

# **BEN SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

PO Box 128, Andreas, PA 18211

**STREET ADDRESS:**

1965 Church Hill Road  
Lehighon, PA 18235

**Church Phone: 570-386-3870**

**Social Hall Phone: 570-386-4990**

**1749 Church Hill Rd.**

**Lehighon, PA 18235**

**E-mail: [bensalemucc@ptd.net](mailto:bensalemucc@ptd.net)**

**Website: [www.bensalemucc.com](http://www.bensalemucc.com)**

**Office e-mail: [pstrbens@ptd.net](mailto:pstrbens@ptd.net)**

**One  
In  
Christ**

BEN SALEM UCC  
PO 128  
ANDREAS PA 18211-0218

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# April 2019



*Kelsey*

*Kolton*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> April Fool's Day	<b>2</b> Sr. Choir - 6:30PM Confirmation Class 6-8	<b>3</b> Lenten Service 7:30PM Zion Stone- Pastor Melber 9:30 Line Dancing 6:30PM Cherub & Jr. Choir	<b>4</b> 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Handbells Cemetery Meeting 7PM	<b>5</b> Easter Egg Dying Spring Bazaar 5-7:30PM	<b>6</b> Spring Bazaar 9AM - 3PM Easter Egg Hunt 11AM
<b>7</b> Lent V 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Sr. Choir - 6:30PM Confirmation Class 6-8	<b>10</b> Lenten Service 7:30PM St. Peters- Pastor McGowan 9:30 Line Dancing 6:30PM Cherub & Jr. Choir	<b>11</b> 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Handbells	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Hall Reserved
<b>14</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	<b>15</b> 7 PM Church Board Mtg.	<b>16</b> Confirmation Class 6-8	<b>17</b> 9:30 Line Dancing 6:30PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7:00PM Sr.Choir	<b>18</b> 6:00PM <b>Maundy Thursday</b> Meal Communion &Tenebrae Service 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Prayer Vigil Cherub Egg Hunt 10:00AM Old Social Hall

Family Promise- Bethany EC Church hosting at Ben Salem -April 14 to April 20

<b>21</b> <b>Easter</b> / Communion 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Confirmation Class 6-8	<b>24</b> 9:30 Line Dancing 6:30PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7:00PM Sr. choir	<b>25</b> 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Handbells	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Ham & Dandelion Dinner 3:00 - 7:00 PM	
<b>28</b> 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Shoo Fly Pie Orders	Family Promise – Ben Salem Hosting -April 21 to April 27					<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Confirmation Class 6-8



Confirmation Class

## BEN SALEM VOICE

### April 2019



Eileen

May the peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.

Spring has sprung!! Although it may not quite feel like spring outside this old and well-worn idiom reminds us we have officially entered into the spring season. As sure as the sun will rise in the East and set in the West – the spring weather will arrive and allow us to experience the glory of new life and the magnificent explosion of color that God has so graciously and artistically blessed us with in this little area of creation.

What makes the arrival of spring truly great for Christians of course is knowing that in the church our Easter commemoration and celebration is also close by. Even though many in our world believe Easter cannot compete with the emotionally charged sentimentalities and traditions of the Christmas season, it must also be said what Christians know - that there really isn't even a competition. Christmas only occurred so that we could remember and celebrate the joy of Easter. Easter is the climatic celebration of God's sovereign love and ultimate power over death. Easter is the corner-stone upon which our Christian faith is built, commemorating the slaying of God's true lamb so those who followed Jesus would come to understand God's power and love through the resurrection of said Lamb. I guess one could say it is the season when Jesus has Sprung!

Easter is THE Holy Day of the year. And as we know the joy doesn't stop on that day but continues not only throughout the year but throughout our lives as we journey with the Risen One. When we worship as the church we continually commemorate the Resurrection of Jesus and celebrate the joy that has been bestowed upon us by our hallowed and holy God.

