

The Shepherd's Voice

October 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:

gslcfresno@att.net

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,

October is going to be an exciting month. For me personally, I will be getting married to Melissa Littlewood on October 12. She is a hospice social worker. Many of you have met her when she has been at worship. She and my son Kurt often worship together. My family will be expanding.

October is also exciting for us as a congregation in that our church family will also be expanding. There are around 10 people who will join our church near the end of this month. I hope you take the time to welcome new people. I hope you are brave enough to talk to people you don't know but may see every Sunday. You may be embarrassed because you don't remember or ever knew their name. Talk to them anyway. Reintroduce yourself.

Families are so important. We get strength, encouragement, sustenance, relationship and so much more when we are part of a family. It is a strength that cannot be overstated in its importance. Whether you are relating to your biological, adopted, married into family take a moment to thank God for them. We should all be thankful for our church family. We grow in our worship and service together.

I give thanks for you regularly. I hope you appreciate each other. I look forward to worshipping with you as we appreciate our God.

God's Peace,

Pastor Ted



Prayer Concerns

Members Needing

Prayer:

Robert Harris
Mona White
Julie Werfelmann
Rev. Dr. Arlynn
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:

Kaitlyn (Lisa)
Coach (Sandy T.)
Linda Healy (White)
Cousin Gary (Sandy T.)
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)



Liz Smith – 10/08
Susan Berg – 10/09
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 office. 559-225-2092



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



If anyone has an anniversary 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	Sept. 7, 2025	Sept. 14, 2025	Sept. 21, 2025	Sept. 28, 2025
Attendance	68	38	51	50
General Fund	\$1,876.83	\$4,735.42	\$1,570.00	\$9,096.23
Special Memorial (designated funds)				
ELCA Disaster Response World Hunger/Malaria (designated funds)				
Community Center Capital Fund Loose Plate	Comm. Ctr: Loose Plate: \$	Community Ctr: Loose Plate: \$19.00	Community Ctr: \$580.00 Loose Plate: 20.00	Community Ctr:150.00 Loose Plate:\$43.00
Special Mission Project Gifts (designated funds)	Special Gifts: 1,000.00	Special Gifts: 53,713.00 Oktoberfest: 25.00	Special Gifts: 205.40 Oktoberfest:25.00	Special Gifts:241.00 Oktoberfest: 425.00 OWLS: 40.00
House Rent/ Property Use/ Misc.				
	\$2,876.83	\$8,492.42	\$2,400.40	\$9,985.23

September Financials

YOUR GIVING
MATTERS!

Greetings Good Shepherd Members and Friends,

We have had a very successful Rally Day and thanks to the organizers of the Bake Sale - Dana Klein, Crafts Fair - Sandy Terstegen, the Book Fair - Jill Anderson, and to all those who donated, baked, created and participated, we made approximately \$2,800. Our HVAC account now has a balance of **\$60,133.98.**

We had our usual and customary expenses in September. Our income, however, was less this month.

Many thanks to all,

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	\$22,807.31	\$28,846.75	(\$6,039.44)
Oct			\$0.00
Nov			\$0.00
Dec			\$0.00
Total	\$296,960.91	\$263,982.06	\$32,978.85

four
WAYS to
GIVE



Mail-In

| 5140 N. Fruit Ave., 93711 |



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

OCTOBER UPCOMING EVENTS

- Oct. 1 - Worship Committee Meeting @ 4:30PM, Pr. Ted's Office
- Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 - Wednesday Evening Bible Study @ 6:30PM, Comm Ctr
- Oct. 4 - LHN Free Neighborhood Market, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
- Oct. 11 - Roeding Saturday Sports @ 10am—12pm, Roeding Elementary
- Oct. 11 - Oktoberfest @ 5—8pm, Jacobson Hall/Comm Ctr
- Oct. 13 - Esther Circle @ 6pm, Comm Ctr
- Oct. 16 - Council Meeting @ 6pm, Jacobson Hall
- Oct. 19 - GSLC Book Club @ 4pm, Comm Ctr
- Oct. 20 - OWLS @ 12pm, Jacobson Hall
- Oct. 26 - Spooky Potluck @ 11:15am, Jacobson Hall
- Oct. 29 - Trunk or Treat @ 5—6:30pm, Circle drive



Oktoberfest Silent Auction

Let's make this year's Oktoberfest Silent Auction even bigger than it was last year! We need YOUR help! Please bring your donations to church from now until the deadline which is Sunday, October 5. We are looking for things such as wine baskets, new or like-new home goods, holiday decor, and homemade crafting items like those we had at our Rally Day Craft Fair. For each item you donate, please fill out the short form you will find on the table in the entry. This form is **required!** **Hand your donation with the form to Sandy or Diane.** Many thanks for your help!

