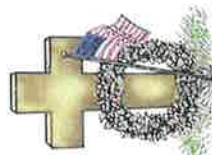


Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit # 1
Reading, PA 19612

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Memorial Day
*Remember Those Who
Gave Their Lives*



Bell Notes

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

*Church Office: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Services every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.*

THE READING EAGLE, MONDAY, JULY 24, 1922.

4,000 ATTEND THE CORNER STONE LAYING AT BELLEMAN'S CHURCH

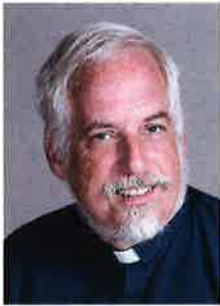
**PASTORS OF LUTHERAN AND REFORMED CONGREGATIONS
DELIVER ADDRESSES--MEALS SERVED TO NEARLY 1,000**



REV. A. R. MILLER TO THE REAR OF THE CORNER STONE, AND REV. M. L. HERRIN TO THE RIGHT

May 2021

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



Pastor's Ponderings

A little snippet from another church's newsletter:

People sometimes want to know if I am optimistic about the future. And really whether I am optimistic, pessimistic, realistic or idealistic doesn't really matter. What matters is that the church has not survived 2000 years since the first Pentecost because we were optimistic, pessimistic, realistic or idealistic but because we are witnesses to the resurrection. We have experienced the light and we try to walk as people of the light...what I have is hope.

Occasionally the media runs a report about the decline of the church. Some trends suggest that America is less religious now than only a few years ago. There are a handful of books that champion atheism that people are buying at a brisk pace. People look at Europe and see many enormous and wonderfully ornate churches that serve a handful of worshipers. They speculate whether America will experience the same.

The thing is that looking at recent trends hides the bigger picture. As Europe declines, Asia and Africa's Christian population grows. Who's to say that in 50 years that trend will reverse and European churches will be packed to the gills?

The institution of the church has had a rollercoaster ride of attendance and converts and participation and enthusiasm. But the Gospel, the resurrection, is not effected by such trends. The Gospel is good news then, now and the future. The Gospel survives no matter what, when or where. It's all about hope.

The story is told of a dear old saint, incurably ill, who was visited by a younger friend. "You are suffering very much, I am afraid," said the younger woman, trying to be helpful.

"Yes," said the older woman, "but look." She held out her hands. "There are no nails there. He had the nails; I have the hope." She pointed to her head. "There are no thorns there. He had the thorns; I have the hope."

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 April 19, 2021

Minutes, Treasurer Report, Pastor Report and Administrator Report were all approved.

Pastor Dave noted his vacation request for July 25 – August 1, which was approved. He would also be with the Youth retreat in Wildwood from June 13-18.

The Safety Committee noted that pew seating designations were rearranged in order to make more room for Easter Sunday. Seating is now every other pew. As was suggested previously, the plans are to return to outdoor worship on May 9. There were some comments about if it was necessary to have worship outdoors every Sunday. After some discussion it was decided to compromise to doing outdoor worship twice a month. Plans are currently for outdoor worship on May 9 and 30 at 9 a.m.

The Fundraising Committee met in April and has decided on a Memorial Day take out event. Food items will include BBQ's, Salads, Soups and Pies. Plans would be for a 2:30 p.m. Memorial Day service on the cemetery. Additionally, on May 9, there will be a test run of pies and some soup available for purchase after worship.

The Property Committee reported that repointing has not started yet. It was also noted that the condition of the Sexton House roof has been deteriorating and is in need of replacement. Contact has been made to get a quote for the roof.

It was noted that the Capital Campaign committee was able to make an additional principal payment on the cemetery loan in the amount of \$10,000. The balance owed is now at \$72,000.

Pastor Dave reported that plans are coming together for the youth Wildwood retreat. The group has presented fundraising ideas for a carwash and bake sale for June 6 and a Bingo night on June 2. (See pages 8 and 9)

It was reported that the Personnel Committee has received two applications for the Director of Music Ministry job and will be commencing interviews shortly.

James reported that he recently received correspondence regarding an estate bequest. There are 10 annuities that Belleman's is listed as beneficiaries. James has received paperwork that needs to be sent back in order to move forward with the funds dispersal. Along with that we need to adopt a corporate resolution stating who is allowed to sign on behalf of the church board. James drafted this resolution which was included in the meeting packets granting signing privileges to the Joint Board President Barbara Spatz and to the Joint Board Vice President Frank Kornfeind. This resolution was approved. A total amount of the bequest is not yet known.

