



The Shepherd's Voice

November 2025

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT Sharing The Love of Jesus



PASTOR TED NIEMI

Address: 5140 N.
Fruit Ave, Fresno,
CA. 93711

Telephone:
(559) 225-2092

Church Office Email:
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Pastor Ted's Office
Email:

PastorT-
edGSLC@gmail.com

Web Site:
www.fresnogslc.org

 Gslcfresno

 gslc_fresno

You are welcome
to join us at
Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

Part of our spirituality is our giving. I am not just talking about our offerings. I am referring to the ability to sacrifice some of what we have so others can have some. I mean the ability to give our time to people who need your attention to talk or listen or help them however they may need it. Sharing is a skill many people learn in childhood. Unfortunately, some people miss this important step of maturing.

There are too many people these days that associate compassion with weakness. We live in a competitive world and society. That means there is going to be some people who do not have enough food to eat, places to stay or any of the other necessities we can take for granted. Jesus was pretty clear in the Parable of the Good Samaritan what we, as followers of Jesus, are to do today. We are to do what we can to help meet the needs of the suffering around us.

Thanksgiving is right around the corner. We are going to one of Melissa's friend's home who is like family. Many of you will be hosting your own Thanksgiving meals. This year there are going to be people who won't have enough food if our government stays closed. That is just one reason people may need help. One way to show compassion is to invite someone you know is struggling right now.

We all know what Jesus calls us to do. "Love God, love each other." Our challenge as followers of Jesus is to find what that means for us and how we can live it out. In this politically charged time where so much is up in the air it is important to have this rudder. Love God, love each other. If that is what guides you this Thanksgiving season everything else has a way of falling into place.

God's Peace,

Pastor Ted

Prayer Concerns

Members Needing

Prayer:

John Bender
The Rev. Dr. Arlynn
Turnquist has passed
into the Church Trium-
phant, please pray
comfort for Carolyn
Linn and her family.
Robert Harris
Mona White
Julie Werfelmann
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:

Dale (Werfelmann)
Randy Williams (Deuker)
Nels (Harris)
Karen Tabler (Vonny)
George Pisching (Woody W.)
Julie Schneider (Vonny)
Bill Phillips (Breanna D.)
Kaitlyn (Lisa K.)
Coach (Sandy T.)
Linda Healy (White)
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)



Deborah Wilk – 11/02
Patricia Slusser – 11/05
Brenden Novell – 11/14
Gordon Fake – 11/19
Janet Mehl – 11/22
Verna Walden – 11/25
Autumn Hays – 11/26

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

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Jill Anderson - 11/7



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	Oct. 5, 2025	Oct. 12, 2025	Oct. 19, 2025	Oct. 26, 2025
Attendance	55	38	41	42
General Fund	\$4,360.00	\$4,269.00	\$4,960.00	\$1,630.00
Special Memorial (designated funds)				
ELCA Disaster Response World Hunger/Malaria (designated funds)				
Community Center Capital Fund	Comm. Ctr: Loose Plate: \$12.00	Community Ctr: Loose Plate: \$	Community Ctr: \$ Loose Plate:	Community Ctr: Loose Plate:\$
Loose Plate				
Special Mission Project Gifts (designated funds)	Oktoberfest: \$675 Special Gifts/ HVAC:\$577.00	Special Gifts/HVAC: 52,100.00 Oktoberfest: \$1,161.00	Special Gifts/HVAC: \$100.00 Oktoberfest:\$130.00	Oktoberfest: \$100.00 OWLS: \$157.60
House Rent/ Property Use/ Misc.			House Rent: \$3,880.00	
	\$5,624.00	\$7,530.00	\$9,120.00	\$1,937.60

October Financials

**YOUR GIVING
MATTERS**

Greetings Good Shepherd Lutheran Church:

We had another Oktoberfest on October 11th.

The food was again our biggest attraction. It was amazing and delicious thanks to the culinary expertise of Steven and Yvonne Smith and their able assistant, Janet McQuillen.

