

# Bellevue Presbyterian Church

## BELLEVUE TIDINGS



*Bellevue is a family of faith who lifts up the name of Jesus Christ in Worship,  
teaches the Truth of Christ to those who follow Him, and shows the Way to Christ to those who do not know Him, all for the glory of God.*  
Purpose Statement of Bellevue Presbyterian Church

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December, 2017



**From the  
Pastor**

*Rev. JT Holderman*

This Advent season, we invite you to think worshipfully on the reality of Jesus' birth. Pastor Brad and I will be preaching through a series looking at "The Wonder of Christmas." Over five sermons we will dive into the prophecies surrounding Jesus' birth, the foretelling of Jesus' birth to Mary, Mary's Magnificat, the Incarnation, and the return of Christ. All this to say, the Scriptures are filled with unpacking the reality of Christmas. In particular, more than simply unpacking it, the Scriptures beg us to take great awe and wonder in the reality that the Christ became human. Jesus, the Son of God, entered into a lowly estate, a human body. The divine put on flesh. Here is a miracle for the ages. So this season, as we approach the manger, let's come with awe and wonder once more to the love of God for us in the birth of Jesus. Jesus was sent because God loves you. Here is wonder untold, that Christ comes to sinners, He comes to dispel our sin, He comes to fix our relationship with God, not by works, but by grace, and He comes to bring us eternal life. Is there anything more wondrous?

**COMMUNION SERVED**



We will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at both the 8:00 and 10:45 a.m. worship services and on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at the 8:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.



**PEQUEA VALLEY  
CHAMBER SINGERS  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>  
6:30 p.m.**

You are invited to attend a concert by the Pequea Valley Chamber Singers at Bellevue on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet at the *Welcome Center* if you would like to bake cookies for this event.

**CANTATA SUNDAY  
December 17<sup>th</sup>**

Join your brothers and sisters at both services on December 17<sup>th</sup> for a delightful service of worship through the gospel sung together. The choir will lead us in worship through the Cantata "Festival of Carols" by Joseph Martin. God has created music for His glory and we gather together for a special service to this end. We will join our voices for His praise.



**CHRISTMAS EVE  
WORSHIP SERVICES**

Since Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, we have a slightly different worship schedule. We will have one morning service on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. 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.

## 2017 Staff Christmas Gifts



As has been the tradition, the Session and the Personnel Committee are providing an opportunity to contribute to monetary gifts for the staff and Pastors of Bellevue. We are blessed to have such a competent staff, who are so willing to give of their time and talents for the glory of God and for the ministries at our church. If you wish to participate, please give your gift to **Linda Perella, by Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. You may pick up an envelope at the *Welcome Center*. These gifts will be presented at both services on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, Staff Recognition Sunday, when there will also be a special Coffee Hour in honor of the staff. Thank you.



## 2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES

You will soon find the 2018 offering envelopes in your church mailbox. All members will receive a numbered box of envelopes. If you are not a member but would like a box of envelopes, please let the church office know. Thank you to all who returned their pledge cards.

## MUSIC MINISTRY UPDATE

The Children's Choir (open to all singers grades K to 8) and New Life Ringers Bell Choir (open to any interested individuals grade 4 through adult) will resume again with rehearsals on the following **Wednesday evenings: December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup>**.

Wednesday evening schedule:

**New Life Ringers** – 5:30-6:15 p.m.

**Children's Choir** – 6:15-7:00 p.m.

Please contact Rob or Carol Shaubach with any questions. We hope to see many new singers and ringers – no prior experience necessary. Come join us in leading the congregation in the praise of our Lord.

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MOPS is held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. December 21<sup>st</sup> is our Christmas Party.



## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL WINTER QUARTER BEGINS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

We will be offering two classes for our Winter Quarter and we hope you will join us to grow in your relationship with Christ.

### The first class is **Remember Your Leaders: A History of Faithful Christian Witnesses.**

Join us this quarter to look at leaders of the Christian church throughout its history. Hebrews 13:7 commands us to “*Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.*” In this class we will be seeking to do just that, to look at specific leaders and see what in their faith we ought to imitate. We will look together at the lives of the Apostle Paul, Augustine, Martin Luther, Katherine Von Bora, John Calvin, Isaac Watts, Charles Spurgeon, Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, Cornelius Van Til, and JI Packer. Through brief biography, video, and discussion questions, we will explore how to be obedient to Hebrews 13:7. God has raised up leaders for the church to imitate in our faith. Join us as we seek this end. This class will be taught by JT Holderman, Adam Snyder, Josh Wolfe and Kim Holderman.

The second class we have to offer is **The Book of Esther**. The book of Esther has been called the most difficult book in the Bible to interpret. Yet Esther is an amazing woman living in very challenging circumstances in the history of the world. We will be digging into the book of Esther verse by verse, seeking to understand the truths of God in this fascinating historical narrative. We will be challenging ourselves to read, study, reread, and think together about how God was at work in a book in which God is never mentioned by name, no prophet appears to speak for God, and not one mention of God's word or law is referenced. And yet, as God's people are suffering in a foreign land, Esther's Uncle Mordecai utters the well-known words “*And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?*” (Esther 4:14) Join us each week as we roll up our sleeves and dig into God's word in Esther? This class will be taught by Ann Hagen and Brad Moger.



