

# Loved by God; Loving Others. Fed by God; Feeding Others.

February  
2022

## The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

***And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen." Exodus 33:21-23***

I'm a huge fan of detective novels, especially if they take place in other countries. I've enjoyed the Department Q series set in Denmark, the Coroner's Lunch set in Laos, and recently I've been reading Antti Tuomainen's books set in Finland.

On Thursdays, I walk with my dear friends Fr. Gordon and Deacon Charles. A Catholic, Episcopalian, and Lutheran walk into a bar . . . yes, it sounds like the beginning of a joke, but we have lovely conversations.

Recently Gordon said he was a detective (I think I was making fun of him for missing something obvious); he looked for clues of God's fleeting presence in this world. It was a great quote that he made up on the spot and hopefully I got right, but that is some of what the call to pastor is about.

We are detectives looking for clues, glimpses, of what is eternal, what is meaningful, what is worthy of being called God. It's hard to keep paying attention when there are so many details to tend to and such an emphasis on busyness, but that is the primary part of my call. So I'm trying to be a detective too.

Providing hospitality for families who are experiencing homelessness has been a glimpse of God's presence not because everything is perfect and rosy, but we get to experience the work of building up community. When I talked with the senior high youth before volunteering, I shared one of my mantras, "Family Promise is not about fixing people as if they have something wrong, but it is about fixing a community so we are in right relationship and no child is left without a home."

Our council is a glimpse of God's presence in this world, and even our annual meetings and report. Again, not because they are perfect, but because there is a realness. People show up as they are and try to figure out how to live as community. That's God's good work of salvation, building the body of Christ so we may witness to the world a different way of being together than hostility and domination.

February is a good month to curl up with a detective novel, but like all months, it is a prime time to open your eyes and be a detective who seeks clues for God's fleeting presence in this world.

Peace,  
Pastor Tari



## Faith Formation at SOV

### (It doesn't just happen on Sunday.)

#### Small Group Spiritual Breaks Throughout the Week

What do Sundays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays have in common? Those are the days that a SOV small group gathers. We've got several happening in February: small group devotions; yoga and meditation; Holden Evening Prayer; and a study called "A Lutheran Welcome..." Everyone is invited to participate in one or more of these spiritual breaks. Some groups meet on Zoom and some in person. The Zoom links are available on the SOV website.

#### Small Group Devotions

Groups often read and talk about the weekly lectionary readings, or whatever each group wants to discuss.

**8:30 a.m. Sundays** in-person at SOV. Leader Chris Wallace.

**9 a.m. Fridays** on Zoom. Leader Becky Corson.

#### Yoga & Midday Reflection

11 a.m., Wednesdays, February 2, 9, 16, and 23. Meet in person for about 20 minutes of yoga for beginners, followed by spiritual reflection.

#### Holden Evening Prayer (Zoom)

5:30 p.m., Wednesdays in February. 30-minute prayer service with beautiful music.

#### A Lutheran Welcome... (Zoom)

5:30 p.m., Thursdays, February 3 and 10. Join Pastor Tari for this exploration of the Bible, Forgiveness, Sacraments, and Jesus and the Reformation.

#### Faith Formation Classes on Sundays

Happening Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. Middle school meets on Zoom; everyone else in person.

**Younger Ones** gather in-person in the sanctuary with Pastor Tari.

**Middle School** youth meet on Zoom with Glenn.

**Adults** meet in the Fellowship Hall for the study "A Lutheran Welcome..."

**Senior High** youth will work on getting back into a rhythm. We've been working around schedules and skiing. Senior high activities are in person.

February 6 10:45 a.m.—Walking after church.

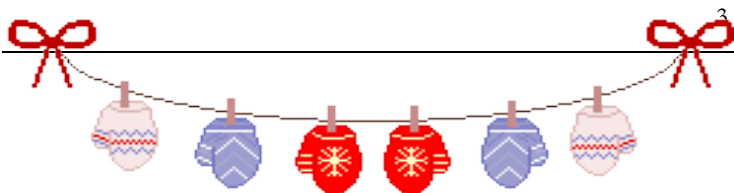
February 13 10:45 a.m.—Counting cans for Souper Bowl Sunday.

February 20 4 p.m.—We will do something awesome.

#### Sunday Worship

Join us at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The Zoom invitations for Sunday worship are published in the SOV Weekly email. Sunday Worship is both in-person and on Zoom. Folks who worship in person need to wear a mask. While we miss having little ones around, it's still not safe for us to have small children wandering around the church. We also encourage folks who want to worship in person to get vaccinated.





