

In This Issue:

Upcoming Events:
pages 3, 7

Committee News:
pages 3-4, 9

Celebrations:
page 4

Community News:
pages 4-9

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS

We all have our favorite Christmas songs and carols that we love to hear and sing at this time of year. Some are quite old, some are new. A few years ago, Amy Grant had a popular hit written by David Foster called “Grown Up Christmas List.” Perhaps you know it:

Do you remember me?

I sat upon your knee

I wrote to you

With childhood fantasies

Well, I'm all grown-up now

Can you still help somehow?

I'm not a child

But my heart still can dream

So here's my lifelong wish

My grown-up Christmas list

Not for myself

But for a world in need

No more lives torn apart

That wars would never start

And time would heal all hearts

Every man would have a friend

That right would always win

And love would never end

This is my grown-up Christmas list

This song originally came out 35 years ago, but it still expresses a very powerful longing in so many hearts today. There are things we desperately want; indeed – we need them. During this Advent and Christmas season we will be exploring some common aspirations during our times of worship. The first Sunday of Advent the message will be “All I Want For Christmas Is For God To Show Up.” Week two will be “All I Want Is Some Good News.” On December 15th we will have a special musical presentation that will focus on hope. The fourth Sunday of Advent will be “All I Want For Christmas Is a New Beginning.” And, on Christmas Eve the message will focus on “All I Want Is Someone to Believe In.” Included with these all December long will be familiar and favorite carols, Christmas songs, and hymns.

Throughout the season both the traditional and contemporary services will be offered, with two exceptions.

continued on page 2

continued from page 1

On the 15th, when we have the special musical program, we will have a combined service at 10:30 a.m. On the last Sunday of December (the 29th), we will likewise have a single combined service at 10:30 a.m. The first Sunday of the New Year we'll be back to our regular Sunday morning schedule.

So, let me encourage you to come out and celebrate the birth of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. And be sure to invite a friend or neighbor, who may be spiritually searching or is looking for a new church home. People, in general, are very open to such an invitation during the Christmas season.

Let me share two additional opportunities for us this Christmas. First, our Missions and Outreach Team is partnering with BV West Elementary School to help 5 needy families from our area have a nice Christmas this year. A display with explanations will be up in Fellowship Hall beginning Sunday, December 1st. We ask that all items requested be returned no later than Monday, December 16, so that the school resource officer will be able to distribute them to the respective families before Christmas. Let's shine Christ's love for these families this Christmas!

Lastly, a Children's Christmas Party is being planned for Saturday, December 21 to be held in our educational wing. This is open to Bellpoint preschoolers through elementary age children. The purpose is to give parents an opportunity to do any last minute Christmas shopping or preparation with greater ease. The party will run from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., although children may be picked up as early as 1:00 p.m. We will provide a variety of activities, crafts, games, snacks, and entertainment. Please RSVP by December 15 through the church office. (This is a pilot program that we hope to offer the greater community next year.) Of course, parents are welcome to stay for the party if they'd like to.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Pastor Paul



Contact Us

740.369.5956

office@bellpointchurch.com

bellpointchurch.com

Pastor Paul McCullough

pastor@bellpointchurch.com

Connect with us on
Facebook!

facebook.com/bellpoint

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Upcoming Events

December 5

Sisters in Faith Ornament and
Cookie Exchange
6:30 p.m.

December 8

Hymn Sing
8:30 a.m.

December 15

Christmas Music Service on
Hope
10:30 a.m.

December 20

Worship & Prayer Night
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

December 21

Children's Christmas Party
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Worship Services

Traditional Service - 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School - 9:35 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Contemporary Service - 10:30 a.m.

K-4th graders, come join us in Bible Adventures during second service, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Please note, we will have a combined service at 10:30 a.m. on December 15 and December 29.

