



LOVED BY GOD; LOVING OTHERS

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

July
August
2026

The Shepherd's Voice

Bimonthly Newsletter of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

Hypocrisy and healing are two major themes in Matthew's Gospel. Both of these threads run through Jesus' ministry and interactions. Jesus gets ticked off about hypocrisy and often follows the calling out of hypocrites with the phrase "weeping and gnashing teeth." When there is weeping and gnashing teeth, it's best to pay attention.

Hypocrisy is different than the complexity of being human. We all have lots of motivations and behaviors that are not consistent with our core values. Often they aren't even consistent with each other. People are not monolithic and that is great news. It means we don't dismiss others because we disagree about one thing or another. Relationships are possible, but they might need to come through a different route than what someone is loudest about.

Hypocrisy is from a Greek word referring to the masks actors wore. It is more than the inconsistency of behaviors; it is hiding inconsistencies behind a veneer of righteousness or certainty. Hypocrisy makes relationships and community impossible because there is nothing real or vulnerable to connect to. The trouble is that it can also look shiny and appealing. Too often the church and religious institutions throughout time have rewarded those with a shiny veneer instead of those with a tender heart.

Healing is not about being fixed or necessarily cured. Healing is about the community being set into right relationship. Each person is needed in their uniqueness and changes the organism of the community. Healing is about experiencing and being wrapped into the eternal love of God through the presence of the community. That is what brings us into a reality that is bigger than ourselves and our own brokenness. Healing is a tender heart finding its home in the heart of God.

Camp is exhausting and I was 95% sure this was our last year with this model. But then healing had to show up. One of the top things youth say when they talk about camp is that they feel most themselves at camp. It is a place that strips the masks and invites everyone to engage in community with tender hearts. Everyone tends to be willing to risk being silly, letting tears flow, and asking hard questions. Camp is not shame or fear based; it is grounded in the belovedness of all being gathered together. That's what healing looks like.

Everything doesn't come out rainbows and ponies, parts of camp are really hard, but the love shines through, people catch a glimpse in the mirror of their true selves as a beloved child of God surrounded by other beloved children. There's no need to hide behind shiny masks because we are freed to make mistakes and boldly confess them, to lift each other up without fear of being less, to be healed by the love of the community that carries us through all disease and death.

Peace,
Pastor Tari



Faith Formation at SOV

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

General Sunday Schedule in Summer

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 (thank you).

Tuesday Hikes

Meet at 2 p.m. at church to carpool to the "trail of the week." Trails will be chosen based on weather and hiking ability of the group.

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; share highs and lows for the week; and dig into a devotion.

Senior High Group

9 p.m., Thursdays, July 9, 23, and August 6. Hang out at church, play games, chat about stuff.

Glacier Bible Camp 2026—Wrap Up

The theme this year was "Light" and we welcomed 86 people from around Alaska for a week of growing and glowing together. We also fed many hungry mosquitoes. It took lots of volunteers to help transport people, cook, clean, and support this week. Thank you. Shepherd of the Valley carries a lot of the weight to make camp happen financially and physically, but we continue to see the holy spirit at work so we'll keep doing it. Stay tuned for details about 2027!

Southeast Cluster Meeting this Fall

The Southeast Cluster of the Alaska Synod is planning on meeting in Wrangell the weekend of October 2-4. We would love to send two people to represent SOV. If you are interested, please talk to Pastor Tari or Council President Katherine Andrews.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Heading into a new school year is an exciting and often stressful time for students and school staff. We want to send everyone back to school with blessings!

Most Juneau School District students go back to school on Thursday, August 20.

We will do the blessing of backpacks, as well as of students, teachers, and staff on Sunday, August 16 during worship. Bring your backpack to worship.

A Prayer for Our Youth

God of all good gifts, your Son gathered children into his arms and blessed them. Help us to understand our youth as they grow in years and in knowledge of your world. Give us compassion when they face temptations and experience failures. Teach us to encourage their search for truth and value in their lives. Help us to appreciate their ideals and sympathize with their frustrations; that with them we may look for a better world than either we or they have known; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Fourth of July Party

Please join the Stage-Harvey's on July 4th at 6 pm at their house to celebrate the Fourth of July and Sophie's birthday. Please bring a side to share and they'll have grilled chicken and veggies.



Ways to Serve in July and August



Newsletter Sponsors

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, July 15 and August 19. Watch the weekly emails for the sign-up sheet for needed contributions of time and food.

“The Caring Canteen” Food Truck

We host the food truck on Tuesday, July 7 and Tuesday, August 11. Cooks and servers needed for both of those days. 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 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.

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.

July - APOA. Think of it as Christmas in July as we support the Alaska Peace Officers Association “Shop with a Cop” program. Close to Christmas, officers are matched up with youth to shop for presents for their families and get a holiday meal.

