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HEARING FROM GOD THIS CHRISTMAS

In his wonderful Christmas song, “*Welcome to Our World*”, Chris Rice’s opening stanza expresses many of our thoughts and feelings so poignantly:

*Tears are falling, hearts are breaking
How we need to hear from God
You’ve been promised, we’ve been waiting
Welcome Holy Child, welcome Holy Child*

There is so much going on in our world and our own lives that worries us and makes us wonder. We see and feel things that deflate us and indeed break our hearts and sometimes – make us doubt. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if God would speak to us in our current circumstances? Does He have a word for us this Advent and Christmas Season? I’m confident that He does!

For this very reason I want to encourage you to join us over the next four weeks as we prepare to welcome Jesus anew into our world. Beginning with the first Sunday in Advent, we’ll be journeying through a series called “*Brought to The Light*”. Each week we’ll encounter a new, life-giving facet of His Light. We’ll experience the **Hope** He offers. We’ll come to know His **Peace** in the midst of chaos and anxiety. We’ll be surprised by His **Joy**. And renewed in His measureless **Love**.

So, plan to join us as we journey to His Light, and why not invite a friend along? It’s true that people who are closed to God much of the time are far more open to Him during this Christmas season and may respond to an invitation to come to worship. You never know, how God might use something so simple as an invitation in the life of another person.

ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- ♦ **Combined Services:** A few times during Advent and Christmastide we’ll have a combined service: November 30th, December 14th, and December 28th.
- ♦ **Special Musical Service:** As noted above, we will have a combined service on Sunday, December 14th when we have our Special Musical Service.

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- ♦ **Regular Worship Times.** The 8:30 and 10:30 Worship times will remain the same for December 7th, 21st, and January 4th, and continue on into 2026.
- ♦ **Children's Christmas Party.** December 6th from 10:00 a.m. – Noon. We had such a great response last year, we're going to offer it again. Please, pass the word along and invite friends and neighbors **age 3 through 5th Grade.** We'll have crafts, games, music, a special Christmas Story, and snacks/treats. RSVPs are encouraged. Please notify the church office at 740-369-5956.
- ♦ **Local Outreach.** Last year our congregation reached out through Buckeye Valley West Elementary School and helped 5 families celebrate Christmas. We're doing that again this year! Through December 14th, you'll have opportunity **to share the love of Christ with a needy family in our community.** Look for the display in Fellowship Hall. All donations must be wrapped and labeled and returned to the church by Sunday, December 14th. Thank you in advance for making this a successful outreach once again!
- ♦ **Christmas Eve Services.** Christmas Eve Services will be at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Merry Christmas,

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 4

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

December 6

Children's Christmas Party
10:00 a.m. - Noon

December 19

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

December 24

Christmas Eve Services
5:00 p.m. & 7:00 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 one combined worship service at 10:30 a.m. on the following Sundays: December 14th and December 28th.

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. Location varies.
- **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.

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 16
Dominic & Kelly Solli
8 years

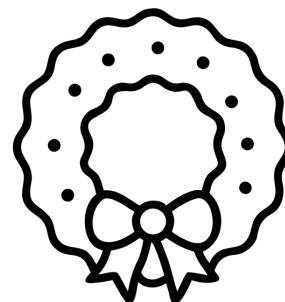
December 19
Paul & Lori McCullough
38 years

December 20
Todd & Becky Miller
28 years



Wreaths Across America

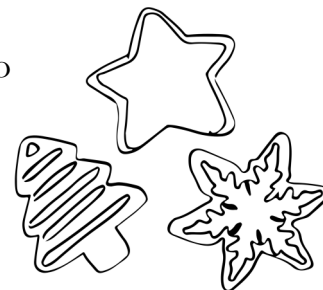
We want to thank Bellpoint Church for supporting "Wreaths Across America" again this year. Everyone is invited to attend the short program highlighting the laying of the wreaths and the Wreaths Across America organization. This event will be held on **December 13th** at Oak Grove Cemetery near the Liberty Road entrance at 12:00 noon. Please join us for this short presentation and wreath laying service. Thanks again for your support and look forward to seeing everyone there.



-Larry Hopper

Christmas Ornament and Cookie Exchange

All ladies of the church are invited to join us on **Thursday, December 4th at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall.



Each person needs to bring 1 Christmas ornament wrapped or in a gift bag and 2 dozen cookies to share. Punch and snacks will be provided.

Jamaica Hurricane Relief

For those looking to give financially to those impacted by the hurricane in Jamaica, please visit <https://w3cu.com/give> and select "Jamaica Hurricane Relief" from the dropdown menu. Thank you for your prayers and support!