## Many Hands! Many Hearts!

### Serving with Love at SOV

We've always got a healthy list of ways to get involved. Check out these ways to contribute your generous gifts of time, money, food, or prayers. Prayers are appreciated for all of our ministries.

#### Glory Hole Meatloaf

We cook our monthly meal on Wednesday, February 16. Watch for the online sign-up sheet for needed contributions of time and food.

#### Community Food Pantry

Donations of food are always needed and appreciated. The pantry is open for food order pick-ups from 4-6 p.m. Wednesdays and 9-10 a.m. Saturdays. If you know folks who need food, please have them call the direct line to the food pantry (907) 500-3588 and the food pantry operator will answer their questions.

#### Devotions on the SOV App

If you haven't yet downloaded the SOV app on your phone or tablet, please do so. Allow the app to send notifications, so you don't miss any devotions.

#### Newsletter Sponsor

If you would like to sponsor a month of the newsletter in honor or celebration of something or someone, let us know. The suggested donation is \$100. Call or email the church to let us know which month you would like to sponsor and any special wording you want included.

## Stay Tuned for The Souper Bowl of Caring Challenge



Throughout the week prior to Sunday, February 13 (which is the day of that other Super Bowl), the SOV youth will challenge us to bring non-perishable food items to church. BUT WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE?

Stay tuned to the weekly church email for details. All donations will go toward the SOV community food pantry; look for the designated Souper Bowl table at church. This challenge is part of *The Souper Bowl of Caring*, a nation-wide effort of youth to end hunger in their communities. You can find more information about the Souper Bowl on the website [www.souperbowl.org](http://www.souperbowl.org).

## Pilgrimage of Healing to Ireland and Wales

The pilgrimage crew is still on track to travel to Ireland and Wales in June 2022.

The final fundraiser is a **Take Away Ribs Dinner** from 4:30 to 6 p.m., Sunday, February 27. Dinners are \$15 and include ribs, coleslaw, beans, and cornbread. It's going to be delicious.

Tickets may be purchased online or from any of the participants. Keep an eye open for the online link.

Participants are: August Kiessling, Becky Corson, Braden Jenkins, Chris Wallace, Christy Wallace, Corbin Corson, Dan Corson, Deb Tempel, Denny Corson, Eileen Hosey, Elijah Harvey, Hannah Harvey, Ilya Wallace, Julie Jenkins, Katherine Andrews, Kirt Stage-Harvey, Kristina Abbott, Linda Landvik, Lisa Wallace, Mark Kiessling, Rosemary Kiessling, Sam Kiessling, Savona Kiessling, Sophia Harvey, Steve Landvik, Tari Stage-Harvey, Whitney Hall, and Liam Kiessling

One of the important aspects of Jesus' ministry was the healing of individuals to benefit the community. This pandemic has left us fractured in many ways, so working on building up community is a faithful response to all the divisions.

The pilgrimage participants are already meeting regularly, building community, and learning about the places they will visit; before stepping out of their comfort zones to travel. Please keep them in your prayers.

# The Season of Lent begins on March 2

Lent is traditionally a time of preparation for Easter. It is 40 days (not including Sundays) of fasting, prayer, and confession. This is also a time of preparation for baptism. Purple is the color for Lent as a sign of penance, as we enter into the darkness of our sin; and it is a sign of royalty, recognizing Christ's lordship even over death and sin.

We begin this season with **Ash Wednesday** on March 2. There will be a hybrid worship at 5:30 p.m. at Shepherd of the Valley (both in person and on Zoom). This is a 30-minute worship and we will follow the current covid mitigation plan (we remain flexible re: mitigation plans). Please make a point to join us for this powerful worship.

We will hold **Holden Evening Prayer** on Zoom at 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays through Lent.

## Choir and Fat Tuesday Follies

We hope to begin choir rehearsals again during Lent pending covid guidelines. Our pancake feast and variety show, Fat Tuesday Follies, is also going to be held (or not) with regard to community guidelines. Stay tuned for details (and maybe get an act together for Follies? Let's be optimistic).

## Lenten Disciplines

We are all encouraged to choose a Lenten discipline. It is a time of fasting from destructive habits and embracing creative ones:

### Possible fasts:

Single use plastic - straws, bags, packaging.

Screens - make a goal that is attainable i.e. one hour on weekdays and two on weekends.

Gossip or criticism - say something that builds up every time a nasty thought enters.

Alcohol - Alcohol still kills more people than drug overdoses in Alaska. Lent is a great time to check in with your body and make sure you are not hooked.

Convenience Foods/Meats - Fast from meat or processed food once or twice a week.

