

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

Church Phone: 570-386-3870

Social Hall Phone: 570-386-4990

E-mail: bensalemucc@verizon.net

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

Pastor Michael McGowan: Home – 610-759-9126

Office e-mail: pstrbens@verizon.net

Website: www.bensalemucc.com

One
In
Christ

BEN SALEM UCC
PO 128
ANDREAS PA 18211-0218

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BEN SALEM VOICE

April 2017

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

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For this month I thought I would pull out a story that is an oldie but goody. I feel this story is a creative way to explain the definitive Easter story. I hope you enjoy the imaginative line of reasoning.

In the UCC we like tag lines and symbols to express how we see ourselves as a denomination. One of the tag lines of the UCC is “never put a period where God has put a comma.” This saying is taken from something *Gracie Allen* once said and is the basis of our denominations campaign to tell the world that “God is still speaking.” The ‘comma’ along with the saying “God is Still Speaking” is a campaign of the U.C.C. to help people outside the denomination understand how the United Church of Christ balances religious tradition with new ideas so the denomination may continue to be relevant. This idea of using punctuation marks to explain something is not exclusive to the UCC. Thank goodness – since the UCC strives to be an inclusive denomination who welcomes extravagantly so that “No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

In a little known book titled *If I Should Die Before I Live* by Joe LoMusio, this very same idea is proposed by Mr. LoMusio. In his book he asks – if you were to describe Easter without any words but only punctuation marks how would you do it? What punctuation marks would you use to describe Easter?

Well for me, I would have to agree with Mr. LoMusio and it would have to be [. ? !!!!!] If we consider the events that took place prior to Jesus resurrection, His death would definitely be a (.) period. After Jesus was crucified, dead and buried everything stopped or so it must have seemed for those who had followed Jesus. All the expectations came to an end as far as the disciples could understand. Jesus was in a tomb wrapped in a linen cloth - PERIOD.

Next came the question mark, what will happen now, Jesus is gone, the question mark is worse than the period. The people are perplexed, they are questioning what has happened, what should they do, are they the next to be crucified - QUESTIONS.

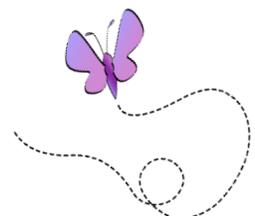
But wait – word of an empty tomb, another question – where is He, the stone is rolled away and the linen lay there without the One who it was to cover. Someone speaks – the living One is not here among the dead, He is RISEN!!!! Remember how He said He would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days – of course they remembered.

*The periods are gone – the question marks have been pushed aside and
what is left is a massive EXCLAMATION point!*

YES, that describes EASTER . It is the exclamation of Jesus’ passion – the exclamation of the resurrection that changed the world - the exclamation that death cannot hinder the power of God - the exclamation that all who believe in Jesus as savior of the world no longer have to fear death because death has been defeated by the power and love of God. Easter is the exclamation of God’s plan to show us the way!

May the joy and gladness of Easter move you to delight as you remember that we are an Easter people – living on the Easter side of the cross of new life and salvation. Happy Easter everyone.

Blessings to you all,



Worship Services for April

April 2 – Lent V (Worship at 8 AM & 10:30 AM)
 April 9 – Palm Sunday (Worship at 8 AM & 10:30 AM)
 April 16 – Easter Sunday (Worship at 8 AM & 10:30 AM)
 April 23 – Holy Humor Sunday (Worship at 8 AM & 10:30 AM)
 April 30 – Worship at 8 AM & 10:30 AM



COMMUNION:

Maundy Thursday, April 13
6:00 PM
Easter Sunday, April 16
8 AM & 10:30 AM

Worship Schedule for May & June 2017

May 7: 8AM and 10:30AM (Communion)
 14: 8AM and 10:30AM (Mother's Day)
 21: 8AM and 10:30AM
 28: 8AM and 10:30AM (Hand Bell Choir)

