The background of the entire image is a close-up photograph of purple flowers, likely Salvia, with green leaves and stems. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, creating a textured and vibrant backdrop. A semi-transparent purple rectangle is centered over the image, containing the text in white.

WHOEVER
CAN BE TRUSTED WITH
A LITTLE CAN ALSO BE
TRUSTED
WITH A LOT, AND
WHOEVER
IS DISHONEST
WITH A LITTLE IS
DISHONEST
WITH A LOT.

LUKE 16:10, NCV

UPCOMING *Events*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS September

ept. 17 & 24 - Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ 6:30PM, Comm Ctr

ept. 21 - GSLC Book Club @ PM, Comm Ctr

ept. 24 - Staff Meeting @ 10AM, r. Ted's Office

ept. 24 - KingsMen/KingKids @ :30PM, Jacobson Hall

ept. 27 - Westside Rescue breakfast for Dinner @ 6PM, Jacobson Hall

October

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 - Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ :30PM, Comm Ctr

Oct. 4 - LHN Free Neighborhood Market, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Oct. 11 - Roeding Saturday Sports @ 10am—12pm, Roeding Elementary

Oct. 11 - Oktoberfest @ 5—8pm, Jacobson Hall/Comm Ctr

Oct. 13 - Esther Circle @ 6pm, Comm Ctr

Oct. 16 - Council Meeting @ 6pm, Jacobson Hall

Oct. 19 - GSLC Book Club @ 4pm, Comm Ctr

Oct. 20 - OWLS @ 12pm, Jacobson Hall

Oct. 26 - Spookey Potluck @ 11:15am, Jacobson Hall

Oct. 29 - Trunk or Treat @ 5—30pm, Circle drive

WEEKLY *Sneak Peek*

SUNDAY, September 21

10am: Worship Service

11:15: Coffee Social

11:15am: Salt & Light, Class Rm 2

4pm: GSLC Book Club, Comm Ctr

MONDAY, September 22

TUESDAY, September 23

6pm - 10pm: Voices United, Comm Ctr

WEDNESDAY, September 24

10am: Staff Meeting, Pr. Ted's Office

6:30pm: Wednesday Evening Bible Study, Comm Ctr

6:30pm: KingsMen/KingsKids', Marty's Home

THURSDAY, September 25

FRIDAY, September 26

SATURDAY, September 27

6pm: Westside Rescue Breakfast for Dinner, Jacobson Hall

SUNDAY, September 28

10am: Worship Service

11:15: Coffee Social

11:15am: Salt & Light, Class Rm 2

We rejoice in the Lord's answers to prayers
and thank God for His goodness.

**Members Needing
Prayer:**

The Rev. Dr. Arlynne
Turnquist has passed
into the Church Tri-
umphant, please pray
comfort for Carolyn
Linn and her family.
Robert Harris
Mona White
Julie Werfelmann
Kay Schumacher
Betty Montgomery
Neil and Verna Wal-
den
Liz Smith
Bill Biggs
Mary Norris & Family
Connie Alvarado
Jocelyn Miller
Kirsten Linder
Jim Thompson

Family and Friends:

Bill Phillips (Breanna D.)
Kaitlyn (Lisa K.)
Coach (Sandy T.)
Linda Healy (White)
Cousin Gary (Sandy T.)
Karilee (Neer)
Pauline Ritterbush
Julie Schnieder (Bender)
Jade Dixon (Julie)
Kathy (Secretary) and Family
Elaine (Werfelmann)
Linda Healy (White)
Ivonne Garcia (Zamora)
Phoebe (Neer)
Phil (Anderson)
Gary Assmussen (Deuker)
Jennifer Wenzel (Wilk)
Tonya (White)
Shanese (White)
Zyg Zee (Norris)
Claire (Vonny)
Janet Sharp (Fake)
Anthony Collichio (Norris)
Mickey Cecil (Norris)
Dorothy Lee Bruce (Julie)
Melissa (Sandy T.)
Frank and Anita Porco (Vonny)
Pam (Smith)
Grace Johnson (Fake)
Hudson Otten (Anderson)
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)
Rosemary (Vonny)
Nathan & Sandy Robbins (Robbins)

Prayers For

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

For Prayer Requests: Complete the prayer request card on the back of
the pew or call/email the church office 225-2092/gslcfresno@att.net

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Worship Service
September 21, 2025 - 10AM
Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost**

Prelude Susan Berg, Piano

Announcements

Opening Hymn "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" #858 (vv. 1, 3-4)
Song Leaders and Congregation

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to His temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!

