



January, 2017

BEULAH BEACON

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

HAPPY NEW YEAR BEULAH!

What a year we have had and what a year 2017 is going to be. First of all let me say THANK YOU to all of you for what you have done for the Lord here at Beulah. Those of you who have the gift of teaching, continue to teach. Those who have the gift of cooking continue to prepare dishes for our Wednesday Night Suppers, Sunday Café, funeral receptions, Senior lunches, and Beulah's Best meetings, to just name a few things. Those who have the gift of administration continue to lead the different committees at Beulah. Those who have the gift of working with your hands continue to trim the shrubs, fix the toilets, take down and set up for Friday Nite Live, drive the van so folks can get here to worship and other events. There are those of you who do things outside the ministries of Beulah serve as the church in the community by delivering Meals on Wheels, work long hours for Christmas Mother, go on mission trips to rebuild homes and such.

These are just a few of the ways you serve the Lord and I want you to know that I appreciate what you do (even if I did not list your service here). I hope you will continue to serve Him as you do.

I also want to say thank you for those who have supported Marti as the transition of the Associate Pastor's position made a quick change. Neither Will nor Marti had planned on making a transition this year and both of their lives were disrupted in drastic fashion as they took on new challenges that were not expected this time last year.

I want to also say thank you for the GREAT staff you have here at Beulah. These are so wonderful gifted people who serve the Lord with compassion and grace. I am so blessed to serve the Lord with such dedicated Christians.

I hope that as we move into 2017, you will join me in being thankful for those around you, spend more time reading and studying the Bible, spend more time in prayer, look for ways to give witness of your faith to those around you, attend worship and Sunday school more than before, give more of your finances to the Lord's ministry, and look for more ways to serve the Lord as you have never served Him before.

Join me in continuing to serve the Lord here at Beulah.

In His service, **Pastor Keith**

POWER OF SILENCE

According to the Environmental Protection Agency 183 million people are regularly exposed to noise levels labeled as excessive. The noise levels are increasing faster than the population has increased. Noise is everywhere. We listen to music in our cars, restaurants have TV's, we are exposed to construction noise, highway traffic sounds, sirens, airplanes and so much more.

Filmmakers reported that in 1968 it would take 15 hours of recording outside to produce 1 hour of nature sounds absent of manmade sounds. Today it is reported that it takes 2000 hours of recording to produce that same one hour of nature sounds.

Jesus had two regular disciplines, silence and solitude in prayer. In fact in the gospels we hear at least 5 times that Jesus withdrew to a secluded place to pray. Jesus said to his disciples, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." (Mark 6:31)

We desire the place of rest but the secluded place or the possibility of complete silence unnerves us. Why? What are we afraid of?

Silence is necessary in a conversation to hear the input of the other parties. Hearing, truly hearing the other requires us to release our mind from formulating what we desire to say next. If we desire God's input and direction for our lives, then how do we expect to hear God when we aren't ready to be silent and listen? May 2017 bring you the gift of silence so that you can hear God speak his love into your life.

Grace and peace, **Pastor Marti**

PRAYER CALANDER:

The unity we share among ourselves and with the rest of the world becomes possible through Christ's loving action on the cross. Cultures and customs that have formed each of us since childhood cannot do that. They lead us to think of ourselves as different from and superior to those unlike us. They make us hostile toward each other, building walls.

Christ's work is to tear down such walls. In Christ's community, all are welcome, irrespective of differences in gender, class, race, ethnicity, ability and identity.

Jim Perdue, Global Ministries missionary, Desert Southwest Conference and the national office of the National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministries for Immigration and Border Ministry, Phoenix, Arizona

Please pray for our missionaries in Bermuda, Dominican Republic and the Caribbean and those serving at home in Texas, Utah and Virginia.

LECTIONARY:

Jan 01 – Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

Jan 08 – Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 42:1-9
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

Jan 15 – Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Jan 22 – Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1,4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Jan 29 – Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

COMMUNION OFFERING:**CARITAS**

(Churches Around Richmond Involved to Assure Shelter)

FAITH BUILDER:

"There are sweet voices among us, we all know, and voices not musical, it may be, to those who hear them for the first time, yet sweeter to us than any we shall hear until we listen to some warbling angel in the overture to that eternity of blissful harmonies we hope to enjoy.

