church office with your home phone numbers, cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses if you wish. By doing this we can keep in touch with you and also provide you with important information regarding the church. Thank you in advance for your help.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Upcoming Church Bo

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Fundraiser: October 4 at 6:30 PM
Called to Care: October 11, 10 AM
Stewardship & Finance: October 13 at 6:30PM
Church Board: October 17 at 7 PM
Property Committee: October 20 at 7 PM
Membership & Growth: October 25 at 6:30 PM
Newsletter Assembly: October 26 at 6PM
(please submit information 1 week prior)
Mission Committee: online meetings at cti2@ptd.net



Recycle...Save your soda cans...

Aluminum cans will be taken to Zaprazny's. Remember aluminum cans and clean aluminum only. There is a fenced in area to the rear of the old social hall for aluminum cans. Please do not place any of the following items in this area: garbage, wood, plastic, or other metals.

Do not place aluminum cans in the garbage shed.

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday – work from home
Tuesday – 10 AM to 2 PM
[visits in the afternoon]
Wednesday – 9 AM to 1 PM
[visits in the afternoon]
Thursday – 10 AM to 5 PM
Friday & Saturday
[by appointment]

**Ben Salem UCC
Financial Report - August 2016**



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We Need Your Help to Fulfill This Commitment!!!

It always amazes me how generous of Ben

Mission Minders October 2016

the people Salem are as they help the Mission Committee help with the

needs of others in our neighborhoods, our country,

and around the world Through your donations during the last quarter, the Mission

Committee donated \$250 to our U.C.C. National organization to help with flood victims in West Virginia; made yearly payments of over \$700 to support 2 children in third world countries through Our Church's Wider Mission, and also plan to donate to flood victims in New Orleans and Texas.

Our third quarter mission, **Martin's Flu Foundation**, a foundation initiated by Pastor Mike and his wife, Diane, after their son, Martin, died of complications resulting from the flu, has been a huge success, and, in the coming months, will benefit those who cannot afford to pay for flu shots.

The **Walk, Run, and Cycle Exercise Challenge** ended on September 3rd, and Ben Salem is blessed with diligent walkers, cyclists, and runners who were out there in the summer heat exercising for this cause. As a result, we will donate over \$900 from undesignated mission funds to several health and exercised-related causes in the near future. Thank you to all who participated.

Our fourth quarter Mission effort will again be **Lutheran World Relief**, which addresses the issues of world hunger and also helps with the needs of people in third-world countries by supplying them with farm animals so that they can become more self-sustaining. Please be generous in supporting this cause.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Family Promise will host again the week of October 2nd. Please call Karen Hayman if you can help. **Food Bank will distribute on October 8th.** A box for food donations is in the narthex. Call LaVaun Shanton or Sandy Bealer if you know of families who might be served by the Food Bank. Those receiving food need not be members of our congregation.

Looking ahead, Ben Salem will host the **Feed a Neighbor meal at Zion's UCC on Thursday, November 17th.** We host this dinner twice per year, and serve approximately 100 people each time. This is a good way to help others in need, and to realize how we and our families receive so many blessings as we learn to serve others. If you are interested in donating two hours of your time helping or serving at this dinner, please contact Bernice Steigerwalt.

We will also be sponsoring the **Shoe Box Project and the Bethany Bows** again. These are two wonderful missions to participate in during the holiday season that benefit children from our region and around the world.

Neighbors in Need Offering – October 2

This we believe...

“No Child Should Go to Bed Hungry”

UCC Annual Offering to support ministries of justice and compassion throughout the USA, including the Council for American Indian Ministries, justice & advocacy efforts and direct service projects funded by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries. There is an offering envelope in your packet. Please be generous!



Our Next Hosting Week: October 2-8, 2016

If you would like to help or donate, please contact Karen Hayman.

National Family Promise Week: October 16 - 23, 2016



**Party for a Cause –
Dance Party**

Saturday, November 12

Sokol Hall, 452 Lehigh

Admission includes BBQ, salads,
(all other BYOB).

80's Theme– dress up optional
Dessert Auction, 50/50 Raffle and quilt

Tickets are \$20



Tickets are available at:
Family Promise 167 S. 3rd St.,
Lehighton, Pa
Keller Williams Office
-Jim Christman Team,
262 Delaware Ave, Palmerton
*50 Desserts needed for the
Dessert Raffle – Contact MaryJo
mjking@ptd.net
to donate a dessert.
Sponsors still needed
Contact Day Center for a form.*

80's

6 PM – 10:30

Avenue,

soda, and beer

raffle



Proceeds benefit Family Promise of Carbon County.

Orioles Community Center, 475 Orioles Dr., Lehighton, **October 20** (doors open at 6 pm)
Program begins at 7 PM....Inside Addiction & Recovery – Join us for this event to better understand some of the various aspects of addiction and its effect on family, friends and our community. Desha Utsick will be sharing her own journey through recovery. Other topics included will include the loss of a child to addiction, the impact on our local community and available resources....for additional info – call: 610-377-3059.



