

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

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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.*

*Sunday School every Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.*

March 2024

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



March is here!

How wonderful to see signs of the approaching Spring season. We are well aware that winter could bring some more cold and blustery weather but we have hints of spring all around us. For me, one of the signs of approaching spring is my first flowers of the season – snowdrops – often time peeking through the snow. It seems one day they aren't visible – and then, suddenly, one day they are blooming. It's always a joy to see them. While winter loomed, the little plants were preparing to burst through the ground and bloom.

This brings to mind, the unseen is all around us. We do not see electric waves, but they are here; so often we take electric for granted. Also we don't see atoms, yet we know they exist and are part of our everything around us. We don't see the air and yet we need it for our very existence; we breathe.



So, where am I going with this? You may have guessed; as believers, we have faith. Although unseen, we believe. As followers of Christ, we believe in Christ. There is a certain mystery about this; but still we have faith in Christ.

The early disciples did see Jesus and followed Him; they learned from Him. Yet when He died on the cross, at first they didn't know what to believe. They didn't understand the many times Jesus had tried to prepare them for this. As Jesus reappeared to them as the Risen Christ, once again, they believed.

We have not seen the risen Christ with our eyes – yet we believe. The risen Christ Himself spoke these words in John 20:29b -- **...blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**"

Just as things unseen are real – just as we do not see the flowers as they are preparing to bloom, the process is underway. Even so, Jesus was resurrected, the disciples waited, they saw Him and they believed. Now, though only seen with our spiritual eyes, our Risen Lord has given us a most wonderful gift as we believe in Him.

May God bless you greatly as we await the celebration of our Living Lord on Resurrection morn!

Pastor Pat Horst, interim pastor

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 - February 19, 2024

Treasurer, Larry Henne presented and reviewed his report. He mainly wanted to note that the report shows quite a bit of money and wanted to make everyone aware that it's not all available to spend. The \$7,124 insurance claim check for the old church window repairs along with another \$1,000 donation toward the repairs is in the account. Also, the \$16,788.50 Heffner Fund check which is needed to pay for the church insurance is in the account as well. These extra funds will be in the account until these bills are received.

There was a question about the status of pricing out insurance quote options. James noted that he and John Rausch are planning a meeting with the insurance broker soon to finalize the information that they will need for all of the buildings. In the meantime we continue to pay the current Church Mutual Insurance premiums on a monthly basis until an insurance plan decision is made.

The Property Committee reported that some plaster repairs will be happening in the near future to address some issues in the church basement as well as in the Loft. James reported that there was another pipe that sprung a leak at the Sexton house recently. This one was in the basement and luckily didn't create a huge mess. It was suggested to change over more of the copper pipes to pex as some of the old copper pipes are getting thin in spots. We were quoted about \$1,000 to replace the section of pipes in question. This will be getting completed shortly.

The Mission Team recently completed a trip to Clarksville, Tennessee. The group served with Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders and they reported that the trip went very well. On the trip they did some painting and drywall repair, flooring installation, hung siding and some other general repairs. There was a suggestion about doing some more projects around the church as well.

It was noted that the motion to approve the Solvelt quote for the wifi upgrades was approved by the Congregation on February 4. Ken Borkey has made contact for them to begin scheduling the work. The next step will be to explore our needs to upgrade our internet to Comcast.

Contributions to both wider church bodies are due soon and were discussed. Total contribution suggested was \$2 per average worshipper and as past practice, we would split that amount in half. Part going to the Association and the other half to the Mission District. The Board approved a \$75 contribution to the Covenant Association and a \$75 contribution to the East Berks Mission District.

March 6 is our date to host the Lent lunch and James noted that we need volunteers to provide the food. He noted that we likely need 3 crockpots of soup, sandwiches, drinks and desserts. We will be the third week so once we see how many folks are attending the early weeks it will be easier to discern how much food is needed.

Since the build for the new church website by Interlace Communications they have graciously fully covered the maintenance fees for the site for the last few years. Those fees will no longer be covered and will convey to us at a greatly reduced rate. Alyse Hein submitted a breakdown of total costs to run and maintain the website at \$508.29 yearly. After discussion, this fee for the website was approved.

