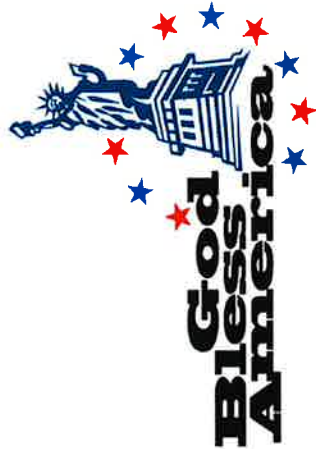


Salem (Belleman's) Church
3540 Belleman's Church Road
Mohrsville, PA 19541-8910

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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.

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



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

July already... seems as though time flies.



It feels like just a few short weeks ago we celebrated Memorial Day with the outdoor service commemorating those who have died in service to our country, seeking to preserve our freedom. And, then, a couple weeks ago as we worshiped together in the Old Church built in 1815 as we noted the folks who had the foresight to begin Belleman's Church. Those individuals left their homelands to come to a new land where they could worship freely. And we are now remembering our country's birth as we continue to live in a "land of the free" with our Fourth of July celebrations. We share in the Star-spangled Banner and Pledge to the flag with gratitude and pride. Even though we are keenly aware of struggles that exist within government, violence, homelessness, and hunger within a growing number of places in our country, we still have much to be grateful for. We have many freedoms. We are glad to be part of America; at least I know that I am.

As we look to our faith, as Christ's Church, we are blessed with Jesus' life and teachings, His going to the cross and His resurrection for us. We know that Christ's provision extends far beyond this time or our country. Recently I came across these words in the book, *The Upside-down Kingdom*, authored by Donald Kraybill, words of allegiance to our Lord and His eternal Kingdom. Perhaps you will enjoy reading this pledge as followers of Christ, the One who points us to the eternal Kingdom of God.

We pledge allegiance to the Lord
of the worldwide Kingdom of God
and to the values, for which it stands---
One Kingdom under God,
with compassion and forgiveness, *for all*.

Words for us to consider, as believers we give thanks and give tribute to our country but above all we give tribute to the King above all Kings, our Lord Jesus Christ!

Blessings to you this
month of July,
Pastor Pat

Pastor Pat's contact info:
Cell Phone: 717-926-2181
Email: phorst105@gmail.com
*Pastor Pat's weekly office day is
currently Wednesday.*

Church Board Highlights

June 19, 2023

*There was not a quorum for the meeting.
So, no votes were taken.*

The minutes from the May 15, 2023 Board Meeting, treasurer report, pastor report and administrator report were reviewed.

Treasurer, Larry Henne noted that \$2,000 of Benevolence has been paid for 2023.

Pastor Pat presented a vacation request for June 26 – July 10. Since there was not a quorum, James would text the board for final approval of the vacation request.

The Fundraising Committee submitted reports for the Oyster Supper and Memorial Day events. Profit for Oyster was \$4,342.86 and Memorial Day was \$4,855.33. It was noted that both events went well.

In regards to property, James Fitterling noted that price quotes are being received for the repair of the broken windows at the Old Church and that we await an answer from the insurance company on coverage. Larry Henne noted about doing a few repairs to the bandstand. There is an eagle scout project coming up that could accomplish this. There is some painting to do, mulching and some electrical work. This will be looked into. On the topic of removing the trees behind the parking lot, the neighbor asked us to wait till after summer to complete this. A new date of September 15 was chosen to do this. The bottom limbs of the trees were cleaned up in June. Lastly, it was noted that the countertops at the fellowship hall were installed. \$900 was taken off of the total bill due to less prep being needed.

James and Eric reported on the Bandon mission work taking place the week of this meeting. Day 1 went well and work is on schedule. Youth are attending to help out Tuesday and Wednesday.

James noted that Dawne Clay and Phil Kistler have discussed with the Confirmation Class about doing a day trip on July 23 to the New Jersey beach for a beach worship service and some fun time at the beach. All but one member of the class is able to make it. Lastly, James noted that Phil and Dawne are willing to continue with teaching the class in the fall.

Lastly, James noted that he is aware of many board members having schedule conflicts for the regular meeting date of July 17. He suggested to cancel the July meeting with the next meeting being on August 21. This was agreed to.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

During the week of June 19 a few items were discovered to be missing at church. Among the items missing from the office were petty cash and the June 18 jingle offering totaling approximately \$100 - \$110 combined. Additionally, a box of crackers from the food pantry donations was missing and later to be discovered a box of leftover burgers from Memorial Day were missing from the freezer. No doors were ever discovered to be unlocked and we are unsure how entry was gained to the building. In response to this, as of now on Sunday's when we have church in the sanctuary, the only doors unlocked for church will be the doors entering the sanctuary both from the front steps and the ramp. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please contact the church office.

