

BEULAH BEACON

HERITAGE

By Pastor Don Gibson

“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.” Hebrews 12:1

Hello all and blessings! The month of May is full of wonderful celebrations; celebrations that remind us of our rich heritage (Mother’s Day, Beulah Day, Pentecost, and Memorial Day). Merriam Webster defines heritage as something transmitted by or acquired from a predecessor. Our mothers have shaped our lives, our church has shaped our lives and men, women, and neighbors, have served us and our country by offering their lives for our freedom—we certainly have a rich history and heritage!

For us Christians, we have been given the important gift (heritage) of faith and it must be passed on- offered to others through teaching, preaching, by our example, our service and in our prayers for others.

I believe a battle is raging over which heritage, if any, will be passed on. Many young people are receiving a corrupt heritage from their peers, media, and the world.

In II Timothy 1:3, one of my favorite books of the bible, Paul mentions the heritage he received from his forefathers and mothers. In verse five he reminds Timothy that he had received a rich heritage of faith from his

grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice. Paul then admonishes Timothy to pass on the heritage that he has received. In Psalm 16:6, the writer declares that he has a Godly heritage. In Psalm 78, the psalmist urges the people not to hide their spiritual heritage but to show it to the coming generations, emphasizing the praises of the Lord, His strength, and His wonderful works.

Some of the principles of a strong faith heritage that I have received (from my parents, the church, and others) and that I hope to share with others are: Learn to trust God in every situation and problem of life (Proverbs 3:5-6). Whatever happens, give thanks for it immediately (I Thessalonians 5:18), for God is working all things together for our good (Romans 8:28). God is the only one who has the wisdom, love, and power to properly lead and guide my life (Nahum 1:7, John 10:4, Psalm 48:14). This guidance is best received from the Holy Spirit through daily Bible reading and prayer (confession, praise, thanksgiving, intercession, and petition).

Continued on page2

FEATURED ARTICLES

Music Notes	Pg 2
Month in Review	Pg 3
Straw Poll Results	Pg 3
Bible Reading Challenge	Pg 4
Youth Mission Trip	Pg 5
Conference Kits	Pg 6
Beulah Day	Pg 7
THANKS	Last Page



The Beulah Youth (Belong) worshipping outside during youth group.

MUSIC NOTES

By Deborah Wenrich

I have selected two hymns for the month of May 2023, to give the history behind these songs. They are "Sweet Beulah Land" and "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus".

Sweet Beulah Land is composed by Squire Parsons. He was born in Newton, West Virginia in 1948. He gave his heart to God at the age of 9 and began writing music eleven years later. He studied music in college and majored in voice and bassoon. He was employed at Christ United Methodist Church as a bassoon soloist. It was there that he learned the classics. After graduating, he got a job teaching high school. On the way to work one morning, he found himself thinking about the little church that he grew up in and as he topped a mountain in West Virginia, he was faced with a brilliant sun in all of its glory and a new tune came to mind. It was the chorus of Sweet Beulah Land. When he got to the school, he wrote down the chorus and a verse. Five years went by before he wrote the next verse and recorded it. He still crisscrosses the nation, still singing the music that he has written. He has written over 800 songs. Story behind the song: 'Sweet Beulah Land' Staff Writer St. Augustine Record 3 March 2016

<https://www.staugustine.com/story/lifestyle/faith/2016/03/03/story-behind-song-sweet-beulah-land/16315642007/>

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus was written by Louisa M. R. Stead. She was born in Dover, England in 1850 and moved to Cincinnati, Ohio in 1871. She dedicated her life to missionary service after attending a camp meeting in Urbana, Ohio. Her health was frail, and it initially kept her from serving. She married in 1875 and the couple had a daughter named Lily. When Lily was 4 years of age, they decided to have a picnic on the beach in Long Island, New York. Mr. Snead jumped in to save a drowning boy who pulled him under as his terrified wife and daughter looked on. It was from this personal tragedy that Louisa wrote, "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus". Soon after this tragedy, Louisa and Lily left for Cape Colony in South Africa where she worked as a missionary for fifteen years. She married Robert Wodehouse a native of South Africa but because of her health, they returned to the United States in 1895 and Robert pastored a United Methodist congregation until 1900 when the family returned to Africa. Lily married and served for many years in South Rhodesia, her mother passed away in 1917. Christians in South Rhodesia continued to sing her hymn in the Shona language. The hymn was first published in Songs of Triumph in 1882. History of Hymns: "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" Hawn, C. Michael, 17 September 2014 Discipleship Ministries

