

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Members and Friends of Good Shepherd Church,

I heard of a church that had the following message on its outdoor sign this past month: “Whoever’s praying for snow, please stop!” What a vivid reminder the snow storms have been of the power of nature—with all its beauty and danger.

Wasn’t it a relief to finally be back in worship after missing two Sundays? We often take much for granted...until absence or loss remind us of what really matters in our life and in our faith.



As always, we are grateful to the United Methodist Men for their terrific Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Mardi Gras celebration (pancake-flipping race to the left!). It was especially meaningful to see the many residents from Heart Haven come and share in the festivities! Everyone donated over \$1,800 toward this important resident ministry to persons with handicapping conditions—a record for this annual project! Our gratitude goes out to all who planned, worked, donated, attended, and participated. It was a memorable “alst hurrah” before the sacrificial season of Lent.

Many thanks to the Gospel Choir and the special music contributors for the inspiring worship we experienced on the last Sunday of February to commemorate Black History Month. The themes, the music, and the many lay volunteers pulled together to make a truly remarkable time of remembering our heritage of injustice, salvation, and reconciliation. We are blessed to have such a rich diversity in our congregation from which to gather talent, heritage, and unique experiences of faith.

Important Mission Dates to Remember: From **March 21 – 27**, Good Shepherd will be serving the families at the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center. Our coordinators of this ministry—Owen and Dave Cattler—have been inviting involvement from the many groups and individuals in our church who have discovered the joy of serving. Please sign-up at church to provide some of the much needed food and provisions for this vital ministry to our community.

Join us for our Seder Meal on Sunday, March 28 (5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary). This memorable worship meal will connect us to our Hebrew heritage like no other experience we have in the Christian faith. With traditional food, historic prayers and songs, and a beautiful visual presentation, we will relive the deliverance that God provided to his people Israel when they were enslaved in Egypt. Sign your family up!

Don't forget to spring forward one hour Saturday night, March 13 when you go to bed! Daylight Savings Time begins!

Grace and peace!

Levi



What's the Word? **Projected Sermon Themes for March**

- Mar. 7: ***How Is It With Your Soul?*** (I Corinthians 10:1-13); Pastor Levi
- Mar. 14: A sermon on the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32); Keiko Tani Foster
- Mar. 21: ***United Methodist Men's Sunday***; former president Tim Parker to bring the message
- Mar. 28: Palm/Passion Sunday Cantata—both services