



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



## THIS MONTH'S THEME

Our Identity In Christ

## THIS MONTH'S FEATURES

BE IN THE KNOW

KONBIT  
UMCOR

HOLY WEEK

2022 LENTEN DAILY  
BIBLE READING

UNITED METHODIST  
WOMEN

Mission Witness  
Call To Prayer And Self-denial

## WHO AM I?

By Pastor Pam Anderson

Who Am I? A question that people have asked themselves since the beginning of time. "Cogito Ergo Sum" I think therefore I am the famous words of the Mathematician and Philosopher, Rene' Descartes, whose writings were banned by the Pope in 1663. What is to be human? We have mind, spirit, soul, awareness, and consciousness. What makes us different than other beings? We use language and have opposable thumbs? This is a question that has plagued philosophers for millennia. The questions and answers do not have to be in opposition to religion but rather help us in our discernment. When we ask questions, we are seeking meaning about our existence, we are introspective and undergoing self-examination, which is necessary for growth and clarity. We are driven to be seen and recognized for our uniqueness. As Christians we are the same as we know God created us all in his image, Imago Dei (Gen 1:27) and we are 'very good' (Gen 1:31). But we are also individual.

What about our individual identity? We ask, 'Who Am I in Christ?' 'What is my Christian identity?' In answering we start in scripture. In our baptisms, we have died as sinners (individuals) and are raised in Christ. Romans 6:3-5,22, states "all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his."



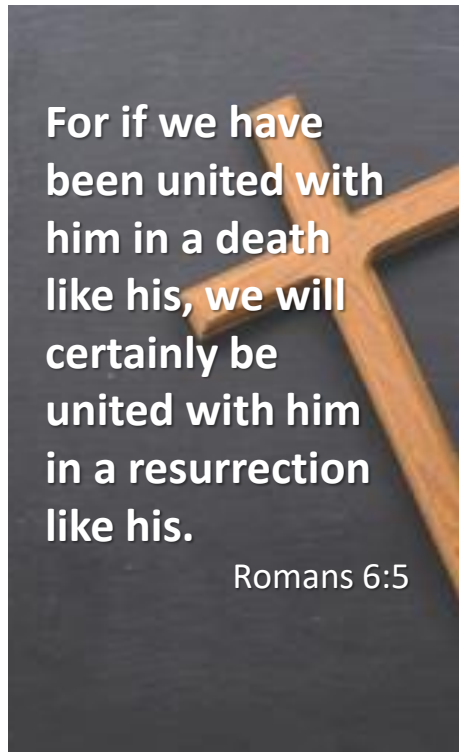
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As baptized Christians we have “.. been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life.” Sanctification is the action of being freed from sin or purified; or to be made holy. As baptized Christians, it is our lifelong process of Christian formation.

As we continue on our discipleship journey, we gain clarity and further define our identity in Christ. As the church, we make up the body of Christ, but we are all on a different spot on the discipleship pathway. We are either Discovering Christ, Transforming in Christ, Growing in Christ, or Rooted in Christ. And, as Beulah Christians, we covenant together “to be faithful in providing opportunities for spiritual growth through Seeking, Sharing, and Serving God.” As individuals that make up the whole (the church/the body of Christ), we choose how to live out our identity in a way that resonates with our essence, we live into who God made us to be, and we listen to the call the Holy Spirit puts on our heart. We may focus on our prayer life, our scripture reading, or our service to the community. In our prayer life we may live it out different ways, in worship, in art, and in dance. Possibilities are endless in our personal growth and in our pleasing God.

Though we are all made in God’s image, and we all make up the body of Christ, we remain unique and diverse in our Identity in Christ.



For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Romans 6:5

## BE IN THE KNOW

### MARCH COMMUNION OFFERING



<https://umcmmission.org/umcor/>

(Information taken from the UMCOR website)

Your gifts allow UMCOR workers and volunteers to be among the first to arrive and the last to leave when people are in need, provide for emergency grants after a disaster, relieve hunger and help communities have a sustainable source of food, cover the expenses of job training, and bring emergency supplies to communities devastated by storms or floods. Your gift, joined with the gifts of others, makes a significant impact in the lives of individuals and communities.

