



**GOOD SHEPHERD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
611 N 2450 E
PO Box 1499
SAINT GEORGE, UTAH 84771-1499**

February 10, 2025

There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every matter under heaven...

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Dear Members and Friends,

As the writer of Ecclesiastes states in another version of the Bible, "there is a season for everything."

The past couple of years have been for myself a couple of milestones, seasons, in my life and ministry. The year 2023 was the 40th anniversary of my ordination as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in and for the Presbyterian Church, USA. This year is the 20th anniversary of my being called as Pastor of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, USA. Last month was the 68th time I travelled with you around the Sun (my birthday).

In the 20 years I have served the Lord in serving you we have witnessed and lived through, with the Lord's help, the Great Recession, wars around our world, and a worldwide pandemic. We have laughed, cried and prayed together,

You have walked with and prayed with me through some of the most difficult times in my life. You have celebrated with me in some of my most joyous. You all have been my family.

Together we have been a strong witness to the love of Jesus Christ in His service here in Saint George, the Presbytery of Utah and the Presbyterian Church USA. We have reached out our hands and hearts in Christian love to children, refugees, brothers and sisters in Russia and Moldova.

This has been a wonderous, and joyous season and I shall forever be grateful for the honor and opportunity to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in serving with you. It has been my honor and joy to have been your Pastor.

Yet, in this past year I have been in prayerful discernment of the journey that our Lord has called us to. I believe it is His will, and my time, for this season in my life to come to an end, and a new one to begin. It is time for this season, as Pastor of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church to end, and for both of us to enter a new season of promise and Hope.

At yesterday's meeting of the Session, I asked for the approval of my Honorable Retirement as Pastor of the Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, effective June 30, 2025, and that a congregational meeting be called June 29, 2025, for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relationship between us.

Also, at yesterday's meeting of the Session our Executive Presbyter, the Rev. Dr. Mirjam Haas-Melchior, met with our Session and counseled the Session on the next steps and process that will begin and what resources are available to assist in these matters. We are very grateful for her and the Presbytery's help and assistance.

This season has been a wonderful journey that I shall forever be grateful for to our Lord Jesus Christ, and to you!

In Christ with appreciation,

Rev. Dr. Ralph Clingan, Pastor
Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church
Saint George, Utah