So as we sit in anticipation of spring this Lenten season let us ask ourselves what spring really means to us. Sure - we like that the temperature begins to warm; it feels good on our skin and allows us to spend more time outdoors. And as I said earlier, during spring the glory of this great creation begins to be restored from its slumber into life, renewing both our mental and spiritual wellbeing. But I would guess this is not the only reason we are happy when spring has finally sprung!

As people of faith we are also renewed during spring because of the hope found in the death and resurrection of our Lord. As we journey with Christ throughout the year we realize we are graciously forgiven - but when Easter arrives it is like we get a new start, our life is renewed and we get to – like in the board game Monopoly – we get out of jail and move past Go! Although this time - what we collect - is a renewed spirit as we pass Go.

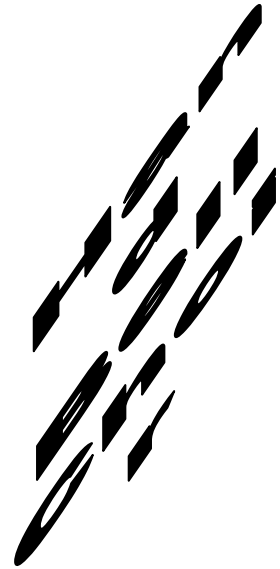
May this Easter be a time of renewal and new life, as our Savior strengthens you for your continued journey with Christ. This spring may you all feel the renewal of your spirit through faith in the God of resurrection and new life. May you all find peace and joy in the Easter season and continue to walk with the Living God who is ever present with each and every one of you. Blessings to you all and Happy Easter. He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!

In Christ's service,  
Pastor Mike



### **Ben Salem U.C.C. Worship Services**

- April 3 Lenten Service – Zion's Stone – Rev. Kenneth Melber – Ephesians 4: 1-16**
- 7 8AM & 10:30 AM Worship**
- 10 Lenten Service – St. Peter's – Rev. Michael McGowan – 1 John 4: 7-21**
- 14 Palm Sunday 8 AM & 10:30 AM Worship**
- 18 Maundy Thursday Meal, Communion and Tenebrae Service 6:00PM**
- 21 Easter 8AM & 10:30 AM Worship/ Communion**
- 28 8AM & 10:30 AM Worship**



Wednesday at 6:30 PM

Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Thursday at 6:30 PM



**ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Thursday mornings  
10AM – 12 Noon



*Shelby*

**Beginners Country Line Dancing**

Wednesdays from 9:30-11:30AM

No experience necessary

Please contact Dot Eberts at 570-386-2149 for more information

Free will offering

**2019 Church Board Members:**

**Elders:** Sharon Elder  
Brian Beidleman  
Doris Lusch  
Cliff Snowberger

**Deacons:** Dawn Benner  
Amy Frantz  
Shirley Frantz  
Robin Lutz, Secretary  
Barry Reed  
David Rex Jr.  
LaVaun Shanton  
Nancy Smith

**Pastor:**  
Rev. Michael McGowan  
Home Phone: 610-759-9126

**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]**

**Church Secretary/ Treasurer:** Dawne Beidleman  
**Financial Secretary's Address:** Susan Messina  
66 River Road Tamaqua, PA 18252

Email addresses  
for Church & Pastor McGowan  
[bensalemucc@ptd.net](mailto:bensalemucc@ptd.net) – Church Office  
[pstrbens@ptd.net](mailto:pstrbens@ptd.net) – Pastor McGowan

**Have you moved recently?** Please contact either the Church Secretary or Financial Secretary with the new address, home phone numbers, cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses. 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.