The Pastoral Relations Committee presented a few items that have come to their attention regarding church procedures. They have received suggestions about having a suggestion box in the narthex. This will be looked into. Additionally, there was a desire to have the church committees presented in a more comprehensive manner, including information such as who is on the committee, what the committee does, where the committee gets their funds and how the committee spends their funds. The idea is to address this as part of the year end packets.

It was also discussed about the need to have the ceiling fans cleaned. The Property Committee will work on this.

~~~~~

### Belleman's Joint Board

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 13,406.97 |
| Income            | \$ 21,962.99 |
| Expenses          | \$ 18,354.73 |
| Ending Balance    | \$ 17,015.23 |

~~~~~

Attendance/Offering

9:00AM

Offering

April 1 (Maundy Thursday)	8 (Church), 75 (Facebook)	
April 2 (Good Friday)	28 (Church), 90 (Facebook)	
April 4 (Easter Sunrise)	35 (Church), 183 (Facebook)	
April 4	115 (Church), 108 (Facebook)	\$5,984.00
April 11	44 (Church), 96 (Facebook)	\$2,156.00
April 18	47 (Church), 83 (Facebook)	\$2,953.00
April 25	48 (Church), 90 (Facebook)	\$1,953.00

The May **Jingle Offerings** go to the **Keystone Military Families.**

~~~~~

### Outdoor Worship Sundays!

After some feedback about outdoor worship, the church board has adjusted outdoor worship service to a two Sunday a month plan. The upcoming outdoor worship services are **May 9, May 30 and June 13. See you for worship**

~~~~~

Safety Committee Update

With vaccinations moving along and gathering guidelines opening back up. The Safety Committee recently met to review our Belleman's policies. Current updates are as follows:



For All Worship Services:

- Anyone feeling ill is asked to please stay home and join in worship virtually.

For Indoor Worship Services:

- Restrictions and Guidelines stay the same through May 31.

For Outdoor Worship Services:

- Mask wearing will still be recommended but not required for those fully vaccinated or sitting with members of their household.
- Congregants are asked to continue to keep responsible distance from those outside your household.

Thank you everyone for your understanding as we all have worked to navigate this Pandemic! These adjustments to our worship guidelines are a positive step forward toward a more "normal" worship experience. If all goes as planned, hopes would be to remove pew markings and to expand church musical selection in June and through the Summer. Once again, thank you all!

The Interior of the “New Church”
 (From *Salem Belleman’s Church History*
 by Milton and Luella Blatt)



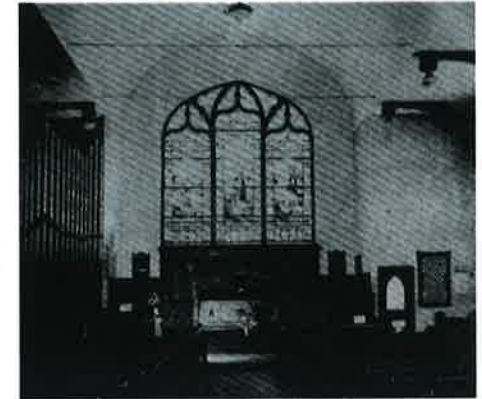
The interior of the church was well-planned, and gave the congregation much needed space. The basement had a boiler room, kitchen and dining area, where many meals were served over the years. The first floor of the Chapel area provided areas for a “Retiring Room” (frequently called the “Baby Room”) and Sunday school areas. The second floor of the Chapel was an open balcony, one of two in the sanctuary. This was closed just a short time after construction, and became a Primary Department for the Sunday School.

The sanctuary, with the arched ceiling, at first had one-inch iron tie rods across the base of the arch and throughout the ceiling roof for added reinforcement. These were later removed when it was determined it was not necessary, and greatly improved the eye appeal of the interior.

Various costs of the interior items were as follows: window and door frames \$4,400; glass work \$3,200 with an additional cost of \$100 for each figure and design; sanctuary furniture, including pews, screens, etc for a contracted price of \$5,060 but were actually charged \$6,400; brass door hardware \$411.50; electric wiring \$302; steam heat \$3,900; light fixtures \$629.69; tile floor in the narthex \$400; and a light system was installed for \$1,395. The Ladies Aid Society paid for the carpet throughout the church, and the Sunday school paid for the tables, chairs, desk, hymnals, etc in the Chapel area at a cost of \$617.50.



