



The Shepherd's Voice

August 2025

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



PASTOR TED NIEMI

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Pastor Ted's Office

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Gslcfresno



gslc_fresno

**You are welcome
to join us at
Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church**

Dear Friends,

I remember my dad, years ago, saying if he was going to be brought up on any heresy it would be universal salvation. That means that everyone is going to Heaven. There is no eternal suffering for anyone.

For some people they figure there needs to be a cosmic balance. If there is a Heaven, there must be a Hell. That makes sense to our logical way of thinking. Most of us have those in mind that we figure are probably in Hell. Hitler. Osama Bin Laden. Judas. Fill in the blank with your own favorites.

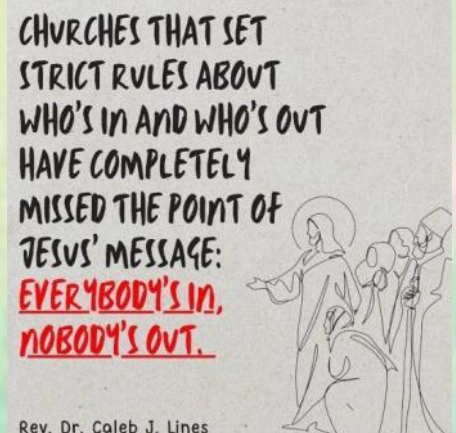
But what if God's grace is so big and unimaginable that everyone is included in Heaven? Could God's love be so great as to create the possibility that those who are the most monstrous among us could also be redeemed? I don't feel comfortable putting any limits on what God can do. If God can do anything God can do that. That's an amazing amount of love!

By the way, if you believe in Hell that's ok too. There is room for differing ideas at Good Shepherd! We learn by sharing where we are coming from.

I look forward to worshipping with you this month to celebrate our God whose love is limitless.

God's Peace,

Pastor Ted



Rev. Dr. Caleb J. Lines

Prayer Concerns

Members Needing Prayer:

Mona White
Julie Werfelmann
Rev. Dr. Arlynne Turnquist
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 Friend:

Pauline Ritterbush
Jo Anderson
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)
Irene Goldman (Dueker)
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)



Sheri Bolm – 8/01
Whitney Linder – 8/01
Jim Sanborn – 8/04
Janet McQuillan – 8/07
Stacy Lairson – 8/15
Sue Oliver - 8/23
Jo Ann Huebner – 8/25
Madelynn Pattillo – 8/29
Paul Bolm – 8/31
*Any one that has seen a missing or incorrect birthday, baptismal, or anniversary date please contact Kathy in the office. 559-225-2092

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Julie Werfelmann – 8/01
Bill Biggs – 8/12
Michelle Wilson – 8/16
William Hayes – 8/20
Heather Walker – 8/27
Steve Smith – 8/27
Dana Biggs – 8/31

AUGUST Anniversaries

Art/Janet Mehl - 8/10
Sean/Suzanne Walker - 8/20
Paul/Sheri Bolm - 8/20
Francis/Carol Sullivan - 8/22
Ted/Norma Miller - 8/26
Jim/Ruth Thompson - 8/30

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	July 6, 2025	July 13, 2025	July 20, 2025	July 27, 2025
Attendance	47		52	47
General Fund	\$24,840.28	\$7,232.00	\$4,163.00	\$2,195.00
Special Memorial (designated funds)				
ELCA Disaster Response World Hunger/Malaria (designated funds)				
Community Center Capital Fund Loose Plate	Comm. Ctr: 120.00 Loose Plate: \$20.00	Community Ctr:	Community Ctr: \$	Community Ctr: 50.00 Loose Plate:\$
Special Mission Project Gifts (designated funds)	Special Gifts: 120.00	Special Gifts: 517.00	Special Gifts: 678.00	Special Gifts: 243.90
House Rent/ Property Use/ Misc.	House Rent: 3,880.00 Property Use: 420.00			House Rent: 3,880.00
	\$29,400.28	\$7,749.00	\$4,841.00	\$6,368.90

July Financials

**YOUR GIVING
MATTERS!**

Greetings Good Shepherd Members and Friend,

We are so very fortunate to have received Covid funds this month for year 2021. Our income and expenses are reflected the chart below. Our expenses have remained the same except for the purchase of a new financial computer. The old one ceased to function.

