

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit # 1
Reading, PA 19612



Church Office: Mon.-Thurs.

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Services every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

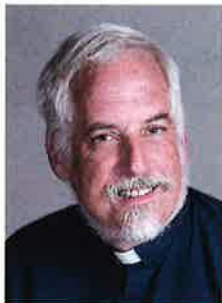
Bell Notes

Salem (Belleman's) Church

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



*Rev. David W. Blitch, Pastor
Oliver Blatt, Interim Church Musician
James Fitterling, Administrator
Church Office: 610-926-0461
email: salembellemans@frontiernet.net
Web Site: www.bellemanschurch.org*



Pastor's Ponderings

My Pastor's column is brief this month with this Lenten story that is poignant and profound for us today:

Our Lenten Journey

There is a tale for Lent that comes from a far-off place... One day, the Devil decided to close up shop in a certain part of the world, and so he decided to hold a fire sale and an attitude auction. Some evil people were pleased to get his tools like fear, ignorance and prejudice and be able to play his infernal games at half price...

But one person seeking to be more spiritual and caring, wandered into the shop. Intensely curious, he looked around at all the tricks of deception and the tools of malice, until he spotted the quality on the highest shelf that had the highest price. Boldly, he asked the devil what that quality was, and why was it so expensive. The devil replied, "That is discouragement. Why is it so expensive? That's simple. It's my favorite. With the tool of discouragement, I can pry into any person or any group and cause all kinds of havoc and damage."

So let us pray for hope, for compassion, for the courage to look deeply at ourselves. By not being discouraged by life's challenges, we uncover the diamonds among the dust, to find new insights and opportunities, and learn how best to accept ourselves as being love-worthy, just, and kind.

Pastor Dave

Pastor Dave's contact info:
Phone: 484-663-4911
Email: revblitch@msn.com

Pastoral Relations Committee
If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Pastor Dave, or to any member of the committee:
Dawne Clay (Chair), Brenda Weyandt, Jim Holcombe, Phil Kistler, Mica Kornfeind and Allen Loeb.

Church Board Highlights

The February Board meeting was postponed due to weather and did not make it by press time for this newsletter. Meeting highlights will be in next month.

Belleman's Joint Board

Beginning Balance	\$10,675.26
Income	\$32,911.04
Expenses	\$36,497.05
Ending Balance	\$7,089.25

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The March **Jingle Offerings** go to the **Bethany Children's Home.**

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Attendance/Offering

	9:00AM	Offering
Feb. 7	Weather (Church), 120(Facebook)	
Feb. 14	Weather (Church), 101(Facebook)	\$2,685.00
Feb 17	Ash Wednesday: 7 (Church), 90 (Facebook)	
Feb. 21	41 (Church), 101(Facebook)	\$3,839.00
Feb. 24	Lent Video: 47	
Feb. 28	48 (Church), 78(Facebook)	\$2,699.00

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Please keep in mind.... **Belleman's ongoing program** in support of the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry.....

Non-perishable donations may be dropped off in the Narthex and will be delivered to the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry on a monthly basis.

**Canned Fruit and Vegetables are currently needed for the Pantry**

**Thank You** for your participation!

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Saturday, March 20 is Belleman's time to serve at the SV Food Pantry. If you are interested in helping, please arrive that morning about 8 am. You will be helping to pack boxes and load cars for the drive-thru pickup. **Please consider helping on this day and don't forget your mask.**

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

We want to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

For smart phone users, you can download the GIVEPLUS app. This app is through Vanco, who administers the Simply Giving program. Using the app you can create your own account to give and search for Bellemans. Through this program, donations can be made by checking account/savings accounts and credit/debit card. In addition to the app, there is a "Donation" button on www.bellemanchurch.org which links to GIVEPLUS online.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. If you need a paper form to sign up or have any questions about Electronic Giving, please contact the church office.



Direct your
Thrivent Choice Dollars
Today!



A question for you...

Do you have Thrivent Financial (formerly Lutheran Brotherhood) products? If you do, have you designated the use of Thrivent "Choice Dollars" to one of the designated non-profit organizations (**Belleman's Church is listed**). Annually you must contact Thrivent Financial to make this contribution. There is no cost or loss to you. Contact Thrivent Financial at 800-847-4836 to see if you qualify to have this contribution made. When prompted, say "Thrivent Choice." Contact may also be made online at thrivent.com/thriventchoice. You can still direct Choice Dollars for 2020 but time is running out!

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!

