

# The Shepherd's Voice

GOOD

SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Sharing The Love of Jesus



**PASTOR TED NIEMI** 

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Web Site: www.fresnogslc.org Facebook

You are welcome to join us at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

Happy Easter! It has now been a month since we resumed in-person worship. For those who have been vaccinated it has been an interesting time to be in church. Once again, I encourage you to get vaccinated for Covid-19 if you haven't already. You will strengthen your health, the health of those around you, including those here at church.

Today the Center for Disease Control said that for those of us who have been vaccinated it is ok now to take off our masks outside, although not in too large of groups. It is exciting to be entering this new way of life where some of the restrictions are being lifted.

I said it has been an interesting time to be in church. For me it is not just the wearing masks, not singing or praying out loud together, or the distanced seating that makes it different. It is also because not everyone is in a position to come back to church yet. Those of you who have not been fully vaccinated or have other health considerations are wise to wait.

Because not everyone is back we need more people to help out. During the pandemic both head ushers moved. We need ushers at both services. We need people to sign up to read the lessons. We need people to help out on Church Council. We need someone to help with the PowerPoint at our 9:00 worship.

One of the advantages of being a part of a church like Good Shepherd is you have the opportunity to make a difference. This has never been truer than it is now. Please let me know, or Council President Yvonne Smith, if you can help on Council. If you can help at worship, please do. Helping with worship is a great way to serve God and each other. There will be other needs as we gear up to fully reopen.

I look forward to ministry with you as we enter into this new way of being together!

God's Peace, Pastor Ted

### Prayer Concerns

### Members in Need of **Prayer:**

Verna & Neil Walden Juana On & Family Anthony On & Family William & Liz Smith

George Weber Margie Kinler **Dennis Fey** 

Connie Alvarado

Susan Berg **Karla Sutton** 

David Adamcik & Dee Dee

Mello

Mary & Patrick Norris and Children Alex, Isaac, and

Michelle

Paul Werfelmann

Richard & Kay Schumacher

Irene Pierini Jocelyn Miller Kirsten Linder **Stacy Lairson** Jim Thompson Addie Dornbusch

**Betty Snyder** 

### Family and Friends:

Hilary Martin (Sue's Friend) Darlee (Mary & Patrick's Grandma)

Molly (Mary & Patrick's Aunt) Marshal, Christopher & Nathan Robbins (Arlene Robbin's

Grandson's)

Randy & Carol Rowe (Neil & Verna's Daughter and Son-in-

Jim & Judy (Julie's Parents) Heather (Julie's Co-Worker) Peggy Mitchem & Family (Gordon's Sister)

Karl & Pauline Ritterbush & Pauline's Sister

Mickey Cecil & Vergie G. (Friends of Patrick Norris) Janet Sharp (Diane's Sister) Taylor Waltrip & Family Eladio, Celia & Family

(Roeding) Mike D.

**Anthony Chollicho** 

Kim Carlson Melissa Melton

Kim Boren and Family

Jade Dixon

Rev. Arlynne Turnquist



Carolyn Linn – 5/05 Ted Niemi – 5/08 Kay Provost – 5/14 Carol Sullivan - 5/21 Alan Hofmann – 5/30

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



Steven Austin - 5/01 Pat Hayner-Slusser – 5/04 Chris Walker – 5/07 Sue Hays – 5/09 Dennis Fey – 5/14 Ted Niemi – 5/18 Ted Miller – 5/21 Carolyn Linn – 5/29

# "If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.



Please PRAY for those affected by COVID-19



Mary and Patrick Norris - 5/04

#### 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	Mobile/PayPal Apr. 4, 2021	Mobile/PayPal Apr. 11, 2021	Mobile/PayPal Apr. 18, 2021	Mobile/PayPal Apr. 25, 2021
General Fund	\$11,765.00	\$6,035.00	\$3,434.00	\$3,540.00
Special Memorial (designated funds)				
ELCA Disaster Response World Hunger/Malaria (designated funds)				
Community Center Capital Fund Loose Plate	Community Ctr: \$900.00 Loose Plate: \$127.00	Loose Plate: \$20.00	Loose Plate: \$100.00	
Special Mission Project Gifts (designated funds)	On Family: \$850.00 Fence: \$100.00 Raise the Roof: \$25.00 Westside Rescue: \$25.00	On Family: \$100.00 Altar Flowers: \$22.00	Raise the Roof: 425.00 Altar Flowers: \$10.00	On Family: \$25.00 Raise the Roof: \$10.00
BIA Rent/ Property Use/ Misc.	BIA: \$6,116.10		BIA: \$268.80	
	\$19,908.10	\$6,227.00	\$3,837.80	\$3,575.00

