

BEULAH BEACON

BELIEVING THROUGH OBEDIENCE By Pastor Hae Rin

I love the story of Abram, who later received the name Abraham from the LORD (Genesis 17:5). I can talk about Abraham and his wife, Sarah, all day. There were no chosen people or a nation of the LORD until Abram. God created Adam and Eve (Genesis 1:27). People spread from them. Also, God created other people besides Adam and Eve (Genesis 4:14). There is a reason why God chose Abram to start God's chosen nation out of all those people. Abraham was a very stubborn man when it came to obeying God's Word. He did not spend too much time thinking about what God had said or trying to make sense out of it. He simply obeyed God. God would speak to Abraham, and he would obey God's command seemingly by the next day first thing. We all know God's Word has power, real power. The Bible, which holds God's Word, has power. However, the power is only released when we obey God's word. God has given you the authority to release His power. That is through obedience to God's Word.

In the Bible, God would use many things to bring miracles and wonders into people's lives, such as a staff (Exodus 19, 14:16, Numbers 20:10-13, Deuteronomy 3:23-28), river water (Genesis 7:19, 2 Kings 5:10), jugs of oil (2 Kings 2:23-25), dust (Exodus 8:16), a piece of wood (Exodus 15:25), flour (2 Kings 4:41), etc. It was never about the actual objects God used to bring miracles but all about the acts of obedience. When Abraham "believed the LORD, the LORD counted it to Abraham as righteousness" (Genesis 15:6). All that God had promised was confirmed to Abraham when he obeyed God's commands (Genesis 22:1-18). Believing in something is not as hard as acting on it. Philippe Petit was a rope walker. A fancy word for that is *high wire artist*. He walked on a rope "between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City on the morning of August 7, 1974" (en.m.wikipedia.org). It was "1,312 feet above the ground." People went crazy cheering for him. There is a

famous tale about this. Before he walked on the rope, he asked the crowd, "Do you believe that I can do this?" People went wild saying, "Yes, we believe it." He asked again the same question. People responded the same way with such enthusiasm saying, "We believe it." There was no doubt that this crowd believed in Petit. Then Petit asked, "Who will be willing to sit on my shoulders while I walk on the rope?" The crowd suddenly became quiet. I'm sure the excitement disappeared as quickly as it came, and fears took over. I'm sure everyone, or should I say most people, believed that Petit could really walk between those two buildings. However, no one was willing to show their faith in him through actions.

I'm sure there are many nice people out there. I believe that they are nice. However, I will not trust my bank account with anyone only because I believe that they are nice. Obedience comes from unshakable faith. Who would invest money in something they don't believe in? People are willing to pay thousands of dollars to go to college, because they truly believe they will receive diplomas and the skills they need to make it through life. Your actions show what you really believe. Abraham showed God how much he believes in the LORD through obedience to God's command, and was willing to sacrifice his only son, Isaac (Genesis 22). This is what God said to Abraham,

I swear by Myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed ME (Genesis 22:16-18).

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HISPANIC MINISTRY AT BEULAH

By Pastor Don Gibson

The Book of Acts, amongst many other teachings, emphasizes the cultural diversity of the early church, the church at Antioch, and it was here that the disciples were first called Christians (Acts 11:26).

This new name, meaning "Those of Christ," was invented to describe these believers who represented various ethnic and cultural backgrounds. This gathering, and new name was in keeping with the Great Commission itself, in which Jesus Christ commands his church to disciple all the people-groups of the world (Matthew 28:19). Therefore, the new term, "Christian," stands as a powerful testimony to the reconciliation of individuals, and cultures, in Christ.

Christ tears down the walls of hostility that divide Jew from Gentile, making former enemies into friends and equals in the faith (Ephesians 2:14-16). This fundamental redemptive equality is well expressed in Galatians 3:28, where the apostle writes, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." We understand that for Christians, we the people of Christ, the practice of multicultural diversity is motivated by love for God and by love for other human beings. We, those who bear the name of Christ, are called to imitate his love in its world-wide embrace.