The final cost of the new church was around \$85,000, a staggering cost in those days. Although it was stated many felt the church would never be paid off, by 1939 the new Salem Belleman’s Church was completely debt-free.



~ ~ ~ ~ ~

SEARCHING FOR CHURCH MEMORABILIA!

As plans begin for our 275th Anniversary celebration this year, we are looking for items to borrow for a display of our church artifacts! Needed are any old photos, church-related items or anything that represents or depicts life here at Salem Belleman’s! We are especially interested if anyone has an old photo of the former balcony above the chapel area in the new church, or a photo of the Old Church ceiling center. If you have something you would be willing to share for a temporary display, contact any member of the 275th Committee: John Rausch, James Fitterling, Mica Kornfiend, Carol Weyandt or Pastor Dave.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Two to be confirmed at Belleman’s on May the 23rd at the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

They are:

Owen Machmer
 Nathaniel Dalton

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



Lift Youth
Presents!



Snacks!



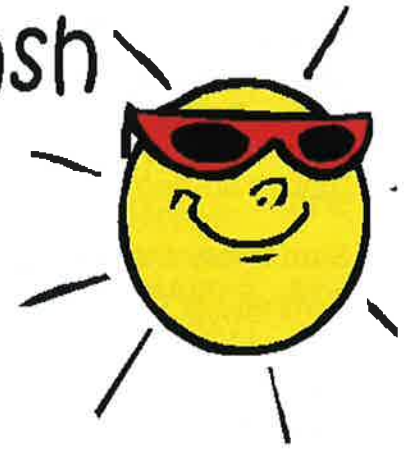
Corny Bingo!

\$20 for an evening of
Games!

Wednesday June 2,
4PM to 7PM

In the Fellowship Hall

Belleman's Youth
Carwash



Sunday June 6,
10:00AM to 1:00PM

Belleman's Church

Fellowship Hall- 3730 Belleman's Church Rd,
Mohrsville Pa



\$6.00 without a ticket

Purchase your
ticket from a
Belleman's
youth!

\$5.00 with a ticket

Bake Sale!

Calendar of Events

- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**
5/9 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Wed. (5/12) 3-7PM Blood Drive at the Fellowship Hall
- Thu. *Ascension Day*
5/13 3-6PM *Sandwich Sale Pickup at the Fellowship Hall*
- Sat. 9:00–10:30AM Schuylkill Valley
5/15 Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport
- Sun. Holy Communion**
5/16 **9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
(Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Mon. (5/17) 7:00PM Board Meeting
- Sun. Pentecost/Confirmation**
5/23 **9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
(Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**
5/30 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
- Mon. **Memorial Day**
5/31 11:00AM-3:00PM Take-out pickup
 2:30PM Service
- Tue. 9:30AM Music and Worship Meeting
6/1
- Wed. 4-7PM Lift Youth Corny Bingo
6/2
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
6/6 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
 10AM-1PM *Lift Youth Carwash and Bake sale*
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**
6/13 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
- 6/14-6/18 Lift Youth Retreat to Wildwood
- Sat. 9:00–10:30AM Schuylkill Valley
6/19 Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport



Christian Education News

Children's Messages Return!

As we transition into Outdoor Worship Sundays, Children's Messages will return as part of worship beginning on **Sunday, May 30**. For the time being, in person Children's messages will only be during outdoor worship services.

(Please check the calendar for outdoor worship dates)

We are so happy to be bringing this piece back to worship!

~~~~~

### Summer Sunday School

Summer Sunday School returns to outdoor service Sundays beginning **Sunday, June 27**. The Summer Sunday School will **take place outdoors by the Fellowship Hall**. Following the children's message, children will be dismissed to go to Sunday School. Sunday School will last from about 9:30-10:00 a.m.

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Mark your Calendars...

VBS is coming this summer!

July 12-16!



Thank you to Mr. John Rausch for the historical tour video of the old Belleman's Church... also to Belleman's church for providing this video on your website.
Sincerely, Jean and Charles Grube

~~~~~

**Dear Belleman's Family,** What a nice surprise when a plant and a single red rose appeared at our door in celebration of our 60th wedding anniversary. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and caring.

