



Transforming Lives As We Seek, Share, And Serve God.



THIS MONTH'S THEME

CHRISTMAS

THIS MONTH'S FEATURES

REVIEW OF NOVEMBER

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

A KING IS COMING TO TOWN

SHERBOURNE NEEDS



TIS THE SEASON!

By Pastor Pam Anderson

I'm excited we are in the book of John for advent since it is the third Christmas story and the lesser celebrated. The Matthew Christmas story was written for an audience of Jews so it focused on pointing to Jesus as their Old Testament messiah and king. Matthew used genealogy to show the lineage of Jesus to Abraham and to the royal kingship of David. The Luke Christmas story was written for an audience of gentiles showing Jesus from a human perspective using the genealogy through Mary's father back to Adam. This gave the understanding that Jesus is for all people not just for Abrahamic descendants. Matthew uniquely shares the story of the magi and Luke tells of Gabriel's visit to Mary and Joseph. Luke also spends time laying out scenery of the birth in a relatable humanistic way with Bethlehem, the manger, angels, and shepherds.

Instead of focusing on the Earthly birth of Jesus, John takes the reader up to a heavenly view all the way back to creation. John's Christmas story uniquely leads us to understand the divinity of Jesus. John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Jesus is the Word of God incarnate and the light and life of the world. John 1:14 "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory... full of Grace and Truth." In John, we look back to creation to know God and we look back to the Christmas story to know Jesus, the Word made flesh.

But during advent we look forward in hopeful anticipation. We look forward to Christmas celebrations with our family, buying special gifts for those we love, and songs to bring joy to the world. As Christians, Christmas is a reminder to celebrate the kingdom of God in the here and now and to look forward in faithful anticipation of the kingdom come.

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As we approach this season with eyes of faith and the Holy Spirit, we should remember to look forward to the coming of Christ! We anticipate Jesus coming in the physical nativity. We anticipate Jesus coming into the heart of the believer. And we anticipate Jesus' second coming. Let us prepare for the coming of Christ all year not just in advent claiming it in our hearts, living it out in the world, and sharing it with others - proclaiming continuously the good news of Jesus Christ - His suffering, death, and resurrection.

The significance of this season to us as Christians is that it marks the Christian new year. Our liturgical (worship) calendar begins with Advent, the four weeks of preparation for Christ's birth. Christmas is a time for us to recall the Nativity and Jesus' manifestation for all the peoples of the world. Also significant is Christmas gift giving which of course isn't about the material things, it is the symbolic meaning of the gift giving. The ultimate gift. God's love. As you give gifts this season, consider giving that message as well, say such things as "Receive this gift from me as a reminder of the ultimate gift, the Love of God". Or even consider placing John 3:16 on the tag: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life". Or Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given".

I wish you a very Merry Christmas and "May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" Romans 15:13.



MUSICAL NOTES

By Deborah Wenrich

One of the things which makes a song so meaningful is the story of how the song was written and how it has journeyed through history. Each month we will be highlighting some of the songs we will be using in worship services.

O Little Town of Bethlehem was written by Phillip Brooks, an Episcopal priest who was ordained in 1859. He served as rector for Church of the Advent before moving on to Holy Trinity in 1862. He was a dynamic preacher in his twenties and rose to prominence preaching against slavery during the Civil War. He extended his ministry to African American troops in nearby training camps, advocated rights for freedman, and became active in the Union League. Phillip made a pilgrimage to Bethlehem after the Civil War. On Christmas Eve 1865, he wrote to the children of his Sunday School parish how much the hymn singing reminded him of his home congregation. Three years after his visit to the Holy Land, he penned the lyrics to "O Little Town of Bethlehem". The church organist, Lewis Redner, set them to a tune he had previously composed called St. Louis.



The Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Charlene Mires, Copyright 2018, Rutgers University <https://philadelphiaencyclopedia.org/essays/o-little-town-of-bethlehem/>



Mary Did You Know was written by Mark Lowry. The idea came to him while he was working on a Christmas program in 1984. He recalled a conversation with his mother where she had said. "if anyone on earth knew that Jesus was virgin born—Mary knew". Mark spent the next seven years tweaking his lyrics and pondered what he would've asked Mary if he had met her. In 1991, Mark asked Buddy Green to write the music to his lyrics. Buddy thought about what the music should be, for two weeks, after that the music flowed out in a mere thirty minutes. Godtube, Mary Did You Know, Godtube Staff, Copyright 2022 GodTube.com <https://www.godtube.com/popular-hymns/mary-did-you-know/>

DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER...

ALL SAINTS: On Sunday, November 06, we remembered thirty-three of our friends and family who have gone on to meet the Lord since the First of November 2021. We prayed for their loved ones who remain behind and miss them dearly.