**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.

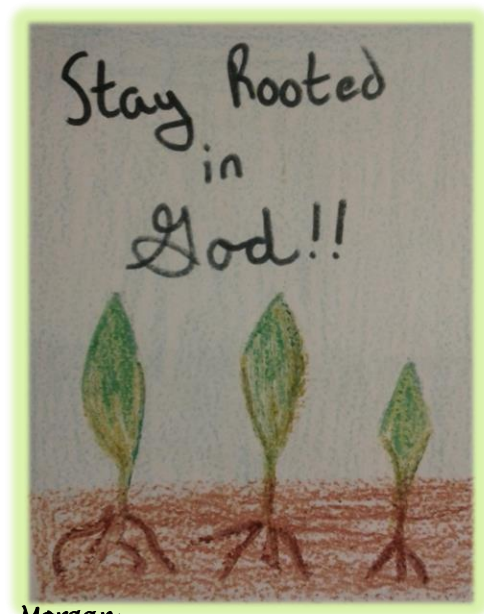
**Cemetery Association Officers:**

Caretaker: David Fritz  
Secretary: Walter Keeck  
Treasurer: Doris Lusch  
Trustee: Dennis Frantz, Lowell Gower, Dayle Smith

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

**Safety Committee:**

If someone in the congregation is aware of a safety issue, it should be reported to one of the safety committee members listed below or to someone on the Church Board. The purpose of the committee is two-fold. Ben Salem will get a discount on the insurance bill and at the same time enhance the Risk Management of the Ben Salem properties. Members of the Safety committee include: Ron Steigerwalt, Rodger Diehl, Barry Reed, Tom Kupres, Pastor Mike – Ex Officio.



Morgan

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**(How to Contribute to Our Operating Budget: to pay Ben Salem's Expenses)**

- **Use your Weekly envelope & Designate "Current Expenses":**  
**[Benevolence (OCWM) is sent to Penn Northeast Conference, Palmerton]**
- **Internet Banking**  
Do you like the convenience of scheduling donations through Internet Banking? If your bank offers free internet banking why not schedule your giving to the church on a bi-monthly or monthly basis. The bank could send the check to: Ben Salem UCC, P.O. Box 128, Andreas, PA 18211-0128. If there is a place for a note about the donation, you can even fill in how much you would like to go to the church and how much should go to OCWM. Thank You.
- **Thrivent Choice®:**
- **Have you remembered the church in your will?**



*Morgan*

**Altar Flower Sponsors - \$20.00**

A sign up sheet is located in the narthex or call Cindy Smith at 570-386-4248  
\*\*\* **Checks payable to Ben Salem UCC** should be sent directly to:  
*Cindy Smith, 707 Hoffman Rd., Lehighton, PA 18235.*

**Bulletin Sponsorship - \$10.00**

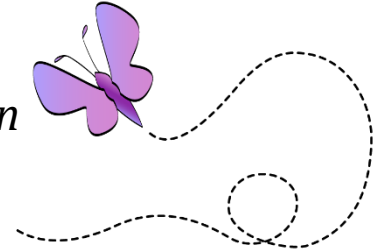
Please call Sue Messina at 570-386-2880 with your sponsorship information or e-mail her at [suemess@ptd.net](mailto:suemess@ptd.net). \*\*\* **Checks payable to Ben Salem UCC** should be sent directly to: Susan Messina, 66 River Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252.

## ~Fundraising at Ben Salem Church~

*Help is needed with fundraisers and always appreciated!*

# Spring Bazaar

**BEN SALEM UCC**  
1965 Church Hill Road, Lehighton  
**Saturday, April 6, 2019**  
**9AM - 3PM**



**Also...Open Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:30PM!!!**

- Raffle
- Basket Raffle (100+ Items!)
- Food, Bake Sale & Homemade Easter Candy
- Quilt Raffle & Knotted Blankets
- Wooden Handcrafted Items
- 



**Egg Hunt at 11AM: Old Social Hall at 1749 Church Hill Road**

*10% of the profits will be divided between St. Peters Community Resource Center and Dylan and Gavin's Rainbow Ministry.*

*In case of inclement weather, please check our website at [www.bensalemucc.com](http://www.bensalemucc.com)*

*Questions Please contact: Karen: 570-241-7842*

**Giant Gift Cards:** Anyone who shops at Giant can help with no extra cost to you. All you have to do is buy Giant Cash Cards from us and then use them the same as cash when you purchase your groceries or gas. For every \$100 you spend at Giant using these cards instead of cash, the church gets \$5. If interested, call Sue Messina at 570-386-2880.