3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
if with His love He befriend you.

4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the "Amen!" sound from His people again,
Gladly forever adore Him!

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,
We are your stiff-necked people.
We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.
Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
You who were lost have been found.
In the name of +Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
Amen.

Prayer of the Day

P: We pray together...

C: God among us, we gather in the name of your son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Special Music

"Enter Now the Gates" by Douglas E. Wagner
(c 2004 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of
the The Lorenz Corporation)
Choral Ensemble with The Good Shepherd Chimes

Lesson 1	Exodus 32:7-14	Page 77 in the cranberry Bible Page 86 in the red Bible
Lesson 2	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Page 1080 in the cranberry Bible Page 228 in the red Bible
Gospel	Luke 15:1-10	Page 952 in the cranberry Bible Page 80 in the red Bible

Kids' Talk

Pr. Ted Niemi

Children are now invited - but not required - to go with the adult leader to kids' church in classroom 2 during the sermon. They will return in time for communion with their families.

"Living in an Imperfect World"

Sermon

Pr. Ted Niemi

Sermon Hymn

"Give Thanks" by Henry Smith (c 1978 Integrity's
Hosanna! Music; CCLI Song #20285, CCLI License #2032355)
Song Leaders and Congregation

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us;
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich"

because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting.
Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Sharing the Peace

Offering

Offering Response "Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise" #207
Song Leaders and Congregation

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.
Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Special Music "Let Streams of Living Justice" text by William
Whitla, Music by Gustav Holst (text c 1989 William
Whitla)
Choral Ensemble

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Holy Communion

Communion shall be served using the method known as "intinction": the wafer will be handed to you, and you will dip the wafer into either the gold chalice of wine, or the ceramic chalice of grape juice. For those who are not able to come up for communion, please just remain seated and our ushers will be happy to direct the communion servers to bring communion right to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Children are welcome to come up for communion to receive an animal cracker (unless otherwise advised by the parent or guardian). Please come, for all are welcome.

Communion Hymn "Just As I Am, without One Plea" #592 (vv. 1-5) Song Leaders and Congregation

1. Just as I am, without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me.
And that Thou bidd'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
2. Just as I am, and waiting not to rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
3. Just as I am, tho' tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
4. Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
5. Just as I am, Thy love unknown has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Closing Hymn "Majestic" by Lincoln Brewster, Arr. by Dan Galbraith (c 2005 Integrity's Praise! Music, CCLI Song #4573308) Song Leaders and Congregation

Oh Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth.
Oh Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth
The heavens declare Your greatness;
The oceans cry out to You;
The mountains, they bow down before You,
so I'll join with the earth and I'll give my praise to You.

Oh Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth.
Oh Lord, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth
The heavens declare Your greatness;
The oceans cry out to You;
The mountains, they bow down before You,
so I'll join with the earth
and I'll sing, sing.

The heavens declare Your greatness;
The oceans cry out to You;
The mountains, they bow down before You,
so I'll join with the earth and I'll give my praise to You.

I will worship You. I will worship You.
I will worship You. I will worship You.
We will worship You; We will worship You.

The heavens declare Your greatness;
The oceans cry out to You;
The mountains, they bow down before You,
so I'll join with the earth
and I'll sing.

The heavens declare Your greatness;
The oceans cry out to You;
The mountains, they bow down before You,
so I'll join with the earth and I'll give my praise to You.
so I'll join with the earth
and I'll give my praise to You.
so I'll join with the earth
and I'll give my praise to You.

Blessing

Sending

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Susan Berg, Piano

LIVING IN AN IMPERFECT WORLD

Preaching text: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus often taught using parables. A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. It's a small story with eternal implications. It is different from an allegory ... in that in an allegory every detail has inner meaning. But in a parable, there is just one point. Most people who write about Jesus' parables exclude this one from their collections. It's our gospel for today. The reason it is so often excluded is because Biblical scholars can't agree on what the point of this parable is.