August - Territorial Sportsmen’s Scholarship Fund (several of our members have been recipients). The Territorial Sportsmen Scholarship Foundation, Inc. (TSSF) scholarship program began in 1954 with a scholarship awarded to Johnny Harris, a grandson of one of the founders of Juneau—Richard Harris. Since then, 349 scholarships and fellowships have been awarded, totaling \$2,017,850.

Summer Lunch is One BIG God Moment

A huge thank you to the Benito and Frances C. Gaguine Foundation who generously support the many meals and staff at summer lunch. In our first 18 days serving meals in June, we served over 141 different youth 925 meals. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered and our amazing staff. There are so many God moments it’s impossible to count.

Volunteers are needed Monday-Friday until the final day of the program (August 7). Find the sign up sheet at church; or access it online through the link found in the SOV Weekly email.



Back-to-School Clothing Sale

This two-part fundraising event takes place at Shepherd of the Valley
(our driveway is at 8198 Keegan Street)



National Youth Gathering 2027 First Fundraiser in August

The teens headed to Minneapolis for National Youth Gathering 2027 will host their first fundraiser/service event. It's a Back-to-School Clothing Sale!

Donations of "like new" tennis shoes and kids clothes are greatly appreciated. All other donated items (adult clothes) will have a suggested fee per bag donated. Clothes may be dropped off from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, August 9. A small bag is \$5, medium is \$10 and large is \$20.

The sale will be open first to summer lunch youth from Noon-2 p.m., Friday, August 14.

Public hours are 5-7 p.m., Friday, August 14 and 8 a.m. to Noon, Saturday, August 15.

The 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering is more than an event! It's a movement where young people and leaders come alive in faith, grow in hope and move with purpose. This is where the church comes to life. Twenty five thousand youth and adults will gather in Minneapolis, MN from June 28-July 2, 2027 for worship, service, and learning.

Mid Year Giving Check In

We are halfway through 2026 and it's a good time to check in on giving. Your generosity is spread throughout this community. The two biggest budget items are Pastor Tari and the building. Hopefully both are working on your behalf to gather, love, and feed.

Regular giving helps us live into our mission boldly and creatively. Please consider pledging; or automated giving weekly or monthly. More than half of our regular giving is through Tithely or Vanco. It is (sometimes) super simple to set either up. You can go to sovlutheran.org and click on "give" to set up a monthly contribution or through Vanco <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z7SG/home>. Feel free to talk with Gail Fenumiai about setting up either option. The amount isn't as important as the discipline of regular giving.

Half-year giving statements will go out in early July.

Update on the Master Facility Plan

Columbarium Rock Work: Compass construction finished the masonry work on the wall bench. The final steps involve the lighting on either side of the sitting bench and the flower boxes. Thank you to everyone who has helped. Our goal is to be finished by the end of summer.

Parking Lot: We're still trying to get someone to come grade the parking lot and work on a drainage plan with us.

New Doors and Windows: Our FEMA environmental impact plan was finally approved so we are moving forward with replacing three doors and a couple of windows that are vulnerable.

Playground Next Phase: We are working with GameTime to complete the playground with inclusive and toddler-oriented play equipment between the current playground and building. This will involve a walkway to the side door, another drainage plan, possibly moving the gaga ball pit, and three new pieces of equipment.



Pickets and fencing for the playground: The current orange fence will be replaced by a white fence with 8"x 48" personalized pickets. We are working with a different vendor and the pickets will be printed instead of etched so we are no longer limited to 17 characters. This is cool and complicated. You may design whatever you want (within reason) on Canva or Illustrator. Set the dimensions to 8"x 48" and add pictures, words, or personalized artwork. We can help you in the office. It is not too late to purchase one for \$500. We are getting 100 and will design the extras with Bible quotes or play guidelines.

Current Picket List—Please contact the church with updated wording and design (or let us know if you would like help with wording and design):

Elfrida Nord	Helen Mehrkens	Umbs Family	Orsborn Family
AK Synod TEAM	GC Friends	Larsen Family	Stage-Harvey
First Bank	McCarley Family	First Natl Bank	Fam Larsen Tempel
Goldbelt	Fredenbergs	Hinton Family	Jenkins Family
Newton Family	Duvall Family	Howard Family	Kathy Hosey Jordan
Douglas-Dornan	Anne Van Sickle	Edvenson Family	Pete Trivette
Landvik Family	Lisa Wallace	Gates Family	The Corson Family
Natalie Blanton	Judy Gustafson	Breakthrough	Little Leaf
Kiessler Family	Katherine Andrews	Weaver Family	Moose Lodge
Wallace Family	Schmidt Family	Varness Family	Nancy Hixson
Dihle Family	Memory of Steve	Lori Gaisford	Elks 420
Ranger Family	Rasmuson Fnd.	Debbie Parsons	Gastineau Rotary
KofC: Bishop Kenny	Block Fnd.	Eileen Hosey	Will Judy
PSEA	Crossett Fnd.	Newport Family	
Global Credit	Susan Clements	Stage Family	
Balstad Family	Gaguine Fnd.	Dave Ringle	
Cheryl Jebe	Chris Gianotti	Ross Family	
Memory of Hank			

See page 7 of the newsletter for a sample picket.

