

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Permit #1
Reading, PA 19612



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. 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



*A Season Filled with
Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love*

Each week during Advent we light a candle during our Sunday morning worship and reflect upon God's provision of hope, peace, joy, and love. These are the promises of God.

Our world so desperately needs to feel these promises. Even so, the first century citizens also were looking to see the fulfillment of these promises; and truly God has provided these through Jesus Christ the Messiah.

The Scriptures announce God's amazing love and great gift as He sent His Son Jesus into the world. Scriptures in Luke 2 proclaim:

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.



We can hardly imagine all the emotions the shepherds felt when *the glory of the Lord shone around them* – but we even today we can eagerly respond to the angel's words – *Do not be afraid*.

In our present world we face all kinds of struggle – pain, sickness, loss, fear of the unknown – but we can take the angel's words to heart. Ultimately God has made all things right. *Do not be afraid* – *Immanuel* our Lord is with us and will see us through. Our Messiah has come into the world and has provided for our eternal well-being in God's forever Kingdom.

In the words of the 13th verse of Romans 15:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, may you experience the good news and great joy of God's love and provision this season.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Pat

Pastor Pat's contact info:
Cell Phone: 717-926-2181
Email: phorst105@gmail.com

Church Board Highlights - November 13, 2023

The following items were approved:

- Minutes from the October 3, 2023 board meeting
- Treasurer Report
- Pastor Report
- Administrator Report

Pastor Pat reviewed plans for Sunday services in case of inclement weather and she would be unable to get to church. This would include someone reading a sermon she prepared or a hymn singing if needed. She also submitted a request to amend her contract to increase her weeks of vacation annually from three to four weeks.

The Bazaar profit for 2023 was reported at \$14,683.

James offered an update on the insurance issues with the window damage at the Old Church. After having the claim denied, John Rausch composed a letter to the insurance company asking them to reconsider. After getting to talk to a new representative, John received word within 24 hours that the claim was now approved. There will still be an amount that will be out of pocket but we will at least be receiving an insurance check.

The Personnel Committee offered their report. They completed employee reviews and all seems to be going well. There was a concern by the sextons about some cracks on the west end of the house which will be looked into. The committee did not offer salary raises for 2024 and will be meeting again to review this.

The Call Committee completed a draft of the profile which was reviewed by the conference. There were some suggestions to add and edit on the profile. Through this there was some technical difficulties which delayed this being completed. The hope now is that the revisions can be made and completed for the December Board Meeting.

The Community Outreach Committee had their first meeting November 12 after worship. They are working on plans to have a handout for the Christmas eve services and to begin working on plans for the 100th anniversary of the "new church" in June 2024.

Copies of the working budget for 2024 were handed out and Larry Henne went through each line reviewing the items. Everything seems to be set except for salaries. Once the Personnel Committee makes salary recommendations to the board, James will send out the budget to the board members for approval prior to the Congregational meeting in December.

James noted that the annual Council and Consistory meeting was held prior to this board meeting. They reviewed positions for 2024 and will be working to fill empty positions prior to the congregational meeting.

Larry Henne reviewed a quote by Fisher Roofing totaling \$30,600 to remove and install a new roof and gutters on the Fellowship Hall. Additionally, Eric Weyandt received a quote from Greenawalt Roofing totaling around \$34,000 for the Hall roof and gutters. After some discussion, the board approved the quote by Fisher's Roofing and Siding LLC totaling \$30,600 for the replacement of the Fellowship Hall roof and gutters. With this, congregational approval will be needed. With the upcoming December 10 Congregational Meeting, it was suggested to present the motion in the bulletin on December 3, discussion on December 10 and then a vote on December 17. Larry noted that the expense can largely be covered by the Bazaar profits and some leftover Fundraising profits from 2022. A quote was also received by Fishers for the Barn roof at \$8,400, this will be tabled for now to prioritize the Hall roof.