Just prior to today's text is the story of the Prodigal Son. Remember, he asked for his inheritance early and then squandered it on loose living. Immediately after our text is the parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man ... where the rich man fails to share what he has with the poor, destitute Lazarus and so he ended up in hell.

Our reading for today, known as the Parable of the Dishonest Manager, sits sandwiched right in the middle. There is a reason why it is in between these other parables.

The dishonest manager was squandering someone else's wealth that he was entrusted with ... just like the Prodigal Son was a few verses earlier.

What happens next is the difficult part. This dishonest manager tells the people who owe his master money to slash what they owe to his master. In other words, they are conspiring to cheat his boss. And then, the master commends him! That's like someone

telling you to slash your mortgage in half. You would be thrilled! But it doesn't make sense that the one getting screwed compliments his employee on the screwing, does it?

This dishonest man made friends by slashing those accounts. He did that so they could help him out later when he was out on his own. It was a "I scratch your back if you scratch mine" sort of deal. He's hoping to be paid back.

Biblical commentators and preachers have been trying to figure out this parable for millenia. Ever since Jesus told it.

But one thing I'm sure of ... whatever dishonest transactions the guy was making with his master's money ... he was not squandering his opportunities. He was taking full advantage of the situation. He wasn't losing the money because he was lazy or inept. He was losing money for a reason ... to find himself a home.

I don't understand why the master commended him for ripping him off. Could it be that that was the master's wish all along?

God, our master, blesses us with uncountable riches. Verse 8 says, "... his Master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light." And then it goes on in Verse 9: "... make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so then when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes."

That sounds bitterly ironic to me. The master commends this guy for “acting shrewdly” and then says, ironically, I imagine, “and you can depend on those shrewd people to get you to your eternal home.” Obviously, that’s not going to happen. God decides who makes it to the heavenly home, not shrewd people on this side of eternity.

So, if it is said ironically, which makes sense, then we need to hear Jesus’ message being “People of the light do not deal shrewdly. They use their resources in ways that bring life ... life to those who we share them with and life to us as we participate in God’s distribution of wealth.”

If we look at the man’s master as a brute who was only out for a few bucks ... the parable doesn’t make sense. But if we understand the Master as God who always has our best interests in mind ... then I think this parable becomes a little more intelligible.

Everything in all of creation belongs to God. And God has called us to be his managers with all kinds of things. God gives us what we have so we’ll share what we have. And by doing so ... we earn friends and we are promised a home with the children of light.

Next week we’ll be hearing about Lazarus and the rich man. And we’ll see what happens to those who act shrewdly. Spoiler alert: It’s not favorable.

AMEN.

Sunday, September 21, 2025

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing. —Martin Luther



A quick search of the internet on the subject of answered prayers yielded a ton of responses. People reported that God had answered prayers for healing of diseases, a new job, a raise in pay, saving the lives of their dogs and cats, reconciliation with an estranged loved one, and more. These are wonderful reports, but it does make you wonder whether these testimonies capture the essence of what prayer truly is.

Prayer is one of the greatest gifts God has given us. It is not only a privilege but also a responsibility. In today's Bible reading, especially verses 1-3, the apostle Paul emphasizes the importance of prayer, calling on believers to pray for *all* people — not just those we love or agree with, but everyone, including those in positions of authority. What's startling is that he doesn't emphasize praying *on behalf of ourselves*.

Notice what he says about the types of prayers:

- Petitions — bringing specific needs before God.
- Prayers — engaging in general communication and worship with God.
- Intercessions — standing in the gap for others, seeking God's intervention in their lives.
- Thanksgiving — expressing gratitude for God's blessings and faithfulness.

By covering all people in these types of prayers, we align ourselves with God's heart for the world.

With these words, Scripture connects our prayers with the ability to lead peaceful and godly lives. Prayer changes us, softens our hearts, and aligns our desires with God's will. And prayer puts us in direct contact with God. Pastor Max Lucado puts it this way: "Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is *in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it*, our prayers do make a difference."

