

We
Love
because
He first
loved us.

1 John 4:19

The Shepherd's Voice

February 2023

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing The Love of Jesus



PASTOR TED NIEMI

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(559) 225-2092

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Pastor Ted's Office

Email:

PastorT-

edGSLC@gmail.com

Web Site:

www.fresnogslc.org

Facebook

You are welcome to
join us at
Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

This month includes the Super Bowl on February 12. As I am writing this the teams who will be playing have yet to be determined. For football fans this is a game we wait the whole year to watch. For the players it is the dream of a lifetime to play in the game of all games. Whoever ends up playing in this year's Super Bowl you can be sure they are a team that has learned how to work together effectively. They have learned how to capitalize on their strengths as each player does their part to assure victory.

I am reminded of coaches I had in high school and college who would tell us, "There is no I in team!" I have been thinking about how that applies to us in the Church. There is a u in the middle of the word CHURCH. As we continue in this early part of 2023 a good question for us to be thinking about is, are you (u) in the middle of your church? If you are not you should be. Are you participating in the life of this congregation in meaningful ways? Are you contributing to our mission in ways that are sacrificial but lead to our being a stronger and more effective Body of Christ?

Our church thrives when everyone does their part. Just like there are lots of teams who will not be in the Super Bowl this year there are lots of churches with plenty of people who sit on the sidelines watching others take care of vital and various aspects of ministry. Christianity is not a spectator sport!

I urge you to find new ways of serving God this year. If you need help finding what that means for you come see me and I will help you get connected. Be one of the people that makes this church great! May God continue to bless us as we work together!

God's Peace,

Pastor Ted

Prayer Concerns

Members in Need of Prayer:

Yvonne and Margie's whole family on their loss. Debbie, family and friends on the loss of their father, George Weber.

Tom Moscatelli and family on the loss of Tom's wife, Doris.

Jackie Miller
Mary Schmidt
Liz Smith
Bill Biggs
Mona White
Chris Walker
Arlene Robbins
Mary Norris & Family
Connie Alvarado
Susan Berg
Irene Pierini
Jocelyn Miller
Kirsten Linder
Jim Thompson



Family and Friends:

Ellen Beedle (Vonny)
Jennifer (Wilk) Wenzel
Pam (Smith)
Rodd, Karen & Claire Tabler (Vonny)
Grace Johnson (Fake)
Sierra Ramirez (Norris)
Krystina Ramos (Norris)
Dora Barraza (Norris)
Shauna Espinosa
The Wenzel Family (Wilk/Wenzel)
Carlos & Anne Cortez (Norris)
Sandy Robbins (Robbins)
Pauline Ritterbush
Autumn Dunlop (Anderson)
JJ Werfelmann (Julie)
Gloria Valdez (Norris)
Emily & Sawyer Bogart (Anderson)
Roger Robbins (Robbins)
Michelle B. (Norris)
Bonnie Wolfe (Norris)
Janet Sharp
Hudson Otten (Anderson)
Mary (Wilk)
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)
Rosemary (Vonny)
Eric & Cathy Bose (Bachar)
Nathan Robbins (Robbins)
Darlee (Norris)



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Kurt Niemi – 2/04
Suzanne Walker – 2/07
Sean Walker – 2/08
Irene Pierini – 2/09
Chris Walker – 2/12
Kristin Niemi – 2/18
Connie Alvarado – 2/19
Steve Smith – 2/23
Mary Norris – 2/24
Michael Kubar – 2/29

*Any one that has seen a missing or incorrect birthday, baptismal, or anniversary date please contact Kathy in the office. 559-225-2092



Vonny Rae Sturgeon – 2/01
Ivan Villalobos – 2/10
Stacy Lairson – 2/17
Jim Sanborn – 2/17



Robert Harris &
Jill Anderson - 2/7

"If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."
John 14:14, NRSV

PRAYERS FOR

All Good Shepherd Families Who Have Lost Loved Ones, Members of Our Military Service, First Responders, & Those Affected by Natural Disasters and COVID-19.

