

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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



Bell Notes

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

Church Office: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Summer Worship Schedule
Worship every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.



Rev. Kevin E. Fruchtl, Pastor
Oliver Blatt, Director of Music Ministry
James Fitterling, Administrator
Church Office: 610-926-0461
Church email: salembellemans@frontiernet.net
Web Site: bellemanschurch.org



From the Pastor

From time to time you may hear that Belleman's is recruiting leaders to help on the "Joint Board". You might not be familiar with the Joint Board and the opportunities and responsibilities that come with serving.

The Joint Board is the primary decision-making body for Belleman's Church. It is comprised of both Lutheran and UCC members and it usually meets monthly. The Board is responsible for the spiritual development of the congregation. Board members try to make decisions that are consistent with how we perceive God calling us through His son Jesus Christ. The board is also responsible for making sure that your contributions and all of the church assets are properly and transparently managed to the glory of God and makes sure that lives are being transformed through your gifts.

Being on the board is a commitment, but I believe it is time well spent for God. We sometimes dream dreams and sometimes wade through contract details. We envision the future, and we figure out who is bringing what for the next church event. We praise God in broad strokes and fine details.

So next time you see a Joint Board member, thank them for their time and commitment. And, by the way, we are looking for some committed and faith-filled people to serve on the Belleman's Church Joint Board...

Blessings,
Pastor Kevin

Pastor Kevin's contact info:

Cell Phone: 610-334-5130
Email: kevin24@ptd.net

Notice: There are two Vacancies on the Joint Board, one UCC spot and one Lutheran spot. If you are interested in serving, please contact James in the Church Office. Thank you!

Church Board Highlights

June 30, 2025

The Board approved the minutes from the May 19 meeting, the Treasurer Report, Pastor Report and Administrator Report.

Pastor Kevin suggested a meeting with himself, Diane and James to brainstorm some members to serve on a finance team, a projects team and an Old Church team. Plan would be to accomplish this prior to the next Board meeting.

Carol Weyandt was present to discuss the Old Church and Organ Repairs with the Board. She started by reviewing some history with the board including the fact that there used to be an Old Church Committee of which John Rausch is the only remaining member. In her conversations with John he was happy to hear about the idea for an Old Church Committee to reorganize. Next, Carol touched specifically on the Organ quote from Brunner and noted that they are willing to lock in the quote of \$41,912 and they would hope to work the project in as soon as 2026 or 2027. (Which is earlier than the 2028-2029 they anticipated.) After some discussion, the board approved to call for a Congregational Meeting for the approval of the \$41,912 quote by Brunner and Associates for the repair of the Old Church Organ. It was decided to have the discussion meeting after worship on July 27 with the vote to take place on August 10.

The Fundraising Committee presented a Memorial Day Picnic report which noted a profit of \$5,758.34. It was reported that Memorial Day was a great event with WFMZ here for most of the day for the evening news reports. The Fundraising Committee meets in August to plan the Turkey and Waffle Supper.

The Property Committee reported that the electrician Kevin Schrack has been making great headway with the installation of the new LED lights at Church. Once the painting in the Refreshment stand is complete those new lights will be installed next. Also, James reported that Ehrlich offered to do a Termite inspection which is covered under our current service agreement with them. They found no visible signs of termite activity at the Church, Old Church, Fellowship Hall or Sexton House.

The VBS team is making great strides with planning of this years VBS from July 28-31. There will also be a change to the worship location on August 3, moving the service from outside to the Fellowship Hall. This service will be a VBS closing Sunday as the Hall will still be decorated.

Church Board Highlights - continued

Pastor Kevin reported that we recently received a survey from the Committee on Ministry to be filled out by a few members. James, Board President Diane Rothenberger and Pastor Kevin will take a look at this.

James reported that Frank Kornfeind will work on the August 19 Community Meal that we scheduled to host. The plan will be to do it similar to the last one we did in fall of 2024.

A wedding in the Old Church is scheduled for October 17, 2026 with Pastor Kevin and Rev. Timothy Bouffard officiating. The board approved the date of October 17, 2026 with Rev. Timothy Bouffard officiating with Pastor Kevin.

