

**Salem (Belleman's) Church**  
3540 Belleman's Church Road  
Mohrsville, PA 19541-8910

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**Reading, PA 19612**



# *Bell Notes*

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3540 Belleman's Church Road  
Mohrsville, PA 19541-8910

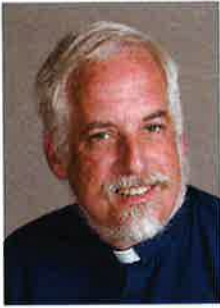
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*Church Office: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.*  
*Services every Sunday at 7:45 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.*  
*Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.*



*May 2019*

*Rev. David Blich, Pastor*  
*Linda Hartman, Director of Music Ministry*  
*James Fitterling, Administrator*  
*Church Office: 610-926-0461*  
*Church email: [salembellemans@frontiernet.net](mailto:salembellemans@frontiernet.net)*  
*Web Site: [bellemanschurch.org](http://bellemanschurch.org)*



## Pastor's Ponderings

It's really a joy to drive to Belleman's in the Spring. Each day there is a little more color, particularly shades of green.

*A Prayer in Spring by Robert Frost:*

*OH, give us pleasure in the flowers today;  
And give us not to think so far away  
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here*

*All simply in the springing of the year.*

*Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,  
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;  
And make us happy in the happy bees,  
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.*

*And make us happy in the darting bird  
That suddenly above the bees is heard,  
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,  
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.*

*For this is love and nothing else is love,  
To which it is reserved for God above  
To sanctify to what far ends he will,  
But which it only needs that we fulfill.*

As a guy who grew up in a little "ticky tacky" suburbia house, (if you don't get the reference check out the song "Little Boxes.") went to college in East Orange New Jersey and seminary in Philadelphia, the country is not exactly in my DNA.

But I've changed.

Several years ago Channel 6 news had a story about a gang of 20 vultures on the Schuylkill Expressway near Philadelphia. They were having supper along the road and were causing gaper delays. The consensus was that it was a horrible and disgusting sight as these birds were eating a dead deer, in plain view of all these traumatized commuters. Shannon McDonald posted on the Action News Facebook page: "It was disgusting, and made me late to work."

Give me a break! Big news! As one person posted on the channel 6 website. "Seriously? You people (gapers) need to get out to the country more often."

Yes they should!

But as the above poem suggests living in the country is not all about bucolic retreats full of daisies, or even vultures. I'd like to send to all the farmers of greater Mohrsville, both members and non-members and for that matter farmers all over the world, my prayers.

Farming is so much dependent on things like rain. Too much and too little can bring disaster. Too much heat can wilt a crop and stress the livestock. And while we as civilized humans try our best to control our destiny, we can't control the weather. So I conclude with this farmer's prayer:

*A Farmer's Prayer*

*Make sunrise early and the sunset wait;  
make summer early and the winter late!  
Allow the crops to sprout and thrive  
and give me hope to man the drive.*

*Please let the raindrops fall at night  
and keep the ground firm in daylight.  
Make all my callouses a bit more tough  
when times are hard and life gets rough.*

*Please, bless the plow that parts the furrow  
and earth in which our hopes shall burrow.  
Supply enough of sweat and blood  
to drive on when bad luck should flood.*

*Dear Lord, I ask you bless the seeds  
and spare them from the choke of weeds.  
Help them arise from in the ground  
and bear enough to go around.*

*But most of all...*

*Please keep my spirit in your palm  
my will intact, my body strong,  
my family close, my faith untaxed,  
my heartbeats tight, my laughs relaxed!*

Blessings!

Pastor Dave

**Pastor Dave's contact info:**

Phone: 484-663-4911

Email: revblitch@msn.com

## Church Board Highlights April 15, 2019

Pastor Dave highlighted the new JOY group beginning in May. Invitations for that are being mailed soon. He also reported that pastoral coverage has been secured for the Sundays when he is away.

James presented vacation days which were approved from August 16-25, 2019.

The property committee continues to work to fix a problem with the dusk to dawn light at the back of the parking lot. They have purchased a new light to be installed. Larry and Mike have inspected the church exterior and there are some windows to be painted and some windowsills for repair. In addition, Jeff Zimmerman has been contacted about fixing some caps on the east tower of the church.

Pastor Dave explained that our previously planned June trip dates were unknowingly double-booked by the organization in Maine. After talking with the group it was decided to change the date to July and still go to Maine. James will be working to change the vans around for the trip.

