

Rev. Dr. Gary Camstock
Pastoral Prayer
July 12, 2026

Hello dear friend and savior,

Many welcome especially today your offer of “shabbat shalom,” a sabbath day of peaceful rest.

Days of toil and endurance that were organized and deepened by benevolence and dedication and are now resolved by quiet exhaustion and assurance of having made a difference in the world around us.

Thank you for your steady presence and encouragement throughout the sale — you make our efforts glow with satisfaction.

Summer rest and leisure now await us outdoors among gorgeous flowers and plants made especially abundant by the refreshing rains last weekend. Perfect timing. Thank you. And we could use a bit more rain right now.

As many of us tend our gardens and witness the seemingly magical growth of food that we can enjoy and share, we take time too to know that you have blessed each of us in many ways, and each of us must clear spaces within our blessings so that we can call upon whatever resources are available to us in the name of what must be done.

Thank you for the differences with which each of us is blessed, and stride with us as we learn more and more how to relate across our differences to build a more inclusive community.

We know that you have a mess on your hands with what is happening in the wider world. We stand ready and we hope that you will call on us to help you.

Here at home we take on the responsibility to imagine new and necessary ways to serve the people, animals, plants, and environment that you entrust to us as stewards and protectors.

We also tend to our own health and needs so that we may be confident, gracious, and spirited stewards.

Come back whenever you can for “shabbat shalom” with us again — take care, be well, we love you. Amen