I believe therefore, and according to Scripture and Christian history, that we, as a Christian community, have a special obligation to demonstrate the reality of Christ's transforming love to all people and people groups. Gratefully, we have recently been offered a unique opportunity to both fulfill this special obligation and practice our faith.

Pastor Norma Aguilar, and her congregation which met at a local United Methodist Church, prayerfully decided to disaffiliate from the UMC and join a local Global Methodist Church. I was approached by Greg West, President Pro-tem of the Virginia Conference of the Global Methodist Church, regarding Pastor Norma and her congregation possibly utilizing space here at Beulah until decisions could be made for a permanent location. Pastor Norma has shepherded this congregation for more than 19 years and they had met in the same shared UMC facility until this past June 30th. I spoke with our Trustee Chair (and the committee) regarding a shared-space agreement for the month of July while decisions were being made internally (here at Beulah). A called Church Council meeting was held on Tuesday evening July 23rd in order to discuss the possibility of our, Beulah, receiving this congregation into membership. After a time of discussion, it was unanimously decided to welcome Pastor Norma Aguilar, and the Hispanic congregation, to Beulah Church in full membership.

This will not be a shared-space, or rental agreement relationship, however, we will welcome them as members of the congregation with expectation of faithfulness to Christ and a lived-out expression of their faith as detailed in their membership vow. We together will (all) live into our mission statement, "to seek, share and serve God!"

We will welcome Pastor Norma as a part-time staff pastor with primary responsibility toward shepherding the Hispanic congregation and ministry. The weekly tithe and offering collected during their worship services will help offset the costs of ministry- including Pastor Norma's salary.

Beginning Sunday August 4, they will meet on Sunday afternoons at 1:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Please join me in praying for, and welcoming, Pastor Norma (and her family), and the Hispanic congregation. We will officially welcome them (all) into membership one Sunday in the near future (during the 11:00 am worship service).

If you have any questions- please reach out.

COMMUNION OFFERING

CrossOver Healthcare Ministries

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

(Information taken from the CrossOver website)

CROSSOVER
Healthcare Ministry

The August Communion offering goes towards CrossOver Healthcare Ministries. The mission of CrossOver is to provide high quality healthcare, promote wellness, and connect community talents and resources with people in need in the name of Jesus Christ.

CrossOver patients come from 118 countries and speak over 50 languages. Approximately one quarter of their patients identify English as their first language. They are proud to serve patients from all over the world. Their vision clinic and pharmacy serve clients from six other safety net medical clinics in the area in addition to CrossOver patients. The CrossOver clinic offers pediatrics, which allows all members of a family to receive care in one location.

MEET NORMA AGUILAR



Hola! Hello! How to start? Why not start by introducing myself! Allow me to tell you a little bit of myself. I am Norma Aguilar, born and raised in San Salvador, El Salvador. I came to the United States in January 1984; New York state to be exact. A week after coming to NY state, together with three of my siblings, I attended a UMC and since then until recently, I served the Lord in the UMC. In 1985 I met my husband, Oswaldo, at Hempstead UMC church. Two years after we met, we got married and had four children, Natalie, Samuel, Laura who were born in NY and Gabriel, our youngest, who was born in VA (who will be leaving the nest to attend UVA).

As for my ministerial experience. In 2007, I was certified as a local pastor and officially appointed at Ramsey UMC as one of their associate pastors. However, my relationship with Ramsey began two years earlier and before my official appointment by Bishop Charlene Kammerer. On April 10, 2005, God blessed me, my family and some members of the community with the opportunity to celebrate our first worship service in Spanish. Praise be to God from whom all blessings flow!

I graduated from John Tyler Community College with an associate of Arts and Science degree and with a paralegal certificate in family law.