Pastor Dave reported that the youth have completed 25 Easter baskets for the Children's Home of Reading. Jim Holcombe will be delivering them.

Stewardship Sunday was April 7 and thank you letters have been sent out to all those who have completed Estimate of Giving Cards. Upon reviewing the cards, it looks as though there is a pledged 10 percent increase in giving. It was reported that expenses were \$1,164 for the catering and food, \$357 for Dennis Ritter's services and approximately \$250 in postage, among some other incidental costs. All those who helped put Consecration Sunday together were thanked for their time and work.

The previously approved quote for 2020 offering envelopes was actually quoted for the wrong style of envelopes. James received a new quote which was presented as \$1,053.34. This was presented for new approval which was granted.

Eric Weyandt asked about where we should be looking to install the swing set that was donated last year. There was some discussion about placement and it was suggested to have it as a youth project to help install it. It will be looked into as far as scheduling a work date to do this. It was reminded that the major concerns of the insurance company are that there be a base of soft material and that the frame be securely anchored to the ground.

## Communion Assistants For May 12

7:45 a.m. *Altar Assistants:* Linda Henne, Gloria Gambler, Connie Mohn

*Cup Stations:* Larry Henne, Lester Gambler

10:15 a.m. *Altar Assistants:* James Fitterling, Dawne Clay, Carla Rozsitch

*Ushers:* Michael Holcombe, Bernice Hartman

*Cup Stations:* Frank Kornfeind, Jim Blatt

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### Attendance/Offering

	7:45AM	10:15AM	Offering
April 3		Lent: 18	
April 7	no 7:45	119	\$2,593.50
April 10		Lent: 17	
April 14	22	135	\$5,372.00
April 19		Good Friday: 40	
April 21	54	246	\$6,724.00
April 28	22	76	\$2,452.00

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### Belleman's Joint Board

Beginning Balance	\$ 12,715.97
Income	14,990.93
Expenses	18,394.62
Ending Balance	9,312.28

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### Jingle Offerings

<b>May 5, 12</b>	Lutheran Disaster Response - US Tornado/Flooding response
<b>May 19, 26</b>	Belleman's Smile Fund

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### Bible Study

A weekly Bible Study has begun on Thursday, May 9th at 7:00PM. Weekly meetings will be on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Coming this Summer, Summer Book Club! Details to follow.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND**  
**AS OF 4/14/19**

**Contributions, Projects, Endowment  
and Dissolved Accounts** \$305,589.63

**Monthly Contributions 2019** \$1,982.65  
(April Collection = \$723.00)

Donations in memory of Alma Klinger \$760.00

**Fundraising Projects (2019)**

Organ Restoration	January	\$1,019.00
Chicken BBQ	March	\$2,360.91
Easter Candy Sales	March	\$3,480.56
Chinese Auctions	May	
Mum Sale	September	
Poinsettia Sale	December	

**Grocery Gift Cards**

Sold	\$ 177,170.00
Profit	<u>\$ 9,021.15</u>

Cash Total \$324,213.90

**Interest Paid**

Total Fairview Interest Paid	\$10,775.00
Total VIST Interest Paid	\$19,192.24

**Loan Balances**

Fairview Cemetery Company	\$85,500.00
VIST Bank Loan	\$65,068.26

**Total Principal Balance Owed \$150,568.26**

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Donations for the Capital Campaign are always accepted through the mail. Please send your donation to:

**Salem Belleman's Church - Capital Campaign Fund**  
**3540 Belleman's Church Road, Mohrsville, Pa 19541**

The first Sunday of the month collection continues to be a great way to donate to the fund as well.  
Thank you for your continued support!

**Annual Belleman's Memorial Day Picnic**



Belleman's traditional Memorial Day picnic will be held on Monday, May 27th, with all of the usual activities, beginning at 12 Noon, with delicious food, tasty snacks, ice cream, beverages, desserts and other delectable goodies which will be served from the refreshment stand. People may eat under the trees at the outside tables,

or choose to take their food into the dining room.

Once again this year the Capital Campaign will be holding a **Chinese Auction**.

At three o'clock, you are invited to attend the **Memorial Day Service**.

From 5PM to 8PM, the crowd will be treated to a concert by The **Washington Band of Annville**.

