

30 Days of Prayer

Day 8

John 12.26

²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

God who blesses all who serve you,

We are blessed to have a committed, loving group of people serving on Council. Their love for the congregation and their passion for Jesus Christ make them strong leaders. Today we lift them up in prayer, naming them each, and lifting up ways that each of them has been a blessing to us individually, and to the congregation as a whole.

I come before you this morning recognizing that the ministries that happen at Shepherd of the Hills are possible because of the strong lay leadership of this congregation. You call different people at different times to serve you through leadership, and each of the people on the Council has been a blessing to me. Continue to bless each of these servants as they lead us in prayer, faith, and vision, and help shape us more clearly in your image (*take all the time you need to identify how each of the members of the Council have been a blessing to you*)...

Todd Biewen, our *Council president*, whose dedicated leadership gives us confidence that we are being faithful to God's call...

Fred Jensen, our *vice president*, whose sense of humor reminds us that we are created in God's image, with lightness and laughter...

Jean Wicks, our *treasurer*, whose skill and knowledge of finances and positive, passionate approach to stewardship bring wisdom, order, and confidence...

Eric Crouch, our *financial secretary*, whose gentleness and compassion give us faith that God will continue to provide for the needs Shepherd of the Hills...

Barb Benton, our *secretary*, whose love of flying reminds us that God intends for us to soar high above the limits that we create for ourselves, beyond imagination...

Joel Barker, *communication*, whose love of the earth reminds us that we have been called to be stewards of all of God's good creation, and whose desire to communicate the gospel excites us into action...

Karen Hofstad-Parkhill, *evangelism*, whose passion for inviting all people into God's house helps us to see our neighbor through Jesus Christ's eyes, bidding us to love them...

Brittini Hanson, *facilities*, whose quick, decisive, and effective actions concerning the facilities save us money and time, so that we can invest our money and time in your children...

Dawn Jensen, *worship*, whose knowledge and love of worship models for us a passion for coming into God's house with humility, thankfulness, joy, and praise...

Tom Sheldon, *children, youth and family*, whose love for the children and youth in this congregation has made him an invaluable mentor for many over many years, reminding us to appreciate the children and youth in our midst...

Keith Anderson, *leadership development*, whose passion for passing on the faith has made him a leader for this congregation's faith growth and deepening relationship with Jesus Christ...

Sharon Peterson, *outreach*, whose gentle nature and contagious smile remind us to express our faith outwardly, reaching out to those in need, and loving them as Christ loves us...

Joni Stone, *hospitality*, whose attention to detail and willingness to go the extra mile shows others how important they are to this faith community, and how important they are to God...

Ellen Levernier, *caring ministries*, whose intense commitment to care for those in need reminds us that we are called to something greater than deepening our own faith relationship with Jesus; we are called to serve and love those in need, deepening the relationships of all God's children...

Al Housh, *personnel*, whose loving affirmations give us strength and confidence, reminding us to affirm one another in our ministries and in our daily walk with Jesus Christ...

These precious children have made a commitment to serve you, Lord. Grant them patience, wisdom, conviction, passion, and joy; and sustain them in their ministries, making them models of love for you. In the name of Christ,

Amen.