



**SUNDAY**  
December 28, 2025

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Preschool**  
380 N. Fairview Ave.  
Goleta, CA 93117  
[www.gslcms.org](http://www.gslcms.org)  
church : 805.967.1416  
preschool: 805.967.6101  
e-mail: [gslc2@yahoo.com](mailto:gslc2@yahoo.com)

## GSLC Information on Our Worship Service

Please continue to read the weekly newsletter and/or Sunday bulletin as well as our web site, <https://gslcms.org>, for up-to-date information.

***Our church office is open Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m.—12:30 pm. The office number is 805-967-1416 if you would like to call.***

*The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. Amen.*

### GSLC's On Line Giving Options

Good Shepherd has offered electronic check donation capabilities (through Vanco) for a while. You now have the ability to sign up directly through Good Shepherd's web site to donate your electronic check (through Vanco) once or on a recurring basis.

You can also make a special one-time donation by credit card on Good Shepherd's website (through Square).

For either donation type, go to <https://gslcms.org/giving> and then click on the appropriate donation button. You can specify whether you are donating to the GSLC budget or the Food Distribution program. If you prefer, you can also mail us your offering or drop it off at the church office.

### ***Our Livestream full Sunday Service is available on the GSLC Website***

We are livestreaming our Sunday service at 9:30 am which is able to be viewed when the service starts. You can also watch it on our website anytime after that. We plan to continue this after the "stay at home" order is lifted.

**This is a full service** - prayers, sermon and music. The liturgy will be provided on the web site as a PDF document, along with a "public" version of the weekly bulletin (no contact information and no weekly giving statement). The recording includes the liturgy and song lyrics superimposed on the video images. You are encouraged to respond to the liturgy and sing along with Adam. **Go to:** <https://gslcms.org/watch>.

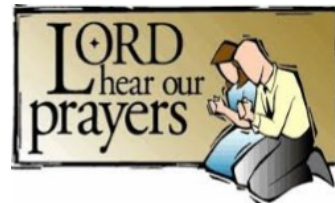
**If you do not have a way to view our GSLC service at home**, we now have a limited number of **Kindle tablets available**. These are provided, upon request, with recordings of GSLC's recent church services. These are self-contained touch screen video devices. **Please contact Trisha** at the office during the week (Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm) at 805 967-1416 for more information about the tablets.



Count Your Blessings

**December 28, 2025**

## **We Remember in our Prayers**



### **For Successful Medical Care and Healing**

#### **For Our Members:**

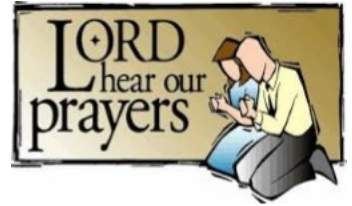
- Karin G.—healing from health issues
- Dee W.—healing from recent heart valve replacement surgery
- Elliott D.—healing from numerous health issues
- Lesley M.—healing from numerous health issues
- Ken M. & Family—peace as they care for Lesley
- Judy S.—Parkinson's disease & polycystic kidney disease
- Janet E.—dealing with numerous health issues
- Dr. Bob O.—undergoing treatment for renal issues
- Dave F.—dealing with numerous health issues
- Brigitte S.—continued prayers for healing
- Gary R.—continued healing from eye surgery
- Jim S.—continued recovery at home from a fall
- Shawna H.—continued recovery and healing at home
- Edna K.—continued recovery from a fall and other health issues
- Margret B.—for peace

#### **For Friends and Family Members:**

- Natalie K.—(friend of Lizzy Savage)—healing to breathe better and peace
- Farzeen & Family—(friends of Lizzy Savage)—prayers for salvation
- Rob L.—diagnosed with Parkinson's disease
- Jim—(Edna Koek's brother)—healing from cancer
- Rev. Jim J.—Parkinson's disease and other health issues
- Diane D.—(friend of Lorna White)—dealing with cancer issues
- Steve M.—(Shawna Hall's dad)—recovering at home
- Apolonio—(friend of Spike & Bonnie Moore)—continuing treatment & recovery from Esophageal cancer
- Sondra—(friend of MaryAnn Miller)—diagnosed with cancer
- Mark S.—healing from surgery
- Jessie—(niece of Edna Koek)—health issues
- Craig—(Edna Koek's nephew)—healing from surgery
- Patrick K.—(Edna Koek's nephew)—healing from surgery