In 1999, I attended Garrett Theological Seminary to explore my calling into ministry. Two years after exploring ministry, I began my process as a candidate for ministry. In July 2018, I finished my course of study at Duke Divinity School. In fall of 2022 to spring of 2023, I completed six classes at Wesley Theological Seminary. Unfortunately, I was not able to complete the degree in Master of Divinity due to different circumstances.

However, I am blessed to be the grandmother of nine beautiful grandchildren, six beautiful girls (two of them not living in VA) and three handsome boys.

I am very excited to be a part of this ministry and I am looking forward to getting to know all of you and continue with my calling until God chooses.

For now, please accept our gratitude from the Hispanic group, my family, and I. Thank you for opening the doors to a group of people who desire only to serve, seek and worship God. And, where we can continue to do so as a one body of Christ presently serving and worshiping in two different languages but united in the language of the Spirit. Thank you for inviting us to your home, and I look forward to all the beautiful things God has in store for all of us.

SHERBOURNE FOOD PANTRY

During the months of August and September, Sherbourne is requesting donations of canned food and pantry items to help prepare the pantry for the upcoming fall and winter. Your donation can be left on the wire rack at the Information Center or in the white After-hours Donation Cabinet in the Breeze Way. Thank you for your help in reaching our pledge of 5000 lbs.



By Barry Iglehart
root-cellar.org

The word in Hebrew is "tsel" and in English the word is "shade". The Hebrew/English dictionary, Webster's, has its first definition of "shade" as "shadow". We might normally consider shadows in the Autumn or Winter. August? Bear with me and we'll get there.

In Psalm 23 we see and hear of "walking through the valley of the shadow of death." Some of us may remember an old radio program called "The Shadow" . . . "Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men?" . . . Isn't this how we mostly see shadows - vaguely ominous, sinister? Scary? Hiding evil? Is there maybe a different direction?

Psalm 121:5 and Isaiah 25:4 each speak of God as a sheltering shade. Anyone, having experienced so far the record temperatures in some areas this season understands this part of it. Other Psalms, 17:8, 36:7, 91:1 give the image of God's protective compassionate nature if and when we dwell and hide in His presence, "in the shadows of His wings."

It can be hard. We want to do our own thing. Not give up control. But we're also suggested to "Be still and know that He is God". We do try so hard sometimes. We hear the phrase, "Let go, and let God." Perhaps it's time. Shalom.

THE MONTH IN REVIEW

On Sunday, July 07, Guest speaker Ed Cole shared a message about the battle between good and evil in our lives and how we connect with the Holy Spirit to determine the outcome of that battle.



On Sunday, July 14, we welcomed Pastor Hae Rin Lawson and her husband David Lawson to Beulah Church. Pastor Hae Rin will be serving as Beulah's Pastor of Discipleship and Outreach.



On Tuesday, July 16, the United Women in Faith had their annual Ice Cream Social, hosted by Wesleyan-Stratton Fellowship. Tables were decorated with "cool" penguins and polar bears, and almost 40 attendees enjoyed ice cream with all the fixins. We surprised Pastor Don's wife Christy by singing "Happy Birthday" and presenting her with a cake. All in all, an evening of good food and fellowship!

On Tuesday, July 16, Miles Robert Sink was born weighing 7 lbs. 6 oz. Miles is the son of James & Kellyn Sink and grandson of Cindy Stanearth.

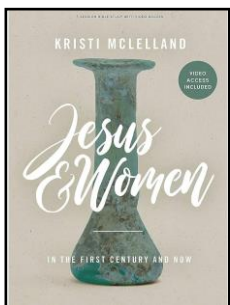


On Tuesday, July 23, the youth visited Springdale and Commonwealth Senior Living as part of their Mission week. There they gave gifts to the residents and shared some hymns accompanied by Deborah Wenrich on her violin. The forecasted thunderstorms and rain brought the mission week to an early end, and the Youth enjoyed an outing to Uptown Bowling Alley.



