



The Aaronsburg Charge
United Church of Christ
November and December 2011
aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net
Phone: (814)349-5094

Worship Schedule for 2011

St. Peter's: 9:30 a.m. (Sunday school following worship)

Salem: 10:45 am

Communion is open to all who seek to know the Risen Christ and is offered 7 times per year.



From the Interim Pastor:

Both consistories are being asked to envision the ministries of their respective churches five and ten years down the road. It is a sobering task in some cases to imagine what we, our churches and our world will be like a decade from now. It was into such a world that Christ was born. Times were hard and life was short in those days. Ten years was one third of a person's life. We live much longer now and so the question becomes, what will we do with the gift of time given us? How will we use our God-given gifts to transform lives?

In the season of gift-giving, what better time to consider how we actively plan to build up Christ's church so that others may know the saving grace and unlimited love of God through Jesus Christ.

*Peace,
Leigh*

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Al-Anon Meetings

Al-Anon meets every Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. at St. Peter's UCC in Aaronsburg. If a friend or loved one has a problem with alcohol and now you find that your life has become unmanageable, come to the meetings. This 12-step program may just be the help you need!



I want to thank everyone who sent cards, called, brought food, and had me in their prayers after my sister Phyllis passed away this past summer. Even though she didn't know me for years, it was still hard to see her go.

Thanks again. It meant a lot to me that so many thought about me.
Sincerely,

Terry Bressler

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Calling All Former St. John's UCC Members!

A final opportunity to receive items from St. John's before the property is sold will be offered on **Saturday, November 19th from 9:00 to Noon** at St. John's. It is anticipated that the church, the property and remaining contents will be sold sometime in the spring. If you missed the previous chance to collect a memento from St. John's, here is your last chance to pick up a keepsake from the church.

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Joint Consistory:

JOINT CONSISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

- * Joint Consistory met on October 18, 2011 at Salem.
- * The Charge is paying for the third and fourth quarters fire insurance for both Salem & St. Peter's.
- * Three combination carbon monoxide/fire alarms will be purchased and installed at the parsonage.
- * Ed Dashem will be asked to do some landscaping around the parsonage.
- * Doug & Don Royer will be asked to clean the gutters once the leaves are done falling.
- * A committee will be coming up with an application for 2012's Hartman Center Camp Scholarship for two Penns Valley students.
- * Christmas in Millheim will be December 9, 6 - 8 p.m.. Sign up sheet will be passed around.
- * Longest Night service will be held December 18, 7 p.m. at Salem. Invitations to family members will be mailed by November 28.
- * Joint Service on Christmas morning, December 25 will be a Hymn Sing at Salem beginning at 9:30 a.m..
- * The Proposed Budget for 2012 was accepted as presented.
- * Ted Corman will be changing the water meter at the parsonage.
- * Pastor Leigh will be going to the Mid-Winter Convocation in Hershey from January 24 thru 26, 2012.
- * Brenda Stover and Ginny Hosterman will be shopping and buying a new computer on behalf of the Charge for the parsonage.
- * A small church seminar will be held at the Conference office on November 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.. No fee, lunch will be provided, prior registration is needed. Pastor Leigh would like to see 2 people from each church attend with her.
- * End of year committees are:
 - Auditing - Marilyn Weaver, chair & Donna Auman
 - Nominating - Gary Auman, chair & Doug Royer
 - Nominations need to be read from the pulpit two weeks before the next meeting.
 - Gratuity - Orville Hosterman, chair & Janie Shook
- * The next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2012 at St. Peter's.
Joint Spiritual Life Committee - 7 p.m. & Joint Consistory - 7:30 p.m..
- * Meeting was adjourned with everyone praying the Lord's Prayer.

Helen Sweeley, Secretary
Joint Consistory

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Bethany Children's Home---Gift Cards



We will be giving gift cards to Bethany Children's home for Christmas this year. Any type of gift card from **major retailers** will be appreciated (Wal-Mart, Kmart, Target). Popular ones for clothing are Aeropostale, American Eagle, Gap, 5 Below, H&M, Old Navy, and Footlocker.

