



LOVED BY GOD; LOVING OTHERS

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

March
April
2026

The Shepherd's Voice

Bimonthly Newsletter of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

As I write this, I have only 36 hours remaining in the first of two trips to Juneau during Pastor Tari's sabbatical. I hiked Spaulding Meadows and Auke Nu trails this afternoon, reflecting on my time here, and I encountered many feelings about my upcoming departure. I was all aflutter in my head and heart, but eventually I paused the internal chatter and confusion, calling myself to quiet gratitude. Suddenly, I noticed the sunlight sparkling off the snow-tipped clusters of boughs around me. I felt the chill on my nose. My ears picked up the sound of water running nearby. A raven cawed. Ahhh. I let myself arrive in the moment and settle into gratitude.

Gratitude for Pastor Tari's faith in me, which led to the invitation to visit SOV during her time away. Gratitude to my family for doing their part to make these trips happen. Gratitude to the SOV community for the hospitality, conversations, and laughs. Gratitude for who the SOV community is for Juneau, for being the hands and feet of Christ in this little corner of the world. And gratitude to God, the great orchestrator of all: the beauty around us that defies description, relationships that intersect across decades and miles, faith that calls people to their hearts, and people who create spaces of belonging for those who are rarely seen or heard. So much gratitude.

I am aware that this newsletter spans a two-month period that includes time when SOV will shepherd themselves—both before my return and after Easter—as well as the time of my second trip (March 19 – April 6) and Pastor Tari's return in late April. How emblematic of SOV's journey since the beginning of this year, and what a testament to the Body of Christ alive, centered, and infused in our relationships and communities. Glory be to God!

Peace,
Linda

Thank you to Linda Land-Closson for sharing her time and leadership with us.

Have you dug into the devotions Linda wrote for the Season of Lent? Her devotions are on the seven pillars of Benedictine hospitality. Thoughtful and well-written, they are easily accessed on the SOV website and on the SOV app.

sovlutheran.org/devotions



Faith Formation at SOV

We hope you'll join us as part of your faith journey.

General Sunday Schedule at SOV

8:30 am Men's Group.

9:30 am Worship.

10:30 am Coffee fellowship.

Thank you to our Sunday morning snack crew! Please note, everyone is welcome to do dishes after coffee fellowship (thank you).

10:50 am Bell rings and classes for all ages begin. Thank you for not visiting loudly or playing ping pong while classes are in session.

Faith Formation

Check out the schedule for March and April:

Preschool—Teresa

Younger Elementary—Meagan and Michelle

The younger groups will have classes on March 1, 8, 15, April 12, and 19. No Faith Formation on March 22 or 29 (spring break); Easter Sunday, April 5; or April 26.

5th—8th Graders—Christy and Glenn

March 1—Mary & John the Baptist

March 8—The Centurion & The Disciples

March 15—Mentoring

March 22/29—Spring Break

April 4—Prep Easter Breakfast (3-5 p.m.)

April 5—Help serve Easter Breakfast

April 12—Syrophenician Woman/Sadducees/
Pharisees

April 19—Mentoring

April 26—PT Potluck

May 3—Wrap Up

May 12—Mother's Day Brunch

High School Youth—Scott and Kirt (check-ins on some Sundays; other activities on a scheduled weekday, youth schedules dependent).

Adults—The Psalms led by Linda Landvik (March 1, 8, 15, April 12, and 19)

Classes led by Linda Land-Closson (March 22, 29)

Other Faith Formation Opportunities

Faith Formation doesn't just happen on Sunday morning!

Lunch with Love

Lunch with Love happens at Noon, Tuesdays in March (and possibly in April too, depending on continued interest).

The current schedule:

March 3—Practical info shared by two nurses about CPR, AEDs, & Narcan.

March 10—The group makes dinner for the Caring Canteen.

March 17, 24, and 24—Unknown at this time. If you have ideas, please share them with Eileen Hosey or Teresa Kissel.

The Chosen

The group watching *The Chosen* will continue into March (and maybe April too). They meet at 5:30 p.m., Thursdays to watch an episode and discuss. *The Chosen* is a TV series about Jesus' ministry and his life with the disciples.

