



# Beulah and Monterey eNewsletter

5.6.22

## MAY MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RICK HILL

**“Be still, and know that I am God...” - Psalm 46**

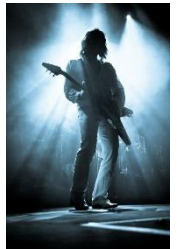
**“Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you.” - Exodus 23:25**



Every Sunday morning millions of people dutifully head off to a church to attend worship services. There they will spend an hour or two doing something that most of them have given little thought to. It is simply something that good Christians do.

### **What is worship and why does God instruct us to do it?**

There are some who think that God is a super egomaniac who finds great pleasure in having people bow down and worship the Almighty. Like some narcissistic rock star God just loves to hear the roar of the crowd.



### **What is really going on?**

I believe that it is right and proper to begin the week with worship. There are several reasons:

**#1 – We are reminded that God is.** Throughout the week the world would have us forget about God. Forget about miracles. Forget about wonders. Forget about rules. Forget about visions. The world is nothing more than a series of chemical reactions with no purpose, no destiny. Everything boils down to chemical and mathematical equations and none of us really matter. But worship reminds us that we were created by a loving God who is actively involved in the world often working outside the predictable equations. There is mystery, there is wonder. And we are on a pathway with a marvelous destination. God is behind it all, in it all, through it all. “Be still, and know that I am God...”



**#2 – We are reminded that we are not God.** Too often we think we are. We think that we know everything. Or we think that we have responsibility for everything. We know some things and we have responsibility for some things. But the rest is up to God.

**#3 – We are reminded that we are stewards of God’s creation.**

God put Adam, and all the rest of us, into the Garden to till it and to keep it. The Garden is not just some little patch of vegetables. It is all of Creation – plants, animals, oceans, rocks, humans. Our task is to help that Garden flourish so that it will be the Garden God designed it to be. We all have roles to play in that stewardship, we all have different talents that can be employed.



**#4 – We are reminded that we are not alone.** God is with us. God’s care for us is funneled through the community that is around us and it is funneled through our own lives. We are the instruments that God uses to accomplish much of the work of healing, restoring, empowering, uplifting, and loving that is needed in our world. God created us to be in community with one another because none of us can carry the world by ourselves.

**#5 – We are reminded that there are moral and ethical boundaries.** The world doesn’t want to hear that and would rather think that we just make stuff up as we go along. If we are going to live in community with all of Creation, then we need some boundaries to hold us back from sin that destroys community. We cannot allow greed and corruption to rule our lives. We need an outside source to create boundaries for us.



Worship becomes an opportunity for us to reset our path. We are reminded of where we need to go and how we need to get there. Through worship we can re-evaluate our lives on a weekly basis. All of that means, however, that it is not just up to the pastor or worship leader to create the experience. It also depends on those who gather to come with an attitude of worship.

Psalm 100 says, “Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise!” Sunday morning worship is not some dreary task that we are forced into week after week. *It is a time for us to rejoice that God still loves us, that God still calls us, that God is still with us.* It is a time for us to, once again, discover our purpose in the larger cosmos. We can hear God’s voice in the music, the scriptures, the prayers, the sermons, but only if we consciously listen for it.



In a world that would rather have us forget about God, worship is a time for us to remember God, to bring God back into the center of our lives, to explore anew what it means to follow in the footsteps of Christ.

Peace,

Your Pastor,

Rick

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

### **Beulah/Monterey Presbyterian Women**

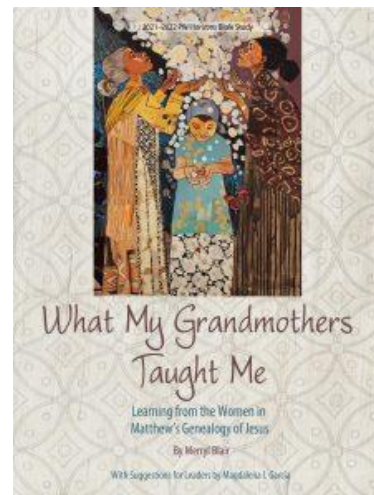
Thursday, May 12

1:00 pm via WebEx **NEW TIME**

Lesson 6 - Bathsheba

<https://pianotuning.my.webex.com/meet/rasimms2000>

All are welcome



**Open the hyperlink below to view the May PW Newsletter**

**[3207af48-8d86-4358-a3c0-fd55b0dc8646.pdf \(constantcontact.com\)](https://pianotuning.my.webex.com/meet/rasimms2000)**