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/history-of-hymns-tis-so-sweet-to-trust-in-jesus>

SUMMER'S MUSIC OFFERINGS

Summer is quickly approaching, and many ministries take a break during the summer months; this includes the choirs and musical groups. The Music Department is looking for soloists, duets, and trios to sing or play an instrument during worship services on select Sundays during July, August, and September. If you are interested, please sign up at the Information Desk, and Deborah Wenrich will contact you about how we can best use your musical offering.

HERITAGE

By Pastor Don Gibson

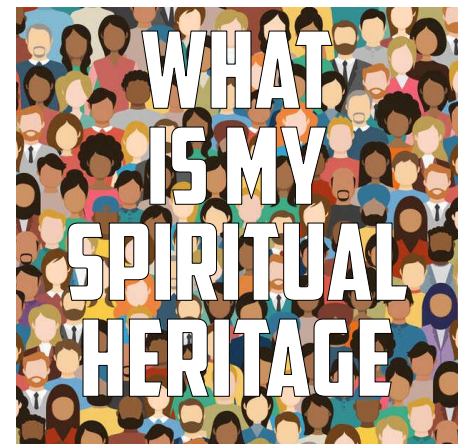
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I must maintain a positive faith attitude (Hebrews 11:1,16). A positive faith attitude is necessary to honor God. The Scripture tells us we ought to maintain positive faith thoughts, for they are godly thoughts (Philippians 4:8) and to cast down negative doubt thoughts, for they are evil (II Corinthians 10:5).

Seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit of God each day- let the prayer of my heart be each morning, "more of you God and less of me." The result of the filling of the Holy Spirit is the fruit of the spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), victory over sin (Romans 6:11-13), the love of God in the soul (I John 4:11,12), and a strong desire to reach the lost with the gospel, to pursue righteousness, and to maintain an attitude of praise.

And I must pursue to live a holy, separated life (Titus 2:11-14; II Corinthians 6:14-18; I John 2:15-17) determining my values and standards based on the Word of God and love for God and others.

What heritage have you received and wish to celebrate? The month of May offers us more than one opportunity to do so- to pass along the heritage that we have received- our faith, our hope, our joy, our strength, our purpose! Let's not hide our spiritual heritage but share it- emphasizing the praises of the Lord, His strength, and His wonderful works!



THE MONTH IN REVIEW

Holy Week: We celebrated the death and resurrection of our savior starting with Palm Sunday worship services on April 2. The Wednesday, April 5, the church staff gathered for a Seder meal and experienced the Last Supper together. On Thursday, April 6 the church gathered for a fish dinner and a solum Maundy Thursday service. On Friday, April 7 we remembered why Good Friday is called Good Friday and the youth help lead worship. Saturday, the worship committee came in and decorated for Reserection Sunday. The Easter Lilies decorating the Sanctuary were all given in honor and memories of Beulah's loved ones. Easter Sunday, we had a large gathering for Sunrise service. Then the cross was decorated. During the 11:00 am Easter Service 5 youth were baptized, and seven youth were accepted into membership.



RESULTS OF THE STRAW POLL

The results of the Straw Poll held on April 11, 2023 are as follows:

132 Yes, continue the process of disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church

32 No, do not continue the process of disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church

*The vote carried by 80%



With a simple majority needed to carry this vote, there were sufficient **YES** votes to approve the continuation of the process for disaffiliation. **Remember, this is not the final vote for disaffiliation, however, with this vote, Beulah UMC will move forward toward a final vote. More detailed information (including costs, and next steps in the process) will be posted and/or emailed as it becomes available.**

I invite you to join me in continuing to pray for each other, and our entire Beulah UMC family, as we move forward in seeking God's will.