Discipleship Class

2 p.m., Tuesday, March 24. The group will meet with Linda Land-Closson.

Men's Group

8:30 a.m. Sundays before worship. The guys gather to catch up on life.

Friday Morning Devotions

9 a.m. Fridays. Have coffee or tea and dig into a devotion.

PT Potluck

Pastor Tari's first Sunday back at SOV after sabbatical is April 26. Let's welcome her back with a potluck after worship. Maybe, if the weather is nice, we can grill something?!

Ways to Serve in March and April



Thank You to Our Newsletter Sponsors

This issue of *The Shepherd's Voice* is sponsored by dear friends of SOV, Cynthia and Ron Plantz. While they haven't lived in Juneau for several years, they're good at keeping in touch with us. Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts, Cynthia and Ron, and for sponsoring the newsletter.

If you are interested in sponsoring an issue 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 issue you would like to sponsor and any special wording you want included.

Glory Hall Meatloaf

We cook and serve our monthly meal on Wednesdays, March 18 and April 15. Watch the weekly emails for the sign-up sheet for needed contributions of time and food.

"The Caring Canteen" Food Truck—Servers Needed in March

We host the food truck two times in March; Tuesdays, March 3 and 10. Thank you to the volunteer cooks who are making the meals on both of those Tuesdays. We still need servers on both of those Tuesdays! This is a great experience to invite friends to help serve. If interested, you can either talk to Gail Fenumiai directly, or talk to us in the church office and we will put you in touch with her.

Food Pantry

The pantry is open from Noon– 1 p.m. Wednesdays (hot soup lunch served) and 9-10 a.m. Saturdays; and on the last Saturday of the month we serve a hot breakfast. Deliveries to folks who are homebound are available on Saturdays too. Call the pantry line at (907) 500-3588 for info.

Sunday Morning Coffee Fellowship

Savory or sweet—snacks and treats are always appreciated on Sunday mornings. Did you celebrate a birthday or other special event during the week and have delicious leftover cake? Or did you make/buy too many cookies? Too many apples? Bring your "leftovers" to share during Sunday morning fellowship!

Giving Updates—Ways to Give

1. Place checks or cash in the offering plate.
2. Sign up for regular giving through Tithely at www.sovlutheran.org/give
3. Sign up through Vanco using the QR code.



Sunday Morning Loose Offering

Thank you for your generous giving of loose offering on Sunday mornings. We have raised a good amount of loose offering for all of the non-profits we have supported.

March - Trail Mix

April, May—To be decided by council (if you have suggestions of a non-profit or two (usually local, but they don't have to be?), feel free to share them with a council member).

Lenten Special Offering and Gift Cards for AWARE—during Lent, we will collect items needed by seniors living in our local care facilities and teens at the youth center. Check out page 5 for details about this special offering. There are also plans to collect grocery-store gift cards for families at the AWARE Shelter to help them with Easter dinners. Stay tuned for details.



Council & Committees

Thank you to our church council members and committee members. We appreciate your leadership. The council elected this year's executive council at their annual retreat in February.

President – Katherine Andrews

Vice President – Doug Larsen

Secretary – Lisa Wallace

Financial Secretary – Teresa Kissel

Treasurer – Gail Fenumiai

General Council Members:

Dan Corson

Eileen Hosey

Helen Mehrkens

Glenn Mitchell

Chuck Orsborn

Sue Trivette

Committee Members

The following people are who we currently have listed on committees. Contact the church office if you have an update to a committee list. Let us know if you are no longer on one of the following committees OR if you'd like your name added to a list.

