



February, 2017

BEULAH BEACON

Transforming lives as we seek, share, and serve God.

HAPPY FEBRUARY!

It is the shortest month; the month for ground hogs, valentines, and presidents. If you are reading the Bible through in the year as Bishop Lewis has challenged us, you know that the readings for February will start with Leviticus. I have chosen to connect on the internet with www.biblegateway.com and listen to The Message, as I follow along in the Bible. You may recall that much of the Old Testament was first an oral history before it was written down. It has been interesting to listen to the story. I am so used to reading the Bible that it presents itself in a different light. It also helps me with the names of the people that I have been mispronouncing all these years! It is also good for me to follow along with the Lord's blessings and guidance from one generation to the next; it is a reminder that the Lord remembers His blessing to us and keeps His promises along the way.

God uses imperfect people to do His will, just like he does with us. God uses us to bring about blessings to all of mankind. We serve a God who is loving and gracious, who is caring and faithful. Although we are not anywhere near like God, He still uses us to carry forward His love to all those around us.

When I look back over the last forty-one and a half years of being a pastor, I wonder, why did he call me? I know my faults and my shortcomings. I know my mistakes and errors and wonder why I am still His servant. Then when I read the scriptures, I am reminded that God does not call us to be perfect, He calls us to be faithful. He is certainly faithful to me and He is faithful to you. When I read the stories of the imperfect people God has blessed, I know there is hope for us.

One of the ways we can share in the blessings the Lord has given us is to help with the food distribution at Hopkins Road Elementary on the first Saturday at 7:30 am. There are at least four area churches that do the bulk of this and we are one of the four. I invite you to join us on February 4 or any first Saturday of the month and see for yourself.

On February 17, there will be a Sing-piration at Webber Baptist Church, as a benefit for the Chesterfield Food Bank. Area musicians join together to praise the Lord with their gifts of music and have a great time of fellowship. I hope you will join us.

In Him, Pastor Keith Mottley

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you... for if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?" Matthew 5: 44a, 46

Jesus reminds us that love is not easy. To love an enemy requires one to put aside one's own agenda and live according to God's example. So the question for us is... How do we begin to love our enemies?

During my exercise each morning I like to listen to contemporary Christian music. One song in particular speaks to how to begin the act of loving our enemies. The name of the song is *Brother (Open Up Our Eyes)* by Seth and Nirva. The song reminds me "when I look into the eyes of my enemy, I see my brother".

In this month when many are focused on sharing expressions of love to family and friends, I ask you to consider praying for your enemies and offering love to those who do not love you. May the day come when we are all brothers and sisters together and enemies no longer exist.

Listen to this wonderful song by visiting <https://youtu.be/uutvC5kmAl8>.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Marti

PRAYER CALANDER:

United Methodist Women have been making quilts for the youth served by Cunningham Children's Home for more than 120 years. One night while I was reading a bedtime story to one of our younger boys, he asked, "Would you tuck me in and say a Prayer?" As I pulled the quilt up around him I felt the presence of the many loving hands that had made his quilt. You were there, all the amazing women who have stitched love and prayers into the fabric of our kids' lives. I whispered a prayer, "God bless the children and the special women who made this quilt." Gay King Crede, chaplain, Cunningham Children's Home, Urbana, Illinois

Please pray for our missionaries in Mongolia, China, Nepal and Taiwan and those serving at home in Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

LECTIONARY:

Feb 05 – Isaiah 58:1-9

Psalm 112:1-10

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Matthew 5:13-20

Feb 12 – Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 119:1-8

1 Corinthians 3-9

Matthew 5:21-37

Feb 19 – Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Psalm 119:33-40

1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

Matthew 5:38-48

Feb 26 – Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm 99

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

COMMUNION OFFERING:

Heart Havens

Learn more at www.hearthavens.org

FAITH BUILDER:

We please Him most, not by frantically trying to make ourselves good, but by throwing ourselves into his arms with all our imperfections and believing that He understands everything – and still loves us.

