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Bell Notes

Salem (Bellemans) 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.



**We hope you
all had a
blessed Easter!**

**Remember the Belleman's
Worship services are
available on :**



YouTube



facebook

April 2021

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

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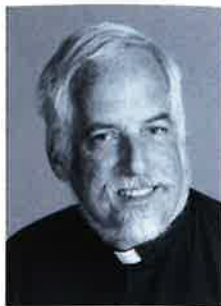


Pastor's Ponderings

*1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord.*

*2 He bade them see his hands, his side,
where yet the glorious wounds abide,
the tokens true which made it plain
their Lord indeed was risen again.*

*3 From every weapon death can wield,
your own redeemed forever shield;
O Lord of all, with us abide in this our joyful Eastertide.*



The above hymn is one of the first hymns I remember. We sang it in Sunday School on that glorious day, with all the bonnets and spring flowers. I was likely in my new Easter Suit, having outgrown the previous year's, and maybe I was sporting a new clip on tie! It was a special day for my family, and everyone in church that Sunday.

Each verse has it's own special emphasis. The first verse is all about the joy of the resurrection. The Apostles, those that knew Jesus so well and were in mourning, suddenly had their grief transformed into incredible joy because Jesus was not dead and gone, but alive! Even if it was a cloudy day, there was fairer light and joy and brightness and hope! Nothing could dampen the joy of that day!

The second verse describes the cost of the joy. There were wounds. There was a crucifixion just a few days before. There was pain, agony, sorrow and real death. There was suffering that we can not imagine because in our time and place such a treatment of a human being at the hands of an executioner would not be tolerated.

The third verse reminds us of why the joy of the resurrection is sustained even today. It was great that Jesus rose, so his friends could be joyfully reunited with him. But if the resurrection was just for the benefit of Jesus, then it just becomes an historic nicety with no impact on us.

Jesus died and rose for us! So that death has lost its sting for us! So that life leads to death, but then leads to eternal life! For us!

The redeemed are forever shielded from death. In our future all there is, is life, abundant life, life with the Lord!

Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

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.

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Church Board Highlights March 1, 2021

(Due to inclement weather, the February Board meeting was postponed till March 1. This meeting served the purpose of both the February and March meetings)

Treasurer, Larry Henne noted that the Heffner Fund check was received in the amount of \$21,218.18. Those funds went to pay the fire insurance bill with the remainder moved to the holding account. It was also reported that the books for 2019 and 2020 have been audited. Bernice Hartman will be finalizing the audits after tax season.

Pastor Dave reported that plans are being made for worship services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Additionally, the Lift group and Confirmation class are working to arrange an egg hunt for the Sunday School on Easter morning after worship.

Administrator James Fitterling briefly reviewed his printed report and reported that he also assisted with the audit and completed the year end reporting to the Synod and Conference.

The Fundraising Committee met in January and decided against doing an Oyster supper this year. After some discussion, the decision was made to do a Soup, Turkey BBQ, Pepper Cabbage and Pie sale. The sale will be handled similarly to the Turkey and Waffle take out meal. The date for this is scheduled to be March 20.

The Property Committee received some pricing to complete some repointing at the church. Prices of \$2,000 for the east tower and \$5,000-\$7,000 for the Chapel front were received. It was also noted that as expected, snow plowing has been a bit costly this year.

The Lift Youth reported that the mission in Maine will not be taking volunteer groups again this year. They will be hoping to do a retreat to Wildwood and complete some mission activities there.

The Personnel Committee met in regards to the Director of Music Ministry position. They have presented to the Board a revised job description for the position as well as an advertisement to be put in the newspaper. Pastor Dave also noted that there are ways to advertise the job through the synod and conference websites. There were some minor revisions suggested for the job description which will be made and emailed out to the Board for approval. (The job description was approved after revision)

James received more information on a request from a local homeowner to utilize the church parking lot to park and shuttle attendees to an event at their home in July 2021. The homeowner has confirmation back and will be providing all the necessary insurance paperwork to use the parking lot. The use request was approved and an agreement will be drafted for this event use.