Mary, our fearless President, headed the event this year. Julie Werfelman was front and center on all things Oktoberfest. Mary secured many vendors this year and again her uncle volunteered to be the event DJ. As last year, Diane Fake and Sandy Terstegen expertly headed the Silent Auction. We even had our own celebrity announcer, Dennis Hart. So many volunteers, too many to mention and thank, without which, the event would not have been successful.

We raised \$2100, which is designated for the HVAC fund. Thank you to all those who bought tickets, brought silent auction items, joined in the festivities and had fun. We appreciate each and every one of you. Our HVAC account balance is now at \$63,061.51.

Dana Biggs
Treasurer

Month	Income	Expenses	Difference
Jan.	\$25,373.56	\$36,900.42	(\$11,526.86)
Feb	\$19,059.07	\$20,490.82	(\$1,431.75)
Mar	\$38,406.00	\$17,168.22	\$21,237.78
Apr	\$59,735.10	\$38,157.74	\$21,577.36
May	\$31,266.09	\$27,520.55	\$3,745.54
Jun	\$32,525.20	\$31,279.00	\$1,246.20
Jul	\$48,359.18	\$28,990.17	\$19,369.01
Aug	\$19,429.40	\$34,628.39	(\$15,198.99)
Sep	\$22,809.66	\$29,042.21	(\$6,232.55)
Oct	\$23,583.00	\$26,895.27	(\$3,312.27)
Nov			\$0.00
Dec			\$0.00
Total	\$320,546.26	\$291,072.79	\$29,473.47

**four
WAYS to
GIVE**

Mail-In

| 5140 N. Fruit Ave., 93711 |

Online Giving

| www.fresnogslc.org |

*Drop Off
or
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 Nov./Dec. If you are able to host/hostess for a Sunday, please sign up in Jacobson Hall.

NOVEMBER UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 1** - LHN Free Neighborhood Market, Bulldog Pantry
- Nov. 5** - Worship Committee Meeting @ 4:30PM, Pr. Ted's Office
- Nov. 8** - Roeding Saturday Sports @ 10-12PM, Roeding Elementary
- Nov. 10** - Esther Circle @ 6pm, Comm Ctr
- Nov. 16** - Crop Walk @ 2PM, GSLC
- Nov. 16** - GSLC Book Club @ 4pm, Comm Ctr
- Nov. 17** - OWLS @ 12pm, Jacobson Hall
- Nov. 20** - Council Meeting @ 6pm, Jacobson Hall
- Nov. 26** - Staff Meeting @ 10AM, Pr. Ted's Office



Fresno-Clovis CROP Hunger Walk



The Fresno-Clovis CROP Hunger Walk this year will be held Sunday, November 16, 2025. Registration begins at 1:30pm and the walk starts at 2:00pm from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church located at 5140 North Fruit Ave Fresno, CA 93711. 75% of the proceeds go to Church World Service and 25% will go to the Central California Food Bank. Register online and use this link <http://crophungerwalk.org/fresnoc> and search for the Good Shepherd Lutheran Fresno to make a donation to our team. If you have any questions or need more information contact Julie Werfelmann or Janet McQuillan 259-3053

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.



OWLS Nov. 17th @ 12PM



OWLS (Older, Wise, Lutheran Seniors) are invited to share in fun and fellowship as we enjoy Woody Wilk's presentation of *"WOODY & THE USAF IN GREENLAND DURING VIETNAM"*.

We will meet in **Jacobson Hall Monday, November 17 at 1200 Hours-Noon.**

Dee Wright will be your hostess.

Please bring: Hot dish, salad or dessert to share plus Plates, napkins, tableware, and cups for you and your guest.

Hot coffee, Squirt and water will be provided.

Please HELP BY cleaning up and taking home everything you bring. Compostable bags will be provided for your dirty dishes to get home safely. Garbage container will be provided.

If you have any questions please contact Dee Wright **559-341-7248**.

Thanksgiving Baskets



The Blessings of Thanksgiving will soon be with us. Roeding School has a great need for our Thanksgiving Baskets. This year we are asking for checks and monies only designated for Thanksgiving Baskets. I will grocery shop. Thank you for your ongoing generosity for this blessing. Contact Pam Gerster 559-999-5443 for questions and donations.