For Prayer Requests Call or email the Church Office 225-2092/gslcfresno@att.net

STEWARDSHIP OF WORSHIP & OFFERINGS	January 1, 2023	January 8, 2023	January 15, 2023	January 22, 2023	January 29, 2023
Attendance	33	42	47	65	40
General Fund	\$1,835.00	\$5,095.08	\$4,215.00	\$1,825.00	\$5,545.00
Special Memorial (designated funds)			Memorials: \$130.00	Memorials: \$50.00	
ELCA Disaster Re- sponse World Hunger/ Malaria (designated funds)					
Community Center Capital Fund					
Loose Plate			Loose Plate: \$20.00	Loose Plate: \$50.00	
Special Mission Project Gifts (designated funds)	Prop. Imprv: \$1,200.00 Init. Offering: \$8.00	Prop. Imprv: \$200.00	Special Gift: \$175.00 OWs: \$50.00 Init. Offering: \$5.00		Insur. Settle: \$5,211.11 Init. Offering: \$10.00
BIA Rent/ Property Use/ Misc.		BIA Rent: \$5,480.48			BIA Rent: \$5,480.48
	\$3,043.00	\$10,813.56	\$4,595.00	\$1,925.00	\$16,246.59

January Financials

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Dear Good Shepherd Family,

2023 started with the large deodar cedar between the Memorial Garden and the classrooms falling on Martin Luther King Day. There are pictures in this newsletter. We called a tree company, and they were able to remove it that day. The cost was \$2500.00. We have had a roofer out. We know there is minor damage to the classroom roof and the roof over the walkway, however, we are waiting on an estimate from the company. We are so grateful it fell on a holiday and was able to be removed when no children were on campus! We used dedicated funds that were in Campus Maintenance to cover the cost. We can not make a decision whether or not to turn into the insurance until we have the roof estimate. I dread to think what a fifth claim would do to our insurance premiums upon renewal in April...

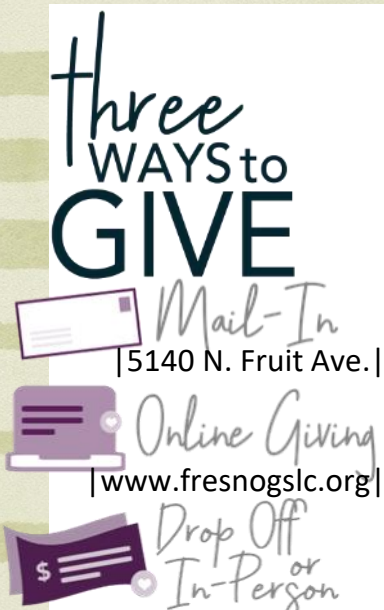
We were able to get the sanctuary heating fixed for only \$569.00. That expense came out of general funds. The three AC condenser units were placed this month and the cage around them was finished. Those costs came out of designated funds.

January is the month when our subscriptions to QuickBooks, and QuickBooks Payroll (\$1074.) renew and we ran low on stamps and had to purchase stamps, so our expenses were high. The numbers below look really good – but I have to tell you \$5480.48 of the income is for February's rent that came in early. I won't be surprised if next month we are not in the negative a large amount. Continue to pray for our church and for its financial health. Thank you for your continued financial support.

Yours in Christ,

Caroline Sullivan, Treasurer

Month	Income	Expenses	Difference
Jan.	\$29,467.04	\$28,607.28	\$859.76
Feb			\$0.00
Mar			\$0.00
Apr			\$0.00
May			\$0.00
Jun			\$0.00
Jul			\$0.00
Aug			\$0.00
Sep			\$0.00
Oct			\$0.00
Nov			\$0.00
Dec			\$0.00
Total	\$29,467.04	\$28,607.28	\$859.76



Check Out These Announcements & Mark Your Calendar For These Upcoming Events!



GOODIES

Coffee Hour

We need people to sign up to be host/hostess for the months of February/March. If you are able to host/hostess for a Sunday, please sign up in Jacobson Hall.



FEBRUARY UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 4 - LHN Free Neighborhood Market, 9AM-1PM GSLC Host
- Feb. 5 - Scout Sunday/ Pastor Ted's Liver Transplant Eighth Anniversary
- Feb. 14 - Valentine's Day
- Feb. 19 - GSLC Book Club @ 4PM, Comm. Ctr.
- Feb. 20 - President's Day—OFFICE CLOSED
in observance of the holiday
- Feb. 21 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party @ 6:15PM, Jacobson
- Feb. 22 - Ash Wednesday Service @ 7PM/Soup Supper's Begin @ 6:15PM
- Feb. 26 - First Sunday of Lent

UPCOMING
EVENTS



Celebrating You
on Your
Special Day

PASTOR TED'S LIVER TRANSPLANT EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, February 5, will mark eight years since our dear Pastor received his liver transplant. We rejoice with him as we remember the miracle that resulted in him receiving the donated liver. Praise God for His mighty works!

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

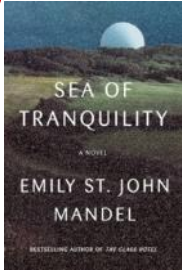


We will not be meeting until after Easter. Those who participated in the recent Isaiah study are encouraged to remain in contact with each other during the time we are not meeting regularly.