**KINGDOM KIDS**  
**Wednesday evenings**  
**6:30-7:30 p.m.**

## **DECEMBER YOUTH GROUPS**

Grades 7 to 12

**6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>** – \$20.00 deposit due for winter retreat  
**No Youth Group activities.** Come out and support your classmates at the Chamber Singers Concert.

**December 9<sup>th</sup>** – Triple T Events

11am - 2 p.m. – Triple T Girls – Cookie baking

4:00 p.m. – Triple T Boys– Hands of Service– details to follow

**December 17<sup>th</sup>** – Christmas Party

6-8 pm–Bring a friend and a \$5.00 humorous gift

**January 7<sup>th</sup>** - 6-8 p.m. – Youth groups

**“SAVE THE DATE”**

**January 19-21, 2018 – Winter Retreat @  
Camp Hebron**



There will be **NO** Kingdom Kids on December 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy the Christmas break with your family and loved ones. We look forward to seeing everyone back in the new year.

## **JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM**



Children's  
Christmas  
Program

This year's Children's Christmas Program is being held on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come see the children perform the "Journey to Bethlehem", looking at the different people who traveled to Bethlehem around the time of the birth of Jesus. There will be a cookie reception downstairs after the performance. A sign-up sheet can be found at the *Welcome Center* if you would like to donate cookies for the evening.

*Kevin Wenrich, Director of Children's Ministries*

## **CLUB 426**



On December 17<sup>th</sup> we will have our Club 426 Christmas party at the church from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. We will be baking Christmas cookies, doing a \$5.00 white elephant gift exchange, and lots of other fun activities. The youth group will join us for some of the activities. Everyone in 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade is invited to come out during this time as we celebrate Christmas together.

Club 426 will also meet on **November 19<sup>th</sup>** at the church from **5:30 – 6:30 p.m.** for our monthly onsite meeting. We will meet at the church for a time studying the Bible, playing games and eating a homemade dessert. We hope to see everybody in 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade at these two events.

## **NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE**

All articles for the **January, 2018 newsletter** are due in the office by **December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. If you have anything you would like included in the newsletter, you can place them in the mailbox at the church. Articles can also be forwarded via e-mail to [office@bellevuepc.org](mailto:office@bellevuepc.org) . Thank you.

If you have a change of address, phone number or email address, please notify the church office. You may drop a note in the office mailbox or send an email to [office@BellevueEPC.org](mailto:office@BellevueEPC.org).



The Bellevue Family Tree will be available on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

# CHATTERBOX

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My dearest Church Family,

Thank you abundantly for the cards, texts, emails, calls, flowers and dinners I have received from many of you. I have treasured each and every one of them and they have lifted my spirits greatly. Bellevue has been and will always be my dearest family as I have walked many roads with you and you have lifted us up in prayer in so many ways. After 40 years of serving the children's choir and watching those children grow and bring their children to choir, 27 years as your church organist (2<sup>nd</sup> longest behind Thelma Ostertag-LOL), assisting in worship, playing for weddings and funerals and other times of fellowship, and serving in the office for 17 years, it is hard to not be with you. My heart needed to heal and that required a change of lifestyle. I enjoyed being in ministry and appreciated the many gifts God has blessed me with to do the many things I could do and wanted to do. Because of my health, it was necessary for me to totally remove myself for a time so my body could heal. That has not been easy but your sentiments have been so helpful. I hope to be in worship sometime in the near future to see many of you. I pray for Bellevue and her leadership daily, I miss all of you, and I pray for ministry to continue at Bellevue, All for His Glory! Slava Bogu!

Louise Quillin

To my Secret Pal,

Thank you for the beautiful fall gift bag full of goodies. It is muchly appreciated.

In Christian Love,  
Vi Young

A big thank you to Vera Graham for faithfully serving Bellevue for many years, by taking care of the pew racks in the sanctuary. Vera has decided to "retire" from that position. Donna Law will now be serving in that capacity.

## SENIOR BIRTHDAYS

*(We celebrate with those who have reached 80 years!)*

- December 5<sup>th</sup> – Lois Patterson
- December 8<sup>th</sup> – Shirley Swayne
- December 21<sup>st</sup> – Erika Neidhardt



## OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy to Lee and Babe Coates in the loss of Lee's brother-in-law, Richard Rissmiller, on Sunday, November 5, 2017.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Bonnie Pryma on the loss of her father on Wednesday, November 8, 2017.

### CANCELLATION INFORMATION SUNDAYMORNINGS

In the event of inclement weather please check on the church website [www.bellevuepresbyterian.org](http://www.bellevuepresbyterian.org) for updated information or tune in your radio to **WDAC, FM94.5** or **WJTL, FM90.3**, TV station **WGAL-Lancaster**.

### WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

In the event of inclement weather – if school dismisses the students early or is closed due to bad weather (we will follow the Pequea Valley School schedule due to our location) **THERE WILL BE NO WEDNESDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES**.

For confirmation of this information, check the website.

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