HVAC GoFundMe Fundraiser

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

Support New HVAC at Good Shepherd Fresno



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.

Dear Family, Friends and Supporters,

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fresno, with it's iconic tent style roof, is in desperate need to replace the antiquated 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.

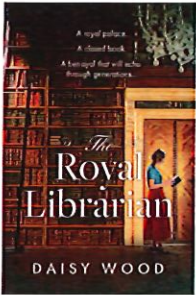
Blessings, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Fresno

Thank you, Reynaldo Villalobos

GSLC BOOK GROUP—November 16th

You are welcome to join us for a sometimes "lively" discussion of our Book of the Month.

"The Royal Librarian" by Daisy Woods



A royal palace. A closed book. A betrayal that will echo through generations...

Windsor, 1940: Secretly tasked with foiling a suspected plot, Sophie Klein is placed in the Royal Library at Windsor castle, where the princesses reside. But when she learns that Windsor is compromised, Sophie must sacrifice everything she knows to save the future queen of England...

Philadelphia, Present day: Looking through her grandmother's papers, Lacey Jones comes across a mysterious letter stamped with the Windsor Castle crest. But how did it come to be in her family's possession?

And so begins a journey that will take Lacey deep into the heart of the oldest inhabited castle in the world, and change her life forever. . .

Intrigued?? The beauty of a book club is reading something outside of your normal book choices. No long term commitment - please join us even if you don't finish your book.

Join us **Sunday, November 16 at 4:00 in the Community Center!**

LHN Free Neighborhood Market 11/1 @ Christ Lutheran Church 9—12PM



There will be a food distribution of the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market on Saturday, 11/1, from 9-11 a.m. at Christ Lutheran, 1254 N. Frankwood Ave, Reedley. 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. Thank you for your ongoing support of this ministry.

Shalom. Peace. Paz. Julie Werfelmann
13jdixon13@gmail.com; 559-287-3457



It's OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD TIME!!!!



You are invited to pack a shoebox with toys and other items to bring joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children around the world in need of hope. All you have to do is decide whether your gift will be for a boy or girl & the age category: 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14 and fill it with gifts. Shoeboxes, shoebox labels and donation forms will be in Jacobson Hall. There is a suggested donation of \$10 per box to cover shipping. We do have a family who will cover all of the shipping costs so don't let that stop you. You can even build a shoebox on line and never have to go to the store. We will be scheduling a packing party after worship in the very near future. We will be accepting boxes until No-

vember 23rd. If you have any questions, please call Julie Werfelmann 287-3457 or Janet McQuillan 259-3053.

Do Not Include

Soap is no longer allowed in shoebox gifts because of the complications it causes in customs in some nations.

SOAP; candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; scary or war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Westside Rescue's

THANKSGIVING PIE SALE

\$22

Apple*

Pecan

Peach

Cherry

Pumpkin

French Apple

Razzleberry*

Lemon Meringue

***No Sugar Added Available**

Orders/Payment

ORDERS DUE:

11/16/25 AT 8PM.

SUBMIT ORDERS TO

WESTSIDERESCUE@GMAIL.COM OR

WITH YOUR FAVORITE VOLUNTEER!

PICK-UP AVAILABLE:

BEYNON SPORTS

4668 N. SONORA AVE STE 101., 93722

TUESDAY, 11/25 1-6PM.

PAYMENTS ACCEPTED:

