

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

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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.
Service every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.; Sunday School 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...



Happy New Year! We are moving into a new year with new opportunities and we are going to make everything better this year and we are gonna have peace on earth and good will to all and give up chocolate and lose 10 pounds and exercise more.

Sure we are. Our words might ring strong at this moment but the daily grind will erode their strength and we will rapidly find ourselves hoping 2027 is better than 2026.

Even saying this puts me at risk of sounding rather grinchy. Yet we will only make progress in this difficult world if we recognize that words only go so far towards making positive changes in our lives and in this world.

You wanna lose 10 pounds? Lay off the Cheetos and ice cream. Don't announce it, just try to achieve it. You want a stronger church community? Spend less time lamenting the "old days" and come to worship as much as you are able and contribute as you are blessed.

You want a better world? Vote. Volunteer. Serve. Strengthen community organizations. Love your neighbor whether they support your political party or not. Be civil. Give a sandwich to someone who is hungry. Take action.

I hate to ruin the party, but 2026 will be no better than 2025 if our dreams are based only on resolutions and good wishes. My coal-region grandmother used to say that "Actions speak louder than words." There is truth in this statement.

James 1: 22 says "be doers of the Word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves."

Our challenge is to put our faith into action every day of the coming year and for as long as we draw breath.

May you find the strength and courage to serve God and your neighbor as we work together to make 2026 a better year.

Blessings,
Pastor Kevin

Pastor Kevin's contact info:
Cell Phone: 610-334-5130
Email: kevin24@ptd.net

Church Board Highlights

December 15, 2025

The minutes from the November 17, 2025 and December 7, 2025 Board Meetings and the November Treasurer report were reviewed and approved.

Pastor Kevin highlighted the recent Schuylkill Valley Winter Festival that the Community Outreach Committee had a table at and it was a great event. He also noted that he attended the Blue Mountain Heritage Chorus Concert here in November.

The Property Committee received the quote from Fisher for the repairs to the sexton house. The total quoted price is \$66,100 to install and cap new windows; install furring strips, insulation and siding on the exterior of the house; and to replace soffit, fascia, gutters and downspouts on the house. The Board approved this proposal to go to the Congregation for final approval. There is a congregational meeting scheduled for January 25, 2026 and we will add a voting session on February 1, 2026.

James also reported that there was a recent issue with one of the furnaces at church. All Temp came out and reported an issue with the heat exchanger. They will be ordering a replacement heat exchanger and it was noted that this is under warranty.

In checking into some church accounts, James noted that Carol Meredith is still the second signer on the Christian Ed bank account. With that, it was suggested to add a new second signer. With it having been the Sunday School superintendent in the past, the suggestion was to add Crystal Cammauf Young to the account. This was approved.

James reported that the anonymous donation for the Old Church Organ Repairs has been received the first week of December. The total donation amount was \$50,000 with \$40,000 ear-marked for the Old Church Organ Repairs. The additional \$10,000 is currently undesignated and to be used for a project as approved by the board. These funds will be held in the Joint Board holding account; which is an interest-bearing account; until needed.

Carla Rozsitch told a story from a friend of hers who recently had a member pass away at their church from choking at a church dinner. This could have been avoided had they had a Life Vac device on site. With that there was a suggestion to purchase one for our fellowship hall and one for church. The devices cost \$70 each. This was approved.

(Continued on page 4)

(Board Highlights - continued)

Lastly, a proposal was suggested to purchase some new chairs for church and get rid of the old metal/red folding chairs. A print-out was included in the meeting packets from the Restaurant Store of a chair design that is very close to what we currently have for the meeting table downstairs at the offices. These would be stackable, non-folding chairs for \$32.99 each. There are dolly's available as well for \$26.99 each. Board approved to purchase 60 new chairs and 6 dolly's with funds coming from the inactive Gift Card Account.

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**Belleman's Joint Board Treasury Report for November**

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 10,674.53 |
| Income            | \$ 39,403.52 |
| Expenses          | \$ 19,773.33 |
| Ending Balance    | \$ 28,153.80 |

(Note: This report includes the 2025 Bazaar profit amount of \$16,150.)

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Attendance/Offering

	Worship Attendance	Offering
Dec. 7	87 (Sanctuary), 71 (Facebook)	\$4,741.00
Dec. 14 (snow)	22 (Sanctuary), 68 (Facebook)	\$1,427.00
Dec. 21	113 (Sanctuary), 64 (Facebook)	\$4,934.00
Dec. 21	(Old Church Christmas Service attendance: 131)	
Dec. 24 (4:30pm)	232(Sanctuary), 45 (Facebook)	\$8,249.00 *
Dec. 24 (7pm)	89 (Sanctuary), 39 (Facebook)	
Dec. 28	n/a (Ice - Service Cancelled)	\$1,790.00 **

* Denotes total collected from both Christmas Eve worship services at 4:30 and 7:00 p.m.

** Denotes mailed in/drop off offerings deposited despite having no worship

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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.

**Communion Assistants For February 1: (Pew Communion)**

*Ushers:* Eric Weyandt, Maura Wesner, Roxanne McMurtry, Diane Rothenberger, Sam Stump

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Mission Team 2026

The **next meeting** for those signed up to go on a Mission Trip in 2026 will be on **Monday, January 26**. Those signed up for the **March trip will meet at 6:30 p.m.** and the **Summer trip will meet at 7:00 p.m.** At the meeting on January 26, please be prepared to pay your \$60 deposit to assure yourself a spot on a trip. See you there!



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**Belleman's Military Members**

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| CWO2 Josh Linderman   | MAJ James Fluck     |
| Andrew Potts          | MSgt Kevin Mohn     |
| 1LT Bradley P. Hoppes | GYSgt Phillip Spatz |
| SGT Andrew Cichowicz  | Alfred Cross        |
| Nathan P. Stump       | Cydney Lawrence     |
| SGT John R. Wesner    | Dustin Spatz        |

**Thank you for your service!**

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**Annual Congregational Meeting
January 25, 2026 following worship**

Important Notes:

- Year End Ministry Reports
- 2025 Financial Reports
- To approve the quote by Fisher Roofing and Siding in the amount of \$66,100 to install and cap new windows; install furring strips, insulation and siding on the exterior of the sexton house; and to replace soffit, fascia, gutters and downspouts on the sexton house.

(Vote will be February 1, 2026)

The OLD CHURCH CHRISTMAS celebration was a big hit again this year! Thank you to all who attended, baked cookies and organized this unique worship opportunity. What a nostalgic way to celebrate the birth of Jesus!



Calendar of Events

Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School
1/11 9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group
 (Chapter 20 – Join the Adventure!,
 Isaiah 61:1-4, Luke 4:1-30, 5:1-11; 2 Timothy 2:1-9)
10:00AM Worship

Wed. (1/14) 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal

Sat. (1/17) 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport

Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School
1/18 9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group
 (Chapter 21 – Significant and Wonderful,
 2 Samuel 11:26-12:15, John 2:1-12; Mark 1:21-28)
10:00AM Worship

Mon. (1/19) 7:00PM Board Meeting

Wed. (1/21) 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal

Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School
1/25 9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group
 (Chapter 22 – Jesus the Teacher,
 Proverbs 3:1-26; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Mark 4:1-34)
10:00AM Worship
 Congregation Meeting Review (see page 5)

Mon. 6:30PM March Mission Trip Meeting

1/26 7:00PM Summer Mission Trip Meeting

Wed. (1/28) 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal

Sun. Scout Sunday/Holy Communion
2/1 9:00AM Sunday School
9:00AM Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group
 (Chapter 23 – Jesus and the Multitudes,
 Ezekiel 34:1-31; Luke 5:17-32, 18:15-19:9)
10:00AM Worship Service
 Congregational Vote (Info page 5)

Wed. (2/4) 6:30PM Choir Rehearsal

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
 Endowment Committee Meeting after Worship

Hope Rescue Mission and LightHouse



The Mission
Men's Center

LightHouse
Women & Children's Center

Clothing Collection

We'll be collecting all seasons of clothing for men, women and children.

Coats, hats, scarves, gloves, shoes, towels, belts, purses, and new men's underwear in sizes small to xxxl.



www.HopeForReading.org/HopeThrift

Collections will be from now until February 15. Donations can be placed in the box in the narthex. Thank you in advance for your participation in this drive.

Also, January Jingle Offerings are designated for Hope Rescue Mission.