**Ham & Dandelion Dinner**  
**Saturday, April 27**  
**3:00 - 7:00 PM**

*For directions visit [www.bensalemucc.com](http://www.bensalemucc.com)*



**PAINT 'N' PRAISE**



## Community Events:



### Join Cub Scout Pack 756 – Sunday evenings at 6 PM

at the Andreas Sporting Club...come and sign up! Ages Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade ...combines fun with educational activities and lifelong values. Cub Scouting is designed to support and encourage family and community involvement. For more info, contact Cub Master, Hans Krause 610-476-2341 or email at [hans.krause@allanmyers.com](mailto:hans.krause@allanmyers.com) Facebook @ West Penn Cub Pack 756



### Recycle...Save your soda cans...

Aluminum cans will be taken to Zaprazny's. Remember aluminum cans and clean aluminum only and should be placed in bags... 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 garbage shed.**

### CLOTHING BIN UPDATE

Clothing bins are in place by the old Social Hall. Please feel free to donate clothing or shoes that you no longer need. The church can earn up to .07 cents/lb.

# *Thank You!*

Bless you all for your kindness! Thank You!

Sherry, Terry, & Harley Walz

Thank you to the Youth for their artwork that is featured in this newsletter. Artwork for the May Newsletter should be submitted to the church office by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Theme for May:** Mother's Day and Flowers.





Kyra

## MISSION MINDERS-APRIL 2019

*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord*      *1 Corinthians 15:58*

**Backpack Buddies**, a program for needy children in the Lehigh School District to supply them with food supplies on weekends and holidays, is our first 2019 mission project that will run through the end of May. To donate, please mark your mission envelopes as **BUDDY**.

### Please also note upcoming opportunities to volunteer:

**Ben Salem's Food Bank** donates food and other items to deserving families within our congregation or to non-members referred to us by congregation members. It is in need of volunteers to help with distributing food 6-8 times per year on a Saturday morning, and takes only a ½ hour of your time to help on that day. If you are able and available earlier, it could use volunteers to shop for groceries and/or sort the items given to each family. **Our next distribution will be Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact LaVaun Shanton to help.**

Ben Salem will host **Family Promise during the week of April 20-27<sup>th</sup>**. Volunteers are always needed to donate and serve meals, stay for fellowship, or sleepover with the families. **Contact Karen Hayman to volunteer your time.**

The **Feed a Neighbor** meal at Zions UCC in Lehigh is sponsored by Ben Salem twice each year. Help is always needed to serve the meal, and takes only 90 minutes of your time. We serve up to 100 people who appreciate and thank us for being there for them. **The next Feed a Neighbor meal will be held on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.** **Contact Bernice Steigerwalt to participate.**

The **Spring Bazaar** sponsored by Ben Salem each year to help support our Phase II fund, always donates 10% of its net profits to needy local missions. This year, St. Peter's Resource Center and Ryan and Gavin's Rainbow missions will be the beneficiaries. In the past, Family Promise has received monies, as well as local township fire companies, among others. **This year's Bazaar will be held on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.** Donations for raffle tickets, Chinese Auction baskets, and cash to buy supplies are truly appreciated. In addition, help at the Bazaar is always in demand, so please help with this project in any way you can.

**Contact Karen Hayman if you can help with donations or in person**



Ben Salem's Family Promise Program continues to look for new volunteers! Help is needed to prepare meals (can be dropped off or picked up), serve meals and eat with the families, watch movies/play games with the children, and stay overnight in a private room. Each shift is only a few short hours. Here are the Hosting Dates for 2019:

**April 21<sup>st</sup> – April 27<sup>th</sup>**

**If you are able to help or need more information:**  
Karen Hayman at 570-241-7842 or [khayman@ptd.net](mailto:khayman@ptd.net)



## Special Prayers

### **Our Members and Friends with Special Needs:**

#### **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 names are missed or status changes.

**\*\*\*When you place a name on the prayer list, please remember to update the church office when the person is doing better. Thank you!**

**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.

**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. Next Meeting: February 12, 2019, 10AM

**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.