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Belleman's Joint Board Treasurer Report for May 2023

Beginning Balance	\$ 17,917.77
Income	\$ 19,921.39
Expenses	\$ 18,944.57
Ending Balance	\$ 18,894.59

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Attendance/Offering

	9:00AM	Offering
June 4	84 (Church), 272 (Facebook)	\$4,192.00
June 11	45 (Grove), No video (Facebook)	\$1,278.00
June 18	59 (Church), 240 (Facebook)	\$2,125.00
June 25	66 (Old Church), 203 (Facebook)	\$1,476.00

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Holy Communion Assistants for July 16 (Grove Worship - Pew Style Communion)

Ushers: Linda Henne, Kim Smyre,
Adrianna Madden, Frank Kornfeind

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Holy Communion Assistants for August 6

Altar Assistants: Lester Gambler, Gloria Gambler
Dawne Clay
Cup Stations: Eric Weyandt, Jim Blatt
Ushers: Allen Loeb, Sam Stump

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.

Can you believe that it is the end of another school year? With summer upon us we are reminded that our recipients' children will not be receiving the school meals. These families will have to include this added expense to their grocery bills to have additional food available for their children during the summer months. The Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry wishes to help by providing additional food and snack items for the children.

To accomplish this, the food pantry is seeking donations of the following items: cheese sticks, fruit cups, nuts, dried fruits, snack packs of pudding and gelatins, jerky and snack size assortments of cookies, crackers, pretzels, etc.

Thank You for your participation!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Our Summer Worship Schedule continues with Worship every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Listed below is the worship service location as we incorporate outdoor worship and Old Church worship during the summer months.

- July 16 - Grove**
- July 23 - Sanctuary**
- July 30 - Grove**
- August 6 - Sanctuary**
- August 13 - Old Church**
- August 20 - Sanctuary**
- August 27 - Grove**
- September 3 - Grove**
- September 10 - Sanctuary**

Note: In case of inclement weather on a day scheduled for worship in the Grove, the worship location will be the Sanctuary.



Calendar of Events

**Mon. (7/10) - Thur. (7/13) 6-8 p.m. Vacation Bible School
"Food Truck Party"**

Sat. (7/15) 8:00–Noon SV Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

**Sun. Holy Communion
7/16 Worship in the Grove
9:00AM Worship**

**Sun. Worship in the Sanctuary
7/23 9:00AM Worship**

**Sun. Worship in the Grove
7/30 9:00AM Worship**

**Sun. Holy Communion
8/6 Worship in the Sanctuary
9:00AM Worship**

**Sun. Worship in the Old Church
8/13 9:00AM Worship**

Sat. (8/19) 8:00–Noon SV Food Pantry @ Trinity Leesport

**Sun. Worship in the Sanctuary
8/20 9:00AM Worship**

Mon. (8/21) 7:00PM Board Meeting

**Sun. Blessing of the Animals
8/27 Worship in the Grove
9:00AM Worship**

Tue. 9:30AM Music and Worship Meeting
8/29

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The July Jingle Offerings go to Opportunity House.

## **Belleman's Mission Project - Blandon, Pa. June 19-23, 2023**

The mission team completed this project in a weeks time for a needy family. The family has dealt with a lot over the years including untimely deaths of family members and a daughter currently dealing with cerebral palsy. This project included a complete remodel of the bathroom to make it more accessible for her. Additionally, the team installed new flooring throughout the living room, kitchen and bathroom as well as update the kitchen with some new cabinets, countertop and sink. Lastly, some exterior work was completed including painting the garage and cleaning up a tree in their yard. A big thank you to all who participated in this project, Eric Weyandt for coordinating and to the congregation for your prayers and support! Over the next few pages, you can witness some of our work. We start with the kitchen...



On to the bathroom, which was completely gutted with new fixtures, flooring and accessible shower unit installed.



The living room got a fresh coat of paint and new flooring...



We also shared lunch together each day!  
Thank you to everyone who provided meals!

Last, but not least are our outside tasks completed in large part to some of our youngest members!



Thank you to everyone who helped out !



I want to **thank** the members of Belleman's Church, friends, neighbors and family for the nice cards I got for my 100th birthday. It made my day.

**Thank you, Mary E. Anspach**

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Dear Salem Belleman's Church, Thank you so much for hosting a clothing drive for Hope Rescue Mission. This drive will bless many at the mission. We value your partnership and look forward to your next drive.

Blessings, Diane Schenk

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**Dear Belleman's Church, Thank you** for your contribution of \$500 to the West Reading Disaster Recovery Fund of Berks County Community Foundation. This fund was developed in partnership with United Way of Berks County to provide aid to members of the community who were affected by the March 24, 2023 explosion in West Reading.