CASH, CHECK, PAYPAL & VENMO

WESTSIDERESCUE@GMAIL.COM

559-647-4289







Silent Auction

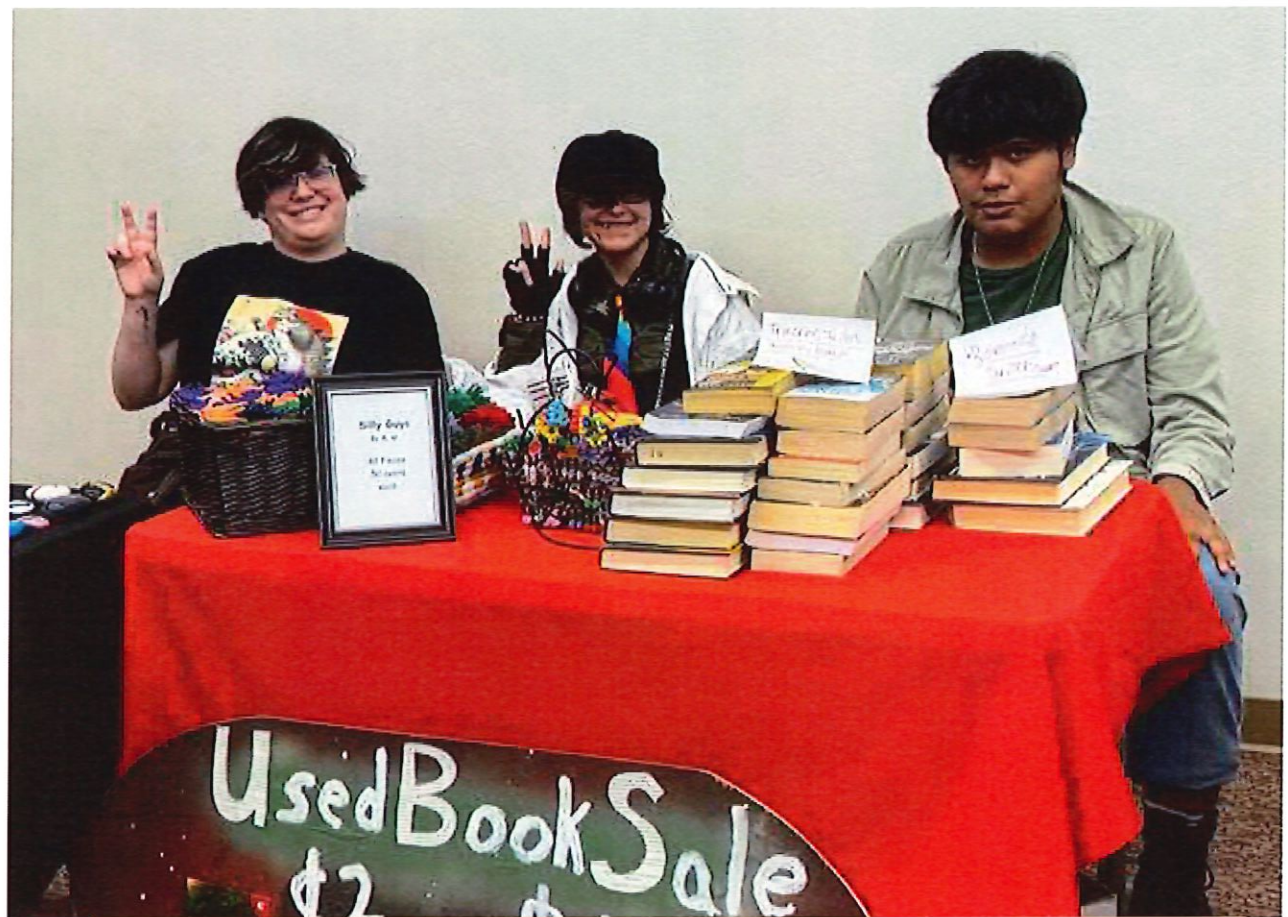


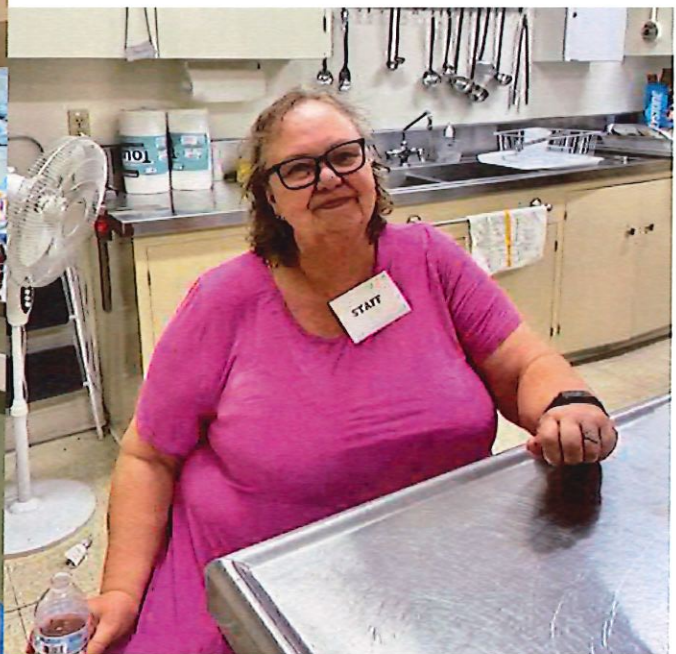


Vendors









Food - Enjoyed by All













Our annual Blessing of the Animals was on October 5th in the courtyard. We read a passage of Scripture, prayed words of thanksgiving and blessing, and sang "All Creatures of Our God and King" together. Then each pet was