There is also a wedding scheduled for in the Church on May 16, 2026. They requested for Linda Hartman to be the organist for the ceremony. This was approved by the Board.

~~~~~

## Belleman's Joint Board Treasurer Report for May 2025

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 29,467.74 |
| Income            | \$ 12,703.98 |
| Expenses          | \$ 26,796.58 |
| Ending Balance    | \$ 15,375.14 |

~~~~~

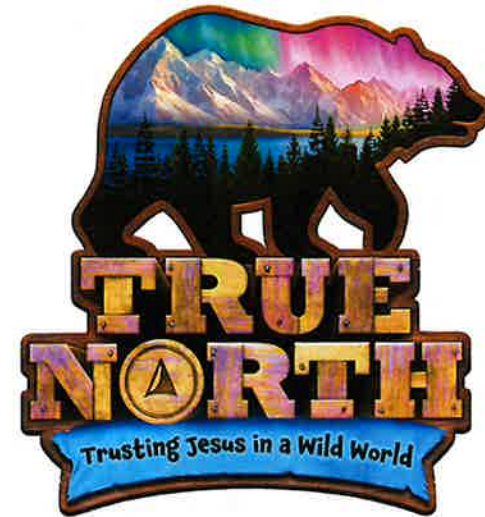
	Attendance/Offering	
	9:00AM	Offering
June 1	114 (Church), 52 (Facebook)	\$6,753.00
June 8	129 (Church), 53 (Facebook)	\$2,707.00
June 15	36 (Church), 39 (Facebook)	\$1,722.00
June 22	62 (Grove), 25 (Facebook)	\$3,280.00
June 29	74 (Church), 31 (Facebook)	\$5,543.00

* Facebook views convey the number of viewers who watched for at least one minute.

~~~~~

The July **Jingle Offerings** go to Pretzel City Parish Adventure Day Camp in Reading.

## Belleman's Vacation Bible School



This Summer's Vacation Bible School event will be conducted the evenings of **July 28th – 31st** from **6:00PM to 8:00PM.**

**Again this year, VBS will be located at the Church Grove/ Fellowship Hall!**

We hope you will come and be a part of Vacation Bible School 2025!

**If you know you will be attending, please visit this link online to signup:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CACA828A7F4C34-57104559-vbs2025>

Please join us Trusting Jesus in a Wild World!

**This years VBS service project will be to collect pet food and supplies to be distributed to local animal rescue organizations!**



**Our Summer Worship Schedule  
continues with Worship  
every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.**

Worship service locations are listed  
below as we incorporate outdoor  
worship during the summer months.

# Summer WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**July 13 - Sanctuary with Holy Communion**

**July 20 - Grove**

**July 27 - Sanctuary**

**August 3 - Fellowship Hall - VBS Sunday**

**August 10 - Sanctuary with Holy Communion**

**August 17 - Grove - Bluegrass Service**

**August 24 - Sanctuary**

**August 31 - Grove - Blessing of the Animals**

*Crystal Cammauf leading worship (Pastor Kevin vacation)*

**September 7 - Sanctuary**

**September 14 - Sanctuary with Holy Communion**

*(Last Sunday of Summer worship Schedule)*

~~~~~

Upcoming Holy Communion Assistants

July 13: (Altar Communion)

Altar Assistants: Carla Rozsitch, Linda Henne,
Dawne Clay

Cup Stations: Eric Weyandt, Sam Stump

Ushers: Larry Henne, Ken Borkey

August 10: (Altar Communion)

Altar Assistants: Linda Henne, Maura Wesner
James Fitterling

Cup Stations: Kim Smyre, Diane Rothenberger

Ushers: Frank Kornfeind, Allen Loeb

Communion note: Ask the ushers for Gluten Free options!

2025 Cub Pack 154 Carnival and Awards Night



Calendar of Events

- Sun. Holy Communion**
7/13 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings
 (Chapter 45 – Spirit of Unity and Diversity
 Proverbs 8:1-36, John 17:1-23, Ephesians 4:1-16)
- Sat. (7/19) 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**
7/20 Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings
 (Chapter 46 – Spirit of Service
 Matthew 23:1-12, John 13:1-15, Philippians 2:1-11)
 Council/Consistory Meeting after Worship
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
7/27 Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings
 (Chapter 47 – The Spirit Conspiracy - Ephesians 5:15-6:9,
 Philemon 8-19, Hebrews 13:1-8, James 5: 1-6)
 Congregational Meeting after Worship - info page 11
- Mon. (7/28) - Thur. (7/31) 6-8 p.m. Vacation Bible School**
“True North” (Info page 5)
- Sun. VBS Closing Sunday**
8/3 8:00AM Coffee Talk Meeting in the hall (Chapters 45-48)
9:00AM Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall
 Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings
 (Chapter 48 – Spirit of Power - Acts 4:1-31,
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, 2 Timothy 1:1-14, Ephesians 6:10-20)
- Mon. (8/4) 6:30PM Fundraising Committee Meeting
- Sun. Holy Communion**
8/10 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary
 Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings
 (Chapter 49 – Spirit of Holiness - Psalm 98, John 14:15-
 18, 25-27, 15:26-27, 16:33, 1 Corinthians 3:9-15, 15:20-28)
 Congregational Vote on Old Church Organ
- Sat. (8/16) 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport

Calendar of Events

- Sun. Bluegrass Sunday**
8/17 9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove
 Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings
 (Chapter 50 – Spirit of Life - Psalm 90,
 Luke 20:27-38, Philippians 1:20-30)
- Sun. 4:00PM Blue Mountain Heritage Chorus Concert
 8/17 (See page 10)
- Mon. (8/18) 7:00PM Board Meeting
- Tue. (8/19) 5:30PM Community Meal at the Fellowship Hall
- Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**
8/24 Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings
 (Chapter 51 – Spirit of Hope
 Psalm 126, Revelation 1:9-19, 19:11-16, 21:1-8, 22:16-21)
- Tue. (8/26) 9:30AM Music and Worship Meeting
- Sun. Blessing of the Animals - Crystal Cammauf Leading**
8/31 Worship (Pastor Kevin Vacation)
9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove
 Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings
 (Chapter 52– God in the End, Luke 15:11-32,
 Romans 8:31-39, 1 Corinthians 15:50-58)

~~~~~

**FREE COMMUNITY MEAL**  
**Tuesday, August 19, 2025**  
**5:30-6:30p.m. at**  
**The Fellowship Hall**



# COMBINED CONCERT

Presented by:  
**Blue Mountain Heritage CHORUS**  
with our guests:  
"Men In Harmony"

Sunday, August, 17, 2025  
4:00 P.M.

**Salem Bellemans Church**  
3540 Bellemans Church Rd.  
Mohrsville, PA 19541



**MEN  
IN  
HARMONY**



Music that makes  
the HEART SING

by Sharing our God given  
ability through our music



\*A FREE WILL offering will be taken  
Fellowship, and Light Refreshments to Follow

## Reminder!!

The following items have been donated over the years and  
are available for anyone in need:

Wheelchairs  
Canes

Crutches  
Shower Chair

If you know someone who may need any of these items,  
please contact James in the Church Office.

~~~~~

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.

Thank You for your participation!

~~~~~

## Upcoming Congregational Meeting on July 27 after Worship

Motion to be presented for discussion:

**To approve the quote from Brunner  
& Associates - Organ Builders in the  
amount of \$41,912 for restorative  
work to the Bohler organ located in  
the Old Church.**

**Vote to be taken on Sunday, August 10**





Looking for love in all the wrong places? Looking for a healthy Spirit of Holiness, Life & Hope?

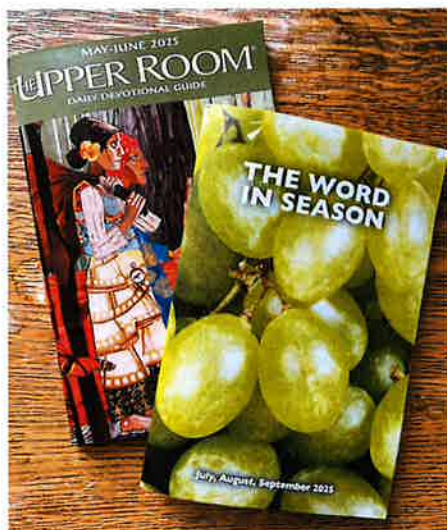
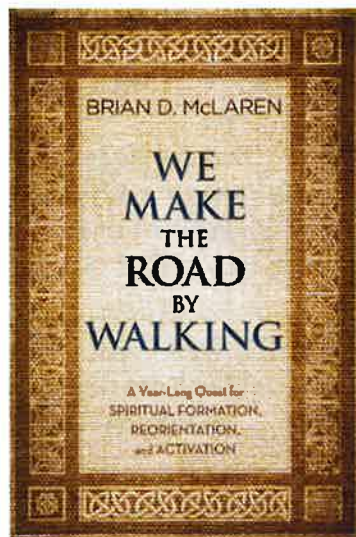
Join the Coffee Talk Adult Discussion group on the first Sunday of the month over the Summer.

We will continue on **A Year-Long Quest for SPIRITUAL FORMATION, REORIENTATION, and ACTIVATION** but you can jump in at anytime!

The group will meet on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, & September 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

There are still a few copies of Brian McLaren's book, **We Make the Road by Walking** for anyone who wants to participate in this guided study by engaging in weekly Bible readings, devotions & prayer or if you just want to follow along in our walk of faith. The

Coffee Talk discussion on Sunday mornings is encouraged but not required. **Connect on Facebook by following "Belleman's Walkers"** See Eileen Fruchtl (in person or text 610-858-2053) for a book.



**Remember that we have  
"The Upper Room"  
and  
"The Word In Season"  
devotionals available for  
free in the narthex.**



We would like to **thank everyone from Belleman's Church** for their many visits, cards and prayers during this past year for our mother, Janet. **A special thanks to Pastor Kevin** for all of his visits and prayers. We appreciate everyone that attended her funeral. Pastor Kevin, James and Oliver - your participation in the funeral was such a blessing. **With gratitude,  
The Weaver Family**