Pastoral Support

Dan Corson

Lisa Wallace

Gail Fenumiai

Helen Mehrkens

Fellowship

Sue Trivette

Linda Landvik

Mindy Birk

Alice Gates

Katherine Andrews

Helen Mehrkens

Social Concerns

Gail Fenumiai

Lisa Wallace

Glenn Mitchell

Teresa Kissel

Dan Corson

Becky Corson

Roger Birk

Mindy Birk

Elfrida Nord

Parish Education

Lisa Wallace

Glenn Mitchell

Linda Landvik

Steve Carls

Meagan Hinton

Worship & Music

Katherine Andrews

Helen Mehrkens

Misuri Smyth

Kristin Larson

Alice Gates

Kirt Stage-Harvey

Property & Security

Dan Corson

Chuck Orsborn

Scott Hinton

Kirt Stage-Harvey

Chris Wallace

Theresa Ross

Columbarium

Sharon Mitchell

Glenn Mitchell

Julie Orsborn

Chuck Orsborn

Eileen Hosey

Elfrida Nord

Katherine Andrews

Master Facility

Jeff Jenkins

Theresa Ross

Dan Corson

Jim Wilson

Linda Thompson

Elfrida Nord

Chuck Orsborn

¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13



The Season of Lent Continues

Lenten Devotions—Linda Land-Closson has written reflections for Lent on the seven pillars of Benedictine hospitality. They are available on the SOV website and app.

Special Offering for Lent—Our special Lenten Offerings this year will go to seniors at one of our local care facilities or teens at the youth shelter. Bring the following items on the designated day and put them on the altar:

February 22 Socks (with grippers if for seniors)

March 1 Instant tea or coffee packets

March 8 Little packets of cookies or oatmeal

March 15 Travel shampoo and conditioner

March 22 Travel body wash and toothpaste

March 29 Puzzles, deck of cards or dice

Lenten Season Community Soup & Worship—Be sure to check out the flyer about this community event on page 6 of the newsletter.



Holy Week & Easter

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 29.

The Triduum (three-day worship) begins with **Maundy Thursday on April 2**. Maundy means the commandment and it refers to the commandment that Jesus gives the disciples after he washes their feet to “love one another as he has loved them.” We will share a **potluck and worship at 6 p.m.**

We continue the journey to **Good Friday on April 3**. Good Friday worship is at 7 p.m. at SOV.

We continue with an **overnight prayer vigil** from 8 p.m. Friday night until 5 p.m. Saturday night. Please keep an eye out for the prayer slot sign-up on the front door at church.

Middle school and upper elementary youth will meet from 3-5 p.m., Saturday, April 4 for pizza and egg cracking (breakfast prep) and egg filling (egg hunt prep).

Sunday morning (April 5) completes the three-day worship at **6:30 a.m. at Skater’s Cabin** with sunrise service. We worship with Aldersgate and St. Brendan’s. We will have also worship at **Shepherd of the Valley at 9:30 a.m.**

Easter breakfast is served by the Fellowship Committee AND middle school and upper elementary youth, from **10-11:30 a.m.** There will be an **Easter Egg Hunt at 11 a.m.** for the little ones. We would also like to take photos so we can update the photo board.

Easter dinner is a potluck on Sunday night at 5 p.m. Ham provided. Feel free to bring a side or dessert to share.

⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Matthew 28:5-6"

Who's Sharing the Message?

Here is the schedule for March and April of who is presiding at communion and who is sharing a sermon with us. Thank you to everyone on this list for allowing yourself to be vulnerable and stepping out of your comfort zone to lead (that includes Pastor Tari who will be back on April 26).

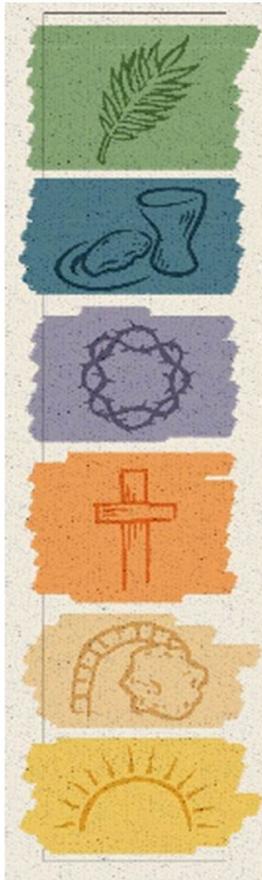
March 1	Lisa Wallace (preside/sermon)
March 8	Bob Williams (preside/Sermon)
March 15	Bob Williams (preside/Sermon)
March 22	Linda Land-Closson (preside/sermon)
March 29	Linda Land-Closson (preside/sermon)
April 5	Linda Land-Closson (preside/sermon)
April 12	Teresa Kissel (preside) Becky Corson (sermon)
April 19	Teresa Kissel (preside) Becky Corson (sermon)
April 26	Pastor Tari (preside/sermon)

Glacier Bible Camp 2026

It's never too early to start thinking about summer camp, especially because camp is EARLIER this year. We will be at Boy Scout Camp JUNE 15-20. Information about camp and the registration form are available on the SOV website:

<https://sovlutheran.org/ministries/camp-2026>

Youth going into 5th-12th grade are welcome to join us. Cost is \$100 for those living in Juneau and \$50 for those outside Juneau. We will need counselors and other staff; mark your calendars and plan to join us.



