

Beulah News

Beulah United Methodist Church
161 Beulah Church Rd. Gilbert, SC 29054
www.beulahunitedmethodistchurch.org

January 2016

No Excuses!

When I was a young boy and spent much of my time down on the panhandle of Florida with my Granny and Grandpa Tharpe, there was one woman who fascinated me and of whom I was scared half to death. No, it wasn't my Granny; I was in awe of her. It was Granny's next door neighbor. Her name was Irene; and she lived in a little house to the left of the Granny's, if you were facing the place. While Granny's house was light and airy, Irene's place was a dark affair. It had live oaks festooned with Spanish moss overhanging the front porch. Wisteria vines clung to the railings and worked their way up the cypress and catawba trees which shaded the rest of the house. Old tar laced roll roofing acted as siding so the house was a motley combination of brown paper and black tar, and the yard was in a perpetual state of disarray.

I don't know why she scared me so. Perhaps it was the sheer size of the woman, or the evil glare from underneath those seldom washed black bangs of hers, or maybe it was the voice that sounded like a broom should be under it; but one way or the other, I avoided her like the plague. Nonetheless, I was a little boy and apt to be mischievous and a bit restless as most little boys tend to be. In that there were no video games back then to occupy my

time and no Ritalin to quell my urges, I tended to get into a bit of trouble from time to time. That being said, I usually had some help.

You see, I have a second cousin by the name of Scott, and back then he had a gift for coming up with devious things to do and having someone else do them; and in that I enjoyed his company, the role of someone else often fell to me.

One late summer Sunday afternoon while the old folks were sitting around visiting, Scott and I were playing in Granny's backyard. As the afternoon wore on interest in our normal pursuits began to fade, and we started looking for some adventure. After a while Scott's gaze fell on the enchanted house next door and through a double dare and the dreaded phrase "What are you scared of?" he convinced me to sneak over to Irene's house, knock on the door and run. Being young and stupid, at least one thing has changed since then, I decided to give it a try. So with a stealth that would make a sniper proud, I slithered through the forest of old pots, rusted car parts, and unkempt weeds without making a sound to her back door and knocked, not just once, but three times to prove I was immune to fear.

When I heard her heavy

footsteps coming in my direction, my immunity vanished and I turned tail and ran as fast as I could; but in the midst of my terror I somehow lost my footing, tripped over my feet and fell head long into her flowerbed. Laying there with a face full of forget-me-nots, I heard the back door open, caught just a whiff of sulfur on the air and heard those hobnailed boots coming my way. My life, short as it was, flashed before my eyes.

It was then that I discovered three things. First of all a two hundred and fifty pound woman can be surprisingly swift on her feet, secondly a seven year old boy can't get much traction with newly watered forget-me-nots under his feet and finally my second cousin could disappear faster than anybody before or since on two feet.

I will dispense with the nasty details, but I soon found myself being held by the scruff of my neck in my Granny's living room while a bunch of old ladies examined me. Most were just a bit shocked at my appearance, or maybe it was Irene's. My Granny, however, just looked at me sternly with a slight grin, and I think a little gleam of admiration in her eye. She then asked for an explanation. I told her that Scott made me do it.

I will never forget her

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No Excuses! (cont.)

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reaction. From under her grin her teeth appeared, and then from behind the teeth came a glorious belly laugh. When she finally caught her breath, she simply said “Scott who?” I said “You know, Scott, my cousin.” Then she lost her smile and said “The only Scott I see is Anthony Scott Rowell.” Somehow I had forgotten that Scott was my middle name.

I spent the rest of that day breaking the Sabbath by cleaning Irene’s house from top to bottom to pay for the flowers I had destroyed, and on Monday I replanted the garden, cleaned the backyard and mowed the grass or what passed for grass. Scott, my cousin Scott, on the other hand, headed off to the Chipola River and spent the day fishing.

I tell this story for a couple of reasons. First and foremost I simply enjoy reliving days gone by when things seemed to be a bit simpler, and secondly I tell it as a bit of a warning

to those of us who tend to try to cast off personal responsibility for our actions. Remember, if the road to Hell is paved with good intentions, the road to nowhere is paved with excuses.

All too often the human tendency is to cast about for something or someone to blame when things don’t go our way. My challenge to all of us is to look upward and inward for solutions to the challenges we face in life.