Quilt Show

&

Fall Bazaar



Saturday, October 22

9 am to 3 pm

at Ben Salem UCC

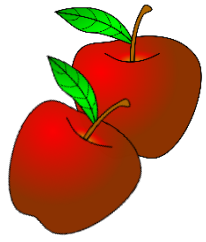
Fellowship Hall

1965 Church Hill Road

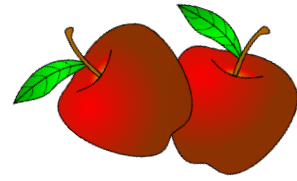
Lehighton, PA



Refreshments will be available for purchase.



Apple Pie & Ice Cream



FMI

570-386-

If you have quilts or

display call the # listed above.

Contact Linda at

2215

crafts to

Thank You
Notes

Dear Pastor Mike,
Thank you so very much for your visit to our son, Brian Nailor.

Ben Salem Family, Lyle, Yvonne and Brian appreciate your prayers and concerns. Brian is doing really good. We all truly believe in prayers. We are so blessed. God's love and blessings, The Nailor

Family.

To the Ben Salem Church Family, My appreciation and thanks to all of you for your thoughts, prayers and cards that were sent to me while I was hospitalized. A mass on my kidney was removed and my doctor said that he was happy with how well the surgery went. Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I await biopsy results and any follow up procedures that I may need in the future.

~ Pastor Jim Knappenberger

Thank you so much for your gift and continued prayers. It is greatly appreciated. I have loved being a part of kid's lives in the Philippines. So many young lives in need. I am excited to go back and see how God continues to work there. Thank you again. Sam Zipp

Prayer Shawl Thank You Notes:

Dear Ben Salem UCC Prayer Shawl Committee,

Thank you for the prayer shawl from Ben Salem UCC. Linda Stoss was kind enough to deliver it to me.

Your thoughts and prayers are appreciated as I recover. This shawl will provide comfort for me.

Respectfully, Dayton Ritter (Calvin Troxell's son-in-law)

Thank you so much for keeping me in your prayers and for the beautiful prayer shawl. It provides both beauty and warmth. With continued prayer and therapy, I am feeling a little stronger and hoping to be walking again real soon. God Bless. Joyce Silfies

Thanks so much for the wonderful prayer blanket. Mitch loved the "racing" colors! He is home and improving. It is a slow process but he has a good outlook. Thanks again, Mitch & Linda Nace



GAME DAY INFORMATION

Wednesday, October 26, 2016

Fellowship Hall

12 Noon

Bring a snack to share!

Thrivent Choice®: Strengthening communities. Changing lives.

Thrivent Choice, the member-advised charitable grant program from Thrivent Financial, continues to be a welcome funding source for congregations and nonprofit organizations nationwide. If you are an eligible Thrivent member, you likely are aware of this easy, convenient way to help make a difference for organizations you care about. The Thrivent Choice program offers a way for eligible members to recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable grant funds each year. Eligible benefit members are designated Choice Dollars® that they can direct, thereby recommending charitable grant funding for their choice among thousands of enrolled congregations and nonprofit organizations, including **Ben Salem United Church of Christ**. If you are eligible to participate in Choice Dollars, or are uncertain about your eligibility, visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Or contact your local Thrivent Financial representative. Directing Choice Dollars® is subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Thrivent Choice® program. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice for complete Terms and Conditions.

**paper,
time,
money**

**WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN HELPING BEN SALEM CHURCH
SAVE PAPER, MONEY AND TIME?**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL?

If so, please fill out the following form and place it in the box located in the narthex or mail it to Ben Salem UCC, PO 128, Andreas, PA 18211.

Name/s _____ e-mail: _____

Used Clothing Bins have been placed below the old dining hall. Items that can be placed inside are as follows: wearable clothing [men's women's children's], household items made of fabric, shoes [must be in separate bags], handbags & belts, fashion accessories, stuffed animals, small hard toys, bicycles. We cannot accept: books, furniture, cookware, baby gear, outdoor toys. If you have questions, please call the church office. Money raised through this project goes to the General Fund of Ben Salem.

HOAGIE SALE - BEN SALEM U.C.C.

ORDERS DUE: October 9

PICK-UP October 20 (10:30 AM – NOON)

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

PLAIN – HAM, SALAMI, CHEESE, LETTUCE & TOMATOES (no onions or peppers)

PLAIN _____ WITH HOT PEPPERS (no onions) _____
WITH ONIONS _____ WITH ONIONS & HOT PEPPERS _____

TOTAL # ORDERED _____ @ \$5.00 EACH TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

Place order form in box in narthex or call Sue Messina at 570-386-2880.