June 4: 8AM and 10:30AM (Pentecost/Communion)
 11: 8AM and 10:30AM (Trinity Sunday)
 18: 8AM and 10:30AM (Father's Day)
 25: 8AM and 10:30AM



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Thursday Mornings
10AM – 12 Noon
Fellowship Hall Board Room

*Please consider joining our group
 as we study....*

*"Be Obedient" (Genesis 12-25)
 by Warren Wiersbe.*



Prayer Vigil

Saturday, April 15th
8AM – 5PM

Lenten Service Information

April 5 – Lenten Service at St. Peters Church – "Holy Communion" Matt: 26:26-29/Luke: 22:14-20

Holy Week Information

April 9 – Palm Sunday Services at 8 and 10:30 AM
 April 13 – Maundy Thursday Service with Soup and Bread Meal / Communion – 6 PM
 / Tenebrae Service follows in Sanctuary
 April 16 – Easter Services with Communion at 8 AM and 10:30 AM



20th Anniversary
Ben Salem Hand Bell Choir

Sunday, April 30, 10:30 AM
Luncheon in Fellowship Hall following service
(Bring a covered dish!)



Holy Humor
Sunday
April 23



Mark your calendars to join the Handbell Choir in celebrating its 20 year anniversary during the 10:30 AM service on Sunday, April 30. A special Order of Worship will be observed during which the current handbell choir ringers will play songs and hymns from throughout their 20 year history. Former ringers will join the current choir in a massed ring of the hymn, "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee." Numerous displays will be set up in the narthex depicting 20 years of Handbell Choir memories. Following the 10:30 service, everyone is

invited to join in a covered dish luncheon in our Fellowship Hall. Feel free to bring a dish for all to enjoy. Join us on Sunday, April 30 as we praise God for our wonderful musical ministry

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

2017 Church Board Members:

Elders: Sharon Elder, Barry Fink, Walter Keeck, Terry Lusch

Deacons: Terry Blair, Shirley Kline, Doris Lusch, Kenneth Oswald,
Robert Pope, Barry Reed, Carly Smith, Ron Steigerwalt

Pastor: Rev. Michael McGowan

Church Secretary: Dollie Behr

Treasurer: Dawne Beidleman

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

Upcoming Church Board Meeting: April 17 at 7 PM

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

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Cemetery Association

Next Meeting: April 6, 2017 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., Lehigh, 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 suemess@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.

Upcoming Committee Meetings

Church Board: April 17, 2017 at 7PM

Called to Care: April 11, 2017 at 10AM

Property Committee: April 20, 2017 at 7PM

Newsletter Assembly: April 26, 2017 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 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.

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]



General Fund

**Ben Salem UCC
Financial Report
February 2017**



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We Need Your Help to Fulfill This Commitment!!

*Do you like the convenience of scheduling
bills through Internet Banking?*

Not having to worry about writing those checks each month is nice. Well 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 every other week or every month and you wouldn't have to worry about having cash on a Sunday. If this sounds good then simply schedule your offering like you do your other bills and have it sent to:

Ben Salem UCC
P.O. Box 128
Andreas Pa. 18211-0128

If there is a place for a note about the payment you can even fill in how much you would like to go to the church and how much should go to OCWM. It's that simple – really! Our treasurer receives the check and your

account is credited the same as if you utilized an envelope. And if you are uncomfortable not having an envelope to put in the plate – don't forget there are other envelopes to utilize in the box you receive at the start of each year.

If this sounds good to you - please consider signing up with your bank this New Year.

Thank You. The Stewardship and Finance Committee.

Reminder from Cemetery Association:

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

Due to the problems with wind carrying pieces of artificial flower arrangements into the neighboring farm fields - which become a hazard to machinery, crops and animals - and because they can also present a danger to our own mowing equipment - the following guidelines have been established by the Cemetery Association:

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 30, the Cemetery Association will remove artificial arrangements.
 7. Solar powered decorative sticks are acceptable by gravestones.
-

Names of 2017 Graduates Needed: If you know of someone who is graduating this year, please call or e-mail the information to the church office. This includes high-school and college graduates. Graduate Recognition will be held on June 11 at both services. Names should be submitted by May 17 to be included in the June newsletter. Please include majors and degrees if you wish.