Other ideas would include: Borders Books, Barnes & Noble, I-Tunes, Best Buy, Bath and Body Works, FYE, Claire's, Dick's, and Modell's.

Fast food cards are always a hit, too (McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Wendy's, Burger King)!

The deadline for the gift cards will be Sunday, December 11.



Prayer Chain

All Service Personnel and their families. Jacob Kerstetter (deployed to Iraq)

All Charge Shut-ins: Polly Crader, Tom Hazel, Ellen Huey, Bernice Warntz, and Hazel Warntz.

Dorothy Alters	Ryan Balliett	Clinton Bonson	Darlene Boob	Fred & Karen Boob	Randall Boob
Mike Braucht	Terry Bressler	Bob Brown	Kay Brown	Family of Connie Carper	Carol & Nelson Cook
Alex Corman	Ted Corman	T.J. Coursen	Bill & Janie Crater	Glenda Dobson	Michael Dimock
Dr. Lillian Earle	Jean Eisenhuth	Frances Fetterolf	Tim Galloway	Karen Glasgow	Luke Haskell
Luke Haskell	Diane Homan	Benjamin Hosterman	Rich Hosterman	Jonathan Huey	Marcia Lingle
Makayla Luse	Fred & Betty Mensch	Sam Moore	Loretta Neff	Robert Neill	Dixie Ort
Amanda Rachau	David Rearick	Jane Stover Rickner	Shirley Rossman	Jackie Shawver	
Gay Lynne Shouey	Doris Z. Smith	Bernice Snyder	Frank Stapleton	Betty Stover	Cheryl Stover
Family of Dean Stover	Evelyn Stover	Randall Stover	Randolph Swartz	Janet & Roy Van Gilder	Ruth Weaver
The Charlotte Weiser family	Becky Wenrick	Mildred Wingard	Mark & Nancy Wise		

*Names listed in bold are newly added names to this list.

Please feel free to add/subtract from this list by calling your Consistory President. Please make the changes in your church's prayer chain board.



Our Homebound, Nursing Home or Health Care Residents:

If you would like to add someone to the Shut-in list, please submit to aaronsburgcharge@verizon.net or drop a note in the milk box on the front porch of the parsonage.)

Pauline Crader
50 N Third Street, Apt. 415
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Mr. & Mrs. Fredrick Mensch
PO Box 381
Millheim, PA 16854

Hazel Warntz
167 Cemetery Road
Aaronsburg, PA 16820

Tom Hazel
120 E Beaver Ave, Apt 709
State College, PA 16801

Carrie Neese
Salem Hill Haven
424 Heckman Cemetery RD
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Mildred Wingard
377 Paradise RD, PO Box 46
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Ellen Huey
168 Long Street, PO Box 289
Spring Mills, PA 16875

Randall Stover
PO Box 153
Aaronsburg, PA 16820

Mr. & Mrs. Guy Zerby
4412 Penns Valley Road
Spring Mills, PA 16875

SALEM'S HAPPENINGS – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

Mission Statement: Our goal is to service the community in a Christian way, to love one another and to worship God together seeking truth, justice and peace.

Grange Fair Sunday found Rev. Ann Graves filling the pulpit with her husband Bob joining the congregation and we thank Ann for leading us in worship that morning. We had a couple other visiting ministers with us - Rev. Randy Rossman was here for the Fair and Rev. Keith Brenner and his wife, Sherry evacuated from the coast and Hurricane Irene. I'm happy to report that the Brenner's had no damage when they returned home. Women's Guild members held the dedication ceremony for the "Feet & Seat" covers. The Millheim Outreach Center received 195 pairs of socks, 257 pairs of underwear and 2 t-shirts for the needy children of Penns Valley to start back to school. We shared communion by intinction. Thank you to the following: Marilyn Weaver for playing the organ & not taking any pay, Bonnie DeBrasky for helping with the offering, Donna & Gary Auman for helping with communion and everyone who donated the "Feet & Seat" covers.