— A.W. Tozer

THE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

February 01 Leviticus 1-4

February 02 Leviticus 5-7

February 03 Leviticus 8-10

February 04 Leviticus 11-13

February 05 Leviticus 14-15

February 06 Leviticus 16-18

February 07 Leviticus 19-21

February 08 Leviticus 22-23

February 09 Leviticus 24-25

February 10 Leviticus 26-27

February 11 Numbers 1-2

February 12 Numbers 3-4

February 13 Numbers 5-6

February 14 Numbers 7

February 15 Numbers 8-10

February 16 Numbers 11-13

February 17 Numbers 14-15

February 18 Numbers 16-17

February 19 Numbers 18-20

February 20 Numbers 21-22

February 21 Numbers 23-25

February 22 Numbers 26-27

February 23 Numbers 28-30

February 24 Numbers 31-32

February 25 Numbers 33-34

February 26 Numbers 35-36

February 27 Deuteronomy 1-2

February 28 Deuteronomy 3-4

HEART HAVENS

In 1993, a parent of an adult with a developmental disability in Virginia asked her United Methodist pastor a very simple question: "Where will my child live when I'm gone?" That question exposed the real and urgent need for residential services for people with a developmental disability in Virginia. As a result of that question, the Virginia United Methodist Conference Commission on Ministry to Persons with Handicapping Conditions (now the Commission on Disabilities) began researching the possibility of developing residential services for adults with a developmental disability. Heart Havens was born out of those studies, and the very first Heart Havens home (our Macleigh-Holland home) opened in Virginia Beach in 1999. Though we now operate independently from the Virginia United Methodist Conference, the Christian principles of our founding are very much in place.

Heart Havens is a nonprofit organization that provides residential support to adults with a developmental disability, but it's so much more than a roof and a bed. We empower people to discover what they love and pursue their hopes and dreams. Big or small, we support people as they find a way to make their goals and dreams happen. We use a person-centered process to ensure that everyone we support is living their best life, being a part of the community in the ways they truly want and making decisions for themselves every day. Heart Havens is licensed by the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services and is an approved Medicaid provider. We were founded by the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, though we now operate independently from the Virginia Conference under the direction of a Board of Directors. However, the Christian principles of our mission are very much in place.

Their mission and vision is to empower adults with a developmental disability to live and thrive in a safe and nurturing environment and to be the premier provider of person-centered supports for people with a developmental disability throughout Virginia.

VIRGINIA U. M. ADVOCATE

We have six United Methodist schools in Virginia educating strong lay and clergy leaders for our conference, even though some of the students enter with no religious preference. Under the guidance of the chaplain at each school, students learn to serve others in the name of Christ, and for many, it is their first encounter with the work of the church. The cover articles in the January issue highlight what each school is doing to build disciples, including a Ferrum College team assisting the same family in Waverly that Beulah has served. This issue includes a letter from a pastor in an area that will be negatively impacted by a pipeline and commentary about declining church membership and finances. (Are our churches ready for the graduates of our schools?)

Our annual subscription campaign continues through Sunday, February 19. Look for details in your weekly bulletins.

Barbara Tuttle, Beulah's Advocate Representative

BEULAH'S BEST

Beulah's Best will meet Monday, February 20, at 10:00 am. Our program vocalist will be Ronnie Harris ("Little Ronnie"). Come and join in this amazing program.

MARY FARMER CIRCLE

Mary Farmer Circle will meet **Tuesday, February 14**, at 11:00am (note time change) for a valentine luncheon. Please bring a side dish. Meat and dessert will be furnished.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

Starts **Wednesday, February 8**, at 6pm, in the Fellowship Hall. Please fill out a yellow slip and place in the offering plate if you plan to attend, or call Nancy Dyckes at 804-743-9798 by noon on Tuesday.