Updates from the Wider Community



Warming Shelter

Volunteer & Meal Support

We are seeking volunteers and groups to provide prepared meals such as soups, stews, sandwich trays, or grill-friendly items including brats, melts, hot dogs, chicken, and burgers.

Please note: we do not have a full kitchen. We are equipped with warmers, rice cookers, and a grill for food preparation and service.

Donations Needed

We gladly accept donations of:

Tang, juices, and milk.

Snacks, cookies, and breakfast bars.

Socks, underwear, sweatshirts, and rain jackets.

Community Activities

Every Thursday we host Bingo Night with 5 games and 5 winners each week.

Prize donations are welcome, such as:

Gift cards (Domino's, Pucker Wilson's, Asiana, Subway, Heritage Coffee, Foodland, Breeze In)

Items such as hats, knit caps, and other small prizes.

Additional Needs & Support

Volunteers to serve meals (breakfast or dinner) are always welcome.

Seeking a tent for the side of the building.

Seeking a picnic table for outdoor use.

Shelter Hours

Kitchen/meal support: 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Evening meal service / guest departure breakfast: 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

We are working to build a strong, connected community where everyone can contribute and feel supported. Thank you for helping us serve our neighbors with dignity and care.

Donations can be brought directly to the Warming Shelter. If you would like to volunteer, please contact St. Vincent de Paul. Their office number is (907) 789-5535.

Family Promise of Juneau

Thank you to everyone who helped with our hosting week. It was a full house with 14 guests. If you are interested in learning more about serving, please talk with Eileen Hosey or Pastor Tari.

Hearth and Harvest

Saturday, October 3

Celebrate 10 years of impact.

Enjoy a delicious harvest dinner.

Support families experiencing homelessness.

Join us for a cozy evening of comfort food, community, and celebration as we mark 10 years of building community to end childhood homelessness in Juneau.

Enjoy a delicious harvest-inspired meal (think baked mac & cheese, roasted chicken, fresh breads, seasonal sides, and homemade pies!), connect with friends old and new, and hear stories of the impact we've made together over the past decade.

This year, we're especially excited to celebrate the opening of House of Promise, our new family shelter and housing stabilization program. The same shelter program our community has supported for years now has a permanent home where families can find private bedrooms, cozy beds, laundry facilities, hot showers, a full kitchen, and a welcoming community while they work toward permanent housing.

Funds raised through Hearth & Harvest will support the ongoing operation of House of Promise and ensure families experiencing homelessness continue to have a safe place to land, heal, and rebuild.

Whether you've volunteered, donated, partnered with us, attended an event, or are simply passionate about strengthening our community, we'd love to celebrate with you.

Help build the next chapter of House of Promise. We can't wait to gather around the table with you and celebrate all that we've accomplished together—and all that's still ahead.

<https://givebutter.com/fpjhearthandharvest>



Let Blessings Overflow—Celebrations in July & August

July Birthdays

1 Mark Kiessling
 2 Crosby Landvik
 2 Mattie Jean Odum
 4 Sophia Harvey
 5 Chris Wallace
 5 Lisa Wallace
 6 Phillip Kunze
 9 Ed Flanagan
 16 Lou Corazza
 18 Freyja Weaver
 20 Lily Dietz
 22 Trevor Kellar
 24 Audrey Rasmussen
 26 Amber Marshall
 26 Karen Owen
 26 Cindy Spanyers
 26 Cindy Stevenson
 28 Mary Wolter
 28 Simon Smith
 29 Eirik Davis
 29 Toren Davis
 29 Kristin Larson
 30 Connie Williams

July Baptismal Birthdays

1 Alice Gates
 1 Robert Shaw
 7 Shelah Stage
 12 Meagan Hinton
 17 Fred Howard
 19 Lindsay Birk
 21 Josh Odum
 28 Katherine Allen
 28 Peyton Allen
 31 Lera Jimmerson

August Birthdays

3 Missy McMillan
 4 Elijah Harvey
 4 Maddox Rasmussen
 4 Lauren Stichert
 7 Allison Walton
 8 Ilya Wallace
 9 Fred Howard
 9 Tom Pegues
 12 Sue Trivette
 15 Glen Oliver
 15 Kristina Abbott
 16 Erin Wallace
 17 Linda Landvik
 17 Bekah Peterson
 18 Kay Smith
 21 Grieko Tempel
 22 Ben Nestler
 23 Karen Stumpf
 29 Kristin Wright
 30 Jessica Oliver