The Children's backpack dedication took place on September 4 before the start of school.

We celebrated the baptism of Daisy Jean Jackson that day. Daisy was born of May 9, 2011 to Rob and Janette Swartz Jackson and big sister Emily. The Godparents are Erin Davis and Kayla Jackson. Steve and Peg Swartz are grandparents and Betty Stover is great-grandma. Congratulations to the whole family.



What a wonderful day we had on September 24. The weather was fantastic and our bean soup/bake sale was a great success! So as not to miss anyone, I'm just going to say a big THANK YOU to everyone for everything. Three big kettles of soup was made and at the end of the day, we had a lot left over. An electric roaster full was donated to Salem Hill Haven, we enjoyed some for lunch the next day after morning worship and the rest was put in quart containers and 5 quart ice cream buckets. During the following week, everything was sold except for 2 ice cream buckets. If you're interested, let me know, the price per bucket is \$10.00. The left over baked goods on Sunday was donated as snacks for the Crop Walk. It was a long day and a lot of hard work, but I think we all had a good time. Everything was donated so everything we took in was profit - \$729.75.



Donna Auman, Andrew Slavinsky and Dave Sweeley walked in the Crop Walk on September 25. There were approximately 50 walkers starting at the Civic Center in Aaronsburg and ending at St. John's Lutheran Church in Millheim. The walk raised over \$4,000 to stamp out hunger.



It was a very windy day for Hartman Center's Family Festival on October 15 but Pastor Leigh, Andrew Slavinsky, Dave & Helen Sweeley attended. Thank you to Pastor Leigh for taking our "Fall Planting Tub" along for the auction. Thank you to everyone who helped fill the tub. Sorry, I didn't see what the highest bid was or who got it. We worked in the Association's chicken/corn soup & baked goods stand and I think they made out okay. The dining hall was used for the basket auction and they had things in there that they chanced off also. There was a craft building, games, hay rides, live entertainment and food, food and more food. It was a very good day of fun and fellowship.



Thank you to Jason and Carrie Swartz for hosting the Halloween Party at their home. Thank you to all who helped with the decorations, games and food. It was a great time for food, fun, and fellowship. It was good to see that Josh did not wear his costume to church on Sunday morning.



Look for sign up sheets at Salem for 2012 Flowers, Janitors & Greeters. If you can't do it by yourself, ask someone else to help.

The events calendar is at the back of the church. Please take one. We are looking for new ideas or an interest in bringing back some old ideas.



There will be a sign up sheet at the back of the church for Salem's Soup & Sandwich lunch on November 27. Santa & Treats - Heather & Cindy Ross, Betty Stover and Donn Fetterolf.

Our heartfelt condolences:

Ginny and Donnie Boob on the recent death of Ginny's sister, Charlotte Weiser
Mabel and Guy Zerby on the recent death of Mabel's sister, Alice



May our prayers comfort you in this time of grieving.

ST. PETER'S NEWS – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011

Worship Schedule for 2011

St. Peter's: 9:30 a.m. (Sunday school following worship)



Salem and St. Peter's met at Salem on August 28, 2011 for the Annual Grange Fair Communion Sunday. Thank you to Pastor Ann Graves who supplied for Pastor Leigh that Sunday. Feet and Seat covers for needy children in our area were dedicated during the service by members of the

