

From the Community Lay Director

Jamie Prater

“The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want.” – Psalm 23:1

When we think of a shepherd, we think of someone that tends to a flock of sheep. It is the duty of a shepherd to take care of his flock, making sure they have everything they need to survive. He leads them to water and grazing pastures, and he watches over them day and night. When they are in the field or in the barn, he makes sure they are safe.

A good shepherd takes his flock to the greenest, most nutritious pasture land. They follow the sound of his voice as he guides them. My Shepherd created the pasture land, so He knows which pasture is best for me.

He knows that fast-moving water scares them. Still waters...He leads me there, so I can drink and be satisfied and refreshed. I am never thirsty in Him.

Every flock, I suppose, has a few that tend to wander off. They seem to just get preoccupied for whatever reason and, before they realize it, they've fallen off a cliff or into a pit. The shepherd will leave the flock to seek them out and retrieve them. He lovingly carries them back to the fold, restoring them to the flock.

With everyone accounted for, the good shepherd ushers them to shelter for the night. He places himself in the doorway, so that predators have to go through him if they want to get to the sheep. In John 10:9-16, Jesus explains His role as our Good Shepherd. Because we have a Good Shepherd, no one can steal us and no one can destroy us when we are in His flock.

My Shepherd! It is so comforting to know that the One Who created the universe – The One Who literally spoke it into existence – is my Shepherd. He is the Good Shepherd. He knows His sheep, and they know Him. He loves and cares for them – even lays down His life for them.

Thank You, LORD Jesus, that You have called us Yours; and that You are our Good Shepherd. Thank You that we can depend on Your love and mercy and grace to provide an abundant life, lacking nothing. You give us perfect care and attention, and You hear our cries when we wander off. Thank You for redeeming us into the fold.

De Colores!

Jamie

February Gathering

The next Gathering is Friday, February 16th. Covered dish dinner, dessert and fellowship at 6:30pm and Worship 7:30pm

Fourth Day Speaker

Paul Conley

Community Singing

Danielle Chatterton

Special Music by Avery Beaumont
(Cynthia Daniels' granddaughter)

Snow Policy:

In the event of inclement weather if Ashland Independent Schools are closed the Gathering will be canceled.



SPRING WALKS

Men's April 12-15, 2018

Women's April 26-29, 2018

Let's be in prayer for the pilgrims -- for God to prepare a way for them to experience an awesome weekend with many Kairos moments. We also want to lift the team members up and begin working on agape, because the walks will be here before we know it.

