**[](http://www.gdhspa.org/SalemChurch.jpg)SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST [](http://www.gdhspa.org/SalemChurchOld.jpg)**

**2705 West Canal Road**

**Dover, PA**

Salem church, which is one of the oldest in the county, was one of the five congregations forming the Paradise Charge, which included Paradise or Holtzschwamm, Trinity or Pigeon Hill, Wolf’s and Neiman’s. The church was also knows as the Dover Church and Strayer’s. It was founded eleven years after Zion’s Church; seven years before the founding of Dover, and sixteen years after the laying out of York.

The present building is the third that has been erected since the formation of the congregation. The first German settlers took up the surrounding lands about 1736.

The first building of logs stood in the old graveyard, west of the present church.

First births of congregation recorded, John, son of John and Susanna Lenhardt, born February 18, 1762

Susanna daughter of Casper and Anna Barbara Danner, born April 8, 1762

John William Grim born June 1762

Ten births were recorded for the same year and about twenty each for the following years to 1766.

On September 12, 1954 was the ground breaking ceremony to add the Sunday school addition to the church and to add five more rows of pews. The corner stone for the addition was laid on March 20, 1955. The newly renovated church and new Sunday school annex were dedicated D4cember 11-18, 1955.

As of 2003 there are four cemeteries relating to this church. The one to the West of the Church is the original Strayer’s Cemetery. Beyond Strayer’s Cemetery is the Dover Salem Cemetery. Across the road from the church is Lenhart-Gerber Cemetery and beyond this is the Dover Union Cemetery.

<http://www.gdhspa.org/SalemUnionChurch.htm>