

BEN SALEM UCC
PO 128
ANDREAS PA 18211-0218

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BEN SALEM UCC

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BEN SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WHERE TO REACH US:

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

E-mail: bensalemucc@verizon.net

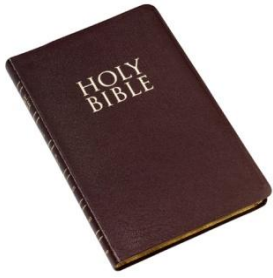
Website: www.bensalemucc.com

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

Pastor Michael McGowan: Home – 610-759-9126

Office e-mail: pstrbens@verizon.net

One in Christ



The Ben Salem Voice
Ben Salem United Church of Christ
PO 128, Andreas, PA 18211
June - 2011



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you and may blessing be upon you in the name of Jesus Christ.

I know it is hard to believe with this unseasonable weather we have been having but summer is just around the corner. The first day of summer, June 21, will be here before we know it, the boys of summer will be preparing for their mid season break and my favorite team hopefully will no longer be in last place.

Living in 'Phillies' country and rooting for the 'Mets' has always been an easy way to get someone who is a total stranger to talk with me. If I bring up that I cheer for the Mets, there is a good chance that a conversation will take place, even if I have to listen to some Phillies fan go on about how great the team's pitching staff is this year or how they expect to win over 100 games this season. Baseball can be the equalizer that allows total strangers of diverse backgrounds to speak to one another.

And why not, our American pastime is now played in Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, Panama and Columbia. Those who live in Japan, Korea, China, Australia and even those in the hockey crazed nation of Canada like to play the game or at least root for their favorite team.

Gary Graf who wrote a book on the parallels he finds between Baseball and the Bible states that "Baseball, perhaps more than any other enterprise, brings together people of different religions, races, nationalities, and forges them into thriving communities where all work together to serve one another toward a common goal." He continues, "Leave it to the game to hold out the possibility, the potential God sees for all of humanity."

Graf finds a parallel between this understanding of the game today and those who were filled with the Holy Spirit during the harvest festival, the feast of Pentecost. The disciples were given the ability to speak in other languages so that they may proclaim the power of God to all the people. As the spirit came to them and others the Christian church began to expand and grow.

If we are able to spend more time outdoors, in the presence of more and more people, our faith in the greatness of what God has done for us in the death and resurrection of Christ needs to be expressed. As faithful followers of Christ it is our calling to express God's life giving power to others, to reach out in Christian love and to reflect Christ's goodness through our own responses and actions towards others.

The church will be doing this in worship as we share God's love and celebrate the new beginnings of those in our congregation who are graduating. We will be reflecting God's spirit on Pentecost Sunday by reaching out to our community with our Strawberry Social and we will be joining together all generations in our congregation as we hold our intergenerational worship on Father's Day.

All of us make up the church. We all have our part to do to help the church expand and grow. We all have special gifts given to us by God through the Holy Spirit. I ask each of you who have the privilege to be out with others, to be a true sign of Christ's amazing love for all of us. May Christ's love always shine upon you and please know I thank God for all of you.

Peace to all,
Pastor Mike



Sunday Worship Schedule for June 2011

[8:15 and 10:30 AM Services]

June 5, 12, 19, 26

Come and hear about Bekki Zeigler's Mission Trip...she will speak about her trip to Tijuana, Mexico on June 5

Father's Day

June 19

Gifts will be presented to all fathers
by the Sunday School

Communion Services:

June 5 at both services

July 3 at both services



June 12
Pentecost Sunday

The Cherub Choir will sing on June 19 at 10:30 AM



The Hand Bell Choir will participate in the
8:15 AM Service on May 29
and on June 26 at the 10:30 AM Service.



June 19 – Children's Breakfast at Social Hall

Final day of Sunday School for the Summer.
Sunday School resumes on August 28 at 9:15 AM.

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.

Sunday, June 26 - 10:30 AM

Intergenerational Service

Participation by the Sunday School Classes

Pastor McGowan's Ordination – June 12, 3:00 PM

To the congregation of Ben Salem Church,

After three years of seminary, numerous internships, Clinical Pastoral Education training, and fulfilling all PNEC requirements it is time for Pastor McGowan to be ordained. This ceremony is traditionally held at the church that had affirmed the call of the candidate and approves the candidate to prepare for ordained ministry. Pastor McGowan's ordination will be held at St. John's UCC of Farmersville. The information is as follows:

Directions to St. John's UCC of Farmersville:

Get on 248 in Bowmanstown

Travel 16 miles to Bath.