The possibilities are endless. Who knows what God has planned for your life? My prayer for you is that you allow Christ to set the agenda. With Christ at the wheel and the Holy Spirit filling your sails, you can have no excuse for anything other than a blessed life.

Love,
Pastor Tony

Star Member

Fellowship Friends will list in the bulletin each month one or more **Star Members**. A star member is anyone over 65, a nursing home member or a home bound member. These are our special members who need our care and concern. Greeting cards or note cards are a great way to stay in touch when we can’t visit or call.

Our Star Members for the month are:

Dot Smith

Luther Rogers-892-3601
2033 Shull Ave.
Gilbert, SC 29054





Thank you so much for providing the pregame meal for our varsity football team, coaching staff, and trainers. Our athletic department is very appreciative of your generosity. Our student athletes are fortunate to be a part of the Gilbert community. **GHS Athletic Dept.**

Do you knit, crochet, sew, paint, scrapbook, woodwork, cook, calligraphy, draw, make jewelry, take photos, arrange flowers, etc.?

We need your talents!

We're excited to announce that we're expanding our March Yard Sale to include a craft sale and frozen soups and casseroles sale! Generous donors like you are the key to our success and make it possible for us to continue to plan for the improvements to the land on Highway 378. We are seeking donations of all types of craft items and frozen soups and casseroles to support this fundraiser on March 3rd, 4th, and 5th 2016. Soups and casseroles should be frozen in non returnable containers with ingredients listed on the package. Please contact Karolyn Grimm, Mary Price or Melba Smith with any questions.

Notice

Due to Beulah's growth and the increase of church activities, starting January 1, 2016, we are no longer able to offer the Social Hall or the Family Life Center on Sundays for non-church-related activities. Our children and youth ministries use these facilities every Sunday. These facilities are still available to be reserved on Saturdays if there is not a church function scheduled. Thank you for your understanding.

We Apologize!

Due to illness, much of the information usually included in the newsletter was not available this month.



January Birthdays



01/01 SERETHA SOX DOROTHY SMITH	01/17 TONY SMITH
01/03 WAYNE BAKER	01/18 CINDY CAPNERHURST ELLEN RIDDLE CALLIE WOLOSENCUK
01/04 XAVIER RODRIEGUEZ	01/19 D BRIAN TAYLOR
01/05 WESLEY BINKLEY	01/20 HELEN EDENS DESTINY RISINGER
01/07 MARY BOSWORTH CONNIE SEASE	01/21 JUSTIN B LANGFORD KATE SHEALY
01/08 DONNA DOOLEY DONNA LEAPHART	01/22 CASEY ATTAWAY RICKY S SMITH, SR
01/09 WYATT BINKLEY PEYTON WOODARD	01/23 THOMAS COVINGTON, SR
01/10 TAYLOR GANTT KAREN COUNTS	01/24 CLYVERD PRICE ASHLEY TAYLOR GASKINS
01/11 REGINA HEYWOOD	01/26 STELLA ANN PORTER
01/12 THERESA GEORGE	AARON BRYANT CLINE
01/14 JAMES PRICE CHARLES WALLACE	01/29 LAYNE SEASE GAIL PROVOST
01/15 DAKOTA WOLOSENCUK	

MR. & MRS. LORAN JERALD	01/06/1978
MR. & MRS. EDWARD FRAZIER	01/08/1960
MR. & MRS. BRANDON WHITTLE	01/13/1996
MR. & MRS. RONALD KREPPS	01/16/1954
MR. & MRS. A CARL TOMPKINS	01/19/1964
MR. & MRS. WAYNE CLAMP	01/22/1959
MR. & MRS. RICHARD FLYTHE, JR	01/26/1969
MR. & MRS. RICHARD F REYNARD	01/27/2001

Angel Tree

This year 140 children had a better Christmas with the help of the members of Beulah. Donations totaling \$4607.00, which included \$423 from bake sale by JAM/ROC were received. We originally adopted 125 children from the Gilbert area. When donations continued to come in, we adopted the remaining 15 children at Gilbert Primary school. Children's ministry shopped for 50 children plus all the supplies for wrapping. We were also able to help a

family that had over-whelming medical needs. Once again the loving family here at Beulah opened their hearts!