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, 2017.

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.



Cherub & Junior Choir Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15th at 10AM (Old Social Hall)

Donations of plastic filled eggs and hard boiled, colored eggs are needed. For additional information, please contact Cindy Nothstein.

YOUTH GROUP EVENTS 2017

May 5 & 6 – Rummage Sale – Items can be dropped off any time (starting now) in the old, wooden Social Hall. When you are cleaning out your garage or attic this spring, think of donating the items to support Ben Salem's Youth Group as we are collecting household items to sell at our rummage sale this spring. We will accept almost anything with the exception of encyclopedias, anything with coolant inside, and large console TVs. All items can be dropped off in the old wooden Social Hall starting February 5th on Sundays between 9 am and 11:30am or if they need to be picked up, please contact Kevin Lusch.



August 5 – Terry Lusch would like to host a Drug Addiction Prevention Program in conjunction with other churches and local police. Parents will be encouraged to attend with their child.

End of April/Beginning of May 2018 – Possible Bus Trip to see Bible Museum in Washington, D.C.



Vacation Bible School:

June 19-23, 6:30 to 9 PM each night.

Watch upcoming newsletters and bulletins for more details.

Upcoming Fundraisers:

- Hoagie Sale on April 20, May 18
 - Spring Bazaar on April 1, 2017 from 9 AM to 3 PM
 - Ham & Dandelion Dinner on April 22, 2017, 3 to 7 PM
 - Homemade Pierogie Sale (Pierogie making dates: May 22, 23, 24, 30, 31)
 - Strawberry Social and Car Show on June 11 (Noon to 6 PM)
- Car Show from 1 to 3 PM (Contact Dawne at 570-386-2015 or Kelly at 570-386-3072 for more information)



HOAGIE SALE - BEN SALEM U.C.C.

ORDERS DUE April 9 PICK-UP April 20 (10:30 AM – NOON)

NOTE: WE ARE GETTING DIFFERENT ROLLS FROM THE BAKERY NOOK .

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

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

Items needed for the Ham & Dandelion Dinner - April 22, 2017

Please call LaVaun Shanton or sign up on the list in the narthex if you can donate an item.

6 bushel dandelion cleaned and cut to 1 inch pieces

****2 gallon apple cider vinegar

****18 cans evap. milk

****9 lb. onions

****15 lb. white sugar

*****14 dozen raw eggs for dressing

2 lg. boxes pepper

4 gal. applesauce

5 stalks celery (for relish trays)

5 lb. baby carrots (small ones for relish trays)

6 gal. whole milk

8 loaves rye or wheat bread

4 loaves white bread

15 doz. hard-boiled eggs for dandelion

4 large decaf coffee

3 large reg. coffee

400 white napkins

6 large bottles dish detergent

******items beginning with ****
are to be used to make dressing and
should be at the church by April 16.
Dressing will be made the following morning.**

Also needed:

pies [sugarfree] & regular [please mark]
cakes [sugar free] & regular [please mark]
puddings & jello [sugar free & regular, please mark]
Fresh Fruit
All desserts appreciated!

Monetary donations will be appreciated and will be used to defray the cost of the ham and other items. Also, help is needed to make the dressing, set up the hall, and on the day of the dinner help is needed to serve and work in the kitchen.

Please contact LaVaun Shanton at 484-225-0368 for more information.

Thank you for all your help with this project.

Ham & Dandelion Dinner

**Ben Salem U.C.C.
Fellowship Hall
1965 Church Hill Road
Lehighton (near Andreas)**

**Saturday, April 22
3:00 - 7:00 P.M.**



**Adults \$10.00
Ages 5 - 12 \$5.00, Under 5 Free
Dessert and beverage included.**



**For more info call 484-225-0368 or 570-386-3870
For directions visit www.bensalemucc.com**



Thank you to everyone who donated baskets,
food / baked goods, or volunteered
at the Spring Bazaar.
Also, thank you to everyone who came out and
supported this event. We had a great turnout and
enjoyed much fellowship together.
– Judy & Karen





Is More Always Better?