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Belleman's Joint Board Report for October

Beginning Balance \$16,650.93
 Income \$17,317.62
 Expenses \$15,916.96
 Ending Balance \$18,051.58

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Attendance/Offering

Worship Attendance

Offering

Nov. 5	87 (Sanctuary), 234(Facebook)	\$3,799.00
Nov. 12	71 (Sanctuary), 203 (Facebook)	\$1,719.00
Nov. 19	65 (Sanctuary), 216(Facebook)	\$2,895.00
Nov. 26	64 (Sanctuary), 228(Facebook)	\$2,308.00

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December Jingle Offerings are designated for Children's Home of Reading.

2024 Proposed Budget

	2020 Proposed	2021 Proposed	2022 Proposed	2023 Proposed	2024 Proposed
Administration					
Pastor Salary	\$45,600.00	\$45,600.00	\$45,600.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Pastor Housing	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
Pension / Health Insurance	\$36,637.00	\$37,317.00	\$38,373.00		
Social Security	\$4,872.00	\$4,872.00	\$4,872.00	\$3,312.00	\$3,312.00
Mileage	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,600.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
Professional Reimbursement	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00
Administrator	\$25,224.00	\$25,224.00	\$26,232.00	\$27,024.00	\$27,024.00
Employee Bonus					\$1,548.00
Sexton	\$7,680.00	\$7,680.00	\$7,680.00	\$7,920.00	\$7,920.00
Payroll Taxes (FICA)	\$3,992.00	\$3,992.00	\$3,843.00	\$3,950.00	\$4,068.00
Salary Reduction Expenses					
Benevolence					
Regular	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00
Other	\$1,400.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,000.00	\$942.00	\$936.00
Worship					
Organist	\$19,272.00	\$15,000.00	\$16,200.00	\$16,692.00	\$16,692.00
Musicians	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$900.00	\$1,000.00
Supply Pastors	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Worship Materials	\$2,700.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Program					
Committees & Departments	\$423.00	\$415.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Outreach	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Property					
Maintenance	\$11,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Telephone	\$2,200.00	\$2,200.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Electric	\$5,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,000.00
Insurance W/C	\$1,400.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Insurance Fire/Boiler	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$14,000.00
Church Propane	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Property Taxes	\$4,700.00	\$4,700.00	\$4,700.00	\$4,700.00	\$4,700.00
Office Equipment & Maintenance	\$3,400.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Office Supplies	\$5,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Postage	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Miscellaneous/Unplanned Exp					
Fellowship Hall					
Hall Electric	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,600.00
Hall Propane	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,000.00
Hall Maintenance	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Totals					
	\$243,000.00	\$237,500.00	\$239,000.00	\$181,640.00	\$187,000.00

2023 Bazaar

Weeks of preparation, cooking, baking, sewing, crafting, planning, gathering, sorting, collecting and organizing culminated in a tremendous bazaar. Thank you to all who participated in any way whether it was cooking, donating, working a stand, or doing any of the hundred necessary chores. Also a thank you to all who participated by purchasing items. This year's event was the best one yet, yielding a profit of \$14,683!



Christmas Eve 2023

We will celebrate Christ's birth with three worship services on **Sunday, December 24th.**

Planned service times are as follows:

9:00 AM - Lessons and Carols Worship

4:30PM - Family Nativity Worship in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion and "Once Upon a Christmas Star"

7:00PM - Worship in the Sanctuary with Holy Communion

We look forward to seeing you as we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ!





Holy Communion Assistants

December 24 (Christmas Eve)

4:30 p.m. *Altar Assistants:* Linda Henne, James Fitterling
Ushers: Carla Rozsitch, Lee Henne, Eric Weyandt
Frank Kornfeind, Diane Rothenberger,
Amy Machmer, Adrianna Madden, Allen Loeb

7:00 p.m. *Altar Assistants:* Linda Henne
Ushers: Larry Henne, Sam Stump

Communion Assistants For January 14th

10:00 a.m. *Altar Assistants:* Gloria Gambler, Lester Gambler
Niki Botscheller
Cup Stations: Ken Borkey, Jim Blatt
Ushers: Frank Kornfeind, Lee Henne



Christmas Card Shower

With Christmas right around the corner, we are looking to brighten the Christmas season for our shut-ins. This is where you come in! We are asking that anyone who is willing and able to please send Christmas cards to members on our shut-in list.