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**Belleman's Joint Board - Month of January 2024**

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$17,535.57 |
| Income            | \$39,198.70 |
| Expenses          | \$9,026.62  |
| Ending Balance    | \$47,707.65 |

**Treasurer Report Notes:** This report includes the \$7,124 insurance claim check for the old church window repairs along with another \$1,000 donation toward the repairs. Also, the \$16,788.50 Heffner Fund check which is needed to pay for the church insurance is in the account. These amounts will not cover the final bills for the window repairs nor the insurance premium. Additionally, bills are coming for some plumbing repairs at the sexton house and for some plaster repairs at church.

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Attendance/Offering

	10:00AM	Offering
Feb. 4	118 (Church), n/a (Facebook)	\$3,294.00
Feb. 11	82 (Church), 223 (Facebook)	\$2,863.00
Feb. 18	77 (Church), 228 (Facebook)	\$2,222.00
Feb. 25	69 (Church), 137 (Facebook)	\$3,360.00

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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.

**February 4 Congregational Voting Results:**

**Motion: to approve the SolveIT quote for \$11,807 to install wiring and hardware to upgrade the wireless internet at the church and fellowship hall. This would be paid from the Ray Bauder bequest funds.**

**YES – 49      NO – 2**

**Thank you everyone for taking part in this Congregational Process!**

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Holy Communion will be celebrated Easter Sunday, March 31 at the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Altar Assistants: Lester Gambler, Gloria Gambler
Linda Henne

Cup Stations: Eric Weyandt, Frank Kornfeind

Ushers: Allen Loeb, Larry Henne

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The March **Jingle Offerings** go to **Schuykill Valley Community Library**

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Easter Plants for 2024



If you would like to purchase an **Easter plant** or to place a plant in church for Easter Sunday, in memory of or in honor of loved ones, please call Linda Henne (610-926-4506) or see her in church. There will also be order blanks available in Sunday Bulletins for your convenience.

Plants that are available this year are as follows:

Easter Lilies	\$8.00 each
Hybrid Lillies	\$8.00 each
Martha Washington Geraniums	\$8.00 each
Tulips	\$8.00 each
Daffodils	\$8.00 each

All orders No Later Than March 24.

Please make checks payable to Belleman's Youth.

Lenten Worship Series Continues

Presented by the Schuylkill Valley Pastors Association

This Lenten Season we have been worshipping alongside the churches of the Schuylkill Valley Pastors Association. Here is the schedule of the coming Worship Services:

Lenten Wednesday Services

During the season of Lent, there will be weekly Lenten worship services **every Wednesday at 12 noon**. Lunch will be served first and will be followed by a brief worship. Services should be over by 1 for anyone planning to attend during their lunchtime. We look forward to embarking on this Lenten journey with the SV Churches as we head toward Easter Sunday! Lenten Service locations are as follows:

March 13: Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
(102 Apple Street, Leesport PA 19533)

March 20: Bern Lutheran
(820 W Leesport Rd, Leesport, PA 19533)

Maundy Thursday

This years Maundy Thursday Worship on **March 28** will be hosted by **Bethany EC Church (308 Main St, Leesport, PA 19533)** as we commemorate Jesus's Last Supper . The service will be in the **sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.**



Good Friday

The Good Friday Worship Service on **March 29** will be hosted by **Belleman's Church (3540 Belleman's Church Rd, Mohrsville Pa 19541)**. The service will be in the **sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.** as we observe the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus.



Easter Egg Hunt 2024

This year's egg hunt will take place on **Saturday, March 30**. The egg hunt will start around **1:00 PM** and will take place in the church grove. We hope to see you there!

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The Primary Department requests **donations of small wrapped candies** for the Egg Hunt. Please drop them off in the Primary department with Brenda Weyandt or with James in the office. Thank You!