Take a moment to reflect: Who in your life needs your prayers today? Remember, prayer is powerful — it changes hearts, circumstances, the world and can even change you!

—Timothy Merrill

Prayer: O God, thank you for the gift of prayer and the opportunity to bring others before you. Help us to be faithful in praying for all people, including those in authority, that your wisdom and peace may prevail. Amen.

Week of September 21, 2025

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday: 2 Thessalonians 1-3
Monday: 2 Chronicles 23-25
Tuesday: 2 Chronicles 26-29
Wednesday: 2 Chronicles 30-32
Thursday: 2 Chronicles 33-36
Friday: Ezekiel 1-3
Saturday: Psalms 103-105



ACROSS

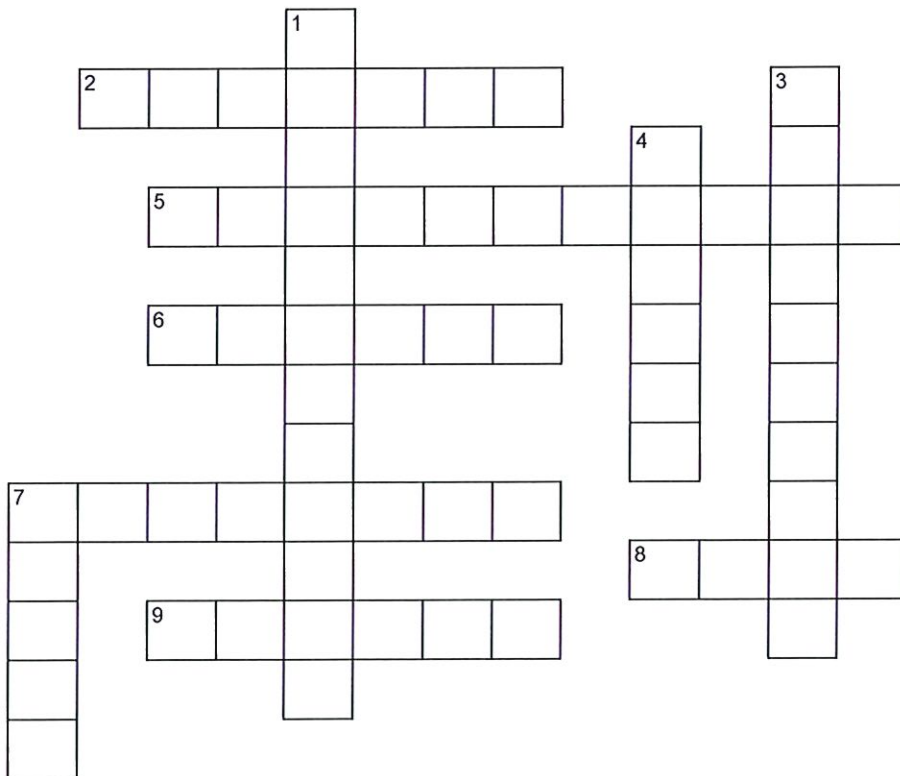
2. _____ and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.
5. Blessed are the _____, for they will see God.
6. Blessed are those who _____ after righteousness.
7. Blessed are the _____, for they will receive mercy.
8. Blessed are the _____, for they will inherit the earth.
9. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be filled.

BEATITUDES

Fill in the blanks below to complete the crossword. Answers are based on Matthew 5:1-13, New International Version.

DOWN

1. Blessed are the _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
3. Blessed are those who are _____ for righteousness' sake.
4. Great is your _____ in heaven.
7. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be comforted.



GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

16 Then Jesus^[a] said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property.² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.'³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth^[b] so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.^[c]

¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth,^[d] who will entrust to you the true riches?¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."^[e]

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Volunteer Needed—Instagram Posts

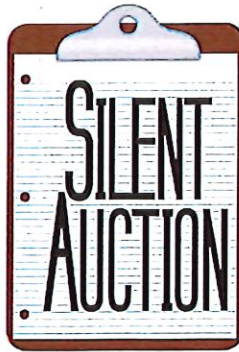
The church is needing someone to step up and begin doing the Instagram post for the upcoming events and activities.