On Tuesday, July 23, the Church Council met and voted unanimously to bring in Pastor Norma Aguilar on as pastor of Hispanic ministries and to welcome a new Hispanic congregation at Beulah.

BIBLE STUDY TIME



Just thinking about September gives us a reminder that it's time to start a new Bible Study. We will be studying JESUS and WOMEN by Kristi McClelland. This will give us a chance to look at what women in Jesus's first-century world experienced. We will strive to see the Bible with a Middle Eastern lens and study a few Bible passages in a traditionally Jewish way. It will be interesting to learn how Rabbis still teach the children in Israel today.

We will meet on Monday afternoons at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. I will order the books and have them at the first class. We will start September 9 and run through October 21. There is a video included in this class. Please let me know if you would like to join us. All are welcome - men as well as women, neighbors and friends. Margaret Burke, 804-714-2353, marbudburke@comcast.net

ITS FALL Y'ALL

And it is getting to be time for WEDNESDAY WORSHIP MEALS!!! The first one will be September 18 at 6:00 PM and they will end the Tuesday night before Thanksgiving, November 26. There will be a sign-up sheet at the Information Center beginning August 25. Please sign up with the name of the organization and a contact and phone number. Individuals wishing to sponsor a dinner are welcome to sign up. As in the past several years, adequate paper goods will be available in the closet. The flowers, salt and peppers can remain on the tables each week. The kitchen will need to be left cleaner than when you found it and all the trash removed. And the suppers will be enjoyed by all. If you have questions, contact Sarah Eastwood 804-275-2226.

MUSIC MINISTRY OPPURTUNITIES

Fall will be here soon and with it the Music Ministry will start rehearsals and sharing in worship. There are several oppourtunities for people of all ages to share their talents in worshipping God. Information and signup sheets will be in the Narthex during the month of August. If you have any questions, please contact Deborah Wenrich at deborah@beulahumc.org.

ADULT

SANCTUARY CHOIR: The choir rehearses on Thursday nights from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm, beginning September 5. The choir is open to all skill levels and voices. The Sanctuary Choir sings the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month until June 2025. The Christmas Cantata will be Sunday, December 22. WE NEED SOPRANOS, ALTOS, TENORS, AND BASSES!!!

BELLS OF PRAISE: Adult handbells are recruiting. If you know your right hand from your left hand. Please come out and have some fun! Rehearsals are every Monday night from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm and begin September 09. They will play on the 2nd Sunday of every month beginning in October and going forth until the 2nd Sunday in June 2025.

WOMEN'S CHORUS: This music group is open to ladies who would like to sing together (SATB, tight sound). Rehearsals are weekly from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm and begin Monday, September 09. The women's Chorus will sing on the 4th or 5th Sunday monthly.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHILDREN AND YOUTH HANDBELLS: C & Y Handbells are open to children ages 5 to 17. Rehearsals will be weekly and begin Wednesday, September 18, from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. They will play during the Christmas Eve Service, Mother's Day service, and Father's Day service.

EVERYONE OF ALL AGES

MUSIC ENSEMBLE: The Ensemble is open to all instrument players. There must be a minimum of three players to start. Rehearsals on Thursday nights from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm starting September 5. The Ensemble will alternate between the 4th and 5th Sunday of every month.

CHRISTMAS PLAY: The Christmas play will take place on Saturday, December 14, at 7:00 pm. Auditions are Sunday, September 08 & September 15 at 3:00 pm. Please sign up to audition. There is a separate sign-up sheet if you would like to help with sets, ushering, or costumes. Play rehearsals are on Sundays at 3:00 pm, starting September 22.





United
Women
in Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH CANDLE BURNING

Every year, our unit participates in a “Candle Burning” ceremony, where a candle is burned for a specific amount of time based on donations made to global missions in memory or in honor of someone. Candles will be burned at our District and Conference Annual Meetings in October and at our unit’s annual covered-dish luncheon in November.

