

BEULAH BEACON

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:6-7)

THANKSGIVING

By Pastor Don Gibson

Hello all and Blessings! What an incredibly “quick” summer and fall we have had. We just wrapped up one of our great outreach opportunities, Trunk or Truck (which was wonderful!) and we have already begun our planning for Advent, the Christmas Cantata, Live Nativity and Christmas Eve service! Although there is much to do, I would invite you to pause with me for a moment and focus on Thanksgiving- a day that is often only sandwiched between Halloween and Christmas- well, that is at least how our culture views this very important holiday.

The Thanksgiving feast on which our current holiday is based took place just before the Pilgrims’ second winter in Massachusetts. They had barely survived their first winter in 1620. More than half their company had died from starvation, disease, and exposure to the elements. However, with the help of the Wampanoag tribe of Native Americans, they had learned how to farm the land effectively, and their harvest in 1621 was abundant. In November of that year, they gathered to give thanks to God not just for the blessings that they had already received, but also for their faithful expectation that God would enable them to survive until the following spring. Thanksgiving is not just our response to the good things that have already happened, ***it is a way of life rooted in our conviction that everything, past, present, and future, is in the hands of a loving God who cares for us and blesses us in all the circumstances of our lives.***

Paul, the author of Philippians, wrote to encourage Christians to “be thankful” in everything. If you read any of Paul’s many letters, you might expect Paul and his followers to complain about the hazards of following Jesus; being a Christian. I am sure that it wasn’t easy to endure the ridicule, abuse, and violence to which they were subjected daily. And yet, Paul refuses to even suggest that they complain. What Paul does instead, contrary to the expected sinful response, is advise the Philippian Christians to stop worrying and to put their trust in God who hears their prayers and responds to their needs. The proper response for a follower of Jesus is not anxiety and fear in the face of difficulties and dangers or uncertainties for the future, ***but thanksgiving rooted in faith that God has all things under control- which must become our way of life.*** Or, as Paul offers in his other letter to the church in Rome: “All things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose.”

So, as you gather with family and friends this Thanksgiving, my prayer is that the Holiday, often only sandwiched between candy and Christmas lights, becomes a day rooted in our conviction that everything, past, present, and future, is in the hands of a loving God who cares for us and blesses us in all the circumstances of our lives. May God bless you and all your loved ones with this spirit of faithful and hopeful thanksgiving! And may the peace of God that passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus!

FEATURED ARTICLES

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
AT 2:00 AM



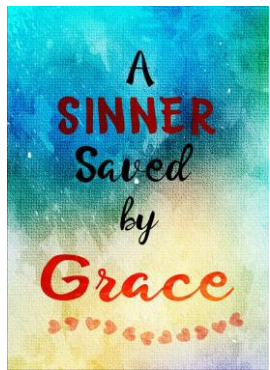
DON'T FORGET TO
TO FALL BACK



MUSIC NOTES

By Deborah Wenrich

Here are my two selections for the November Beacon. I was so inspired by these articles that I quoted them for you. Enjoy!



Sinner Saved by Grace was written by Gloria and Bill Gaither. "George Younce the bass singer for the Cathedral Quartet asked Gloria and Bill Gaither to write a song about how he was a sinner saved by grace one night after a Cathedral concert. Gloria Gaither writes: He was from Mississippi, a country boy who lied about his age, left his Christian Home, and joined the paratroopers in 1947. In his own words, George recounts how he got in with the wrong crowd. He had a friend named Mousey Gonzalas that introduced him to the "left-handed cigarette" -marijuana. He worked for the HCO and the Officers Club mixing drinks and singing country songs. His three months of special duty turned into three years of bartending and a longer struggle with alcohol. He rededicated his life to the Lord when he felt the Lord speaking to him and realized that there was no hope for him except in Jesus." (Gaither, 2015). The Story Behind the Song: Sinner Saved by Grace Gaither, Gloria 10, September 2015, <https://gaither.com/sinner-saved-by-grace-the-story-behind-the-song/>

"10,000 Reasons" was written by Matt Redman and his Swedish friend Jonas Myrin. They were inspired by Psalm 103. Matt Redman gave this quote so eloquently to Worship Leader in his interview: "The point behind the song is this: if you wake up one morning and cannot think of a reason to bring God some kind of offering of thanks or praise then you can be sure that there is something wrong at your end of the pipeline, not his. We live beneath an unceasing flow of goodness, kindness, greatness, and holiness and every day we're given reason after reason why Jesus is so completely and utterly worthy of our highest and best devotion." SONG STORY "10,000 REASONS" BY MATT REDMAN 2022 Authentic Media <https://worshipleader.com/worship-culture/10000-reasons-by-matt-redman/>



By Barry Iglehart

root-cellar.org

OY...OZ

It is somewhat interesting, two words of equal length but very different direction, meanings. I'm feeling the need to speak of both.

