



April, 2017

BEULAH BEACON

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

A LESSON FROM PHILIP

Below is a story that teaches us many things about Easter. It has been around a while but I hope you will read it and see the beauty!

Little Philip, born with Down's syndrome, attended a third-grade Sunday school class with several eight-year-old boys and girls. Typical of that age, the children did not readily accept Philip with his differences, according to an article in leadership magazine. But because of a creative teacher, they began to care about Philip and accept him as part of the group, though not fully.

The Sunday after Easter the teacher brought L'eggs pantyhose containers, the kind that look like large eggs. Each receiving one, the children were told to go outside on that lovely spring day, find some symbol for new life, and put it in the egg-like container. Back in the classroom, they would share their new-life symbols, opening the containers one by one in surprise fashion. After running about the church property in wild confusion, the students returned to the classroom and placed the containers on the table. Surrounded by the children, the teacher began to open them one by one. After each one, whether a flower, butterfly, or leaf, the class would ooh and ahh.

Then one was opened, revealing nothing inside. The children exclaimed, that's stupid. That's not fair. Somebody didn't do their assignment."

Philip spoke up, "That's mine."

"Philip, you don't ever do things right!" the student retorted. "There's nothing there!"

"I did so do it," Philip insisted. "I did do it. It's empty, the tomb was empty!"

Silence followed. From then on Philip became a full member of the class. He died not long afterward from an infection most normal children would have shrugged off. At the funeral this class of eight-year-olds marched up to the altar not with flowers, but with their Sunday school teacher, each to lay on it an empty pantyhose egg.

May we all celebrate the empty grave with the same insight as Philip.

In His Service, Pastor Keith

TIME

Time is an important aspect of our daily lives. In the Greek New Testament there are two words for time: chronos and kairos. Chronos refers to clock time, chronological time. Kairos is God's time, time in the sense of divine destiny. To often we spend our lives in chronos with little thought to kairos.

As a young mom I lived my day by the clock. A certain time to get the kids to school, a certain time to pick them up, a certain time to get homework finished, a certain bedtime, a certain time for boy or girl scouts, a certain time for piano lessons or taekwondo, and the list goes on. Time was precious in those days. Now I try to live with the reality of both kinds of time. I don't have the "mom schedule" but I do have the "pastor's schedule". The "pastor's schedule" still has chronos time but I'm finding more and more of God's time, kairos time. Kairos time is important. Jesus lived by kairos. His life was dedicated to fulfilling God's destiny and completing the work he was sent to do. How are we living kairos time in the midst of our chronos time? What work has God sent you to do? Christian writer Trevor Hudson offers us this challenge: When you check the time today consider this- "In my life right now, it is God's time for..."

Grace and Peace, Pastor Marti

PRAYER CALANDER:

Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends"—John 15:13. Taking Jesus as a model, we can sacrifice our time, resources, skills, joys, smile, ideas, and even just our presence in the community to turn God's love into action, transform lives and change the world. *Christopher Hamera, Global Mission Fellow-Intl., Initiatives for Peace in Mindanao (InPeace), headquartered in Davao City, Philippines*

Please pray for our missionaries Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Venezuela and those serving at home in California, Colorado and Delaware.

The Prayer Calendar is published annually by the General Board of Global Ministries.

LECTIONARY:

April 02 – Ezekiel 37:1-4

Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

April 09 – Isaiah 50:4-9

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 21:1-11

April 16 – Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
John 20:1-18

April 23 – Acts 2:14, 22-32

Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

April 30 – Acts 2:14, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

COMMUNION OFFERING:

UM Native American Ministries

FAITH BUILDER:

"If you knew that only a few would care that you came, would you still come? If you knew that those you loved would laugh in your face, would you still care? If you knew that the tongues you made would mock you, the mouths you made would spit at you, the hands you made would crucify you, would you still make them? Christ did."