Prayer Requests

- ♦ **Ken May** – in the hospital with fluid on his lungs
- ♦ **Margie West** – her sister is having some health problems and she would appreciate prayer for an anonymous request as well
- ♦ **Lori Justice** – having a biopsy
- ♦ **Cord Lehman** – going through a transition and needs prayer
- ♦ **Leslie** – needs a job
- ♦ **Stacy Sayer** – her father has shingles
- ♦ **Gary Davis** – recovering from surgery
- ♦ **The Persecuted Church in Nigeria & China**
- ♦ **Zhang** – laid off and needs a job
- ♦ **David** – radiation treatment
- ♦ **Nancy** – recurrence of cancer (West)
- ♦ **John** – struggling with homelessness
- ♦ **Colt** – little boy with stage four liver cancer
- ♦ **Doreen** – in hospice care (West)
- ♦ **Jerry** – stage four cancer (May)
- ♦ **Friend of Jody Miller's** – cancer
- ♦ **Kathy** – in hospice care
- ♦ **Debbie** – cancer
- ♦ **Jake** – brain cancer (McCullough)
- ♦ **Mike** – nerve damage in his brain
- ♦ **Cindy** – kidney failure (West)
- ♦ **Carl** – cancer recurrence
- ♦ **Mark** – cancer
- ♦ **Cindy's Dad** – cancer
- ♦ **John** – lung cancer (Webb)



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 plate 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.



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 14th**. The cost is \$10 each.

I would like to order _____ 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 4th - **Sisters in Faith Christmas Ornament & Cookie Exchange** - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 6th - **Children's Christmas Party** - 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Saturday, December 13th - **Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony** - Noon at Oak Grove Cemetery

Sunday, December 14th - **Special Musical Service** - 10:30 a.m.

Friday, December 19th - **Worship & Prayer Night** - 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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

Senior Thanksgiving Luncheon

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the luncheon. We had another successful dinner and served 80 people. The leftovers went to the Concord Fire Department.

-Kelly Williams

Sisters in Faith



News from Bellpoint Bible Adventure Time!

We are so excited about the coming of the Advent season to our Bible Adventure time! We will be traveling around the world to learn what Christians in other countries do to celebrate the birth of our LORD and Savior, Jesus Christ. We will also hear and talk about some of the things that happened when Jesus arrived here on earth. Please feel free to come join us anytime during our celebration! Below is an outline of what we are planning to do each Sunday of Advent and the last Sunday of 2025!



November 30th – “Get Ready”- God’s people return from being slaves – Nehemiah 8-10; Malachi 1, 3, and 4; Ezra 7

- ♦ Make Christmas cards for “shut-ins,” use ink stamps – share the joy and excitement of Jesus coming
- ♦ Begin decorating our Christmas tree; Why a Christmas tree?
- ♦ Argentina – cotton ball snow on the tree
- ♦ Poland – Peanut Raisin cookies – Kara Haney

December 7th – “He’s Here!” – Joseph and Mary – Luke 1 - 2

- ♦ China – make paper chains for the tree
- ♦ Russia – “Pryaniki” – Vicki Kidd

December 14th – “The Light of the Whole World” – Shepherds – Luke 2

- ♦ Denmark – gold star on tree
- ♦ Switzerland – “Zimtsterne,” star cookies – Jessica Ulmer-West
- ♦ Sing Christmas carols with musical instruments

December 21st – “King of all Kings” – The Wise Men – Matthew 2

- ♦ Gifts under the tree; Why do we do this?
- ♦ Also, place nativity scene near tree (Italy)
- ♦ Ukraine – bread with candle – Dianne May

December 28th – Simeon and Anna at the Temple

- ♦ Birthday cake – Lori McCullough
- ♦ Games

Bellpoint Community Church
invites you to

A CHILDREN'S
CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY, December 6TH

From 10:00-Noon

Activities Include:

***Crafts**

***Games**

***Story Time**

***Music**

***Snacks**



(Open to children grades Pre-K through 5th)

This is a free event!

**RSVP no later than Wednesday,
December 3rd @ 740-369-5956**

4771 SR 257 S. Delaware, OH 43015

Christmas Love Gift for Our Pastor & Staff

As Christmas approaches, we invite our church family to join together in giving a special love gift to bless our pastor and staff. They pour so much of themselves into our ministry all year long, and this is our opportunity to show our gratitude for their faithful service.

If you feel led to give, please place your gift or check in the collection plate marked “Love Gift,” or give it directly to me.

Thank you for your generosity and for supporting those who serve us so faithfully.

-Bob Himes

Request

A thank you and request to all who make donations to church events such as food - please be sure to label anything left in the kitchen so we know what it is for or if it is meant to be used by anyone in the church. Thank you!

Nursey Volunteers Needed

We are seeking volunteers to serve in the Nursey during second service. If available, please contact Jody Miller or Pastor Paul. In compliance with our Safe Sanctuary Policy we do ask that all volunteers complete a short, free online training from our GMC Conference called Ministry Safe. Free background checks will also be requested.

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 Kaprally at peal@bellpointchurch.com by **Friday, December 26th**. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

