



June 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 Sunday School Breakfast-Social Hall 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 – 6:00 Strawberry Social 1:00 – 4:00 Car Show	3	4 6:00-8:00PM Confirmation class	5 9:30 AM Line Dancing 6:30 PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	6 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Handbells	7	8
9 Communion 8:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Worship/Confirmation Hall Reserved	10	11	12 9:30 AM Line Dancing 6:30 PM Cherub 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	13 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Handbells	14 Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day 8:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Worship	17 7:00 PM Church Board Meeting	18	19 9:30 AM Line Dancing 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	20 9:00 AM Quilters 10:00 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Handbells	21 Summer Begins	22
23 Graduate Recognition 8:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Worship	24 	25	26	27	28	29
30 8:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Worship Scholarship App Deadline	VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL					

BEN SALEM VOICE



During the month of June the church dictates we will be leaving the season of Easter as we move into the season of Pentecost. We will stay in the season of Pentecost throughout the summer and into the fall until we reboot our church year and begin the Advent season once again. While the season of Pentecost is considered the season of growth and is a season that is needed, I must admit, I like the season of Easter because it is a season of joy as we talk about the grand and glorious thing God did in the resurrection of our Savior Jesus. Joy is something I think this world may be lacking as we consider the news of our day and the growing number of people suffering in states of misery and angst.

But really, while it may seem like people are less joyous these days what really is life? According to an obscure author named Frank R. Jennings, our life most certainly is filled by yin and yang. A little piece he wrote simply titled Life expresses this: *“A little sunshine, a little rain, a little loss, a little gain, a little happiness, a little pain, not all sweet, not all sour, now a weed, now a flower; a Godly average of sunshine and shower.”* You see, joy is never far from angst. It is how life has been created. Maybe consider this, if we didn't know evil how would we know the goodness of God?

An English poet you may have heard of - William Blake spent his life writing poetry, painting and dabbling as a printmaker during the 19th century. One piece he wrote puts it this way: *“Joy and woe are woven fine, a clothing for the soul divine; under every grief and pine runs a joy with silken twine; it is right it should be so; Man was made for joy and woe; and when this we rightly know safely through the world we go.”*

So as we go through this month of June know that even if you happen to be experiencing times when you feel disillusioned or discouraged or maybe even distressed, joy is just on the other side of that angst. Joy is always nearby, because that is how God created this world to be. Joy can be found, especially during this season of summer, as the splendors of our surroundings captivate us. During the summer, even in the midst of our angst, our senses are aroused as we hear the crescendo of birds singing their songs all the while witnessing the fine creation of color and beauty. And as we step outside and feel the warmth of the summer sun on our bodies it can feel as if we are receiving a hug from God. These are all things that can help us overcome our angst and move us to joy as we come to the realization of how much we are loved.

So as I conclude this letter I want to leave you with a prayer to remember and pray during this season of growth. It is a short prayer that has a poetic quality and was written by a man who is simply known as B. Y. Williams. *Oh, not for more or longer days, dear Lord, my prayer shall be – but rather teach me how to use the days now given me. I ask not more of pleasure or joy for this brief while – but rather let me for the joys I have, Be Glad and Smile.*

Blessings and peace to you all, Pastor Mike

Ben Salem U.C.C. Worship Services



- June 2 – 8:00 AM Worship Service**
9:15 AM Sunday School
Breakfast – Social Hall
10:30 AM Worship Service
- June 9 – Communion**
8:00 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Worship Service/
Confirmation
- June 16 – Father’s Day**
8:00 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Worship Service
- June 23 – Graduate Recognition**
8:00 AM Worship Service
10:30 AM Worship Service
- June 30 – 8:00 AM Worship Service**
10:30 AM Worship Service
- July 7 – 9:15 AM Worship Service /**
Communion



Summer Worship Schedule

July 7 - August 25 9:15 AM Worship Services



New Member

William Comer by Baptism and Affirmation of Faith.

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. *** Checks payable to Ben Salem UCC should be sent directly to: Susan Messina, 66 River Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252.