UMCOR comes alongside those who suffer from natural or human-caused disasters – be it famine, hurricane, war, flood, fire or other events—to alleviate suffering and to be a source of help and hope for those left most vulnerable. They provide relief, response and long-term recovery grants when these events overwhelm a community’s ability to recover on their own. UMCOR also provides technical support and training for partners to address emerging and ongoing issues related to disaster relief, recovery, and long-term health and development.



# KONBIT

<https://www.konbittogether.org> (Information taken from the KONBIT website)

We desire to work together to build communities physically and spiritually in Haiti. We do not dictate to Haitians what or how projects should be done in our community. Instead, we work alongside our local community to bring about change in ways that are culturally appropriate. We seek to empower, encourage, and equip those in our community who are already working and leverage our networks and resources as available. We invest, teach and disciple as we have the opportunity and do not pass up a chance to point others to the love of Christ. We are in community together and we desire to love Jesus and love Haiti together.

Ask a Haitian what a "konbit" is and they will instantly light up and proudly share with you the meaning because it goes back to their roots. A konbit is a term used to describe when a group of people come together to accomplish a project in their community. It is a term that embodies the solidarity among the Haitian people and the desire to do whatever one can to help their community advance. The payment for their hours of work is usually a meal and a strengthened sense of community and pride in the work being done. It is a beautiful thing to witness and it speaks volumes about our brothers and sisters here in Haiti. It is in this spirit that we launched Konbit and this is what we desire to reflect in our work alongside Haitians.

Kris and Rachael Coleman (a former employee of Beulah UMC) met at school, Rockford Masters Commission, in 1995 and were married in 1997. In over 20 years of life together, they have served as Youth Ministers and a bit as Associate Pastors. Their heart for God, discipling, and living life with people has dominated their everyday life since before they met. Ministering to the lost and broken in America was their collective heartbeat long before God called them out of America. In 2013, God called their family to serve in Haiti. Their ministry in Haiti began in May 2015 when Kris, Rachael, and their 3 children, Anna, Levi, and Lydia, moved there to live and work. Konbit is a natural expression of their desire to minister like Jesus in an organic and community-driven environment.

Throughout the years, we've had many programs and they were all based upon the needs that were in front of us. Some programs were for a few weeks, some for a season, and others have been longstanding because the need persists. Our heartbeat behind any program we host is to connect with community members, meet a physical need, and be there to speak to their spiritual need by sharing Christ. We desire to walk alongside people and "do life" together. That includes being there for the good, the bad, the ugly, the frustrating, and the unknown at times. It includes meeting the same needs over and over again sometimes, and other times, it means helping once and maybe never seeing them again. Through our programs, we seek to steward our resources well and care for people the best we can in all the ways we can both physically and spiritually.

# KRIS AND RACHAEL COLEMAN AND KONBIT NEEDS YOUR HELP

Konbit, a Beulah supported mission in Haiti, is asking for donations of the generic Bengay or Icyhot (3oz. or more.) The cooling sensation and scent versions are preferred. The donations of ointment can be left at the table in the Narthex. All donations are due by March 27.



## KONBIT PROGRAMS

- MEALS ON 2 WHEELS
- ELDERLY BREAKFAST CLUB
- COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAMS
- SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT PROJECT

# SHERBOURNE FOOD PANTRY MONTHLY REQUEST

During the month of March, the Sherbourne Food Pantry is asking for donations of Peanut Butter and Jelly. Peanut Butter is an easy, inexpensive protein source that is brimming with nutrition. Children enjoy peanut butter and various flavors of jellies and jams. There are alternatives such as almond butter and sunflower butter for those with peanut allergies.



For your convenience there is a white donation cabinet located outside, under the Breeze Way, for after hour drop offs.

# BEHIND THE MASK

By Suzanne Davis

One of my favorite books is an allegory called the Pilgrims Regress written by CS Lewis. It was the first book he wrote as a Christian and is his interpretation of another book called the Pilgrims Progress. He wrote it while reflecting on his life, the world, and the witnessing of God therein. It starts with a young child named John.

When John is old enough to “know better” he is dressed in itchy clothes and taken to see the Steward who speaks on behalf of the Landlord who owns all the land. John’s family and the Landlord all wear a happy face mask so no one can see who they really are. John is given a card of instructions and told he must follow the rules or the Landlord who is kind and just will throw him into a pit of giant lobsters. When John gets home and reads the card, he finds that it is confusing and impossible to follow on his own. He must wear his mask, so the Landlord won’t find out he has failed. John runs away in search of a mystical island where surely everything is easier and must be better than living like he is now in fear of the Landlord, the Steward, and his family finding out who he really is.