Food Pantry Needs Restocking



We could use: Rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables, canned fruit (fruit cocktail, peaches, pineapple), canned chili beans, egg noodles, Cream of mushroom or chicken soup, Mayo, canned tuna, chicken or beef, ramen noodles, Mac N Cheese, boxed pasta meals, peanut butter and grape jelly. Donations can be dropped off at the office M - F, from 9 - 1PM.

Oktoberfest Silent Auction



Let's make this year's Oktoberfest Silent Auction even bigger than it was last year! We need YOUR help! Please bring your donations to church from now until the deadline which is Sunday, October 5. We are looking for things such as wine baskets, new or like-new home goods, holiday decor, and homemade crafting items like those we had at our Rally Day Craft Fair. For each item you donate, please fill out the short form you will find on the table in the entry. This form is **required!** Hand your donation with the form to **Sandy or Diane**. Many thanks for your help!

Collecting Candy for Trunk or Treat

We are collecting Halloween candy for the trunk or treat, and judging from last year's turnout, we will need a lot!! Please bring in your donations and place them in the designated bin. Please be sure to sign up to host a trunk or help at one of the booths if you are able. Thank you for your support!



Shalom. Peace. Paz.

Julie Werfelmann

Westside Rescue's Breakfast for Dinner Fundraiser 9/27/25 @ GSLC



Doors open at 5:30 and dinner is served from 6-7:30. Tickets are only \$20 at the door, and this is the primary way they raise funds to continue in their mission of feeding, spaying/neutering, and providing medical care to the pets of unhoused people, primarily in downtown Fresno.

The food is always quite good, and they also have some wonderful silent auction items available. Additionally, I have raffle tickets available for sale this morning after worship! Prizes are a \$250 Costco gift card, 2 \$200 Visa cards, a \$100 Chewy card, and a \$100 Visa gift card. You don't need to be present to win, so this is a great way to support them even if you can't attend. Thank you!

Shalom. Peace. Paz.

Julie Werfelmann

Many Thanks!!

Many thanks to the wonderful volunteer Counters who have committed for the month of Aug./Sept. to sort the Sunday Offering and prepare the weekly deposit.

August 31st Art Mehl

September 7th Sharon Hart

September 14th Pam Gerster

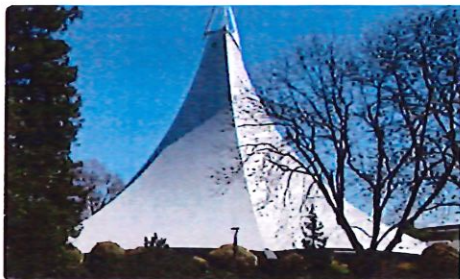
September 21st Jim and Ruth Thompson

September 28th Alan & Brenda Hofmann



HVAC GoFundMe Fundraiser Goes Live

Support New HVAC at Good Shepherd
Fresno



The Good Shepherd HVAC GoFundMe fundraiser is now live on it's website. <https://gofund.me/05d79cff>

Please send this link: to family, friends, businesses etc., via Facebook, email and any other social media platforms to get the word out to raise funds for a new HVAC system. We have a fundraising goal of \$150,000 to support the purchase of a new HVAC system.

Every donation, big or small, will make a tremendous difference. Together, we can bring warmth back to our church and restore the place where our community worships and grows faith. Thank you for your support. We are truly grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Blessings, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fresno

Thank you, Reynaldo Villalobos

KingsMen/KingsKids' Sept. 24th @ 6:30PM

Hello, the last KingsMen for 2025 will be at Marty's house. There will be a bbq. It will be at 6:30 pm on September 24th.

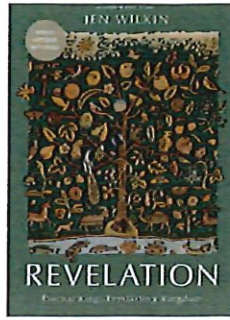
We will resume KingsMen after the holiday season on January 28th 2026. Thank you.