What a fantastic and nostalgic way to celebrate Memorial Day - an outdoor service, a stirring band concert and wonderful picnic food together with our fellowship.

**Please plan to attend!!**

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**We need YOU!!!**

*Your help will be greatly appreciated for Memorial Day.*

**There are many ways to help:**

1. Help by **donating a cake** at the Refreshment Stand.
2. Help in the **refreshment stand**. There are a variety of jobs for you to choose from. Committee sheets will be in the Narthex, please contact the Chairperson of any committee.
3. Help **setup and clean up** the grove.
4. Help **carry a flag** for the Memorial Service.

There will be a signup sheet in the Narthex for these volunteer opportunities or you can talk to **Picnic Chairpersons James Fitterling, Carol Weyandt or Eric Weyandt**.



## Calendar of Events

**Sun. 5/12 Rogation Sunday - Communion  
Mother's Day  
7:45AM Worship Service  
9:00AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Worship Service**

Mon. 5/13 5:30PM Belleman's Bells  
6:30PM Nice 'n Easy Ringers  
7:00PM Council/Consistory mtg  
with Confirmation Class

Tue. 5/14 6:30PM Dutch Class

Wed. 5/15 9:30AM Music and Worship Mtg  
6:30PM Sr. Choir

Thu. 5/16 7:00PM Bible Study

Sat. 5/18 9:00-10:30AM Schuylkill Valley  
Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

**Sun. 5/19 Church Music Sunday  
7:45AM Worship Service  
9:00AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Worship Service**

Mon. 5/20 7:00PM Board Meeting

Tue. 5/21 7:00PM Dutch Class

Wed. 5/22 3-7PM Blood Drive at the Hall  
NO Sr. Choir

Thu. 5/23 7:00PM Bible Study

**Sun. 5/26 Old Church Service  
7:45AM Worship Service  
9:00AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Worship Service**

Mon. 5/27 **Memorial Day**  
12 Noon Picnic begins  
(Food served till 7:30 p.m.)  
3:00PM Service  
5:00 - 8:00PM  
Washington Band  
of Annville



Wed. 5/29 6:00PM Sr. Choir End-of-season  
Pizza Party

Thur. 5/30 *Ascension Day*  
7:00PM Bible Study

**Sun. 6/2 7:45AM Worship Service  
9:00AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Worship Service**

Mon. 6/3 11:30AM JOY Group Lunch  
at Perry  
7:00PM Fundraising Committee  
Meeting

Thu. 6/6 7:00PM Bible Study

**Sun. 6/9 Pentecost/Confirmation  
Holy Communion  
7:45AM Worship Service  
9:00AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Worship Service  
Vendor Show at Fellowship Hall  
(see page 11 for info)**

Wed. 6/12 9:30-10:30 AM VBS Singing Kids

Thu. 6/13 7:00PM Bible Study

Sat. 6/15 9:00-10:30AM Schuylkill Valley  
Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

**Sun. 6/16 Father's Day  
7:45AM Worship Service  
9:00AM Sunday School  
10:15AM Worship Service  
July Mission Trip Meeting  
after 10:15 service**

Mon. 6/17 7:00PM Board Meeting

Tue. 6/18 5:30PM Community Meal at Epler's

Wed. 6/19 9:30-10:30 AM VBS Singing Kids

Thu. 6/20 7:00PM Bible Study

**Sun. 6/23 7:45AM Worship Service  
9:00AM Sunday School  
9:00AM Youth Sunday School  
at the Fellowship Hall  
10:15AM Worship Service**

The cover photo was taken by Kara Gery as the sun set on another successful Oyster Supper. Thank you Kara for taking this beautiful photo!



# The Bulletin Board

Give the "Gift of Life" at Belleman's Annual **Blood Drive** which will be held on Wednesday, **May 22nd** from 3:00PM to 7:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please call Jean Smith for further information (610) 926-1784.

Your Blood. Their Hope.\*



**MILLER-KEYSTONE**  
BLOOD CENTER

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Reminder:

Church services on **Sunday, May 26, 2019** at 7:45 and 10:15 a.m. with Sunday School at 9 a.m. will be held in Old Belleman's Church.

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## Sunday School News

There will not be Weekly Youth Sunday School Classes over the Summer again this year. **Special Youth Summer Sunday School weeks** are scheduled for **June 23, July 14 and August 11**, each of those weeks will be held at 9 a.m. at the Fellowship Hall. Keep on the lookout for the **return of Mr. Soggy Socks!** Weekly Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 8 with Rally Day. Enjoy the Summer!!