**Thank you again!**

**Sincerely, Frances A. Aitken, CPA, Chief Operating Officer**

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Dear Belleman's Church Congregation, On behalf of the Relay for Life of Kutztown and Eastern Berks we would like to **thank you for the Jingle Offering of \$750** to support the American Cancer Society. ... We would also like to **thank** members of the congregation who supported our other fundraisers. Daffodil Days, Honey Fundraiser, Sandwich Sales and Quilt Raffle. ... We had a successful event on May 20, 2023. We met and exceeded the American Cancer Society goal of \$100,000. To date we have raised \$117,996 for research and support to cancer patients. ... So, **Thank you** again for all the support the Belleman's Church Congregation gives us to fundraise for the American Cancer Society.

Sincerely, Mark and Ann Stump

Relay for Life of Kutztown and Eastern Berks

Live, Long and Prosper Team

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

2023 Belleman's Confirmand, Maya Hein recently won first prize for an essay she wrote in school. The essay contest was sponsored by the PA American Legion for 6th-8th graders. The topic was "Can Social Media Effect Someone's Life."

Congratulations Maya! Here is her essay:

The Painkiller and The Cause

Social Media is a platform that was created in 1997 and has evolved over time since. In that time, people have developed several different opinions about it and whether or not it is healthy for teens. But then people expect others to pick a single side, is social media good, or is it bad. A single side is hard to pick, because social media might be toxic and dangerous, but lessons can be learned from it, to help people to use it safely, to express themselves and their creativity.

On the dark side of social media, the platform is open to everyone, and people choose to use the app in any way they want to. Social media opens a window to illicit activity. And although social media allows users to connect with current friends and make new ones, those new friends can be fake, and cause a lot of problems for you if you give them certain information about yourself. This platform can be very dangerous and confusing, but at the same time, these bad qualities can either be avoided, or learned from. But unfortunately, some situations cannot be avoided and some teenagers don't know how to use social media responsibly. They use the app as a mask, to say things to people that they could never say in real life. Social Media gives them a sense of security, that no matter what they say or do, no one can touch them, and they never have to acknowledge the situation or their problems. That fake sense of stability can cause them to go numb to the actual problems in life, and it can lead to mental damage and a deep depression. Social Media isn't the answer to problems, but that's what people try to use it as, instead of turning to people for help. That is one of the main problems that social media can cause.

Looking past the darkness that social media can bring, we can see the colorful connection base that it was originally created for. Connection and expression of creativity are important for people to feel accepted and heard. And although the original platform has expanded, and new apps have been created, there is still a space for creative expression, and connection with people. Being able to connect with friends and family on a popular

more up-to-date platform is a great experience for both people. Users can also make connections with people that share the same interests as they do, and these connections can form into strong bonds that can lead to new friendships. Businesses can also be benefited and built up by using the different forms of social media. There have been apps made just for that singular purpose. Employees are given information, and are able to work with other colleagues from the comfort of their home.

Although it seems that the negative effects have more writing behind them than the positives, just picking one side to stand on is a narrow-minded point of view, and I'm prepared to fight to prove that statement. People shouldn't have to fight for just one side, and I don't feel that the effects of social are good, but I don't believe that they are all bad. Even if the effects are really bad and damaging, lessons can be learned from them, and people can be made stronger. There is also a different kind of effect that social media has, that just doesn't fall under one category, because it's confusing. Some parents take one look at social media, and think that it's the cause for everything. "Mom, I'm tired." "It's because of social media!" "Mom, I'm hungry." "It's because of social media!" "Mom, I threw up." "It's because of social media!" Sometimes it feels like teenage boys and girls can't be depressed or go through puberty without their parents thinking that social media was the main cause. It's wrong. But then there are unfortunately some parents that use social media as a chisel to chip away at their children, and build them a false life and identity. Then the child feels the constant over-bearing pressure to be perfect, and fulfill that false identity, and they end up hiding their feelings, and hurting themselves even more than they realize.

As someone that is struggling with my own mental, physical and emotional problems, social media numbs the pain, and I escape into a world of comedy, color, and stability, and it also gives me a place to share my creations, and feelings. And I feel accepted and like I belong, which is a feeling that most don't experience very often. And it is a beautiful feeling, to feel wanted, and to have friends that understand you, and that share your interests and passions. With positive and negative effects, they always start with a cause, and they are sometimes created for a reason. Whether it's to teach, to help, or to numb pain. But people need to be aware, social media can either be the pain-killer, or the cause.

July Birthdays

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

July Anniversaries

- 17th Marshall & Ann Reynolds
Jason & Emily Kozik
19th Nikolaus & Patti Botscheller
20th Donny and Jodie Difatta
22nd Lee & April Henne
27th Donald and Doreen Ottaviani
28th Pastor Dave and Karen Blich

August Birthdays

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

August Anniversaries


- 2nd John & Linda Loose
3rd Craig & Brenda Yoder
4th Brian & Cheryl Folk
8th Daryl & Lyn Bohn
13th 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,

