

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

Volume LIV, Issue 6

www.BellevueEPC.org

March, 2019



**From the
Pastor**

Pastor JT Holderman

Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.(John 15:2)

Last week we looked at verse 4 and the promise of fruit for every person that abides in Christ. But two verses earlier, before the fruit ever arrives, Jesus declares that God does a hard work in us, a work of pruning.

Winter is still upon us, as it should be the end of February. But as this season ends gardeners everywhere will take to the outdoors to tidy up their property. One of those tasks will be pruning and pulling down dead branches. The act of pruning makes a plant healthier, redirecting energy to roots and healthy shoots and eventually flowers and fruit! Pruning is important.

But that doesn't mean for the plant that pruning feels good. It doesn't. Cutting or lopping something off is painful. But in a few months time the plant will thank you with its renewed health and bountiful beauty or harvest.

Friends, Jesus says that as we are branches connected to Him, the true vine, that we will be pruned. For every branch that bears fruit, or for every believer rooted in Christ, He will prune us. He will cut back areas in our lives that lead us away from Him. Every time He does, we will hurt.

Jesus has an eternal sovereign perspective. We do not. What He sees as necessary to prune for our continued worship and relationship with Him, we

often see as a good thing He has taken away. We don't know why Jesus had to prune that thing! But just like a good gardener, we can trust that He knows what needs pruning better than we do!

We have blind spots, or at least I do. Things we think are good but are actually hurting our healthy relationship with God. Thanks be that the Father, the true Vinedresser knows exactly how to cultivate us and prune back what is not beneficial for His glory in our lives and our good.

Where in your life is God pruning you right now? What is He taking away that feels painful? Can you trust Him that in the midst of His work on you that He has your best in mind? God loves and cares for you, He wants you to bear fruit, and He will go through any extreme to keep you fast on Him. He will hold you fast.

From Bellevue's Weekly Update Devotional. To receive Bellevue's weekly email update, please email the office or one of the Pastors.



COMMUNION SERVED

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Communion on Sunday, March 3rd at both the 8:00 a.m. and the 10:45 a.m. services.



**MIDWEEK LENTEN
LUNCH SERVICES
March 6th – April 10th
12:10 – 12:40 p.m.**

Join us Wednesdays in Lent beginning March 6th at 12:10pm for a service of worship and a luncheon to follow. This year's series is "The Suffering Servant, following Jesus to the Cross." Here's the schedule!

- March 6** – "His Betrayal" Pastor JT
- March 13** – "The Council" Pastor Brad
- March 20** – "The Denial" Steve Getty
- March 27** – "Delivered to Pilate" Kevin Wenrich
- April 3** – "Delivered to Suffering" Pastor JT
- April 10** – "Mocked" Pastor Brad



**LENTEN DISASTER
RELIEF OFFERING**

Each year during Lenten season Bellevue takes a special offering. It is to be given to an organization which helps in the rebuilding of disaster areas. In the past Bellevue has sent funds to Resurrection Brooklyn for Hurricane Sandy, Abu Saad for the desert people in Syria and last year to EPC Disaster Relief which the funds were used where needed. This year Bellevue will be sending your offering to Kevin Watterson with Reach Global and a supported missionary of Bellevue. Kevin is working in several locations across the United States and currently in North Carolina to begin rebuilding areas the flood waters destroyed. He also oversees teams in Texas, California, Florida, and his work in New Orleans is needed where his mission began.

SOFTBALL NEWS



Another season of Softball will soon be here and plans are getting underway for the 2019 season. All guys age 15 and older, are invited to be part of the team and we will hold our first informational meeting on **Sunday, March 3rd** following the 2nd worship service. If you have any questions please see Sam Smoker, Jr. Let's Play Ball!



**Adult Sunday School
Classes Revamped
Spring 2019**

The Adult Education Taskforce has been hard at work preparing the next two years of Adult Sunday School classes. We are trying to provide classes that cover the essentials of the Christian faith. This next Spring Quarter will offer two tracks. The first will be two 6 week classes: a) "How to Follow Jesus" taught by Frank and Sue Rotella, and b) "How to Meet With God and Grow" taught by Pastors Brad and JT. The second class will be an excellent Bible study on the book of Genesis taught by Paul Allison. We hope you will invest in your faith and relationship with the Lord by attending one of these classes for the quarter. Please pray for the teachers as they prepare!



**CLUB 426
UPCOMING EVENTS SCHEDULE**

Our first Club 426 meeting in March will be on March 17th and we will be heading to Skyzone for an afternoon of jumping around. We will be leaving from the church at 2:15 and the cost for the afternoon is \$15. Please sign up downstairs in the Kennedy room and fill out a waiver online if your child plans on attending.

Our second meeting will be our monthly meeting at the church on Sunday March 24th. Come join us for a fun time studying the Bible, playing games and enjoying a snack together.

EASTER

On April 13th we will be having an Easter egg hunt at the church for the children of Bellevue and the community. If your community group or you as an individual would like to help fill some of the eggs it would be greatly appreciated. There will be a sign-up sheet at the *Welcome Center*.