275th Anniversary Committee members, Mica Kornfeind, John Rausch, Carol Weyandt and James Fitterling were approved. James reported that an idea that is getting started is to produce a 275th anniversary cookbook. There will be an ad in the newsletter asking for recipes. Thanks to Karen Harle for spearheading this project.

Lastly, the officers as approved for 2021 are: Barbara Spatz (President), Frank Kornfeind (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).

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### Help the Church Office and Pastor Out!

Often the church office or Pastor will receive a forwarded email, or will notice a Facebook post about a church member who is ill, or in the hospital, or otherwise requires prayers or pastoral attention.

However, such means are not reliable, and a person who is in need of care might not be known because an email is not forwarded, or a social media post is not noticed. So please, if you or someone you know needs prayers or pastoral care, contact the church office at 610-926-0461 or Pastor Dave at 425-663-4911. Pastor Dave can also receive a text at that number. Thank you!

The April **Jingle Offerings** go to the **Relay for Life Team, Live Long and Prosper.**

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Calendar of Events

Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary
4/11 (Virtual and in car worship options available)

Mon. (4/12) 6:30 PM Fundraising Committee Meeting

Sat. 9:00–10:30AM Schuylkill Valley
4/17 Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary
4/18 (Virtual and in car worship options available)
Confirmation Class Meeting after worship

Mon. (4/19) 7:00PM Board Meeting

Sun. 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary
4/25 (Virtual and in car worship options available)

Tue. (4/27) 9:30AM Music and Worship Meeting

Sun. Holy Communion
5/2 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary
(Virtual and in car worship options available)

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. (5/13) Ascension Day

Sat. 9:00–10:30AM Schuylkill Valley
5/15 Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

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### Return to Outdoor Worship!

With the positive feedback from last year's grove worship services, we are planning a return to outdoor worship on **Mother's Day, May 9 with worship at 9 a.m.** (Tentative plans would be that in case of rain or excessive heat, that we would have worship in the sanctuary as we have been.) We look forward to seeing you for another summer of worshipping together outdoors in God's creation!



**Attendance/Offering**

|          | <b>9:00AM</b>              | <b>Offering</b> |
|----------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| March 3  | Lent Video: 41             |                 |
| March 7  | 50 (Church), 104(Facebook) | \$4,613.00      |
| March 10 | Lent Video: 27             |                 |
| March 14 | 50 (Church), 71(Facebook)  | \$1,726.00      |
| March 17 | Lent Video: 34             |                 |
| March 21 | 50 (Church), 83(Facebook)  | \$6,656.00      |
| March 24 | Lent Video: 39             |                 |
| March 28 | 48 (Church), 75(Facebook)  | \$1,785.00      |



**PLEASE SHARE YOUR BEST SECRETS!**

The 275<sup>th</sup> 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.

In the church vestibule are collection sheets and a basket for all your recipes. You may also choose to take a picture of your recipe and email it to BellemansRecipes3540@gmail.com. You can submit all your recipes on 3x5 cards, internet printouts, or any sheet of paper. Help us and be a part of this book by sharing your favorites. Besides the standard categories, we are looking for crock pot, grilling, gluten-free, and air fryer recipes. Also, we are including favorite sayings or quotes that you may have. Just hand them in with your recipes by May 1 or preferably sooner. Thank you for your help in publishing this book.



**The "New" Church of Belleman's**  
(From Salem Belleman's Church History, by Milton and Luella Blatt)



There were many trials and tribulations in the building of the new church. The original bricklayers began the project at 80c per hour, but demanded an increase of 25c per hour, which was rejected by the Building Committee. A new contractor was brought in at \$1.15/hr. The first contractor's initial wall was poorly done, so it had to be taken down and rebuilt. Then Glen Gery Company could not provide the amount of brick contracted, so the bricks were obtained from the Schuylkill Haven Brick Co. Some of those bricks were found to be inferior. The interior arch and ceiling of the sanctuary also had to be redone, as it had been reinforced, then the reinforcement rods removed as it was not very appealing to the eye. The positive aspects of the building project were the amount of volunteer labor done by church members.