# **April Financial Report**

Dear Good Shepherd Family,

This month we got in an annual giving donation, which helped with our monthly income. Our income this moth was \$32,355.90, which is higher than in the past. We only had two unplanned for plumbing expenses. One was a broken faucet in one of the classrooms and an under the sink leak in a classroom. Both repairs came to \$658.00. We also had two inspections. One was the fire hy-



drant inspection and the other was the fire marshal inspection that is required annually by BIA. Both these were significantly higher than in years past (total \$369.00) as the City of Fresno has raised their fees. We repaired the pothole in front of the church at a cost of \$1,100.00. We paid for this expense out of a special gift received at the end of 2020 to be used where needed. Overall, our expenses were on the lower side and we were actually in the black over \$6000.00. Currently our income to expenses is negative \$9235.93.

Yours in Christ,

#### Caroline Sullivan

Month	Income	Expenses	Difference
Jan.	\$26,383.16	\$29,727.30	(\$3,344.14)
Feb	\$19,549.53	\$25,525.99	(\$5,976.46)
Mar	\$21,850.70	\$28,120.75	(\$6,270.05)
Apr	\$32,355.90	\$26,001.18	\$6,354.72
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	\$100,139.29	\$109,375.22	(\$9,235.93)

## Humor

(To put a little smile on your face.)









# The is more precious than rubies...

Proverbs 3:15



Happy Mother's Day

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

# 2021 Advent Devotional Project

This past Christmas I re-discovered our 2005 Advent Devotional that was assembled for us by our dearly departed saint, Ruth Johnson.

Reading through the daily devotions was such a blessing and I would DEVOTIONAL like to create a new one for Advent 2021. I will need about 28 volunteers to write a small summary or assessment of the bible verse that I will assign to each person. It doesn't have to be exhaustive I would just like to hear how the verse speaks to you or how you will apply the verse to your life. I'm looking to include the youth as well as adults, any and all are welcome! Please contact me via email or cell if you are interested in participating or have questions. Dmichelle1022@live.com 559.970.1957 Thank you so much and I miss seeing everyone! Dana Klein

# Welcome! Madeleine Claire Lofqvist Born April 11, 2021

Congratulations on the birth of Madeleine Claire Lofqvist (7lbs. 14ozs.), born on April 11, 2021 to Lindsey & Chris Lofqvist. Madeleine is the great granddaughter of Ed & Vonny Sturgeon.

## **NEW ADDRESS**



Karl and Pauline Ritterbush ~ 419 Fruitland Avenue Sp. 38, Buhl, ID 83316. Cell Numbers: (559) 203-8569 Karl, (775) 389-7925 Pauline

### Food Available ~ Non-Perishable Items

Thankful to generous contributions our Food Pantry is well stocked and non-perishable items are available if you are in need or know someone that could benefit from a care package. Please call the church office to make arrangements for distribution. Thank you for your faithfulness,

Sue Hays



### **UNE 2021**



**Current Home** 

Help Send John to Roatan Honduras in June 2021.

This post is from Lillian talking about her brother. Questions talk to John Hays.

#Dwellings - "They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness."

- Lamentations 3:23

THANKFUL for God's faithfulness! 🙌 🖤



This week, my awesome brother Geovanny and construction crew started the foundation for another needy family! L L L #BULAMinistriesTeam, we're beyond THANKFUL for each one of your families and friends who are partnering with you to make the #VillacortaUrbina family's dream come true



We, Ariel, Gaby and their cuties are looking forward to seeing you soonnnn!!! 🗽 🌊 🚾 😉 🦾



# Good Friday Service





AND WITH HIM TWO OTHERS, ONE ON EITHER SIDE. WITH JESUS BETWEEN THEM. JOHN 19:18, NRSV

## **Dutreach Meeting**

There is an Outreach Meeting scheduled for May 7th from 11AM - 1PM, via Zoom.