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**VBS is coming this summer!**

**July 15-19!**



The next gathering of the JOY Group will be **Monday, June 3 at 11:30 a.m.** at Perry Restaurant in Shoemakersville.

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**Attention: July Mission Team members**

There will be a meeting on **Sunday, June 16, 2019** after 10:15 service for everyone signed-up for the June trip to Maine.

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## Craft and Vendor Show

**When:** Sunday, June 9th, 2019 from 10am-2pm  
**Where:** Belleman's Fellowship Hall

Craft and vendor show of over 40 vendors and crafters the week before Fathers Day! Come enjoy some fun summer shopping! Donate one can or dry foods for animals and get a free raffle ticket! All donations will go to the local Animal Rescue Organization!!! (This is not a church sponsored event)

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## Stewardship Committee: Consecration Sunday Report

Sunday, April 7 we celebrated Consecration Sunday here at Belleman's. There were 119 in attendance for the 10:15 a.m. worship service and a majority of those joined together at the Fellowship Hall following service for a celebration luncheon catered by Kathryn's Katering.

During the worship service *Estimate of Giving* cards were distributed. Upon collection of the cards and after tabulating the results from a total of 57 giving units, there is a pledged increase of 10 percent above last year.

Thank you to our Congregation here at Belleman's for your continued dedication. We look forward to continuing to maintain our variety of ministries as well as to grow new ministries into the future. Blessings to you all!



## Belleman's Grocery Gift Cards

Are you purchasing your Gift Cards from Belleman's for use at the following Grocery Stores: Boyer's, Redner's, Giant and Weis? The use of the cards cost you nothing extra and Belleman's receives 1% of the total card sold. Turn in your **complete** Redner's sales slip to the box in the Narthex and Belleman's receives another 1% of the amount listed. You can also show your Redner's Reward Card to receive discounts on gas and/or groceries.

If you shop at Boyer's be sure you have a keychain swipe card to show the check-out clerk. Old Belleman's Church receives 1% of every purchase you make at any Boyer's Food Market when you show your swipe card. Stop in the chapel any Sunday to purchase your gift cards and see James Fitterling for your Boyer's Swipe cards.

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### Relay For Life of Kutztown

At Kutztown University,  
Rohrbach Library

**Friday, May 31, 3 p.m. –  
Saturday, June 1, noon**

Survivor Dinner, May 31, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Survivor/Caregiver Lap, May 31, 6:30 p.m.  
followed by a dessert reception

Luminaria Ceremony at 9 p.m.

Need lap walkers and volunteers for team tent

**Team Name: Live Long and Prosper**

**Online registration available at:  
[www.relayforlife.org/pakutztown](http://www.relayforlife.org/pakutztown)**

**Contact Ann Stump at 610-926-3416 for info**

## Three to be confirmed at Belleman's on June the 9th at the 10:15 a.m. Worship Service

They are:

Erin Paige Livinghouse  
Nikailyn Arissa Madden  
Mariusz Stanislaw Polak



*Please join us in celebrating this  
important occasion for these  
outstanding church leaders of tomorrow.*

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## Belleman's Military Members

SGT Josh Linderman  
Andrew Potts  
1LT Bradley P. Hoppes  
SGT Andrew Cichowicz  
Nathan P. Stump  
SGT John R. Wesner

SGT Josh Linderman  
Andrew Potts  
1LT Bradley P. Hoppes  
SGT Andrew Cichowicz  
Nathan P. Stump  
SGT John R. Wesner



**Thank you** to the Sunshine Group for the snack basket. Your thoughtfulness means so very much! **Sandy Sunday**

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**Thank you to Belleman's Church!** On behalf of The Children's Home of Reading, I would like to take this opportunity to **thank you** for the generous donation of 25 Easter Baskets for our children to enjoy on Easter morning as well as your generous gift of \$133 (jingle offering). Your support helps to advance our mission of *Caring for the needs of children and families in crisis and preparing them for success in life.*