In western script you may have actually seen both spellings and you may have heard them after a fashion. One, "Oy", maybe the most recognizable, is defined as "woe". The meaning could be taken as "Woe is me." or "That's bad.", or maybe "That hurts." And, usually, it's not done in too significant a situation. Perhaps even lighthearted? There are escalations, but even then...

The second may possibly be even more familiar, at least its spelling. And pay no attention to the man behind the screen. The movie The Wizard Of Oz is iconic and seen on nearly every platform there is throughout the Fall holidays. But our pronouncing it as a kind of "ahz" is quite different from the Hebrew. There it has a long "o" and would sound more like "ohz". This word's defined as "strength", or "boldness". Quite a different path it seems.

Scripture says that we go from "strength unto strength". Dozens and dozens of references speak to us of Adonai being our strength and restoring us in it. He has directed us to follow His Word to a deeper relationship with Him, to depend on Him for that strength and to also raise us up and carry us forward in His holy name.

To be sure, though, we need to be aware that we cannot sit on our hands. God's calling requires a response. As He leads, we need to follow. As He moves and does, we need to do. Pray, read, study, look and listen. Take our hands and feet, our backs and brains, our souls and spirits and commit them to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel), and to our Messiah Jesus. Baruch Ha'shem. Blessed be the name.

BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

DECEMBER READING

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



THE MONTH IN REVIEW

DURING THE LAST MONTH...

Birth Announcements

We give God praise for the birth of Harper Pearl Shaulis on October 5, 2023. Harper is the daughter of Lauren and Brad Shaulis, granddaughter of Ken and Becky Brooks, and great granddaughter of Dorothy House.



We give God praise for the birth of Milayah Rhea Akoi on October 17, 2023. Milayah is the daughter of Flo and Melanie Akoi and the granddaughter of Todd and Mary Anne Huband.

We give God praise for the birth of Josephine "Josie" Dillon Huband on October 28, 2023. Josephine is the daughter of John and Kayla Huband, the granddaughter of Todd and Mary Anne Huband, and cousins to Amaiyah, Maui, and Milayah Akoi.



Baptism

On Sunday, October 8, James Reed Sink was baptized. James is the son of James and Kellyn Sink and grandson of Cindy Stanearth.

New Members

On Sunday, October 8, we welcomed new member Suzanne Davis. She was very happy to finally become a member of Beulah and looks forward to continuing to be a part of such a loving, prayerful, and faithful family in Christ.



Confirmation

On Sunday, October 22, Kelsey Smith was confirmed and welcomed into the body of believers here at Beulah. Kelsey is the son of Jennifer Smith and grandson of Dale Childrey.

Stockholders Dinner

On Sunday, October 22 the youth held a Stockholder's dinner for those who invested in them and their mission trip to West Virginia.



Trunk or Treat

On October 31, we held the annual Trunk or Treat here at Beulah. We praise God (and give a shout out to all our donors of candy, volunteers, and "trunkers") for the biggest and best Trunk or Treat yet! We collected and shared more than 34,000 pieces of candy (a record), we had more "trunkers" than ever (including the most first timers), we shared more Gideon Bibles than any previous year, and we connected with more community children and families than ever (early estimates 2, 500 +). So, again we thank God for the incredible evening of shared joy, love, and fun. We thank all of you for helping it to be the best one yet- Trunk or Treat 2023!





United Women in Faith

DISTRICT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH ADVENT SERVICE

Everyone is invited to our annual Advent Service, which will be at Trinity UMC, 903 Forest Ave, Richmond, on Saturday, December 2. Registration begins at 10:00 am, and worship is from 10:30 am to 11:30 am.

RICHMOND CROP HUNGER WALK

Richmond's CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday, November 12, at Ginter Park UMC, 1010 W. Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA 23227, beginning with a rally at 1:30 pm. The walk begins at 2:00 pm. Our Beulah Team is registered on the Crop Hunger Walk's web site events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/event/richmondva, where you can join the team or make a secure donation. You can also see Barbara Tuttle at the Volunteer's Desk after Worship.