**December 28, 2025**

## ***We Remember in our Prayers***



### **For Friends and Family Members:**

- **Linda M.**—(Shawna Hall's mom)—ongoing health concerns
- **Bob R.**—(Vicki McPhail's brother)—recovering at home
- **John M.**—(cousin of Lorna White)—healing for heart issues
- **Melanie H.**—healing from continuous health crisis
- **Judy**—(friend of Shawna Hall)—starting cancer treatment
- **Patrick K.**—(Edna Koek's brother)—continuing cancer treatment
- **Christine K.**—(cousin of Lorna White)—Dementia is getting worse
- **Arlene K.**—Parkinson's disease
- **Terry O.**—relieve discomfort & suffering from her health issues
- **Scott R.**—(friend of Pastor Keith)—cancer treatment
- **Ed**—(friend of Lizzy Savage)—prayers for salvation
- **Patty**—(sister Raine asking for prayer)—healing from upcoming surgery

### **Additional prayer requests, prayers of thanksgiving, prayers of comfort:**

Prayers of thanksgiving in celebration of **Brian Michelet's birthday on 12/28**  
(Brian is Joanne Eoff's son)

Prayers of thanksgiving in celebration of **Linda Williams' birthday on 1/3**

Prayers that God continues to bless our **preschool families and staff**

Continued prayers for **Centro Cristiano Vida Nueva, in Oaxaca, Mexico**

Continued prayers for **Pastor and Mrs. Paul Nelson as they continue their work in Indonesia**



# Bible Studies



## HEBREWS

GOD'S 'BETTER' IS BEST

### ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Sunday

11:00 AM — **Hebrews**

Led by Pastor Keith

Our **Sunday morning Bible Class** will offer an overview of Hebrews. This will be followed by a close look at several key passages in the book, including Hebrews 11—the Bible's great hall of faith chapter.

"God has planned something better for us!" (Hebrews 11:40)

Our Bible study is after the Sunday worship service, 11:00am–Noon, in the sanctuary. I invite you to join in our study of Hebrews. – Pastor Keith

### Read through The Bible in Two Years:

Let's read God's Word together and see the great things God does for us through His Word! Haven't started yet? It's ok to jump in any time!!

#### December 2025/January 2026

Dec 29- Revelation 17:1—18:8

Dec 30 - Revelation 18:9–24

Dec 31 - Revelation 19:1–21

Jan 01 - Revelation 20:1–15

Jan 02 - Revelation 21:1–27

Jan 03 - Revelation 22:1–21

Jan 05 - Genesis 1:1—2:25

Jan 06 - Genesis 3:1–24

Jan 07 - Genesis 4:1—6:8

Jan 08 - Genesis 6:9—8:22

Jan 09 - Genesis 9:1—10:32

Jan 10 - Genesis 11:1—12:9





## **Sermon Series for Epiphany (2026!)**

### **God's 'Better' Is Best!**

The book of Hebrews addresses Christians in Rome undergoing persecution sometime close to 64 AD when Christians began dying for their faith under Nero. The book is a clarion call to not return to Judaism, which was a legal religion while Christianity had become an illegal religion.

The author urges people to remain faithful to their Christian confession (Heb 3:1; 4:14; 10:23), warns against drifting away and neglecting salvation (Heb 2:1, 3), points out the danger of losing confidence in God's promises (Heb 3:6) and falling away from the faith (Heb 3:12). People were tempted to become rebellious and unbelieving like Israel (Heb 3:16–19) for they had not progressed into Christian adulthood (Heb 5:11–6:2). They had experienced God's saving gifts in Christ but may end up rejecting him (Heb 6:4–6; 10:29; 12:25). Sluggishness (Heb 6:12) could lead to something far worse—apostasy (Heb 10:26). Thus, repeatedly the author reminds people that in Christ, they have something better.

Our Advent and Epiphany emphasis is God's 'Better' Is Best! Hebrews repeatedly explains the gifts God gives Israel through Moses and then promises that we have something much better!