Town Hall: On Sunday November 06, the church joined together to discuss the discernment process and the future of the United Methodist Church. A motion to call an Admin Board meeting was made and the Admin Board met on Thursday, November 17th. The motion carried and the Board requested that Pastor Don reach out to our District Superintendent, Dr. Lee, inviting him to come and share more information. Dr Lee will be meet with the Admin Board in January of 2023.

Spirit Squad: on Friday, November 11, twenty-two of Beulah's friends and family gathered at Bowl America Southwest for Bowling and fellowship. We learned Pastor Daniel is a REALLY good bowler and Pastor Don is not the worst bowler. We also learned life is better when you are with people who share in the love of God.



Beulah Bazaar: on Saturday, November 12 the Bazaar and Curbside Market was held. While the 2022 Bazaar is now history; the volunteers manpower and womanpower that came to support us is not. THANK YOU!!!!!! for coming out on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday to help wherever needed. By 2:00 pm on Saturday things were cleaned up, put away, and the Fellowship Hall was ready for Sunday. What more could you ask for. THANK YOU, BEULAH! A truck load of bake goods, jams jellies and hand crafts and collectibles, stew, BBQ etc. found a new home. The Gross total for the day was \$17,803.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Neighbors Outreach Worldwide (NOW) Kenya project. We raised \$673 for the vulnerable children and adults who are victims of poverty and abuse. Patti Howell was the lucky winner of the Quilt.



Membership: on Sunday, November 13, Julia Grisham joined Beulah United Methodist church. We are so very pleased to have Julia back and look forward to participating in ministry with her through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

Operation Christmas Shoe Box: on Sunday, November 13, Beulah supported Samaritan Christmas Child and gathered shoe boxes filled with Christmas gifts. Many, many thanks to all who filled the Christmas Child shoe boxes. We proudly took 75 boxes to the gathering location and the boxes have begun their journey around the world. As the Richmond project chairman always says, "You Beulah folks know all about outreach."

CROP WALK: on Sunday, November 13, our Beulah CROP Hunger Walk Team was small but mighty! Pictured are those who attended the walk, in person: Barbara Tuttle (cheerleader), Louise King, Madeline and Sarah Hodges, and Sonny Turner (bus driver). Sarah is holding a sign to let those driving by the walkers know why they were walking. There was only one other walker with a sign, so we really needed Sarah! Members of the team who chose to walk "virtually" are Susan Iglehart, Lee & Nancy Goff, Shirley Pfeil, and Pastor Pam Anderson, who walked in Greece! Thanks to the generosity of individuals and groups, we have raised \$1,645 so far. Thanks to all our supporters!





BEULAH'S United Women in Faith

DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH ADVENT SERVICE

All women are invited to our annual Advent Service, which will be at Ramsey Memorial UMC, 5900 Hull Street Rd., Richmond, 23224, on Saturday, December 3. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m., and worship is 10:30 – 11:30. Our guest speaker is Sarah Forti, Director of Christian Education at Lebanon UMC in Hanover County.

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN CAMP MENTORS

All God's Children Camp is taking applications for mentors for 2023. Please consider joining us for a week of camp this summer and come hang out with some pretty amazing kids and do some awesome activities! Don't forget, the only cost to attend is \$20.00 to cover your background check! If you are looking for a low-cost service project or mission trip for your group, this is a wonderful opportunity to give back. For more information, check the website at www.vaumc.org/agcc/ or contact Lori Smith at agcc@vaumc.org.

NOVEMBER COMMUNION OFFERING



Unwavering champions
for children and families.

<https://www.umfs.org/>

Our December Communion Offering goes towards United Methodist Family Services. UMFS is a nonprofit organization that provides a comprehensive array of programs to support children, teens, and parents as they work to overcome challenges. We

equip families with tools for success so they can achieve their goals. As a national leader in helping young people and families, we also proactively identify unmet social services needs and develop the necessary partnerships to address those needs.

UWF MISSION WITNESS

The Prayer Calendar is published annually by United Methodist Women. It invites us to pray as one people responsive to God's call to relationships of caring, connecting and healing in a world of uncertainty in all but the love of God. Each month we share a testimony from a person in mission for Christ through the United Methodist Church.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE MONTH

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in faith so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
-- Romans 15:13

WITNESS

A Filipino migrant worker made a parol (a Filipino ornamental lantern displayed during the Christmas season) and hung it at the corner of his dormitory room to remind his dormmates and him that despite their loneliness and hopelessness, there is still joy and hope that await them in the future because of Christ, who is the real star in their life.

When I was a child, my father was an overseas worker in Saudi Arabia. During that time, I always held on to the farewell words of my father that carried a promise: "On your solitary nights, go outside our house and just stare at the big blinking star in the sky and there you will find my face".

The parole inside the migrant's room inspires the migrant workers that someday they will celebrate Christmas together with their families back home. It implies a messianic prophecy telling the workers about experiencing real hope of rescuing them from exploitations and oppressions.

Richard Navarro,
Global Missionary from the Philippines
serving in Taiwan, Overseas Filipino Workers

PRAYER

Please pray for international missionaries serving in Zimbabwe and our missionaries serving in the United States in Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.



SHERBOURNE REQUEST

In the month of December, Sherbourne Food Pantry is requesting donations of **canned meat** and other proteins. Your donation can be left on the wire rack at the Information Center or outside in the white Afterhours Donation Cabinet . Thank you for all you are doing to help us meet our pledge of 5,000 lbs. of food by the end of 2022.



Beulah is supporting the Sherbourne UMC Food Pantry program providing Christmas meals for the 100+ families they serve each week. The items for each meal are listed below. All items will fit in a standard paper grocery bag, preferably with handles, and **should be double-bagged and brought to the church by Monday, December 5**, to be delivered to Sherbourne that week.

Please put your completed meal bags in the area designated in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Tuttle by calling her at 804-271-2289.

Shopping list:

- Can of evaporated milk
- Can of peas
- Can or jar of gravy
- Can of green beans
- Can of pumpkin
- Can of corn
- Can of cranberry sauce
- Can of sweet potatoes
- Box or bag of instant potatoes
- Box or bag of stuffing
- Small bag of sugar
- Small bag of flour
- Small box of tea bags
- Canned fruit (not pie filling)
- Brownie mix, puddings,
or cake mix & canned frosting

DECEMBER PROMPT

December's theme is "Share the Word". Christmas is always a time of giving and so this month we encourage you to share a part of the scripture we read to someone each day. You can send scripture via text, email, Facebook post, etc. Share the love of Christ by giving someone the Word of God.

DECEMBER READING

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 01 John 5 | 16 John 19 |
| 02 John 6-7 | 17 John 20 |
| 03 John 8 | 18 Sunday (Catch-up day) |
| 04 Sunday(Catch-up day) | 19 John 21 |
| 05 John 9 | 20 Acts 1 |
| 06 John 10 | 21 Acts 2 |
| 07 John 11 | 22 Acts 3-4 |
| 08 John 12 | 23 Acts 5 |
| 09 John 13 | 24 Acts 6 |
| 10 John 14 | 25 Sunday (Catch-up day) |
| 11 Sunday (Catch-up day) | 26 Acts 7 |
| 12 John 15 | 27 Acts 8 |
| 13 John 16 | 28 Acts 9 |
| 14 John 17 | 29 Acts 10 |
| 15 John 18 | 30 Acts 11 |
| | 31 Acts 12 |

COLD WEATHER COLLECTION

We are collecting warm hats/caps, gloves, fleece headbands, men's and women's sweatshirts - all sizes. These will be distributed to those getting meals at Centenary UMC and CARITAS. The sweatshirts are due by **December 11**; we will continue collecting the other items through the end of December. Your donations can be left in the bin located in the Narthex. These small gifts can make a world of difference during the winter. Beulah Missions Team appreciates your generosity.



HOW TO USE YOUR IRA TO HELP BEULAH

Are you frustrated by the required minimum distribution (RMD) rules? If you are like most people receiving annual income from their IRA, you are likely paying more in taxes each year. The good news is that rolling over part or all of your RMD to a non-profit like Beulah can help reduce your tax bill and support the ministry. Please contact Jim Tyler or Sarah Tatum for more information about giving through your RMD, 401(k), or stock options.

HOLIDAY BAKE SHOP

The 2022 Beulah Holiday Bake Shop is **Saturday, December 10**, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Come early for the best selection of baked goods of all kinds. Most items are decoratively wrapped and ready for Christmas gift-giving! Look for flyers and pre-order forms at the Information Center. Invite your friends and neighbors! Proceeds from the sale support the missions of Beulah's United Women in Faith.

BEULAH'S BEST

Beulah's Best will meet on **Tuesday, December 20**, at 10:00 am. Our program is a Christmas sing along lead by Sharon Robertson. Following the meeting we will have a covered lunch with meat provided. Please bring a side dish. Hope to see you there.