Women's Guild and Spiritual Life Committee who were present. Thank you to all who arranged for the Bar-B-Q Brunch after worship on September 6. All who attended enjoyed the meal and fellowship. Thank you to Pastor Leigh for the very meaningful candle lighting service on September 11 – it has been 10 years since this tragic day in our history. A community service was held at the Penns Valley High School on the evening of September 11 with many local pastors and members of the community participating. At the end of the service, those present who represented EMS and Fire Departments from East and West Penns and Brush Valleys circled the parking lot with their sirens going in honor and memory of those who served or who perished on September 11, 2001. Jamey Fye and Sam Schrenkengast were married at St. Peter's at 4:00 PM on Saturday, September 24. The sanctuary was beautiful for our Harvest Home Celebration on September 25. Thank you to the Harvest Home Committee and all who helped make this possible. The CROP walk was held in Aaronsburg and Millheim on Sunday afternoon (September 25). More than \$3,000 was raised in this wonderful effort to help food banks (locally and beyond). Members of the Women's Guild wish to thank all those from both churches who donated "finger foods" and other goodies and helped with the Dutch Fall Festival Stand in Aaronsburg on Saturday, October 1. Even though the weather was not the best, we did do pretty well, and those who are in need this winter in our communities will benefit from our efforts. We celebrated Worldwide Communion Sunday on October 2. It always fills me with a sense of awe to think Christians all around the world are celebrating this feast on this day together. Special Offerings are being taken on October 23 and 30 by the Women's Guild for clean-up buckets

for Church World Service. A hayride and potluck supper were held on the “blustery” Saturday evening of October 22. Thank you to all who made this possible and to all who attended. Sunday School has resumed after worship. All children who are attending are benefiting so much from Bonnie’s leadership, and she has a new “helper” now in Paige Meyers. Sounds exciting to me. The blessing of the children during worship (for those in attendance and those not attending) was so meaningful on October 23. Everyone from the congregation gathered around the children for the blessing. Those smiling faces are such an inspiration for all of us. We had visitors (Ken Heasley, PCC-OCWM Team and Marja Coons-Torn, Conference Minister at our July Joint Consistory Meeting. They explained how Our Church’s Wider Mission works and were available to answer questions about how our contributions are used.

November	READER	FLOWERS	Monthly Greeter	Monthly Offering Counters
6	Virginia Hosterman		Ed Kerstetter	Dave Edwards/Ginny Hosterman
13	Phoebe Anskis	Judy/Nan		
20	Ed Kerstetter	Judy/Nan		
27	HANGING OF THE GREENS	Poinsettias		

Consistory Devotions: Ginny Hosterman

December	READER	FLOWERS	Monthly Greeter	Monthly Offering Counters
4	Bonnie DeBrasky	Poinsettias	Brenda Stover	Linda Musser/Shane Royer
11	Bill Miles	Poinsettias		
18	Lori Corman	Poinsettias		
25	JOINT SERVICE – SALEM – 9:30 AM	Poinsettias		

Consistory Devotions: Orvil Hosterman

Mid-Week Advent Community Vespers

Beginning the first Wednesday in Advent and continuing through the Wednesday in Advent, the worshipping community will be invited to evening vespers. The location will rotate among four churches and each evening will have an Advent theme. This year's themes are: Love, Peace, Joy and Hope. The services will be meditative and involve the use of candles during our prayer time. Join us as we usher in the Christ Child's coming into the world through scripture, music, and prayer. St. Peter's will be the site of the second week of Advent's worship, Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services

We will have back-to-back celebrations of Christ's coming into the world this year! We will begin with the traditional seven o'clock Joint Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight service at St. Peter's and follow up with a Christmas Day service for the entire Aaronsburg Charge the next morning at 9:30 a.m. Because Christmas falls on a Sunday this year, we will join for one service that will intersperse readings with familiar hymns in a truly celebrative observance of Christ's birth. Invite everyone you know to come and be part of a two-day observance of the wonder of Christ's coming into our midst!

Longest Night Service

For the third year in a row, the Aaronsburg Charge will offer the community a "Longest Night Service." This year's service will be held at Salem UCC on December 18th at 7:00 p.m. The evening will consist of readings from scripture and other sources, music, prayer and lighting of candles in memory of those we miss.