**Pierogies will be made on Oct. 3, 4 [possibly 5]
Monday is the day we make the pierogie filling. Potato peelers are needed.
Tuesday and Wednesday are the days we will make the pierogies.
Help is needed to roll the dough and make the pierogies.
Work begins at 8 A.M. Your help is appreciated.
Order pick up is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 7, 4 to 6 PM**



Homemade Shoo-fly Pies

Price \$8.00 for 9 inch pie

Deadline for orders – October 30

Pick up – Saturday, November 5, 1 - 2 PM

_____ pies @ \$8.00 + \$_____

Name _____ Phone # _____

Place order form in box in narthex or call Sue at 570-386-2880.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 826 Mahoning Drive West, Lehighton

Fall Bazaar: Saturday, Oct. 1 from 9 AM to 2 PM (Kitchen open on both days) Includes: bake sale, fall decorations, vendors, book nook, raffle tickets, crafts, seasonal rummage sale, basket raffle, candy, and homemade soup and filling (10% of proceeds to benefit Bare Necessities Pantry at St. Peter's Community Resource Center – East Weissport)



Blanket Makers / Quilters: The Blanket Makers and Quilters meet on Thursday mornings starting at 9 AM at the Social Hall. Anyone is welcome to come and join them. The quilt for this year is a 60 X 60 size, multi-colored patchwork Quilt. Tickets will be available through the year at church dinners & functions. See Dollie Frantz or Linda Stoss to purchase tickets. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Money raised through ticket sales & sales of knotted blankets goes directly to the General Fund to help with the mortgage.



The Difference Youth Group Info...

Upcoming Events for October:

- Saturday, October 8 from 5-9PM: The older youth will be preparing and serving a meal and providing fellowship for Family Promise. Old Social Hall.
-
- Sunday, October 9: Crop Walk (Registration is 1-2PM. Walk begins at 2PM.)
-
- Wednesday, October 19: Andreas Parade (Look for additional information)
-
- Saturday, October 22 at 5PM: Youth Group Movie Night & Sleepover

Any questions, please ask Terry Lusch or Karen Hayman

Special Prayers

Our Members and Friends with Special Needs: In Institutions:



Prayer Chain: The Prayer Chain is a way for anyone to request prayer for a specific need.... [or thanksgiving or joy]. To have our Prayer Chain pray for you: Contact Betty Nothstein at 570-386-5644. Please call Betty if you would like to be called with others' prayer requests as part of the Prayer Chain.

Meals Ministry: Do you know someone who is shut-in or recovering from a hospitalization, serious injury or illness, or mourning the loss of a loved one that could benefit from a hot or a frozen meal? Ben Salem has a Meals Ministry Team that can help ease the daily burdens of families or individuals within our church and community by providing ready-to-eat meals. If you would like to volunteer with this ministry or know of someone in need, please contact Karen Hayman at 570-241-7842 or the Church Office.

Called to Care: Trained volunteers from our church are available to assist the Pastor in visiting shut-in or hospitalized church members who are no longer able to attend regular worship services or participate in church functions. If you would like a "Called to Care" volunteer to visit you, please contact the Pastor at the Church Office (570) 386-3870. We are looking for more volunteers for this Committee! If you are interested in sharing God's love with shut-in members of our congregation, please contact Pastor McGowan. The next Called to Care meeting will be held on October 11 at 10 AM.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: The Prayer Shawl Committee is in need of helpers to make prayer shawls. If you can knit or crochet and would like to help, please contact coordinators Betty Nothstein at 570-386-5644 or Barbara Snowberger at 570-386-2112 for more information. If a prayer shawl is needed, please contact Betty or Barbara.



Support Our Troops - All military personnel

Jessica A. Bealer: FC2# Bealer, Jessica, A USS Paul Hamilton [DDG-60] CS/CF, FPO AP 96667-1278

→ Jessica is now back on base in the USA

Jeremy Zellers, Norfolk, VA – on Submarine Newport News

*Please notify us if you know of anyone who is serving at this time or if any names are missed or if status changes.



Our sympathy is extended to:
the family of Mable Wertman. Mable passed away on September 24.

**Congratulations to:
Brandon and Samantha (Bechtel) Schaffer on the
birth of their daughter Ava Elizabeth.**



~ October 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Communion 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	3 8 AM Making Pierogies	4 8 AM Making Pierogies 6:30 PM Fundraisers	5 6:30 PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7 PM Senior Choir	6 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Hand Bells 7 PM Cemetery Association	7 4-6 PM Pierogie Order Pick-up	8 Food Bank 5-9PM Youth Group Meal and Fellowship with Family Promise
9 World Food Day/Harvest Home 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 1 PM Crop Walk Registration (Walk begins at 2PM)	10	11 10 AM Called to Care	12 6:30 PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7 PM Senior Choir	13 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Hand Bells 6:30 PM Stewardship & Finance	14	15
16 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	17 7 PM Church Board Mtg.	18	19 6:30 PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7 PM Senior Choir Andreas Halloween Parade	20 7 AM Hoagie Sale 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Hand Bells / The Summit 7 PM Property Committee	21	22 9AM – 3PM Quilt Show & Fall Bazaar 5 PM Youth Group Sleepover
23 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	24	25 6:30PM Membership & Growth	26 Noon – Game Day 6 PM Newsletter Assembly 6:30 PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7 PM Senior Choir	27 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Hand Bells	28 Rehearsal	29 Wedding (not at church)

Hosting Family Promise

~ October 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship/Hand Bells	31					