

## **BELLEVUE STAFF**

### **Rev. JT Holderman**

*Senior Pastor*

email: pastorJT@BellevueEPC.org (*out of office—Fridays*)

### **Rev. Brad Moger**

*Assistant Pastor for Family & Youth Ministries*

email: PastorBrad@BellevueEPC.org (*out of office—Mondays*)

### **Kevin Wenrich**

*Director of Children's Ministries*

email: Kevin.Wenrich@BellevueEPC.org (*out Tues & Thurs*)

### **Brenda Brackbill—Office Manager**

email: office@bellevueEPC.org (*out of office—Fridays*)

### **Carol Shaubach—Choir Director, Co-Director of Music**

### **Rob Shaubach—Bell Choir Director, Co-Director of Music**

### **Steve Hoopes—Organist/Pianist**

### **Chris Manning—Nursery Coordinator**

### **Buddy Trago—Sexton**

### **Roland Berthoud—Groundskeeper**

### **Rev. William S. Davies, Jr.—Pastor Emeritus**

## **LEADERSHIP**

### *Ruling Elders of Session*

**2017**

Rob Bitts

Adam Snyder

**2018**

Paul Allison

David Doutrich

Alex Melson

Frank Rotella

**2019**

Lee Brown

Kevin Byma

Andy Kinkaid

Howard Parmer

John Perella – Clerk

### *Board of Deacons*

**2017**

Annie Blank

**2018**

Amanda Doutrich

Susen Leary

Sue Rotella

**2019**

John Emmons

Ellen Parmer

Rich Riehl

810 Newport Avenue, Gap, Pa 17527

Church Phone: (717) 442-4077

Web Site: [www.BellevueEPC.org](http://www.BellevueEPC.org)

## **PRAYERS & COMMENTS**

*Please use this card if you have any prayer concerns or comments you'd like us to know about.*

*You may place this in the offering plate, hand it to one of the ushers, or place it in the church office mailbox.*

Please use this space to let us know of your prayer requests:

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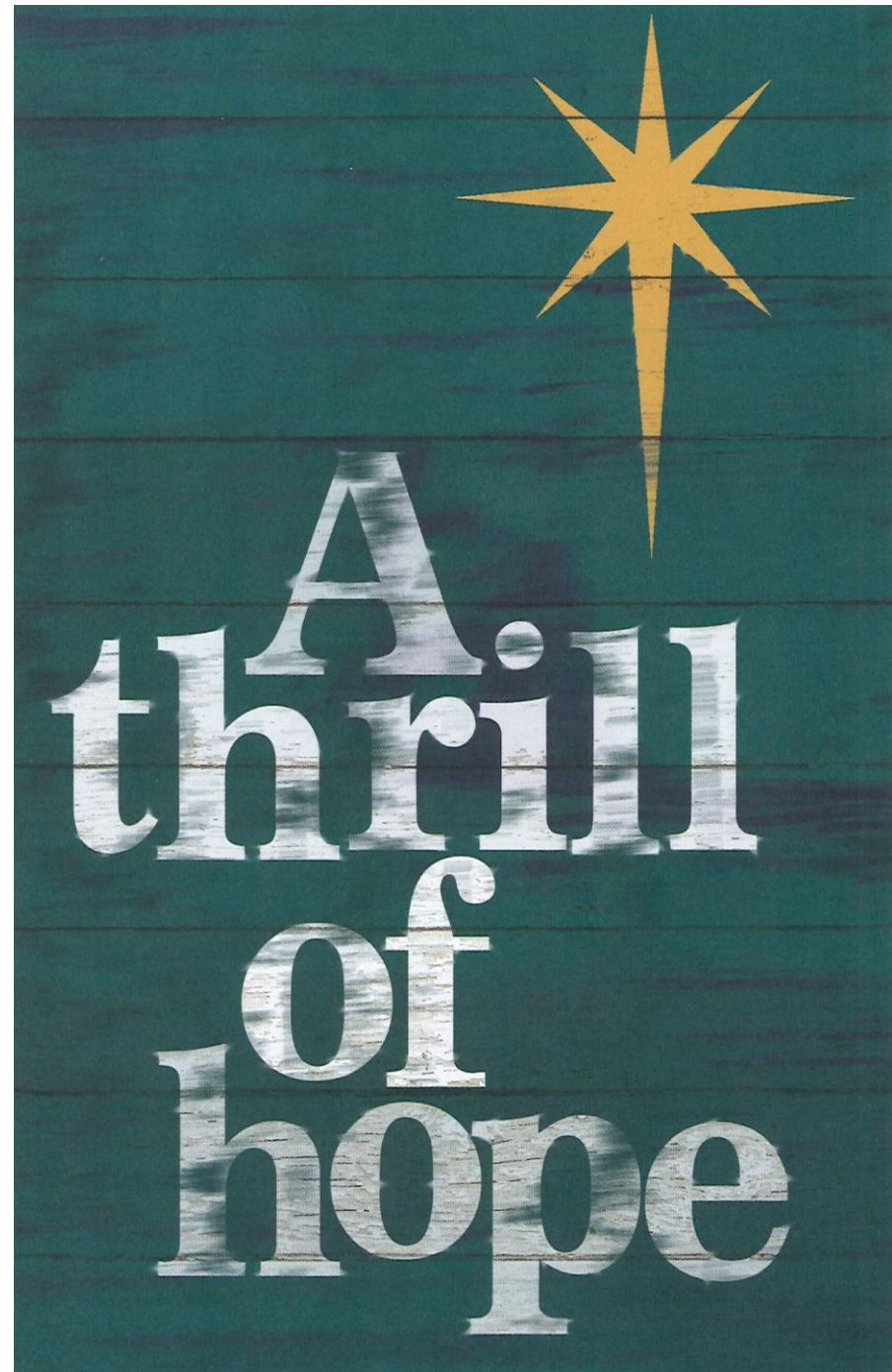
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I would like to speak to someone about my prayer request. Please contact me at:  day  evening

