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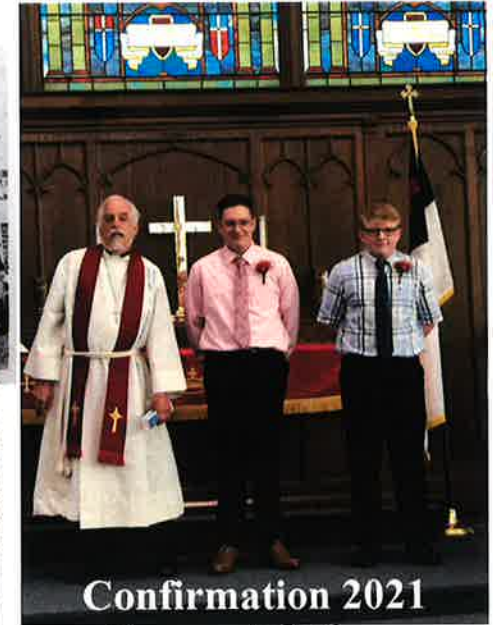


# Bell Notes

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

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



**Confirmation 2021**  
**Congratulations**  
**Nathaniel and Owen**

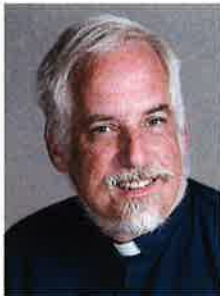
Salem (Belleman's) Church  
3540 Belleman's Church Road  
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



## June 2021

*Rev. David Blich, Pastor*  
*Oliver Blatt, Director of Music Ministry*  
*James Fitterling, Administrator*  
*Church Office: 610-926-0461*  
*Church email: [salembellemans@frontiernet.net](mailto:salembellemans@frontiernet.net)*  
*Web Site: [bellemanschurch.org](http://bellemanschurch.org)*



### Pastor's Ponderings

I thank everyone who was involved in the planning of the biggest surprise in my life, the 35th anniversary of my ordination celebration! Seriously, I had no idea it was coming, and it was marvelous. I will name a few names, knowing that it's not a complete list; my wife Karen, James Fitterling, Dawne Clay and the Pastoral Relations Committee, Frank Kornfeind for the food and of course Robin Phillips for the beautiful, incredible stole. Like I said, if I failed to mention someone, you are also so appreciated for this kind and meaningful celebration.

I was ordained at the NJ Synod Assembly, on May 30, 1986. It was a group ordination, probably about ten of us, at the Ocean City Methodist church, as the Lutheran church was too small for the occasion. Bishop Herluf Jensen put his hand on my head, as did my sponsor, Rev. David Volk, my home church pastor from my teen through young adult years.

I was already serving a church in Absecon NJ at that time. On my birthday, June 1, I was installed there, as Pastor of Reformation Lutheran Church. Thus began my journey. The Lord led me to Pennsylvania to do Campus Ministry at Kutztown University, Shared Ministry in Kempton, and now as your Pastor here in Mohrsville.

Along the way of those 35 years I've seen my share of struggles and missteps, but also accomplishments and joys. And everywhere there was always wonderful, faithful, people. And certainly Belleman's is a joyful part of that journey. I've seen God at work in many ways. I've seen the Gospel lived out.

I am often in awe when I attend a UCC or ELCA assembly and it's time to acknowledge clergy special anniversaries. Those that have been serving the Lord for 25 years? Been there. Done that. But then we get to the really dedicated pastors, who have been in the pulpit for 50, or 60, 70 years! I mean if I make it that long, I'm only half way there!

The life of a Pastor can be brutal, but also incredibly rewarding! When we ordained folk get the chance to proclaim the Word, baptize a child of God, have fellowship with the faithful, be there for that solemn last goodbye to a loved one, that can energize us to go on for 70 years. Children, youth, adults young and old, are the church and make being a Pastor worth it all.

