

# HEART MATTERS

NON SCHOLÆ SED VITÆ

*Libraries of Hope Newsletter*



“DREAMS ARE THE TOUCHSTONES OF OUR CHARACTERS.”

--HENRY DAVID THOREAU

--It's March and time to move on to Month 7 topics.

Month 7 is all about Expansion. In 19th-century America, we watch the country expand westward and find ourselves inspired by the pioneering spirit of that age, both in the settling of new territories and in new innovations. Sadly, that expansion took away the lands of the Native Americans. We will want to take a more in-depth look at their story. We have much to learn from them.

Although it's not a direct tie-in, the idea of Expansion leads to a study of the Arabian countries and the rise of Islam. You will have just studied Abraham in the Holy Land—the Arab countries also look to Abraham through his son Ishmael. As Islam expands, Christian Crusaders seek to stop their spread.

Nature leads us to a study of our feathered friends—Birds.

Our Mother's University topic is about expanding our Imagination.

Art credit: Westward the Course of Empire Takes Its Way by Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

--We have a lot of exciting news for you!! In anticipation of all the announcements I was about to make, I posted this photo of a morning glory and asked for guesses why I would have used it. I loved all of your responses. Here is a sampling of your responses:

- It shows a variety of stages—some are preparatory, some are in full bloom.
- The Morning Glory drops its seeds and it's almost impossible to get rid of. They spread like crazy, but they are beautiful, so that's OK.
- The Morning Glory reaches up to the light. Its leaves are shaped like hearts.
- The flowers are fed from the same vine. The flowers nourish each other. They have a strong root system.
- A Morning Glory is able to grow anywhere and climbs to great heights.
- They bloom where they are planted.

Someone wondered if I chose it because I'm an early riser who loves the glory of morning. I do love the morning... but I'm not exactly an early riser.

I thought these were all great answers and relate to the work we are doing. Only one person mentioned the idea of the shape of flipping the Tower over that I talk about in the '5 things' talk. It represents inside-out learning. And especially it represents gathering and expanding. Think of the Encircling reach of the Cedars of Lebanon.

I have a lot of news to share with you and it has to do with gathering and expanding and planting beauty in our world. And it is the color purple—joining of red and blue, associated with male and female. The color of royalty. I see this as a royal generation, given the teaching materials we have been given to use.

These aren't necessarily in order of importance, but a recap of the announcements that have recently been made.

**NEW HOME PAGE AT [LIBRARIESOFHOPE.COM](http://LIBRARIESOFHOPE.COM)**

As we grow, there are a lot of pieces that many people don't know are connected to us. So we have a new home page at our main [librariesofhope.com](http://librariesofhope.com) site where you will see everything offered through Libraries of Hope and you can navigate from there.

## REDESIGNED APP

In conjunction with that, if you use our free app, you can easily go there and find our art and listening libraries, Well-Educated Heart Academy, Belle Ame, the Forgotten Classics as well as our Mothers of Influence community.

## NEW CATCH THE VISION OF THE WELL-EDUCATED HEART BOOK

At the center of all of this is still the Catch the Vision course. There are no short cuts. If you really want to make use of the free resources we offer and understand the philosophy of the Well-Educated Heart, you will need to find a way to make your way through the free Catch the Vision intro course, which is offered in several places I'll mention in a minute.

One new way is that I finally compiled all the transcripts into one book: Catch the Vision of the Well-Educated Heart. I hope having this book to refer to even after you go through the course will help to review and remember things that you want to remember.

Like all of our books, it's available as a free digital read on our [Forgotten Classics page](#). Or you can buy a hard copy in our [store](#). Right now, if you order \$50 or more before the end of March, we'll include a free copy in your order. It will happen automatically. If you already subscribe at a level over \$50/month, it will come in your order.

Or if you have some friends near you, if you buy 5 books at a time, they are just \$10 each and you get free shipping.

I hope as you try and share the WEH message with your friends, perhaps handing them a book will be easier than talking them into listening to 17 hours of recordings.

## NEW CLASSES ANNOUNCED FOR 2024-5 IN WELL-EDUCATED HEART ACADEMY

If you are looking for academic classes for your Jr. and Sr. High Schoolers led by mentors and teachers who understand WEH principles, listen to the most recent Webinar for parents at [WEHAcademy.org](#). All of our teachers want to come back, some with new offerings. And Dr. Pablo introduced wonderful new teachers with exciting courses. We are now offering a wider variety of subjects. Our students are loving their classes and their teachers!