### Easter

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The season is capped off on **Easter Sunday, March 31** as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection from death. The day begins with the Easter Dawn Service at Mohrsville Church of the Brethren at **6:30 a.m.**



The day continues with Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. followed by Easter Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m.

We hope you will join us in this years journey to the cross!



Calendar of Events



Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School
3/10 10:00AM Worship Service
Daylight savings time begins

Wed. **12 Noon Lenten Lunch Worship at Trinity Lutheran**
3/13 (102 Apple Street, Leesport PA 19533)
 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal
 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Sat. (3/16) 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport

Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School
3/17 10:00AM Worship Service

Mon. (3/18) 7:00PM Board Meeting

Wed. **12 Noon Lenten Lunch Worship at Bern Lutheran**
3/20 (820 W Leesport Rd, Leesport, PA 19533)
 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal
 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Sat. (3/23) 1:00PM Cemetery Board Meeting in the Chapel

Sun. Palm Sunday
3/24 9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship Service

Wed. 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal
 3/27 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Thu. (3/28) Maundy Thursday - 7PM Service at Bethany Church
(308 Main St, Leesport, PA 19533)

Fri. (3/29) Good Friday - 7PM Service here at Belleman's

Sat. (3/30) 1:00PM Egg Hunt at the Fellowship Hall

Sun. Easter Sunday - Holy Communion
3/31 6:30AM Sunrise Service
at Mohrsville Church of the Brethren
9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship Service

Mon. (4/1) Happy April Fools' Day

Wed. 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal
 4/3 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School
4/7 10:00AM Worship Service

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

Wed. 10:00AM Prayer time with Pastor Pat
 4/10 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal
 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Sun. 9:00AM Sunday School
4/14 10:00AM Worship Service

Mon. (4/15) 7:00PM Board Meeting

Wed. 5:30PM Hand bell Rehearsal
 4/17 6:30PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Sat. (4/20) 8:00AM–Noon SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport
 (Belleman's Month to Serve)



(Note: This is an additional report that didn't make it in to the year end report packets.)

Belleman's Church Thrivent Account

Monies from the former "Young Adult Bible Class of Belleman's Church" is in this account.

Beginning Balance as of 1/1/2023	\$17,231.66
Ending Balance as of 12/31/2023	\$19,189.88
2023 Investment Gain of \$1,958.22	

Year to date performance is 11.36%

This fund is held for extreme emergencies. There has not been any deposits or withdrawals to this fund in 2023.

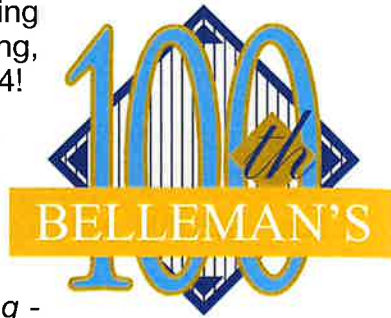
Respectfully submitted,
 Sindy Bachman

100th Anniversary of the “New Church”

The time is getting closer for the upcoming celebration of our existing church building, which will be held on Sunday, June 8, 2024!

The following are some of the costs involved in building the church, as recorded in the church history book written by Milton K. and Luella E. Blatt:

- ~Window and door frames - \$ 4,400
- ~Glass work by J. M. Kase & Co., Reading - \$3,200 plus an additional cost of \$100 for each figure and design. (All glass between the vestibule and the sanctuary, and the sanctuary and Chapel were donated by that company)
- ~Sanctuary roof by Vera Cruz Roofing, using 16”x16” asbestos shingles laid French method - \$860
- ~Chapel roof by Frantz and Luppold, Reading, with Jones-Mansville built-up shingles, complete with spouting and flashing - \$270
- ~All sanctuary furniture by Kundtz & Co., Cleveland, Ohio, for a contract price of \$5,060 including pews, screens, reredos, but they broke the contract and charged \$6,400
- ~All door hardware made of brass by Penn Hardware Co., Reading - \$411.50
- ~Electric wiring - \$302
- ~Steam heat installed by A.P. Merkle of Fleetwood - \$3,950
- ~Light fixtures by Richard Vicary of Reading - \$629.69
- ~Delco light system, 56 cell, 110 volt - \$1,395 (but later the church connected to direct current)
- ~Red tile in the Narthex installed by Landis Tile & Marble Co. - \$400
- ~Church bell from McShane Bell Co., Baltimore, MD, is a 1600-lb. 42” diameter, Tone F Bell - \$1,255., less 15% delivered and installed with a 15-year warranty.



