

# BEULAH BEACON

## TRANSFORMATION

By Pastor Don Gibson

*And we all, with unveiled faces, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2 Cor. 3:18, ESV)*

Hello! I recently took a fresh look at our church's mission statement; **"Transforming lives as we Seek, Share, and Serve God."** Our mission statement is present in various places around the church including the bulletin used each Sunday morning for worship. However, like most things that we see daily or even weekly, we soon become unaware of their presence, and "they" lose their significance in our daily lives. Our church mission statement invites us to know that we have a purpose and a goal. Our mission statement invites us to recognize the work of God in our lives and to understand that God's work in our lives is invitational - we share it with others!

**Transforming lives**, this is the action statement used to begin our mission statement. Transforming can be defined and understood as: a thorough or dramatic change in the form, appearance, or character of. (Oxford Dictionary). This definition reminds me of one of my favorite childhood television programs - The Incredible Hulk. Bruce Banner, a scientist who uses an

experimental medical treatment on himself, transforms into a huge, green, raging monster when he becomes angry. Now, I understand the Hulk to be a fictional character, however I think it truly represents a transformation that is common in each of us when we operate from our human condition - our sin.

Paul in his letter to the church at Corinth, reminds us that our life in Christ is transformational at its core. Meaning, when we choose Christ as our Lord and Savior, accepting His sacrificial death and resurrection as our atoning work (our forgiveness), the transformation begins.

This transformation has a beginning (something we are transformed from), an end (something we are transformed into), and there are changes that continue to happen in between. Theologians call this change "sanctification," a word we have either forgotten or misunderstood in our culture.

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# MUSIC NOTES

By Deborah Wenrich

The hymn that I have chosen to share the history of for the February 2024 Beacon is Take My Life and Let It Be.

Take My Life and Let It Be - was written by Frances Havergal. She was born into an Anglican family in Worcestershire, England. Her father was a clergyman and hymn writer. At the age of four, she began reading and eventually memorized the Psalms, Isaiah, and parts of the New Testament. She began writing poetry at the age of seven. When her poetry had matured a little, she composed "Like a River Glorious", "I Gave My Life for Thee", and "Who Is On the Lord's Side?".

### TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE Frances Havergal

1. Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated Lord to thee  
Take my moments and my days  
Let it flow in endless praise  
Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of thy love  
Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for thee

2. Take my voice and let me sing  
Always only for my King  
Take my lips and let them be  
Filled with messages for thee  
Take my silver and my gold  
Not a mite would I withhold  
Take my intellect and use  
Ev-ry power as thou shalt choose

3. Take my will and make it thine  
It shall be no longer mine  
Take my heart it is thine own  
It shall be thy royal throne  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
At thy feet, its treasure store  
Take myself and I will be  
Ever only all for thee

She studied in Louisenschule, Dusseldorf, and Oberkassel. Frances was a brilliant pianist and was in demand as a concert vocal soloist. She learned several languages plus Greek and Hebrew. Despite her high education, Francis had a childlike faith and confidence in God. Everywhere she traveled she told others about him.

Take My Life was written when Frances went on a journey of five days to a house that had ten people in it. She writes that "some were converted but not happy believers and some were not believers at all though she had been praying for them a long time. Once she arrived there, she said to the Lord, "Lord, give me all that are in this house." She writes that the Lord answered her prayer. Everyone in the house received a blessing. She was so happy on the last night that she couldn't sleep and the verses that we know and love, came one by one, so she wrote them down".

Frances Havergal wrote: 'Take My Life and Let It Be' first published 28, April 2010, updated 19, December 2022, Christianity.com Salem Web Network Copyright 2024.

<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/people/frances-havergal-wrote-take-my-life-and-let-it-be-11630571.html>

(continued from Front page)

WE are transformed from what Paul calls the "old self" (Rom 6:6, Eph 4:22-24, Col 3:9-11). This accounts for all our sin and failure and for the evil we witness in the world around us. The Good News is that from the very beginning, God was orchestrating the largest rescue operation in human history. God desires to save us from our old selves, our sin or ugly, green, raging monster. God raised Jesus from the dead and promises to do the same for you and me, to make us "new selves" like Christ, transformation. That's the transformation from and the transformation into.

The goal of all this? Complete transformation or Christ-likeness, which will now be complete on the other side, but begins here and is invitational to others. This transforming work is not our work but is the work of God in us and through us! So, let's Seek, Share and Serve God! Let's let the transforming work of God be evident in our lives! Let's be transformed!



### ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 14  
6:00 pm Pancake Breakfast  
7:00 pm Service

### ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is February 14. The Crusaders hosting the Wednesday Worship Meal with a pancake dinner at 6:00 pm. Then at 7:00 pm, we will gather in the Sanctuary for Ash Wednesday Service. During the service we will receive Ashes, made from last year's palm branches, in acknowledgment of our mortality and repentance.

# THE MONTHIN REVIEW



**On Sunday, January 02,** Laura joined the Beulah staff as our accompanist. Her first Sunday with us was January 18. We are excited to have her as a part of our team. Laura Collier is a piano teacher, composer and all-around lover of music. She studied music composition at Christopher Newport University and George Mason University, all the while continuing to develop her skills as a pianist. She has played piano for First Church of God, located in Hampton VA; and Chestnut Grove Baptist Church in Earlysville, VA. During this time, she developed a love of choir music as well as praise music and hymns. Laura has enjoyed playing in the pit for several musicals including "Cinderella" (Rodgers and Hammerstein) and "Violet" (Jeanine Tesori). When she's not playing music, Laura enjoys learning new recipes, jogging, and hiking.



**On Sunday morning, January 21 and Tuesday, January 23,** The Transition Team held Town Hall meetings in the Fellowship Hall. About 160 people attended between the two meeting. Representatives from the Global Methodist Church were present to answer any questions Beulah might have had about affiliation.

**On Tuesday, January 30,** the Church Council (formally the Admin Board) heard a recommendation from the Transition Team for Beulah Church, Inc to affiliate with The Global Methodist Church. The Church Council voted yes to move forward with the affiliation.

The Congregation, BEULAH CHURCH MEMBERS, will vote on the decision of the Church Council - (a vote of affirmation) a simple yes or no vote, and by simple majority (51%). This vote is proposed to take place on **Sunday morning, February 11,** at 9:45 am (during Sunday School) in the church

## BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

### FEBRUARY READING

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| 01 1 Chronicles 24-27                    | 16 Ezra 4-6                  |
| 02 1 Chronicles 28-29;<br>2 Chronicles 1 | 17 Ezra 7-9                  |
| 03 2 Chronicles 2-5                      | 18 Sunday (Catch-up day)     |
| 04 Sunday (Catch-up day)                 | 19 Ezra 10 &<br>Nehemiah 1-3 |
| 05 2 Chronicles 6-8                      | 20 Nehemiah 4-6              |
| 06 2 Chronicles 9-12                     | 21 Nehemiah 7-9              |
| 07 2 Chronicles 13-17                    | 22 Nehemiah 10-12            |
| 08 2 Chronicles 18-20                    | 23 Nehemiah 13 &<br>Esther 1 |
| 09 2 Chronicles 21-24                    | 24 Esther 2-6                |
| 10 2 Chronicles 25-27                    | 25 Sunday (Catch-up day)     |
| 11 Sunday (Catch-up day)                 | 26 Esther 7-10 &<br>Job 1    |
| 12 2 Chronicles 28-30                    | 27 Job 2-6                   |
| 13 2 Chronicles 31-33                    | 28 Job 7-12                  |
| 14 2 Chronicles 34-35                    | 29 Job 13-18                 |
| 15 2 Chronicles 36<br>Ezra 1-3           |                              |

## SHERBOURNE FOOD PANTRY

During the month of February, Sherbourne Food Pantry is requesting donations of hot or cold cereal and canned or powdered milk. Your donation can be left on the wire rack at the Information Center or in the afterhours donation cabinet in the Breezeway.

## COMMUNION OFFERING



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

The communion offering for February is going to Heart Havens. Heart Havens provides residential support to adults with a developmental disability. It's so much more than a roof and a bed. Heart Havens empowers people to discover what they love and pursue their hopes and passions. We support our residents as they find a way to make their goals and dreams happen. Your gifts help us provide the people we support with the best life possible - and even small gifts make a big difference!





## Makhaneh Emunim/Nohag... Training Camp/Practice

Being involved in something for any length of time can be tough. Any activity done regularly can bring a toll in physical and mental effort. The old joke is true enough..."how do you get to Carnegie Hall? Practice, practice, practice." In baseball, shortly, spring training will be a reality. The teams will gather to go over fundamentals and set rosters before the long season starts. Any sport, whether as a team or individual, requires those involved to rehearse the things that will mean success. And, yes, some of us have choir practice.

I mention baseball because spring training will indeed be starting in the next few weeks. The Hebrew for "training camp" is "makhaneh emunim (emooneem)", and for "practice" it's "nohag". These same words would be true for any preseason, even marching bands. Paul speaks on more than one occasion of competing for a prize that does not last, and this on many different levels. He instead urges us to press on towards the prize found in Jesus Christ, the Messiah, and in Him alone.