blessed by Pastor Ted. It is always a very informal event where everyone leaves smiling and with a certificate of blessing in hand. Thanks be to God for our beloved animal companions!

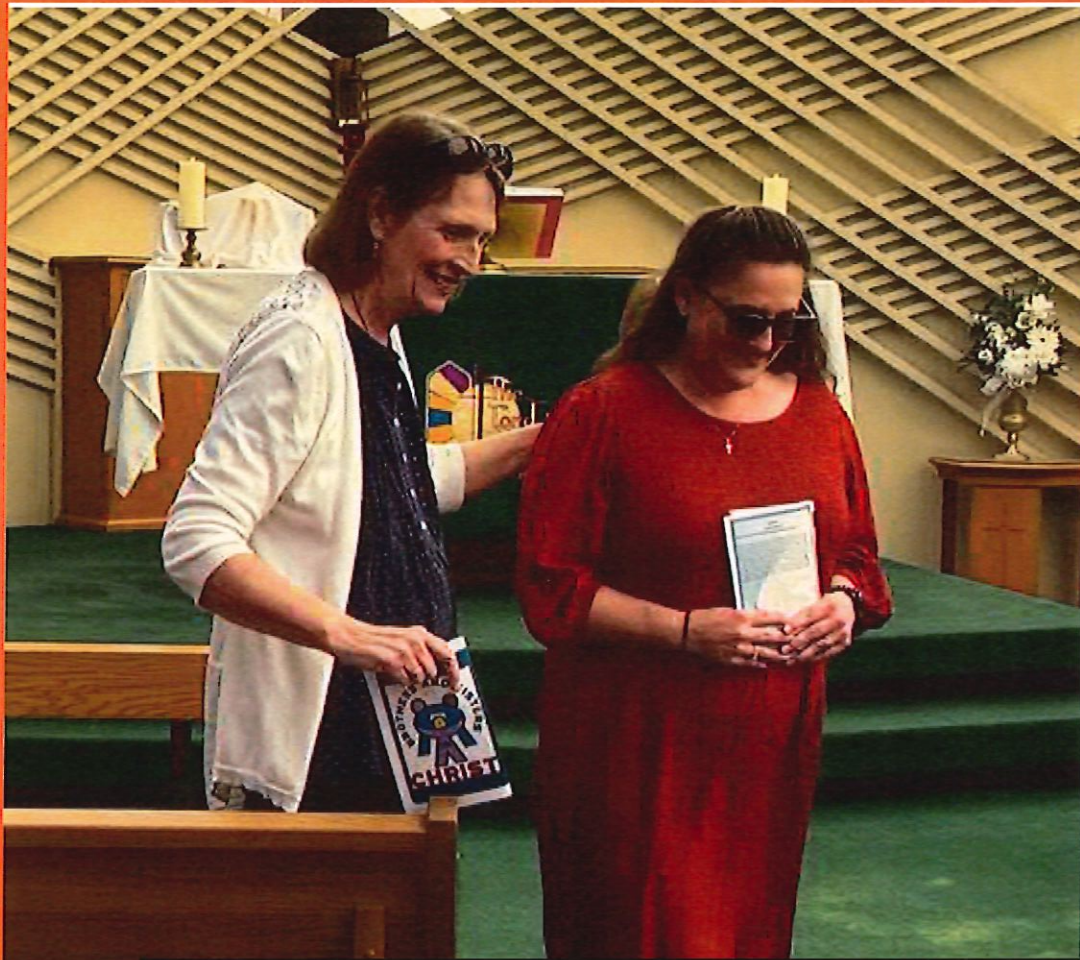


New Members



Welcome new members, from left to right, Mike & Foy Roberto, Joan Williamson, Shauna Espinoza, Cate Casa, Sharon & Dennis Hart and not pictured due to illness are Joyce & John Velasquez and Ann Randall-Pino.