From February 4-10, 2024 the Belleman's Mission Team completed a trip to Clarksville, Tennessee. The four person team of Allen Loeb, Eric Weyandt, Dennis Felix and James Fitterling worked for the week with the Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders. This area of Clarksville recently sustained tornado damage in December of 2023. The next three pages are a photo collage from the trip...



The Damage...



The Work...



And we had a little fun...



Lastly, the group delivered 18 boxes of garden seeds to the St. Vincent's Mission in David, KY. These seeds were donated by Weaver's Hardware.

Thank you for your continued support of the Belleman's Mission Team.

BELLEMAN'S CHURCH

DRIVE-THROUGH

OYSTER SUPPER



Saturday, April 27, 2024

3-6 pm Pick-Up at the Fellowship Hall

PRE-ORDERS ONLY!!!

Choice of (3) different platters:

~Oyster Platter (5 fried oysters)

~Shrimp Platter (10 steamed shrimp)

~Ham Platter

Platters include potato, applesauce, pepper cabbage

Also available:

Oyster Stew (Qt – 8 oysters; pt – 4 oysters)

Single Fried Oysters-Oyster Pie (6 oysters)

Pepper Cabbage – Dessert Pies

****DEADLINE**
FOR ORDERS
APRIL 10, 2024**

*****Available once again***
After pickup of your pre-ordered meal, the dining room will be open for indoor dining from 3-6 p.m. No table service.**

OYSTER SUPPER ORDER FORM

Saturday, April 27, 2024 - Pickup 3-6 p.m.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

_____ Oyster platter @ \$15 ea. _____

_____ Shrimp platter @ \$10 ea. _____

_____ Ham platter @ \$10 ea. _____

_____ Oyster stew (QT) @ \$10 ea. _____

_____ Oyster stew (PT) @ \$5 ea. _____

_____ Oyster pie @ \$9 ea. _____

_____ Fried oyster @ \$2.50 ea. _____

_____ Pepper cabbage (QT) @ \$6 ea. _____

_____ Pepper cabbage (PT) @ \$3 ea. _____

_____ Old fashioned lemon pie @ \$8 ea. _____

_____ Coconut custard pie @ \$8 ea. _____

_____ Cherry crumb pie @ \$13 ea. _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Checks payable to: "Belleman's Church" and send to:
3540 Belleman's Church Rd., Mohrsville, PA 19541

Or email: salembellemans@frontiernet.net

ALL ORDERS DUE BY APRIL 10, 2024



Thank you for the goodie bag from the Social Ministry. It's always nice to get those Valentine Bags. **Helen Ernst**

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**Thanks** for thinking of me and for all the Valentine goodies. **Janet Greusel**

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Social Ministry Committee of Belleman's Church,
Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity, we enjoyed our Valentine's gift of delicious treats. We also want to thank Mr. and Mrs. Gambler for the delivery and the delightful visit we had with them. **Lloyd and Ruth Barnett**

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**Thank you, thank you!** You don't know how much I appreciated it (Valentine bag). More ways than I can ever explain. Everything was very useful plus delicious and handy in many ways. Bless all you people for thinking about me. You will never know how much I appreciated it. **Thanks again,**  
**Marilyn E. Seaman**

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Thank you for the (Valentine) gift. The Lord works wonders through wonderful people like you. **Thank you! Rex Kissinger**

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**Thank You to everyone** who supported our Super Bowl Food drive for the S.V. Food Pantry! We were able to provide a truckload of 534 food items to help feed our neighbors in need!



