

30 Days of Prayer

Day 7

Romans 12.4-13

⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

God who raises up leaders from among your faithful people,

You have called leaders to this congregation who take their callings seriously, and serve with patience, humility, generosity, and with willing hearts. Each of the members of our staff have been a blessing to me, so today I lift up my thanks and praise for each of your precious leaders... *(take all the time you need to identify how each of the members of the staff have been a blessing to you)*...

Pastor Dan, whose deep love for this congregation permeates this place... *(identify how Pastor Dan has been a blessing to you)*

Pastor Kimberly, who has shown our youth that they can be leaders for God... *(identify how Pastor Kimberly has been a blessing to you)*

Kara, whose love for and work with the children reminds parents what a blessing their kids are in their lives... *(identify how Kara has been a blessing to you)*

Shawn, who keeps the day-to-day operations of Shepherd running smoothly without asking for recognition or affirmation... *(identify how Shawn has been a blessing to you)*

Pam, who encourages and affirms the God-given gifts of this congregation... *(identify how Pam has been a blessing to you)*

Cynthia, who is so deeply attuned to her own spirituality, I am reminded to trust God in all things... *(identify how Cynthia has been a blessing to you)*

The staff at Shepherd of the Hills works hard to fulfill their baptismal promises and the commitments of their callings: worship God, learn the things of faith, teach others, serve others by being the hands and feet of Christ, and proclaim the good news of Christ in all that they do.

We are blessed to have such a gifted group of leaders. Whether you have recognized it or not, each of these leaders has been a blessing to this entire congregation. Take time in your prayer this morning to acknowledge the blessing that each of them has been to you, recognizing that “We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us.”

Al, who manages the facilities with a willing heart and a positive attitude, so that ministries can thrive here... (*identify how Al has been a blessing to you*)

and all others who by their ministries have been a blessing to me.

Lord, without these willing servants, Shepherd of the Hills would be much less than what you desire for us. Please protect them, and grant them joy in their serving. In the name of Christ,

Amen.