( )

If you are interested in becoming a Christian today, please let a Christian friend or the pastor know.



## **WELCOME**

Thank you for joining us to worship the Lord today. We hope we can serve you today and would love for you to be a regular part of God's ministry here at Bellevue. We invite everyone to sign your name in the Friendship Pads in the pews, and if you are visiting or new to our fellowship to also please include your address and/or email address. If you have any questions, please ask one of our *Welcome Center* Hosts, a Pastor, or an Elder. We are delighted to have you with us this morning. It is requested that no food or drink be taken in to worship.

### **PRAYER CARDS**

We encourage you to fill out prayer cards located at the *Welcome Center*, and hand them to an usher before the service. These requests will be lifted up during the Pastoral Prayer.

### **ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES**

Our Sound System allows us the opportunity to offer Assistive Listening devices, which can be found at the *Welcome Center* every Sunday morning. If you would like to make use of this service, please stop at the *Welcome Center* when you come in and ask for a "Sound Mate" which can be returned to the *Welcome Center* at the end of the morning service. If you have any questions about these devices, please ask someone at the *Welcome Center*.

### **VISITORS WITH CHILDREN IN THE SERVICE**

Children of all ages are welcome in the worship service. Children are a gift to our church, and a tangible reminder that our church family is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents, they probably need it! We offer Nursery for ages 0-3. Please follow signs or ask a *Welcome Center* Host for directions.

### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Children from 4 years of age through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be dismissed following the Children's Sermon for age appropriate activities and will return at the end of the last hymn. Of course, children of all ages are welcome to remain in the sanctuary for the entire service.

### **AFTER THE SERVICE**

Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in Friendship Hall.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. We have classes for all ages with a nursery provided for children under two. Our adult classes are involved in different studies of God's Word. All are welcome to come and study and learn together.

### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

**December 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.**

You are invited to join us on Sunday evening, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for the Children's Christmas Program. This year the children will be doing *Journey to Bethlehem* and we will be looking at the different people who traveled to Bethlehem around the time of the birth of Jesus.