We continue to be blessed with HVAC donations from members and from our **Go Fund Me** account with PayPal. At the end of July our HVAC account totals **\$54,379.00**.

Many thanks for your continued generosity and commitment.

Yours in Christ,

Dana Biggs

Treasurer

Month	Income	Expenses	Difference
January	\$25,373.56	\$36,900.42	(\$11,526.86)
February	\$19,059.07	\$20,490.82	(\$1,431.75)
March	\$38,406.00	\$17,168.22	\$21,237.78
April	\$59,735.11	\$38,157.74	\$21,577.37
May	\$31,266.09	\$27,520.55	\$3,745.54
June	\$33,233.47	\$31,629.64	\$1,603.83
July	\$48,359.18	\$28,990.17	\$19,369.01
August			\$0.00
September			\$0.00
October			\$0.00
November			\$0.00
December			\$0.00
Total	\$255,432.48	\$200,857.56	\$54,574.92

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GIVE



Mail-In

| 5140 N. Fruit Ave. |

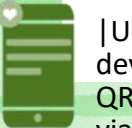


Online Giving

| www.fresnogslc.org |



Drop Off
In-Person



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



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 Aug./Sept. If you are able to host/hostess for a Sunday, please sign up in Jacobson Hall.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug. 2** - LHN Free Neighborhood Market @ 8-12PM
- Aug. 2** - GSLC Summer Book Club @ 9:30AM, Comm Ctr
- Aug. 3 & 10** - **VBS @ 5:45PM (Dinner); 6:30PM (Classes)**
- Aug. 6** Worship Committee Meeting @ 4:30PM, Pr. Ted's Office
- Aug. 15** - Council Meeting @ 6PM, Jacobson Hall
- Sept. 3** Worship Committee @ 4:30PM, Pt. Ted's Office
- Sept. 6** - God's Work, Our Hands Work Day @ 8AM—1PM, Jacobson Hall
- Sept. 6** - LHN Free Neighborhood Market 9AM-12PM, GSLC Host
- Sept. 7** - Rally Day Service @ 10AM, Sanctuary
- Sept. 7** - Rally Day Celebration @ 11:15AM, Jacobson Hall
- Sept. 8** - Esther Circle @ 6:30PM, Conf Rm
- Sept. 10** - Wednesday Evening Bible Study, Comm Ctr
- Sept. 15** - OWLS @ 1pm, The Fake's Home
- Sept. 18** - Council Meeting @ 6PM, Conf Rm
- Sept. 21** - GSLC Book Club @ 4PM, Comm Ctr
- Sept. 24** - Staff Meeting @ 10AM, Pr. Ted's Office
- Sept. 24** - KingsMen/KingKids @ 6:30PM, Jacobson Hall



"At the Table" VBS @ 5:45!



Our Vacation Bible School will be on 8/3, and 8/10. Please join us for some summer fun, friends, & food! The schedule will be as follows:

Dinner: 5:45-6:15

Opening: 6:15 followed by classes for all ages 6:30-7:30

Snacks & Music: 7:30-8

Urgently Needed: Volunteer—Instagram Posts

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



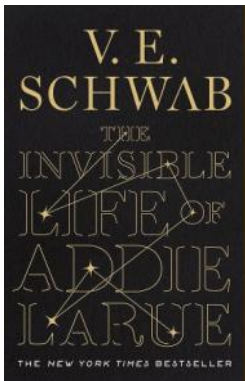
GSLC SUMMER BOOK CLUB

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2 9:30 am in the Community Center

"The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue" by V E Schwab

(rated 4.5 on Amazon, 4.2 on Goodreads)

A Life No One Will Remember. A Story You Will Never Forget.



France, 1714: in a moment of desperation, a young woman makes a Faustian bargain to live forever—and is cursed to be forgotten by everyone she meets.

Thus begins the extraordinary life of Addie LaRue, and a dazzling adventure that will play out across centuries and continents, across history and art, as a young woman learns how far she will go to leave her mark on the world.

But everything changes when, after nearly 300 years, Addie stumbles across a young man in a hidden bookstore and he remembers her name.

(Available at your favorite book seller, and the Fresno County Public Library in a variety of formats.)