**Richard and Bernice Hartman**

~~~~~

Dear Belleman's Church, Thank you for your generous gift of \$166 (March Jingle Offering) to Bethany's Brighter Future Fund. Your special gift to the Brighter Future Fund will provide our youth with a new foundation to become empowered young adults with positive goals. **Thank you** for thinking of our youth during this time of year. Your ongoing support will help them to continue to heal and take back their lives.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Shultz Spano, Director of Development

Belleman's Military Members

SGT 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

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND AS OF 4/11/21

Contributions, Projects, Endowment and Dissolved Accounts \$330,494.55

Monthly Contributions 2020 \$1,882.00
 (April Collection = \$380.00)

Memory of Helen Danenhower	\$25.00
Memory of Marilyn Zimmerman	\$25.00
Memory of Arlene Weaver	\$100.00

Fundraising Projects

Organ Restoration	On-going	\$600.00
Easter Candy Sales	April	\$2,499.46
Easter Flower Sale	April	TBA
Mum Sale	October	
Chinese Auction	November	
Poinsettia Sale	December	

Grocery Gift Cards

Sold	\$ 218,925.00
Profit	<u>\$11,108.90</u>
Cash Total	\$346,734.91

Interest Paid

Total Fairview Interest Paid	\$17,540.00
Total VIST Interest Paid	\$22,378.78

Loan Balances

Fairview Cemetery Company	
Owed Amount	\$72,000.00
Total Principal Balance Owed	\$72,000.00

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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!

## **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  
Michael Brown  
Rosie DeJesus  
28<sup>th</sup> Andrew Potts  
30<sup>th</sup> Joshua Mohn,  
Kim Yoder, Alfred Cross

## **May Anniversaries**

- 18<sup>th</sup> Carol & Terry Kinney  
20<sup>th</sup> Daryl & Diane Klopp  
25<sup>th</sup> Ronald & Patty Ann Kintzer  
28<sup>th</sup> Harold & Barbara Spatz  
31<sup>st</sup> 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 Burkhardt,  
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**

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

# Salem Belleman's Church

## MEMORIAL DAY DRIVE-THRU

*Items available include:*

**Hamburger BBQ – Pork BBQ – Macaroni Salad –  
Potato Salad - Baked Beans  
Chicken Noodle Soup - Ham and Bean Soup -  
Beef Vegetable Soup  
Cherry Pie - Lemon Sponge Pie - Rhubarb Pie**

**Date: Monday, May 31, 2021**

**Pickup at the Fellowship Hall from 11 am-3 pm  
3730 Belleman's Church Road, Mohrsville**

**Return the order form enclosed in this newsletter  
for your pre-ordered meal!**

**PLEASE PRE-ORDER BY May 21, 2021**



**Memorial Day Service at 2:30 p.m.**



# MEMORIAL DAY DRIVE-THRU ORDER FORM

Pick-Up - Monday, May 31, 2021 - 11 am - 3 pm

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

## BARBEQUE

\_\_\_\_\_ pt Hamburger BBQ w/4 rolls @ \$7 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Qt Hamburger BBQ w/8 rolls @ \$13 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ pt Pork BBQ w/4 rolls @ \$7 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Qt Pork BBQ w/8 rolls @ \$13 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## SALADS/BAKED BEANS

\_\_\_\_\_ pt Macaroni Salad @ \$3.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ pt Potato Salad @ \$3.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ pt Baked Beans @ \$3.50 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## SOUPS

\_\_\_\_\_ Qt Chicken Noodle @ \$6 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Qt Ham and Bean @ \$6 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Qt Beef Vegetable @ \$6 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## PIES

\_\_\_\_\_ Cherry @ \$8 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lemon Sponge @ \$6 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Rhubarb @ \$6 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please pre-order and pay by May 21, 2021\***

Checks to be made out to: Belleman's Church  
3540 Belleman's Church Rd., Mohrsville, PA 19541

***It's a surprise!***

**Save the Date...**

**May 30, 2021**

**Pastor Dave's  
35th  
Anniversary  
of Ordination**



In addition to 2021 being the 275th anniversary of Belleman's, May 30 is Pastor Dave's 35th anniversary of his Ordination. On Sunday, May 30 we will be worshipping outdoors at 9 a.m. and after worship you're invited to join in a picnic brunch to honor this milestone.

Please join us in celebration!

**SURPRISE!**