**Pastor Dave's contact info:**  
Phone: 484-663-4911  
Email: revblitch@msn.com

Thanks again! And I end this column with a couple of quotes to love by:

"The message of the gospel speaks loudest when people can see Christ in us." - Jerry Kinard

"Yesterday is the last day of the past. Tomorrow is brimming with hope, so today is meant to lived large. Enjoy your moments!" - David Grachek

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### 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,  
Phil Kistler, Mica Kornfeind and Allen Loeb.

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### Church Board Highlights May 17, 2021

The Personnel Committee reported that after interviewing two candidates for the Director of Music Ministry position they have decided to recommend current interim musician Oliver Blatt for the position, which was approved by the Board. It was suggested to begin the position with a salary at 80 percent of what the position last received. Treasurer Larry Henne will touch base with Oliver to further discuss the salary. (An annual salary of \$16,200 (\$1,350 per month) with 3 weeks of vacation annually to start going to 4 weeks after 5 years was approved via email vote on May 26) Oliver will start with the position on June 1, 2021.

As part of his report, Pastor Dave added an additional vacation request for August 27-September 2 which was approved. He also noted that the Safety Committee will be gathering to review recent CDC guidelines regarding masks. (The Safety Committee revised the guidelines regarding masks to continue to recommend mask wearing but that it will not be required for those who have been vaccinated or sitting with their family members. This was approved by the Board via email vote on May 20)

The Fundraising Committee noted that the soup and pie test run Sunday brought in a \$232 profit. They continue to receive Memorial Day take-out orders as well.

The Property committee reported that thanks to Allen Loeb the fryer building has been pressure washed and looks good as new. Larry also reported that a quote was received verbally from Fisher roofing to replace the sexton house roof. The quote is around \$5,500. Once the official quote is received, it will be sent out via email. (Official quoted price of \$5,350, email vote approved 5/19/21).

Pastor Dave reported that for the youth retreat to Wildwood they have made arrangements with the Naval Air Station museum there to do some mission type work there as part of the trip. They thank the sandwich crew for the 20 percent profit from the sandwich sale. That along with their upcoming bingo and carwash fundraisers will go a long way toward helping fund the retreat.

275th Committee member Carol Weyandt was in attendance to update the board on their progress. The printed report highlighted a lot of what they have discussed. The primary piece for board approval, however, is the dates for the planned events. Plans are to have the PA German Service on September 25 and tie that to the anniversary festivities, then the main anniversary celebrations would take place on October 10 and 17. The dates are to be approved as part of the committee reports. There will be more details about this to be worked out as time goes on.

James reported that he has started to receive annuity checks through the mail from the Calvin Roland bequest. To date they total around \$239,000 with 4 more in the works. The suggestion is to form a temporary account with Vist to hold these funds for the time being.

A proposed summer worship schedule designating outdoor Sundays was included in the packets and approved with one revision to adjust for Pastor Dave being away on vacation. Worship times would remain at 9 a.m. for the time being. (Outdoor Sundays are scheduled to be: June 13 and 27, July 4 and 18, August 1 and 15. Old Church Sunday will be August 22. All other Sunday services are planned to be in the Sanctuary.)

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#### Belleman's Joint Board

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ 17,015.23 |
| Income            | \$ 14,430.24 |
| Expenses          | \$ 15,071.01 |
| Ending Balance    | \$ 16,374.46 |

There remain to be **two vacant UCC Church Board positions**. If you are interested in filling a spot please let the Church Office know. Thank you!



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#### Attendance/Offering

	9:00AM	Offering
May 2	55 (Church), 78 (Facebook)	\$2,582.00
May 9	47 (Church), 113 (Facebook)	\$2,916.00
May 16	58 (Church), 55 (Facebook)	\$2,548.00
May 23	65 (Church), 97 (Facebook)	\$3,419.00
May 30	64 (Church), 67 (Facebook)	\$2,165.00

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The June **Jingle Offerings** go to the **Bear Creek Camp**.