Go straight at stop sign.

Cross Rt.512 at light

This is now Newburg road.

Continue straight until you come to Newburg (4miles)

Cross Rt.191 at light

Continue on Newburg road until you come to a 4 way stop. (2miles)

Turn right onto Country Club road at stop sign.

Continue straight at traffic light on Country Club road.

Next stop sign, bear right onto Church Rd.

Go 1 mile, St John's Farmersville is on the left. Notre Dame High School is on the right.

Parking lot is before the church building. If lot is full park in the high school lot.

If you plan to attend Pastor McGowan's Ordination Service, please call the Church Office at 570-386-3870 so we can let St. John's UCC know how many are coming from Ben Salem Church.

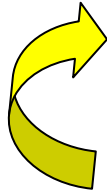




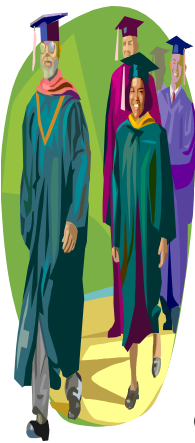
Graduate Recognition – June 5

“Graduation is not the end; it's the beginning.” ~ Orrin Hatch

Graduates, please join your loving sisters and brothers in Christ on June 5th so we may recognize your accomplishment and celebrate your achievement as you commence into the next exciting chapter of life.



The **Smith Scholarship** is now open to those graduates who plan on furthering their education. Please contact the church office if you would like to apply. Forms can be e-mailed to you. Deadline to apply is June 30.



High School Graduates

Kacy Beck – Graduating from Lehigh Area High School on June 10, 2011

Will attend Shippensburg University of PA:

Major Secondary Education/Math / Field Hockey

James Deem – Graduating from Tamaqua Area High School on June 3, 2011

Will attend LCCC in the Fall

Brandon Frantz – Graduating from Tamaqua Area High School on June 3, 2011

Joshua Kramer – Graduating from West Johnston High School on June 10, 2011

Alaina Reese – Graduating from Tamaqua Area High School on June 3, 2011

Will attend Alvernia University in Fall /Nursing

Kenzie Teno – Graduating from Lehigh Area High School on June 10, 2011

Calvin Troxell – Graduating from Tamaqua Area High School on June 3, 2011

Jager Ziegenfuss – Graduating from Lehigh Area High School on June 10, 2011

College Graduates

Jessica Bealer – May 21, 2011 with a BA in Philosophy and a Minor in History /Misericordia University

Plans to continue graduate education starting with classes this Summer in Organizational Management

Emily Kline – May 22, 2011 with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Athletic Training from Kings College

Jonathon Kuehner – December 2010 [Associate Degree in Education] from LCCC

plans to further his education at Kutztown University of PA

Jennifer Lusch – Graduates this Summer - MS in Education / Classroom Technology / Wilkes University

Nicole Smith – May 21, 2011 with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Misericordia University.

Jenna Turner – Graduates this Summer – MS in Human Development and Family Studies with a Concentration in Gerontology from Texas Tech

Rebekka Zeigler – May 8th, 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies with minors in International Studies and Christian Education from Defiance College, Ohio

Daybreak Director

We are searching for a director for “Daybreak” at the

8:15 AM Worship Service. If you would like to serve

Ben Salem Church through music, please call the Church

Office at 570-386-3870 to apply.



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, PO 128, Andreas, PA 18211

2011 Church Board Members:

Officers: Sharon Elder, President
Ken Scherer, Vice President
LaVaun Shanton, Secretary

Elders: Brian Beidleman, Sharon Elder, Ken Scherer, LaVaun Shanton

Deacons:, Barry Fink, Amy Frantz, Denise Gerber, Walter Keeck,
Terry Lusch, Judy Pope, Bernice Steigerwalt, Ron Steigerwalt,

Pastor: Michael McGowan

Church Secretary: Dollie Behr

Treasurer: Dawne Beidleman

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

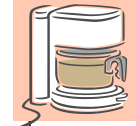
Next Church Board Meetings: June 20 and July 18, 7 PM

Ben Salem History Books
are still available / \$60
Contact the Church Office
[570-386-3870]

*Have you remembered the
church in your will?*

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.



Coffee Hour:

Volunteers are needed to serve coffee. If you would like to help for a week or two, please contact Sharon Elder at 570-386-2530.