If you would like to donate to missions in honor or in memory of someone, please contact Barbara Tuttle, 804-271-2289, by Saturday, August 17. You and the person you are honoring or remembering do not have to be members of the UWF, and any amount is acceptable. Your names will be included in the programs, but individual donations are not listed. Thank you for your gifts to missions.

LIFE IS PRECIOUS CAMPAIGN

Thank you to everyone who contributed money, gifts, handmade items, money and your prayers for the Life is Precious campaign. The Pregnancy Help Center of Chesterfield will be sending us a total once they complete counting all the donations. Stay tuned next month for a total of the money and a photo of the table full of items donated.



UWF MISSION WITNESS

The Daily Prayer Guide 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 the 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

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything.
John 15:5

Witness

During the COVID-19 lockdown in Ireland, many families were quarantining, and people were advised to stay and work from home, if possible. Some still took the risk of going to work, just to feed their families. The pandemic situation exacerbated the feeling of aloneness, anxiety, and depression for many. I found it very tough at the beginning, but it did not prevent me from innovating and seeking ways to do missions and lend a helping hand to those who were alone during this time. Instead of focusing on what’s on the news every day, I chose to be productive by learning new things. With the help of a friend in the church who taught me how to bake bread and scones, we came up with an idea to bring these baked goods to those in the community and members in the church who were living on their own. The simple act of learning how to bake led us to the ministry of compassion, care and solidarity by giving scones and bread to 69 individuals. As 1 Peter 4:10 says, “And serve each other according to the gift each person has received, as good managers of God’s diverse gifts.” Schrendria F. Robinson, Executive Director,

- Warren Alfeche, Global Mission Fellow – International, from the Philippines serving in Ireland, Northwest Methodist Mission

Prayer

Please pray for international missionaries serving in Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, and missionaries serving in the United States in New Jersey, New York and North Carolina.

UMCOR KITS REPORT

Many thanks to those who provided kits and funds for kits for disaster relief. Individuals assembled 9 Hygiene Kits, 1 Menstrual Kit, and 1 Cleaning Bucket. In addition to \$26 donated to cover toothpaste, sponges, and shipping, \$700 was donated to provide kits by Mary E. Farmer Circle of Love and the Sojourners Sunday School Class. Thank you for your generosity.

THANK YOU

To: Ladies of the Prayer Shawl Ministry

From: Rene Swider

We are so blessed by the baby blanket you gifted Phoenix – it is so beautiful! She’s already slept on it for several naps. What an amazing piece of time and art you have gifted to many. I look forward to telling many of it’s story. Thank you.

To: Friends and Family of Beulah Church

From: Ann and Richard Arnold

Thank you for all the prayers and help you have given Ann and myself. We could not travel on this road we are on by ourselves. First, Ann’s Alzheimer’s has grown and now it is not possible or practical for me to provide twenty-four care seven days a week. When she contracted a serious virus that we could not treat on our own the time had come. It was necessary to move her to Chippenham Hospital for treatment. After four days at Chippenham, she was moved to Lucy Corr Rehab for the care and treatment she required. It is our hope and prayer that she can remain there where she is comfortable and have all the care she needs.

Along with this, so many of you, led by Emma Bradley, have been generous with your time to care for and see that I get the necessary cancer treatments I require. You took time from your busy day to help us, Thank you. There is not enough space to express all my love for our family of Beulah Church.

To: Prayer Shawl Ministry

From: Susan Nowell

I want to thank the Beulah Prayer Shawl Ministry for the most beautiful prayer shawl baby blanket, along with the attached blessing, for my first grandbaby, Vera Selene Nowell. I'm sure it will be a gift that this young family will cherish for a very long time.

To: Beulah Youth

From: Rachel Holmes

Thank you for your visit and for the bag of treats!!! I ate one of the peppermints right away. I “grew up” in Beulah Church and was part of the youth group. I treasure those days and friends. It was a time of learning and growing in faith. As you work together for Beulah, remember to thank God daily for all his blessings. That you may grow in faith as you serve God and others. Love and Blessings always.

