

# March 2022

## Shepherd's Voice



### Happy Birthday

John C	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Suzanne S	8 <sup>th</sup>
Evan C	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Janet C	9 <sup>th</sup>
Randal R	3 <sup>rd</sup>	John S	9 <sup>th</sup>
Janice C	4 <sup>th</sup>	Tosin B	11 <sup>th</sup>
Ray S	4 <sup>th</sup>	KaitLynn	11 <sup>th</sup>
Doris D	6 <sup>th</sup>	Will C	15 <sup>th</sup>
Rob W	29 <sup>th</sup>		

### Happy Anniversary

Peter and Kathy A	10 <sup>th</sup>
Martin and Susan H	21 <sup>st</sup>



### FINANCE



	January 2022	January – January 2022
Expense:	\$10,636.97	\$10,636.97
Income:	\$ 6,895.15	\$ 6,895.15
Total:	\$(3,741.82)	\$(3,141.82)

Higher expenses due to insurance payments.

### A card shower for Addison and Tracey.

**Dear Shepherd of the Valley Family,  
Addison is waiting to have a heart transplant and we'd like to shower them with love by sending a card.  
Please contact the office or Pastor Janet for the address.  
Thank you.**





Pastor Janet Culbertson

## Deep Roots, Wild Branches

In the fertile land, the Lord God grew every beautiful tree with edible fruit, and also he grew the tree of life in the middle of the garden and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:9 CEB) I'm excitedly looking forward to our Visioning Workshop after church on March 27<sup>th</sup>. It seems like it has been a long time coming. I began to write about this process in last year's May newsletter. I hope that you will make a commitment to be a part of this conversation, either in person or by watching online.

I've begun to explore a new concept, a metaphor, that I believe may be helpful as we look at where God is leading Shepherd of the Valley. This concept is "Deep Roots, Wild Branches." In general, the concept is that Shepherd of the Valley has a firm foundation, a rich history, and a people of deep faith. In other words, deep roots. As we seek God's vision, we consider ways we can reach out to the community. We may look at untraditional ministries such as supporting our neighborhood block watch, providing real help for the people experiencing homelessness who frequently visit our campus, and beginning a worship service for people in recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. These potential ministries are the wild branches.

I'm borrowing the concept of "Deep Roots, Wild Branches" from Michael Adam Beck who wrote a book by this title. I've just begun reading it, but I'd like to share an image with you. Beck writes, *"The central image is that of a large and beautiful tree in the middle of the desert. Somehow this ancient and resilient structure is standing fully alive in stark contrast to the void of life all around."*

*As you behold this awe-inspiring organism, you notice in the shade beneath its elegant branches, little shoots of life emerging from the root ball. These nascent (budding) organisms spring wildly into life, forming a tapestry of color all around the tree roots. These new flowers, plants, and vines cannot exist on their own; they need the shade of the tree. Somehow, they also give life to the tree. This is a symbiotic relationship."*

I think this is a beautiful image, and one we should examine as we attempt to discern God's vision. I hope that you will continue to pray for God to reveal His vision for Shepherd of the Valley. Has He revealed anything to you? Please come join the discussion on March 27<sup>th</sup> and be ready to share any insights God has given you, as well as your thoughts about "deep roots and wild branches."


Peace, Hope, and Love,

Pastor Janet

## UMOM Winter Coat Drive

UMOM will need *clean* gently used (no repairs needed) coats and jackets in all sizes, from toddler to adult XXL. New coats are always appreciated too! UMOM websites post links to Amazon, Target, and Walmart wish lists. Donations can be brought to church on Sundays, or dropped off during open office hours. Have a large amount of clothing and coats for donation? Please contact Suzanne Shaw for a pickup right at your home!