Paul Werfelmann is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89956042823? pwd=T1RXdWlxbnFVRFJFWGhRUFZrWThKZz09

Come be blessed, Sue Hays



### TREE REMOVAL

Two of the trees next to the back of Jacobson Hall were sending roots into the sewer system. To prevent any additional plumber expenses, they had to be removed. Francis Sullivan cut them down & Jimmy Sanborn cleaned up after him. Thank you to both!



# GSLC PAJNT NJGHT FUNDRAJSER

I am asking for help with a virtual paint night fundraiser for GSLC. Does anyone have a connection or would like to help coordinate please contact Sue or Kathy in the office.



1

Sue Hays <a href="mailto:Shays2210@yahoo.com">Shays2210@yahoo.com</a>



### **GSLC Book Group - Book for MAY**

"American Dirt" by Jeanine Cummins



We plan to meet LIVE and IN-PERSON!! Read our book choice for May and join us at Dana Klein's Home for casual discussion.

Lydia Quixano Pérez lives in the Mexican city of Acapulco. She runs a bookstore. She has a son, Luca, the love of her life, and a wonderful husband who is a jour-JEANINE CUMMINS nalist. And while there are cracks beginning to show in Acapulco because of the drug cartels, her life is, by and large, fairly comfortable.

Even though she knows they'll never sell, Lydia stocks some of her all-time favorite books in her store. And then one day a man enters the shop to browse and comes up to the register with a few books he would like to buy—two of them her favorites. Javier is erudite. He is charming. And, unbeknownst to Lydia, he is the jefe of the newest drug cartel that has gruesomely taken over the city. When Lydia's husband's tell-all profile of Javier is published, none of their lives will ever be the same.

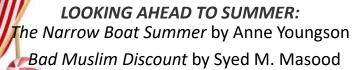
Forced to flee, Lydia and eight-year-old Luca soon find themselves miles and worlds away from their comfortable middle-class existence. Instantly transformed into migrants, Lydia and Luca ride la bestia—trains that make their way north toward the United States, which is the only place Javier's reach doesn't extend. As they join the countless people trying to reach *el norte*, Lydia soon sees that everyone is running from something. But what exactly are they running to?

American Dirt will leave readers utterly changed. It is a literary achievement filled with poignancy, drama, and humanity on every page. It is one of the most important books for our times.

Already being hailed as "a Grapes of Wrath for our times" and "a new American classic," Jeanine Cummins's American Dirt is a rare exploration into the inner hearts of people willing to sacrifice everything for a glimmer of hope. --from amazon.com

We will be meeting IN PERSON! (unless there is a increase in COVID before that time)







# Volunteer Needed

We need a person or committee to step up for Christmas decorating in the sanctuary for December 2021.



# 7 RULES TO BE HAPPY IN LIFE

- 1: Never hate.
- 2. Don't worry.
- 3. Live simple.
- 4. Expect a little.
  - 5. Give a lot.
- 6. Always smile.
- 7. Keep in touch with God.

~Amen~

# LHN Free Neighborhood Market on 5/1/21 at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 9 -11am.



There will once again be a <u>drive through</u> food distribution of the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church located at 2101 N. Fruit Ave., on Saturday, 5/1/21, from 9-11 a.m.

Once again, this market will be very different from others. Recipients will be required to stay in their cars unless they are volunteering. Only people from the same household will be

able to work together at a pallet bagging or packing food, and pallets will be stationed 6 feet apart. Volunteers will be needed to direct traffic and also to sign in recipients - from a safe distance -while those receiving food stay in their cars. Also, all of those people in the high risk categories please refrain from volunteering this time around. There will be other opportunities to serve! Please provide all the prayer support you have time for right now.

Central CA Food Bank will provide gloves, and you will need to bring your own

mask. On 5/1, anyone planning to volunteer who is or has been feeling ill - especially if they have or have had a fever, cough or flu-like symptoms - is asked to PLEASE stay home. Volunteers will be encouraged to drive through and get food for their own household, too, just like usual.

Please share this information with everyone you know who could benefit and with those who might want to volunteer. Questions can be directed to me

@ <u>13jdixon13@gmail.com</u> or 559-287-3457. Please also pray that we get plenty of help from our friends and neighbors and that this food will bless all those who receive it. "



Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry! Julie W.

Shalom!



## Owls ~ Don't Mess With Seniors!

An old lady went to a bank to withdraw some cash. She handed her bankcard to the cashier and said. "I would like to withdraw \$10."

The cashier told her, "Mam! For less than \$100 please use the ATM."

The old lady wanted to know the reason . . . "Why can't I just withdraw \$10?" she asked.

The cashier got irritated . . . She returned the old lady her bank card and said, "These are the rules of the bank. Please step aside if there is no other matter. There is a line of customers behind you."



(Picture Courtesy of Diane Fake)

The old lady remained silent for a few seconds . . . then she returned her bank card to the cashier and said. "Please help me withdraw all the money I have."

The cashier was astonished when she checked the bank account balance. She nodded her head, and told her "Mam, you have \$1,000,000 in your account and the bank doesn't have that much currently. Can you please book an appointment and come back tomorrow?"

The old lady then asked how much she could withdraw immediately.

The cashier told her any amount up to \$5,000.

"Well, please let me have \$5,,000 now," the old lady said.

The cashier then angrily went to the vault. She retrieved stacks of \$20's and \$10's. She spent the next 10 minutes counting out the \$5,000.

"Is there anything else I can do for you today?" the cashier asked irritated.

The old lady put \$10 in her purse and said . . . "Yes, I'd like to deposit \$4,900 into my account."

The moral of this tale . . .

Don't mess with the older generation.

They spent a lifetime learning the skills to deal with people!



# Easter Service 2021 "Back in Business"





# "Mommy, can We Take Her Home?"



These are the words of 9-year-old Hazel Allinder, when she saw a homeless woman in the Madera City Park. "I want her to know what a house looks like" Hazel added.

Hazel's Mother, Sarah Allinder of Madera, thought a moment and answered, "We're not able to do that right now, but I have an Idea how we might help." So they went to Target, bought several back packs, and loaded them with crackers, granola bars, blankets, socks, water, tooth brushes and tooth paste, garbage bags and other non-perishable items.

Hazel and her father, Norm, returned to the Park, and the woman was there with her "adorable" dog, resting on top of the woman's cart. The dog jumped into Hazel's arms with a wagging tail. "I wanted to give this to you," Hazel said to the woman. The woman was most grateful and touched by the fact that someone so young would want to help her. "I felt happy and kind", said Hazel.

Hazel continues giving out back packs to others, always accompanied by an adult. She encourages other young

people to do the same. "Those folks deserve a lot better", she said.

"Hazel has always had compassion when she sees homeless people", her mother added "and we are very strict to make certain an adult is with her".

Another time, when Hazel was with her Grandmother, Pam Gerster, she noticed a man sitting on a curb by the Post Office near Costco. "Can we give him some money, Grammy?", Hazel begged. "Let's give him something else that will make him smile", said her Grandmother. They went immediately to a nearby Mexican restaurant and purchased a gift card. "The man was very pleased", Hazel said.

Her advice to others is, "Don't be afraid of people who are homeless, just talk to them and be friendly. It will make you smile and make them feel happy. And it will make you feel happy, too.", Hazel added.

Hazel's mom Sarah said they couldn't stress enough the importance of having an adult always accompany the child. "I leave the conversation and the presentation to Hazel," she said, "but am always close by". "The life lesson is, compassion speaks for itself and her family is enormously proud of her."

Hazel is a 4th grade student at John Adams Elementary School in Madera. She and her family are members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Fresno.

By: Vonny Sturgeon (559)940-7779

Contact: Sarah Allinder (559)871-7578





# Today is "The Day!

The day for fun in the sun.



Today is "The Day!"

The day to start a new.

The day to do what you like to do!

Stop watching and waiting for you today is "The Day!"

Take a photo, write a letter, write a book, the idea is all it took!

Follow your dreams, you're never to young or old to find joy unfold.

Today is "The Day!"

Sue Hays







# KINGSBLOOP TULIP SUBMISSIONS



The other two bloomed on the day before Easter.

Julie's tulip's



Diane Fake's Tulip



Tulips at the Hofmann House
What a wonderful surprise this spring
to have these come up. Thank you for
the wonderful Easter addition of color.

He has Risen | †

# KINGSBLOOP TULIP

SUBMISSIONS



Autumn's Tulip



Photo by Karen Ohanesian



Hope everyone had fun watching the tulips.

Sue Hays



# APRIL CHALLENGE



# **Morning Visitors**



Who knew there were Lutheran Canada Geese





Don't save up love like you're trying to retire on it.
Give it away like you're made of it.

ContemplativeMonk.com

# Notes of Gratitude



### News worthy THANK YOU's for April 2021!

Thank you to Julie for ordering seeds for our Earth Day Challenge and organizing Give and Take Day!

Thank you Kathy for helping with mailing, labeling and posting results to our GSLC Newsletter !

Joyfully submitted by

Sue Hays



### **Big Thank You to GSLC**

Thank you to Everyone For Donating to Westside Rescue!!
They are near and dear to my heart,
Sue Hays



### Earth Sunday Thank You to the People of GSLC

Thank you for being a congregation who cares about God's creation! Thank you to everyone who so generously brought plants to share. Special thanks to Sue H. and Jennifer N. for bringing SO MANY!! What a blessing  $\bigcirc$  Shalom.



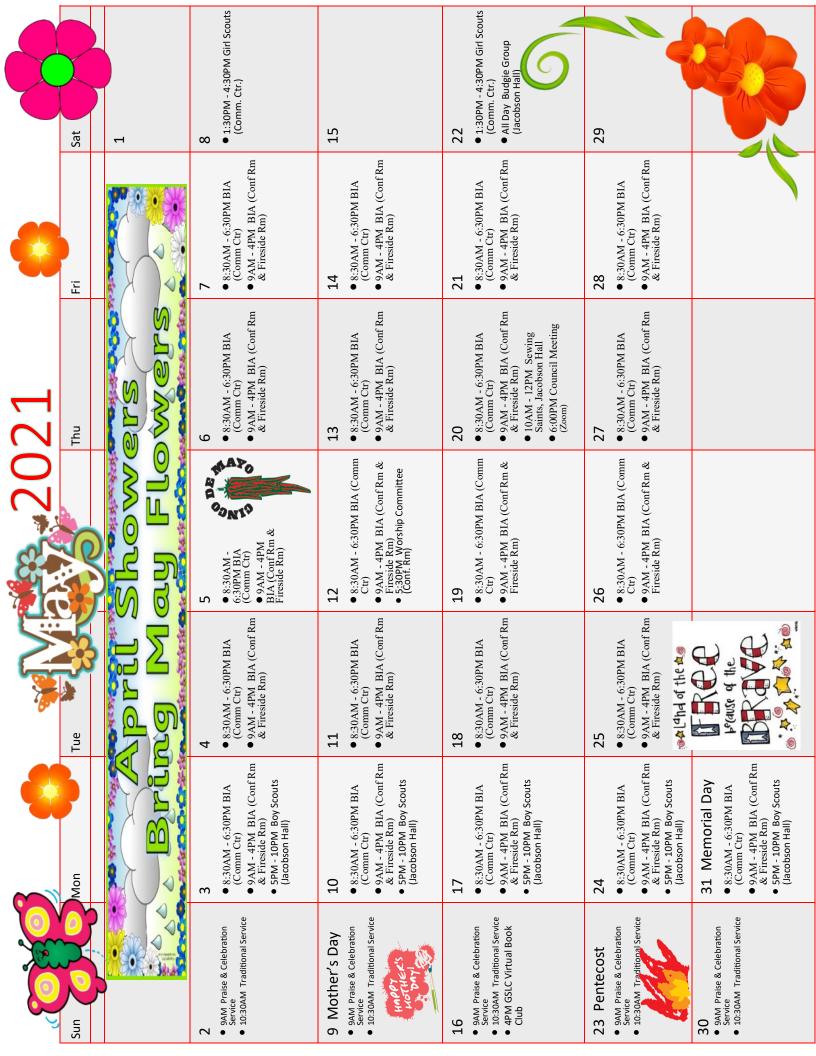
Julie Werfelmann

### 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. In this trying time of separation, the Newsletter is vital to keeping connected. **God Bless!! Kathy** 







### 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

President of the Congregation: Yvonne Smith

**Organist: Susan Berg** 

Praise Band Leader: Paul Bolm

Youth Ministries: Julie Werfelmann

**Church Office Secretary: Kathy Edison** 

Praise & Celebration Worship 9:00 am

Traditional Worship 10:30 am

Adult Sunday School at 10:30 am

Office Hours Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Phone: (559) 225-2092

Church office e-mail: gslcfresno@att.net

Pastor Ted's office e-mail: PastorTedGSLC@gmail.com

Church Web Site: www.fresnogslc.org

Please join us on Facebook



