

Salem (Belleman's) Church
3540 Belleman's Church Road
Mohrsville, PA 19541-8916

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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.



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

The groundhog has been sufficiently villainized online based on its unfortunate prediction of 6 more weeks of winter. I have seen many memes of the poor rodent in prison or much worse.

This winter has been bad enough, and we are so desperate that we will listen to a groundhog AND get angry if we don't like the answer!

Curious.

We cannot know what the future will bring. No clue. It is one of the many things that will keep us awake at 3am. What will happen to me? What will happen to the people I love? What is happening to this world?

As pastor, I can say with confidence that I have absolutely no idea. But our Bible has some very helpful advice about our future.

Jeremiah 29: 11 says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Romans 14: 8 says, "If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord."

And John 3:16 tells us, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

I do not know what will happen tomorrow. I don't even know what I am going to have for lunch. But I believe in the God who holds today and tomorrow in the palm of God's loving hand. Hope is found in the God who made the heavens and the earth. Even death does not get the final word.

It's gonna be okay.

In God's amazing love,
Pastor Kevin

Pastor Kevin's contact info:

Cell Phone: 610-334-5130

Email: kevin24@ptd.net

Church Board Highlights

January 19, 2026

First, Church Board Nominations for 2026 were presented and approved: Ken Borkey (President), Louise Elliott (Vice President), James Fitterling (Recording Secretary), Larry Henne (Treasurer), Carla Rozsitch (Assistant Treasurer), Carlene Kissinger (Financial Secretary), John Rausch (Special Funds Director), Linda Henne (Fellowship Hall Coordinator).

December meeting minutes, Treasurer Report, Pastor Report and Administrator Report were all approved.

It was reported that the 2025 Benevolence has been paid with \$3,555.25 going to the Lutheran Synod and \$3,555.25 going to the UCC Conference. The \$20,000 property insurance bill was paid in December as well. Also, the \$40,000 donation for the rebuild of the Old Church Organ was received and transferred to the Special Projects account. In addition the donor gave an additional \$10,000 donation to be used for another project as needed.

Pastor Kevin reminded the Board of his vacation at the end of February into the beginning of March. Dawne Clay will be leading Worship on March 1 and Rev. Barry Spatz will lead March 8.

It was reported that the Fundraising Committee will be meeting on February 10 to plan the Fundraising Events. It was noted that Sindy Bachman will be stepping down as Fundraising Treasurer. The Board approved Carla Rozsitch as the new treasurer for the Fundraising Committee account.

Sindy Bachman is also stepping down as Christian Ed Treasurer. It was approved to add Diane Rothenberger and Crystal Cammauf-Young as signers for the Christian Ed Account.

Pastor Kevin reviewed the Lenten schedule with the Schuylkill Valley Pastor's Association. Belleman's will host Ash Wednesday services at 1 & 7 p.m. and the Good Friday service at 7 p.m. With that, we will not be responsible for any of the Lenten Lunch services.

The Blue Mountain Chorus is requesting to have their summer concert at Belleman's in 2026. The date is August 16, 2026 and there also will be a dress rehearsal scheduled in the Sanctuary on the morning of August 15, 2026. This was approved.

James reported that there is still \$578 remaining to be designated from the 2025 Heffner Tithe. To utilize these funds, it was approved to give \$300 to the SV Food Pantry and \$278 to be used to purchase food cards for families in need.

Board Highlights, continued...

Annual contributions to the Covenant Association and the East Berks Mission District are due soon and was noted to keep them the same as last year with \$75 going to each.

Pastor Kevin questioned if there were any advertising funds available to put an ad in the SV Middle School Musical program book. It was suggested to possibly do this through the Community Outreach Committee. There was also a suggestion to get a banner to be displayed at community events. This was approved.

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**Belleman's Joint Board - Month of December 2025**

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$28,153.80 |
| Income            | \$77,405.80 |
| Expenses          | \$96,078.18 |
| Ending Balance    | \$9,481.42  |

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In the case of inclement weather, Announcement of the cancellation of Sunday activities at the church will be recorded on the church answering service. **Call the church number 610-926-0461**, check Facebook or the WFMZ website for this information. The decision on cancellation will be made early enough that you will know well before services are slated to begin.

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**Redner's Tapes**

Thank you to everyone who brings their receipts for this program. Please be reminded to not highlight portions of the receipt and please try to organize your receipts if you are bringing a bunch at a time, it makes it easier on those who have to put them together for Redners. Thanks again and please keep those receipts coming!

If you would like to take part in the Save-a-Tape program, stop at customer service at Redner's and get yourself a Save-a-Tape card and present the card whenever you shop at Redner's. All you have to do then is bring your receipt along to church and put it in the container in the Narthex. In 2025 this program yielded \$781.18! If there are any questions, please check with the church office.

**Attendance/Offering**

|         | <b>Worship Attendance</b>                                    | <b>Offering</b> |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Jan. 4  | 78 (Sanctuary), 63 (Facebook)                                | \$4,501.00      |
| Jan. 11 | 84 (Sanctuary), 56 (Facebook)                                | \$2,615.00      |
| Jan. 18 | No Church - Snow                                             |                 |
| Jan. 24 | 35 (Sanctuary), 39 (Facebook)                                | \$2,155.00      |
|         | <i>(Jan. 25 service was moved to Jan. 24 due to weather)</i> |                 |

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

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Upcoming Holy Communion Assistants

March 8 (Altar Communion)

Altar Assistants: Carla Rozsitch, Maura Wesner
Dawne Clay

Cup Stations: Ken Borkey, Kim Smyre

Ushers: Allen Loeb, Frank Kornfeind

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**The February Jingle Offerings go to Opportunity House**



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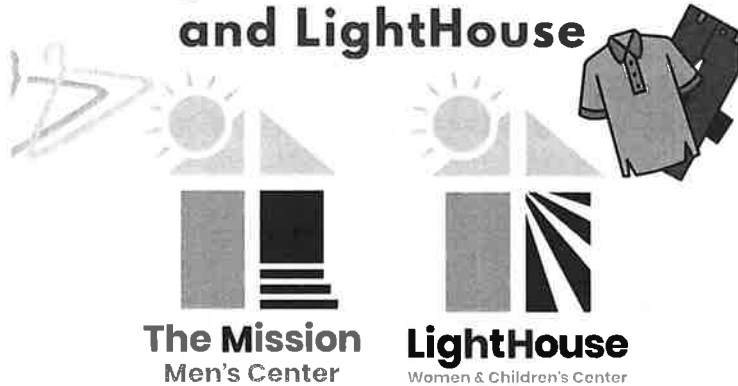
Reminder from the Cemetery Board:

Please remove Christmas decorations by March 1. The cemetery will be cleared by March 15.

Thank You!



Hope Rescue Mission and LightHouse



Clothing Collection

Sunday, Feb. 15 will be the deadline to drop-off clothing.
Donations can be placed in the box in the narthex.
Thank you in advance for your participation in this drive.



Don't forget to direct Choice Dollars®

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let Choice Dollars expire.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available can help support Belleman's.

Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more.

Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



It's Sandwich time again!!!

Mark your calendars for our popular **Sandwich Sale** on **Thursday, February 19** which will be to benefit mission work locally and afar. The 10" (ham, Italian or turkey) sandwiches are \$8.00 & can be picked up at the Fellowship Hall from 2:00 to 6:00PM. Contact Karen Harle (484-256-5705) to place your orders. There is also a sign-up sheet posted in the Narthex.



Help will be needed on the 19th to make the sandwiches. The Mission Team is grateful to all who are able to lend a hand.



American Cancer Society Daffodil Days are here!

- Bunch of fresh-cut daffodils.....\$15
- Pot of mini daffodils.....\$20
- Bunch of tulips.....\$15
- Gifts of Hope... (Delivered to local hospitals).....\$25

Must order by 2/17/2026

Delivery week will be 3/23/2026

Please Sign-up on the sheet in the narthex
or call/email Mark or Ann Stump
(610-926-3416 or
mstarduster@aol.com)



Lenten Worship Series 2026

Presented by the Schuylkill Valley Pastors Association

This coming Lenten Season we will once again be worshipping alongside the churches of the Schuylkill Valley Pastors Association. Here is the schedule of the coming Worship Services:

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### Ash Wednesday - Two Worship services at Belleman's!

We begin the season of Lent on "Ash Wednesday" with two worship services on **February 18**. Worship times are 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. here at Belleman's. The services include an opportunity to receive ashes on your forehead. Ashes are a sign of both our penitence and our mortality, allowing us to begin our Lenten journey in a spirit of humility.



(Note: there is no meal with these services)

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Lenten Wednesday Services

During the season of Lent, there will be weekly Lenten worship services **every Wednesday at 12 noon**. Lunch will be served first and will be followed by a brief worship. Services should be over by 1 for anyone planning to attend during their lunchtime. We look forward to embarking on this Lenten journey with the SV Churches as we head toward Easter Sunday! Lenten Service locations are as follows:

February 25: Epler's UCC (luncheon)
(1151 West Leesport Road, Leesport Pa 19533)

March 4: Gernant's Church (luncheon)
(13 Gernant's Church Road, Leesport Pa 19533)

March 11: Bern Lutheran (luncheon)
(820 W Leesport Rd, Leesport, PA 19533)

March 18: Bern UCC (luncheon)
(3196 Bernville Road, Leesport PA 19533)

March 25: Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity (luncheon)
(102 Apple Street, Leesport PA 19533)

Maundy Thursday



This years Maundy Thursday Worship services are on **April 2** and are hosted by **Bethany EC Church (308 Main Street, Leesport Pa 19533)**. We commemorate Jesus's Last Supper with services at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (Note: there is no meal with these services)

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### Good Friday

The Good Friday Worship Service on **April 3** will be hosted here at Belleman's in the **sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.** as we observe the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus.

(Note: there is no meal with this service)



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Easter Egg Hunt 2026



This year's egg hunt will take place on **Saturday, April 4**. The egg hunt will start **around 1:00 PM** and will take place in the church grove. We hope to see you there!

In preparation for this, the Primary Department requests **donations of small wrapped candies** for the Egg Hunt. Please drop them off in the Primary department with Brenda Weyandt or with James in the office. Thank You!

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### Easter

The season is capped off on **Easter Sunday, April 5** as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from death. The day begins by joining at the Mohrsville Church of the Brethren for the Easter Dawn Service at **6:30 a.m.** which is followed by a light breakfast in their Fellowship Hall.



The day continues with Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. followed by Easter Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

We hope you will join us in this years journey to the cross.

## February Birthdays

- |                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Cory Kunkle, Melissa Lewis                                                                        | 17 <sup>th</sup> Gary Kunkle                                                                            |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Brian Heller,<br>Lindsay Zimmerman,<br>Braden McCloskey,<br>Isabella Hoffman,<br>Griffin Troutman | 19 <sup>th</sup> David Moll                                                                             |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Donald Borkey,<br>Danielle Shatto<br>Charles Zimmerman, Jr.                                       | 20 <sup>th</sup> Robert Sweigart,<br>Jacob Moll<br>Calvin Conrad,<br>Timothy Hart                       |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Barbara Rausch,<br>Jamie Heim,<br>Samuel Stump,<br>Matthew Yoder                                  | 21 <sup>st</sup> Patty Ann Kintzer                                                                      |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Kim Schlotter                                                                                     | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Christian Hoffman                                                                      |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Kenneth Borkey, Jr.,<br>Matthew Moll                                                              | 23 <sup>rd</sup> Kelly Smith<br>Lyn Bohn                                                                |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Holly Bradbury,<br>Shaelyn Fluck,<br>Tina Phillips, Galen Borkey                                  | 24 <sup>th</sup> Ryan Weber,<br>Michael Kozik, Jr.,<br>Clarissa Berube                                  |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> John Loose, Anita Noecker                                                                         | 26 <sup>th</sup> Paige Kozik,<br>Jennifer Hill, Ken Jacoby,<br>Terry Schaeffer,<br>Keara Lynn Patrick,  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Daniel Haas                                                                                      | 27 <sup>th</sup> Dennis Dougherty                                                                       |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Ronald Carlson<br>Bonnie Madeira                                                                 | 28 <sup>th</sup> Brenda Eisenhower<br>Ruth Marko, Bret Edwards,<br>Jeff Fitterling,<br>Charlotte Peters |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Mark Stump, Jessica Harle<br>Samantha Gregor,<br>Robert Reppert, Jr.                             |                                                                                                         |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Alexis Garber                                                                                    |                                                                                                         |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Jesse Gehris, Renee Delp<br>David Garber                                                         |                                                                                                         |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Thomas Loose                                                                                     |                                                                                                         |