JOHN WESLEY'S ELECTION ADVICE

"I met those of our society who had votes in the ensuing election, and advised them. 1. To vote, without fee or reward, for the person they judged most worthy: 2. To speak no evil of the person they voted against: And, 3. To take care their spirits were not sharpened against those that voted on the other side. John Wesley, October 6, 1774

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Did you know you can give to Beulah UMC just by shopping or getting gas at Kroger? Go to the Kroger Community Rewards website and link your shopper's Card to the church. Any transactions moving forward using the Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to the program, at no added cost to you. Kroger will then donate annually to Beulah UMC based on your percentage of spending. To learn more or link your card please visit <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. Beulah's organizational number is KV086.

UWF MISSION WITNESS

The Daily Prayer Guider is published annually by United Women in Faith. 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

We have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love and those who remain in love remain in God and God remains in them.

-1 John 4:16

Witness

I work at the Veteran's Affairs Eastern Colorado Health Care System as a program analyst. One rough day at work I was questioning my ability to make a difference for the veterans. Going down the stairs on my way home, I prayed about whether I should continue working at the VA. As I was about to exit the hospital, an older veteran was being helped up from a bench. I slowed, smiled and said hello. Once he stood and steadied himself, he said, "I made it!" I replied, "You sure did!" He then said, "I'm glad you were there." He thanked me for caring and taking the time to say hello. It really touched my heart and soul. As I continued walking, I thought about the encounter and heard a whisper in my heart. "That's why I am here." God touched both of our souls and brought us joy through our encounter. My prayer that night as I wrote in my journal was, "Thank you God for answering my prayer and letting me know I'm right where you want me. I don't understand it and I don't need to. Help me to enjoy the mystery!"

- Laurie Fujinami,
Order of Deaconess and Home Missioner,
VA Eastern Colorado
Health Care System, Aurora, Colorado

Prayer

Please pray for international missionaries serving in Tanzania, Taiwan, Thailand and Ukraine and our missionaries serving in the United States in Texas, Vermont and Virginia.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Beulah, in partnership with the Pathfinders Sunday School Class, is working to collect shoeboxes filled with fun toys, school supplies, and personal care items. These will be delivered to children in need around the world to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. Please pick up a Samaritans Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box, with instructions, in the Narthex. The boxes must be returned on or before **Sunday, November 12**. Please see the church office if you have any questions.

DISAFFILIATION AGREEMENT COST CAMPAIGN

DISAFFILIATION AGREEMENT COST CAMPAIGN PROGRESS AS OF 10/24/2023

	Individual Gifts x \$1 to \$999	50 families (or individuals) x \$1,000	20 families (or individuals) x \$5,000	10 families (or individuals) x \$10,000
Goal	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$100,000
Received	46 Totaling \$13,093	34 Totaling \$42,525	20 Totaling \$101,782	10 Totaling \$101,936

The Virginia United Methodist Conference has changed our Disaffiliation payment date. Therefore, we have more time to meet our goals. So, if you have not filled out a pledge card or given your donation, it is not too late! Just put the pledge or donation in an offering plate or in the Disaffiliation Box on the table in the Narthex. However, we must receive your donation by **Monday, November 20, 2023**. As of October 24, 2023 we have received approximately \$536,617 leaving a balance of \$49,241. We thank you for your generosity and support.

BEULAH'S FALL FESTIVAL SET UP

Many hands make for light work. This **Wednesday, November 08** we will need help putting up the round tables and chairs after the meal. We also need volunteers to help set up before, work during the event, and help clean up afterwards. If you are able to volunteer please sign up at the Information Center or see Sherry Harris.

BEULAH FALL FESTIVAL

The festival is finally here! Please come out on **November 11** between 8:00 am and 2:00 pm and enjoy the festivities. The "Country Market" will have a wide assortment of baked goods, jams and jellies, and canned items. The Auld Country, a bluegrass band, will start playing around 11:00 am. The 11th is also Veterans Day and there will be representatives from all branches of the military, local police and fire departments. Family fun activities will include Hay ride, Barrel ride, Bounce house, Book mobile, face painting, and games.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING

There is an Administrative Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, at 7:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall. We will be voting on the budget, lay leadership, and other items for 2024.

BEULAH'S BEST

Beulah's Best will meet **November 21**, at 10:00am, in the Fellowship Hall. Our program will be Josh Wortham and the Joy singers from Chester UMC. Come enjoy the wonderful music, fellowship and refreshments.

COMMUNION OFFERING

Our November Communion Offering will be split between Safe Harbor and James House. Both organizations serve a vital need in our local communities, and we encourage you to support them.