A Matter of Balance: 30 in attendance classes started on April 20. The guest speaker brought with her free At-Home COVID tests. If you would like one they are in the church office.



Last Wednesday Worship Meal Until the Fall: On April 26, we gathered for the last Wednesday Worship Meal of the season. The profits from this meal went to Neighbors Outreach Worldwide: Kenya. NOW KENYA and Len Eastwood are one of the missions supported by Beulah. To learn more about this NOW Kenya or how you can help support them go to <https://www.nowkenya.org/>

BIBLE READING CHALLENGE



By Barry Iglehart root-cellar.org

No pop quiz later, but I'm going to run a few words at you, and you can count them on one hand. They are mother, father, sister, brother, oh, and family. Five. Their Hebrew translations are, and in order, "em, abba, ah'ot, akh," and "mishpakhah". As we travel through the month of May we have more than one reminder of being a family, a "mishpakhah".

There is, of course, Mothers' Day, wherein we celebrate those that gave us life, whether it was physical or perhaps something more. Beulah church has certainly been that to many of us. And the word "mother" has many aspects, can mean many things either alone or all at once. It is, though, the word "mishpakhah", family, I'd like to focus on.

Families are there to love and nurture, sustain, and protect. How that's done can be a major bone of contention. Arguments and disagreements often pop up. Rifts and feuds occur. Does it mean we don't love each other just because we don't 100% agree? Of course not. Some, though, refuse to see it that way. If you don't absolutely agree with them, you must hate them. Beulah is very much a family. And we will soon celebrate these family ties with Beulah Day. So, while we fuss and fight, worry and argue, can we please remember that we really do love each other, wanting only the best for each other, remembering there is a love that transforms, and that is the love of Jesus. Todah rabah, thank you very much.

MAY READING

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

SHERBOURNE FOOD PANTRY

During the month of May, the Sherbourne Food Pantry is asking for donations of personal care items. These items such as: feminine hygiene products, paper towels, toilet paper, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, and toothbrushes are not usually available to Sherbourne's clients. Donations can be left on the wire rack by the Information Center or in the white after-hours donation cabinet in the Breezeway.

THIS MONTH'S COMMUNION OFFERING

UM Native American Ministries

(taken from <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/umcgiving>)

In 2022, United Methodist churches gave over \$426 thousand to develop and strengthen Native American ministries in the Annual Conferences, Native American rural, urban, reservation ministries and communities. Your donation provided development, implementation, and assessment of a higher education recruitment/retention for Native American clergy. The UMC is blessed to support Native American students through scholarships, but they would like to do more. You can help them change that! Donate to the native American Seminary Scholarship and help more students answer God's call to higher education. You can donate by writing Communion or Native American ministries on the memo line of your communion offering check or envelope.



"The church is not complete without great diversity from which we learn and share with each other as God intended."

— The Rev. David Wilson, Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference superintendent

YOUTH MISSIONS UPDATE AND INVITATION TO SUPPORT!

From June 25 to July 1, five members of the youth ministry will be going to Romney, West Virginia through the Jeremiah Project to serve the local community via home-repair work. During the months of May and June, the youth will be faithfully preparing to go on missions through spiritual training and fundraising. The youth ministry needs prayer partners (sponsors) and financial support. We would like to share with you multiple ways student(s) will be seeking out the church for support:

1. Invest in Youth Ministry – The Youth will be selling “shares” and asking investors to invest in the Youth Mission Trip. They will be pitching to you the reasons why you should invest in their mission trip. Expect to see them out in the Narthex every Sunday in May.
2. Sponsorship Letters – The Youth will also be sending out sponsorship letters to individuals in the church. Each letter will be written by the student(s) themselves sharing with you the what and why of their missions’ trip. Potential sponsors will be invited to support them both prayerfully and financially.



3. Yard Sale – The Youth are looking to host a yard sale in the late spring/early summer to raise money for their trip as well. Please watch for more details about the yard sale to support our youth.