2698 W Dovewood Ln, Fresno

Off of Marks and Barstow



Wednesday Evening Bible Study Begins Sept. 10



Join us **September 10 at 6:30**, as we begin a new study year.

We will begin with "**Revelation - Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom**" by Jen Wilkin.

"No other book of the Bible feels as inaccessible and as intimidating to us as *Revelation*. It overflows with images and ideas that confound our modern ears. But if all Scripture is God breathed and profitable, we should assume

Revelation is as accessible and helpful as any other book of the Bible. Two thousand years ago, John's Revelation was circulated and read aloud among seven churches in Asia Minor. Those who heard the letter understood it and drew encouragement from its message. The same can be true for us today. In this 10-session Bible study, Jen Wilkin helps you discover how the last book of the Bible speaks both a steady-ing word of assurance and a strong call to endure to the church in every age."

REVELATION? - AGAIN??? DIDN'T YOU JUST DO THAT??? YES, IT IS THAT GOOD.

I cannot tell you enough about how good this study is. This is a repeat of the study we did a year ago. It is presented in a way that "it all makes sense." It is not an easy study, but DO NOT let that discourage you. Revelation is not preached on much, and is rarely studied as a whole book. You will go through the whole book of Revelation, in 2-3 chapters a week. We are repeating this study because it is truly "mind-blowing" in its concepts. Come sit with your brother and sisters in Christ, as we dive in again.

Come join us **September 10 in the Community Center** as we study **again, with new eyes**, all that God has for us in the final book of our Bibles. You really don't want to miss this!! Questions? Contact Sharon Andreasen Rowley or ask one of the Good Shepherd regular attendees of the Wednesday evening studies.

The book is available from all the usual places: Amazon, Christianbook.com, Lifeway. Or order it with your local Christian book seller. Those who have already done this study, you can buy a new book or use your old one.

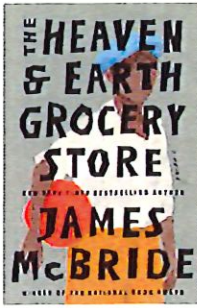
October OWLS Gathering Oct. 20th @ 12 noon

Hooties! Pull out your Halloween colors and prints to don at our October 20th NOON meeting. Costumes only if you wish. Susan Linder is our Host. The driveway into the garage will be the drop off/pick up zone. Pray that it won't be pouring buckets this year. Please bring: Your ENTIRE table service and a dish to share. Label your belongings. See Sandy for maps



GSLC Book Club

Our book for SEPTEMBER: **"The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store" by James McBride**



In 1972, when workers in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, were digging the foundations for a new development, the last thing they expected to find was a skeleton at the bottom of a well. Who the skeleton was and how it got there were two of the long-held secrets kept by the residents of Chicken Hill, the dilapidated neighborhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side and shared ambitions and sorrows. Chicken Hill was where Moshe and Chona Ludlow lived when Moshe integrated his theater and where Chona ran the Heaven & Earth Grocery Store. When the state came looking for a deaf boy to institutionalize him, it was Chona and Nate Timblin, the Black janitor at Moshe's theater and the unofficial leader of the Black community on Chicken Hill, who worked together to keep the boy safe.

As these characters' stories overlap and deepen, it becomes clear how much the people who live on the margins of white, Christian America struggle and what they must do to survive. When the truth is finally revealed about what happened on Chicken Hill and the part the town's white establishment played in it, McBride shows us that even in dark times, it is love and community—heaven and earth—that sustain us. Join us for very casual but meaningful discussion **Sunday, September 21, 4:00 in the Community Center.**

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Invites You to Oktoberfest 2025