Forwarding Social Media without fact checking.

### Possible new habits:

Worship regularly

Give generously

Journal

Prepare and eat meals with others

Read scripture and poetry

Walk 20 minutes a day



## Devotions for Lent

Thanks to a generous grant from Thrivent Financial, we are purchasing 20 copies of Kate Bowler's *Good Enough*. *Written gently and with humor, Good Enough is permission for all those who need to hear that there are some things you can fix—and some things you can't. And it's okay that life isn't always better. In these gorgeously written reflections, Bowler and Richie offer fresh imagination for how truth, beauty, and meaning can be discovered amid the chaos of life.*

We ask those of you who take a devotion book to commit to jotting a response to that day's reading on the website/app. It will kind of be like a graffiti wall. Let Pastor Tari know if you have questions.

## Special Offering for Lent begins in February

The display is up for sponsoring school-aged youth in Nigeria. Please do not take the backpacks off the wall at church! We would like you to write your name on the backpack of the youth you'd like to sponsor, then write that student's name on a post-it note and take that with you. Remember to pray for your student at least once a week. We ask that you donate \$50 per youth to cover uniform and school fees. Donations may be made online or by check. Make sure to designate your donation to "Nigeria." There is also an online option to sponsor a student; watch for the link in the weekly church emails.

## Good Stuff in February

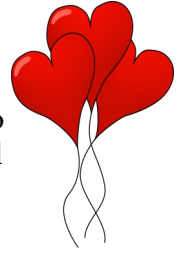
**Council Installation**—We welcome Dan Corson, Linda Landvik, and Julie Jenkins to council; they will be installed during worship February 6. Thank you to our new council members, and all of our council members, for your willingness to serve.

**Council Retreat**—Thank you to Scott and Annette Ranger for allowing council to use their condo on the beach for our retreat. We will meet on February 19. If there are any concerns, please send them to the church office so we may address them.

**Women's Cabin Retreat**—There are spots for six women to head out to Camping Cove for the night on February 17-18. It's a moderate, two-mile hike. We will covid test beforehand, and weather might make us bail, but it could be fun. Talk to Pastor Tari if you'd like to go.

**SOV Book Study**—We will meet at 6:30 p.m., Friday, February 11 at the Forbidden Peak private room. Our book this month is *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

*As a botanist, Robin Wall Kimmerer has been trained to ask questions of nature with tools of science. As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, she embraces the notion that plants and animals are our oldest teachers. In Braiding Sweetgrass, Kimmerer brings these two lenses of knowledge together to take us on "a journey that is every bit as mythic as it is scientific, as sacred as it is historical, as clever as it is wise."*



## Nigerian Student Sponsorship

This special offering for Lent begins in February

One of the gifts of Zoom has been connecting with our friends in Nigeria. We have an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of youth there. Our friend Nuwayina has collected a list of youth who need assistance paying for school.

The display is up for sponsoring school-aged youth in Nigeria. Please do not take the backpacks off the wall at church! We would like you to write your name on the backpack of the youth you'd like to sponsor, then write that student's name on a post-it note and take that with you. Remember to pray for your student at least once a week. We ask that you donate \$50 per youth to cover uniform and school fees. Donations may be made online or by check. Make sure to designate your donation to "Nigeria." There is also an online option to sponsor a student; watch for the link in the weekly church emails.

## VOLUNTEERING FOR FRIENDS OF SENIORS

### ONLINE INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Presented by Program Coordinators Jessica Kinville and Bobbi Epperly. Learn about how you can help positively impact Juneau seniors and help them maintain their independence.



**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3**  
**6:00 PM OVER MS TEAMS**

This is a virtual informational meeting on MS TEAMS. Scan the QR Code to join the meeting, or [click here](#).

Or call in (audio only)  
+1 907-308-3322  
Phone Conference ID: 159 706 881#



**SCAN ME**

QR CODE NOT WORKING? EMAIL  
[VOLUNTEER@CCSAK.ORG](mailto:VOLUNTEER@CCSAK.ORG)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
[CCSAK.ORG/VOLUNTEER](http://CCSAK.ORG/VOLUNTEER)  
907-463-6100



Friends of Seniors is a program of Hospice and Home Care of Juneau, a division of Catholic Community Service.