There are many things that can be good for us, but too much of any one thing can, of course, have some harmful results. For instance, a slice of pizza is fine, but eating the entire pie is probably not. Same thing with technology...a cell phone is a great thing to have if your car breaks down or your child needs to get in touch with you; and a computer is great if you need to research something in a hurry or send a message to a friend. However, the average adult in the United States spends about 4 ½ hours a day watching TV (shows and movies) and up to 10 ½ hours a day consuming media (TV, DVR, computers, tablets, video games, smart phones, etc.). (Resource: www.cnn.com/2016/06/30/health/)

Facebook and Twitter are consuming our days, and if that's not bad enough, with it comes some health risks as well. Just as we must be careful to eat certain food in moderation, we must use our "devices" in moderation. Do not let these things lead you from righteousness and truth. We need to allow enough time in our day to become spiritually fit...we must spend time reading God's word, we must find some daily quiet time to connect with God, and enough free time to help our neighbors in need. We need to put God first!

Psalm 119:37 - Keep me from paying attention to what is worthless; be good to me, as you have promised. (GNT)



If you would like to make some small changes in your life for the better....try giving up 2 hours of your TV/computer time during our next Family Promise hosting week and volunteer instead!

You will be surprised at how great this program is and how you will benefit by helping others! You can prepare or serve a meal, or just spend time chatting with our families. Some of our guests just need a

listening ear.

**Our next Hosting Week is May 28 – June 3, 2017
Donations & Volunteers Needed!**

If you are able to help or need more information:
Karen Hayman at 570-241-7842 or khayman@ptd.net

MISSION MINDERS - MARCH 2017

The first project that the Mission committee has chosen for 2017 is **Dylan and Gavin's Rainbow**: Most of us are aware of the tragic circumstances that inspired this mission. Dylan and Gavin Krum of Leighton, both in their early teens, died within 2 ½ years of each other of 2 different types of cancer. Through these times, their parents received much support, both emotional and financial, to help them get through the illnesses and deaths of their sons. In memory of Dylan and Gavin, the Krums founded the Dylan and Gavin Rainbow Foundation. As well as offering emotional support to families that it identifies with children who are seriously ill, it also donates \$300 to these families to be used for whatever their needs may be, e.g. Help with travel expenses while their child is in the hospital; help with medical expenses not covered by insurance, or special items needed for their sick child. They also stay in touch with these families to offer support after their children have passed. Since its inception in 2013, "Dylan and Gavin's Rainbow" has helped over 100 local families. **This mission project will run through May 31st.** If you are interested in donating to this worthy project, please mark your mission envelopes

with the support



word, **RAINBOW**. As always, we know that you find the generosity in your hearts to this worthy mission. Thank you for all you do.

**FOOD BANK DISTRIBUTION:
APRIL 8, 2017
10:30AM**

**Luncheon for
Widows/Widowers**

**Wednesday, April 19
11:30 AM**

GAME DAY INFORMATION

Wednesday, April 26

Fellowship Hall

12 Noon

Bring a snack to share!



Beginners Country Line Dancing: *No experience necessary!*

If interested in this activity, please contact Dot Eberts at 570-386-2149 for more information. The first class will meet on April 19 from 9:30-11:30 AM. Free will offering.



Beginners Knitting/Crocheting Group:

This group will resume meeting on Wednesday,

6:30 – 7 PM. Anyone interested in learning to crochet is also welcome to attend. Please contact Barbara Snowberger for more information.



April 19th from



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 1st prize quilt for 2017 will be a 76 inch x 92 inch Sampler and the 2nd place prize will be a hand-knotted quilt. (both made by the Ben Salem quilters & blanket makers group.