— Holmes: *The Autocrat of the Breakfast table*

Beulah Activities Report October 2016 – December 2016

- Mission trip to Waverly
- Annual Charge Conference
- Began using projectors for announcements before the Service,
- Community Thanksgiving service with Webber, offering collected to benefit the Chesterfield Food Bank
- Forty-three attendees to Fall Festival
- Sunday school teachers taught children about Moses in Oct and the Ten Commandments in November
- Confirmation retreat to the National Cathedral and American Indian Museum
- Confirmed three new members
- Youth held their annual Yard Sale, raising \$400 for the summer mission trip.
- Distributed 120 Advent books
- Took treat to Meadowbrook Special Education Aids as part of Outreach
- Netted \$2,500 from Oyster Roast with proceeds benefiting Neighborhood Outreach Worldwide
- Collected meal bags for Sherbourne Food Pantry
- Lit Candles on all Saints Day to remember Beulah Saints Day
- New fall and Advent Banners are were hung in the Narthex
- Thirteen walkers raised \$1700 for Crop Walk
- Raised \$12,000 at the Annual Bazaar
- Youth attended conference retreats in Lynchburg, VA.
- Donated 140 Christmas Shoe Boxes. Our Goal was 100
- Exceeded our goal of 5,000 pounds of groceries for Sherbourne by 658 pounds.
- Christmas Cantata attendance of 384
- Children's Christmas Pageant
- Living Nativity
- Members participated in three food distributions of the Chesterfield Food Bank
- Held three Friday Nite Live Services
- Provided Van transportation to 20 events
- Children's M&M's program made 8 blankets for Haiti in October.
- Children's M&M's program made 50 Christmas cards for veterans in December.

UM DAY AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Our annual United Methodist Day at the General Assembly will be 7:00 am – 3:30 pm, on Thursday, February 2, 2017. We will beginning and ending at Bon Air UMC. This will be our 25th year traveling to the Capitol to advocate for justice, and there will be a celebration of this anniversary on Saturday, January 14, 2017, at Centenary UMC. Registration is required for both events, there is a discount if registration is received by January 6, and there is a discount for those attending both events. Register online for either event or both at <http://www.vaumc.org/UMDay2017>.

VIRGINIA U. M. ADVOCATE

Do you belong to a Beulah Sunday School class, UMW circle, UMM, or Bible study group? Have you found the comfort you need in our "Hugging Hearts" grief support group? Being part of a small group strengthens our sense of "belonging" to a church and enriches not only our lives, but also the life of the church, the Body of Christ at Beulah. In the cover articles of the December issue, several churches describe how they support their congregations and communities through groups that address their needs, including mental wellness, parental concerns, and socialization for adults with mental disabilities. Shenandoah University facilitates small groups for students through the Office of Spiritual Life, and we are reminded that John Wesley believed in the need for small groups for the life of the church.

Our annual subscription campaign begins in January. Watch your weekly bulletins for details.

Pick up a copy of "Mission Opportunities" at the volunteer's desk. The Advocate is available at the Welcome Center in the hallway and on tables in the narthex. Subscribe at any time by calling their office at 804-521-1100.

Barbara Tuttle, Beulah's Advocate Representative

OPPORTUNITIES AT BEULAH

Beulah Kids...	contact Pastor Tracey Lyons 804-835-1668
Beulah Youth...	contact Pastor Marti Ringenbach 703-731-6922
Buildings and Grounds...	contact Walt Hayden 804-275-1254
Congregational Care...	contact Pastor Marti Ringenbach 703-731-6922
Crystal Lakes...	contact Pastor Tracey Lyons 804-835-1668
Friday Nite Live...	contact Robin Henderson 804-787-4126
Jesus Needs a Ride...	contact Emma Bradley 804-475-5933
Missions...	contact Joanne Barreca 804-658-0086
Nursery Workers...	contact Dawn Hall 804-239-2222
Outreach Ministries...	contact Karolyn Soyars 804-275-8430
Senior Ministries...	contact Loise King 804-275-8200
Volunteer coordinator...	contact Karolyn Soyars 804-275-8430

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Do you have a heart for the aged, sick or hurting? There is a place for you to volunteer. The Congregational Care ministry reaches out to those in need. Providing friendship and love helps fill the void that is created when times of hardship come. Please see Pastor Marti Ringenbach or Karolyn Soyars for more details.

CRYSTAL LAKES

Continuing outreach to Crystal Lakes community. Reaching out to the youth and children with the word of God and loving hearts. Completing the Dream Catchers Project with area residence and friends. Please see Pastor Tracey Lyons to get involved.

BEULAH'S BEST

Our program will be with from the Chesterfield Police Department of community services. Sargent Hellerstand will be speaking on safety at home as well as personal safety. Please join us at 10:00 am on Monday, January 16. Hope to see you there

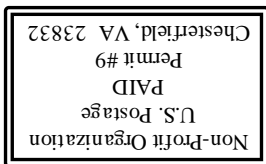
BIRTHDAY'S FOR JANUARY

- 01- Shack Shackelford,
- 02- Michael Hastings, Grace Hayden, Linda Mustain
- 03- Pat Hart, Sherman Litton, Comfort Miller, Charlie Powell
- 04- Lynn Hamlett, Laura Stonestreet
- 05- Stefanie Turner
- 06- Rebecca Riley
- 07- Melissa Martinez
- 08- Alice Magee
- 09- Natalie Galarza, Lucas Taylor
- 10- Bill Chapin, Michael Hughes
- 11- Brian Jones, Robert Lohr
- 12- Michael Atkinson, Andrew Glass, Maggie Glass
- 13- Howie Worrell
- 14- Tracey Edwards, Sherry Gilliam, Kaley Hamilton, Andrianna Mendoza
- 15- Marie Chapin, Robert Kinneberg, Jim Niccoli, Betty Tomlin
- 16- Carol Casler
- 17- Noel Boraski, Barbara Dudley
- 18- Ryan Crutchfield, Andrew Wood
- 19- Dawn Sullivan, Harry Welch
- 20- Ted Soyars, Preston Walters, Robert Witherspoon
- 21- Haylee Conner, Paola Leon
- 22- Daniel Goff, Jack Taylor, Kaitlyn Williams
- 23- Ginny Goff
- 25- Howard Bareford, Jerri Beatty, Joyce Mann, Michael Stearns
- 26- Teresa Ward
- 29- Amy Goodman, Whitney Worrell