Calendar of Events

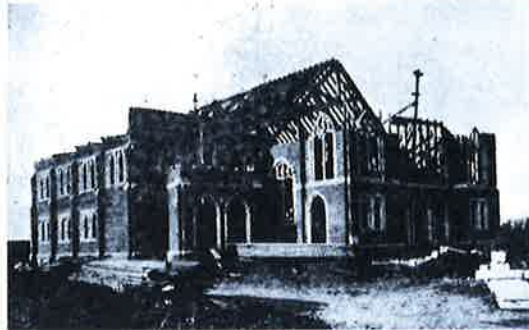
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
3/7 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Tue (3/9) Music and Worship Meeting
- Wed. (3/10) 7:00PM Lenten Video Worship Service
- Sun. Holy Communion**
3/14 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary
(Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Wed. (3/17) 7:00PM Lenten Video Worship Service
- Sat. 9:00–10:30AM Schuylkill Valley
3/20 Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport
(Belleman's Month to Serve - info page 3)
9:00AM-12noon Soup, Pie, Pepper Cabbage and BBQ Sale Pickup at the Fellowship Hall (info page 9)
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
3/21 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
Confirmation Class Meeting after worship
- Wed. (3/24) 7:00PM Lenten Video Worship Service
- Sat. (3/27) 1:00PM Cemetery Board Meeting in the Chapel
- Sun. Palm Sunday**
3/28 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary
(Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Thu. Maundy Thursday - 7PM Service in the Sanctuary**
4/1 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Fri. Good Friday - 7PM Service in the Sanctuary**
4/2 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Sun. Easter Sunday - Holy Communion**
4/4 6:30AM Sunrise Service in the grove
9:00AM Worship Service
10:15AM Kid's Easter Egg hunt in the Grove (info page 8)
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
4/11 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Mon. (4/12) Fundraising Committee Meeting
- Sat. 9:00–10:30AM Schuylkill Valley
4/17 Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

Belleman's Church of 1922 – Laying of the Cornerstone

There was much debate as to the location of the "new" church. Some wanted the old church demolished and rebuilt with the new. But when Wellington Dietrich came forward with a donation of \$5,000 towards the new church and \$1,000 towards the old church upkeep if the 'Old Church' would remain, that sealed the decision.

An acre of land for this new house of worship was donated by Howard Zerby, and two acres across the road to be used for parking was donated by Henry K. Phillips. The company of High and Huber, of Reading, were hired as architects, and Daniel L. Althouse, a member of the Church Building Committee, was the construction manager. Majority of the work was to be done by volunteer groups of church members of both Lutheran and Reformed congregations.

On Sunday, July 23, 1922, over 4,000 people gathered to witness the cornerstone laying for the new church. By that time, the foundation wall was completed by members of the church. Teams of horses were supplied for the hauling of materials, and the digging out of the basement was also performed by members. As reported in the Reading Eagle: "Center Township roads were heavily traveled, all seeming to lead to this place." It was stated that "the field was filled with machines and the roads for a distance of half a mile were used for parking purposes, there being over 1,000 machines in the vicinity."

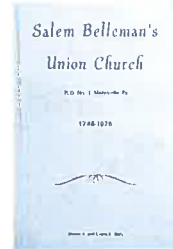


The ceremonies began in the Old Church with a church service conducted by both the Lutheran and Reformed pastors, Rev. L. R. Miller and Rev. M. L. Herbein. The sermon topic was "Christ Jesus is the cornerstone," found in Ephesians 2:20. At the conclusion, the group proceeded to the site of the new church, where the corner stone was laid. A copper box was placed in the cornerstone, which included copies of the constitution of both congregations, bread and wine used for communion, copies of church papers and a list of names who donated at least \$1 or more towards the erection of the new church.

Two large noontime and evening meals were served under a large tent on the church grounds, with fresh food prepared by the women of the church. The noon meal served over 300 people and the evening meal over 600. The refreshment stands in the grove by the Old Church served over 125 gallons of ice cream and 150 cases of soda throughout the day. This was quite an eventful day for the cornerstone laying celebration!

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**During 2021**, we will continue to bring you highlights from Belleman's history, but if you would like to take a more in depth look at Belleman's first 230 years there are a limited number of books available yet.



The books are available in exchange for a **donation** to the upkeep of the old church. Please let the office know if you're interested. *(There is a shipping fee of \$5 per book if it needs to be mailed to you.)*

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PLEASE SHARE YOUR BEST SECRETS!

The 275th Anniversary Edition of a Belleman's cookbook is underway. We need your favorite recipes to make this special book. We are accepting recipes from church members and friends. Kids, too, may submit their irresistible concoctions. Feel free to hand in recipes of family and friends no longer with us. These memorial recipes will be so designated.

You may hand in your recipes to Cindy Batdorf, James Fitterling, or Karen Harle. If you prefer, you may email recipes to BellemansRecipes3540@gmail.com. Besides your name, please include a phone number so we can clarify any questions. Deadline for submitting recipes is May 1, 2021. But, you can make our job easier by responding soon. Unless swamped, there is no limit to the number of your favorites that you can share through this book. Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic response. Each one of your favorites will help shape this book into a treasure.