August Baptismal Birthdays

2 Pam Mueller-Guy
 2 Heather Drapeaux
 17 Parker Abbott
 17 Hannah Harvey
 17 Sophia Harvey
 17 Freyja Weaver
 18 Simon Smith
 30 Jessica Oliver
 30 Dean Rasmussen

A Moment for Prayer

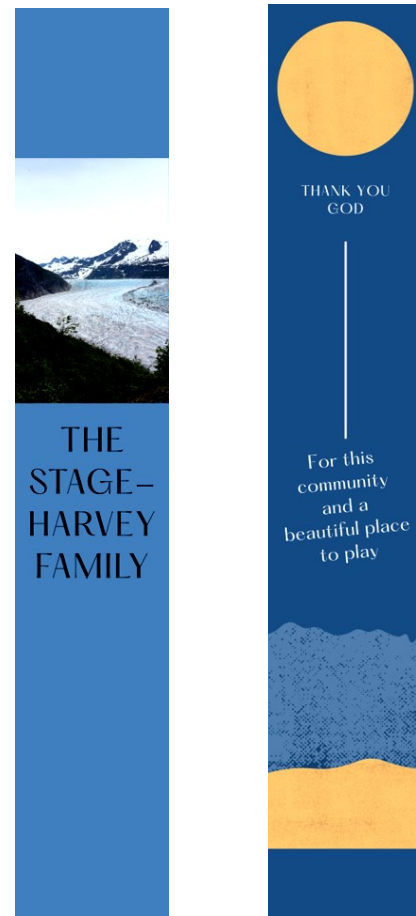
Give us grateful hearts, O God, for all your mercies, and make us mindful of the needs of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers also for Pastor Tari Stage-Harvey; Alaska Synod Bishop Timothy Oslovich; and ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry.

Let us pray for our Alaska Synod Prayer Partners. Our partner for July is Dillingham Trinity Lutheran Church in Dillingham; and August is Christ Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Anchorage.

Sample Picket Designs

The pickets for the playground fence are now going to be printed (not etched). This opens up new possibilities for picket design. Samples are below. See page 5 for details!





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					

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1	2	3 9 am Devos	4 9-10 am Pantry 6 pm Party at Stage-Harvey's House
<i>----- Summer Lunch at SOV from Noon—130 pm, Monday to Friday -----</i>						
5 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee	6	7 2 pm Hike SOV Hosts Caring Canteen	8 6 pm Council	9 9 pm Senior High	10 9 am Devos	11 9-10 am Pantry
<i>----- Summer Lunch at SOV from Noon—130 pm, Monday to Friday -----</i>						
12 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee	13	14 2 pm Hike	15 SOV at the Glory Hall	16	17 9 am Devos	18 9-10 am Pantry
<i>----- Summer Lunch at SOV from Noon—130 pm, Monday to Friday -----</i>						
19 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee	20	21 2 pm Hike	22	23 9 pm Senior High	24 9 am Devos	25 9-10 am Pantry
<i>----- Summer Lunch at SOV from Noon—130 pm, Monday to Friday -----</i>						
26 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee	27	28 2 pm Hike	29	30	31 9 am Devos	
<i>----- Summer Lunch at SOV from Noon—130 pm, Monday to Friday -----</i>						

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			



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p align="center">Food Pantry Hours 9-10 am Saturdays (in person)</p> <p>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>						<p>1 9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p>2 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 9 pm Senior High</p>	<p>7 9 am Devos</p>	<p>8 9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p align="center">- - - - Summer Lunch at SOV from Noon—130 pm, Monday to Friday - - - -</p>						
<p>9 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee 11 am—4 pm Clothing Drop Off</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 SOV Hosts Caring Canteen</p>	<p>12 6 pm Council</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 9 am Devos Noon— 2 pm Summer Lunch Youth Shop 5-7 pm Clothing Sale Open to Public</p>	<p>15 8 am to Noon Clothing Sale Open to Public 9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p>16 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship with Blessing of Backpacks 1030 am Coffee</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 SOV at the Glory Hall</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 9 am Devos</p>	<p>22 9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p>23 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 9 am Devos</p>	<p>29 9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p>30 830 am Men's Grp 930 am Worship 1030 am Coffee</p>	<p>31</p>					

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

JUNEAU, ALASKA

PERMIT NO. 11

Return Service Requested



SAVE THIS NEWSLETTER!
It's the **JULY & AUGUST** issue!

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

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

Faith Formation for All Ages: See inside for details.

In-Person Food Pantry: 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