Cemetery Association Officers: Next meeting September 1, 7 PM

[Meetings held on first Thursday of each month at 7 P.M.]

President: Dennis Frantz

Secretary: Walter Keeck

Trustee: Richard Bealer

Vice-President: Christopher Galloway

Treasurer: Doris Lusch

Caretaker: David Fritz

Please Note: Ben Salem Cemetery Association's policy states that no artificial flowers and arrangements be placed on our cemeteries from May 1 through October 31." We thank everyone for abiding with the Ben Salem UCC Cemetery Association policies.

Scheduling Events at Ben Salem Church:

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

Altar Flower Sponsors: [Checks payable to Ben Salem UCC]

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

Bulletin Sponsorship: [Checks payable to Ben Salem UCC]

Please call Sue Messina at 570-386-2880 with your sponsorship information or e-mail Sue at suemess@ptd.net. 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!

Celebration Hymnals: Sponsors Needed!

We are planning to purchase 50 new Celebration Hymnals so we have enough copies to use for Worship. At the present time we do not have enough to place in all of the pews. We are asking if anyone would like to help with this project that they fill out the sponsorship slip below.

Name _____ Phone Number _____

I would like to sponsor ____ [quantity] Celebration Hymnal/s

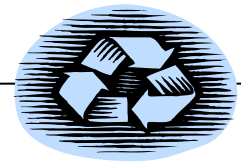
in honor of _____ by _____

in memory of _____ by _____

to the Glory of God by _____

Number of Hymnals sponsored _____ @ \$10.00 a copy

Total enclosed \$ _____ place in the box located in the narthex.



Recycle...save your soda cans...

Larry Nothstein and Herlin Haberman continue to take aluminum cans to Zaprazny's. To help with this project...bring your **aluminum soda cans** [crushed or uncrushed] to the Old Social Hall and drop them off at the lower basement entrance. Benefits the Building Fund. **Please do not throw any other garbage items in with the aluminum soda cans.**

Upcoming Committee Meetings

- Membership & Growth – June 6, 7 PM
- Fundraisers – June 7, 7 PM
- Property Committee – June 16, 7 PM
- Missions Committee – July 11, 1:30 PM
- Called to Care – August 1, 1 PM
- Worship Committee – August 1, 7 PM
- Christian Education – August 3, 6 PM
- Cemetery Association – September 1, 7 PM

New Church Slogan

At the Membership & Growth Committee meeting in May a new church slogan was selected from 20 entries.

The winning slogan is:

***“Come Worship Christ –
We Are Saving a Seat for You”***

The slogan was submitted by
Jr. Youth/Youth Sunday School Class:
Connor Frey, Nick Cramer, Zach Christoff, Becki Nothstein, and Matt Cramer.

Hand Bell News:

The Ben Salem Hand Bell Choir performed at the 250th Anniversary Dinner of Jacob's Church, New Tripoli, PA on May 22. This is the church that has the “Jesus the Good Shepherd” mural from our old church. The mural is framed and under glass and located in their Social Hall.



Items needed:

Toilet Tissue
Mayonnaise
Tissues
Paper Towels

Jelly
Miracle Whip
Cake Icing
Cereal

Salad Dressing
Napkins
Hamburger & Tuna Helpers
Manwich Sauce

Phase II – Building Program



The Board has decided that any money donated will stay in the Building Account until such time as a building program is approved by the congregation. To contribute to Phase II, please use the gold envelopes included in your offering packets and make checks payable to Ben Salem UCC.

Next meeting: Monday, July 11 at 1:30 PM in the parlor

Want something fun to do?

Sponsor an item in the mission committee's Alternative Holiday Fair!!!
You are able to choose how and in what way you want to help.....

\$10 Two Rabbits	\$25 Share of Seeds and Tools	\$40 Share of 5 School Kits
\$10 Oral Rehydration Therapy	\$30 Two month supply of grain	\$25 Share of an Emergency Food Package
\$10 Soccer Ball	\$30 Emerg. Clean-up Bucket	\$50 Share of Draft Animal
\$10 Hygiene Kit	\$25 Share of 10 Blankets	\$50 Share of Shelter Kit
\$15 Two Jerry Cans	\$25 Share of 5 Mosquito Nets	\$65 Share of Pair of Goats
\$25 Beehive	\$35 200 Tree Seedlings	\$70 Share of Pair of Pigs
\$25 Fifty Chicks	\$35 Wheelbarrow	

Simply visit the display in the narthex and take the slip of paper that corresponds with the item you choose. Submit payment with the slip of paper with item listed in your mission envelope and place in offering plate.