After all the adventures John goes on, discovering himself along the way, he ends up learning the person behind the mask is who the Landlord knows and cares about. He doesn’t have to wear the itchy clothes and mask because he belongs to the Landlord. He knows the truth of how John ran away in search of his love for the island and doesn’t care. The Landlord actually is just and good. He knows who John is through and through and loves him.

I’ll admit I wear a mask a lot of the time. I’m the “strong dependable friend with all the answers”, a “sci-fi/fantasy geek”, and in my neighborhood the “waving cat lady”. We all wear a type of mask. It is the persona or label of who we want the world to believe we are. We are a “good mom” because we think nobody needs to know the struggles of keeping up with the kids. We are a “strong man” who can carry the weight and pressures of the world, yet we just want a break from it all, to rest. We are “fine” because we think nobody wants to see tears or know we are not in fact fine. We think we are alone on our journey and so we put on our itchy cloths and our masks to make the best of it. The truth is we are not alone. The Landlord is watching. He is right beside you. He loves you.

***All who are led by God’s Spirit  
are God’s sons and daughters.  
You didn’t receive a spirit of  
slavery to lead you  
back again into fear,  
but you received a Spirit  
that shows you are adopted  
as his children.  
With this Spirit, we cry,  
“Abba, Father.”  
The same Spirit agrees  
with our spirit,  
that we are God’s children.***

Romans 8:14-16

There are so many lies the world tells us and one of the biggest is “you are not good enough”. The truth can be found when we become brave, take our masks off, and sit before God. He knows everything about you, everything you have ever done, and everything you can do. In knowing every hair and every inch of you He still calls you His. One of my favorite bible passages is Romans 8. I encourage you to read the chapter, then ask who are you really. Are you the mask or the person behind it?

## 2022 LENTEN DAILY BIBLE READING

For the season of Lent, we invite you to participate in our Lenten Daily Bible Reading. Starting today we are reading through the book of Romans and John. We believe that these daily readings will prepare us for the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection. A copy of the reading list can be found at the Information Center or through the following link.

### [LENTEN READING](#)

There will also be a daily video of our Daily Bible Reading found on Facebook and YouTube (12:00pm).

## HOLY WEEK

April 9 - April 17



### PLEASE JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK

#### April 09

11:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

#### April 10

11:00 am Palm Sunday Service  
2:00 pm Easter Egg Hunt (Rain Date)

#### April 14

7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service

#### April 15

7:00 pm Good Friday Service

#### April 17

6:45 am Easter Sunrise Service  
11:00 am Easter Worship Service



## THE UMW'S CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF-DENIAL

The Call to Prayer and Self-Denial is an annual program and designated offering that highlights a specific need among our missions and ministries with women, children, and youth. Through the program, we are reminded that our Lord told us to deny ourselves, take up the cross, and follow him. The theme for this year is "Love, Justice, and Service: Answering the Call", and 100% of the offering will go to support the training and work of our deaconesses and home missionaries, laity called by God and commissioned by the UMC to work in ministries of mercy and justice.

If you are not a UMW member and would like to contribute to this mission work, please make your check out to "Beulah UMW", designated "Call to Prayer & Self-Denial", and put it in the UMW mailbox in the office.

Barbara Tuttle, Beulah UMW President

## UMW 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

*Though the fig tree doesn't bloom, and there's no produce on the vine; though the olive crop withers, and the fields don't provide food;... I will rejoice in the Lord. I will rejoice in the God of my deliverance.*

– Habakkuk 3:17-18

### WITNESS

*During the pandemic, the church in Panama was shut down. Our first service after resuming worship services was a funeral. another loss to Covid-19. As we enter the Lenten season, we mourn this and other losses. We have walked the Via Crucis. We have walked through the valley of the shadow of death. But death does not have the final word. We serve a risen Lord.*

Rhett Thompson, Global Missionary from the United States serving in Panama, Evangelical Methodist Church in Panama City

### PRAYER

Please pray for international missionaries serving in Colombia, Cote D'ivoire (Ivory Coast), Cuba, Republic of Congo and Dominican Republic and our United States missionaries serving in District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia and Hawaii.