After the program there will be a time of fellowship downstairs with plenty of cookies for everyone. If you would like to bring cookies a sign-up sheet can be found at the *Welcome Center*.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

Since Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, we have a slightly differently worship schedule to accommodate. We will have one morning service on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, at 10am with no Sunday School Hour. In the evening we will have our *Family Christmas Eve Service* at 6:00 p.m. and our *Candlelight and Communion Christmas Eve Service* at 8:00 p.m. We look to resume our regular Christmas Eve Schedule next year.

### **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**Begins Today**

**Remember Your Leaders: A History of Faithful Christian Witnesses**

(Teachers: JT Holderman, Adam Snyder, Josh Wolfe, Kim Holderman)

**The Book of Esther** (Teachers: Ann Hagen and Brad Moger)

**The Personnel Committee** is bringing this need to the congregation: Seeking an Assistant to the Cemetery Superintendent at Bellevue Presbyterian Church. This position will assist with administrative duties in the sale of cemetery lots and facilitating traditional burials. If you have any questions, please see Frank Rotella, Anita Grimes or Linda Perella.

**Personnel Committee** Seeking part-time secretary to assist the office manager at Bellevue Presbyterian Church. Qualifications include, but are not limited to, effective organizational skills, proficient computer skills, & effective oral & written communication skills.

<b>WEEKLY CALENDAR</b>		<b>December 3 – December 10</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	-	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent
	-	Communion
	- 7:30 a.m.	– Prayer time in the Library
	- 8:00 a.m.	– Worship
	- 9:30 a.m.	– Sunday School/New Quarter
	- 10:30 a.m.	– Prayer time in the Library
	- 10:45 a.m.	– Worship (Children’s Church)
	- 6:30 p.m.	– Pequea Valley Chamber Singers
<b>MONDAY</b>	- 6:00 p.m.	– Bellevue Trotters
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	- 10:00 a.m.	– Covenant Community Group
	- 4:00 p.m.	– Adult Education Subcommittee
	- 5:30 p.m.	– New Life Ringers
	- 6:15 p.m.	– Children’s Choir
	- 6:15 p.m.	– Resounding Joy
	- 6:30 p.m.	– Kingdom Kids
	- 7:15 p.m.	– Sr Choir
<b>THURSDAY</b>	- 10:00 a.m.	– MOPS
	- 6:00 p.m.	– Bellevue Trotters
	- 6:00P.M.	– Triple T Girls – Cookie Baking
	- 7:00 p.m.	– Membership & Evangelism
	- 7:00 p.m.	– Worship Committee
<b>SATURDAY</b>	- 4:00 p.m.	– Triple T Boys – Hands of Service

**WORSHIP SERVICE** **DECEMBER 3, 2017**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE TOLLING OF THE BELL**

**PRELUDE: “Come, Messiah King”**

Rouse

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**\*HYMN: #249 “O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

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| <p>1 O come, all ye faithful,<br/>joyful and triumphant;<br/>O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!<br/>Come and behold Him-<br/>Born the King of angels!</p> | <p>2 Sing, choirs of angels;<br/>sing in exultation;<br/>O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav’n above!<br/>Glory to God,<br/>All glory in the highest!</p> |
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**CHORUS**

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| <p>3 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,<br/>Born this happy morning;<br/>Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n:<br/>Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!</p> | <p>O come, let us adore Him!<br/>O come, let us adore Him!<br/>O come, let us adore Him-<br/>Christ, the Lord!</p> |
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**\*INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER** (sins)

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

*Father, as we enter into Advent, forgive us for thinking little of Jesus. Forgive us for our frail worship. Forgive us that Christmas can become normal, and not experienced with the worship and awe You desire. Help us to turn this Advent to be in awe and wonder over the plan of our redemption, in awe and wonder of the baby in the manger, and in awe and wonder of our Savior, Immanuel. Amen.*

**TODAY IN THE PULPIT**  
 Pastor JT Holderman  
 Assistant Pastor Brad Moger  
 Dir. of Children’s Ministries Kevin Wenrich  
 Ruling Elder David Doutrich  
 Piano Steve Hoopes

The Bellevue Family Tree will be available today for you to choose a gift tag so you can purchase a gift . Gifts (with original tags attached) are to be returned on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> in time for delivery before Christmas.