Questions? Contact Sharon Rowley: shandrow@outlook.com (please put Bible Study in the subject line).

GSLC Book Club ~Feb. 19 @ 4PM

"Sea of Tranquility" by Emily St. John Mandele



The award-winning, best-selling author of *Station Eleven* and *The Glass Hotel* returns with a novel of art, time travel, love, and plague that takes the reader from Vancouver Island in 1912 to a dark colony on the moon five hundred years later, unfurling a story of humanity across centuries and space.

Edwin St. Andrew is eighteen years old when he crosses the Atlantic by steamship, exiled from polite society following an ill-conceived diatribe at a dinner party. He enters the forest, spellbound by the beauty of the Canadian wilderness, and suddenly hears the notes of a violin echoing in an airship terminal—an experience that shocks him to his core.

Two centuries later a famous writer named Olive Llewellyn is on a book tour. She's traveling all over Earth, but her home is the second moon colony, a place of white stone, spired towers, and artificial beauty. Within the text of Olive's best-selling pandemic novel lies a strange passage: a man plays his violin for change in the echoing corridor of an airship terminal as the trees of a forest rise around him.

When Gasperry-Jacques Roberts, a detective in the black-skied Night City, is hired to investigate an anomaly in the North American wilderness, he uncovers a series of lives upended: The exiled son of an earl driven to madness, a writer trapped far from home as a pandemic ravages Earth, and a childhood friend from the Night City who, like Gasperry himself, has glimpsed the chance to do something extraordinary that will disrupt the timeline of the universe.

A virtuoso performance that is as human and tender as it is intellectually playful, *Sea of Tranquility* is a novel of time travel and metaphysics that precisely captures the reality of our current moment.' —from Amazon.com

Sounds fascinating! Join us as we discuss (very casually) our book for February 2023. We meet Sunday, February 19 at 4:00 pm in the Community Center.

LHN Free Neighborhood Market

@ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church , 2/4, 9 -11a.m.



There will be a food distribution of the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church located at 5140 N. Fruit Ave. on Saturday, 2/4, from 9-11 a.m.

Calling All Volunteers! Good Shepherd is Up in February

Calling all volunteers! Please mark your calendars now and plan to come help feed people at the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market this month. We are hosting the distribution on Feb. 4th, and need at least 25-30 people to help sort and bag produce, to sign in vehicles and load cars, and to direct traffic. All volunteers are invited and encouraged to go through the line, too.

Hours of distribution will be 9-11, but we need volunteers from 7:30-12:30. Any portion of time you're available to support this ministry will be appreciated! Feel free to invite friends and relatives to help out, too. Come share the love of Jesus in this special way. You'll have a fun time, too, I promise! Feel free to call, text, or email me with any questions.

Shalom. Peace. Paz. Julie Werfelmann

13jdixon13@gmail.com
559-287-3457



LWR Personal Kits/Quilts



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

LWR personal kits and quilts are on the way to South St. Paul Minnesota thanks to choir members Cheryl and John Montgomery.

Thanks!



Esther Circle Bible Study Meets the 1st Monday @ 6:30PM



Esther Circle is a women's Bible study group that meets on the first Monday of every month at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room. We are using the bible study from, "The Gather" magazine. Come and join us!

Mardi



Gras

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party on 2/21 @ 6:15PM in Jacobson Hall

In celebration of Shrove Tuesday, aka Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday, come join our first Pancake Party since the pandemic! Janet Mc is bringing the ham and her hash brown casserole, and some of the rest of us will be flipping pancakes to be topped by fruit and whipped cream, syrup, and other yummy things. We will have some fun using up all the "fat" before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday. There will be hidden ALLELUIA letters to search out, pancake races, beads, and a King Cake with baby Jesus hidden inside. Wear your purple, gold, and green, and come have some food and fun!

Shrove
Tuesday



Lent is Coming—February 22!

Lenten Devotionals are in and will be on the ushers' table for you to take home.