The purpose of the service is to allow people a place to grieve and acknowledge their pain and loneliness during the holiday season. Anyone who has experienced loss of any kind over the years and is looking for something to help them through the sadness is invited to come.

AARONSBURG CHARGE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST - WOMEN'S GUILD

MINUTES – Women's Guild Meeting – Tuesday, October 4, 2011

Women's Guild met on Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at St. Peter's at 7:15 PM with six members present. Helen Sweeley led the devotions. Secretary's report was read and approved as read. Helen Sweeley reported that Dutch Fall Festival profits were \$310.22 and the available fund balance as of today is \$356.70. She also reported we need to sell two more calendars in order to break even on the printing costs. Janie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Helen Benner seconded it and the motion carried.

Old Business:

Dutch Fall Festival – we were down about \$38.00 from last year, which isn't that bad considering the weather. A thank you will be sent to Peg Swartz and Peggy Hoover for making the beautiful aprons for the Women's Guild members and helpers to wear during the festival. The artwork depicted all the good works the Guild does. The leftovers were given to Salem Hill Haven, and it was reported that the residents there are enjoying them.

New Business:

Pastor Leigh received a letter from Marja Coons-Torn in which mentioned that Church World Service is in need of 10,000 clean-up buckets or cash donations. It was decided to have a special offering on Sunday, October 23 and Sunday, October 30 and the proceeds will be sent by the Women's Guild to Church World Service, in Elkhart, IN. Any checks for this special offering should be made out to "Women's Guild". Thank you cards were received from the family of Jacob Alters (burn victim) for the gas card and from Gay Lynne Shouey for the donation. She will be coming home this Thursday from California – her brain surgery was a success.

Helen Benner brought in a fundraiser article on the sale of knives and peelers. Helen Sweeley will call the "800" number and get a catalog.

Helen Sweeley spoke with Roxy Witmer and she gave her a list of things that are needed at the Outreach Center. Pastor Leigh will print this in the bulletin for the 11.11.11 Project.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, November 1, 2011 at 7:15 PM at St. Peter's. Marilyn Weaver will provide the devotions.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Weaver, Acting Secretary

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Each One Bring One Sunday

ON NOVEMBER 6, EACH MEMBER OF THE AARONSBURG CHARGE IS ASKED TO INVITE CO-WORKERS, FAMILY MEMBERS OR FRIENDS TO JOIN THEM FOR A DAY OF FELLOWSHIP AND WORSHIP AND OFFER "AN EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME!" BRING OTHERS AND LET THEM IN ON THE EXCITEMENT AND COMMITMENT WE'RE BRINGING TO MISSION:1, WHILE WELCOMING THEM INTO WORSHIP. EACH ONE - BRING ONE!



A special happy birthday to Randall Stover
 He celebrated his 92nd on October 20

November Anniversaries

November 11 Shane & Pam Royer

December Anniversaries

December 3 James & Brenda Stover



November Birthdays

November 6 Terry Bressler
 November 12 Jane Crater
 November 16 Lois Royer
 November 17 Erin Swartz
 November 19 Judy Bailey
 November 19 Amy Jo Howell
 November 22 Karen Glasgow
 November 22 Josh Stover
 November 23 Brenda Stover
 November 27 Samantha Brown
 November 27 Nicole Wolfe



December Birthdays

December 4 Jesse Stover
 December 7 Randall Boob
 December 9 Aliza Stover
 December 11 Donna Auman
 December 12 Elva Fetterolf
 December 13 Betty Stover
 December 14 Glenda Dobson
 December 14 Linda Long
 December 20 Babette Sabol

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Sun., Oct., 30. All Saints Sunday
 Mon., Oct., 31

