

BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Andrew McDonald, Pastor
Donna Metzler, Liturgist
Ellen Cooke, Worship Music Leader

12th Sunday after Pentecost

Morning Worship 9:00 a.m. August 31, 2025
(Please sign attendance book.)

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

People of God, shout for joy to the Lord;
Worship the Lord with gladness!
Sing to the Lord songs of joy!

**Know that the Lord is God,
who created us and blessed us.
God has given us grace upon grace!**

*Hymn #288, “**I Sing the Mighty Power of God**”

*Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You.
We humbly confess our sins and ask Your mercy.
We have not loved You with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with You, our God.
In Your loving-kindness, forgive us.
Open our hearts and make us ready for a new life.
lived in Your bountiful Spirit. Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

As the Psalms proclaim, “as far as the east is from the west,
so far does the Lord remove our transgressions from us.”
God’s love is for us all. Believe and share the Good News!

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!**

*Gloria Patri

Team Jesus

Offering / Offertory Music

*Doxology #592 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Scripture **Mark 4:1-20**, pg. 38
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon “**Parable of the Outrageous Farmer**”

*Hymn #469, “**Morning Has Broken**”

* Prayers of the Community and the Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the
glory, forever. Amen.**

*Hymn #40, “**Joy to the World**”

*Charge / Benediction

*Congregational Response Hymn #432, “**Song of Hope**”

**May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Refrain: Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that’s new,
faithful when we hear Christ’s call.**

*Postlude

**Indicates to stand as you are able – for everyone to rise in spirit.*

New Members

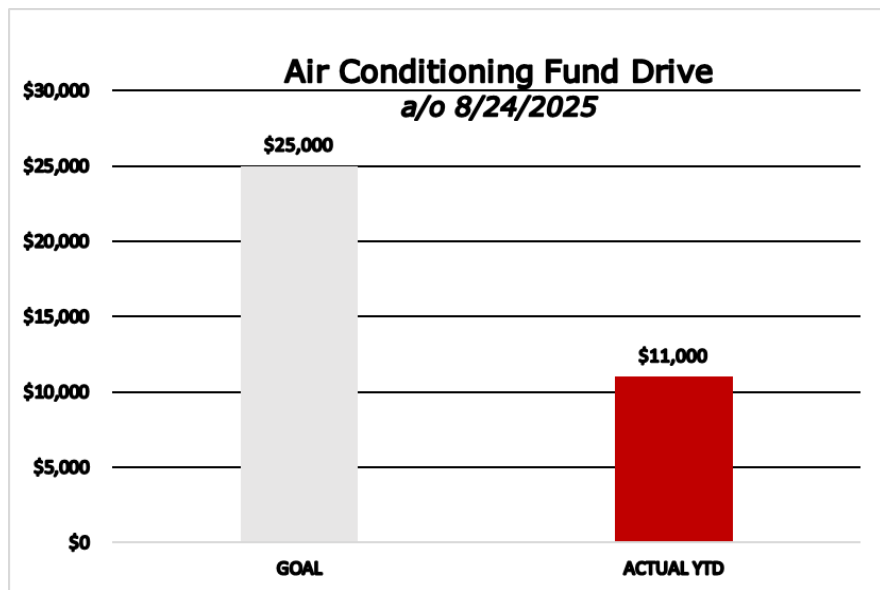
Beulah thrives through the strength of its's members. If you are ready to take the next step in your spiritual journey by joining the church, please talk with Dr. McDonald or call him at 402-480-3786.

Today's Theme

We live by our stories. They are our way of remembering the past, learning from the community, and orienting ourselves in our everyday life. But what if our stories also blind us? Jesus has to deal with people who "already know it all." So He tells stories that start out in predictable ways. But then they startle us, shock us, and turn our lives upside down. Jesus calls them parables. Parables disclose different possibilities and allow us to experience life in new ways. Today we begin a sermon series on the Parables of Jesus.

Beulah Calendar

Sunday	August 31	9:00am	Worship
Sunday	September 7	8:00am	Deacon Meeting
		9:00am	Worship / Communion / Food Pantry Collection



This week's Home Study Lectionary Readings

Jer 18:1-11	Ps 139:1-6, 13-18	Deut 30:15-20
Ps 1	Philem 1:1-21	Luke 14:25-31

Prayer List

Heather DeHaven	Robert DeVries	Norma Gordon
Martha Green	Cathy Morgan	Dylan Preston

Missionary relatives and friends of our church family

Ted & Kim Treadway in Guatemala.

Please Remember These Members in Your Prayers

- ♥ Barbara Anderson
- ♥ Louise Green
- ♥ Joyce King
- ♥ Don Paulsen
- ♥ Terry Vincent
- ♥ Jackie Williams

From the Mission Committee:

Thank you to all who helped with this summer's mission project. With your contributions and committee funds, we were able to donate over \$500 worth of personal hygiene items to the Orion and Sherrard Food Pantries.

Your generosity once again shines brightly in our community and demonstrates how God instructs us to care for others.

From the Assemblymen: Thank you very much for the generous offering. It's always nice to come to Orion because all the folks are so kind. You may never know how much we appreciate the love we feel when we are singing & presenting God's word to the folks. You are a very special stop on our concert schedule. Thanks for the sandwiches and cookies, they hit the spot on our way home.

Psalm 98:4 - Make a joyful noise unto the Lord,
all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.

Tax Tip – Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) allows individuals aged 70½ or older to donate up to \$108,000 annually from their **traditional IRA directly to a qualified charity**, potentially avoiding income tax on the distribution. This strategy is particularly useful for those who need to take Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) but don't need the funds for living expenses.

Key Rules for QCDs:

- **Age:** You must be at least 70½ years old at the time of the distribution.
- **IRA Type:** QCDs can be made from **traditional IRAs, inherited IRAs, and sometimes** simplified employee pension (SEP) or savings incentive match plan for employees (SIMPLE) IRAs.
- **Direct Transfer:** Funds must go **directly from the IRA custodian to the qualified charity**, not to you first. Request your IRA custodian to send your donation directly to Beulah Church.
- **Eligible Charities:** The charity must be a 501(c)(3) organization that is qualified to receive tax-deductible contributions. **Beulah Church is an eligible charity.**
- **Annual Limit:** The maximum QCD amount is \$108,000 per individual per year, indexed for inflation starting in 2024. For married couples filing jointly, each spouse can make a QCD, potentially totaling \$216,000.
- **Timing:** The QCD must be completed by December 31 of the tax year.
- **RMDs:** QCDs can satisfy all or part of your RMD for the year.
- **No Itemized Deduction:** Unlike traditional charitable donations, **QCDs are not deductible as itemized deductions.**
- **Tax Implications:** QCDs are excluded from your taxable income, potentially lowering your overall tax liability.
- **Record Keeping:** It's crucial to keep records of your QCDs for tax purposes.