## EXPANDED MOTHERS OF INFLUENCE COMMUNITY ON MIGHTY NETWORKS NOW OPEN TO EVERYONE

In order to join our [Mighty Networks community](#) of mothers, previously you had to complete Catch the Vision and pay \$25 to enter. Now that we can see the power of Mighty Networks and are more comfortable with the platform, we have opened it to all of you mothers who want to join. It is free and you can work your way through Catch the Vision right there in the platform. There's lots of support there.



— CATCH THE VISION OF —  
*The Well-Educated Heart*

MARLENE PETERSON

(continued)

Some of the things you'll find there include:

- The ability to find and connect with other moms near you.
- Find a live MOI circle led by a leader who has completed CTV.
- Mini-classes in things like growing herbs, making sourdough bread, painting, flower arranging. This is moms teaching moms. New offerings added so keep checking back.
- Artful Living experiences—come share a little poetry, a little time looking at art together, a walk in nature, some music or storytelling in a relaxed, informal way and get to know other moms.
- Virtual discussion circles—come talk about whatever is on your mind each week in Mother Matters, or talk about Life-giving home, the Delphian course, a book club—lots of ways to interact with other moms.
- Special guest instructors and speakers. Come learn and be inspired.
- Show and tell—share resources and ideas for learning through the rotation.
- Interactions similar to the Facebook feed where you can post questions, finds, inspiration, etc.

So much more! Just come and hang out. We'd love to have you.

Eventually we hope to close our Facebook group and have our community in Mighty Networks be the place to gather and interact with each other.

We are loving to learn and learning to love.

Check out the welcome from Marley and Me in the CTV Events section past events. Join at [mothersofinfluence.com](https://mothersofinfluence.com). There is an app you can download when you sign up. Between that and our updated app, you can easily find everything you are looking for right from your phone!

Also notice once you are in Mighty Networks, to navigate from one community to another, click on the three lines on the upper left hand corner and you can easily switch to a different community if you are in BAAH, WEHA or BG Guild, for instance. You can't do that on your laptop.

### **NEW BASIC LEVEL OPTION IN BELLE AME AT HOME**

We hope everyone who wants to be part of our [Belle Ame at Home](#) community can come and join us there. We are now offering a Basic Level membership for just \$29/month as well as our Premium Level at \$79/month. Come and join anytime.

Art credit: At a Party by Abram Arkhipov





Art credit: Day Dreams by Paul Fischer

Basic level includes:

- Inspiration Stations with Marlene with copywork and mapwork. Catch the Vision and Take 5s are woven into 5- to 7-minute daily sessions as we make our way through the rotation and link all the parts and offer suggestions for “pasture learning.”
- Art of Conversation and Activity ideas.
- Stories from our Storytellers who are bringing Forgotten Classics to life.
- Ability to connect with other families near you and form Friendship Circles.
- Teen Clubs: Shakespeare, Painting, World Events and so much more with wonderful mentors.
- Biblioguides membership and access to the Biblioguides Guild in Mighty Networks.
- Access to all things happening at our Belle Ame Center for Artful Living Campus.

Premium Level includes all the benefits of the Basic level PLUS:

- Monart Drawing
- Music Together
- Celebrating Foods Around the World cooking class
- Storytelling class
- Crafts
- Sewing—both hand and machine sewing
- Folk Dancing
- Full Storytellers’ Circle

The price is per family. Join at [belleameathome.org](http://belleameathome.org).

### **THE BELLE AME DREAM IS COMING TRUE!!!**

We closed on a beautiful 160-acre property a couple of weeks ago. It has been quite the journey of faith and miracles which will be shared in the days and weeks ahead. The property is only a couple of minutes up the road from the property we previously thought we would build on in Weatherby, MO. It has seven ponds, including a 4.5-acre springfed pond. There are forests and streams and open pastureland. It has been lovingly cared for by a sheep farmer and his wife—some of the kindest and humblest people I have ever met. We’ll be inheriting 13 of their sheep—and I hear we are expecting 20 little lambs in the spring.

Tim Hall who has been serving as the Assistant Director of American Heritage Worldwide and the LiftEd program will be living on property as our campus director. We are so blessed to have his skills and his experience to help as

we move forward.