Questions? Contact Sharon Rowley

LHN Free Neighborhood Market 8/2 @ 9—12PM



There will be a food distribution of the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market on Saturday, 8/2, from 9-11 a.m. at Hope Lutheran, 5425 N. Fresno. 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 or 559-287-3457.

Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry.

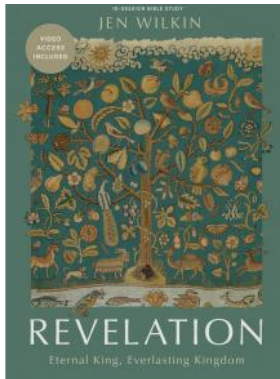
Calling all volunteers! Please mark your calendars now and plan to come help feed people at the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market next month. We are hosting the distribution on Sept. 6th, and need at least 25-30 people to help sort and bag produce, to sign in vehicles and load cars, 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

Wednesday Bible Study—Fall 2025

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.

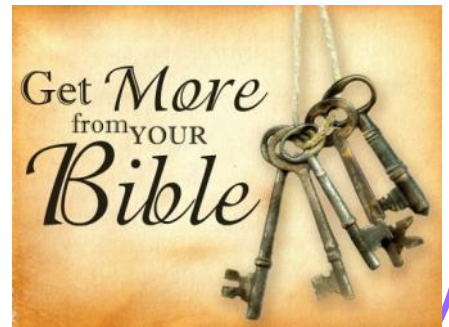


"No other book of the Bible feels as inaccessible and as intimidating to us as *Revelation*. It overflows with images and ideas that confound our modern ears. But if all Scripture is God breathed and profitable, we should assume Revelation is as accessible and helpful as any other book of the Bible. 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 steadying word of assurance and a strong call to endure to the church in every age."

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.

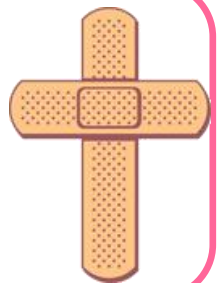
Come join us in September as we study again, with new eyes, all that God has for us in the final book of our Bibles. You really don't want to miss this!! Questions? Contact Sharon Andrasen Rowley or ask one of the Good Shepherd regular attendees of the Wednesday evening studies.

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.



Healing Sunday

The first Sundays of the month will be Healing Sunday. Personal prayers will be offered for any who so desire. Please come forward right after worship. There will also be 2 stations offering blood pressure checks. Thank you to our nurses for volunteering to provide this service!



Financial Secretary & Property Person Needed

We are still in need of a Financial Secretary. Please see Pastor Ted, Mary, or anyone on council to get more information or to volunteer. We also are in need of more counters. Thank you so much to the six of you who have already stepped up to serve in this very important position! We are also in need of a Property person.



God's Work. Our Hands.—Saturday 9/6



Our congregation will be participating again this year in the ELCA's nationwide service project on Saturday, September 6th. Lutheran congregations throughout the U.S. will be serving our communities on this particular weekend in all kinds of different ways, and Good Shepherd is no exception.

The Lutheran Hunger Network will take place here that morning, and we will also be putting together "Blessing Bags" that afternoon for our Westside Rescue friends to distribute to their human clients.

If you have any ideas for other group projects, please see Janet Mc or me. You are also more than welcome to come up with an individual project or a neighborhood project on your own. Start making your plans now as to how you'd like to participate, be sure to wear your yellow GWOH t-shirt, and take some pictures!

We hope to see everyone involved in some way. Thank You! Shalom, Julie, 559-287-3457 or 13jdixon13@gmail.com

P.S. Please see me, text, or email immediately if you don't have the yellow shirt and would like one ordered. The order has to be placed by **August 15th** to be here in time.

Food Pantry Needs Restocking

We could use: Rice, bagged pasta, canned sauces, canned vegetables (Corn, Green Beans), 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.



Crafting Fair on Rally Day: HVAC Fund!



Shout out to all crafters. There will be a craft fair at Good Shepherd on Rally Day Sept 7. Show off your crafts by donating them to the craft fair. All proceeds will go to the HVAC fund. Contact Pam Gerster for details and donations. 559-999-5443 . Remember bakers are crafters too!



KingsMen/KingsKids' Wednesday 8/27

The next KingsMen and KingsKids meeting will be on Aug. 27th, 6:30 pm. Thanks.