**COMMUNION**  
 We invite all believers in Jesus Christ to celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion with us this morning. It is our practice to hold the bread (gluten free wafers are in the cup in the center of the bread plate) and grape juice until all are served. Our Elders serving at the 8:00 a.m. service are Paul Allison, Rob Bitts, John Perella and Frank Rotella and at the 10:45 a.m. service are Lee Brown, David Doutrich, John Perella and Adam Snyder.

The Pequea Valley Chamber Singers will be performing tonight, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Bellevue. Please join us for this concert.

**TRIPLE T GIRLS**  
 Cookie Baking  
 Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>  
 6:00 p.m.

- Welcome Center Denise Byler &  
 Susan Houck  
 Vernon & Thelma Fisher  
 Ushers – 1<sup>st</sup> John Emmons, Dan Beane  
 Dwayne Houck, John Harsh  
 Ushers – 2<sup>nd</sup> Jay Leary, Kevin High  
 Bill Piasecki, Christy Della Rova  
 Nursery –1<sup>st</sup> Paul & Margaret Allison  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Gwenth Perella &  
 Kim Holderman

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

## MEMBERSHIP VOWS AND WELCOME

**ANTHEM:** "Candles of Advent"

Price, Besig

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

*Children are dismissed for the Nursery and Children's Church (10:45 a.m.)*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## THE OFFERING OF GIFTS

**OFFERTORY:** "Sheep May Safely Graze"

Bober

## \*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:** Isaiah 9:2-7

pp. 1672-1673

**SERMON:** The Wonder of Christmas

"The Wonder of the Prophecies"

\***HYMN:** #244 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's Strength and Consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear Desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

\***HYMN:** #244 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" (v. 2)

2 Born Thy People to deliver,  
Born a Child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit,  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

## \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE:** "Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow"

Koerts

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## ***Explaining our Liturgy: Scripture Reading***

In every age of the church, from the house churches in Acts 2, to the Middle Ages, to the Puritans, to today, the reading of Scripture is an essential aspect of worship. Why? Because God speaks to us in His Word and He has called us to read it together (1 Timothy 4:13). There He declares to us who He is and who we are. It is in the Scriptures alone that we find a clear word on how we are to live in relationship with the Lord and one another. When we read the Scripture together, we are declaring as a church the authority of God's word in our lives and our submission to it as the *perfect law of the Lord which revives the soul* (Psalm 19:7). It is the Scriptures that reveal Christ and our salvation in Him, *Faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ*. The Scripture brings us knowledge of God and our salvation, and therefore stirs within us a deep thankfulness and worship to God for His love for us. We read the Scripture to worship the Lord in the midst of all He reveals to us in it.

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## SERMON NOTES

(December 3, 2017)

Advent 2017—The Wonder of Christmas  
Part One: The Wonder of the Prophecies

### Isaiah 9:2-7 (ESV)

**2** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. **3** You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. **4** For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. **5** For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. **6** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **7** Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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### Introduction

#### I) A Miraculous Birth

- a. Isaiah 9:6—*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given.*
- b. Isaiah 7:14—*Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold the virgin shall conceive and bear a son.*
- c. Micah 5:2—*But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel.*
- d. Isaiah 9:7—*on the throne of David and over his kingdom.*

#### II) Who Is This Jesus?

##### 1. Our Shepherd

- a. Micah 5:2—*He shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.*
- b. Ezekiel 32:23—*I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd.*

##### 2. Everlasting

- a. Isaiah 9:6-7—*His name shall be called...everlasting...of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end...from this time forth and forevermore.*
- b. Micah 5:2—*from you shall come forth for me...whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient of days.*

##### 3. Immanuel

- a. Isaiah 7:14—*The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*
- b. Isaiah 9:6—*His name shall be called...wonderful counselor, mighty God.*
- c. Ezekiel 34:24—*I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them.*

#### III) What Does He Come to Do?

- a. Isaiah 9:6—*Prince of peace.*
- b. Micah 5:5—*Our peace.*

### Conclusion