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*Congratulations to ....*

**Oliver Blatt**

...who has been hired to be Belleman's next Director of Music Ministry.

For the last few months, Oliver has served at Belleman's in the position of Interim Church Musician. His lifelong dedication to music and his family history at Belleman's Church has led him to serving our Lord through this position at Belleman's. Welcome Oliver, we are glad to have your leadership at Belleman's for many years to come!

(For some background and an introduction to Oliver please refer to the November 2020 newsletter.)



## Calendar of Events

Sun. **9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**  
6/13 *(Virtual and in car worship options available)*  
*Honoring 2021 Graduates*

6/14-6/18 Lift Youth Retreat to Wildwood

Sat. 9:00–10:30AM Schuylkill Valley  
6/19 Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

Sun. **9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**  
6/20 *(Virtual and in car worship options available)*

Mon. 7:00PM Board Meeting  
6/21

Sun. **9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**  
6/27 *(Virtual and in car worship options available)*  
*Summer Sunday School: VBS Sunday #1*

Sun. **9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**  
7/4 *(Virtual and in car worship options available)*

Sun. **9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**  
7/11 *(Virtual and in car worship options available)*

Tue. 9:30AM Music and Worship Meeting  
7/13

Sat. 9:00–10:30AM Schuylkill Valley  
7/17 Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

Sun. **9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**  
7/18 *(Virtual and in car worship options available)*  
*Summer Sunday School: VBS Sunday #2*

Mon. 7:00PM Board Meeting  
7/19

Sun. **9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**  
7/25 *(Virtual and in car worship options available)*  
*Summer Sunday School: VBS Sunday #3*

## Confirmation Classes of Belleman's Church

While it is unknown exactly when the first confirmation class was held, the first class found on record is in 1756, under the guidance of the Rev. Daniel Shumacher. He was the Lutheran pastor of Belleman's at that time. Those students were Johannes Arbegast, Anna Maria Arbegasten, Barbara Arbegasten, Anna Maria Dorbachen, and Conrad Plattner. The following year, 1757, two more confirmands were taught by Rev. Shumacher – Anna Margareth Belleman, and Jacob Belleman.

In 1820 was the first record of Reformed confirmands, although there would have been many other Reformed classes prior to that date. In that 1820 class, there were 34 total youth, including seven from the Blatt family, four from the Freiman family, and four from the Klein family.

The first official photo of a confirmation class was taken in 1890, with 36 students shown on the Lutheran photo with the Rev. Benjamin D. Zweizig, and 22 students on the Reformed photo, with the Rev. Mahlon H. Mishler. Photos of the confirmation classes have been taken every class for the past 131 years!

In the 275 years of our church's history, there have been several thousand Confirmands of our church, both in the Lutheran and Reformed teachings. That continues today, although under a Shared Ministry confirmation class, with our current class confirmed this month, Owen Machmer and Nathaniel Dalton!

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### SEARCHING FOR CHURCH MEMORABILIA!

As plans begin for our 275<sup>th</sup> 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 275<sup>th</sup> Committee: John Rausch, James Fitterling, Mica Kornfiend, Carol Weyandt or Pastor Dave.

Introducing...  
**VBS: Super Summer  
 Sunday School**



This Summer's Vacation Bible School will have a new format! In place of a weeklong event, VBS will take place on the following five scheduled Sunday mornings in conjunction with the 9 a.m. worship services:

- June 27 (Grove)
- July 18 (Grove)
- July 25 (Sanctuary)
- August 8 (Sanctuary)
- August 15 (Grove)



The Children's Message will serve as the bible story for the day. Following the Children's Message, the VBS kids will go to take part in the remainder of the day's activities outdoors (weather permitting). We hope you will come and be a part of this Special Vacation Bible School!

Oh, and by popular demand, each week will have a water theme!



If you know you will be attending, please email or call the church office to let us know you'll be joining us. See you there!