If you have any questions about the details of missions and the Jeremiah Project, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Daniel Chun.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Our prayer shawls are created for the purpose of showing love and understanding and many times of joy for those people to whom they are given. God has given us the talent to create and use that talent to help spread the ministry of Beulah United Methodist Church. Our intention is that shawls will be given to those who need them regardless of whether they are members of our church or not. A shawl blessing is attached to each shawl. Fill in the name and date before you present it to that person.

We welcome anyone who would like to join our ministry. Others attend a monthly meeting at the church in room 111 on the third Tuesday from 1:30-3:00 PM. Our shawls are blessed by the group and presented to the congregation for blessing from the pastor.

We make shawls for our college students (with their school colors) who start in the fall of each year. Other items we make are blankets for new babies, chemo hats, scarves, and hats for needy families through the Christmas Mother program.

If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact the church and let us know. All are welcome.





United Women in Faith

SPECIAL MISSION RECOGNITION PINS

During our UWF Sunday services on April 16, we had an opportunity not only to hear a wonderful message from Martha Stokes, our VA Conference Lay Leader, but also to present Special Mission Recognition pins to Bobbi Hudson and Margaret Schools for their service to our unit. A pin signifies that a donation has been given to missions in honor of the recipient. Jann Niccoli presented Bobbi's pin, and Barbara Tuttle presented Margaret's. Also, Dale Childrey presented a pin to Sarah Eastwood last November. If any group or individual at Beulah wants to recognize someone with a pin, please contact Cathy Turner, 804-536-5593, or Barbara Tuttle, 804-271-2289.

GERANIUM SALE RESULTS

Thanks so much to the Beulah family for purchasing 49 geraniums to benefit Shalom Farms. The UMUMR Auxiliary sold 1,662 plants for a total of \$7,479, of which \$2,100 will go to Shalom Farms during their matching funds campaign where it will be doubled.



**CLEANING BUCKETS AND HYGIENE KITS
INSTRUCTIONS ARE AT THE INFORMATION CENTER**

Donations are due by Sunday, May 28

CONFERENCE KITS

UMCOR is asking for Cleaning Buckets and Hygiene Kits this year. Instructions for assembling the kits or making a financial donation are available at the Information Center or through the link below. We will dedicate the kits on May 28.

[CONFERENCE KIT INSTRUCTIONS](#)

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

Go, eat rich food, and drink something sweet," Nehemiah said to them, "and send portions of this to any who have nothing ready!... Don't be sad, because the joy from the Lord is your strength!"
Nehemiah 8:10

Witness

These are extraordinary times for children. Crafting gives them the ability to imagine, to create and be children when the world around them is turned upside down. It's difficult for both students and teachers to communicate during a time when children need that touch and facial expressions and laughter they used to share among friends. So, at Open Arms, we help each other. We build each other up with our reading and writing and math skills; yes, even adults can learn new math!

*Julie Wilson, Executive Director,
Open Arms Community Center, Winston-Salem, NC*

Prayer

Please pray for international missionaries serving in Honduras, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia and Japan and our missionaries serving in the United States in Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Michigan.



**TRANSFORMING LIVES
AS WE SEEK, SHARE
AND SERVE GOD.**

BEULAH'S BEST

Beulah's Best will meet Tuesday, May 16, at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The Beulah Land Quartet will be sharing a selection of songs from their repertoire. This will also be the last meeting until the Fall so you will not want to miss out on such a wonderful time of fellowship.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is coming closer and closer! (Tuesday, June 20th - Friday, June 23rd) And we are happy to announce that the Registration for VBS 2023 - Hero Hotline is OPEN! Please go to BeulahUMC.org/VBS2023 to find the Registration Form! You may also find the registration form on the Facebook Event Page. If you know of any students in will be in Elementary School as of Fall 2023, share with them the great news about VBS!



BEULAH DAY

Save the date!!! Beulah Day is **Sunday, May 21**. We will celebrate with a combined service at 10:30 am. (There will be no Sunday School on this day.) Then after the service we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for lunch and fellowship. Please sign up at the Information Center if you plan to attend the lunch after the service.