After a little over two years of construction, the church was completed and dedicated on June 8, 1924. The cost was approximately \$85,000, which was very large indebtedness at the time. However by various fundraising and donation efforts before and after construction, the new Church became debt-free in 1939.

Over 5,000 people attended the day-long Dedication, despite the continual downpour all afternoon. According to newspaper accounts, there were over 2,000 vehicles parked along the roads and in adjacent fields. There were multiple services held that day, with various pastors from around the county participating. The Rev. L. R. Miller (Lutheran pastor) and the Rev. M. L. Herbein (Reformed pastor) officiated the actual dedication ceremony, and it was reported that there were many "tear-dimmed eyes in the crowd of worshipers" as it was a "solemn moment for those who labored unceasingly for the cause of the new edifice." The largest service that day was held in the afternoon, when it was estimated that more than 1,200 people were crowded inside the church building.

The noon dinner served 2,000 people in the new basement dining facilities by the Ladies Aid Society. At booths in the church yard, ice cream and soft drinks were sold. It was reported that several thousand dollars were raised that day alone for the building fund.

*Next issue....Details of the interior of the 'new' church*

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND AS OF 2/28/21**

**Contributions, Projects, Endowment and Dissolved Accounts** \$330,494.55  
**Monthly Contributions 2020** \$320.00  
 (February Collection = \$275.00)  
 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  
 Easter Flower Sale April  
 Mum Sale October  
 Chinese Auction November  
 Poinsettia Sale December

**Grocery Gift Cards**  
 Sold \$ 218,155.00  
 Profit \$11,036.40  
 Cash Total \$342,600.95

**Interest Paid**  
 Total Fairview Interest Paid \$16,715.00  
 Total VIST Interest Paid \$22,378.78

**Loan Balances**  
 Fairview Cemetery Company  
**Owed Amount \$82,500.00**  
 VIST Bank Loan  
**Owed Amount \$0.00**  
**Total Principal Balance Owed \$82,500.00**

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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!

Belleman's Military Members

CWO 2 Josh Linderman	MAJ James Fluck
Andrew Potts	Kevin Mohn
1LT Bradley P. Hoppes	SGT Phillip Spatz
SGT Andrew Cichowicz	Alfred Cross
Nathan P. Stump	Cydney Lawrence
SGT John R. Wesner	

SANDWICHES ARE BACK!

Could you eat one? We are hearing that folks are anxious to bite into a Belleman's hoagie. Date of the sale will be **Thursday, May 13. Pick-up is from 3-6 p.m. at the Fellowship Hall.** Sign-up in the church vestibule or call 610-926-4887. **Please call in orders by May 6!** As always, options are Italian, Ham and Cheese and Turkey and Provolone. **Price is \$6.00.** Please help us by selling to your friends, co-workers and family. We need help to make the sandwiches, too. It is always a guaranteed fun time. May 13 is the day to remember.



Thanks for your support of this project!

(Sandwich note: The proceeds from this Sandwich Sale will be divided 40% to the Belleman's Capital Campaign, 40% to Belleman's Fundraising Account and 20% to Belleman's Lift Youth Group)

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Give the "Gift of Life" at Belleman's Annual **Blood Drive** which will be held on Wednesday, **May 12th** from 3:00PM to 7:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please call Roxanne Loeb for further information (610) 926-1089.