To: Beulah Family

From: Jann Niccoli

I want to thank everyone for the many cards, texts, calls, prayers, and hugs while I was going through the testing and procedures. I have gotten answers and am heading in the right direction. I am so thankful that God has gifted me with such a loving, prayerful extended family. God bless you all.

YOUTH POOL PARTY

August 11

3:00 pm

at the Ramey’s home



Please sign up at the Information Center

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

SHOPPING LIST CAN BE FOUND IN THE NARTHEX
LAST DAY TO DONATE IS AUGUST 11



BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The church has purchased 50 back packs for Chesterfield County Schools to be handed out by the Recreation Center during their Back-To-School Bash on August 17. We need your help to fill them with school supplies. A supply list can be found at the display in the Narthex. Please have all donations turned in by **August 11.**

YOUTH POOL PARTY

August 11, is the Youth Back to School Pool party in celebration of the new school year. All Youth in grades 6 through 12 (as of the beginning of school this Fall) are invited. The party will take place at Bonnie and Randy Ramey’s house at 3:00 pm. The church bus will be leaving the parking lot at 2:30 pm if you need a ride. Dinner will be provided. Please sign up at the Information Center if you are coming. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Hae Rin at haerin@beulah-church.com

CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 11 Back to School Sunday
Youth Pool Party
- 13 Finance Committee
- 22 UMW Mission Meeting
- 23 Mariner's Dinner
- 27 Spring Dale Bible Study
- 28 Prayer Meeting

REOCCURRING WEEKLY

Sunday

- 8:30 Worship
- Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship

Monday

- Card Ministry
- Scouts

Tuesday

- Cub Scouts

HELP WANTED

YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEERS

The youth group meets September – June on the First, Second, and Third Sunday of the month from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. There are several opportunities if you would like to cook a dinner, be a teacher, or be a helper/volunteer over the upcoming year. Please sign up at the Information Center so Pastor Hae Rin will know to reach out to you.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

Beulah needs volunteers to assist Koranny in the nursery on Sundays. If you are available to serve once a quarter or bimonthly, please sign up at the Information Center.



BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY

Sunday, August 11 is back to school Sunday. We will be praying for students, teachers, and anyone working in the school system during the 8:30 and 11:00 services. If you know a teacher or a student, we encourage you to invite them to this service.

SAVE THE DATES



Car Show

October 5th 2024

Location
6930 Hopkins Rd, N.
Chesterfield, VA 23234

Food for purchase from Beulah church

All makes and models welcome
Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles
Registration \$20

Swap meet spot Available

Goodie bags to the First 50 that show

Contact
Paul Britt (434) 569-5100
Jeff Sedivy (804) 241-1785
Pastor Don (540) 466-0271

50/50

10am-3pm

Restrooms available

Spectator parking available Spectators Free

BIRTHDAYS

AUGUST

- 01 Adalia Hubbard
Crystal Grady
Della Delbridge
Heather Jones
- 02 David Conner
John Sherrill
Lois Quaiff
Margaret Schools
- 04 Julia Grisham
- 06 Jane Mason
Jim Taylor
- 08 Pat Soyars
- 09 Lorraine Spencer
Sarah Eastwood
- 11 Christopher Leon
- 12 Arnold Beck
- 14 Chip Scavone
Wren Sadler
- 20 Dick Peterson
- 23 Charles Quaiff
- 24 Dawn Owens
Dawn White
Jeff Snow

- 25 Kerry Foster
- 27 Karen Clanton
- 29 Jerry-Grace Sadler
Ken Spitzley
Mike Harris
Pam Mays

SEPTEMBER

- 01 Ruth Glick
Travis Brooks
- 02 Barry Iglehart
- 03 Brenda Ridgeway
Bridgette Harrison
Sarah Inman
- 04 Amanda Collins
- 06 Harry Trimble
- 07 Kelsey Cunningham
Pam Collins