Lenten Season Community Soup and Worship

Everyone is invited to gather on Wednesday evenings during the Season of Lent. The location changes weekly. Each event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a brief worship followed by a time of fellowship and a soup supper.

- February 25th** Location: Kuneix Hidi Northern Light Church
Address: 400 West 11th Street (downtown)
Soup and bread: Church of the Nazarene
- March 4th** Location: Salvation Army
Address: 439 Willoughby Ave (downtown)
Soup and bread: First Baptist
- March 11th** Location: Church of the Holy Trinity
Address: 415 Fourth Street (downtown)
Soup and bread: St. Brendan's Episcopal
- March 18th** Location: Douglas Island Bible
Address: 2770 David St (Douglas)
Soup and bread: Douglas Methodist
- March 25th** Location: Shepherd of the Valley
Address: 8198 Keegan Street (valley)
Soup and bread: Resurrection Lutheran

Let the Blessings Overflow

Good news and celebrations in March and April



March Birthdays

6	Laurie Balstad
6	Xandor Beck
6	Arlo Hinton
7	Peggy Corazza
9	Liz Balstad
15	Mark Peterson
17	Jenna Dobson
18	Adam Doten-Ferguson
20	Theresa Ross
22	Haeden Newport
23	Maya Ross
29	Dawson Menz
29	Amos Kissel
30	Jameson Andrews
30	Hannah Harvey
31	Nadine Marx



March Baptismal Birthdays

6	Roger Birk
10	Brianne Ragno
12	Josephine Orr
18	Nancy Hixson
21	Aaron Landvik
24	Amber Marshall
24	Bob Wright
31	Nadine Marx
31	Sharon Mitchell
31	Julie Orsborn

April Birthdays

3	Mark Carls
3	Steve Carls
3	Marianne Jacobs
4	Ophelia Kunze
7	Paul Beran
9	Rosemary Kiessling
10	Gayle Trivette
12	Linda Shaw
14	Doug Larsen
14	Ollie Odum
17	Gail Fenumiai
24	Marie Parfitt
27	Deb Etheridge

April Baptismal Birthdays

1	Kristina Abbott
1	Caleb Abbott
1	Emily Abbott
1	Erik Abbott
1	Debbi Howard
8	Adrienne Boyd
8	Allison Walton
8	Lauri Walton
16	Elfrida Nord
17	Lauren Stichert
17	Lisa Wallace
20	Cheryl Jebe
20	Janalynn Doten-Ferguson
20	Rachel Sielbach
20	Nyah Martin
20	Kiley Stevens
21	Lily Dietz
21	Finn Larson
22	Nick Andrews
23	Eileen Hosey
24	Mark Peterson
24	Dylan Miller
30	Cameron Marx

A Moment for Prayer

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, 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.

Let's pray for Pastor Tari as she continues her sabbatical. Prayers for good health, safe travels, and lots of rest (and adventures).

Prayers also for Alaska Synod Bishop Timothy Oslovich and ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry.

Let us pray for our Alaska Synod Prayer Partners. Our partner for March is First Lutheran Church in Ketchikan; and for April it is Faith Lutheran Church in Delta Junction.