All you need to do is contact the church office via phone (610-926-0461) or email (salembellemans@frontiernet.net) and James will provide you with a copy of the shut-in list. What a great way to spread some Christmas Spirit!

Christmas Cards



Endowment Fund

Belleman's Church Endowment Fund was established for the preservation of our church. **Tax-deductible** gifts are available by completing the following information:

IN HONOR or *IN MEMORY* OF:



Your name (Donor): _____

Your address: _____

Gift of \$ _____

Payable to: Belleman's Church—Endowment Fund
3540 Belleman's Church Road,
Mohrsville, PA 19541-8916



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.

Birthdays

December

- 16th Michele DeBoeser,
Ryan Bausher
17th Linda Imbesi, Sharon Borkey,
Brenda Nelson
18th Mason Strohl, Richie Spatz,
Elizabeth Cichowicz,
Douglas Troutman
19th Elizabeth Veres,
Bethany Werley
20th Brian Reynolds, Ryan Peters
21st Carol Spatz
22nd Jackie Lynn, Nathan Hill,
Karla Lawrence
23rd Fern Fisher, Kylee Cammauf,
Cydney Lawrence,
25th Kimberly Smyre, Mary Miller
26th Robert Fenstermacher,
Brianna Schoen, Diane Bausher
27th Harold Spatz, Alyssa Kriner,
Carlene Kissinger
29th Anthony McCloskey,
Ashlie Dreibelbis
30th Diane Klopp, Whitney Shurr,
Nicole Jacoby
31st Amber Blatt

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 Marian Gordon,
Pamela Haas,
Thomas Noecker,
Rex Kissinger
12th Mica Kornfeind,
Connor Kunkle
Pastor Pat
13th Archer Kauffman
14th Phillip Smith,
Nathaniel Shatto,
15th Michael Dailey

Anniversaries

December

- 31st Lindel & Karen Hahn

January

- 9th Randy & Cathleen Phillips

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

Thank you for your service!

Music News

I always say "it takes a village," and right now here at Belleman's we have a very bustling community of villagers participating in our music program!

Both our Sanctuary Choir and Bell Choir are preparing for the very best time of year..
Christmas!

We have some wonderful music we are working on for you, and I hope you will join us for our celebration of the birth of Christ on Christmas Eve. This joyous celebration will be filled with beautiful and inspiring music as we share this special message with you.

I can't wait to see everyone for
Christmas Eve!

Musically,



P.S. If you're more technically than musically inclined, as we continue our upgrades to our audio system at church, we're looking for members to join our "Tech Team." Interested? Find me or James to get started!

DECEMBER

Calendar of Events

- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**
12/10 10:00AM Worship
Congregational Meeting following Worship
- Mon. 6:00PM Community Outreach Meeting
12/11
- Wed. 10:00AM Prayer Time with Pastor Pat
12/13 5:30PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Sat. 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport
12/16
- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**
12/17 with Sunday School Kids program
10:00AM Worship
- Mon. 7:00PM Board Meeting
12/18
- Wed. 5:30PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
12/20 6:30PM Christmas Eve Rehearsal
- Sun. Christmas Eve**
12/24 9:00AM Lessons and Carols Worship Service
4:30PM Worship Service with Holy Communion
7:00PM Worship Service with Holy Communion
- Mon. Christmas Day
12/25 "Merry Christmas"
- Wed. 10:00AM Prayer Time with Pastor Pat
12/27
- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**
12/31 10:00AM Worship

JANUARY

Calendar of Events

- Mon. Happy New Year! 2024!
1/1
- Wed. 5:30PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
1/3 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Sat. 1:00PM Cemetery Board Meeting
1/6 in the chapel
- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**
1/7 10:00AM Worship Service
- Tue. (1/9) 9:30AM Music and Worship Meeting
- Wed. 10:00AM Prayer Time with Pastor Pat
1/10 5:30PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Sun. Holy Communion**
1/14 9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship
- Mon. (1/15) 7:00PM Board Meeting
- Wed. 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal
1/17 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Sat. 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport
1/20
- Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School**
1/21 10:00AM Worship Service
- Wed. 10:00AM Prayer Time with Pastor Pat
1/24 5:30PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal