



The Shepherd's Voice

April 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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PastorT-

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You are welcome
to join us at
Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

Dear Friends,

This month we celebrate the holy day of holidays with Easter. April 20 will be a high point for us this year. There will be all kinds of ways that we will be celebrating the new life that is ours because of Jesus rising from the dead. Please see the Easter schedule included in this newsletter. Thank you to all those of you who are helping make things happen for this great day/season! It takes everyone doing what they can to make our church great.

Another way we see new life here at Good Shepherd is with our new capital campaign for our sanctuary H/VAC. Many of you stayed after worship last Sunday to share your ideas and enthusiasm for how we can raise money. All of your thoughts and ideas are appreciated. I would like to thank you for being a part of this campaign. It will be wonderful to be in our sanctuary during all seasons of the year and not just when the weather fits our situation.

There are other signs of new life: new people who have found our church to be their new church home, our Lenten gatherings with the shared meal and Bible study, the creative leadership of our Council President Mary and the Council who are doing a remarkable job ... not to mention all of the personal growth we have experienced as individuals.

There is much going on in our world to be concerned about. Our country and our global community are under unusual stresses as the world order seems to be upside down these days. It is so important that our church exists to be a place that people can experience new life. Here we celebrate hope for our future. We lift up the fact that what God has planned for our world is greater than the forces fighting for chaos. Thanks for whatever it is that you do to make that happen. And praise Jesus for Easter!

He is Risen,
Pastor Ted



Prayer Concerns

Members Needing

Prayer:

Rev. Dr. Arlynn
Turnquist
Mona White
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:

Kathy (Secretary) and Family
Elaine (Werfelmann)
Linda Healy (White)
Ivonne Garcia (Zamora)
Barbara Shakespeare
Kristin & Penelope Almeda
(McQuillan)
Phoebe (Neer)
Phil (Anderson)
Gary Assmussen (Deuker)
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)
Jade Dixon (Julie)
Pam (Smith)
Grace Johnson (Fake)
Hudson Otten (Anderson)
Karen Ohanesian (Hays)
Rosemary (Vonny)
Nathan & Sandy Robbins
(Robbins)



April
BIRTHDAYS

Pam Gerster – 4/07
Woody Wilk – 4/08
Dee Wright – 4/09
Jim Provost – 4/10
Sue Hays – 4/10
Dana Biggs – 4/12

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



Mary Norris – 4/02
Madelynn Pattillo – 4/08
Whitney Linder – 4/16
Chris Dueker – 4/28



Don & Chris Dueker - 4/4
William & Elizabeth Smith -
4/20
Alan & Brenda Hofmann -
4/23

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	Mar. 2, 2025	Mar. 9, 2025	Mar. 16, 2025	Mar. 23, 2025	Mar. 30, 2025
Attendance	51	47	50	48	51
General Fund	\$2,232.52	\$3,745.48	\$14,918.00	\$10,810.00	\$1,110.00
Special Memorial (designated funds)					
ELCA Disaster Response World Hunger/Malaria (designated funds)					
Community Center Capital Fund	Loose Plate: \$	Community Ctr: \$1,000.00 Loose Plate:\$20.00	Loose Plate: \$25.00	Loose Plate: \$20.00	Loose Plate: \$
Loose Plate					
Special Mission Project Gifts (designated funds)		Thrivent: 56.00		Food Pantry: \$300.00 Roeding: \$100.00 OWLS: \$79.00	
House Rent/ Property Use/ Misc.				Property Use: \$110.00	House Rent: \$3,880.00
	\$2,232.52	\$4,821.48	\$14,943.00	\$11,419.00	\$4,990.00

March Financials

OUR GIVING MATTERS!

Greetings members and friends of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,

We have been very fortunate. In the month of March we received two large and generous donations which included two \$1000 donations to our HVAC fund. We now have a balance in our fundraising account of \$12,620.11.

We were also able to make a progress payment to the Memorial Gardens. As you may recall, they loaned the Church \$12,000 for our half of the fence with Woodside development.

Many thanks to our donors and to all those who contribute their money, time and talents in so many different and important ways.

Dana Biggs
Treasurer
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Mobile: 402-830-8307

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			\$0.00
May			\$0.00
June			\$0.00
July			\$0.00
August			\$0.00
September			\$0.00
October			\$0.00
November			\$0.00
December			\$0.00
Total	\$82,838.63	\$74,559.46	\$8,279.17

four
WAYS to
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 April/May. If you are able to host/hostess for a Sunday, please sign up in Jacobson Hall.

APRIL UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr. 2 - Worship Committee Meeting @ 4:30PM, Pr. Ted's Office
- Apr. 2, 9 - Soup Supper @ 6:15PM & class @ 7PM Jacobson Hall
- Apr. 5 - LHN Free Neighborhood Market @ 8-12PM, GSLC Host
- Apr. 6 - Making Soup with Suzie @ 11:15AM
- Apr. 13 - Palm Sunday
- Apr. 14 - Esther Circle @ 6PM, Comm Ctr
- Apr. 15 - Tax Day
- Apr. 17 - Council Meeting @ 6PM, Jacobson Hall
- Apr. 17 - Maundy Thursday Service @ 7PM, Jacobson Hall
- Apr. 18 - Good Friday Service @ 7PM, Jacobson Hall
- Apr. 20 - Sunrise Service @ 8AM
- Pancake Breakfast @ 8:30AM
- Worship Service @ 10AM
- Easter Egg Hunt @ 11AM
- Apr. 20 - GSLC Book Club @ 4PM, Comm Ctr
- Apr. 21 - OWLS @ 12PM, The Fake's Home
- Apr. 23 & 30 - Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ 6:30PM, Comm Ctr
- Apr. 30 - Staff Meeting @ 10AM, Pr. Ted's Office
- Apr. 30 - KingsMen/KingsKids' @ 6:30PM, Jacobson Hall



LHN Free Neighborhood Market 4/5/25, GSLC Host, 7:30—11a.m.



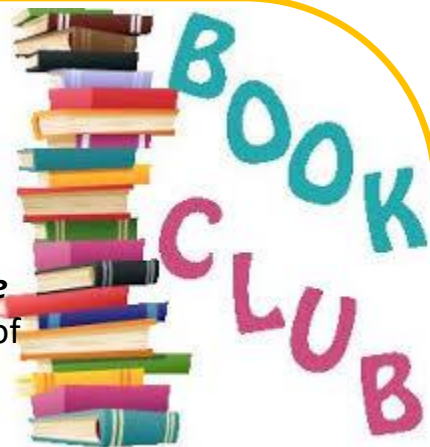
There will be a food distribution of the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market on Saturday, 4/5, from 9-11 a.m. at GSLC. You can come for any or all and don't need to have signed up. Central CA Food Bank will provide gloves, but volunteers need to bring their own masks if desired and wear 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.



Urgently Needed: Volunteer—Instagram Posts

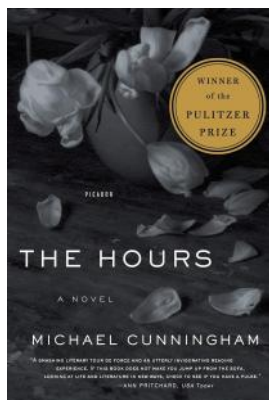
The church is needing someone to step up and begin doing the Instagram post for the upcoming events and activities.

GSLC BOOK CLUB



GSLC Book Club - April

The Hours - by Michael Cunningham



Passionate, profound, and deeply moving, *The Hours* draws inventively on the life and work of Virginia Woolf to tell the story of a group of contemporary characters struggling with the conflicting claims of love and inheritance, hope and despair. The narrative of Woolf's last days before her suicide early in World War II counterpoints the fictional stories of Samuel, a famous poet whose life has been shadowed by his talented and troubled mother, and his lifelong friend Clarissa, who strives to forge a balanced and rewarding life in spite of the demands of friends, lovers, and family. Author of *The Hours*, Michael Cunningham, has been widely praised as one of the most gifted writers of his generation.

This is another book that should provide for great discussion! Please join us, **Sunday, April 27, at 4:00 in the Community Center** for casual discussion of "The Hours". We are not deeply structured, but do spend an hour discussing our book of the month. Join us in any month where the book strikes your fancy.

Please note that this month we are meeting on the FOURTH SUNDAY of April, rather than our usual third Sunday (which is Easter).

Collecting Books for Summer Reading!



We will once again be providing books to the entire student population over at Roeding. We have a good start thanks to Thrivent's generosity, but we can always use more. Please bring in new or gently used books for preschool through 8th grade. Thanks for your support of our adopted school!

Hooties Gathering April 21st @ 12PM

Gordon and Diane Fake have announced their next tour will be to the mainland of Greece and the Greek Islands. Embarkment is set for April 21, NOON. HOOTIES are to bring their ENTIRE table service and a dish to share. Find that passport and pack your Chiton (tunic) and Himation (draped cloak) for an enjoyable visit of the Hellenic Paradise.



Soups With Suzie—Sunday April 6th



Our own Susan Gutierrez has graciously volunteered to lead soup-making on the Sunday mornings before each Lenten Wednesday Soup Supper. We will meet in the kitchen following worship and some snacks, and she will teach us how to make a delicious plant based soup recipe each Sunday. No prior experience required! Suzie did this a couple of years ago, and it was a really fun experience. We learned a lot, too!

We will use the soup we make on Sunday mornings for each Wednesday Soup Supper during Lent. If you'd like to help offset the cost of food supplies, please see Suzie. We will also put out a basket for a free will offering each Wednesday.

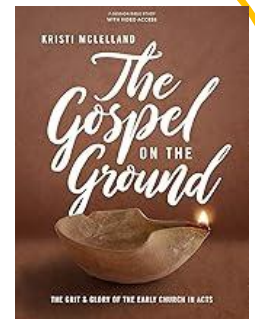
Shalom. Peace. Paz. Julie Werfelmann

Wednesday Evening Bible Study

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

"The Gospel on the Ground" by Kristi McLelland

Wednesday, April 23 at 6:30 in the Community Center



The Kingdom of God is on the move. For the vast majority of His life, Jesus never traveled outside of a one-hundred mile radius from where He was born, but today His name is spoken in every corner of the earth. *The Gospel on the Ground* is the story of how Jesus's message of hope and reconciliation began to spread from Jerusalem and how it's still spreading today. Join biblical culturalist Kristi McLelland for a 7-session study of the early years of the church as told in the book of Acts. Along the way you'll learn that the kingdom of God is always on the move, offering purpose and joy to those longing for true fulfillment. You'll also come to understand the part you are meant to play in the redemptive story God continues to write through your life today.

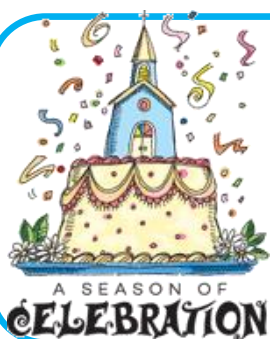
Come journey with us beginning **Wednesday, April 23** as we begin a new study "The Gospel on the Ground - The Grit & Glory of the Early Church in Acts." Luke is the author of both the gospel of Luke and the book of Acts. Join us as we continue the story of what happens after the resurrection. We meet every Wednesday, in the **Community Center at 6:30, from April 23 through June 11.**

Purchase your book through your favorite book seller, locally at Majesty Bible & Gifts at Cedar and Herndon, or order through LifeWay, Amazon, Christian Book. There is no study work before our first meeting; but plan to have your book with you for the April 23 meeting.

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.





Happy Anniversary Good Shepherd!!

April 15th is the 67th Anniversary of our church. Celebrating 67 years of 'Sharing the Love of Jesus'.



Volunteering for Easter at GSLC



Egg-Stuffing and Decorating Jacobson on Sat., 4/19 @ 10 a.m.

Please mark your calendars now and plan to join together to get ready for the Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Breakfast on Sat., April 19th. We will meet at 10 a.m. in Jacobson and decorate the tables as well as stuff all the Easter Eggs for the hunt on Easter morning. All help is much appreciated! Please contact Julie with questions and to confirm your attendance. Thank you.

Looking for Easter Breakfast Help 4/20

We need some kitchen help Easter morning flipping pancakes and serving plated breakfasts. Volunteers will be needed from 7:45-10, which includes both prep and cleanup. People are welcome to stay the entire time period or just an hour, and all ages are welcome. Please sign up on the clipboard so we can make sure we are fully staffed.

Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, 4/20 @ 11:00! Collecting Wrapped Candy, etc.

We will once again host an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on Easter Sunday this year in the courtyard after the 10AM service. We are collecting **wrapped** candy, stickers, coins, etc. to use to stuff the eggs on Sat., 4/19. If you can donate toward this fun tradition, please bring in your items and place them in the appropriate bin. We have PLENTY of plastic eggs to stuff, so please don't bring any more of those. Way to go with the reusing, friends!

Join us on 4/20 for Easter

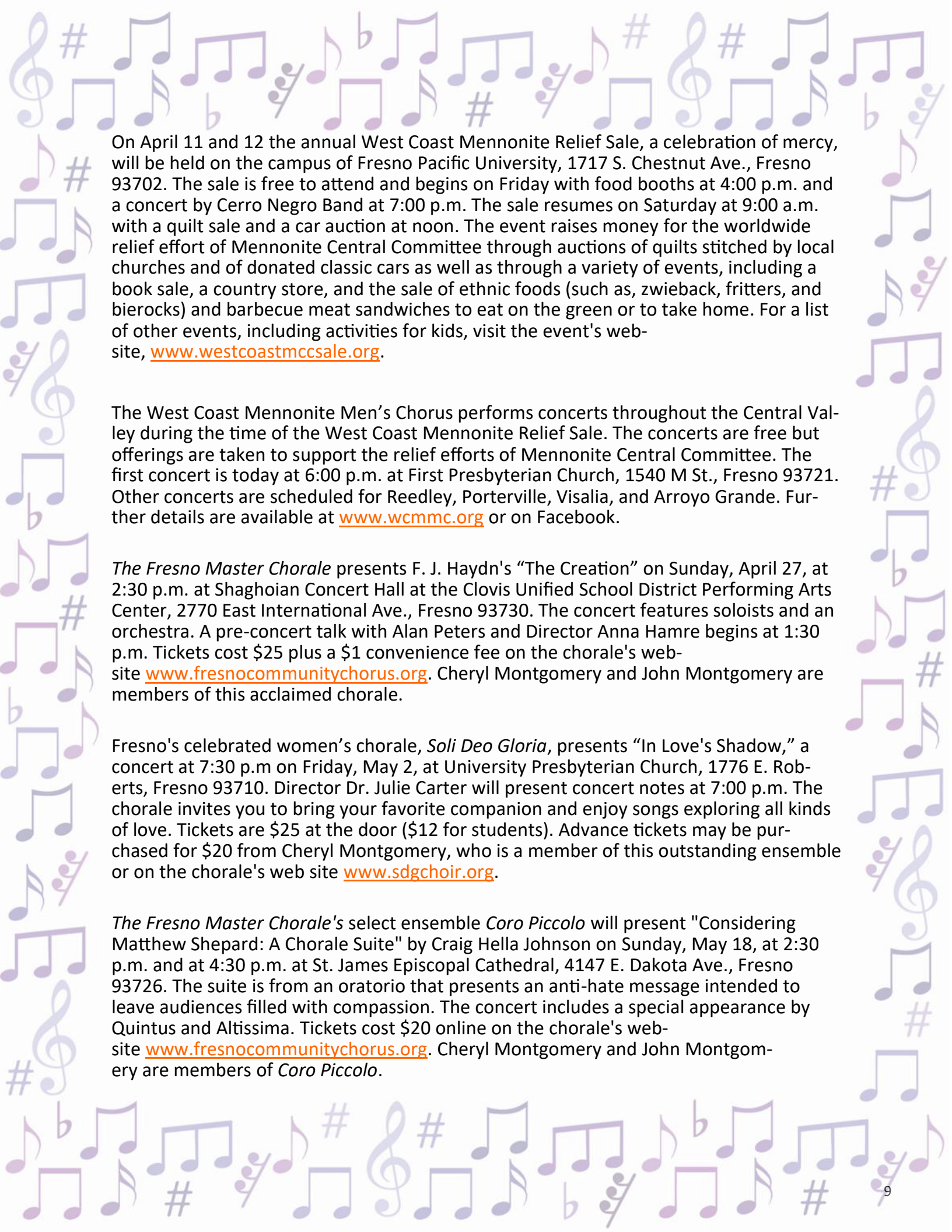
**Sunrise Worship Service @8AM, Outside At Cross
Breakfast Served, 8:30—10AM, Jacobson Hall
Easter Worship Service @ 10AM, Sanctuary**

KingsMen/KingsKids' Wednesday April 30th



The next KingsMen and KingsKids' meeting will be on Wednesday April 30th at 6:30 pm. We will be kicking off Spring with a KingsMen classic: pizza!! I shall provide the pizza. If you can provide a salad or dessert, that would be appreciated of course. Thank you. Will





On April 11 and 12 the annual West Coast Mennonite Relief Sale, a celebration of mercy, will be held on the campus of Fresno Pacific University, 1717 S. Chestnut Ave., Fresno 93702. The sale is free to attend and begins on Friday with food booths at 4:00 p.m. and a concert by Cerro Negro Band at 7:00 p.m. The sale resumes on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. with a quilt sale and a car auction at noon. The event raises money for the worldwide relief effort of Mennonite Central Committee through auctions of quilts stitched by local churches and of donated classic cars as well as through a variety of events, including a book sale, a country store, and the sale of ethnic foods (such as, zwieback, fritters, and bierocks) and barbecue meat sandwiches to eat on the green or to take home. For a list of other events, including activities for kids, visit the event's web-site, www.westcoastmccsale.org.

The West Coast Mennonite Men's Chorus performs concerts throughout the Central Valley during the time of the West Coast Mennonite Relief Sale. The concerts are free but offerings are taken to support the relief efforts of Mennonite Central Committee. The first concert is today at 6:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 1540 M St., Fresno 93721. Other concerts are scheduled for Reedley, Porterville, Visalia, and Arroyo Grande. Further details are available at www.wcmmc.org or on Facebook.

The Fresno Master Chorale presents F. J. Haydn's "The Creation" on Sunday, April 27, at 2:30 p.m. at Shaghoian Concert Hall at the Clovis Unified School District Performing Arts Center, 2770 East International Ave., Fresno 93730. The concert features soloists and an orchestra. A pre-concert talk with Alan Peters and Director Anna Hamre begins at 1:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 plus a \$1 convenience fee on the chorale's web-site www.fresnocommunitychorus.org. Cheryl Montgomery and John Montgomery are members of this acclaimed chorale.

Fresno's celebrated women's chorale, *Soli Deo Gloria*, presents "In Love's Shadow," a concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 2, at University Presbyterian Church, 1776 E. Roberts, Fresno 93710. Director Dr. Julie Carter will present concert notes at 7:00 p.m. The chorale invites you to bring your favorite companion and enjoy songs exploring all kinds of love. Tickets are \$25 at the door (\$12 for students). Advance tickets may be purchased for \$20 from Cheryl Montgomery, who is a member of this outstanding ensemble or on the chorale's web site www.sdgchoir.org.