This project will run for the months of June and July!!



The Leighton Furniture Bank is in need of beds, dressers and sofas. They also could use volunteers to help pick up donations. Contact: Shirley Radler 610-377-4278

Family Promise of Carbon County

Ben Salem has officially signed the commitment letter. If you are interested in volunteering for this project, please contact Lonnie Christoff. We need to gather a list of interested people willing to help. For more information on Family Promise of Carbon County, please contact Larissa Kimmel at 610-577-5060 or by e-mail at mlkimmel@ptd.net.

Blanket Makers/Quilters

The Blanket Makers and Quilters meet on Thursday mornings. Contacts for the group are Dollie Frantz [386-4034] and Betty Nothstein [386-5644]. Helpers are always welcome! Come out and join them. If you know of someone who is in need of a knotted blanket, please let the group know.

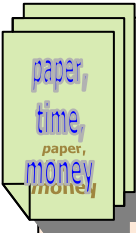
The new quilt is a multi-colored log cabin design. Raffle Tickets will be available at fundraisers throughout the year.

Help needed: If you have new or used blankets or sheets, the group could use them...drop them off at the upper entrance to the social hall on Thursday morning between 9 and Noon or call Dollie or Betty.

Women's Clothing: If you know of someone in need of women's clothing in sizes 12 -14, please contact Lonnie Christoff at 610-462-0883 or Dollie Frantz at 570-386-4034.



Thursday Morning Bible Study: The Bible Study Group meets on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock in the church parlor.



**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: _____

**Ben Salem Vacation Bible School
 2011**

**“Big Apple Adventure”
 Monday, June 27 – Friday, July 1
 6:30 to 9 PM at the Church**

There will be
“A Celebration in Central Park”
 on Friday, July 1st , with exciting
 inflatables, games, and delicious snacks!



Items needed: large appliance boxes, projector screens – free standing
Snack items needed: freeze pops, cookies, chips, pretzels, cheese puffs, animal
 crackers, goldfish crackers, graham crackers, blueberries, watermelon,
 apples, strawberries, green grapes, bananas.

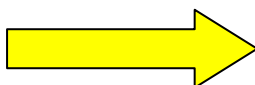
If you know of any children who would be interested - Contact Dawne Beidleman at
 570-386-2015 or Kelly White at 570-386-3072 for more information or you may register
 your children on the website: bensalemucc.com



**Children’s [Sunday School] Breakfast
 June 19, 9:15 AM**



June 19 will be the final day of Sunday School for the
 Summer and is intended for the kids to spend some fun
 time together and have breakfast. Parents should drop
 their children off at the dining hall that day at 9:15 AM, and
 pick them up at 10:15 AM. The children will be served a
 hot breakfast. Sunday School classes for children will
 resume on August 28 at 9:15 AM.



Young Adult Group

We are looking for all young adults to attend, whether you are a recent grad, beginning to start a family, or have children already this will be for you. As this new venture begins, the structure along with meeting times and place will be determined by members that attend. Ideas that have been discussed already include: faith discussions, campfires, volleyball, baseball, bowling, swimming, pot luck dinners, information speakers, fellowship, etc. We all live busy lives and don't need anymore stress, so we are hoping to make this group a fun time for all to enjoy. So if you looking to meet others going through life as you are, please come and join.

Contact Kevin Lusch at 570-386-8222 if you are interested.



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

Thank You Notes:

I want to thank you all for the lovely prayer shawl. Earl Lorah

Thank you so much for the thoughtful gift I received on Sunday. It was a pleasant surprise. You have a beautiful church and friendly people. I enjoyed the service very much. Sincerely, Violet Wood

Thank you all for the support and care you offered us for the short while we were among you. We especially want to thank all of you who participated in the celebration dinner and those who provided the many and thoughtful notes, cards, and gifts. We have been blessed to have been welcomed so warmly into the Ben Salem Church Family, and we want you to know that we pray God's most abundant blessings be showered on all of you as you venture into the future of a new generation of worship and service for the Glory of our Savior Jesus Christ! Yours in faithfulness, Pastor Jim and Pam

A special thank you to our church family for all the concern, phone calls, cards, memorial gifts, food, flowers and your presence as we mourn the loss of our beloved wife, mother and daughter. A special thanks to all the ministers at Ben Salem and St. Peter's Church for all they've done for all of us.