Congratulations!!



On October 26
Congratulations were in
store for Pastor Ted and his
bride, Melissa.

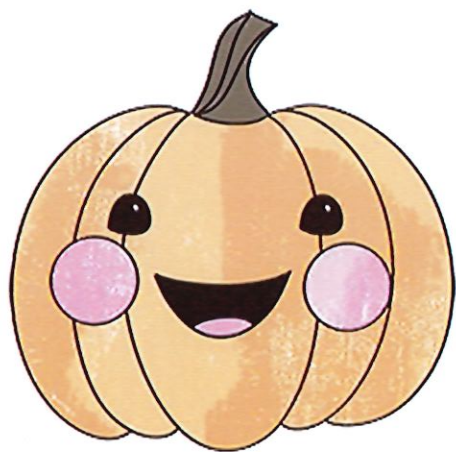
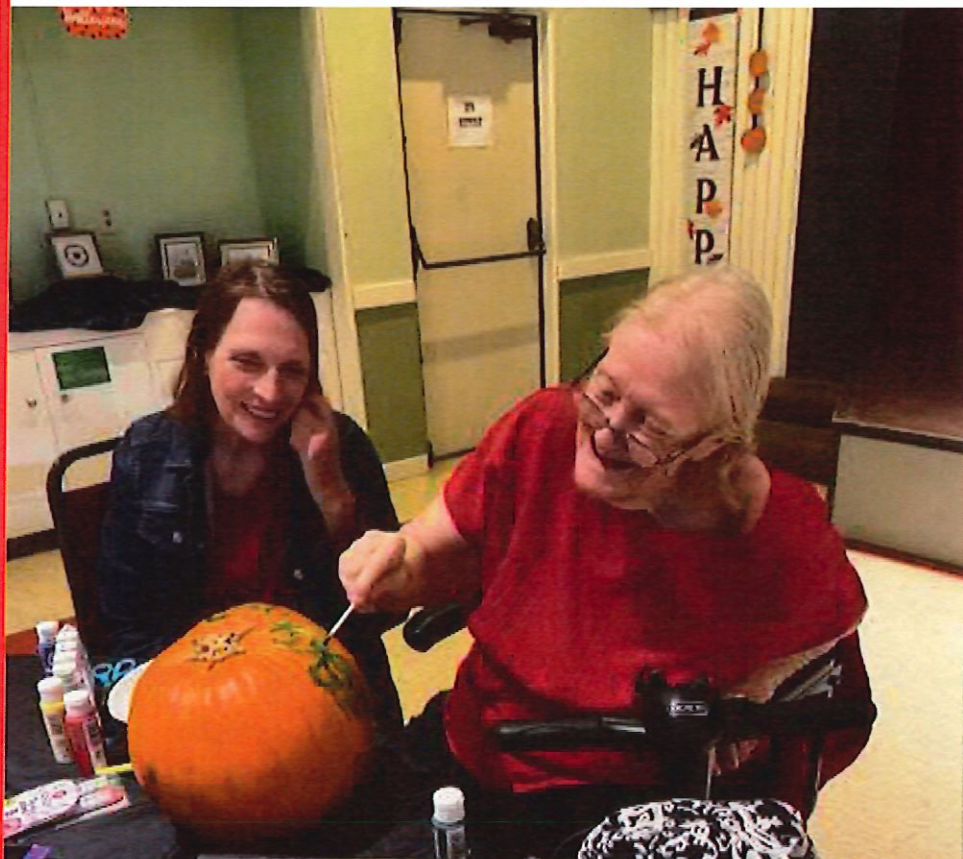