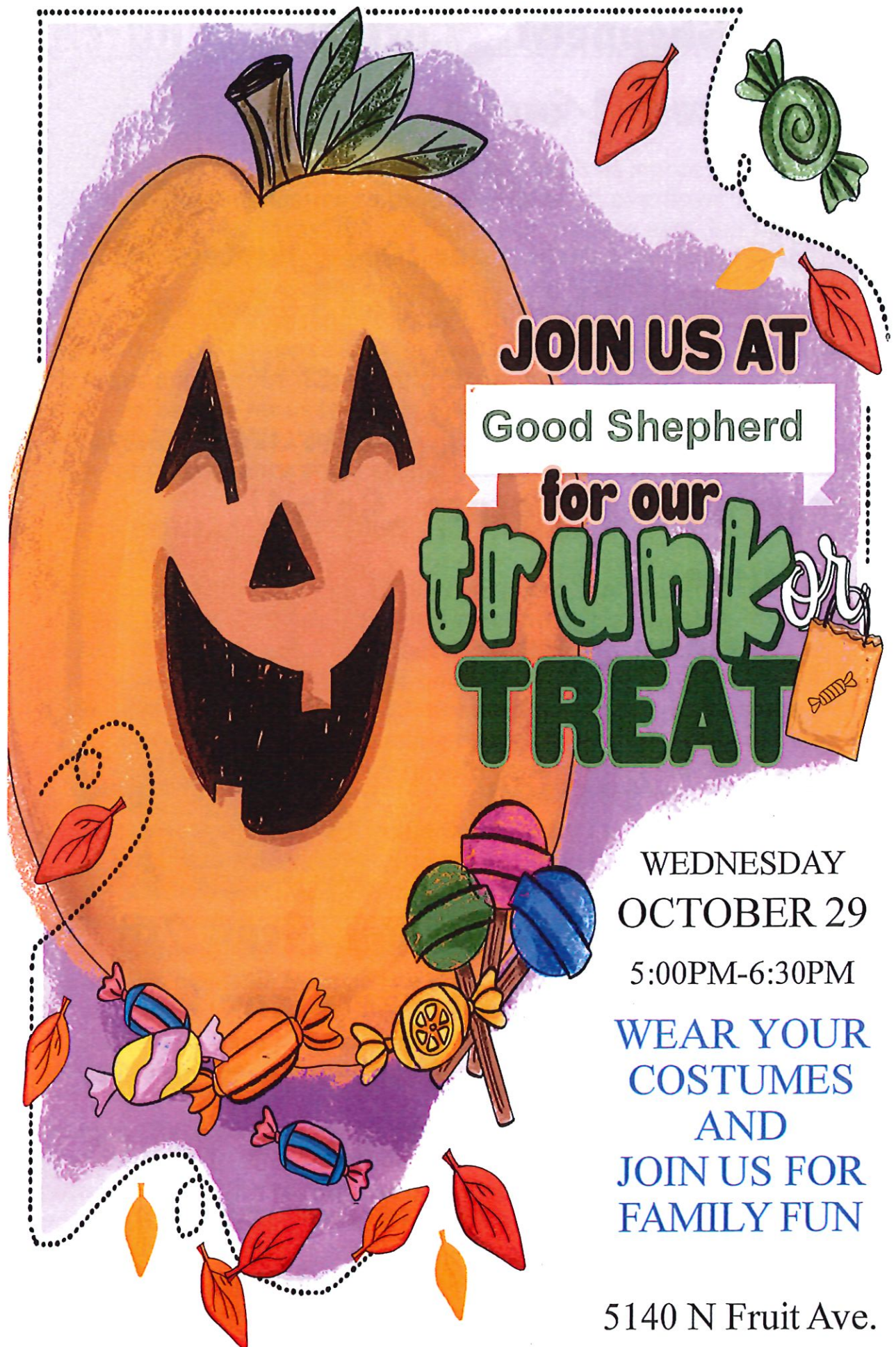
We will be holding our 2025 Oktoberfest
Saturday, October 11, from 5—8pm at:

5140 N. Fruit Ave.

- Fun & Food (Bratwurst, sauerkraut and Potato Salad)
- Music
- Boutique Beer
- Vendors
- Silent Auction



Tickets on sale Sunday Sept. 7th
thru Sept. 28th. Tickets can be
purchased M—F, 9am—1pm in the
office, at church on Sundays before
and after service or the day of the
event. Adults: \$25 & Kids: \$10



JOIN US AT

Good Shepherd

for our
trunk
TREAT

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 29

5:00PM-6:30PM

WEAR YOUR
COSTUMES
AND
JOIN US FOR
FAMILY FUN

5140 N Fruit Ave.
Fresno, CA 93710