Welcome friends!

We are delighted you can join us for the 2021 Life Model Family Gathering! You may notice that we have changed the name of our annual gathering this year. Our team felt a new name was in order. We are all longing to connect with our Life Model Family following one of the most difficult seasons of our lives.

We are unified and excited about the future. We have been dreaming, seeking wisdom and listening to Immanuel, our God with us, and to each other. We have been building on the foundation of the fifty-year legacy of Shepherd’s House. We have exciting new plans to share with you this week. Most of all, we long to see you!

What are our hopes for our time together this week?

* We desire to hear from Immanuel together!
* We are going to share joy with each other!
* We anticipate many stories of lives, relationships, and churches where relational joy is happening, fear bonds are lessening, peace is spreading, and generosity is growing.
* We will explore what “FULL HEART-WHOLE BRAIN” means.

We are thankful to have been able to honor the lifelong work of our friend, Kitty Wilder. How deeply we all miss her! Her role cannot be overstated. She was a wonderful wife, mother, pastor, mentor, teacher, and model for us all. Kitty showed us how to live and suffer well.

I was reminded this week that it has been a year for me as your executive director. What a year it has been! The most impactful event for me was a word from the Lord last Fall. My course was set when He said: “I am working in you this year, and we are positioning Life Model Words for the future.” My wife, Deborah and I have been growing our joy capacity while we completed Track 3 of Thrive Training, a study of The Pandora Problem, a Life Model Study Group, and much more. What a journey of joy together with all of you.

We are so grateful for you. On behalf of our team,

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# Ray woolridge, Executive Director