— Max Lucado

THE READINGS FOR APRIL

April 01	1 Samuel 18-20	April 16	1 Kings 10-11
April 02	1 Samuel 21-24	April 17	1 Kings 12-14
April 03	1 Samuel 25-27	April 18	1 Kings 15-17
April 04	1 Samuel 28-31	April 19	1 Kings 18-20
April 05	2 Samuel 1-3	April 20	1 Kings 21-22
April 06	2 Samuel 4-7	April 21	2 Kings 1-3
April 07	2 Samuel 8-12	April 22	2 Kings 4-5
April 08	2 Samuel 13-15	April 23	2 Kings 6-8
April 09	2 Samuel 16-18	April 24	2 Kings 9-11
April 10	2 Samuel 19-21	April 25	2 Kings 12-14
April 11	2 Samuel 22-24	April 26	2 Kings 15-17
April 12	1 Kings 1-2	April 27	2 Kings 18-19
April 13	1 Kings 3-5	April 28	2 Kings 20-22
April 14	1 Kings 6-7	April 29	2 Kings 23-25
April 15	1 Kings 8-9	April 30	1 Chronicles 1-2

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

As we conclude this season of Lent, we usher in a time of refreshing and a time of renewal. Springtime represents the renewal of life in the nature around us. The trees are beginning to bud with new flowers. The baby birds are cracking out of their shells. Animals that were asleep, awake to new activity. The frost is bowing to the warmth of a new season. Spring is a lovely time when ones spirits is lifted and happier.

Each year we are reminded of the newness of life with the Easter season and the celebration of the resurrection of Christ. When Christ died on the cross for our sins, he didn't stay on the cross. He rose from the dead to new life. And he is calling us today to "put off the old man, and out on the new man" joining him in becoming new in our spirits and minds. 2 Corinthians 5:17 states that, "Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone and a new life has begun."

On Palm Sunday, Beulah's Christian Education ministry will acknowledge the Easter season with an Easter Celebration. The children will search for eggs with different symbols of Christ. The adults will play games, enjoy crafts and coloring like they were children again. The families will come together and relish in sharing food and laughter. It will be a time to brush off the winter and embrace the warmth of spring.

Praise God for his newness of life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Blessings and Love, Pastor Tracey

600 KITS FOR CONFERENCE

Your UMW has set a goal of 600 Kits for Conference. All kits are needed: bedding, birthing, cleaning, health, layette, school, & sewing. Whenever you learn of a disaster, whether natural or man-made, our UM Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is there, and you—every group & individual in the congregation—can be too. Information on assembling the kits is available on the display in the collection area in the exit hallway.

FRIDAY NITE LIVE

April 14, at 7:00 PM. Join us as we observe Good Friday.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

There are still seats available for the bus trip to Wesley Community Service Center in Portsmouth on Saturday, April 22. Details are on the "Upcoming Events" bulletin board by the hallway exit doors.

VIRGINIA U. M. ADVOCATE

As our United Methodist Church struggles to define itself, balancing its polity and its mission in light of changing cultural norms, the March issue invites us "Back to Basics: Revisiting our social and spiritual roots". The commentaries and cover articles offer much thought-provoking information and insight. It is hard to summarize what is presented. Included is a timeline of our history and a test. (Not to worry. The answers are given.) And whether or not you enjoy singing, don't miss Wesley's rules for congregational singing, and we hope to see more of you raising your voices in praise!

We began our annual subscription campaign with 15 subscribers, several with subscriptions for multiple years. There were 6 renewals and 2 new subscriptions, for a final total of 17. The Advocate is available on the tables in the narthex and at the Welcome Center by the hallway exit doors. Subscribe at any time by calling their office at 804-521-1100.

Barbara Tuttle, Beulah's Advocate Representative

FUTURE EAGLE SCOUT

Hello, Beulah! I am working on becoming an Eagle Scout, and I would love your help with my project. I am building a minimum of 4 picnic tables for Beulah, to be used outside by members and guests. If I can raise enough money, I will build 1 or 2 more. I am asking for each of you to consider donating for this project. Any money I receive will go towards buying the lumber and other supplies I will need in order to construct these tables, which I plan to do in the spring. Any contributions can be given to me or my parents, Ken and Beth Spitzley, or mailed to our home: 13913 Kentwood Forest Drive, Chester, VA 23831. If you write a check, please make it payable to Beulah UMC, and in the memo line write "Spitzley Eagle Project".

GOT YOUR SPACE YET?

It isn't too late to reserve your space (just \$25) at the Beulah Spring Fest. There is room for crafters, vendors, yard sellers, just about anything you would like to sell. The youth will be selling concessions for breakfast and lunch. If you have items you would like to dispose of, donate them to the Beulah Yard Sale and we will sell them for you. Call 804-275-2325 to reserve a space. BOOK @ the Volunteers Desk. Call 804-2275-2325 to reserve a space. See you there!

COM CLEAN UP DAY

Saturday, April 1, is Clean Up Day. Come out and help make Beulah beautiful for our Easter celebrations. Volunteers are needed for light grounds work, building maintenance, trash pickup, and much more. Call Pastor Keith for more info.

BIRTHDAY'S FOR APRIL

- 01- Mae Billows, McKenna Creasey, Heather Noel, Vicki Pace
- 02- Ben Chapin, Buster Pugh, Hilda Taylor
- 03- Merritt Bradshaw
- 05- Larry Davis, David Dudley, Ray Mays, Richard Worsham
- 07- William Foote, Tess James, Jerry Lane, Jane Tilley
- 08- Rachel Mustian, Charlotte Sharp
- 09- Stephen Roach, Karen Tatum, Kelly Taylor
- 10- Lauren Brooks, Page Hoover, Jack Lunsford
- 11- Sherrie Lizarraga
- 12- Elaine Johnston
- 13- Kami Marinez, Sarah Ramey
- 14- Jessica Rounds
- 15- John Kuti
- 16- Leonard Lancaster, Allie Malone, Seth Thompson
- 17- Connie Beck, Jessica Lysnak
- 18- Nancy Goff
- 19- Steven Dudley, Bud Roderick
- 20- Ashley Hart, Pat Mims
- 21- Catherine Roberts
- 23- Susan Payne
- 24- Charles Everett
- 25- Cheryl Duffy, Donald Vaughan
- 27- Melanie Huband
- 28- Clay Compton
- 29- Theresa Meadows

VA CONFERENCE UMW SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT FOR WOMEN

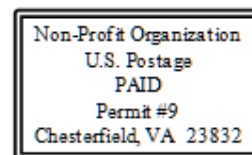
The annual Spiritual Life Retreat, led this year by Denise Honeycutt, will be held at the 4-H Community Center in Front Royal the weekend of April 29-30. The registration deadline is April 21, and the cost depends on whether you go for the day or the weekend. Details & registration forms are on the UMW bulletin board across from the Volunteer's Desk.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

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| April 01- UMW Mission Meeting
Clean Up Day | April 17- Beulah's Best |
| April 04- COM | April 18- Prayer Shawl |
| April 05- Wednesday Night Dinner | UMM Dinner |
| April 07- Mariners Dinner | Ruth Robertson Friendship |
| April 09- Easter Celebration | April 19- Circle of Love |
| Mission Committee | Wesleyan Stratton |
| April 11- Mary Farmer Circle | April 20- Rebekah Fellowship |
| Finance Meeting | April 22- Spring Fest |
| April 12- Hugging Hearts | April 23- Education Meeting |
| April 13- Wednesday Night Dinner | April 25- Admin Board Meeting |
| April 14- Friday Nite Live | April 26- Hugging Hearts |
| April 16- Easter Sunday | |
| Sunrise Service | Mon. 10am: Men's Bible Study |
| | Thur. 10am: Women's Bible Study |

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

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE DELIVERY



Return Service Requested

THANK YOU'S

To: Beulah Family

From: Anne Williams

Your prayers, calls, visits, and multitude of cards were so appreciated following my knee replacement surgery. And Frank was particularly grateful for the delicious food. Thanks also to Keith and Marti for their hospital visits, and to our Prayer Shawl Ministry for the beautiful shawl, which has been such a blessing to me.

To: CARITAS Volunteers

From: Joanne Barreca, Missions Committee

Our guests left after enjoying a week of Beulah hospitality and love. From the delicious meals prepared with many loving hands, to the care given by those who set up the rooms, cleaned the shower, laundered clothing, bedding and towels, stayed overnight to make sure everything was fine, and took the time to talk with them - Jesus was certainly present. They loved the beautiful placemats drawn by our Sunday school children. This is truly an opportunity for everyone to take part. That you to everyone who did so!

To: Beulah UMC Family

From: The Colemans, Kris, Rach, Anna, Levi, & Lydia

Hello friends! We just wanted to take a moment and thank you for having Kris in. Your constant support and friendship are an encouragement to us as we serve, Bondye Beni Ou! God Bless You!

To: Beulah

From: Emma Bradley

To all those who planned and carried out our ministry to Caritas. The men were so grateful for each act of kindness and deed of mercy. I heard on say "I want to move in here." What a praise! I can here Jesus saying – "in as much as you have done it for the least of these you have done it for me"

EASTER CELEBRATION!



Palm Sunday
April 9, at 12:30pm
In the Fellowship Hall



Food, Easter Egg Hunt, Games, Crafts,
and lots of fun for all ages!