#### **Epiphany 2026**

*January 4 - "A Better King" - (Matthew 2:1-12)*

*January 11 - "A Better Rest" - (Hebrews 4:1-13)*

*January 18 - "A Better High Priest" - (Hebrews 4:14-16)*

*January 25 - "A Better Treasure" - (Hebrews 10:19-25)*

*February 1 - "A Better Vision" - (Hebrews 11:23-29)*

*February 8 - "A Better Race" - (Hebrews 12:1-2)*

*February 15 - "A Better Mountain" - (Hebrews 12:18-24)*

*Wishing Everyone a Happy  
and Blessed New Year!*



**Poinsettias Given to Good Shepherd in Celebration  
of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus**



*Fred & Cheryl Barbaria  
Dan & Joan Barnett  
Lois Cofiell  
Joanne Eoff  
Janet Evans  
Tom & Martha Fisher  
Ruth Jessop  
Pastor Keith & Kitty Jones  
Barbara Lamboley  
Vicki McPhail  
Trisha & Alan Meeder  
Susan & Ian Miller  
Laurie Pasinski  
Mark & Andrea Preiser  
Judy Shough  
Swann Family  
Nancy & Bob Szulczewski  
Vaughn & Dee Wipf*





## OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026 ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

**Please pick up** your offering envelopes for 2026 in the Narthex of the church. If you do NOT have envelopes or notice a problem with your new ones, please **contact** Janet Briseño at 967-1416, ext.103. Please begin using your new envelopes in **JANUARY 2026** and toss/recycle your old ones!



Seeking a Better Connection with God



### **Jesus Sessions with Lizzy Savage**

We will be having Jesus Sessions every Tuesday from 3:30 pm to 6 pm in the Fireside Room. If you want individual prayer please contact Lizzy.

We are a prayer intercession group that prays for the private prayer needs of others, our church, and our area. We pray to help people connect better with God.

Please contact Lizzy Savage at 805-453-0571 to make an appointment! The Jesus Sessions will meet every week.

Seeking a Better Connection with God

Lizbeth Savage

805-453-0571

[JesusSessionsgslc@gmail.com](mailto:JesusSessionsgslc@gmail.com)





## Join Adam for a Music Meditation

Adam Phillips, GSLC's Music Director, provides meditative instrumental and vocal music every **Wednesday morning at 10 a.m.**

Please join Adam (or an occasional guest artist) in our sanctuary as they explore a variety of hymns and other musical prayers performed on a variety of instruments. The meditation is livestreamed on GSLC's Video Page on our website <https://gslcms.org>, and available afterwards as video and audio recordings until the next live event. Older meditation videos are archived.



## ALTAR FLOWERS POLICY



If you would like to place flowers on the altar, please **call** (805) 967-1416, or **email** (gslc2@yahoo.com) the church office. **One beautiful bouquet is \$25.** Please make out your check to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (GSLC) and write flowers on the memo line. You can mail it to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church or drop it by the church office Mon-Thurs, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 pm.

## QUILTING NEWS & NOTES

**Quilting will NOT meet in November or December!**

We will keep you posted as to when quilting will return!  
Have a very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year!



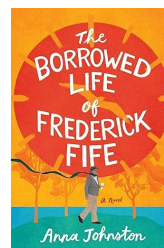
## "BETTER READ THAN DEAD" BOOK CLUB

The book chosen for our **January 10th** meeting is:  
***The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife*** by Anna Johnston

Please join us for discussion when we meet on the second Saturday of each month. Contact Val Eurman by phone (805-705-3311) or email (veurman@cox.net) if you have questions or would like more details.

Here is the link: <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/204158999-the-borrowed-life-of-frederick-fife>

Wishing everyone a blessed Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year!





## **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING GOOD SHEPHERD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION!**



- \* **NEW Need:** We are low on clothing for everyone, **especially for men.** Also can use blankets, linens and jackets. **All items must be cleaned and ready to use.**
- \* **ONGOING Needs:**
  - Donate \$\$
  - Purchase food & hygiene
  - Extra citrus, fruit and/or any veggies from your yard
  - Plastic grocery or reusable cloth bags
  - Help on Friday
  - Help on Saturday

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### **NOTES**

- \* **Food items that we don't usually get from S.B. Food Bank, such as:**
  - Peanut Butter, jelly, jam, syrup, flour, sugar, unsweetened almond milk
  - **Non-sugary** cereal (Ex: Wheat Chex, Cheerios, Raisin Bran), breakfast bars, oatmeal
- \* **Hygiene and household goods, such as:**
  - Toilet paper, tissues, paper towels, soap
  - Toothpaste, floss, toothbrushes (or ask your dentist for a donation!)
- \* **For our Misc. Table:** we are collecting individual items such as deodorant, shampoos/conditioners, cleaning supplies, diapers/wipes, male/female personal items...). Perhaps you have extras in your cupboards or can buy some locally.