# Let the Blessings Overflow

Good news and celebrations in February



## Birthdays

- 5 Julie Jenkins
- 5 Calvin Landvik
- 7 Michelle Weaver
- 8 Kiah Dihle
- 8 Dan Hubert
- 8 Liam Kiessling
- 9 Rylan Pegues
- 10 Sally Thompson
- 10 Greg Weldon
- 12 Rick Fritsch
- 13 Nancy Davis
- 13 Tari Stage-Harvey
- 15 Craig Smith
- 15 Patrick Tassell
- 17 Camdyn Landvik
- 17 Carolyn Rasmussen
- 19 Janalynn Doten-Ferguson
- 19 Meilani Doten-Ferguson
- 20 Willie Anderson
- 22 Rachel Sielbach
- 23 Travis Ross
- 27 Helen Mehrkens
- 28 Sharon Fishel
- 29 Aaron Doten-Ferguson

## Baptismal Birthdays

- 1 Judy Marshall
- 13 Keith Andrews
- 15 Mindy Birk
- 16 Roger Skoe
- 19 Melissa Fritsch
- 22 Erik Thompson
- 24 Logan Balstad

## Anniversaries

- 7 Fred & Debbie Howard
- 22 Megan & Scott Hinton

## A Moment for Prayer



O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrod-den, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *From Lutheran Book of Worship published by Augsburg Publishing House, 1978*

Also, keep in your prayers Pastor Tari Stage-Harvey; Alaska Synod Bishop Shelley Wickstrom; and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

## Photo Board Updates

Send us your family photos, especially if the one we currently have on the photo board is outdated! We are working on updating the church photo board. You can email them to [sovjuneau@gmail.com](mailto:sovjuneau@gmail.com).

## You're Not Alone.

Please reach out by phone or through the link on the website to schedule a visit with the pastor or any of our life coaches. We have six life coaches who are trained to walk with people during stagnant times when they are trying to figure out what happens next, overwhelming times, or even to check in during normal times.

*Let all that you do be done in love.*

*Corinthians 16:14*

MARCH 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Printable Calendars From 123Calendars.Com

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## Food Pantry Order Pick-Up:

4-6 pm Wednesdays

9-10 am on Saturdays

**Food Pantry Direct Line: 907-500-3588**

Food pantry details on page 3.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds... Hebrews 10:24</i></p>		1	2 11 am Yoga  4-6 pm Pantry 530 pm Holden	3  530 pm Lutheran Study	4 9 am Zoom Devos	5 9-10 am Pantry
6 830 am Devos 930 am Worship with Council Installation 1045 am Faith Formation (pg 2) 4 pm Ireland Mtg	7	8	9 11 am Yoga  4-6 pm Pantry 530 pm Holden	10  530 pm Lutheran Study	11 9 am Zoom Devos  630 pm Book Club	12 9-10 am Pantry
13 <i>Souper Bowl</i> 830 am Devos 930 am Worship 1045 am Faith Formation (pg 2)	14	15	16 SOV at Glory Hall 11 am Yoga  4-6 pm Pantry 530 pm Holden	17  Overnight Women's Cabin Retreat	18 9 am Zoom Devos	19 9-10 am Pantry  9-Noon Council Retreat
20 830 am Devos 930 am Worship 1045 am Faith Formation (pg 2) 4 pm Senior High	21	22	23 11 am Yoga  4-6 pm Pantry 530 pm Holden	24	25 9 am Zoom Devos	26 9-10 am Pantry  1030 am Post-High Zoom
27 830 am Devos 930 am Worship 1045 am Faith Formation (pg 2) 430-6 pm Ribs Fundraiser	28	March 1  Fat Tuesday	March 2  Ash Wednesday  4-6 pm Pantry 530 pm Worship	March 3	March 4 9 am Zoom Devos	March 5 9-10 am Pantry

**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church**

4212 Mendenhall Loop Road

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Web: www.sovlutheran.org Like us on Facebook

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Your church family is here for prayers, visits, and encouragement. Please call if you would like a visit from Pastor Tari, or anytime you can use a kind word.

Pastor Tari enjoys opportunities to go for walks while visiting with folks. Feel free to call her and plan a time to go for a walk.

We would also love to hear from you with comments about or submissions to *The Shepherd's Voice*. If your address has changed, or if you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, we want to know that too.

**Rev. Tari Stage-Harvey, Pastor**

**Please see inside the newsletter for the many ways we are connecting.**

**Sunday Worship:** 9:30 a.m. (via Zoom and in-person)

**Faith Formation for All Ages:** See page 2 of newsletter for details.

**Food Pantry Order Pick-Up:** 9-10 am Sat. and 4-6 pm Wed.

**Food Pantry Direct Line (call with questions or to place orders):** 907-500-3588

*The Shepherd's Voice:* Editor, Becky Corson and Production/Distribution, Lewis Gates