*Your Blood. Their Hope.\**



**MILLER-KEYSTONE**  
**BLOOD CENTER**

## April Birthdays

- 16<sup>th</sup> Jared Moser,  
Kelly Gregor,  
Cheryl Pszczolkowski Barton  
17<sup>th</sup> Timothy Fair  
18<sup>th</sup> Gayle Diehl,  
Madelyn Nabozny  
19<sup>th</sup> Francis Jroski,  
Brenda Kelly  
22<sup>nd</sup> Teisha Madden,  
Darin Hein, Robert Marks  
23<sup>rd</sup> Michael Felix  
24<sup>th</sup> Jackie Kochan,  
Nathan Younker  
25<sup>th</sup> Mindi Kufro, Logan Haas,  
Thomas Lawrence  
26<sup>th</sup> Russell Minner,  
Donna Schaeffer  
27<sup>th</sup> Gene Driesbach  
Diane Seaman,  
Hannah Weyandt  
28<sup>th</sup> Sherry Ebelhar,  
Terry Kinney,  
Devin Livinghouse  
29<sup>th</sup> Rebecca Gambler,  
Ashley Keller,  
Donald Duvall  
30<sup>th</sup> Brenden Livinghouse  
Logan Borkey

## April Anniversaries

- 23<sup>rd</sup> Gregory & Amy Machmer  
29<sup>th</sup> Dennis & Glenda Gehman  
30<sup>th</sup> Robert & Brenda  
Eisenhower

## May Birthdays

- 1<sup>st</sup> Michael Harle  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lori Balthaser, Regan Gilmer  
Dottie Cowan,  
Amy Machmer  
4<sup>th</sup> Trevor Moser, Brynna Kiwak  
5<sup>th</sup> Samantha Labe,  
Phillip Reppert  
6<sup>th</sup> Jean Smith, Brittany Schoen  
7<sup>th</sup> Samuel Beebe,  
Mariusz Polak,  
Lynn McCullough  
8<sup>th</sup> Rylan Gilmer, Ryan Paris  
9<sup>th</sup> Gavin Miller  
10<sup>th</sup> Kayleigh Phillips,  
Logan Henne  
11<sup>th</sup> Connie Mohn, Brandon Hilbert  
12<sup>th</sup> Gregg Rubright,  
Elyssa Machmer  
13<sup>th</sup> Doreen Ottaviani  
14<sup>th</sup> Dennis Linderman,  
15<sup>th</sup> Richard Hartman,  
Karen Emer  
16<sup>th</sup> Krista Roe,  
Deanne Burkhart  
17<sup>th</sup> Beau Dalton  
Brenda Michelle Yoder

## May Anniversaries

- 4<sup>th</sup> Keith & Pamela Haas  
9<sup>th</sup> Michael & Susan Gehris  
Joseph & Bobbie Jo King  
Bruce & Anna Potteiger  
Kerry & Cindy Strunk  
11<sup>th</sup> Larry & Connie Mohn  
Anthony & Victoria  
McCloskey  
15<sup>th</sup> Shawn & Roxanne  
McMurtry



members. God bless all of you.

I would like to **thank** all of you for the beautiful basket of flowers. Seeing them was a nice surprise and really lifted my spirits. **Thank you Belleman's members.** God bless all of you. **Glenda Gehman**

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**Belleman's Family**, I want to **thank you** for the pretty flowers you sent me for my birthday. They are really pretty. I love them. **Miriam E. Mohn**

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**Thanks** for the pretty violets, it's so nice of you bringing them to my home. I will enjoy them for a long time. **Florence Deisher**

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**Thanks** for the violets. I appreciate them. They brighten the day. **Thanks again, Betty Dower**

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## Bear Creek Camp Counselor Opportunities

Are you or is someone you know a college-aged, fun, and adventurous person looking to make a difference in the lives of youth? If so, we have the perfect life-changing and rewarding experience for you! Apply to be a Bear Creek Camp Summer Counselor or Junior Counselor! This will be a summer you will never forget, where you will get to make life-long friends, impact youths' lives, and live in almost 3,000 acres of God's creation! If you have any questions about becoming part of our Summer Staff, please contact Karissa Elser ([karissa@bearcreekcamp.org](mailto:karissa@bearcreekcamp.org)).



