

Pastor D's Letter February 6, 2022

Last week we held our Annual Meeting after worship. I confess while I miss taking the time to have a meal beforehand, I am glad to have a short meeting after worship. During the Annual Meeting, the work of SVPC during 2021 was highlighted. Reports are still available, if you have not had a chance, I encourage you to read one and be encouraged by what God is doing in and through the people of SVPC. As part of that meeting, we elected new officers. Soon they will be trained and then installed as part of the active leadership of our church.

The day before our Annual Meeting, Shelley and I went to Presbytery. During worship at Presbytery, the new moderator was installed. As part of that service, the familiar words of 1 Corinthians 12 were read.

"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." (Vs. 4-7)

The passage continues, outlining different ways that the Spirit of God empowers people for ministry (it is not intended to be an exhaustive list). "To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of **wisdom**, and to another the utterance of **knowledge** according to the same Spirit, to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another gifts of **healing** by the one Spirit, to another the working of **miracles**, to another **prophecy**, to another the ability to **distinguish between spirits**, to another various kinds of **tongues**, to another the **interpretation** of tongues. All these are **empowered by one and the same Spirit**, who apportions to each one individually as he wills." (Vs. 8-11)

While we read this Scripture at the time of installation of officers, it is a gentle reminder to us that the same Spirit, gives gifts to us all to be used for the "common good". Friends, officers are called by God and set apart to lead the congregation. But WE ALL HAVE GIFTS FROM GOD TO BE USED IN SERVICE TO OUR LORD! I encourage you to discover yours and use it in the church. In serving you will find renewed purpose and happiness in the Lord.

Just as a reminder the sermons for February are:

February 6, 2022	The Temptation To Do Good By Evil Means.	Mt. 4:1-11
February 13, 2022	The Temptation To Hold Back Grace.	LK 6:6-11
February 20, 2022	The Temptation To Despair.	Mt. 26:36 56
February 27, 2022	The Temptation To Be Diverted From God's Call	Mt. 17:1-13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
So that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
(Romans 15:13)

Dr. D

NEWS UPDATES

- Join us for **Fellowship after church** in the Fellowship Hall.
- Adult SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall (Cold Case Christianity).
- **WWN Bible Study this Wednesday (February 2nd) Luke 3.**
- **MASKS ARE OPTIONAL** IN WORSHIP! Be considerate of those who choose to wear masks and maintain social distance.
- If you cannot come in person, we continue to broadcast our **SERVICE LIVE** every Sunday at 9 a.m. on <https://www.facebook.com/SierraVistaPresbyterianChurch/>. Our account is public. **YOU DO NOT NEED A FACEBOOK ACCOUNT TO WATCH.** If you come to worship in person or watch at home, **invite a friend to join you.** **Worship sheets** are available on our website at <https://www.sierravistayuma.com/> under the NEWS Tab.
- MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY, February 13th following Worship.
- If you wish to receive the monthly **newsletter** or know someone who wants to receive **Pastor D's Letter**, contact the church office with your email information.
- **THANK YOU for your CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT** of the church by giving in person, mailing a check, or giving ONLINE.