Tickets will be available through the year at church dinners & functions. See Dollie Frantz, Betty Nothstein 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 Phase II Fund.

NOTE: An ongoing project of this group is to make hand-knotted blankets for the needy.



Coffee Hour has resumed! We need volunteers to help!

*If you enjoy coffee hour
and wish to see it continue, please volunteer.*

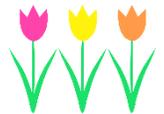
CLOTHING BIN UPDATE

In regards to the used clothing bins: they were picked up recently without our knowledge. An e-mail was sent and phone call made but no one from the company has bothered to reply. Please note that there are no bins available anymore and we will let our congregation know if and when they return or if we come up with another idea for the used clothing and household items. Watch for further information!

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.

Community Events



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

Spring Bazaar - Friday, April 7, 5-8 PM and Saturday, April 8, 9 AM to 2 PM

*Rummage Tables, Basket Raffle, Bake Sale, Soup & Filling, Raffles, Crafts, Homemade Easter Candy,
Kitchen Open*

Free Egg Hunt at 11 AM (Children to age 13) Prizes

*10% of profits benefit Trinity Pantry Bring an item for the food pantry
and get a chance to win \$25 Giant Gift Card*



Basket Social - Emmanuel UCC, Hamilton St., Bowmanstown, PA

Saturday, April 22 (8 AM to 2 PM - tickets only) Sunday, April 23 (Noon to 4 PM)

Baked goods, food, raffle, baskets) Contact Info: 610-852-2707

Thank You Notes:

Two small words can never describe how big of an impact you made! I want to thank you all for the prayer shawl. It was very comforting. I want to thank Betty for the delivery of the shawl. Thank you again, Junior Steigerwalt.

Thank you to everyone who donated or helped with Family Promise. We were able to help three families during our hosting week of March 19-25, 2017. One family moved into their own apartment during our week. Please keep these families in your prayers. Karen Hayman, Vol. Coordinator

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 April 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 John Warkala, who passed away on February 23, 2017.
 to the Family of Carolyn Straup, who passed away on February 23, 2017.
 to the Family of Pearl Steigerwalt, who passed away on February 24, 2017.
 to the Family of Jacqueline Reifsnnyder, who passed away on March 27, 2017.



April 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9AM – 3PM Spring Bazaar (Fellowship Hall) 11 AM Egg Hunt (Old Social Hall)
2 Lent V 8AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	3	4 6:30 PM Senior Choir	5 6:30 PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7:30 PM Lenten Service at St. Peter's Church	6 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Hand Bells 7 PM Cemetery Association	7	8 Fellowship Hall Reserved 10:30AM Food Bank
9 Palm Sunday 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Baptism	10	11 10 AM Called to Care Meeting	12 6:30 PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7 PM Senior Choir	13 Maundy Thursday 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 6PM Soup & Bread Meal/Communion/ Tenebrae Service	14 Good Friday	15 8 AM – Prayer Vigil 10 AM – Cherub & Junior Choir Egg Hunt (Old Social Hall)
16 Easter Sunday Communion 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	17 Making Dandelion Dressing 7 PM Church Board Meeting	18	19 9:30 AM Country Line Dancing 11:30 AM Widow & Widowers Luncheon 6:30 PM Knitting Group 6:30 PM Cherub & Jr. Choir 7 PM Senior Choir	20 7 AM Hoagie Sale 9 AM Blanket Makers & Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 10:30 – Noon Hoagie Order Pickup 6:30 PM Hand Bells 7 PM Property Committee	21 Set up for Dandelion Dinner	22 3 – 7 PM Ham & Dandelion Dinner
23 Holy Humor Sunday 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship	24	25	26 9:30 AM Country Line Dancing Noon – Game Day 6 PM Newsletter Assembly 6:30 PM Knitting Group 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	29 Set up for Hand Bell Luncheon

◀ March

April 2017

May ▶

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 8 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Hand Bells 20 th Anniversary/Luncheon						