**WE DO NOT ACCEPT**  
**Over-the-counter medicine or soft drinks/sodas**

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**Questions? Contact Val at 805-705-3311 or Cindy at 805-680-4686**  
**or see them after church on Sundays.**



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## **FLU SEASON IS HERE!!**

The symptoms of flu, unlike a cold, come on quickly and are intense and may result in severe health problems such as pneumonia, bacterial infections, and hospitalizations. It is responsible for 12,000- 56,000 deaths annually.

### **Who should get a flu shot?**

- First and foremost everyone!
- Adults and children who have chronic illnesses, such as asthma, heart disease, kidney disease, liver disease and diabetes
- Persons who are immunocompromised
- Woman who are or will be pregnant during the flu season
- Children and adolescents (age 6 months through 18 years)
- Residents of nursing homes and other long-term facilities
- Persons who are extremely obese (body mass index 40 or greater for adults)
- Persons who live or care for someone who has an increased risk for flu-related complications.



### **How to prevent or avoid the flu?**

- The single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to be vaccinated each year
- Avoid big crowds
- Good health habits: covering your cough, your sneeze and washing your hands often and use hand sanitizer when out and about. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

### **What if I have symptoms?**

- If you have the flu, you are contagious from 1 day prior to symptoms thru the next 5 - 7 days or until symptoms fade
- Most people who have the flu do not need to see a doctor and can follow below to get well:
  - Make rest a top priority and take naps
  - Go to bed; do not skip on sleep. This weakens your immune system.
  - Drink plenty of fluids to help thin mucus and break up congestion.
  - Skip caffeinated sodas, coffee, and alcohol that can dry you out.
  - Sip hot beverages: decaffeinated tea, or warm broth.
  - Take a hot shower to moisten scratchy throats, loosen congestion and relax aching muscles.
  - Take an over-the-counter remedy as directed to treat fevers and cough (children and teens should never take aspirin because of the risk of Reye's syndrome, a rare but potentially fatal condition.)
  - Do not re-enter society until fever has been gone for 24 hours

### **Who Needs to see a doctor?**

- Those individuals at high risk of flu-related complications are those most often with a chronic disease as noted above and/or have a weakened immune system.
- If your symptoms are severe, contact your physician and they may prescribe an antiviral to reduce the severity and length of your symptoms.

## **Our Week at Good Shepherd**

### **Monday, Dec 29**

7:00 p.m. Hispanic Open Mixed Al-Anon group (Fireside Room))

### **Tuesday, Dec 30**

6:00 p.m. Men's Stag Al-Anon group (closed) (Room 14)

6:30 p.m. Scout Troop #4 meeting (Youth Room)

### **Wednesday, Dec 31**

10:00 a.m. **No Christian Music Meditation**

### **Thursday, Jan 1—New Year's Day**

**Office is Closed**

6:00 p.m. Women's AA group (Fireside Room)

### **Friday, Jan 2**

10:00 a.m. Food Distribution Prep (Entire Campus)

1:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery Group (Room 14)

8:00 p.m. Schooner AA Group (Fireside Room)

### **Saturday, Jan 3**

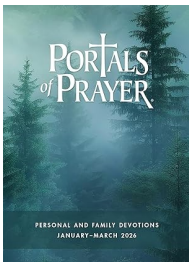
9:00 a.m. Food Distribution (Entire Campus)

### **Sunday, Jan 4**

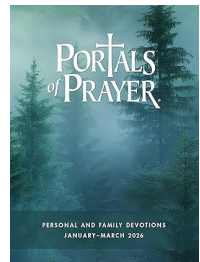
9:30 a.m. Worship Service with Communion (Sanctuary)  
(Traditional)

11:00 a.m. Bible Study

**HAPPY★NEW★YEAR**



**AVAILABLE for FREE!**  
Portals of Prayer devotion booklets for JAN — MAR 2026 are NOW available. Come by the church office during business hours (Mon-Thurs 8:30 am — 12:30 pm) to pick one up. They will also be available on the table in the church narthex on Sunday mornings.