Easter Plants for 2021

If you would like to purchase an **Easter plant** or to place a plant in church for Easter Sunday, in memory of or in honor of loved ones, please call Linda Henne (610-926-4506) or see her in church. There will also be order blanks available in Sunday Bulletins for your convenience.

Plants that are available this year are as follows:

Easter Lilies	\$8.00 each
Hybrid Lillies	\$8.00 each
Martha Washington Geraniums	\$8.00 each
Tulips	\$8.00 each
Daffodils	\$8.00 each

All orders No Later Than March 28.

Please make checks payable to
Bellemans's Capital Campaign Committee.

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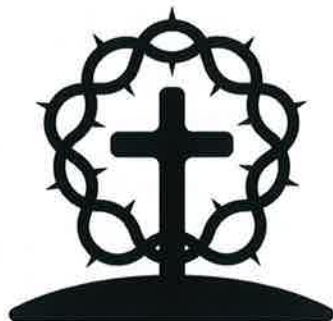
### Schedule for Holy Week

**Maundy Thursday, April 1 - 7:00PM**

**Good Friday, April 2 - 7:00PM**

**Easter, April 4 - Dawn Worship at 6:30AM in the grove, Worship Service at 9:00AM with Holy Communion.**

*Unless otherwise noted, services are held in the sanctuary and will be broadcast online and to your car in the parking lot.*



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Easter Egg Hunt 2021



The Confirmation Class and Lift Youth Group are planning to prepare an egg hunt for our younger Sunday School members. This year's egg hunt will take place on **Easter Sunday morning** following worship. The egg hunt will

start around **10:15 AM** and will take place in the church grove.

With Covid in mind, plastic eggs will be yours to take home with you as we will not be asking for them to be returned for future use. We hope to see you there!

Salem Belleman's Church Soup, Pie, Pepper Cabbage and BBQ Sale

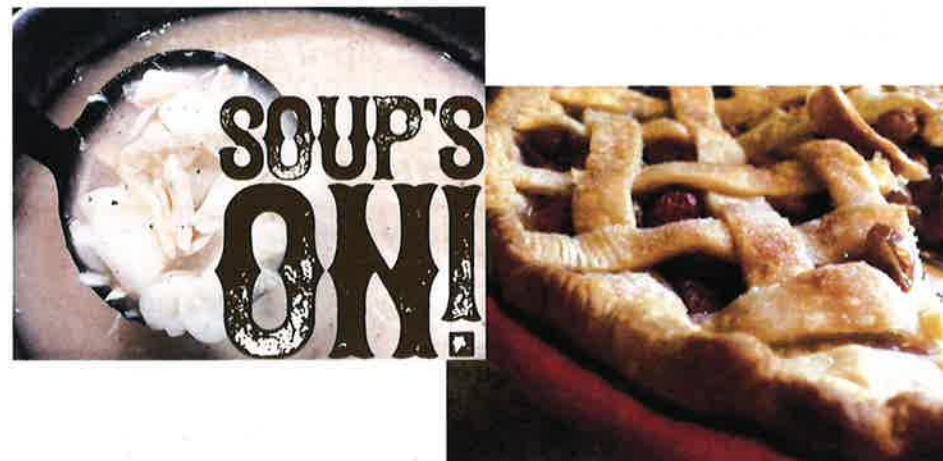
*Tired of cooking? Want a meal to go?
We will be offering a variety of take-out options of:*

**Turkey BBQ – Pepper Cabbage
Chicken Noodle Soup – Ham and Bean Soup
Beef Vegetable Soup – Old Fashioned Lemon Pie
Coconut Custard Pie – Apricot Crumb Pie**

**Date: Saturday, March 20, 2021
Pickup at the Fellowship Hall from
9 am – 12 noon**

**Return the green order form included with this
newsletter to get your preordered items!**

PLEASE PRE-ORDER BY March 12, 2021



March Birthdays

- 15th John David Rausch, Jr.,
Cassandra Mitten, Jean Haag
16th Dan Gordon, Pete Lukawski
17th Kelly Kauffman,
George Rubright
Curtis Eitel
18th Robin Linderman,
Miriam Mohn
19th Jaclyn Kunkle,
Carter McRae,
Joshua Schlottman,
Lynda Marks, Dylan King
20th Gloria Unger
21st Mildred Stoyer
22nd Kendall Gery,
John Schlappich
John Schmauch, Jr.
24th Robert Beissel
Melissa Boyer
26th Kaley Gehris
28th Leah Kopicz, David Snyder
30th Chris Brian Wesner
31st Chad Fitterling,
Pastor Bruce Potteiger

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## March Anniversaries

- 24<sup>th</sup> Ruth & Kenneth Borkey, Sr.  
25<sup>th</sup> Bernice & Richard Hartman