Dale Troxell, Daughters, Jennifer and Jamie and their families
and Joyce & Ernest Steigerwalt and their family

Comments from Cramer Concert:

Thank you for inviting me to the Cramer Brothers Concert yesterday...It was an awesome afternoon!

Franklin Griffith

Dear Friends at Ben Salem Church: Kay and I attended the Cramer Brothers Concert on Sunday. How elated we were when about six weeks ago we received the complimentary tickets from Dayle Smith. It was a very meaningful and joyous afternoon and by looking around at those attending, as well as reading the newspaper and following the happening events at Ben Salem, it is clear to Christians other than Ben Salem members that God is alive and well in your church. You are fulfilling what He commanded to do. Please place this check in your latest building fund, along with our well wishes! We wish you all the very best. In Christ, Lee and Kay Becker

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. 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, 2011.



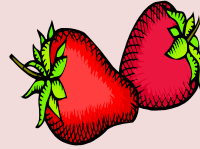
Strawberry Social

Food, Fun, Entertainment



Join us on June 12

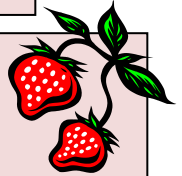
[serving from Noon to 6 P.M.]



Donations needed for Strawberry Social:

4 bottles of dish detergent	30 lb. potatoes	6 lg. containers catsup
8 rolls of paper towel	5 stalks celery	1 case napkins white
6 qt. miracle whip	1 lg decaf coffee	4 rolls of aluminum foil
4-30 oz. Kraft or Hellman's Mayo	Cases of Coke, 7up & Pepsi	4 rolls of plastic wrap
12 large sweet onions	200 plastic spoons	500- 6 inch paper cake plates
3 jars pickle relish	500 plastic forks	6 cases of bottled water
1 lb. carrots [not mini]	1 qt apple cider vinegar	7 cans evap. milk
3 small jars mustard	baggies – 5 boxes qt. size	baggies - 5 boxes gallon size
1 qt apple cider vinegar		

Also needed are home baked shortcakes and cakes for the cake walk
Monetary donations will be used to defray the cost of the social.



Please contact Sharon Elder at 570-386-2530 if you can donate any of the items listed above.

Special Prayers

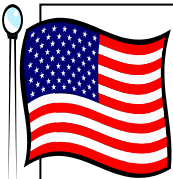
Prayer Chain: The Prayer Chain is a way for anyone to request prayer for a specific need....[or thanksgiving or joy]. To have our Prayer Chain pray for you: Contact Betty Nothstein at 570-386-5644. Please call Betty if you would like to be called with others' prayer requests as part of the Prayer Chain.

Called to Care: Trained volunteers from our church are available to assist the Pastor in visiting people. 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...Please call the Church Office or speak to the Pastor if interested. **The next "Called to Care" Meeting is scheduled for August 1 at 1 PM.**

Support Our Troops - All military personnel

Brettany Smith – Ramstein Air Force Base - Germany

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






Congratulations to Tiara Graver and Chad Smith!

Tiara and Chad were married at Ben Salem Church on May 21.



Congratulations to Kory and Jamie Beidleman on the birth of their son Dalton Kory. Dalton was born on May 19, 2011

June 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 PM Cherub Choir 6:30 PM VBS Planning Mtg. 7:30 PM Senior Choir	2 9 AM Blanket Makers/Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 7 PM Hand Bell Choir	3	4
5 <u>Graduate Recognition</u> Communion at both services 8:15 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 3 PM Service celebrating the 50 th Anniversary of Ordination for Rev. David Knoebel at St. John's UCC, Tamaqua	6 7 PM Membership & Growth	7 7 PM Fundraisers Meeting	8 6:30 PM Cherub Choir 7:30 PM Senior Choir	9 9 AM Blanket Makers/Quilters 10 AM Bible Study 7 PM Hand Bell Choir	10	11
12 <u>Pentecost</u> 8:15 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Noon to 6 PM – Strawberry Social	13	14 	15 Zion's Stone Church VBS	16 7 PM Property Comm.	17	18
19 <u>Father's Day</u> 8:15 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School Breakfast for Sunday School kids 10:30 AM Worship/Cherub Choir Intergenerational Service	20 7 PM Church Board Meeting	21 	22	23	24	25
26 8:15 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School [no Children's Sunday School] 10:30 AM Worship/Hand Bells	27 	28 Ben Salem UCC Vacation Bible School 6:30 to 9:00 PM	29 6 PM Newsletter Assembly	30 Deadline for Smith Scholarship Fund	