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.



Collecting Candy for Trunk or Treat



We are collecting Halloween candy for the trunk or treat, and judging from last year's turnout, we will need a lot!! Please bring in your donations and place them in the designated bin. Please be sure to sign up to host a trunk or help at one of the booths if you are able. Thank you for your support!

Shalom. Peace. Paz.

Pet Blessing Oct. 5th @ 2PM

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 5th. 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!



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

Support New HVAC at Good Shepherd
Fresno



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

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—October 19

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



"The Done Thing" by Tracy Manaster

Lida Stearl prides herself on always do the right thing—it has served her well throughout her life as she built a career as an orthodontist, maintained a happy marriage, and raised her young niece after the murder of her sister by her brother-in-law, Clarence Lusk. But now that she's widowed, retired, and an empty nester, the small perfections of her orderly life aren't enough to stop her from feeling adrift.

Then a well-intentioned birthday gift leads her to discover that Clarence, on death row for his crime, is seeking pen pals from the outside as he prepares for his final appeal. For the first time in her life, Lida crosses a line—she begins to write him, pretending to be a naïve, flirtatious twenty-three-year-old, in an effort to seek retribution. As letters pass steadily between Lida and Clarence, her obsession with revenge unfolds and she begins to question her morality.

The Done Thing is an utterly memorable and engrossing exploration of forgiveness, loyalty, and justice, and how a tragic event can suddenly change a life's course.

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, October 19 at 4:00 in the Community Center!**

LHN Free Neighborhood Market 10/4 @ Bethel Lutheran Church 9—12PM



There will be a food distribution of the Lutheran Hunger Network's FREE Neighborhood Market on Saturday, 10/4, from 9-11 a.m. at Bethel Lutheran, 187 N Broadway St. 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.

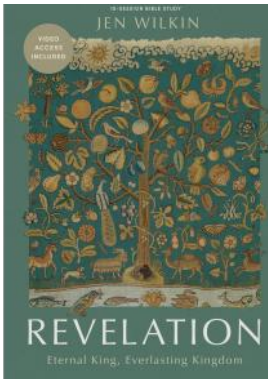
Shalom. Peace. Paz. Julie Werfelmann
13jdixon13@gmail.com; 559-287-3457



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.



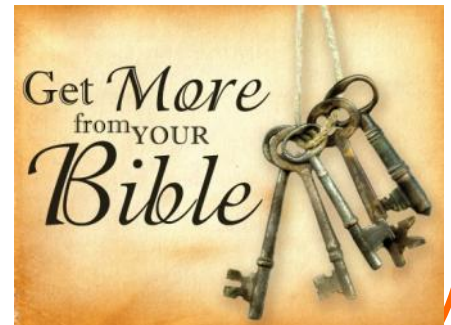
"No other book of the Bible feels as inaccessible and as intimidating to us as *Revelation*. It overflows with images and ideas that confound our modern ears. But if all Scripture is God breathed and profitable, we should assume Revelation is as accessible and helpful as any other book of the Bible. 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."

REVELATION? - AGAIN??? DIDN'T YOU JUST DO THAT??? YES, IT IS THAT GOOD.

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 sit with your brother and sisters in Christ, as we dive in again.

Come join us **September 10 in the Community Center** 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 Andreasen 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.



OWLS Oct. 20th @ 12PM



Hooties! Pull out your Halloween colors and prints to don at our October 20th NOON meeting. Costumes only if you wish. **Due to unavoidable circumstances Susan Linder is unable to host the Oct. OWLS. We will meet in Jacobson Hall.** Please bring: Your ENTIRE table service and a dish to share. Label your belongings. See Sandy for maps

Spoooooooky Potluck

Spooooooky Potluck is on 10/26 @ 11 in Jacobson after worship.



POTLUCK SUPPER

Oktoberfest Silent Auction

We are looking forward to having another successful All Church Oktoberfest this year. The Silent Auction was a big part of our event last year and we want to make it even bigger this year, but we can't do it without YOUR help! Please start thinking about what you would like to donate for our auction. We are looking for a variety of new or like-new items. We will start collecting your donations right after Rally Day! This year we have a simple form for you to include with each item you donate. It will help us tremendously in our preparation and set up before the event. You must have the form with your item when you turn it in to Sandy or Diane. The forms will be in a basket on the table in the entry hall. Thank you!

Donor's Name _____

Name and Description
of Donated Item _____

Estimated Value \$ _____



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Invites You to Oktoberfest 2025

We will be holding our 2025 Oktoberfest

Saturday, October 11, from 5—8pm at:

5140 N. Fruit Ave.

- Fun & Food (Bratwurst, sauerkraut and Potato Salad)
- Music
- Boutique Beer
- Vendors
- Silent Auction



Tickets on sale Sunday Sept. 7th thru Sept. 28th.

Tickets can be purchased M – F, 9am—1pm in the office, at church on Sundays before and after service or the day of the event. Adults: \$25 &

Kids: \$10



JOIN US AT

Good Shepherd

for our
trunk or
TREAT

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 29
5:00PM-6:30PM

WEAR YOUR
COSTUMES AND
JOIN US FOR
FAMILY FUN

5140 N Fruit Ave.
Fresno, CA 93710



At the August 31 church service, worshipers were truly inspired by Paul playing the Cajon and Mikey playing the bongos as John sang. These three performing “The Trumpets Sound, The Angels Sing” was an uplifting experience to behold!

SPECIAL MUSIC





God's Work, Our Hands

Thank you to everyone who participated in our "God's Work. Our Hands." day this year. I don't know about you guys, but I find it really exciting, fun, and rewarding to work together to put good into the world like this!

We had lots of community help at the Lutheran Hunger Network FREE neighborhood market again this year and are thankful to the Central California Food Bank for supplying the fresh produce. Hundreds of cars came through our parking lot - sometimes the line to enter went all the way down to Shaw! We gave out literal tons of food. We also emptied our GSLC food pantry in order to have enough food for all who came. That bright Saturday morning, we got to be a part of putting smiles on faces, hope into hearts, and food on families' tables. If any of you have struggled to make ends meet - as I have at different times in my life - you know how important this is. Thank you to all who were part of this giant task!

Next up, we sorted hundreds of toiletry items and put together 50 bags to distribute to the unhoused clients of Westside Rescue whose pets are helped by them. Each bag contains shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, lip balm, toothpaste and a toothbrush, a comb, deodorant, a pair of socks, a knitted hat, and a couple of people treats. Individual blessings were written and attached to each bag. These will be distributed in October down at Poverello House on a regular Westside Rescue "clinic" day. Thank you to everyone who supplied items for these bags and to all who came over to Jacobson that afternoon to help assemble them.

On Monday, we delivered a bit of a feast to the Roeding staff to welcome them back to school thanks to all of you. We had fruit and veggies, all kinds of cookies and baked goods, drinks, chips and dip, granola bars, you name it. Brenda got some cute decorations along with the poster she made that everyone signed, and we had fun making it look nice and welcoming for them. Thank you to all who baked or bought items!

As Pastor Ted mentioned in his Rally Day sermon, even if you weren't able to contribute anything to any of our planned service events on that particular day, you can always do something now that makes a difference in our community 💖

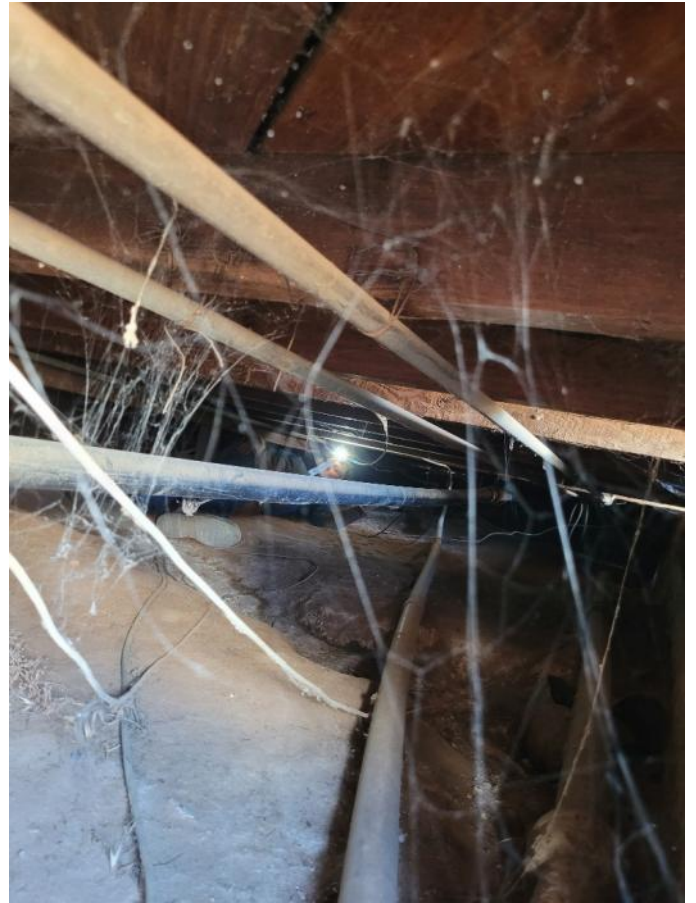
Shalom. Peace. Paz.

Julie Werfelmann

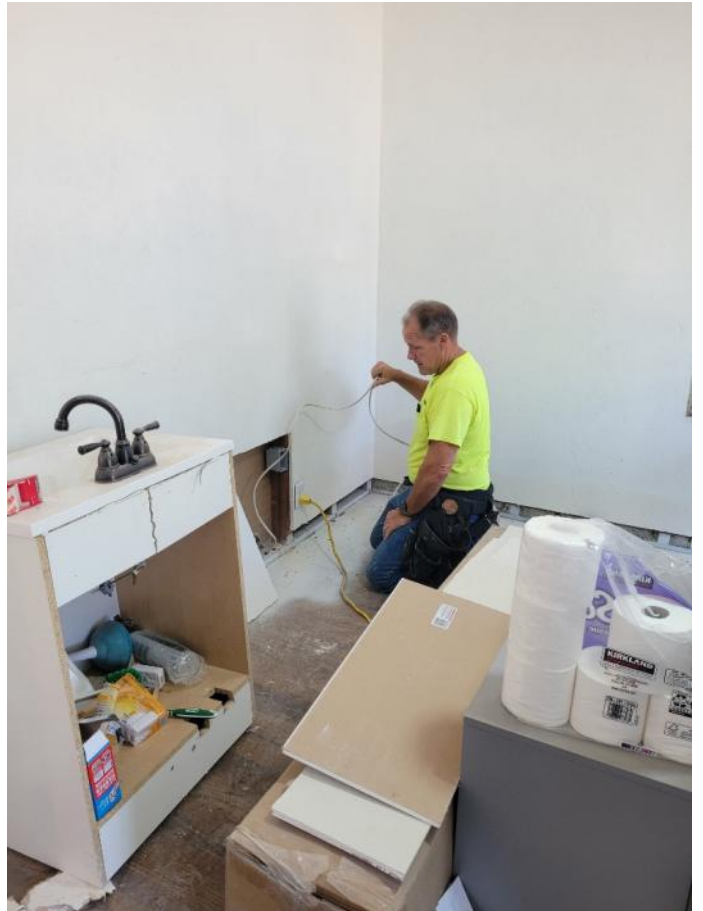
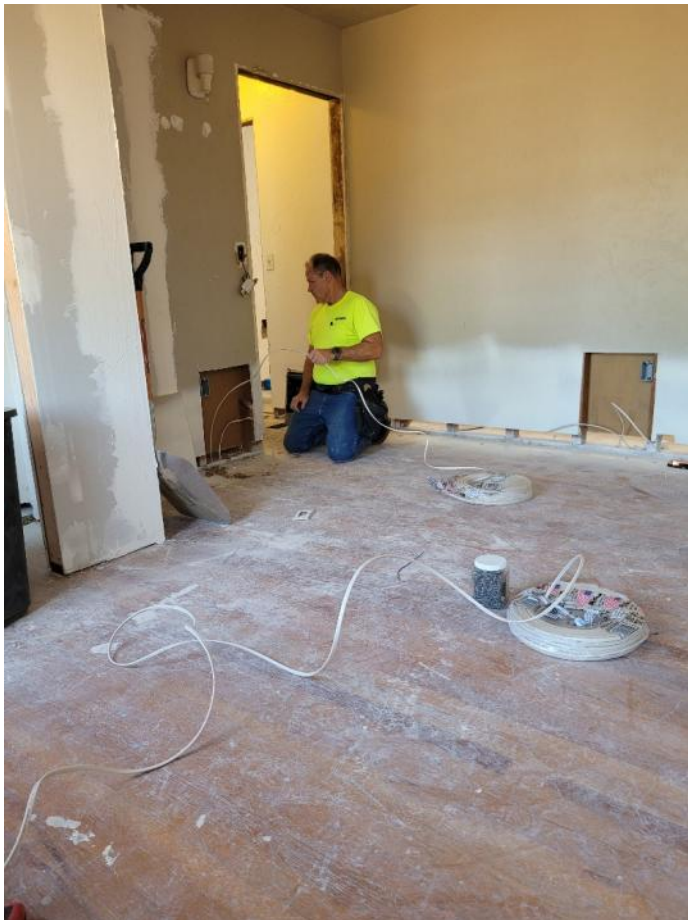


Banner assembly
By Marty, John and Austin





For God's Work Our Hands
John and Austin Hays wired a house for a Veteran in need.