Join US



Wednesday

June 5 – 6:30 PM Jr. Choir (Last Practice for the Summer)
June 12- 6:30 PM Cherub Choir (Last Practice for the Summer)
June 19 –7:00 PM Sr. Choir (Last Practice for the Summer)



New Handbell Ringers

There will be introductory rehearsals for people interested in learning how to ring handbells immediately following the 9:15 AM services on Sunday, July 21 and Sunday, July 28. We will meet in the sanctuary. These rehearsals are open to anyone ages 12 and older. If you already know how to read music, that is very helpful, but it is not required. There is no obligation for you to commit to the handbell choir at this point: these sessions are meant to give you an opportunity to see if handbell ringing is for you! If people are interested in continuing, we will hold more rehearsals throughout the summer. This is a great opportunity for you to try ringing with other people who are just learning as well. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call Shirley Kline at 570-386-2557. Hope to see you there!



Wednesday

9:30 – 11:30 AM Line Dancing
No Experience necessary
Contact Dot Eberts
570-386-2149
Free Will Offering



Thursday
10:00 AM Bible Study



Thursday
9:00 AM Blanket Makes/ Quilters

Church Business:

General Fund - April 2019

Phase II Mortgage:

How to Contribute to Ben Salem Operating Budget:

- * **Weekly Envelopes**- “**Current Expense**”- donations are deposited in General Fund to meet operating expenses. “**Benevolence**” - is sent to PNEC for OCWM.
- * **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 (Current Expenses) and how much should go to OCWM. Thank You.
- * **Thrivent Choice®:** Thrivent member can request Ben Salem UCC to receive funds from Choice Dollars.



- * **New Clothing bins:** New 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.
- * **Recycle...Save your soda cans...** Please place Aluminum cans in bags... There is a fenced in area to the rear of the old social hall for the aluminum cans. *Do not place aluminum cans in garbage shed.* 
- * Have you remembered the church in your will.

Pastor:

Rev. Michael McGowan
Church Phone: 570-386-3870
Home Phone: 610-759-9126

Pastor's Office Hours:

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

Church Secretary/ Treasurer:

Dawne Beidleman
Church Phone: 570-386-3870

Financial Secretary's Address:

Susan Messina
66 River Road Tamaqua, PA 18252
570-386-2880

2019 Church Board Members:

Elders: Sharon Elder
Brian Beidleman
Doris Lusch
Cliff Snowberger

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



**Cemetery Association Officers: Reminder
from Cemetery Association:**

Guidelines for placing flowers and floral arrangements on the Ben Salem Cemetery

1. All types of real or potted plants are acceptable. Please remove colored foil from potted plant containers before placement. Any type of trees are not acceptable in the cemetery.
2. We ask that no artificial flowers and arrangements be placed on our cemeteries from May 1 through October 31.
3. Prior to placement of Christmas arrangements, make certain that artificial pieces are securely fastened to the arrangement. **All Christmas arrangements should be removed from gravesites by March 1st weather permitting.*
4. Appropriate signs for the guidelines will be placed at the cemeteries.
5. As a courtesy to persons living away from the area, floral arrangements may be placed at gravesites by contacting the Cemetery Association.
6. After April 30th, the Cemetery Association will remove artificial arrangements.
7. Solar powered decorative sticks are acceptable at gravestones.

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



Email addresses:
for Church & Pastor McGowan
bensalemucc@ptd.net – Church Office
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.



Youth News!



Names of 2019 Graduates Needed: If you know someone who is graduating this year, please call or email the Church Office. This includes high school and college graduates. Please include graduation date, majors and degree(s). **Graduate Recognition will be Sunday June 23.**



Richard and Cynthia Smith Scholarship Fund:

Applications for the Smith Scholarship Fund can be obtained by calling the Church Office at 570-386-3870. The forms can be sent in the mail or e-mailed to those who wish to apply. This fund was established to assist high school graduates who are furthering their education. The applicant must be a member in good standing of Ben Salem UCC. The applicant must have graduated from high school and be enrolled as a full time, undergraduate student in an accredited college or technical school to further his/her education. A person may only be a recipient of this scholarship one time but if you have applied in a prior year and not been a recipient of the scholarship, you may apply again. Preference will be given to those who have a financial need, who are loyal to the church, its worship and life, and who have performed community service. Applications should be submitted to the Church Office by June 30, 2019.