Parents who came and wrapped their children's gifts shared tears and smiles because of our generosity and asked that we thank all of you who took part in this year's Angel Tree.



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Published monthly by Beulah United Methodist Church
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Rev. Tony Rowell, Pastor
Mary Joyce Gardner, Church Secretary
Karen Counts, Comm. Coordinator

Send articles by the 20th of each month by email to newsletter@beulahunitedmethodistchurch.org or drop articles off in the pocket on the door of the church office.

UMW Mission

The Beulah UMW has adopted Samaritan's Well Women's Shelter as our long-term mission! Samaritan's Well is a shelter for women and their children right here in Lexington off Gibson Road. The shelter houses women in need and trains them on how to take care of and support themselves and their children while encouraging them to become a productive part of society. This is a great program for women who just need a little help for whatever reason. The shelter is funded 100% through contributions from people like us and they could use all the help

that they can get. The UMW will prepare one supper each month beginning in January on the 4th Thursday of the month. Our first date will be January 28th. We will prepare the same meal each month which will be a Baked Spaghetti Casserole, Salad, Fruit, Bread, and Dessert. We will prepare enough for 20 people (some of which are children) and deliver the meal to the shelter each 4th Thursday of the month. If you'd like to help with this mission, either by preparing a dish or by helping to deliver, please contact Diane Crosby at 996-3917 or dcrosby@lexumcsc.com . Prepared dishes need to be in

disposable containers and if you wish to have a friend help to make a portion of your dish to split the work, that would be great too. Dishes may be brought to the church before the office closes for the day and stored in the refrigerator by the Social Hall or you may meet the delivery person at the church that evening. We also need 2 delivery people each month. For January, we are in need of salad, fruit, and bread. Please consider helping out with this very worthy cause! The women of the shelter really appreciate all of your help!

Homebound and Residential Care

LEXINGTON EXTENDED CARE

Ruby Bedenbaugh
Lexington Extended Care
815 Old Cherokee Rd.
256 A Caughman Way
Lexington, SC 29072

Betty Jo Gable
Lexington Extended Care
815 Old Cherokee Rd.
Room 144-Lexington Trace
Lexington, SC 29072

Wayne Leaphart
Lexington Extended Care
815 Old Cherokee Rd.
Room 114 A-Palmetto Lane
Lexington, SC 29072

AGAPE

Polly Derrick
Agape Room 205
2705 Leaphart Rd.
West Columbia, SC 29160

MORNINGSIDE ASSISTED LIVING

Ella V. Woodruff-803-996-4899
c/o Morningside of Lexington
Apt #113
218 Old Chapin Rd.
Lexington, SC 29072

HOMEBOUND

Alan Tompkins-892-2816
616 Tom Drafts Circle
Gilbert, SC 29054

Rosetta Leaphart-892-2266
212 Shore Rd.
Gilbert, SC 29054

Thomas E. Taylor, Sr., 324390
Broad River Corr. Inst.
Montecello Unit-Room 144B
4460 Broad River Rd.
Columbia, SC 29210

Sarah Bailey-892-0006
5 Downing Way
Gilbert, SC 29054

Luther Rogers-892-3601
2033 Shull Ave.
Gilbert, SC 29054

Betty Ricard-892-6655
3834 Augusta Hwy.
Gilbert, SC 29054

Mickie Folk-727-9961
117 N. Woodside Parkway
W. Columbia, SC 29170

Mildred Price-532-6615
3712 Hwy. 378
Leesville, SC 29070

Always Doing a New Thing

In 2015, scientists discovered more than 18,000 new species – some ancient and extinct, others contemporary. They include a cartwheeling spider; fossils of a “feathered dinosaur”; a beautiful sea slug that photographs in brilliant blues, reds and golds; a Christmas-colored plant that grows in near isolation in Mexico; and a pufferfish whose males make intricate seafloor “crop circles” as spawning nests.

Such discoveries – regardless of how old or new the species are – demonstrate the ongoing creativity of God, who both does new things and gives people new abilities to discover them.

Recently, we began a new church year with Advent. At Christmas, God did a new thing by becoming human. Now we launch into a new calendar year, in which scientists will surely discover *more* new creatures. The newness all around us reminds us that God is always doing a new thing in *our* lives, too!