## April Birthdays

- 1<sup>st</sup> Linette Baer, Sherry Weist  
Cody Wesner  
2<sup>nd</sup> Arlene Gilmer, Megan Snyder  
Rowan Gilmer  
Karen Eisenhofer  
3<sup>rd</sup> Teri Frederick,  
Yasmin Loose  
4<sup>th</sup> Mark Eisenhower,  
Dylan Kramer  
5<sup>th</sup> John Noecker  
6<sup>th</sup> Diane Driesbach,  
7<sup>th</sup> Kelsey Jean Patrick  
8<sup>th</sup> Brian Folk  
9<sup>th</sup> James Holcombe,  
Tanner McRae,  
Dennis Wayne, Parker Rhein  
10<sup>th</sup> Linda Kirkhoff, Tom Nelson  
11<sup>th</sup> Lynn Fenstermacher,  
Karen Harle, Tara Stiefel  
12<sup>th</sup> Dylan Beerman  
13<sup>th</sup> Kevin Jroski,  
Janet Kemp  
14<sup>th</sup> Maynard Hook, Daryl Bohn,  
Eric Weyandt  
15<sup>th</sup> Amara Mohn

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April Anniversaries

- 5th Harold and Sandy Sunday
14th Gene & Diane Driesbach

Belleman's Military Members

CWO 2 Josh Linderman
Andrew Potts
1LT Bradley P. Hoppes
SGT Andrew Cichowicz
Nathan P. Stump
SGT John R. Wesner

MAJ James Fluck
Kevin Mohn
SGT Phillip Spatz
Alfred Cross
Cydney Lawrence



Dear Belleman's Congregation,
Thank you for the snack basket, much appreciated.
Larry Zimmerman

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Dear Belleman's Church, Thank you for your recent donation (\$300 Heffner Tithe) to Opportunity House. The Covid19 pandemic has dominated the news and the nation's focus, so we are doubly appreciative that you have remembered us and the people we serve. The work at Opportunity House continues, even in the midst of increased challenges. On behalf of the entire Opportunity House staff, thank you for standing with us.  
Sincerely, Katherine D. Alley,  
Chief Development Officer

## Last Call for Candy Orders!

If you are interested in placing a last minute candy order, please use the purple candy order insert in this newsletter. You may also call (610-926-0461) or email (salembellemans@frontiernet.net) your order to the church office.

Thank you for your support!



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Position Open For:

Belleman's Director of Music Ministry

Check the church website for the job description and application at:
bellemanschurch.org

Please send applications and resumes to the church by April 1, 2021

Interviews to begin May 1, 2021

Salem Belleman's Church Soup, Pie, Pepper Cabbage and BBQ Order Form

Pickup is Saturday, March 20 from 9 a.m.—12 noon
At the Fellowship Hall

Name: _____

Phone # _____

Items for sale:

_____ # Quarts of **Turkey BBQ** \$11 each = \$ _____
 _____ # Pints of **Turkey BBQ** \$6 each = \$ _____
 _____ # Quarts of **Pepper Cabbage** \$5 each = \$ _____
 _____ # Pints of **Pepper Cabbage** \$3 each = \$ _____
 _____ # Quarts of **Chicken Noodle Soup** \$6 each = \$ _____
 _____ # Quarts of **Ham and Bean Soup** \$6 each = \$ _____
 _____ # Quarts of **Vegetable Beef Soup** \$6 each = \$ _____

Homemade pies

_____ # old-fashioned lemon (\$6)
 _____ # coconut custard (\$6)
 _____ # Apricot crumb (\$10)
 Total \$ pies = \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Belleman's Church
 Remit to Belleman's Church, 3540 Belleman's Church Rd.,
 Mohrsville, PA 19541

Phone or email orders can be made to the Church Office:
 610-926-0461 or salembellemans@frontiernet.net

PLEASE PRE-ORDER BY March 12, 2021

All food preparation will follow
 CDC guidelines for safe food handling

Belleman's Church Capital Campaign Easter Candy Sale 2021
 Please hand orders to Carol Weyandt, Roxanne Loeb or James Fitterling
Orders Due by March 7

Orders may be picked	Sunday, March 14 (after church)	Sunday, March 21 (after church)
up on (circle one) :	Monday, March 15 6-7 pm Fellowship Hall	Monday, March 22 6-7 pm Fellowship Hall

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Item	Price	Light	Dark	Mixed	Total Price
Peanut Butter Eggs	\$11.00 per pound				
Coconut Eggs (Dark only)	\$11.00 per pound				
Peanut Butter/Coconut Egg mixed box (No mixed PB)	\$11.00 per pound				
Belleman's Treat (Ritz with peanut butter dipped in choc.)	\$6.00 per Dozen				
Totals					