**Sincerely, Vincent J. LaSorsa, Ph.D. President and CEO**

## May Birthdays

- 18<sup>th</sup> Kristen Folk,  
Andrea Hoffman  
20<sup>th</sup> Jason Sweigert  
21<sup>st</sup> Tim Kirkhoff, Jenna Phillips,  
Mary Anspach  
22<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Hartman,  
Daniel Roe  
23<sup>rd</sup> Zachary Kriner, Kenn Redd  
24<sup>th</sup> Joseph Stump,  
Louise Billitz,  
Dorothy Dougherty,  
Riley Kunkle,  
25<sup>th</sup> Barbara Spatz,  
Owen Baxter  
26<sup>th</sup> Brandon Felix,  
Makenzi Lynn Gery  
27<sup>th</sup> Brenda Hoffa,  
Zachary Duvall,  
Andrew Berg,  
Erin Reynolds,  
Janet Weaver,  
Craig Yoder  
28<sup>th</sup> Andrew Potts  
30<sup>th</sup> Joshua Mohn,  
Kim Yoder, Alfred Cross

## May Anniversaries

- 18th Carol & Terry Kinney  
20th Daryl & Diane Klopp  
25th Ronald & Patty Ann Kintzer  
28th Harold & Barbara Spatz  
31st David & Donna Weber

## June Birthdays

- 1<sup>st</sup> Pastor David Blicht  
2<sup>nd</sup> Diane Billman,  
Rebecca Folk,  
Margaret Tothoro,  
Taylor Berg  
4<sup>th</sup> Jean Bohn, Dylan Burkhart,  
Dylan Haas, Sara Levan,  
Tucker Jozwiak  
5<sup>th</sup> Maryellen Zimmerman  
Jacob Hoffman  
6<sup>th</sup> Alan Reppert, Curtis Michaud,  
Bradley Dougherty  
7<sup>th</sup> Tina Moll, Cassidy Bungarz,  
Melissa Eschbach,  
Abigail McRae  
8<sup>th</sup> Lori Barto, Scott Ebelhar,  
Cheryl Felix, Allison Younker,  
Jacob Leroy Hoffman,  
Joshua Klopp,  
9<sup>th</sup> Karen Holcombe,  
June Dautrich  
11<sup>th</sup> Melany Eltz, Jay Hill, III,  
Marissa Spatz, Grace Hoppes,  
Jack Kornfeind, Codie Hart  
14<sup>th</sup> Megan Geisinger  
15<sup>th</sup> Carla Rozsitch,  
Mason Hartranft  
Eden Gilmer  
Lisa Nicole Rubright

## June Anniversaries

- 6th Nathan & Lisa Phillips  
7th Ronnie & Rhonda Adam  
10th Robert & Louise Elliott  
Tom and Brenda Nelson  
11th Larry & Beverly Blatt  
18th Terry & Donna Schaeffer



## Yes, My Jesus Loves Me...

As I prepare this newsletter page,  
Church Music Sunday is just around the corner...May 19th!

One of the songs the Senior Choir will be singing  
on Church Music Sunday is "Yes, My Jesus Loves Me"  
dedicated in loving memory of a 3-year-old boy, to his parents and  
grandparents by one of our favorite composers, Mary McDonald.  
(Mary's music touches your soul and  
is truly a reflection of the beautiful person she is!)

## Church Music Sunday Is All About Love!

**LOVE** is the very best word to describe our Choir Family...  
the dedication, joy and love they give to everything they do is  
absolutely beautiful. God's love is alive and well at Belleman's Church.

I am both humbled and honored to be part of this beautiful family!

**THANK YOU, LORD JESUS FOR LOVING US!**

*"Jesus loves me! He will stay close beside me all the way;  
If I love Him when I die He will take me home on high.  
Yes, my Jesus, yes, my Jesus, yes, my Jesus loves me!"*

*Linda*

## I'M BORED... THERE'S NOTHING TO DO!!!

Moms and Dads, just in case you hear  
this the week after school is over,  
**I'M HERE TO HELP YOU!!!**  
Starting June 12, we'll be practicing  
the VBS songs every Wednesday  
morning from 9:30-10:30 a.m. and  
I'd love to have your "bored/have  
nothing to do" children join us  
(any Wednesday it works for you)!!!

**BECOME A MEMBER OF THE  
VBS SINGING KIDS**

## It's Time for You to Share Your Talents!

As the Belleman's Choir Family  
takes a well-deserved summer  
break, we look forward to the  
rest of our talented members  
sharing their God-given gifts!  
Please give Linda Hartman a  
call at 610-562-0238 to reserve  
your Sunday.

**Our  
Summer Music Schedule  
begins June 16th**