**Honoring our 2021 Graduates!**  
**Sunday, June 13 worship 9:00 a.m.**  
 Please let the office know of any graduates to be honored during this service!  
**Congratulations graduates!**



**Safety Committee Update**

With recently updated CDC guidelines Belleman's is adjusting our guidelines to stay in line with CDC. Current updates are as follows:



**For All Worship Services:**

- Anyone feeling ill is asked to please stay home and join in worship virtually.
- Mask wearing will still be recommended but not required for those fully vaccinated or sitting with members of their household.



**Belleman's Military Members**

- |                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SGT 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    |                   |



**Belleman's Church Members,** I want to **thank you** for the beautiful flowers you sent me for my 98th birthday. **God bless all of you!**  
**Mary Anspach**



## June Birthdays

- 16<sup>th</sup> Sindy Bachman  
Christopher Jozwiak  
Cate Michaud, Conor Weist
- 17<sup>th</sup> Ruth Barnett, Jayden Allen
- 18<sup>th</sup> Zachary Zimmerman,  
Royce Potts
- 20<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Seaman
- 21<sup>st</sup> Harrison Bachman,  
James Baer,  
Kimberly Dougherty
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Ali Perzel-Peters,  
Eric Rubright, Lisa Phillips
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Deanna Kay McRae  
Jason Troutman
- 24<sup>th</sup> Janet Stetzler,  
Carlie Schmauch
- 25<sup>th</sup> David Miller, Kenneth Starkey
- 26<sup>th</sup> Kevin Labe, Sr.,  
Carolyn Gresh
- 27<sup>th</sup> Nancy Wesner,  
Calvin Bungarz
- 28<sup>th</sup> Adrianna Madden,  
Meaghan Bausher
- 29<sup>th</sup> Jason Kozik, Amanda Ernst  
Larry Zimmerman
- 30<sup>th</sup> Arlene Harle, Janice Kozik,  
David Weber,  
Sara Linderman

## June Anniversaries

- 20<sup>th</sup> Mitchell & Deanne Burkhart  
Kristie and Chris Hilbert
- 21<sup>st</sup> Jim & Karen Holcombe
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Scott & Amy Berg
- 24<sup>th</sup> Kevin & Suzanne Labe, Sr.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Sherwood & Janet Stetzler
- 28<sup>th</sup> Daniel & Krista Roe,
- 30<sup>th</sup> Chad & Amanda Ernst

## July Birthdays

- 1<sup>st</sup> Dawne Clay, Helen Ernst,  
Donny Difatta, Eli Hoffman
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Stephenee Billman,  
Jada Savage
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Ann Fluck,
- 5<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Ann Brown,  
Andrew Mohn, Linda Beitzel  
Joel Leroy Brown
- 7<sup>th</sup> Corey Yoder
- 8<sup>th</sup> Cara Weist, Austin Strohl,  
Christie Weist
- 9<sup>th</sup> Tori Bachman,  
Shawn McMurtry
- 10<sup>th</sup> Eugene Kemp, Emily Kozik  
Connor Borkey
- 11<sup>th</sup> Autumn Edwards,  
Carly Edwards, Kellen Cammauf
- 12<sup>th</sup> Shawn Bausher,  
Marie Baver
- 13<sup>th</sup> Ashleigh LeRoy
- 14<sup>th</sup> Michael Hoffman,  
Jessica Brown, Phillip Spatz,  
Mackenzie Beerman,  
Linda Baver
- 15<sup>th</sup> Grace Shurr

## July Anniversaries

- 7<sup>th</sup> Thomas & Linda Hartman  
Mark & Amy Garber
- 8<sup>th</sup> Brian and Melissa Boyer
- 9<sup>th</sup> Pete & Katrina Lukawski
- 11<sup>th</sup> Matthew & Carla Rozsitch  
Jason and Stephanie Gilmer
- 16<sup>th</sup> Tori & Sindy Bachman

## Memorial Day 2021