Penn Northeast Conference: Gwilym T. Williams Scholarship

If you are a college or graduate student who is preparing for a career either as a/an Ordained Minister, Certified Teacher or Educator, Doctor of Medicine then you may qualify for a scholarship grant from the Gwilym T. Williams Scholarship Fund. For more information, please visit the PNEC website at www.pnec.org to obtain an application form.

If you would like to call the conference office the phone number is 610-826-3113.



Summer Events

Vacation Bible School June 24 – June 28
6:30 PM – 9:00
Contact Kelly White



Ben Salem UCC Bus Trip, 7/12/19

Cost: Adult (age 11 & up) - \$102
Kids (4-10) - \$58
Kids (3 & under) - \$51



Reservation form are in the narthex.

Make checks payable to: **Ben Salem UCC 1965 Church Hill Rd Lehighon, PA 18235**

Payment must be received by **6/1/2019**. Reservation is not confirmed until full payment is received.

Join Cub Scout Pack 756



Sunday evenings at 6 PM at the Andreas Sporting Club...come and sign up! Ages Kindergarten through 6th 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@allanyers.com Facebook @ West Penn Cub Pack

~Fundraising at
Ben Salem Church~

Help is needed with fundraisers and always appreciated!

 **Strawberry Social** 



**Horse-Drawn
Carriage Rides**

Ben Salem U.C.C.
1965 Church Hill Road
Lehighton (near Andreas)
Sunday, June 2
Noon to 6:00 P.M.

Basket Raffle



Music by: Ben Salem Bell Choir, The Hawks, and Lost & Found



**Fish
Pond**

Car Show (1:00 to 4:00)
to benefit Ben Salem VBS



Bake Sale



For directions visit www.bensalemucc.com
For more information call (570)386-3870 or (570)386-2530

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.

Thank You!



Thank you for the photographs and the beautiful artwork that is featured in the newsletter.



Ham and Dandelion Dinner



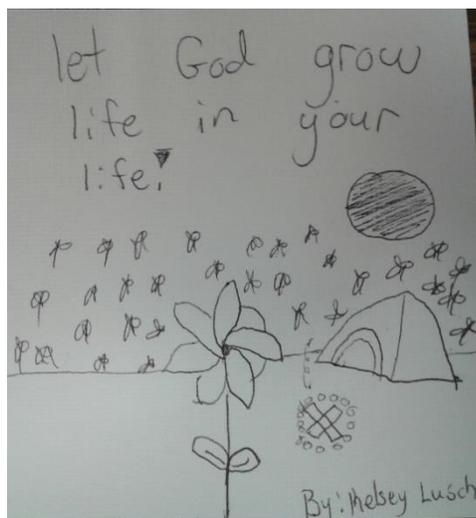
I would like to take this opportunity to Thank everyone who helped in any way to make our Ham and Dandelion dinner a booming success.

Be it donation needed items, baking, or helping with making the bacon dressing, or working in the Kitchen the night before and day of the dinner. Also I can't say enough about our wait staff, it was wonderful to see so many young people came out to help. Thanks to the faithful help who always show up. We had 15 helpers on the night and June Loch came all the way from South Carolina to help peel potatoes. Also grateful to see some new faces there (New potato peelers). On Saturday we had 37 people between the kitchen and servers. We ran out of dandelion and had to substitute lettuce.

We will be better prepared next year.

Again Thanks to all and I will give a final total next week.

We are blessed here at Ben Salem to have such dedicated people to help on such large projects.



God Bless All Of You.
LaVaun Shanton

Special Prayers



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.



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.

Prayer List

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 Brenda Rex at 570-386-4358 or Barbara Snowberger at 570-386-2112 for more information. If a prayer shawl is needed, please contact Brenda or Barbara.





MISSION MINDERS

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in

1 Corinthians 15:58

Missionary Jeff Mensendiek [Japan] and the Sendai Student Center
Samantha Zipp, Mission in Philippines

Please also note upcoming opportunities to volunteer:

Feed a Neighbor:

The Feed a Neighbor meal at Zions UCC in Lehighton 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 27th at 5:00 p.m.** Contact Bernice Steigerwalt to participate.

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.