ROEDING



GOODIES



Blessed
**BEYOND
MEASURE**



CHURCH
BBQ

A graphic logo for 'CHURCH BBQ'. The word 'CHURCH' is in a grey, blocky font. 'BBQ' is in a large, orange, distressed font. To the right is a black silhouette of a charcoal grill with orange flames coming out of the open lid.











The Rogers Return to Fresno

When Tom and Linda came into town for a visit, we knew we couldn't pass up an opportunity to potluck!! It was so great to see them and much fun to gather together once again.

We also answered the age old question - "How many Lutherans does it take to take a selfie?" The answer is 12. That's right - just like the 12 tribes of Israel and the 12 disciples! Who knew? 😊



Kathy Jacobson Macauley, a lovely visitor to our worship service on September 28, stopped to tell me she enjoyed the music for the service. I learned she is a charter member of Good Shepherd, who grew up here as the daughter of Lloyd Jacobson, who was Good Shepherd's first pastor with his wife Virginia from June 1958 to October 1966. Jacobson Hall is named in his honor. It was our sanctuary at Shaw and West Avenues but was moved to its current location. Those who talked to Kathy after the service hoped we might be able to recognize her in a special way at our next service. However, she said she is returning in mid-week to her home in Pasadena. She attended Bullard High School, and a fun fact is that Gordon Fake remembers attending school with her. Kathy knew Gordon's parents Jack and Dorothy, from her time at Good Shepherd as the Fakes were early members of the church joining only two months after Good Shepherd was formed. A few years later, Pastor Jacobson and his wife Virginia attended the wedding of Gordon and Diane in Hanford where Pastor "Jake" offered the prayer at their reception. Kathy said she enjoyed visiting our service, and those of us who talked with her enjoyed getting to know her and hearing of our church's early history. Here is a photo to remember this special visit from Kathy.

Submitted by Susan Berg

OWLS

(Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors)

Twelve Hooties walked into a pumpkin patch with candy corn lights. Attendees learned that children will take you literally. A little boys' Sunday School lesson of Eve being created from Adam's ribs made him think that the pain in his side was because he "was getting a wife".

Diane Fake won the "Whooo Dat?" photo contest. She will be awarded her blue ribbon and \$50 cash prize at the October meeting.

Another First Aid Kit was purchased and will be used for Octoberfest but placed in the Narthex afterwards.

Upcoming destinations were announced noting three dates need filling. Susan Linder will be hosting October 20th. See written announcements for details.

Members were "BOOED" and given bags with a written explanation. Absentees will also be "scared"?

Dennis and Sharon Hart were warmly welcomed and we learned of the friendships started 50 years ago with several members of the GS family. Dennis won the hand-crafted fabric pumpkin door prize. They noted they chose Good Shepherd Lutheran because "It felt like home". May we continue to put out that vibe :)





Notes of Gratitude

Many Thanks!!

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

October 5th Art Mehl

October 12th Dee Wright & Diane Fake

October 19th Jim and Ruth Thompson

October 26th Yvonne & Steven Smith



OCTOBER 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 • 4:30PM Worship Committee (Pr. Ted's Office)	2	3 • 7PM Accion de Fe (Comm Ctr)	4 • 8-1PM LHN Free Neighborhood Market
5 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	6	7 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	8	9	10 • 10-12PM Roeding Saturday Sports, Roeding Elementary • 5 –8PM Oktoberfest, Jacobson Hall/Community Ctr.	
12 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	13 • 6:00PM Esther Circle (Comm Ctr)	14 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	15	16 • 6PM Council Meeting (Jacobson Hall)	17 • 7PM Accion de Fe (Comm Ctr)	18
19 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light • 4PM GSLC Book Club (Comm Ctr)	20 • 12:00PM OWLS (Jacobson Hall)	21 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	22	23	24	25
26 • 10AM Worship Service • 11AM Coffee Social (Jacobson Hall) • 11AM—12PM Kid's Salt & Light	27	28 • 6PM - 10PM Voices United (Comm Ctr)	29 • 10AM Staff Meeting (Pr. Ted's Office) • 5—6:30PM Trunk or Treat	30	31 • 7PM Accion de Fe (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

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)