~~~~~

Prayer List Reminders:

- If you would like to put a person's name on the prayer list, that person must know that you are taking that action. It is a right of personal privacy. So, please ask them before you offer a name for the list.
- The prayer list will be monitored and kept current. Sometimes people get better and their conditions change. We will remove names from this list. That does not mean that we no longer care. It keeps the list current and manageable. Also, please make the Pastor and Administrator aware if someone can be removed.

~~~~~

**Reminder: Council and Consistory meeting  
July 20 after worship.**

### Belleman's Military Members

CWO2 Josh Linderman  
Andrew Potts  
1LT Bradley P. Hoppes  
SGT Andrew Cichowicz  
Nathan P. Stump  
SGT John R. Wesner

MAJ James Fluck  
MSgt Kevin Mohn  
GYSGT Phillip Spatz  
Alfred Cross  
Cydney Lawrence  
Dustin Spatz

## July Birthdays

- 16<sup>th</sup> Eric Yocum  
Courtney Eisenhofer  
18<sup>th</sup> Beth Ann Savage,  
Barbara Bambrick  
19<sup>th</sup> Daniel Kiefer IV,  
Dustin Kunkle,  
Stephani Mohn  
20<sup>th</sup> Adam Kissinger,  
Colin Weist, Dan Weyandt  
21<sup>st</sup> Connie Nabozny  
22<sup>nd</sup> Kelsey Weyandt,  
Pastor Kevin  
23<sup>rd</sup> Todd Potts, Harold Mohn,  
Cooper Henne,  
Layne Weyandt  
24<sup>th</sup> Travis Fair, Yuri Loose,  
James Fitterling,  
Gloria Gambler,  
Cathleen Phillips  
27<sup>th</sup> Tracy Beebe,  
Adilene LeRoy,  
Lester Gambler,  
Rick Rothenberger  
28<sup>th</sup> Bernice Hartman,  
Brett Potts,  
Victoria McCloskey  
29<sup>th</sup> Janene McRae  
30<sup>th</sup> Samantha Phillips  
31<sup>st</sup> Linda Houck, Lura Pearson,  
Zoey Dreibelbis

## July Anniversaries

- 17<sup>th</sup> Marshall & Ann Reynolds  
Jason & Emily Kozik  
19<sup>th</sup> Nikolaus & Patti Botscheller  
20<sup>th</sup> Donny and Jodie Difatta  
22<sup>nd</sup> Lee & April Henne  
27<sup>th</sup> Donald and Doreen Ottaviani

## August Birthdays

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Brittany Weidenhammer,  
Andrew Weber,  
Anderson Starkey  
3<sup>rd</sup> Jonathan Elliott,  
Troy Koch, Linda Evans,  
4<sup>th</sup> Wayne Hoffert,  
Sandy Sunday,  
Gabriella Yocum  
5<sup>th</sup> Glenn Balthaser,  
Kelly Eitel,  
Heather Livinghouse  
6<sup>th</sup> Ann Reynolds,  
Mark Dreibelbis  
7<sup>th</sup> Eloise Troutman  
Carter Ernst  
Bentlee Gallagher  
8<sup>th</sup> Marshall Reynolds  
9<sup>th</sup> Cathy Del Fierro,  
Warren Hartman  
10<sup>th</sup> Hunter Bachman,  
Amy Berg  
12<sup>th</sup> Nikole Botscheller  
13<sup>th</sup> Hannah Becker,  
Cassidy Rae Smith  
Michael D'Ancona  
15<sup>th</sup> Cassandra Schlotter  
16<sup>th</sup> Joseph King  
Carly Weyandt

## August Anniversaries

- 2<sup>nd</sup> John & Linda Loose  
3<sup>rd</sup> Craig & Brenda Yoder  
4<sup>th</sup> Brian & Cheryl Folk  
8<sup>th</sup> Daryl & Lyn Bohn  
13<sup>th</sup> Beau & Elizabeth Dalton

# Music News

As our summer season of church is in full swing, it is so comforting to hear the sound of music ringing through the sanctuary during the service. Even though our choirs are on "vacation" we'll be back practicing for all our musical ensembles.

*So, this is where you come in!*  
**Are you interested in joining  
our music program?**

We have a place for you in our music family here at Belleman's.

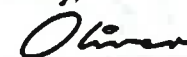
 If you'd like to participate in **choir**, you are welcome to join us every Sunday morning as we lead the hymns for the service.

 If you're interested in **playing bells** (no music reading experience necessary!) we'll begin practice this fall.

 If you play an **instrument**, let me know as well, since we'll be featuring many different styles of music during upcoming services.

If you have questions, feel free to chat with me before or after any service, and I look forward to creating beautiful music with our Belleman's music family!

Musically,