We want to **thank** all of you for visits and calls through this year and who stay in touch with us. We miss Sunday mornings but also are thankful we can most times tune in on Facebook. **Thanks again, Wayne and Arlene Hoffert**

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**To my friends at Belleman's Church, Thank you** so much for the beautiful prayer shawl that was given to me during a recent Communion visitation. It is nice to be remembered and I sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness. Wishing you all a blessed New Year. **Ruth Ohlinger**

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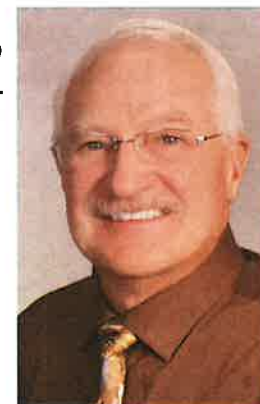
Thank you for the prayer and concerns offered for me during this difficult time (*August 2025 barn fire*). It has truly been an overwhelming experience and all of your support has been what's seen us through. **Thank you** for your thoughtful donation (*\$500 Heffner Tithe*). Your generosity and care are truly appreciated, and your donation has been significant in the rebuilding process. Knowing we have friends and family like you supporting us means so much. **With sincere gratitude, Jacob Leiby**

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**Thank you** to everyone who came out to Christ Mertz Lutheran Church on January 6 to celebrate the life and ministry of Pastor Bruce. A full obituary and slideshow can be found on the Walbert Funeral Home website and a link to the video of his funeral service can be found on the Belleman's Facebook page.

**Rev. Bruce W. Potteiger**

**March 31, 1949 - January 1, 2026**



## January Birthdays

### January

- 1st** Elisha Zimmerman  
**2nd** Carl Hein  
**3rd** Dana Screffler  
**4th** Alex Younker,  
Weston Troutman  
**5th** Robert Flay, Jr.  
**6th** Linda Henne,  
John Rausch  
Gavin Haas, Angela Potts  
Susann Cammauf  
**7th** Carolina Blatt,  
James Blatt  
**8th** Shelby Dougherty  
**9th** Justin Cox, Larry Henne  
**10th** Pamela Haas,  
Thomas Noecker,  
**12th** Mica Kornfeind,  
Connor Kunkle, Katelyn Felix  
Pastor Pat Horst  
**13th** Archer Kauffman  
**14th** Phillip Smith,  
Nathaniel Shatto,  
**15th** Michael Dailey  
**16th** Garry Wesner,  
Caleb Weist  
**17th** Sharon Dietrich,  
Bobbie Jo King,  
Andrew Kauffman  
**18th** Susan Schollenberger,  
Kerry Strunk, Kevin Noecker  
Erin Livinghouse,  
Cheyenne Potts  
**19th** Ben Mitten, Kevin Weyandt  
**20th** Thomas Lukawski  
**21st** Robert Flay, III,  
Nathan Phillips  
**22nd** Royce Strohl,  
Renee Cross,  
Kristopher Beerman,  
Diane Rothenberger  
**23rd** Mary Allen,  
Kenneth Borkey, Sr.,  
Kylee Cammauf,  
Randall Naugle  
**24th** Robert Eisenhower,  
Rachel Fair, Sharon Duvall,  
Brenda Hein, Jason Kiwak  
**25th** Eva Pauley, Violet Peters  
**27th** Melissa Kopicz  
**28th** Chad Kemp, Julia Patrick,  
Sherwood Galen, Keith Weyandt  
**29th** Beverly Blatt,  
Deanne Berger,  
Larry Hartranft, Lonnie Klinger  
**30th** Logan Cammauf,  
Melissa Schmauch  
**31st** Chelsea Bond

## January Anniversaries

- 9th** Randy & Cathleen Phillips  
**19th** Randall & Linda Naugle  
**24th** Robert & Susan Heister  
**25th** John & Barbara Rausch  
**26th** Mark and Ashlie Dreibelbis  
**29th** Cate & Curtis Michaud

# Music News

## Happy New Year from the Belleman's Music Family!

We had a very busy and fruitful holiday season, ending with our beautiful Christmas Eve candlelight services!



Thank you to everyone who participated and helped in any way to make our holiday season so merry and bright. I appreciate everything!

Musically,

*Oliver*