BFL

Mark your calendar for **Friday, February 10**, at 12 noon, for *Breakfast for Lunch* (BFL) in the Fellowship Hall. Have a heart: bring your "sweetie", neighbor, or best friend, and join us for live entertainment and BFL. Reserve your table in THE BOOK at the Volunteer's Desk, noting if you will need transportation. Looking forward to seeing you. The Senior Council.

CALLING ALL WOMEN TO THE HEARTS FOR JUSTICE TEA

The annual UMW Hearts for Justice Tea will be on **Saturday, February 11**, at Mechanicsville UMC, 7356 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville. Beth Nolan, "KIDS COUNT" Director at VOICES will speak on Children in Poverty. Bring your favorite teacup or mug. Various teas & delicious finger foods will be served. Registration begins at 10:15 am, and the program will be 10:30 am -12:30 pm. We will carpool from Beulah at 9:45 am. Pre-registration is not required, and all women are invited.

BIRTHDAY'S FOR FEBRUARY

- 02- CT Abernathy, Betsy Q Forbes, Mark Pitts, Marvin Waldrop
- 03- Kayla Loftin, Robert Warren
- 04- Mary Love Walston
- 05- Skip Mulligan
- 06- Chase Coltrain, Eric Cunningham, Rebecca Jones, Allen Mason
- 07- Nicole Dudley, Courtney Harper, Cathy Keller, Robert Mays
- 08- William Dunnivant Jr., Nancy Kiger
- 09- Brent Martin, Nancy Snow
- 10- Donia Hosn
- 11- Buddy Jones, Gladys Roberts
- 12- Caryl Harris, Melinda Leonard, Richard Watlers Jr.
- 13- Melinda Manz, Corey Riley, Phyllis Throckmorton
- 15- Carolyn Salmon
- 18- Joanne Barreca, Peggy O'Brien
- 19- Betsy Betzold, Debbie Bowles, Christine Quaiff
- 20- Bob Childrey, Riley Turner
- 21- Betty Scavone
- 22- David Dudley, Renee Hancock, Jane Spain
- 23- Allen Hancock, Grace Stanearth
- 24- Richard Arnold, Randy Ramey
- 25- Joyce Quaff, Tanya Worsham
- 26- Virginia Rosen
- 27- Gloria Bradmon, Solomon Ogunware, Nicole Sandy, Jean Welch
- 28- Samantha Newman, John Sarrett, Cindy Staeart
- 29- Jeanne Hensel

DATES TO REMEMBER:

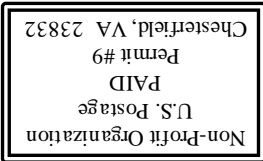
- Feb 03** - Mariners Diner
- Feb 07** - Green Acres Garden Club
- Feb 08** - Hugging Hearts
- Feb 10** - Senior Luncheon
Friday Nite Live
- Feb 12** - Crusaders Lunch
Mission Meeting
- Feb 14** - Mary Farmer Circle
Finance Meeting
- Feb 15** - Circle of Love
Wesleyan Stratton
- Feb 16** - Rebekah Fellowship
- Feb 19** - Outreach Meeting
Education Meeting
Concert for Foodbank
- Feb 20** - Beulah's Best
- Feb 21** - Prayer Shawl
UMM Dinner
Ruth Robertson Friendship
- Feb 22** - Hugging Hearts
- Feb 28** - Admin Board Meeting

- Mon. 10am:** Men's Bible Study
- Thur. 10am:** Women's Bible Study
- Wed. 6pm:** Wednesday Night Dinner

Return Service Requested

Beulah United Methodist Church
6930 Hopkins Road
N. Chesterfield, VA 23234

**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE DELIVERY**



 **FRIDAY NITE LIVE**

Friday, February 10, at 7:00 pm is Friday Nite Live. Join us for this special Love edition of our praise celebration as we come together to worship God. This month Pastor Marti will be speaking. All are welcome!

THE 
CRESTMEN

The Crestmen are a Southern Gospel Quartet from the heart of the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. A love offering will be taken. Join us **Sunday, February 5**, at the 8:30 am and 11:00 am service.