IT'S TIME! NO MORE PROCRASTINATING. NO MORE MAKING EXCUSES! As we approach a new year, consider joining a REFIT® class to give your body, mind, and soul a time to be challenged and recharged. In REFIT® we use dynamic music, both Christian and secular, to drive us to raise that heart rate and build lean muscles. We connect with our hearts and minds as we seek to strengthen the temple. We are not our own. Let's act like it. Come try out a REFIT® class and see for yourself. Classes are open to women, men, and kids 10 and up. Your first class is FREE, and there is no long term commitment. We will have individual coaching time 15 minutes before class starts and will adjust steps to your level of fitness. You have nothing to lose. Grab a friend and come on out on Tuesdays at 7 PM. Our New Year's Kick Off Event will be on January 12th!

The Meaning of Epiphany

Epiphany, which comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, means “an appearance” or “a revealing.” Centuries ago, the church set aside January 6, the 12th day after Christmas, to mark the revealing of Jesus as Christ to the wise men, who were Gentiles. Jesus' first followers were Jewish, so the revelation of the divine Christ to the non-Jewish magi reminds us that Jesus came to earth to save the whole world.

Symbols of Epiphany include light, a star, a crown (or three crowns) and a globe or stylized portrayal of the world. The color of Epiphany is green to symbolize life, growth, hope and eternity.

On the church calendar, the Epiphany season lasts until Ash Wednesday, which is determined by the date of Easter.



Seeking the Best

I believe that appreciation is a holy thing – that when we look for what's best in a person we happen to be with at the moment, we're doing what God does all the time. So in loving and appreciating our neighbor, we're participating in something sacred.

—Fred Rogers

Calendar for January 2016

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

New Year's Day
9:00 am Mother's Morning Out (until noon)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

8:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service
6:00 pm Bible Study

MONDAY, JANUARY 4

9:30 am Bridge - SH

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

9:30 am Bible Study - Conf. Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

Epiphany
10:00 am Weight Watchers - SH
6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

6:30 pm Praise Choir

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

9:00 am Mother's Morning Out (until noon)
8:00 pm Square Dance—SH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

Baptism of the Lord
8:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service
4:00 pm J.A.M./ROC
Aftershock
5:00 pm Youth
6:00 pm Bible Study

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

9:30 am Bridge - SH

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

9:30 am Bible Study - Conf. Room
7:00 pm REFIT Class - FLC

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

10:00 am Weight Watchers - SH
6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

10:30 am Fun, Food, and Fellowship
6:30 pm Praise Choir

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

9:00 am Mother's Morning Out (until noon)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

8:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service
11:30 am Pot Luck
4:00 pm J.A.M./ROC
Aftershock
5:00 pm Youth
6:00 pm Bible Study

MONDAY, JANUARY 18

MLK, Jr. Birthday Observance
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
9:30 am Bridge - SH

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
9:30 am Bible Study - Conf. Room
7:00 pm REFIT Class - FLC

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
10:00 am Weight Watchers - SH
6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
6:00 pm UMW Meeting
6:30 pm Praise Choir

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
9:00 am Mother's Morning Out (until noon)
8:00 pm Square Dance—SH

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
7:00 am UMM Meeting
8:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service
4:00 pm J.A.M./ROC
Aftershock
5:00 pm Youth
6:00 pm Bible Study
Gospel Singing

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

9:30 am Bridge - SH

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

9:30 am Bible Study - Conf. Room
7:00 pm REFIT Class - FLC

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

10:00 am Weight Watchers - SH
6:30 pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

6:30 pm Praise Choir

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

9:00 am Mother's Morning Out (until noon)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

8:30 am Contemporary Worship Service
9:40 am Sunday School
10:30 am Traditional Worship Service
4:00 pm J.A.M./ROC
Aftershock
5:00 pm Youth
6:00 pm Bible Study

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Return Service Requested

Fun, Food, and Fellowship

January 14, 2016

We would like to invite you to Fun, Food and Fellowship. We meet every second Thursday at 10:30 am (except for November, when we have the Senior Thanksgiving Dinner). We hope you will come have lunch and get together with all your friends and make new friends. Invite all your neighbors to come with you. We would be glad to have you attend. Any questions, please call the church office at 892-2842 or Theresa George at 803-397-3798.