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Tue	Nov	1		First day of Mission:1
			7:15 p.m.	Women's Guild, St. Peter's
Wed	Nov	2		
Thu	Nov	3		
Fri	Nov	4	7:00 p.m.	Decker/Reichenbach rehearsal, Salem
Sat	Nov	5	2:00 p.m.	Decker/Reichenbach wedding, Salem
			6:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Meal, Gregg Township. Firehall
Sun	Nov	6		Day light savings time ends
				<i>Celebrate Extravagant Welcome Sunday</i>
			1:30 p.m.	Hymn Selection, St. Peter's
Mon	Nov	7		
Tue	Nov	8		
Wed	Nov	9	6:15 p.m.	Advent Community Vespers meeting, St. John Lutheran, Council room
			7:00 p.m.	VBS meeting, St. John Lutheran, Council room
Thu	Nov	10	7:00 p.m.	St. John's UCC meeting, parsonage
Fri	Nov	11		Last day of Mission:1
Sat	Nov	12	10-2 p.m.	Small Church Seminar, Conference Office
Sun	Nov	13	3:00 p.m.	Ten Days for Peace, St. John's UCC, Boalsburg
				Deadline for the inmate Christmas Cards
Mon	Nov	14	9:00 a.m.	Northern Association Ministerium, at Salem UCC, Spring Mills
			7:00 p.m.	Salem Consistory meeting
Tue	Nov	15		
Wed	Nov	16		
Thu	Nov	17		
Fri	Nov	18		
Sat	Nov	19	9-Noon	St. John's UCC Give-Away, Millheim
Sun	Nov	20		
Mon	Nov	21		
Tue	Nov	22		
Wed	Nov	23	7:00 p.m.	Community Thanksgiving services, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Centre Hall
Thu	Nov	24		
Fri	Nov	25		
Sat	Nov	26		
Sun	Nov	27		First Sunday of Advent – Hanging of the Greens
			10:45 a.m.	Soup & Sandwich Lunch after worship at Salem
Mon	Nov	28		
Tue	Nov	29		
Wed	Nov	30	7:00 p.m.	Advent Community Vespers, Theme: Love

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Thu	Dec	1		
Fri	Dec	2		
Sat	Dec	3	9:00 a.m.	Costume sorting, St. Peter's UCC
Sun	Dec	4		Costume distribution for Christmas in Millheim, St. Peter's UCC
			10:45 a.m.	Salem Congregational meeting following worship
			3:00 p.m.	Char Burch's going away Celebration, watch for more details
Mon	Dec	5		
Tue	Dec	6		Grandparents of Autism Support Group meeting
			7:15 p.m.	Women's Guild at St. Peter's
Wed	Dec	7	7:00 p.m.	Advent Community Vespers, Theme: Peace
Thu	Dec	8		
Fri	Dec	9	6-8 p.m.	Christmas in Millheim, Live Nativity
Sat	Dec	10		
Sun	Dec	11		
Mon	Dec	12		
Tue	Dec	13		
Wed	Dec	14		
Thu	Dec	15		
Fri	Dec	16		
Sat	Dec	17		
Sun	Dec	18	7:00 p.m.	Longest Night service, Salem UCC
Mon	Dec	19		
Tue	Dec	20		
Wed	Dec	21	7:00 p.m.	Advent Community Vespers Theme: Hope, St. John's Lutheran
Thu	Dec	22		
Fri	Dec	23		
Sat	Dec	24	7:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Candlelight and Community Service, St. Peter's <i>Pastor Leigh on vacation, Dec. 25 through Dec. 28</i>
Sun	Dec	25	9:30 a.m.	Christmas Day celebration and hymn sing at Salem UCC
Mon	Dec	26		
Tue	Dec	27		
Wed	Dec	28		Newsletter deadline for Jan/Feb issue
Thu	Dec	29		
Fri	Dec	30		
Sat	Dec	31		

Coming in January...

Tue., Jan 17,	7:00 p.m.	Joint Spiritual Life Committee meeting, St. Peter's
	7:30 p.m.	Joint Consistory meeting, St. Peter's