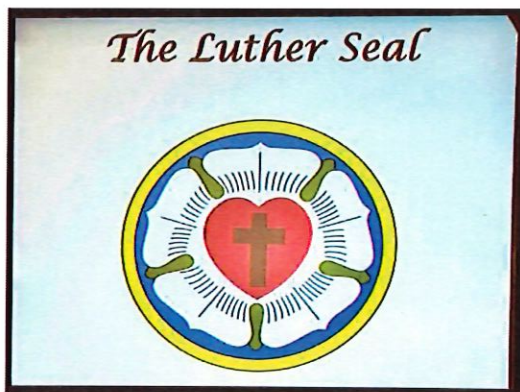
After the worship service, members enjoyed a Spooky Potluck and Pumpkin Carving fun!



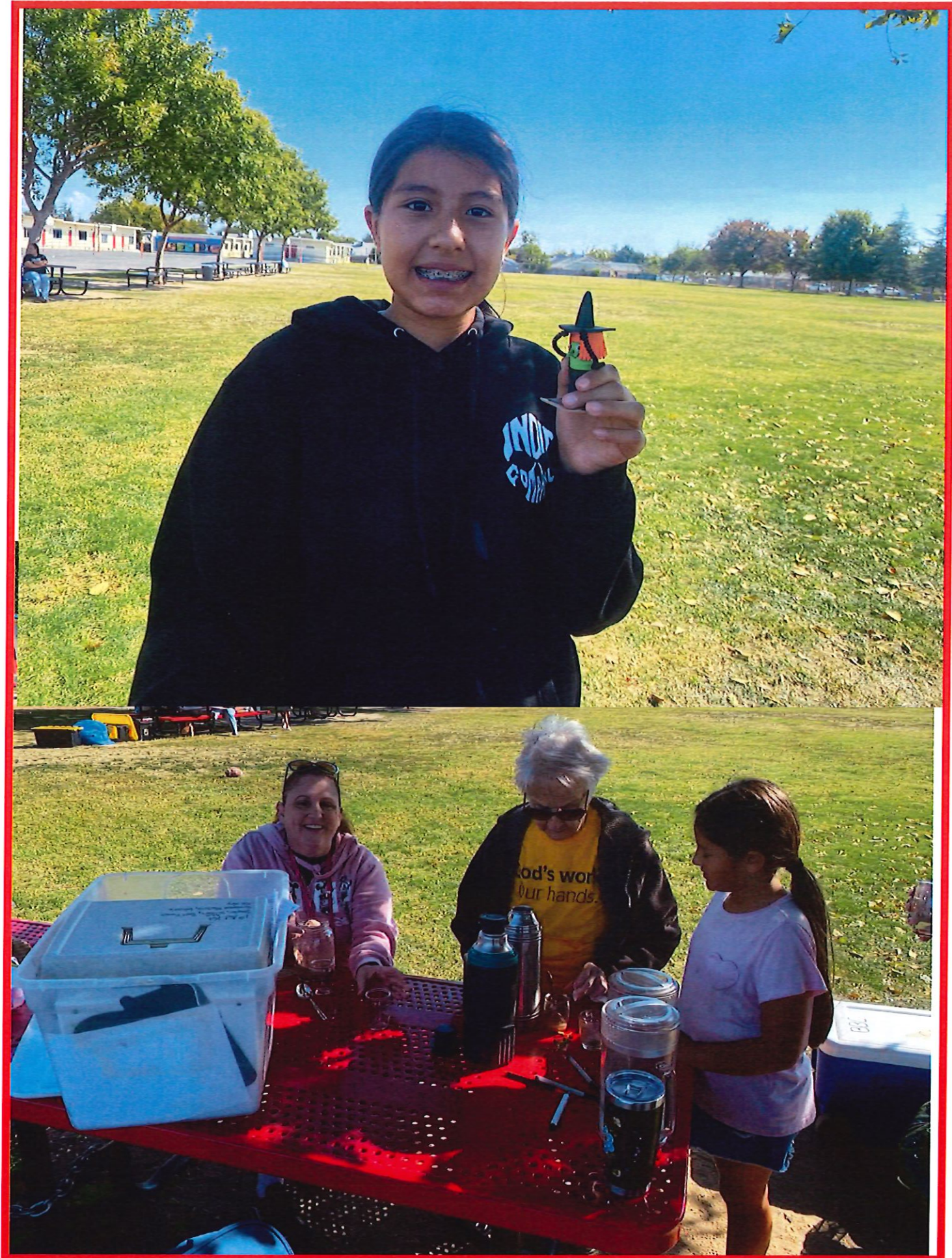




We celebrated the 508th anniversary of Luther's Reformation in many glorious ways on October 26. We entered the sanctuary which was adorned in red. We heard the strains of the organ, the band, the cello and the chimes. We heard the voices of the choral ensemble, the Lessons and the Sermon. We read meaningful eulogies which were specific for the Reformation and had a lesson on the Luther Creed. "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" was sung with great gusto, and we departed the sanctuary believing, as Luther did, that "the kingdom's ours forever!" Thanks be to God.











OWLS

(Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors)

Seventeen Hooties strolled past the garden flags into Jacobson Hall for their October meeting. Halloween candy spattered the tables and was later donated to the Trunk or Treat bin.

Joan Williamson, a new GS member, joined us too. (Another purple loving lady.)

A little boy explained to another why a groom can have 16 wives while a little lass wondered why groom's wear black on their happy day.

Dee was thanked for obtaining the Assistive Learning Devices' batteries, its church presentation with flyers plus training the ushers. She also passed out a flyer as host for November's meeting in Jacobson. Woody will speak on his service in the USAF in Greenland during the Viet Nam War.

The second donated First Aid Kit has been moved from the Community Center's Octoberfest usage and placed in the narthex cabinet.

Diane was presented a blue ribbon and her cash prize for guessing the most right in our summer "Whooo Dat?" contest.

Ann gave us an update on John's recent hospitalization. A card was signed by all, and Ann delivered it personally.

Not much was left in the serving dishes for the Hooties to take home. Mike's HOMEMADE strawberry ice cream was soooo smooth some snuck in for seconds.

A member, who we hadn't seen in quite a while, joined us near the end of our luncheon.

We didn't have a hard time quoting our grandparent's old sayings.

And members were reminded why we are OLD and WISE (Lutheran Seniors). It's because God protected us when we were young and stupid. :)