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Jan 06- Mariners Diner
- Jan 07- UMW Mission Team
- Jan 08- Mission Meeting
- Jan 10- Mary Farmer Circle
Finance Meeting
- Jan 11- Hugging Hearts
- Jan 13- Friday Nite Live
- Jan 15- Outreach Meeting
Education Meeting
- Jan 16- Beulah's Best
- Jan 17- Prayer Shawl
UMM Dinner
Ruth Robertson Friendship
- Jan 18- Circle of Love
Wesleyan Stratton
- Jan 19- Rebekah Fellowship
- Jan 24- COM
- Jan 25- Hugging Hearts

- Mon. 10am: Men's Bible Study
- Thur. 10am: Women's Bible Study



**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE DELIVERY**

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

THANK YOU'S:

*To: Outreach Committee
From: Susan Haga*

On behalf of the Instructional assistants, Ms. Deborah Jones, and myself, we wish to thank you from the bottom of our collective hearts, for "adopting" us. We want you to know, that the I.A.'s love those little bags and it always makes them smile. Thank you, thank you, thank you, and Merry Christmas to each and every one of you.

*To: Those that helped
From: Barbara Dudley, Worship Chair*

A huge "thank you" to all the friends that helped me decorate our church for the Christmas Season. (Pat Soyars, Sandra Sanderson, Carol Casler, Carolyn Salmon, David Dudley, and Joe Dilday. What a blessing you are to me!

*To: Beulah
From: The Pastors and Staff of Beulah*
Thank you for all the cards, gifts, food, and other goodies that were given over the past couple weeks. We feel very much loved by you. It is an honor to serve here at Beulah.

*To: Beulah Friends and Family
From: Kitty Waldrop*

My heart was overflowing with love for all who were able to come to Boulevard Greenhouse for my surprise birthday. At this time when we celebrate Jesus' birth I am so thankful to be given 80 years to be with my friends and family. Love to you for the altar flowers in my honor- God Bless you and Merry Christmas.



Friday, January 13, at 7:00 pm is Friday Nite Live. Join us for this praise celebration as we come together to worship God. This month Pastor Marti will be speaking on Psalm 139. What does it mean to be "searched and known" by God? All are welcome at Friday Nite Live!

A CHALLENGE TO READ THE BIBLE IN 2017

Dear Virginia Annual Conference,

I think you would agree with me that every New Year there are individuals who decide to make a New Year's resolution. I googled "New Year's resolution" to discover that there are several articles written on this popular subject.

All of us have made New Year's resolutions ranging anywhere from losing 10-20 unwanted pounds, starting a new exercise program, paying off our credit cards and giving up a bad habit.

I've always found it interesting that people will go to great lengths to make a New Year's resolution — throwing away food that tempts their cravings, buying expensive exercise equipment with a voice-activated trainer or being the first person to join the gym. Unfortunately, it has been proven that New Year's gym resolutions are normally broken in 90 days, and the gym equipment becomes the new and latest clothes rack in our homes.

I've always wondered when individuals are making resolutions if they ever considered making a "Christian resolution." For example, resolving to pray daily for your church, to become an active agent in inviting people to your church or to increase their participation in a ministry in their local church.

As your new bishop, I would like to challenge you to look at this yearly tradition from another perspective.

Let's make a "Christian resolution" by joining me in reading the Bible together this year:

- Choose your own translation to make this experience engaging and exciting.
- Invite others to join you on this journey.
- Commit to sticking to the outlined plan at this link: <http://backtothebible.org/reading-guide/15/1>.

January's outline is at the right.
Let's become Bible scholars in 2017.

Peace and Blessings,
Bishop Sharma D. Lewis

THE READINGS FOR JANUARY

January 1	Genesis 1-3
January 2	Genesis 4-7
January 3	Genesis 8-11
January 4	Genesis 12-15
January 5	Genesis 16-18
January 6	Genesis 19-21
January 7	Genesis 22-24
January 8	Genesis 25-26
January 9	Genesis 27-29
January 10	Genesis 30-31
January 11	Genesis 32-34
January 12	Genesis 35-37
January 13	Genesis 38-40
January 14	Genesis 41-42
January 15	Genesis 43-45
January 16	Genesis 46-47
January 17	Genesis 48-50
January 18	Exodus 1-3
January 19	Exodus 4-6
January 20	Exodus 7-9
January 21	Exodus 10-12
January 22	Exodus 13-15
January 23	Exodus 16-18
January 24	Exodus 19-21
January 25	Exodus 22-24
January 26	Exodus 25-27
January 27	Exodus 28-29
January 28	Exodus 30-32
January 29	Exodus 33-35
January 30	Exodus 36-38
January 31	Exodus 39-40