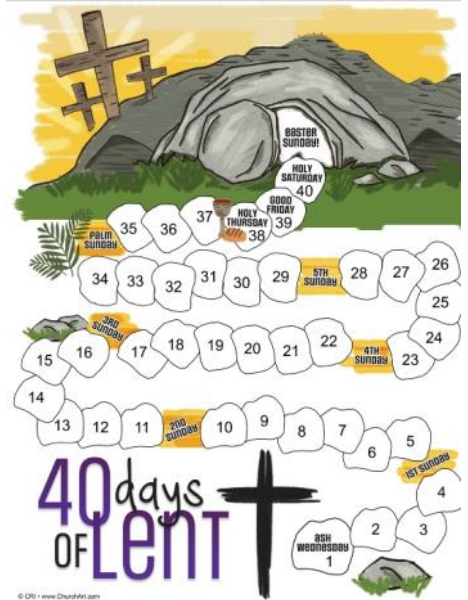
Soup-Making Opportunities with Suzie

This year Suzie G has graciously volunteered to make soup for four of the Wednesday gatherings. Additionally, she will be teaching her recipe and technique to anyone interested on each Sunday prior in Jacobson Hall after worship and snacks. All of her recipes will be plant based: Lentil Soup, Plant Chowder, No Chicken Noodle Soup, and Indonesian Sweet Potato Soup. Dates and details to follow. Come and learn to cook something new. What a treat!

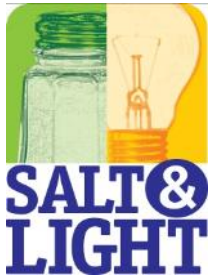
Ash Wednesday Worship

Ash Wednesday is February 22nd. We will offer soup @ 6:15, followed by worship and the imposition of ashes, beginning at 7. Plan now to start your Lenten season with this special service.

Lenten Wednesdays - Soup & a Class with Pastor Ted Coming in March—3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, and 3/29 are the other Wednesdays of Lent this year. Soup will be served, and Pastor Ted will lead an adult class. Julie will have all the kids together during that time, so there will be something for everyone. Please plan now to add this to your Lenten journey. More details to follow.



Kids' Salt & Light Every Sunday After Worship



We will meet up in Jacobson every Sunday from 11-12 after we've picked up our snacks. Any and all kids are invited to join Julie (or occasionally another adult leader) at the back table where we will gather for some opening check-in time. We will spend our next hour together with various activities to reinforce Jesus's radical message of love, forgiveness, and inclusion based on the morning's Scripture readings. We will be both inside and out as the weather permits.

IT'S GIRLS SCOUT COOKIE SEASON!

It's time to pre-order your Girl Scout Cookies. You can do so either through the link below or by calling Sheri Eggebraaten at 559-903-1851 or email her at

messagebysheri@aol.com.

Here is a direct link:

<https://app.abcsmartcookies.com/#/social-link-landing/3e3d522a-77ff-47fe-b5e6-a07d67b2824b>

You can see what's available at [Meet The Cookies \(girlscoutshcc.org\)](http://girlscoutshcc.org)

They will be delivering cookies the first week of Feb.



STORM DOWNED TREE



**2023 started with the large de-
odar cedar between the Me-
morial Garden and the class-
rooms falling on Martin Luther
King Day. We called a tree
company, and they were able
to remove it that day.**

**We are so grateful it fell on a holiday
and was able to be removed when
no children were on campus!**



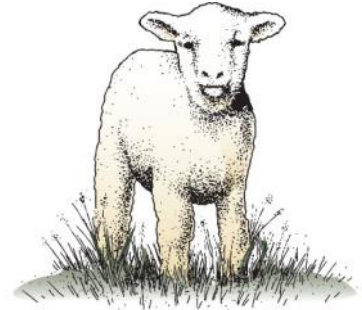
Thank You, God!



A January Children's Church Moment

During the sermon a few Sundays back, we made lambs out of playdough to illustrate John's words about Jesus. "Behold the Lamb of God." We talked about how the names and words we use for people matter. Names and words do have power to build up and to tear down, so we don't want to be careless with them. At the same time, we can't allow the names others might call us to define us. Our true names are "beloved child of God" and "redeemed." Our lambs were all unique and interesting and beautiful. Just like each of us!

*Shalom,
Julie*



"Behold,
THE LAMB OF GOD,
who takes away
THE SIN
OF THE WORLD!"