# **COMMUNITY HOEDOWN**

## **FEATURING CALLER KEN SAUL**

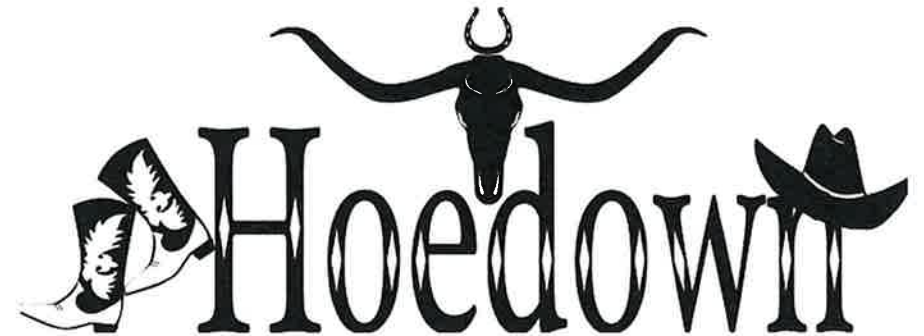
### **FRIDAY, MAY 10**

### **BELLEMAN'S CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL**

### **FOOD AT 5:30 P.M. HOEDOWN 7-10 P.M.**



### **THIS IS A FREE EVENT! BEGINNERS WELCOME!**



### **SPONSORED BY THE BELLEMAN'S CHURCH COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

## March Birthdays

- 15<sup>th</sup> John David Rausch, Jr.,  
Cassandra Mitten, Jean Haag  
16<sup>th</sup> Dan Gordon, Pete Lukawski  
17<sup>th</sup> Kelly Kauffman,  
George Rubright  
Curtis Eitel  
18<sup>th</sup> Robin Linderman,  
Miriam Mohn  
19<sup>th</sup> Jaclyn Kunkle,  
Carter McRae,  
Joshua Schlottman,  
Lynda Marks, Dylan King  
21<sup>st</sup> Mildred Stoyer  
22<sup>nd</sup> Kendall Gery,  
John Schlappich  
John Schmauch, Jr.  
24<sup>th</sup> Melissa Boyer  
26<sup>th</sup> Kaley Gehris  
28<sup>th</sup> Leah Kopicz, David Snyder  
30<sup>th</sup> Chris Brian Wesner  
31<sup>st</sup> Chad Fitterling,  
Pastor Bruce Potteiger

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March Anniversaries

- 24th Ruth & Kenneth Borkey, Sr.
25th Bernice & Richard Hartman

April Birthdays

- 1st Linette Baer, Sherry Weist
Cody Wesner
2nd Arlene Gilmer, Megan Snyder
Rowan Gilmer
Karen Eisenhofer
3rd Teri Frederick,
Yasmin Loose
4th Mark Eisenhower,
Dylan Kramer
5th John Noecker
7th Kelsey Jean Patrick
8th Brian Folk
9th James Holcombe,
Tanner McRae,
Dennis Wayne, Parker Rhein
10th Linda Kirkhoff, Tom Nelson
11th Lynn Fenstermacher,
Karen Harle, Tara Stiefel
12th Dylan Beerman
13th Kevin Jroski,
Janet Kemp
14th Daryl Bohn, Jack Brenner
Eric Weyandt
15th Amara Mohn

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## April Anniversaries

- 5<sup>th</sup> Harold and Sandy Sunday

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## 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

# Music News

Did you know that music is the best medicine?

***If you need a dose of good news,  
you are welcome to join us  
as we worship through music!***

There is always room for more in our Sanctuary  
Choir, and no experience is required! We  
practice every Wednesday evening at 6:30, so if  
you've ever had a hankering to dust off those  
vocal cords, come and hang out with us during  
any of our practices!



If you have questions about what it's like to be  
part of our musical family here at Belleman's, just  
talk to any member of our choirs, and they will  
happily answer any questions you might have.  
There is a place for everyone in our musical  
family here at Belleman's.

And, if you want to be part of the fun, but you're  
more technically inclined than musically, we need  
help with our tech team too!

Musically,

*Oliver*