

October 29, 2023

Dear Shepherd of the Valley Community,

We are thankful that you are part of Shepherd of the Valley Presbyterian Church, serving our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus. Just as we raise our thanks to God for our church, we are also thankful for each of its members, each one with talents, time and gifts to share. Your past contributions of your gifts have created a vibrant ministry here.

We are blessed to have worship technology which makes it possible for so many friends and family to be part of our worship services online, and most importantly, memorial services. What a blessing that loved ones who have trouble traveling are still able to witness this important life passage. This is a feature that remains after the pandemic that we will carry into the future.

This year we again observed important Sundays together, the festivals of Easter, Pentecost, World Communion and soon, Christmas, and performed important work as one combined church; we installed our church officers, baptized a little one, and received three new members, with a fourth joining at our Christmas Sunday service. The inclusion of members as "live translators" enriched those services *immeasurably*.

In 2024, we hope to reassess the footprint of our faithful church practice in the community perhaps reviving the community celebration of the International Festival. God is calling us to active community engagement. And, though we do not know what form this outreach will take, we ask you to pray about it and imagine the joy of taking the good news of God's love out into the world.

Let us respond to our many blessings with loving action to make the world better, where we can. It changes our relationship with the Lord by turning our hearts and resources toward the things God cares about.

This is Stewardship season. You will find enclosed your 2024 giving pledge card. Your pledge is the best way to let our congregational leadership know how much financial support for programs and staff they will likely see next year. We hope that you will spend some time praying about it and then turn in your pledge card, mail it back or submit it online. at https://forms.gle/ByBbre6urGT73wMe9 by Sunday, November 12th, or no later than Sunday, November 19th.-We thank you in advance for your commitment to Shepherd and pray many blessings upon you!

SOTV Stewardship Committee,

Hsing-Hung Chen, Amy Cheng, Rev. Deidra Goulding, Charlie Huang, Rev. Yank Lee, Angela Pai, Rev. Fischer Peng, Freya Schmus, David Weber, Marcia Wilcut, Harry Wilson, Cliff Yang, and Heimin Yen (chair).

<u>NOTE</u>: Our Congregational Meeting to elect new officers and preview the 2024 budget is November 19, 2023, 10:30 AM. Please plan to attend to ensure we have a quorum.