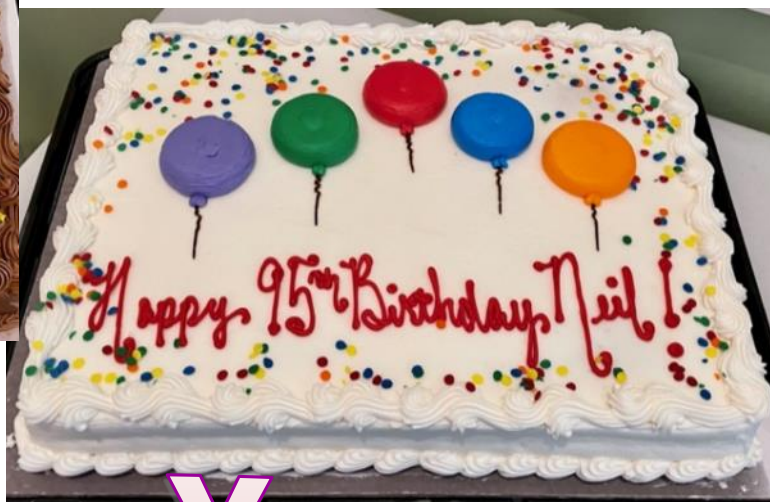
JOHN 1:29, ESV



Happy Birthday! Neil Walden



From Your Church Family



95 Years Young!!

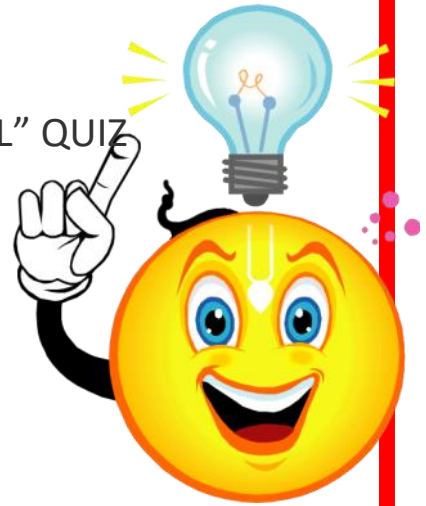
In
Loving
MEMORY



Marge Kinler

August 3, 1928 - January 1, 2023

*Marge Kinler has gone home to be with the Lord.
She passed away the morning of January 1st.
Please pray for Yvonne and Margie's whole family on
their loss.*



- 1) What kind of man was Boaz before he married?
Ruthless
- 2) What do they call pastors in Germany?
German Shepherds
- 3) Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?
Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.
- 4) What was the greatest female financier in the Bible?
Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.
- 5) What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?
Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one accord.
- 6) Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?
Samson. He brought the house down.
- 7) What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?
Your mother ate us out of house and home.
- 8) Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker in the Bible?
Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.
- 9) Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?
The area around Jordan. The banks were always overflowing.
- 10) Who was the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible?
David. He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.
- 11) Which Bible character had no parents?
Joshua, son of Nun.





Notes of Gratitude

THANK YOU!!

Thank you, for all the sympathy and out pouring love and fond memories from the congregation upon the passing of my Mother (Marge Kinler).

Thank you, Yvonne



Thank You!, Contributors






Thank you to all the members that contribute every month to the newsletter in some form or another. Your contribution makes creating the Newsletter a blessing and a success. Whether it's pictures, articles, expressions of gratitude, or upcoming events the effort is greatly appreciated. The Newsletter is vital to keeping connected.

God Bless!! Kathy



2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
5 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM –1PM Kid's Salt & Light, Comm Ctr	6 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 5PM - 10PM Boy Scouts (Comm Ctr) • 6PM Esther Circle (Fireside Room)	7 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	8 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm)	9 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm)	10 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm)	11
12 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM –1PM Kid's Salt & Light, Comm Ctr	13 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 5PM - 10PM Boy Scouts (Comm Ctr)	14 Valentine's Day • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	15 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm)	16 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 6:00PM Council Meeting (Conf Rm)	17 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm)	18
19 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM –1PM Kid's Salt & Light, Comm Ctr • 4PM GSLC Book Club, Comm Ctr	20 President's Day • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 5PM - 10PM Boy Scouts (Comm Ctr)	21 Shrove Tuesday • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf & Fireside Rm) • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr) • 5PM-7PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Party (Jacobson Hall)	22 Ash Wednesday • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 6:15PM - 7PM Soup Supper (Jacobson Hall) • 7PM Ash Wednesday Service	23 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm)	24 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm)	25
26 First Sunday of Lent • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM –1PM Kid's Salt & Light, Comm	27 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 5PM - 10PM Boy Scouts (Comm Ctr)	28 • 9AM - 4PM BIA (Conf Rm & Fireside Rm) • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)				

THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

The Monthly Newsletter of

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church ELCA

5140 North Fruit Ave., Fresno, CA 93711

MISSION STATEMENT

SHARING THE

LOVE OF

JESUS

Pastor Ted Niemi

**Carolyn Linn: Assistant Lay Minister
Congregation President : Yvonne Smith**

Organist: Susan Berg

Youth Ministries: Julie Werfelmann

Church Office Secretary: Kathy Edison

Worship Service 10:00 am

Office Hours Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm

Phone: (559) 225-2092

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Church Web Site: www.fresnogslc.org

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