OYSTER ROAST POSTPONED

Due to an oyster shortage the Oyster Roast and BBQ has been moved to a new date of **January 14**, at 5:00 pm. A new sign up list is at the Information Center. If you signed up before you will need to sign up again.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- 02** Christmas Arrangements
Mariners Dinner
- 03** Bells Concert at Lucy Corr
- 06** Hugging Hearts
- 07** Jason Kuti Celebration of Life
- 08** Bazaar Follow Up Meeting
- 09** Jo-Anne Clark Celebration of Life
Cantata Dress Rehearsal
- 10** Holiday Bake Sale
- 11** **CANTATA: THE FIRST NOEL**
- 12** Henry Martin Celebration of Life
- 13** Mary Farmer Circle of Love
SPRC Meeting
UMM Dinner
Finance Meeting
- 15** Rebekah Fellowship
- 16** Play Dress Rehearsal
- 17** **A KING IS COMING TO TOWN**
- 18** **LIVING NATIVITY**
- 19** Music ministry Christmas party
- 20** Beulah's Best
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Springdale Bible Study
Hugging Hearts
- 21** Wesleyan-Stratton
- 22** UWF Missions Meeting
- 24** **Christmas Eve Service**
- 25** **Christmas Day Service**
- 26 & 27** **CHURCH CLOSED**
- 28** Prayer Team

OCCURRING WEEKLY

- Sunday** 8:30 Worship
Sunday School
11:00 Worship
Play Rehearsal
Interpretive Dance Rehearsal
Solo Bells Rehearsal
Youth
- Monday** Card Ministry
Men's Bible Study
Ensemble Rehearsal
Bells of Praise Rehearsal
Scouts
- Tuesday** Cub Scouts
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
- Wednesday** Staff Meeting
- Thursday** Beulah Land Quartet Rehearsal
Girl Scouts
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

2022 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

- December 02 Christmas Arrangements
- December 03 Bells of Praise at Lucy Corr
- December 10 Holiday Bake Sale
- December 11 Christmas Cantata *The First Noel*
- December 17 Christmas Play *A King Is Coming To Town*
- December 18 Living Nativity
- December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- December 25 Combined Christmas Service
- December 26 & 27 Church is closed



THANK YOU

To: Beulah

From: Dale Childrey

Many, many thanks to all (you know who you are) who baked and canned and provided great items for our Bazaar Country Store. Your generous support is greatly appreciated. It was a wonderful day of fun and fellowship, meeting old friends and meeting new ones.

To: Beulah

From: Anne Warren

Thank you for all the love cards and prayers. Your prayers truly helped me through the first two weeks while I was recovering from the back surgery. I do not think I could have made it through these past couple weeks without you.

To: My Beulah Family

From: Barbara Tinsley

My family and I are so grateful for your many cards, calls and other expressions of sympathy since Bill's passing. We also appreciate your love and support during some difficult days when we were struggling with his alzheimers. Thank you for greeting him and showing your love when we were at church on Sundays and at the Wednesday night dinners. I am at peace knowing that Bill is in a better place with a clear mind and singing with the heavenly choir. It is such a blessing to be a member of a special place like Beulah. God bless you all.

CONDOLENCES

We offer love, support, prayers, and condolences to Cathy Keller and the family of Jim Mason. Cathy's brother Jim joined the Lord on November 7.

We offer love, support, prayers, and condolences to Della Delbridge and the family of Herbert "Frank" Garrett. Herbert joined the Lord on November 9. His obituary can be found here.

We offer love, support, prayers, and condolences to the friends and family of Jo-Anne Clark. Jo-Anne joined the Lord on November 15. The Service of Celebration of the Life of Jo-Ann Clark is Friday, December 9, at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

We offer love, support, prayers, and condolences to Jason and Diane Kuti and the friends and family of Jason Kuti. Jason passed away on November 23, 2022. The Service of Celebration of the Life of Jason Kuti is Wednesday, December 7, at 10:00 am with a reception to follow.

We offer love, support, prayers, and condolences to Cathy Keller and the family of Harry Keller. Cathy's husband Harry joined the Lord on November 24.

We offer love, support, prayers, and condolences to Carol Martin and the friends and family of Henry Martin. Henry joined the Lord on November 28. The Service of Celebration of the Life of Henry Martin is Monday, December 12, at 11:00 am, with a reception to follow.

UP COMING BIRTHDAYS



DECEMBER

- 01 Ashton Edwards
- 02 Joseph Dilday
Joe Schmierer Jr.
- 03 Todd Huband
- 04 Kass Spitzley IV
- 05 Martha Everett
Claire Gibson
- 07 Emma Bradley
- 08 Barbara Joyner
Denny Quaiff
Henri Shular
- 13 Louise King
Maynard Totty
- 14 Marie Conner
Sharon Robertson
- 16 Priscilla Bareford
- 18 Lona Dilday
Mike Edwards
Suzanne Davis
- 20 Cathy Turner
- 22 Diane Conner
Donna Harper
Patricia Lee
- 23 Pat Compton
- 25 JESUS OF NAZARETH
- 27 Otis Fowler Jr.
John Harper
- 28 Ron Mustain II

JANUARY

- 01 Jean Shackelford
- 03 Pat Hart
- 05 Stefanie Turner
- 11 Robert Lohr
- 12 Andrew Glass
Maggie Glass
- 13 Isaiah Gibson
Howie Worrell Jr.
- 14 Melissa Butler
Sherry Gilliam