The point here is this, and it's one I myself fight constantly, success is not going to just be there. Yes, with God it's ultimately guaranteed, but it's not going to just pop up out of thin air. It's going to take some work. More times than not. Sounds rough? Yes, it does. But remember that Jesus tells us that his "yoke is easy, and his burden is light." Paul writes in Galatians to help "bear one another's' burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." Offer to help someone else and they might just help you in this "training camp" for heaven. Shalom.

# Fall Festival

## COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, February 21  
at 3:00 pm and at 7:00 pm  
in The Fellowship Hall

### FALL FESTIVAL

Sherry Harris, Beulah Fall Festival Coordinator

Dear Beulah Church: We are beginning to plan for our **2024 Beulah Fall Festival** which will be on Saturday, November 9, 2024. Last year's Festival was such a great success, we are excited to get a "head start" on this year's Festival with some new ideas, some changes, and more input from our church members. We want our 2024 Fall Festival to be the best that it can be!!

We are going to establish a formal **Fall Festival Committee** to help give us direction, make decisions, provide input, and help work and lead this year's Fall Festival. We are asking that every organization at Beulah Church provide at least one person to sit on our **Fall Festival Committee** so that every organization will have representation. This will also help with communications, making sure that we are all on the same page with Fall Festival happenings and decisions, and making sure that accurate information is disseminated to everyone in the church. But all are welcomed to attend this first meeting.

Our first **Fall Festival Committee Meetings** will be on Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> - one at 3 pm and one at 7 pm after our Wednesday evening dinner, both in the Fellowship Hall. Please email, text, or call me at 804-691-5678 or [Sherry\\_Harris1@verizon.net](mailto:Sherry_Harris1@verizon.net) and let me know who your representative(s) will be and please include their contact information. I will send out another notification about the meeting directly to your representative(s) about a week before the meetings. All are welcome to attend this first meeting.

We have already received communications from some of the folks from our community who participated in last year's Fall Festival, indicating their interest and desire to join us again!! It is really exciting to have our community members anxious to join us again!

Thank you for sending me your representative's information and for your support of Beulah's Fall Festival. I look forward to working with everyone this year and getting input and support from everyone within our fabulous church!



# United Women in Faith

## 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 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

*When your words turned up, I feasted on them; and they became my joy, the delight of my heart, because I belong to you Lord God of heavenly forces.*  
- Jeremiah 15:16

### Witness

During our tenure as United Methodist lay educational missionaries in Malaysia on the island of Borneo in the South Pacific, our three young daughters attended local schools where they would make friends and learn the local languages.

Our second daughter was excited as she dressed in her white dress and joined her kindergarten classmates for their graduation photo. When the printed photo arrived, our daughter rushed to us shouting, "Mommy, can you find me?" This was a remarkable question that indicated she saw herself no differently from the children who surrounded her. Not only was the photo in pre-color days of black and white film, her face was the only light one in the midst of darker ones representing Chinese, Iban, Malay and Indian cultures.

Children are born into our world without racial prejudice. It is a concept that is taught by example and in repetitious negative, abusive language. Let us share in the vision of Isaiah 11:6 when the fallen creation will be restored. "A little child shall lead..." to reimagine God's kin-dom on earth.

- Camille Yahm, Retired Missionary who served in Malaysia

### Prayer

Please pray for international missionaries serving in Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada and Chile, and our United States missionaries serving in California, Colorado, Connecticut and Delaware.

## WEDNESDAY WORSHIP MEALS

February 07, at 6:00 pm

BBQ, coleslaw, baked beans, and dessert.

Sign up at the Information Center.

## WEDNESDAY WORSHIP MEALS

Wednesday Worship Meals for 2024 will start on **February 7**, at 6:00 pm, We will have BBQ, beans, coleslaw, and desserts. The donations from this meal will go to Neighbor Outreach Worldwide: Kenya. Please sign up at the Information Center if you plan to attend.

## BEULAH'S BEST

Beulah's Best will meet **Tuesday, February 20**, at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Our program will be "4 THE LORD". Come enjoy the singing. If inclement weather is forecast, will have to cancel.

## QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION IRA

RMDs (Required Minimum Distributions). If you are required to take RMDs, you can gift up to \$100,000 to Beulah (\$200,000 if a couple), but you have to follow certain rules --- you do not receive the money; instead, the custodian sends the check directly to the charity (Beulah) --- be certain the Payee is Beulah Church (not Beulah United Methodist Church) and the mailing address is PO Box 37098, N. Chesterfield, VA 23234. This method will avoid taxes if payable to Beulah. See IRS Publication 590-B or visit [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov) for more information regarding IRA distributions.