April 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			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		

Daylight Savings Time begins March 8. Don't forget to set your clocks forward one hour before bedtime on March 7.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee 1050 am Faith Form 6 pm SOV Book Club at Forbidden Peak</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Noon Lunch with Love</p> <p>SOV Hosts Caring Canteen (servers needed; see page 3)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Noon-1 pm Pantry</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9 am Devotions</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Spring Ahead (DST) 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee 1050 am Faith Form</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Noon Lunch with Love</p> <p>SOV Hosts Caring Canteen (servers needed; see page 3)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Noon-1 pm Pantry</p> <p>6 pm Council Meal 630 pm Council Mtg</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9 am Devotions</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p>15</p> <p>830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee 1050 am Faith Form 1050 am Mentoring</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Noon Lunch with Love</p>	<p>18</p> <p>SOV Cooks & Serves at the Glory Hall Noon-1 pm Pantry</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9 am Devotions</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p>22</p> <p>830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee 1050 am Adult Faith Formation</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Noon Lunch with Love</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Noon-1 pm Pantry</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9 am Devotions</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Palm Sunday 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee 1050 am Adult Faith Formation</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Noon Lunch with Love</p>	<p align="center">Food Pantry Hours</p> <p align="center">Noon-1 p.m. Wednesdays (in person/soup lunch served) 9-10 am Saturdays (in person)</p> <p align="center">Deliveries available Saturday morning to homebound folks in Lemon Creek and the Valley. Call the food pantry direct line for information or fill out the form on the home page of our website: sovlutheran.org Food Pantry Direct Line: 907-500-3588</p>			

May 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					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						



Easter Sunday is April 5. Join us for worship, breakfast, and a potluck dinner. Christ is Risen!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Noon-1 pm Pantry</i>	2 <i>6 pm Maundy Thursday Worship</i>	3 <i>9 am Devotions</i> <i>7 pm Good Friday Worship</i> <i>8 pm Overnight Prayer Vigil Begins</i>	4 <i>9-10 am Pantry</i> <i>3-5 pm Middle Schoolers Prep Breakfast</i> <i>5 pm Vigil Ends</i>
5 Easter <i>630 am Sunrise Svs</i> <i>930 am Worship</i> <i>10-1130 am Breakfast at SOV</i> <i>11 am Egg Hunt</i> <i>5 pm Potluck</i>	6	7 <i>Noon Lunch with Love</i>	8 <i>Noon-1 pm Pantry</i> <i>6 pm Council Meal</i> <i>630 pm Council Mtg</i>	9	10 <i>9 am Devotions</i>	11 <i>9-10 am Pantry</i>
12 <i>830 am Men's Grp</i> <i>930 am Worship</i> <i>1030 am Coffee</i> <i>1050 am Faith Form</i>	13	14 <i>Noon Lunch with Love</i>	15 <i>SOV Cooks & Serves at the Glory Hall</i> <i>Noon-1 pm Pantry</i>	16	17 <i>9 am Devotions</i>	18 <i>9-10 am Pantry</i>
19 <i>830 am Men's Grp</i> <i>930 am Worship</i> <i>1030 am Coffee</i> <i>1050 am Faith Form</i> <i>1050 am Mentoring</i>	20	21 <i>Noon Lunch with Love</i>	22 <i>Noon-1 pm Pantry</i>	23	24 <i>9 am Devotions</i>	25 <i>9-10 am Pantry</i>
26 <i>830 am Men's Grp</i> <i>930 am Worship</i> <i>1030 am PT Potluck</i>	27	28 <i>Noon Lunch with Love</i>	29 <i>Noon-1 pm Pantry</i>	30		

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

Physical Address: 8198 Keegan Street

Mailing Address: PO Box 34859, Juneau, AK 99803

Email: sovjuneau@gmail.com Office: (907) 789-4093

Food Pantry Direct: (907) 500-3588

Web: www.sovlutheran.org Like us on Facebook

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Return Service Requested



**SAVE THIS NEWSLETTER!
IT'S THE MARCH AND APRIL
ISSUE.**

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

We are excited for Pastor Tari as she is on sabbatical (from mid-January to end of April). She will be away from SOV during this time, learning, rejuvenating, and growing. We look forward to stories of her adventures during this sacred time.

We would 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 look inside for information about Easter at SOV.

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

Faith Formation for All Ages: See inside for details.

In-Person Food Pantry: Noon– 1 p.m. Wednesdays & 9-10 am Saturdays

Deliveries available Saturday mornings to homebound folks. Call the pantry direct line for information.

Food Pantry Direct Line: 907-500-3588

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