March 3rd – 5:30-8:00 pm
 “C&C” and “GTWB” Eat out
March 10th – 6:00-8:00 pm
 “Has Your Snowman Melted?”
March 17th – 5:45-8:30 pm
 Spooky Nook Rock Climbing Night.
March 24th – 6:00-8:00 pm
 Throwback Game Night!
March 31st – No YG

April 7th – 6:00-8:00 pm
 “What Would You Give Up for God?”
April 14th – 5:30-8:00 pm
 “C&C” and “GTWB”
April 21st – **NO** Youth Group
April 27th – 8:00 am -7:00 pm
 Tentative – Work Day
 Save the Date: June 25-29 Creation



**Regular Bible Study & Fellowship Time –
 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7:00 p.m. at 57 Peach
 Lane in Ronks.**

We will continue our regular gatherings - to be together, learn from God’s word, share concerns & needs, and plan service work from time to time.



To my Bellevue family & Deacons,
 Many, many thanks for the lovely assortment of valentine candy. I had a lovely visit with Carol Marble who delivered the sweet treat. I showed her around our beautiful facility that I call home.

Thank you,
 Verna Stoltzfus

From the Factory Ministries,
 The food during Thursday nights are like a family cooked dinner you would have at home. It’s like there is always a family waiting there to serve you!

Youth Center Teen

To the Bellevue Deacons and Dave Cole,
 Thanks very much for the Valentine gift. Very much appreciated.

Vera Graham

Dear Bellevue Family,

We thank you for your prayers, cards and calls we received upon the passing of our son, Peter. We feel your love. We also appreciated the beautiful altar flowers and the wonderful visit by Howard and Ellen Parmer. The Bible, donated by Bellevue Church, was greatly appreciated.

We sincerely thank you.
 Don and Mary Lou Rubincam

Thanks so much to the Deacons and John Emmons for stopping by with a “sweet” Valentine’s surprise. We were only sorry that we missed visiting with him as we were out of town that afternoon and didn’t get back until later that evening. Wilbur Buds are both Jim’s and my favorite candy and were very pleased that we were remembered. We’re both very glad that we have made Bellevue our church family and hope to be here for many years to come. I for one am especially glad to be part of Resounding Joy and the Senior choir and couldn’t have two better directors as Rob and Carol.

Donna Law

Hi,

So many ways of supporting us during these days when we grieve for the loss of our son, Paul. Thank you for the prayers, cards, and verbal expressions of sympathy. We were gifted with the altar flowers that we are still enjoying, we were touched by your kindness in donating a Bible in Paul’s memory and we appreciated and enjoyed a house visit from Howard and Ellen Parmer. God uses His earthly angels to minister to those in need. We are most appreciative!

In Him,
 Joan and John Esworthy

Thank you for everything! And for all you do for the Factory and thank you for providing food for us every Thursday! It is wonderful and the food is really good! May God bless all of you!

Youth Center Teen

Thank you so much for your monthly commitment of serving the teens at the Factory Youth Center. Thank you for trying new things! The chicken and waffles were a hit! We appreciate you.

The Factory Youth Center Staff
 Ebeth and Micah

Bellevue,

Thank you so very much deacons for the wonderful box of chocolates that I found on my desk when I arrived at work. It is so kind of you to remember me in the office.

Thanks also to the Youth Group for the delicious chocolate covered strawberries.

Blessings to all of you,
 Brenda Brackbill

Dear Deacons,

Thank you so much for the delicious box of candy sent to me for Valentine’s Day. It was truly appreciated, and I am sure my family and friends will enjoy eating it with me.

Happy Valentine’s Day, with many blessings!
 Sally Slaymaker

CHATTERBOX

SENIOR BIRTHDAYS

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

Maynard Engel – March 6
Harrison House of Christiana
41 Newport Ave. Room 203A
Christiana, PA 17509

Joan Esworthy – March 25
112 N Christiana Avenue
Gap, PA 17527



OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

We extend our sincere sympathy to:

The family of Don and Mary Lou Rubincam on the passing of their son, Peter.

The family of John and Joan Esworthy on the passing of their son, Paul.

The Weimer family on the passing of their mother, Nancy Weimer.



Sunday, March 10th, Daylight Savings Time begins. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLE DEADLINE

All articles for the **April 2019 newsletter** are due in the office by Monday, **March 25th**. 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@bellevueepc.org. Thank you.

CANCELLATION INFORMATION SUNDAY MORNINGS

In the event of inclement weather please check on the church website www.bellevuepresbyterian.org for updated information or tune in your radio to **WDAC, WJTL**, TV station **WGAL-Lancaster**.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

PV cancelled – **ALL** Bellevue activities cancelled
PV delayed – only morning events cancelled
PV early dismissal – **All** evening events cancelled
Sunday – check the website, WGAL & WDAC



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Bellevue Presbyterian Church

810 Newport Avenue
Gap, PA 17527

Phone Number:

717-442-4077

Fax Number:

717-442-4622

JT Holderman

PastorJT@BellevueEPC.org

Brad Moger

PastorBrad@BellevueEPC.org

Office e-mail

Office@BellevueEPC.org

Kevin Wenrich

Kevin.Wenrich@BellevueEPC.org