### **How to contact your Board of Directors for 2025/2026:**

<i>President</i>	<i>Dave Roman</i>	<i>805-698-4596</i>	<i>dave.roman@verizon.net</i>
<i>Vice-President</i>	<i>Alan Meeder</i>	<i>805-452-1591</i>	<i>soccer@silcom.com</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Michelle Cochran</i>	<i>805-705-7997</i>	<i>ms.michellecochran@gmail.com</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Dan Barnett</i>	<i>805-729-5993</i>	<i>decibell.one@gmail.com</i>
<i>Member-at-Large</i>	<i>Andrea Hoelter</i>	<i>805-692-8414</i>	<i>andreadhoelter@gmail.com</i>
<i>Member-at-Large</i>	<i>Doug Trantow</i>	<i>323-496-1200</i>	<i>dtrantow@pacbell.net</i>

### **How to contact your Committee Chairs and Group Leaders:**

<i>Counters</i>	<i>Dan Barnett</i>	<i>805-729-5993</i>	<i>decibell.one@gmail.com</i>
<i>Elders Chair</i>	<i>Bill Savage</i>	<i>805-453-0574</i>	<i>wsavage1954@gmail.com</i>
<i>Food Distribution</i>	<i>Val Eurman</i>	<i>805-705-3311</i>	<i>veurman@cox.net</i>
	<i>Cindy Oliver</i>	<i>805-680-4686</i>	<i>cdoliver.cox@gmail.com</i>
<i>Head Usher</i>	<i>Mark Preiser</i>	<i>805-967-2113</i>	<i>mpreiser@cox.net</i>
<i>Memorial &amp; Endowments</i>	<i>Tom Fisher</i>	<i>805-964-3692</i>	<i>tmfisher2@cox.net</i>
<i>Publicity Team</i>			<i>publicity@gslcms.org</i>
<i>Shepherd's Bells</i>	<i>Joan Barnett</i>	<i>805-729-5994</i>	<i>joan.barnett@gmail.com</i>

**How to Contact An Elder:** Elders assist with our public worship, oversee the spiritual life of members, and offer spiritual and physical support for our Pastor and congregation. Please contact *any Elder to share your needs, concerns, and prayer requests.*

<b><i>Elder</i></b>	<b><i>Phone</i></b>	<b><i>E-Mail</i></b>
<i>Ted Hoelter</i>	<i>805-692-8414</i>	<i>tedhoelter1@gmail.com</i>
<i>Mike McGinnis</i>	<i>805-967-3563</i>	<i>mmcginnis8@gmail.com</i>
<i>Bill Savage, Chair</i>	<i>805-453-0574</i>	<i>wsavage1954@gmail.com</i>
<i>Erik Wipf</i>	<i>805-683-3228</i>	<i>drerik@sbdentistry.net</i>

### **Weekly Contributions — Week 50— 12/22/25      Year To Date**

<i>Weekly Ministry Budget</i>	<i>\$ 6,519.23</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>\$ 325,961.54</i>
<i>Last Weeks Contributions</i>	<i>\$ 3,587.90</i>	<i>Contributions (Includes IRAs)</i>	<i>\$ 311,704.76</i>
<i>Other income</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>	<i>Other Income/Interest</i>	<i>\$ 19,675.70</i>
<i>Stock Gifts</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>	<i>Stock Gifts</i>	<i>\$ 8,334.00</i>
<i>Weekly over/(short)</i>	<i>\$ (2,931.33)</i>	<i>Year To Date over/(short)</i>	<i>\$ 13,752.92</i>

### **Mission Offerings Year to Date**

<i>District Missions</i>	<i>\$ 795.00</i>
<i>Nelson LCMS Theological Educator</i>	<i>\$ 1,300.00</i>
<i>Ukraine</i>	<i>\$ 500.00</i>
<i>Dental Mission</i>	<i>\$ 2,100.00</i>
<i>Hispanic Mission</i>	<i>\$ 0.00</i>
<i>Bible Sticks</i>	<i>\$ 1,670.00</i>
<i>Disaster Relief — Fire</i>	<i>\$ 175.00</i>