Bellpoint Community Church Groups

(all groups meet at church unless otherwise stated)

- **Adult and Youth Sunday School:** Sunday Mornings, 9:35 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- **Men's Bible Study:** Every other Monday, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Contact Pastor Paul for additional information.
- **Sunday Women's Bible Study:** Every other Sunday, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the McCullough home. Contact Lori McCullough for additional information.
- **Monday Women's Bible Study:** Mondays, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- **Bible Study Book Group:** The second and fourth Thursdays of the month, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- **Teen Disciples** (6th - 12th grades): Sundays from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- **Emerging Adults** (high school seniors through 30s): Contact Kelly Solli for additional information.

December Birthdays

Dec 3	Sandra Davis
Dec 7	Bonnie Freshwater Jason Haney
Dec 11	Bryce Kuhn Jackson Clark
Dec 12	Sue Spessard
Dec 17	Christine Webb
Dec 19	Andy Drake
Dec 20	Avah Wirz Pete Finley Mike Ritchie
Dec 22	Nancy Burtch
Dec 24	Terry Williams
Dec 31	William Emlich

Happy Anniversary

December 8

Dorsey & Linda Gilliam
65 years

December 16

Dominic & Kelly Solli
7 years

December 19

Paul & Lori McCullough
37 years

December 20

Todd & Becky Miller
27 years



Coat Drive

The Thursday Night Bible Study Book Group is having a kids coat drive through **Sunday, December 15th**.



- ♦ The collected coats will be passed on to Delaware People in Need (PIN) for distribution.
- ♦ Donations are being accepted at the church in a bin near the office.

Teen Disciples

December 15th: The Teen Disciples Christmas Party will be held on December 15th. Hope to see you there!

Bellpoint Kids Christmas Party

All Bellpoint kids are welcomed to celebrate the Christmas season with crafts, games, music, pizza, Christmas cookies, and a Christmas movie!

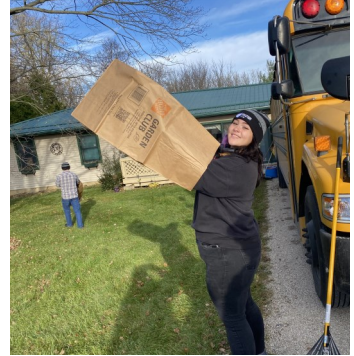
- ♦ Saturday, December 21st at Bellpoint in the Children's Wing from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- ♦ Drop off: 10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Festivities: 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Pick up: 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- ♦ For current Bellpoint kids, Preschool - 5th grade. Must be potty trained or have a parent/guardian present.
- ♦ RSVP by December 15th to office@bellpointchurch.com
- ♦ We need volunteers! If interested, please email office@bellpointchurch.com or contact Brenna Coughlin.

Children's Council

- ♦ **Bible Adventures** - Kiddos in K-4, after the opening worship music during second service we head down to our room. Anyone interested in helping in any capacity can see Susan Ritchie for more details. It is not your average Children's Church, it's an Adventure!
- ♦ **Nursery Volunteers** - Thanks to all who have stepped up to play with and minister to our littlest ones! If you are not yet on the list and would like to be, please see Susan Ritchie to sign up.

Thank You!

A special thank you to all those who helped complete outdoor chores for three senior residences within our county. Fourteen members of our congregation spent the morning raking leaves, cleaning out flowerbeds and gardens, trimming trees, transplanting bushes, and washing windows. It was wonderful to meet those for which we made an impact as well as spending quality time with one another. Please consider joining us next year to serve and reach out to our community during Make a Difference Delaware!





POINSETTIAS

Help celebrate the Birth of Christ and enliven the look of Bellpoint Community Church. Order poinsettias in honor or memory of someone special to you. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia and place it in the Sanctuary for use in decorating the church through Christmas Eve, please fill out this form and place it, **with your check**, in the offering plate. You can also order online at bellpointchurch.com/flower-order-form/. The deadline for placing your order is **December 15th**. The cost is \$9 each.

I would like to order _____ (enter number of poinsettias).

These flowers are **In Honor of**, or **In Memory of** (*please circle*). *Please feel free to add a sentiment if you would like.*

Upcoming Events - Save the Date!