The Fresno Master Chorale's select ensemble *Coro Piccolo* will present "Considering Matthew Shepard: A Chorale Suite" by Craig Hella Johnson on Sunday, May 18, at 2:30 p.m. and at 4:30 p.m. at St. James Episcopal Cathedral, 4147 E. Dakota Ave., Fresno 93726. The suite is from an oratorio that presents an anti-hate message intended to leave audiences filled with compassion. The concert includes a special appearance by Quintus and Altissima. Tickets cost \$20 online on the chorale's web-site www.fresnocommunitychorus.org. Cheryl Montgomery and John Montgomery are members of *Coro Piccolo*.

Shrove Tuesday



We had such a great time!! Mikey found the most letters from the word Alleluia and won the special saxophone Mardi Gras beads, and Tom was our Mardi Gras king because he found the baby Jesus in his cake. He led us in a parade around Jacobson where we strutted our stuff to Louis Armstrong's "When the Saints Go Marching In." We played games, ate together, and laughed a ton! Thanks to Janet for providing the ham, cheesy potatoes, and all the toppings, to everyone for staying to help clean up, and to Tom & Carol for cooking all the pancakes. It was one of the best yet!

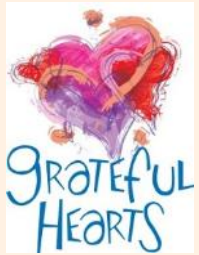
DWLS

Susan Linder hosted the Hooties in her warm Irish decorated home. A wee bit of rain didn't stop the 15 attendees. The thoughtfulness of providing the garage as a dry/easy exit from our cars (except the drivers) was appreciated. Two Irish stories ignited some belly laughs. Slap Band bracelets demonstrated how to hold a tube of wrapping paper in place. It was noted baby/youth pics are due May 25 and votes would be accepted by August 3. It was unanimous for \$50 to be the "Whooooo Dat?" prize. Winner to be revealed on Rally Day.

Woodster, "The Punster", explained why Dublin is the fastest growing city in the world. We all had a La Fheile Padraig sona duit! (Happy St. Patrick's Day) as the road rose up to meet our farewell.



Notes of Gratitude



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

APRIL 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr) 6:30PM Pentecostal Tabernacle (Jacobson Hall) 	2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30PM Worship Committee (Pr. Ted's Office) 6PM Soup Supper 7PM Lent Worship 	3	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7PM Accion de Fe (Comm Ctr) 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8-1PM LHN Free Neighborhood Market (GSLC Host)
6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10AM Worship Service 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light 	7	8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr) 6:30PM Pentecostal Tabernacle (Jacobson Hall) 	9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6PM Soup Supper 7PM Lent Worship 	10	11	12
13 Palm Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10AM Worship Service 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Esther Circle (Comm Ctr) 	15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr) 6:30PM Pentecostal Tabernacle (Jacobson Hall) 	16	17 Maundy Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6PM Council Meeting (Jacobson Hall) 7PM Maundy Thursday Service 	18 Good Friday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7PM Accion de Fe (Comm Ctr) 7PM Good Friday Service 	19
20 Easter Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8AM Sunrise Service (Outside at the Cross) 8:30AM—10AM Pancake Breakfast (Jacobson Hall) 10AM Worship Service 11AM Easter Egg Hunt (Court Yard) 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00PM OWLS (Jacobson Hall) 	22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr) 6:30PM Pentecostal Tabernacle (Jacobson Hall) 	23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30PM - 7:30PM Wednesday Evening Bible Study (Comm Ctr) 	24	25	26
27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10AM Worship Service 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light 4PM GSLC Book Club (Cimm Ctr) 	28	29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr) 6:30PM Pentecostal Tabernacle (Jacobson Hall) 	30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10AM Staff Meeting (Pr. Ted's Office) 6:30PM - 7:30PM Wednesday Evening Bible Study (Comm Ctr) 6:30PM KingsMen/KingsKids' (Jacobson Hall) 			

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

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

Church Web Site: www.fresnogslc.org

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

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