He has announced our first **APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS** which you will learn more about on the next page of this newsletter. We are just getting started and look forward to serving all of your families in so many ways.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR: JUNE 1ST

We will be holding a Celebration and Open House for our new Belle Ame campus on June 1st and you are all invited! Join us live or join us Virtually—we will livestream the event. Invite your friends to learn more about WEH and the Belle Ame Dream. We see this as an historic moment.

If you do not yet know what the Belle Ame dream is, please visit [belleamedream.org](http://belleamedream.org).

Like the Robin Hood song says: “Everything we do, we do it for you.” Thank you for coming along this journey with us. You are making a difference in our world because Mother-love does work magic for humanity.

With these new offerings, we are moving into a new phase where Organized Mother-Love can work miracles.

By small and simple things, great things will come to pass.



# BELLE AME APPRENTICESHIP

Building the Spirit of Belle Ame

Weatherby, MO



## WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

Belle Ame Center for Artful Living is preparing to inaugurate a 160-acre campus where mothers and families immerse themselves in the languages of the heart - music, story, poetry, art, and the beauty of nature.

Young adults ages 18-24 are invited to apply for multi-week intensive apprenticeships organized around transforming this property, both physically and culturally, into the Belle Ame Campus. Apprentices will live on-campus in rustic accommodations and assist with campus building efforts under the direction of the Campus Director, Tim Hall.

## WHAT WILL WE DO?

Specific projects vary by session, but include:

- Photogrammetry (3D land modeling from drones)
- Building rustic apprentice housing
- Composting and building a no-till garden
- Photo documentation of property
- Soil analysis (compaction, microbiology, etc.)
- Rotational grazing management
- Plant species identification, notes, sketches

## IS IT RIGHT FOR ME?

This apprenticeship is right for young adults who

- are 18-24 years old and single
- are familiar with the Well-Educated Heart philosophy, and are a member (or your family) of Belle Ame at Home
- love the arts (music, poetry, story, art, and nature)
- are excited to live in rustic accommodations without regular use of electronic devices (phones, laptops, etc)
- are physically, mentally, and emotionally able to work long, hard days of physical labor
- desire a multi-week experience re-connecting to the core of what makes us human

## AT A GLANCE FOCUS

- Regenerative agriculture
- Artistic development

## REQUIREMENTS

- Be 18-24 yrs old and single
- Be a member of Belle Ame at Home
- Watch [The Belle Ame Dream](#) video
- Arrange transportation to and from session
- \$150 per session (covers food)
- Abide by Standards Commitment

## UPCOMING SESSIONS

- April 1 - 26, 2024 (males only)
- May 6 - June 2, 2024
- July 2 - 26, 2024

## TIM HALL Campus Director

Tim and his wife Irene live on the Belle Ame campus. They have implemented the WEH philosophy in their home since 2017.

Tim has spent his professional career in education, and his personal life in regenerative farming, theater, music, and international travel.



Apply Now 



# Our Builders' Creed

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The Belle Ame Dream

We—your mothers and grandmothers—  
believe in a happy Eternal life.

We believe, most of all, in a Christ that smiles and  
loves you as we know He loves us.

We therefore know that the educational institutions of today are flawed because  
they depict an end, not a beginning. They have become places that do  
nothing for humanity save a practical act, and that not well.

We therefore, prayerfully resolve on this day in 2023—we shall endeavor to build at  
Belle Ame a place of learning as unlike other places of learning as sunshine is  
unlike darkness, as eternal life is unlike death. We shall try to build at Belle Ame a  
great park, filled with towering trees, sweeping lawns, splashing fountains,  
singing birds, beautiful statuary, cheerful flowers, noble architecture  
with interiors full of light and color.

We believe these things educate and uplift a community.

Belle Ame shall become a place where lovers new and old shall love to stroll and  
watch the sunset's glow, planning for the future or reminiscing of the past; a place  
where artists study and sketch, where musicians bring heaven to earth; where  
poets touch the dull gray day and set it aflame with color and sunshine, and  
storytellers stir slumbering souls.

A place where the broken-hearted will be healed, the captive will be liberated, and  
the blind be made to see the Unseen things of the world—the Eternal things.

The sorrowing soul will be soothed and strengthened because  
it will be God's Garden.

The Builders

*inspired and adapted from Hubert Eaton*

***"You're nearer God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth."  
--Hubert Eaton***