## MAY CELEBRATIONS

### BIRTHDAYS

May 4 – Garland Dever  
May 5 - Lloyd Bird  
May 6 - Jack Herold  
May 6 – Geoff Cox  
May 8 – Mother's Day  
May 9 – Lorraine White  
May 9 – Lyla Swecker  
May 11 – Richard Simmons  
May 12 – Mary Gutshall  
May 13 - Norma Reynolds  
May 13 – Holmes Stephenson  
May 17 – Miles Johnston  
May 21 – Dot Terry  
May 25 – Dale Simmons  
May 30 - Vernon Simmons



Highland Rams are off to a great season in baseball and track



### ANNIVERSARIES

May 19 - Beth and Mike Armstrong

**The Wired Word Bible Study** With Russia's successful test launch of its Sarmat intercontinental ballistic missile, Russian President Vladimir Putin has been making threatening noises toward the countries that are supporting Ukraine's efforts to stave off Russian takeover. Those threats were repeated recently by Russian broadcasters and politicians on a TV show on a state-owned network. Although some U.S. analysts say all of this is more saber-rattling than actual danger to the United States, nobody puts the threat at zero. And that brings us to the topic of this installment of *The Wired Word*: What does it mean for Christians to live in a world where threats are plentiful? We will discuss that and look for some biblical perspective.



**PRAYER LIST** – Keep Miles Johnston, Mike Armstrong, Sandie Stinnett, Lola Sestrap, Mike Humphries, Garland and Lillian Dever, Janice Warner, and Carol Roberts and Mike Gonzales in your prayers.

Miles Johnston had pacemaker surgery on April 12 and his recovery is going well. He will remain in New Kent until the end of May. Miles shares this picture of the beautiful azaleas at the entrance to his New Kent farm.

Janice Warner is recuperating at home after having knee replacement surgery. If you would like to send a card, her Monterey PO Box number is 253.

**Beulah Sunday School WILL NOT MEET IN PERSON OR VIA WEBEX THIS SUNDAY.**

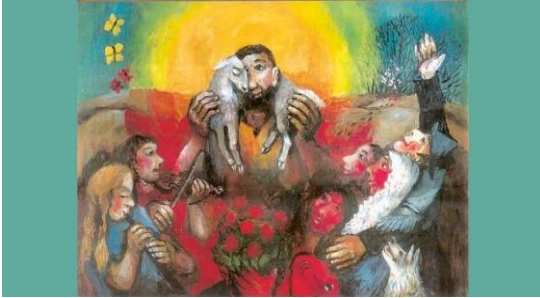




## April 30 WORK DAY and SPRING CLEAN UP at Beulah



Good fellowship, fun, and a lot of elbow grease!



## **Worship Service, May 8, 2022**

**Main idea: Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd who will provide for our every need.**

### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CANDLE LIGHTING and TIME OF CENTERING**

**OPENING SCRIPTURE** Psalm 23 – in unison

**HYMN:** “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Ezekiel 34:8-16

**THOUGHTS** – “The Alley of the Shadow”

**HYMN** – “He Leadeth Me” #499, W&R; #635, WC

### **TIME WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

**SCRIPTURE READING:** John 10:22-30

**THOUGHTS** – “My Cup Flows O’er”

**HYMN:** “All the Way My Savior Leads Me” #505, W&R; #641, WC

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Revelation 7:9-17

**THOUGHTS** – “Down to the Fields so Green We’ll Go”

**HYMN:** “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” #86, W&R; #330 WC

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **LORD’S PRAYER**

**OFFERING** – Mother’s Day Offering (Beulah)

**SONG OF THANKSGIVING** – “All Creatures...” (Lasst Uns Erfreuen), #23, W&R; #356, WC

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise God above you heavenly hosts

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost

Sing with praises, Sing with praises

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

### **PRAYER**

**CLOSING SONG:** “Lord, It’s Good to Come Home” w&m by Richard Hill

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**