BIRTHDAYS

MAY

04	Theresa Buckner	26	Betty Robertson
05	Mary Anne Huband	27	Sydney Shakespeare
06	Pastor Don Gibson	28	Rose Byers
08	Virginia Lauver	31	Diane Kleis
09	Phillip Glass		
10	Emma Gibson		
	Sonny Turner		
12	Anne Williams		
15	Michael Bates		
	Jim Harris		
22	Tom Bradmon		
	David Conner		
23	Zachary Glazier		
	Inez Johnson		
	Jessica Piper		

JUNE

02	Martha Payne
04	Jeffrey Moats
	Butch Sanderson
05	HT Bareford Jr.
	Anne Christopher
	Ann Gould
	Geneva Harris

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Nicholas Cyrt Clayborn (grandson of Robyn Cyrtmus) was born on Sunday, April 2, 2023. Nicholas weighed 6lbs 15 oz. Mom and Dad are Chelsea and Josh Clayborn and all are doing well.



Georgia Mae Harris (granddaughter of Al and Sherry Harris) was born Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 9:52 pm. She weighed 7lbs 12 oz and is doing well. Mom and Dad are Susan and Matt Harris

THANKS

To: Beulah Family

From: Jeanne Hensel

Thank you to my Beulah Family for all your cards, meals, good wishes and especially your prayers at the time of my surgery and my recovery. I feel blessed to be part of such a caring church.

To: Beulah

From: Marie Conner

I would like to thank the people of Beulah for the cards I received, and the prayers lifted on my behalf as I recuperate from a broken wrist. I hope you will come to see me at my new home in Auburn Hill.

To: Beulah

From: Barbara Dudley, Worship Chair

I would like to thank Pat & Glynn Soyars, Sandra Sanderson, & David Dudley for offering to help me make our Sanctuary and Easter Cross so beautiful for the Easter season. I am blessed to have such wonderful, faithful friends.

To: Beulah

From: Louis Corde

I want to thank everyone for all the cards, the food and the visits I received during my recent recovery from knee surgery. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. But I especially want to thank everyone for their prayers. My recovery has gone very well and when people say I am doing so well in my recovery, I respond immediately by telling them my good recovery is an answer to a lot of prayers. Thank you again for all your support and especially for your prayers.

To: Beulah UMC

(Several UWF Circles, groups, and individuals have been giving the IA's at Meadowbrook High School treats throughout the school year. For Easter they sent an Easter Basket and words of thanks for Beulah.)

From: IA Travonne Kenyear: Thanks for thinking about me I appreciated all of the thoughtful gifts,

IA Nancy Wallace: Thank you for all that you do for us, it's greatly appreciated!

IA Kim June: Thank you for all you do and thinking of us.

IA Mr. Cook: Thank you,

IA Mrs. Carlisle: Thank you so much you are greatly appreciated!



MAY CALENDAR

- 02** Hugging Hearts
- 05** Mariners Dinner
- 08** Ruth Robertson Friendship Circle
- 09** Finance Meeting
Mary Farmer Circle of Love
Rebekah Fellowship
SPRC
- 14** **MOTHER'S DAY**
Mission's Meeting
- 16** Beulah's Best
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Hugging Hearts
UMM Dinner and Meeting
- 17** Beulah Pool
Wesleyan Stratton
- 18** College Retreat
- 21** **BEULAH DAY**
Beulah Day Luncheon
- 23** Springdale Bible Study
- 28** **PENTECOST SUNDAY**
- 29** **Office Closed for Memorial Day**
- 30** Prayer Meeting

REOCCURRING WEEKLY

- Sunday** 8:30 Worship
Sunday School
11:00 Worship
Children and Youth Bells
Youth
- Monday** Card Ministry
Men's Bible Study
Bells of Praise Rehearsal
Scouts
- Tuesday** Cub Scouts
- Wednesday** Staff Meeting
- Thursday** A Matter of Balance
Beulah Land Quartet
Family Group Night
First Touch Sports
Girl Scouts
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