## UMW DISTRICT ANNUAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

This year's Prayer Breakfast will be Saturday morning, April 2, at Discovery UMC, 13000 Gayton Road, Henrico, 23233. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Kendra Grimes, Randolph-Macon College Chaplain. Registration forms with details are available at the Information Center.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

01 Jennifer Smith	15 Norvell Jenkins	23 David Kuti
02 Rosanna Strauss	Richard Robertson	Abby White
03 Dale Childrey	16 Glynn Soyars	24 Valerie Glazier
05 Bobby Glick	19 Doris Gilmore	25 Gene Coward
Carole Morris	20 Debby Bates	26 Enos Slaughter
Diane Patton	21 Sandra Saunders	Joan Trovalli
06 Ronnie Mann	Dylan Tyler	28 Susan Nowell
07 Deborah Rhodes	22 Susan Iglehart	29 Teresa Hart
		30 Riley Turner

## GERANIUM SALE TO BENEFIT SHALOM FARMS

Yes, the geraniums are on the way! They will arrive on Saturday, April 30. Order forms with details will be available at the Information Center in March, and the order deadline is

**Wednesday, April 13.**

## BACK DOOR BAKE SALE

The Mary E. Farmer Circle of Love is having a BACK DOOR BAKE SALE on April 30. Watch for the upcoming order blank to place your order for your favorite pies, rolls and cakes and you will not have to leave your vehicle to pick them up.

## BEULAH'S BEST

Beulah's Best will meet on **Monday, March 21**, at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Our program will be with Pastor Daniel Chun. We will get the opportunity to know him better. Come and join us. All are welcome to come.

## WEDNESDAY WORSHIP MEAL

Wednesday Worship Meals kicks-off on **March 2** at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The Senior council is hosting a meal of pancakes, breakfast casserole, and baked apples. You can sign up for the meals by calling the office or at the Information Center.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### *Nursery*

Do you love the sound of a baby's giggle? The nursery is looking for volunteers to help on Sunday mornings during the worship service. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact Kelly Edwards at 804-586-1191 or email her at [kelly@beulahumc.org](mailto:kelly@beulahumc.org).

### *Office*

The church staff depends on volunteers for support and many of the basic office functions during the work week. This includes but is not limited to answering phones, stuffing envelopes, helping prepare items for Sunday worship and special events, and helping the pastors with projects. If you are interested in helping or would like more information, please contact Pat Soyars at 804-275-6785.

## MARCH CALENDAR

<b>01</b>	2:00 pm	Hugging Hearts
<b>02</b>	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service
<b>03</b>	5:30 pm	Family Group
<b>04</b>	6:00 pm	Mariners Dinner
<b>05</b>	9:00 am	Beulah Food Distribution
<b>08</b>	10:00 am	Mary Farmer Circle of Love
	2:00 pm	Outreach Meeting
	7:00 pm	Finance
<b>13</b>	12:15 pm	Mission Meeting
<b>15</b>	1:30 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry
		Springdale Bible Study
	2:00 pm	Hugging Hearts
<b>16</b>	1:00 pm	Wesleyan - Stratton
<b>17</b>	12:00 pm	Senior Luncheon
	5:30 pm	Family Group
<b>21</b>	10:00 am	Beulah's Best
<b>22</b>	5:30 pm	Prayer Team Meeting
<b>24</b>	10:00 am	UMW Missions Meeting
	5:00 pm	Creator's Studio Craft Night
<b>26</b>		Scouts
<b>27</b>	5:30 pm	Youth Outing

## OCCURRING WEEKLY

<b>Sunday</b>	Worship
	Sunday School
<b>Monday</b>	Bells Rehearsal
	Card Ministry
	Men's Bible Study
	Scouts
<b>Tuesday</b>	Cub Scouts
<b>Wednesday</b>	Wednesday Worship Meal
<b>Thursday</b>	Choir Rehearsal
	Creator's Studio
	Girl Scouts
	Quartet Rehearsal
<b>Friday</b>	Dog Ministry

## MEMBERSHIP/BAPTISM CLASS

Starting Wednesday, March 9  
After the Wednesday Worship Meal  
Separate classes for Youth and Adults  
Sign up at the Information Center

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