Tree Planting and Dedication



We finally got the tree planted! This is the one that was dedicated and blessed as a memorial to long time Bible study attendee Natalie Davison way back on Earth Sunday. It is a "Black Pearl" Redbud.

A big shout out to Mary for getting the planting spot cleared with PG&E, to Diane for photo-documenting, to Natalie's friends & loved ones for donating the tree, and to Art, Cate - and even me - for getting it planted! Trees are amazing, and we are certainly blessed to have this one on our property ♥

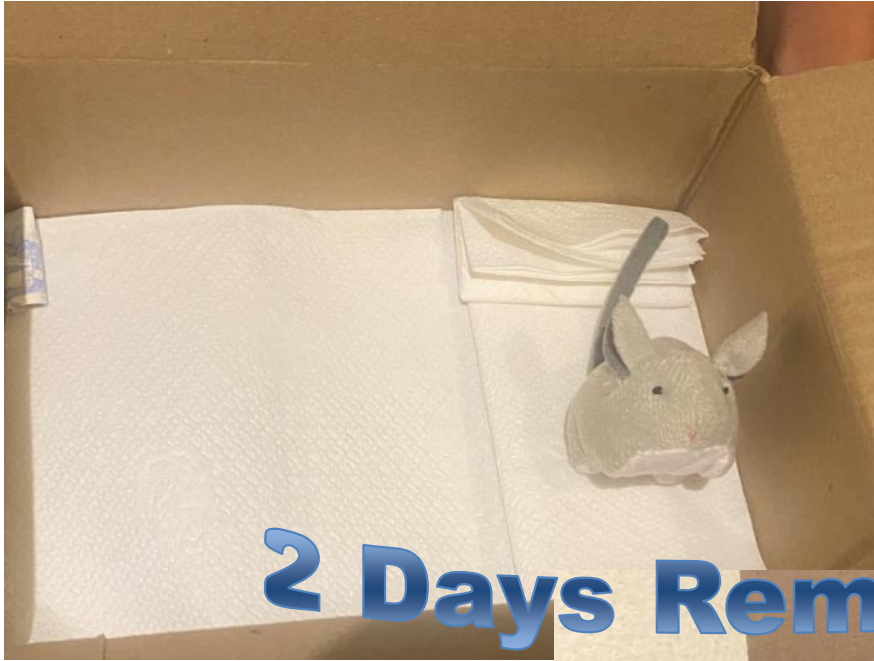






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2 Days Remaining

August 3
&
August 10



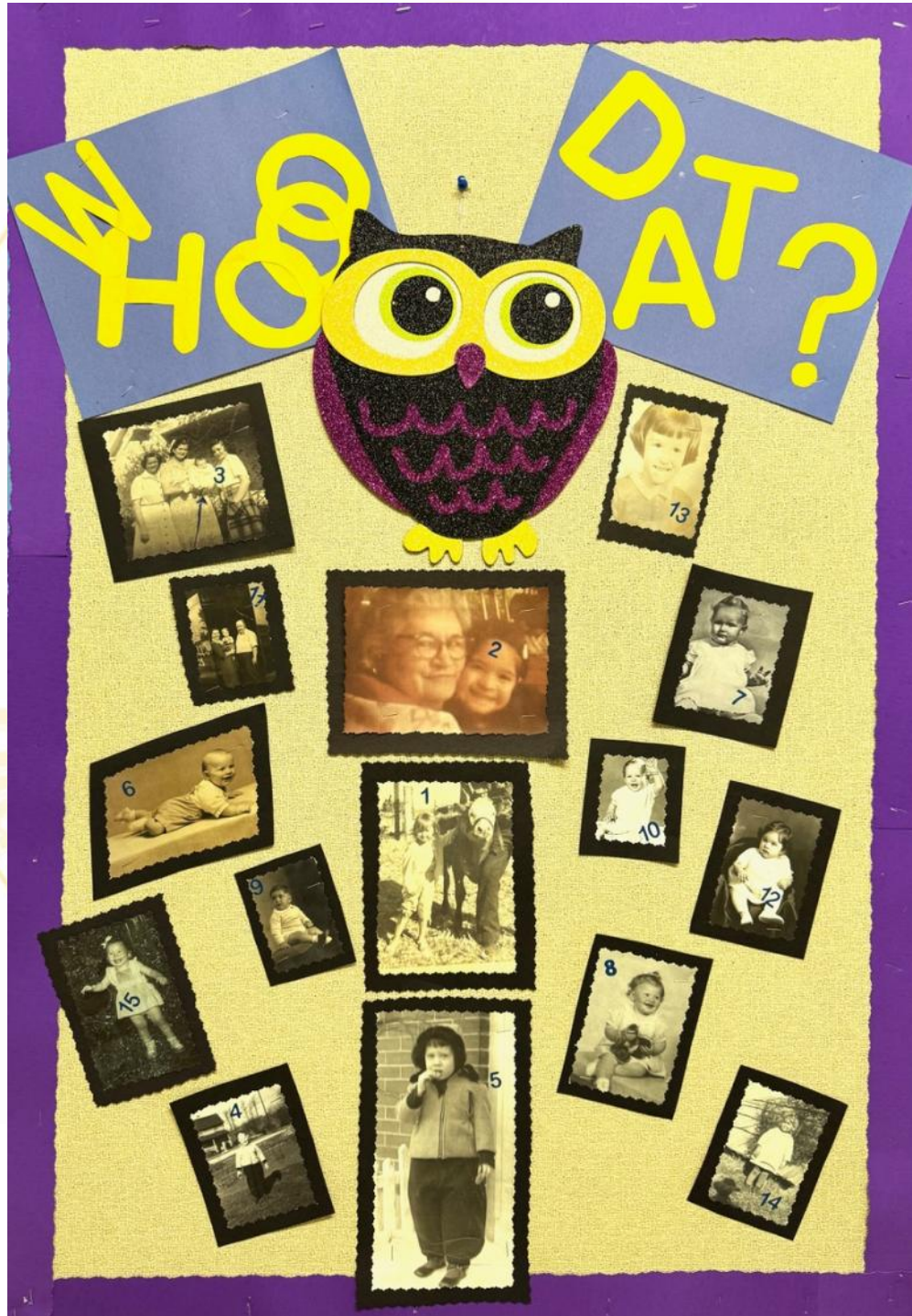


At the Table VBS for all ages continues the first 2 Sunday nights of August. Dinner begins at 5:45 and is followed by a class for adults and crafts, games, and stories for the kids. We've been having lots of fun learning about the ways God surprises people in our Bible stories and still surprises us today, too.

The food has been delicious, the conversation meaningful, and the company fabulous! Each night has its own theme and stands alone, so you are welcome to attend whichever nights fit your schedule. Many thanks to Janet and her kitchen crew for dinner each night. Hope to see you all soon!

OWLS

The OWLS' summer "Whooo Dat?" contest bulletin board, that's what! You may have noticed younger pics of our members. The contest ends in August. Only those on our daily Hootie Hollar list are eligible to vote. Members were sent the rules in May. A blue ribbon will be pinned to the winner's picture on Rally Day. Names will be pinned to each photo. Winner will be awarded \$50 at the September meeting at Sandy's. Answers sheets will be returned at that time. How many will you get right?



Notes of Gratitude

Many Thanks!!

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

August 3rd Art Mehl

August 10th Jim and Ruth Thompson

August 17th Yvonne and Steven Smith

August 24th Diane Fake and Dee Wright

August 31st Pam Gerster



AUGUST 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 ● 8-1PM LHN Free Neighborhood Market
3 VBS ● 10AM Worship Service ● 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) ● 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	4	5 ● 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	6	7	8 ● 7PM Accion de Fe (Comm Ctr)	9
10 VBS ● 10AM Worship Service ● 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) ● 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	11	12 ● 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	13	14	15	16
17 ● 10AM Worship Service ● 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) ● 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	18	19 ● 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	20	21 ● 6PM Council Meeting (Jacobson Hall)	22 ● 7PM Accion de Fe (Comm Ctr)	23
24 ● 10AM Worship Service ● 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) ● 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	25	26 ● 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	27 ● 10AM Staff Meeting (Pr. Ted's Office) ● 6:30PM KingsMen/KingsKids', Jacobson Hall	28	29	30
31 ● 10AM Worship Service ● 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) ● 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light						

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

Congregation President : Mary Norris

Organist: Susan Berg

Youth & Family Pastor: 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

Pastor Ted's office e-mail:

PastorTedGSLC@gmail.com

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

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