Notes of Gratitude

Many Thanks!!

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

November 2nd Diane Fake

November 9th Art Mehl

November 16th John & Joyce Velasquez

November 23rd Alan & Brenda Hofmann

November 30th Jim and Ruth Thompson



Thank you to **Debbie West** for the pumpkin signs and fall flags welcoming us as we approach the doors of the church!



Thank you to Carolyn and Kevin Linn, Sandy, Gloria, and Susan L. for helping with the set-up and/or serving and clean-up at the reception following the Celebration of Life for the Rev. Dr. Arlynn Turnquist. Thank you also to Jill, Jackie, Pam, Vonny Rae, Dee, Pat, Susan B. and Whitney, who along with those already listed brought food for us to serve. All of you are so appreciated!

THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

Thank you Sandy & Diane for helping with the table decorations for the Spooky Potluck in Jacobson Hall!

Thanks to Janet for getting the pumpkins we decorated!



NOVEMBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 10AM Worship Service 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	3	4 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	5 4:30PM Worship Committee (Pr. Ted's Office)	6	7 7PM Accion de Fe (Comm Ctr)	8 10-12PM Roeding Saturday Sports, Roeding Elementary
9 10AM Worship Service 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	10 6:00PM Esther Circle (Comm Ctr)	11 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	12	13	14	15
16 Crop Walk @ 2PM 10AM Worship Service 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light 4PM GSLC Book Club (Comm Ctr)	17 12:00PM OWLS (Jacobson Hall)	18 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	19	20 6PM Council Meeting (Jacobson Hall)	21 7PM Accion de Fe (Comm Ctr)	22
23 10AM Worship Service 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light 3:30-7:30pm Evelyn, Jacobson Hall	24	25 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	26 10AM Staff Meeting (Pr. Ted's Office)	27	28	29
30 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

Music Minister/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

Church Web Site: www.fresnogslc.org

www.fresnogslc.org

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

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