# OLD CHURCH ORGAN REBUILD PROPOSAL

The Church Board has been seeking quotes for the needed repairs to our historic pump organ in the Old Church. After many months, only one company, Brunner and Associates, is willing to take on this unique and specialized project.

First, a little bit of history about the pump organ and its builder, Samuel Bohler.



Bohler was born in Switzerland in 1823 and moved to the US with his family at age 6 to the Reading area where he learned the trade of organ building from his father. He was very well-known in the area. According to a newspaper article in 1881, he built 55 organs with five located in the city of Reading and 16 in Berks County, including here at Belleman's.

The Old Church was built in 1815 and they used a parlor organ until deciding to purchase this new fancy Bohler organ, which was around 1869-70. It would have been quite an investment at the time - the prices in old newspaper articles indicated a Samuel Bohler organ in 1859 was \$800, and in 1891 the cost was \$2,000. Estimating the cost in 1869/70 would have probably been around \$1,200/\$1,300, which is about \$50,000 in today's dollars.

In the early 1920's when it was decided to build the new church here, the discussion was to tear down the Old Church and build the new one in that same location as what so many other churches were doing at the time. However, D. Wellington Dietrich, a wealthy Reading businessman came forward with a proposal - he would donate \$6,000 to Belleman's, with \$5,000 towards the new church and \$1,000 to the continued maintenance of the Old Church if the Old Church were preserved. In today's dollars that's a \$100,000 donation. We know the result!

As other congregations tore down their churches and built new, that also meant the Bohler pump organs were moved into the new buildings. There were then many modifications made to those organs, including electrifying them as to no longer being a hand 'pump' organ, and eventually moving onto more modern organs. However, since Belleman's did not move the organ to the new building, it was kept in its original condition which makes it unique and historic. The Old Church itself is on the National Historic Register since 1973.

Now it comes to the point where a major restoration and repairs are needed to continue to preserve it. It's a very specialized type of service to be done. And it's going to be an expensive restoration with a cost quoted at \$41,912. At their July meeting, the Church Board approved bringing this proposal forward to the congregation for a vote to consider awarding the contract for this project.

(Con't on back)

If the project is approved, a committee will be formed to help fund-raise the restoration. In addition, there have been donations already given, including by the public who attended the Old Church Christmas Celebration in December when it was mentioned that the organ was in need of repair. That amount of donations already received is about \$2,000.



Belleman's Old Church

Part of the charm of attending worship in the Old Church is the organ and the acoustics in the church building. There is also a sense of history to be in a place that is over 200 years old where previous generations of Belleman's members also worshiped. However, there is a cost to this kind of preservation of the organ in order to be enjoyed by generations to come, and that is what Belleman's congregation will be asked to consider.

An information congregational meeting will be held after the regular church service on **Sunday, July 27**. A representative of Brunners and Associates will be on hand to explain the restoration to be done and to answer any questions.

Following that, a congregation vote on the organ restoration project will be held on **Sunday, August 10** following the 9 am church service.

Proposed cost of Restoration/Rebuild of the Old Church Organ     \$ 41,912.

Information congregational meeting regarding the project - Sunday, July 27, after the worship service

Congregational vote on the project – Sunday, August 10, after the worship service