Thursday, December 5th - **Sisters in Faith Christmas Cookie and Ornament Exchange** - 6:30 p.m. (see page 9 for details)

Sunday, December 8th - **Hymn Sing** - during 8:30 a.m. service

Sunday, December 15th - **Christmas Music Service on Hope** - 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 18th - **Children's Council Meeting** - 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday, December 20th - **Worship & Prayer Night** - 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 21st - **Bellpoint Kids Christmas Party** - 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, December 24th - **Christmas Eve Services** - 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, January 15th - **Children's Council Meeting** - 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday, January 17th - **Worship & Prayer Night** - 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon

Thank you to all who helped with food and worked at the Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon held on November 21st! We had a good turnout and the leftovers went to the Concord Fire Department. A special thank you also to Elva Swearengen for the many years of calling senior citizens and getting a headcount for the luncheon!



Prayer Requests

- ♦ **Juanita** – sepsis
- ♦ **Monroe** – seven-year-old with brain cancer
- ♦ **Jamie** – recovering from falling from a tree
- ♦ **Barbara** – neurological issues and brain trauma (Spellman)
- ♦ **Linda** – diagnosed with cancer (Norm's sister)
- ♦ **Bill** – diagnosed with cancer (Spellman)
- ♦ **Cheryl** – diagnosed with Alzheimer's (Spellman)
- ♦ **Wendy** – stage 4 breast cancer (Spellman)
- ♦ **Penny** – undergoing chemo (Miller)



Prayer Chain

Are you looking for a way to serve Bellpoint Community Church and our community? Prayer is a powerful way to make an important difference in someone's life. The Prayer Chain is always looking for new members for this vital ministry, so please call the church office if you are interested.

If you hear of a concern or praise there are multiple ways to share the information with our Prayer Chain:

- ♦ Complete a paper prayer request located on the back of each chair and drop in an offering bag or one of the clear boxes in the entrances to the fellowship hall and sanctuary.
- ♦ Contact Brooke Williams, the church office manager, by phone at 740-369-5956 or by email at office@bellpointchurch.com.
- ♦ Post to the online prayer wall at bellpointchurch.com/prayer-wall.

Sisters in Faith

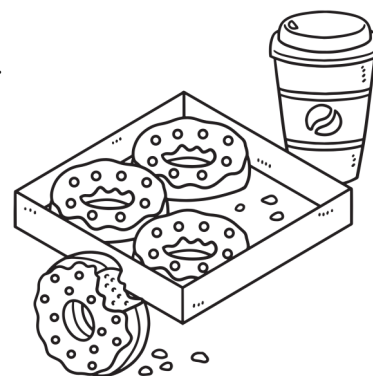
Christmas Ornament and Cookie Exchange

- ♦ Date: **Thursday, December 5th at 6:30 p.m.**
- ♦ Each person needs to bring 1 Christmas ornament and 2 dozen cookies to share
- ♦ Cookies and punch will be provided



Friendship Table

Don't forget about our Friendship Table on the **second** and **fourth** Sundays each month! Enjoy some coffee, juice or milk, and a donut, etc. during Sunday School or before the worship services. Please keep all food and beverages in the Fellowship Hall or in your Sunday School room (if your teacher is okay with it). **There is a sign-up sheet available in Fellowship Hall** if you'd like to sign up to provide for the Friendship Table. It is intended to be just a light snack, not a full breakfast, so anyone could do it!



Veterans Celebration

Thank you again to all of our veterans celebrated on November 10th!



The Peal

If you do not have access to the internet or email, or simply prefer to have a hard copy mailed to you each month, please contact Brooke Williams, the church office manager at 740-369-5956 or by email at office@bellpointchurch.com.

Just a Reminder...

Please email all articles, pictures, and content for the January Peal to Rachel Kapraly at peal@bellpointchurch.com by **Thursday, December 26th**. Thank you in advance for your assistance!