## February Anniversaries

- 14<sup>th</sup> Charmaine & Alan Shatto  
21<sup>st</sup> Alfred & Renee Cross  
28<sup>th</sup> Jamie and Cheryl Kring

## 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

# Music News

## Spring is in the air...almost!

Well, maybe not quite yet, but if you're anything like me, I can't wait for warmer weather, green grass, beautiful gardens, and the end to shoveling snow.

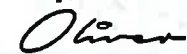
In short, it's pretty obvious that I'm ready for spring!

But, I've discovered that my anticipation has made it hard for me to focus on appreciating today. Spring will be here eventually, but if I worry about getting to spring, soon I'll worry about getting to summer, and then fall, before longing for spring weather again.

Luckily, there is a cure for this, or any other worry, and it's music. Music is the ultimate medicine, that works in any language and in any situation.

So, if you're worrying about spring, or anything else, listen to some music! During our next church service, close your eyes during the prelude, one of the hymns, or the choir anthem and let the music reach not only your ears, but also your heart. It's the perfect way to forget about whatever may be worrying you!

Musically,



## Calendar of Events

- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**  
**2/8 9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group**  
(Chapter 24 – Jesus and Hell,  
Jonah 4:1-11; Luke 16:19-31; Matthew 25:31-40)  
**10:00AM Worship Service**  
*Congregational Vote*  
*Community Outreach Meeting after Worship*
- Tue. 9:30AM Music and Worship Meeting  
2/10 6:30PM Fundraising Meeting
- Wed. 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal  
2/11 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Thu. (2/12) Sandwich Orders due to Karen Harle
- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**  
**2/15 9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group**  
(Chapter 25 – Jesus, Violence, and Power,  
Isaiah 42:1-9, 53:1-12; Matthew 16:13-17:9)  
**10:00AM Worship Service**  
*Endowment Committee Meeting after Worship*
- Mon. (2/16) 7:00PM Board Meeting
- Wed. **Ash Wednesday Services** at 1 & 7 PM at Belleman's  
2/18 6:00PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Thu. 2:00-6:00PM Sandwich Sale Pickup at the Fellowship Hall  
2/19 (Helpers needed around 9 a.m.)
- Sat. 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport  
2/21 (Belleman's Month to serve)
- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**  
**2/22 9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group**  
(Chapter 26 – Making it Real,  
Mark 2:1-19; Hebrews 11:1-8; John 1:1-2:6)  
**10:00AM Worship Service**
- Wed. **12 Noon Lenten Lunch Worship at Epler's UCC**  
2/25 (1151 West Leesport Road, Leesport Pa 19533)  
No Choir Rehearsals

## Calendar of Events

- Sat. 2/28 - Sat. 3/7 Mission Trip to Ashville, North Carolina
- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**  
**3/1 9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group**  
**10:00AM Worship Service led by Dawne Clay**
- Wed. **12 Noon Lenten Lunch Worship at Gernant's Church**  
3/4 (13 Gernant's Church Road, Leesport Pa 19533)  
5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal  
6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Sun. Holy Communion**  
**3/8 9:00AM Sunday School**  
**9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group**  
**10:00AM Worship Service led by Rev. Barry Spatz**
- Wed. **12 Noon Lenten Lunch Worship at Bern Lutheran**  
3/11 (820 W Leesport Rd, Leesport, PA 19533)  
5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal  
6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**  
**3/15 9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group**  
**10:00AM Worship Service**
- Mon. (3/16) 7:00PM Board Meeting

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SV Food Pantry needs your help...mark your calendars!

Belleman's is the sponsoring church for the **February 21, 2026** distribution. **That means that we need your help at the food pantry that day.** Help will be needed from **8 a.m. till noon.**

There will be a signup sheet in the narthex.

Thank you in advance for your assistance!