<https://safeharborshelter.com/>

Safe Harbor provides the support that survivors of sexual and domestic violence and human trafficking need to overcome their crisis and to transform their lives. Safe Harbor envision that every person in our community can take pride in having safe homes and healthy relationships.

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

James House offers cost free, confidential help for people affected by sexual violence, domestic violence, interpersonal violence and stalking in the Greater Tri Cities Region of Virginia. Headquartered in Prince George, James House has 12 shelters in undisclosed locations.

SHERBOURNE FOOD PANTRY

During the month of November, 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 in the white Afterhours Donation Cabinet in the Breezeway. Thank you for all you are doing to help us meet our pledge of 5,000 lbs. of food by the end of 2023.



SHERBOURNE CHRISTMAS MEALS

We will again be providing Christmas meals for our neighbors who are served by the Sherbourne Food Pantry. Look for details and a shopping list in upcoming announcements. The meals will be due back December 10 and will be blessed during the worship service.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP MEALS FALL SCHEDULE

November 08

Prayer Team: Pino's Lasagna, salad, and dessert

November 15

Chili Cook Off

CHILI COOK OFF

As part of the Wednesday Worship Meal, there will be Chili Cook-Off on **November 15**, so get out the crock pots and some copies of your recipe and let's make it fun and share our recipes with friends. There will be awards given for first, second, and third place. To enter your chili in the cook-off please visit the Information Center.

BIRTHDAYS

November

1	Margaret Burke Tom Owens	25	Ray Byers Ethel Newton
7	Sandy Lunsford Lynn Snow		Sarah Tatum
11	DB Walston, Jr.	30	Ann Garnett
12	Georgia Biegar Patricia Lohr	December	
14	Haley Cole	01	Ashton Payne
15	Barbara Adams	02	Joe Dilday
16	Jane Barfield		Joe Schmierer, Jr.
17	Krissy Henderson	03	Todd Huband
18	Richard Barfield Jason Hodges	04	Kass Spitzley, IV
	Nancy Mason	05	Martha Everett Claire Gibson
24	Kelly Edwards Nora Foster Ariella Gibson Pat Taylor		Emma Bradley Mary Hunt

THANK YOU NOTE

From Braxton Community

To Beulah Church, Pam Collins, and Mary Anne Huband

The residents of Braxton community want to thank Beulah Church for allowing us to participate in the "Balance Class" held there recently. You were very generous to welcome us and we all appreciate your hospitality. Also, we send a big "Thank You" to Pam Collins and Mary Anne Huband for leading the classes.

BLANKET DRIVE

Alien definition: a foreigner, especially one who is not a naturalized citizen of the country where they are living. In Numbers 15: 15 it says: "The community is to have the same rules for you and for the foreigner residing among you; this is a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. You and the foreigner shall be the same before the LORD."

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is an international humanitarian aid nonprofit that works in crisis response, recovery, development, and advocacy. In the USA and United Kingdom, the IRC operates a network of resettlement field offices, helping individuals who have fled violence and conflict to build new lives in these countries.

IRC supports newly arrived clients through a variety of programs including case management, connecting them to employment, building financial literacy, enrolling children in schools, providing English language and cultural orientation classes, delivering enrichment and engagement programming to youth clients, assistance with immigration services, and more!

The federal government supplies basic supplies to them; however, these include sheet sets and bedspreads but no extra blankets for cold weather. We will be collecting blankets to help these people feel warm in their new environment. **Please consider adding a NEW blanket, either Queen size or Twin size, to your shopping lists.** This drive will run through **Sunday, November 26**. They may be dropped off any time in November in the box in the narthex. Thank you for thinking of others less fortunate.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

02 Fall Festival Meetings	15 Wesleyan Stratton
04 Celebration of Life for Roy Hartless	Chili Cook Off
08 Beulah Land @ Meadowbrook Wednesday Worship Meal	21 Beulah's Best Prayer Shawl
11 Fall Festival	UMM Dinner
13 Ruth Robertson Friendship Circle	23 Thanks Giving/Office Closed
14 Mary Farmer Circle of Love Finance Meeting Rebekah Fellowship Admin Board Meeting	24 Thanks Giving/Office Closed 28 Springdale Bible Study 29 Prayer Meeting

REOCCURRING WEEKLY

Sunday

8:30 Worship
Sunday School
11:00 Worship
Play Rehearsal

Monday

Card Ministry
Men's Bible study
Bells of Praise Rehearsal
Scouts

Tuesday

Cub Scouts
Women's Chorus Rehearsal

Wednesday

Staff Meeting
C&Y Bells Rehearsal

Thursday

Beulah Land Quartet Rehearsal
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal