

# The Shepherd's Voice

## October 2024

### GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT Sharing The Love of Jesus



**PASTOR TED NIEMI**

Telephone:  
(559) 225-2092

**Church Office Email:**  
gslcfresno@att.net

**Pastor Ted's Office  
Email:**

PastorT-  
yedGSLC@gmail.com

Web Site:  
www.fresnogslc.org

Gslcfresno

gslc\_fresno



You are welcome  
to join us at  
Good Shepherd  
Lutheran Church

*"But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus." --Romans 3:21-24 (NIV)*

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, October 27, we will celebrate the 507<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. You might be wondering why we recognize it each year. Why is it such a big deal? It was on October 31, 1517, that Martin Luther posted the *Ninety-Five Theses* to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, sparking the Protestant Reformation.

Luther, before he came to his understanding of a God of grace, believed in an angry God. This was a God that demanded penance and retribution for every sin you ever committed. This was a God to be feared. I don't think I'd be Lutheran, or Christian, today if that were the case. The rebel in me would get too much of a charge. If God's forgiveness was nearly unobtainable, why try at all?

While reading the Book of Romans Luther's faith came alive. He finally understood that God doesn't love us when we deserve it, because that's not going to happen. It is only by grace through our faith that we are saved. Since you can't earn salvation it's a gift. That means you don't have to worry about going to hell, if such a place exists. Now, that is a God I can be excited about having a relationship with!

Luther's understanding of God went from fear to faith, from Good Friday to Easter. I hope this is the understanding you have of the way your relationship with God works. There is nothing to fear. God's grace and love are greater than our sin.

I look forward to celebrating the Reformation with you! Why not do something truly "reformational" and invite someone to join you for worship this Reformation Sunday? If their understanding of God's undeserved and unlimited grace needs some adjustment you are doing them a favor. See you at worship!

God's Peace,

Pastor Ted



## Prayer Concerns

### Members Needing

#### Prayer:

Mona White  
Mary Schmidt  
Kay Schumacher  
Betty Montgomery  
Neil and Verna Walden  
Liz Smith  
Bill Biggs  
Mary Norris & Family  
Connie Alvarado  
Jocelyn Miller  
Kirsten Linder  
Jim Thompson

### Family and Friends:

Ivonne Garcia (Yvonne)  
(Zamora)  
Please pray for the Husband,  
Ken, family and friends of Paige  
Dose on her passing. (Fake)  
Barbara Shakespeare  
Kristin & Penelope Almeda  
(McQuillans)  
Please pray for the family and  
friends of Jeanne Grant on her  
passing. (Anderson)  
Brian (Hays)  
Phoebe (Neer)  
Phil (Anderson)  
Gary Assmussen (Deuker's  
Cousin)  
Irene Goldman (Dueker)  
Jennifer Wenzel (Wilk)  
Betty (Anderson)  
Tonya (White)  
Shanese (White)  
Dirk Rathwick (Norris)  
Zyg Zee (Norris)  
  
Claire (Vonny)  
Janet Sharp (Fake)  
Anthony Collichio (Norris)  
Mickey Cecil (Norris)  
Dorothy Lee Bruce (Julie)  
Monica & Kyle Sedra  
(Werfelmann)  
Jacob, Abbe & Family  
(Werfelmann)  
Melissa (Sandy T.)  
Joy Kensinger (Miller)  
Frank and Anita Porco (Vonny)  
Jim D. (Norris)  
Jade Dixon (Julie)  
Pam (Smith)  
Grace Johnson (Fake)  
Hudson Otten (Anderson)  
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)  
Rosemary (Vonny)

**GOD  
HEARS  
YOUR  
PRAYERS**



Liz Smith – 10/08  
Susan Berg – 10/09  
Francis Sullivan – 10/13  
Arlene Robbins – 10/15  
Ted Miller – 10/23  
James Thompson –  
10/29

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



Brenda Hofmann – 10/01  
Linda Roberts – 10/11  
Mark Sanchez – 10/15  
Kurt Niemi – 10/17



If anyone has an anniver-  
sary this month, we do  
not have the info. Please  
email it to Kathy.

### PRAYERS FOR

All Good Shepherd Families Who Have Lost Loved Ones, Members of Our Military  
Service, First Responders, & Those Affected by Illness, Natural Disasters and War.  
*For Prayer Requests Call or email the Church Office 225-2092/gslcfresno@att.net*

STEWARDSHIP OF WORSHIP & OFFERINGS		Sept. 1, 2024	Sept. 8, 2024	Sept. 15, 2024	Sept. 22, 2024
Attendance		53	65	56	50
General Fund		\$11,320.00	\$1,985.00	\$2,420.00	\$3,550.00
Special Memorial (designated funds)					
ELCA Disaster Response World Hunger/Malaria (designated funds)					
Community Center Capital Fund		Loose Plate: \$10.00	Loose Plate: \$20.00	Loose Plate: \$20.00 Community Ctr: \$2,600.00	Loose Plate: \$10.00
Loose Plate					
Special Mission Project Gifts (designated funds)			Oktoberfest: \$100.00		Oktoberfest: \$1,285.00 Special Gifts: \$650.00
BIA Rent/ Property Use/ Misc.					Property Use: \$580.00
		\$11,330.00	\$2,105.00	\$5,040.00	\$6,075.00



## September Financials

**YOUR GIVING  
MATTERS!**

Our deposits for September were: \$25, 214.08

Our expenses for September were:: \$26,338.82

Many, many thanks to the congregation for your very generous donations in September. In comparison, our August income was \$13,416.99, an increase in September of \$11,797.09. We have received donations for the mortgage and special gifts including donations for the upcoming Oktoberfest, the new outside banner and much more.

In October we are expecting more Oktoberfest ticket sales, silent auction income, and a generous donation from Julie's son's law firm. McLaughlin Dixon.

Our September expenses were less than in August by \$4,260.86 and included our usual expenses. A brief recap includes, PG&E, water, additional automatic lights for the property, church supplies, payroll, payroll taxes, insurance, phone bill, and copier expenses.

Thank you for all the good that you do each and every day.

My best regards to all,

Dana Biggs  
Treasurer

four  
WAYS to  
GIVE



Mail-In

| 5140 N. Fruit Ave. |



Online Giving

| [www.fresnogslc.org](http://www.fresnogslc.org) |



Drop Off  
In-Person



| Use your mobile  
device to scan this  
QR code and give  
via Venmo. |



Don't  
Forget  
Your  
**Pledge**  
This Summer



## CHECK OUT THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS !



### Coffee Hour

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



### Coffee Hostess Leftovers Sunday

We'll be doing a Leftover Sunday every last Sunday of the month. Steve will freeze those cookies or cakes, so they they'll still be fresh. Also, if you have any leftover snacks you'd like to contribute, bring them in any other Sunday - Steve will freeze those too!

## OCTOBER UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 4 - Oktoberfest Set Up @ 6PM—10PM, Comm Ctr & Jacobson Hall
- Oct. 5 - Oktoberfest @ 5PM—8PM, Comm Ctr & Jacobson Hall
- Oct. 5 - LHN Free Neighborhood Market @ 9AM—1PM, International Worship Ctr Host
- Oct. 13 - Pet Blessing @ 2PM, Court Yard
- Oct. 14 - Esther Circle @ 6PM, Comm Ctr
- Oct. 17 - Council Meeting @ 6PM, Conf Rm
- Oct. 20 - GSLC Book Club @ 4PM, Comm Ctr
- Oct. 21 - OWLS @ 12PM, Jacobson Hall
- Oct. 27 - Reformation Sunday Service @ 10AM
- Oct. 27 - Spooky Potluck and Pumpkin Carving @ 11-12:30PM
- Oct. 28 - GSLC Trunk or Treat @ 5-6:30PM, Circle Drive
- Oct. 30 - Staff Meeting @ 10AM, Pr. Ted's Office

OCT 31 **HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!**



### LHN Free Neighborhood Market 10/7 @ International Worship Ctr, 9 -11 a.m.



There will be a drive through food distribution of the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market on Saturday, 10/7, from 9-11 a.m. at the International Worship Ctr. located at 3140 N. Argyle Ave. You can come for any or all and don't need to have signed up. Central CA Food Bank will provide gloves, but volunteers need to bring their own masks if desired and wear close toed shoes. As in the past, **anyone planning to volunteer on Saturday 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 anyone you know who could benefit and with those who might want to volunteer. Questions can be directed to Julie @ [13jdixon13@gmail.com](mailto:13jdixon13@gmail.com) or 559-287-3457.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry.





## Pet Blessing Oct. 13 @ 2PM, Court Yard

We will be having our Blessing of the Animals Service once again this year. We will gather in the courtyard with our animal companions @ 2 PM on October 13th. Pets of all kinds are welcome to join us as long as they are leashed or in carriers. Each and every pet will receive a blessing and a certificate as we join together to thank God for our animal friends. Please spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors to bring their pets, too. It'll be a "pawsome" time for all!



## Reformation Sunday. Spooooky Potluck—10/27

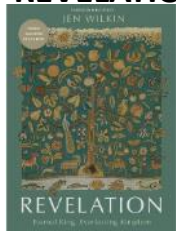
Please plan to wear your red for worship on 10/27, since it is the closest Sunday to October 31st and thus designated as Reformation Sunday. Please also plan to bring something to share with the congregation for a "Spooooky Potluck" after worship in Jacobson. It's fun to get creative with what you make - or at least what you name it! There will also be pumpkins for carving for any who desire to do so. All are welcome to join in this congregational meal as we celebrate both Halloween and the Great Reformation that Martin Luther began!

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## GSLE Wednesday Evening Bible Study WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30

### "REVELATION - Eternal King, Everlasting Kingdom"



Written by Jen Wilkin It is an 11-session study, we will finish before Thanksgiving.

"Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it, because the time is near." Revelation 1:3

The book of Revelation 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. Jen Wilkin helps us discover how the last book of the Bible speaks both a steady-ing word of assurance and a strong call to endure the church in every age.

Purchase your book on your own through your favorite/usual source. They are available locally in person at Majesty Bible & Gifts at Cedar and Herndon. Also, Lifeway.com, Amazon.com, Christianbook.com

**Looking forward to seeing you September 11 in the Community Center at 6:30!**

Questions? Contact Sharon 559-313-0757 (text or call).

## Hooties October 21 @ Noon

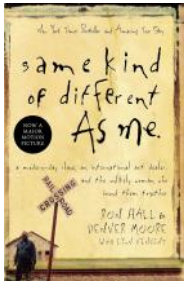


Hooties will potluck at Sandy's at NOON on Oct.

21. Guests are encouraged to bring a dish to share along with their OWN table service and cups. As usual fellowship will entail humor and fun.

## GSLC BOOK CLUB—October's Book

**"Same Kind of Different as Me" - by Ron Hall, Denver Moore, et al**



Meet Denver, raised under plantation-style slavery in Louisiana until he escaped the "Man" in the 1960's by hopping a train. Untrusting, uneducated, and violent, he spends 18 years on the streets of Dallas and Fort Worth.

Meet Ron Hall, a self-made millionaire in the world of high-priced deals—an international arts dealer who moves between upscale New York galleries and celebrities.



It seems unlikely that these two men would meet under normal circumstances, but when Deborah Hall, Ron's wife, meets Denver, she sees him through God's eyes of compassion. When Deborah is diagnosed with cancer, she charges Ron with the mission of helping Denver.

From this request, an extraordinary friendship forms between Denver and Ron, changing them both forever. A tale told in two unique voices, Same Kind of Different as Me weaves two completely different life experiences into one common journey. There is pain and laughter, doubt and tears, and in the end a triumphal story that readers will never forget. --Amazon

Join us for a lively discussion on Sunday, October 20, at 4:00 in the Conference Room.

You are welcome to be with us any month a book strikes your fancy!!



## KingsMen/Kids Will Return Jan. 29th

Next KingsMen/Kids meeting will be on January 29, 2025. So no meetings for the rest of the year due to the holidays. Thanks.



## MCC Thrift Desperately Needs Volunteers

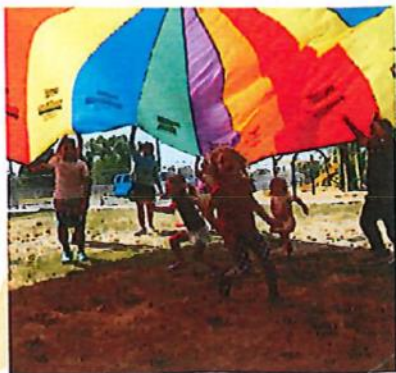
MCC Thrift on Blackstone desperately needs volunteers to take donations, sort, price, and wait on customers. If you have a few hours a week to give, we would love to have you join the team. Proceeds from the store benefit world relief. If you have questions or would like a volunteer application, please call Kathy @ MCC Thrift 831-7567. The application can also be found on the store website: <https://mccthrift.com/volunteer>.





# JOIN US AT Saturday Sports!

Starting Oct  
12th!



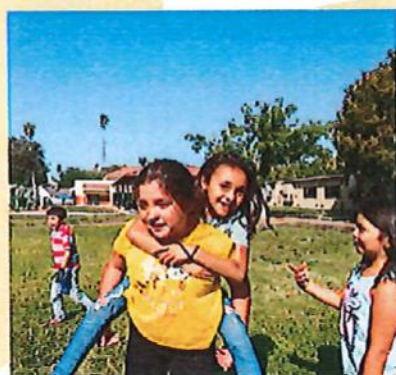
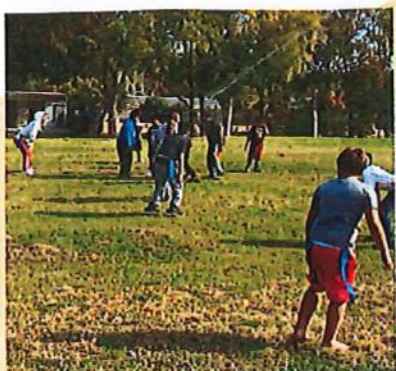
**2nd Saturday**  
10:00am-12:00pm



**Roeding  
Elementary**



**Lunch Provided**



**THERE WILL BE:**

**Sports  
Crafts  
Games**

**FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY!**

**PARENTS  
WELCOME!**

No RSVP Needed  
[everyneighborhood.org/saturdaysports](http://everyneighborhood.org/saturdaysports)



**Every  
Neighborhood  
Partnership**







# fall events

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>

Times: 5-8pm, 11-12:30pm, 5-6:30pm

for Music,  
FOOD, GaMeS,  
crAftS, and  
so MuCh more!

Join Us at Our  
Oktoberfest,  
Spooky Potluck  
and Trunk or Treat



GSLC  
5140 N. Fruit Ave.  
559-225-2092  
[fresnogslc.org](http://fresnogslc.org)





# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Invites You to Oktoberfest 2024

We will be holding our 2024 Oktoberfest  
Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 5—8 pm at:  
**5140 N. Fruit Ave.**

- Fun & Food (Bratwurst, sauerkraut and potato salad)
- Music
- Boutique Beer
- Vendors
- Silent Auction
- Tickets on sale Sunday Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> Thru Sep. 29<sup>th</sup>  
TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED M-F, 9AM-1PM in the  
office, OR AT CHURCH ON Sundays before and after  
the service. (ADULTS \$25 & CHILDREN \$12)







Valley Wide  
Homes



Good Shepherd  
Lutheran Church

have paired up again for



**Monday, October 28th  
from 5:00-6:30**

@ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
5140 N. Fruit Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93711

### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

**\*Provide a car at the event**

**\*Provide us with candy to give out at the event!**

Please reach out to Julie-13JDixon13@gmail.com or  
Sarah-Sarah@ValleyWideSells.com or Lisa-Lisa@vwhl.com  
if you can help!

**CANDY! FUN ACTIVITIES! AND  
MORE!!**



## **It's Fall ! A Time for Thanksgiving**

**Our Good Shepherd family will once again be providing Thanksgiving meals to families at Roeding School. Last year we provided meals for 24 families.**

**Please bring canned or dried food stuffs to church - a pink bin will be in the Narthex for donations or you may drop them off with Kathy in the office M-F, 9am-1pm.**

### **Food Suggestions:**

- |                                   |                           |                   |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>1. Canned Fruit</b>            | <b>5. Canned Yams</b>     | <b>10. Jell-O</b> |
| <b>2. Green Beans *</b>           | <b>6. Peanut Butter</b>   |                   |
| <b>3. French Onion*</b>           | <b>7. Grape Jelly</b>     |                   |
| <b>Rings</b>                      |                           |                   |
| <b>4. Cream of Mushroom Soup*</b> | <b>8. Mashed Potatoes</b> |                   |
|                                   | <b>9. Cornbread Mix</b>   |                   |

**\*(these 3 make an easy casserole)**

**Checks can be made out to Good Shepherd with a memo " thanksgiving basket fund". Pam will happily shop with any monies. Thank you so much to our Good Shepherd family 's past and present generosity.**

**Yours in Christ, Pam Gerster,  
Stewardship (559-999-5443)**







**HUNGER RELIEF**  
**GSLC Food Pantry**  
**Monday—Friday**  
**9:00am - 1:00pm**

Non-perishables items such as: rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables, canned meats, chili beans, soups, boxed pasta meals, peanut butter n' jelly are available in the food pantry.

If you or someone you know is in need, please call to make arrangements with our Office Assistant, Kathy, to pick up some food.

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church**  
**5140 N. Fruit Ave, Fresno, CA 93711**  
**(559)225-2092**

Each month, the Lutheran Hunger Network holds a free Neighborhood Market (where some perishables items are available) the first Saturday of each month, 9am – 1pm. The current location can be found on our website located at: [www.fresnogsic.org](http://www.fresnogsic.org).

\*Good Shepherd Lutheran hosts this food distribution in February and September.



First Congregational Church of Fresno

presents a

# **BACHTOBER CONCERT**

Featuring the Organ Works of  
**Johann Sebastian Bach**



Sunday, October 13, at 3:00 p.m.

Scott Horton, organist

Admission Free - Freewill Offering to support the Casavant Pipe Organ

First Congregational Church of Fresno, U.C.C.

2131 North Van Ness Boulevard


Information: 227-8489





FRESNO CHORAL ARTISTS PRESENT

# Unclouded Day



Songs of Grief and Hope



Sat. October 26, 2024

5:00 PM; Willow Avenue  
Mennonite Church

Adeline Hollingsworth, Artistic Director

Jordan Williams, Collaborative Pianist

Featuring:

The University High School  
Acabellas & Acafellas

 [fresnochoralartists.org](http://fresnochoralartists.org)

\$20 General Admission \$10 Student Admission



# Honduras Mission Trip! Dec 2024

Hello friends,

We are gearing up to build our **22nd home** in Roatan! Over the last 11.5 years, God has used this network to bless 21 families with secure homes. We have a team headed back in Dec to build a home for the Monge family.

Nolvia is a single mom with two children: Sirey (5 1/2, first grade) & Axel (3). Her husband of six years abandoned the family two years ago. Nolvia was able to complete high school, which is quite rare in Honduras. She currently works as a cook in a restaurant, making **\$22 a day**.

Nolvia also takes care of her mom, Martha, and her younger brother, Ronald (15). They both live with her, and Ronald works at any job he can get to help with family expenses. He dropped out of school in 6th grade to work. Nolvia has worked hard to purchase land for a home, and she is doing her best to provide a future for her family. Our desire is to bless them with a secure home. I included a photo of the family below, and I attached a photo of a recently completed home (we are now including paint on all homes).

We are inviting you to partner with our team once again! Currently we have a **MATCHING DONOR** for the rest of September (total cost to build is \$22,500) so you can **double your impact** right now! Every gift helps, and you will have the joy of giving a family a secure home. I appreciate you all. All gifts are tax-deductible, and you are welcome to donate via check, Zelle, or Venmo. Please continue to pray for our funding and for our team as we head out in less than 3 months.

In His Grip,

Rudy

BULA Ministries & \*DwellingsNow

\*Some of you may have noted that I am being tagged in photos on social media frequently from Roatan. I accepted the Executive Director position for DwellingsNow last Fall. I plan to still lead 2 BULA team builds each year besides my other duties in this role. DwellingsNow is growing, and our goal is 30 homes this year. If any of you are interested in doing a build with us, please let me know =)





# ROEDING TEACHER APPRECIATION



# ROEDING

Paul and Sheri Bolm baked goodies for  
Roeding Teachers - Kaden was the taste  
tester!

RECOGNIZING  
Our Teachers





# RALLY DAY BARBEQUE 2024

Thank you Reynaldo for  
barbecuing for us!



Lots of people  
stayed after  
church for the  
Rally Day  
Bar-Be-Que!







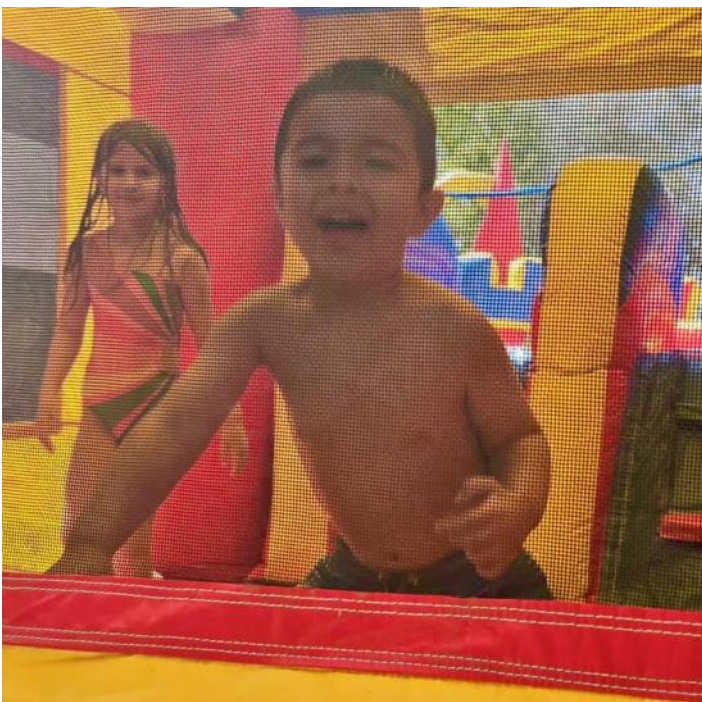




**RALLY DAY  
CELEBRATION**











# LHN Free Neighborhood Market









# Memorial Garden Committee

The Memorial Garden Committee spiffied up the Columbarium and Garden area.

A special thank you to Robert and Nels Harris for clearing off the overgrowth on the pergola.





## Memorial Garden/Columbarium Plaque Dedication

Thank you to those of you who came out after church on September 8 to attend our plaque dedication honoring those who contributed so much to the creation of our Good Shepherd Columbarium and Memorial Garden. Those attending church that day were given our brochure to take home to read and share with family members. If you do not have one, please take one from the table in Jacobson Hall or you can also find them in the office during office hours. Our Columbarium restores the churchyard tradition of on-site internments in a sacred setting of dignity and respect. Our garden provides a quiet place for prayer, reflection and remembrance. All Good Shepherd current and former members and their families are eligible to purchase a niche or a remembrance plaque for the Memorial Wall. If you have any questions, members of our committee will gladly answer them for you. Also, GS members are welcome to join our committee. If you are interested in helping us with managing the administration of the Columbarium and Memorial Garden, please see Diane or any of our committee members.

### **Your Memorial Garden Committee Members:**

Diane Fake, Chairperson

Vonny Sturgeon, Secretary

Carol Sullivan, treasurer

John Bender

Pam Gerster

Cheryl Montgomery

Francis Sullivan, Ad Hoc Member

### **History of the Columbarium at Good Shepherd:**

2006 – The idea began with GS member Bob Edwards

2007 – The initial planning stage authorized by Pr. Ted and the church council

2007 – The original planning committee was formed

2010 – Larger committee formed to decide the location & other major decisions

2012 – Officers officially elected, Vonny Sturgeon and Neil Walden as co-chairs

2013 – The area was cleared for a Groundbreaking Ceremony

2014 – Niche Unit installed and Columbarium Dedication was held



## 2013 Columbarium Groundbreaking Ceremony



*Dedicated to those who contributed so much to the creation of the Good Shepherd  
Lutheran Church Columbarium & Memorial Garden on October 12, 2014*

CO-CHAIRS  
VONNY RAE STURGEON AND NEIL WALDEN

Rev. Ted Niemi-Advisor	Jacquelyn Miller	Caroline Sullivan
Alan Hofmann	Cheryl Montgomery	Francis Sullivan
Brenda Hofmann	Mary Schmidt	Diane Fake
Janet McQuillan	Ed Sturgeon	

*Special Thanks to*

GSLC King's Men	Rick Coppo	Pam and Tom Martens	Kathy Bush	Carolyn Linn
Ernie Coppo	John Hays	Sue Brisendine	Bob Edwards	Tom Rogers

## Plaque Dedication Ceremony on September 8, 2024







September's excursion landed the OWLS at Gordon and Diane Fake's home. Guests brought an array of dishes to share upon the warm, fall themed tables. Business noted a heads-up on CA ID's and ending landline phone service. It was unanimous that \$50 would be donated to the Oktoberfest for walkie talkies.

The Turkish carpet souvenir anchored the audience as we followed the Fake's to Ankara, Turkey with its population of 5.5 million. The history of Turkey goes back thousands of years. We were shown slides of ancient artifacts from the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations.

At a local art studio, Gordon and Diane each made a piece of artwork by laying paper on top of a pan of water with colored oil floating on top that they swirled with a stick to make a unique design. This is called paper marbling or Ebru. We expect to see their work framed the next time they host.

Next we saw slides of the ancient site of Hattusas, the capital of the great Hittite Kingdom that ruled from 1750 to 1200 BC.

In Cappadocia, the Fakes visited the legendary geological formations known as "fairy chimneys." They walked through the Goreme Open-Air Museum where they were able to visit five ancient churches carved out of the rocks known for their colorful frescoes. They even visited a family that actually lives in a home carved out of a huge rock. Instead of a balloon ride, Whirling Dervishes mesmerized them that evening. The trance-like whirling meditation called a sema frees the dervishes to reach God.

The next stop was Istanbul where the Fakes visited the famous Hagia Sophia which was a Christian Church for a thousand years, then became a Mosque, a museum and in 2020 again a mosque. Next they visited the Topkapi Palace which housed 25 sultans over a span of nearly 600 years. It is the world's oldest and largest surviving palace with one of the world's richest museums.

A flight took them to the next destination of Ephesus, the best preserved Greco-Roman city in Asia. Our guest speaker Carolyn Linn filled us in on the Biblical significance while Gordon showed slides of their walk down the main street. The most famous ruin in Ephesus is the Library of Celsus. Only the front wall of the library stands which once held 12,000 scrolls. A LOT of neutered cats are fed there. Visitors maneuver around and over the sleeping felines.

We look forward to seeing the second half of this trip the next time the Fakes host. For you see, sometimes as many as 4,000 slides are taken on one trip and many hours of preparation are required. And with that we thank the Fakes IMMENSELY!



# OWLS





*September 29 •  
Welcome back to the Sanctuary!  
Praise Band*







# Notes of Gratitude

## Thank You Everybody!

Mary and Dana would like to say thank you to everyone that had a hand in putting on the 1st Annual Oktoberfest. We couldn't have done it without everybody chipping in and getting the work done.

Mary N. & Dana B.



## 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.

**God Bless!! Kathy**



# OCTOBER 2024

HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	2 • 6:30PM Wednesday Evening Bible Study (Comm Ctr)	3 • 6PM - 10PM Men's Choir (Comm Ctr)	4 • 6PM - 10PM Oktoberfest Set-Up (Comm Ctr & Jacobson Hall)	5 • 8-1PM LHN Free Neighborhood Market, International Worship Ctr. • 5PM - 8PM Oktoberfest (Comm Ctr & Jacobson Hall) • 1PM - 4PM Girl's Scouts
6 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	7	8 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	9 • 6:30PM Wednesday Evening Bible Study (Comm Ctr)	10 • 6PM - 10PM Men's Choir (Comm Ctr)	11	12
13 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	14 • 6:00PM Esther Circle, Fireside Rm	15 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	16 • 6:30PM Wednesday Evening Bible Study (Comm Ctr)	17 • 6PM - 10PM Men's Choir (Comm Ctr) • 6:00PM Council (Conf. Rm)	18	19
20 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light • 2PM Pet Blessing, Court Yard	21 • 12PM OWLS (Jacobson Hall)	22 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	23 • 6:30PM Wednesday Evening Bible Study (Comm Ctr)	24 • 6PM - 10PM Men's Choir (Comm Ctr) • 6:30PM—8PM Trunk or Treat (Circle Dr)	25	26
27 Reformation Sunday • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11:30AM Pumpkin Carving/Spooky Potluck	28	29 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	30 • 6:30PM Wednesday Evening Bible Study (Comm Ctr)	31 Happy Halloween! • 6PM - 10PM Men's Choir (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 : Mary Norris**

**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**

**Church office e-mail: [gslcfresno@att.net](mailto:gslcfresno@att.net)**

**Pastor Ted's office e-mail:**

**[PastorTedGSLC@gmail.com](mailto:PastorTedGSLC@gmail.com)**

**Church Web Site: [www.fresnogslc.org](http://www.fresnogslc.org)**

[www.fresnogslc.org](http://www.fresnogslc.org)

Facebook: [gslcfresno](https://www.facebook.com/gslcfresno)

Instagram: [gslc\\_fresno](https://www.instagram.com/gslc_fresno)