Some of our members have elected to have RMDs sent to Beulah monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually rather than only once a year. We really appreciate this since we have many monthly bills to pay such as utilities, payroll, building maintenance, worship supplies, etc. If you have any questions, see any member of the Finance Committee.

AVOID TAXES ON YOUR INCOME!!!!

## CALENDAR

### February

- 03 **Celebration of Life for Ed Christopher**
- 07 Start of Wednesday Worship Meals
- 09 Historical Society
- 10 Hearing Loss Association
- 11 **Congregational Vote**
- 12 Ruth Robertson Friendship Circle
- 13 Mary Farmer Circle of Love  
**Celebration of Life for HT Bareford Jr.**  
Finance Committee Meeting  
Rebekah Fellowship
- 14 **Ash Wednesday Service**
- 20 Beulah's Best  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Methodist Men's Meeting
- 21 Wesleyan Stratton  
Fall Festival Meeting  
Beulah Pool
- 22 UWF Mission Meeting
- 23 Historical Society
- 27 Springdale Bible Study
- 28 Prayer meeting

### REOCCURRING WEEKLY

#### Sunday

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

#### Monday

- Card Ministry
- Men's Bible study
- Women's Chorus rehearsal
- Bells of Praise Rehearsal
- Scouts

#### Tuesday

- Cub Scouts

#### Wednesday

- Wednesday Worship Meal

#### Thursday

- Beulah Land Quartet Rehearsal
- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

## BIRTHDAYS

### February

- |    |                   |    |                  |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------|
| 02 | Betsy Q Forbes    | 24 | Richard Arnold   |
|    | Marvin Waldrop    |    | Randy Ramey, Sr. |
| 03 | Jamie Scavone     | 25 | Jeremy Hodges    |
|    | Ann Warren        | 26 | Virginia Rosen   |
| 04 | Bobbi Hudson      | 27 | Gloria Bradmon   |
|    | Mary Love Walston | 28 | Cindy Stanearth  |
| 05 | Skip Mulligan     |    | Pam Totty        |
| 06 | Eric Cunningham   | 29 | Chris Buckley    |
|    | Allen Mason       |    | Jeanne Hensel    |
| 07 | Cathy Keller      |    |                  |
|    | Bob Mays          |    |                  |
| 08 | Nancy Kiger       |    |                  |
| 09 | Nancy Snow        |    |                  |
| 10 | Rose Williams     |    |                  |
| 11 | Buddy Jones, Jr.  |    |                  |
| 12 | Caryl Harris      |    |                  |
| 15 | Carolyn Salmon    |    |                  |
| 21 | Gretchen Craig    |    |                  |
|    | Betty Scavone     |    |                  |
| 22 | David Dudley Jr.  |    |                  |

### March

- |    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 01 | Jennifer Smith    |
| 02 | Amanda Foster     |
|    | Carol Quigley     |
|    | Rosanna Strauss   |
| 03 | Dale Childrey     |
|    | Backy Taylor, III |
| 05 | Bobby Glick       |
|    | Carole Morris     |
| 06 | Ken Foster        |
|    | Ronnie Mann       |
| 07 | Joan Garton       |

## THANK YOU

#### To: Beulah Friends

#### From: Barbara Dudley, Worship Chair

Now that the Advent/Christmas season is over, I wanted to thank those who helped me during that time. These are my Christmas "Angels" who are always so willing to help me when I asked them; David Dudley, Carolyn Salmon, Sandra Sanderson, Pat Soyars, Barbara Tinsley, Nancy Morris, Pam Totty, and Suzanne Davis. What a blessing they are to me and to Beulah Church.

#### To: Beulah Church

#### From: Clara Stokes, Chief Advancement Officer, CARITAS

Thank you supporting CARITAS. Your recent give makes it possible for us to meet the immediate and long-term needs of those working to find homes and overcome addiction As CARITAS continues to adapt and innovate to address the challenges faced by our participants, we rely on support from caring community members like you who see the potential in people easily forgotten. Your investment allows our participants to realize that they have a purpose in life, there is more to their story than their situation. There is no greater gift than that.

#### To: Beulah Church

#### From: Ronald Fernandes, General Secretary, UMCOR

The dear people you just helped with your gift to UMCOR may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be – THANK YOU!. Since 1940, UMCOR has served as the humanitarian agency, providing disaster response and relief to area impacted by natural and man-made disasters around the world. And through your financial support, you are serving within a vital network of interactive relationships as UMCOR responds to increasingly – frequent and destructive storms – sharing 100% of donated funds with those in need!