### Special Events this Month

- ✚ March 3<sup>rd</sup> Ash Wednesday open house from noon to 6:00 pm. Brief video meditation in sanctuary and imposition of ashes.
- ✚ March 8<sup>th</sup>. LBBW meeting 6:30 – 7:30 pm Fellowship Hall
- ✚ March 19<sup>th</sup> . Neighborhood Clean Up. 7 am in parking lot. Bring protection from the sun. Hat, sunscreen and long sleeve shirt.
- ✚ March 27<sup>th</sup>. Visioning Team Workshop at 11:30am. Thank you to Women to  Women for providing lunch . Sign up in the narthex to place your order.
- ✚ Our Lenten study will meet on Thursdays throughout the month of March. We will read “Who Is This Man?” By John Ortberg.
- ✚ Fun Friday is March 4<sup>th</sup>. We are going to pair a service project with that event. We will begin a little earlier at **5:00 (in person only)** so that we can pack the **food boxes** for Lakeview. – For our Fun Friday program for the World Day of Prayer, I will teach you how to “**Pray in Color.**” This is a form of prayer that combines prayer and doodling. It will be a hybrid event beginning at **6:00 (in person and online)**. If you are participating at home, you’ll need your own paper and pencils, etc. (Preferably in a variety of colors). In person, supplies will be provided. Great for all ages. Watch for the information to link for this event from Trina.
- ✚ If you have a need or would like to talk to Pastor Janet, please contact us.
- ✚ Office – 602-942-9288                      email – [sov@sovumc.phxcoxmail.com](mailto:sov@sovumc.phxcoxmail.com)

Dear West District Churches and Clergy,

The West District is excited to join with the South and East Districts for a series of Leadership Webinars in 2022. The next is Saturday, March 5, 2022 at 9:00 AM MST.

In this webinar, The Rev. Dan Hurlbert talks to us about concerns around General Conference and the future of our denomination. Will General Conference happen in 2022? What does it mean if it doesn't? What are the various plans that will be presented for a vote at the next General Conference? Answers to these questions and many more will be shared during this workshop.

Please share the registration information with your congregation,

<https://dscumc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIuc-ygrTMvHd2hC0zc5RA69hxxQrNDY4NR>.

# March 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27 Worship at 10:30 am Worship On-Line is any Time during or after Live stream. Zoom after service	28	1	2 Ash Wednesday 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office Open Imposition of Ashes 12pm-6pm 1:30 pm - Prayer Group, zoom	3 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office 10:30am Martha Circle Open 6:30-8 pm Lenten Book Study 8:00 pm Men's AA, FH	4	5
6 Worship at 10:30 am Worship On-Line is any Time during or after Live stream. Zoom after service	7	8 LBBW meeting 6:30 -7:30pm FH	9 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office Open 1:30 pm - Prayer Group, zoom	10 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office Open 6:30-8 pm Lenten Book Study 8:00 pm Men's AA, FH	11	12 Jewelry Making with Sande, rm 1 noon - 4 pm
13 Worship at 10:30 am Worship On-Line is any Time during or after Live stream. Zoom after service	14 Girl Scouts 5:30pm	15	16 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office Open 1:30 pm - Prayer Group, zoom	17 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office 10:30am Martha Circle Open 6:30-8 pm Lenten Book Study 8:00 pm Men's AA, FH	18	19 Neighborhood Clean up church parking lot 7am.
20 Worship at 10:30 am Worship On-Line is any Time during or after Live stream. Zoom after service. Visioning Team Meeting 11:30am PO	21	22	23 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office Open 1:30 pm - Prayer Group, zoom	24 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office 10:30am Martha Circle Open 6:30-8 pm Lenten Book Study 8:00 pm Men's AA, FH	25	26 Jewelry Making with Sande, rm 1 noon - 4 pm
27 Worship at 10:30 am Worship On-Line is any Time during or after Live stream. Zoom after service. Visioning Team Workshop 11:30am Lunch included. FH	28 Girl Scouts 5:30pm	29	30 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office Open 1:30 pm - Prayer Group, zoom	31 12:00 - 4:00 pm Office Open 6:30-8 pm Lenten Book Study 8:00 pm Men's AA, FH	1	2
3	4	NOTES	In person worship has resumed. Masks are always welcome, unless trends change. Enjoy coffee and cookies after the worship service.			

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**Bishop Grant Haglya, Interim UMC Bishop**  
**Reverend Javier Olivares, District Superintendent**