



The WORD

of the

Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist

Volume 52, No. 48

December 4, 2018

The Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007 - www.cgsum.org - 626-447-2181

Worship Schedule for Sunday, December 9, 2018

Second Sunday of Advent - Hanging of the Greens

Special Music at 10:00 a.m. Worship

Scripture Lessons: Malachi 3:1-4 and Luke 3:1-6

The Message: "Clear a Path", the Rev. George Hooper, Preaching

8:00 a.m. in the Chapel and 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

8:00 a.m. – Worship – Chapel.

9:00 – Coffee Fellowship – Courtyard.

9:00 – Bible Study- Library.

9:00 – 11:30 – Childcare – Toddler Room.

9:30 – Carol Choir call time.

9:45 – Youth meet in the Sanctuary.

10:00 – Worship – Sanctuary. Mrs. Ruth Gray and the Chamber Singers of Rosemead High School will sing Mrs. Gray's anthems, "Christmas Canon of Peace" and "No Room, No Room" with our choir at the 10:00 o'clock service.

10:15 – Children's Sunday School – Children go to classrooms with teachers following "Word for Children"

11:15 – Youth Bell rehearsal – Sanctuary.

11:15 – Coffee Fellowship – JH and Patio.

11:15 – Poinsettia Sales on the patio. (Final day!)

11:15 - Alternative Christmas Market and Reception for the Rosemead Choir in Jordan Hall.

11:20 - Carol Choir in the Music Room.

11:20 – Youth Bells in the Sanctuary.

4:00 p.m. – Glendale CC Concert in the Sanctuary.

4:30 – Youth Choir – Chapel.

5:00 – Reception in Jordan Hall.

6:00 - Youth Choir dinner - Lounge.

6:30 – UMYF – Lounge – Confirmation Class #7.

Among the Church Family

Please continue to keep those previously mentioned in your prayers and let the church office know of new concerns. The hospitals are unable to notify the church, so please keep us informed.

A service in celebration of **Dick Van Kirk's** life will be held January 5, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. The memorial service for **Linda Ballance** will be held January 19, at 1:00 p.m. Both services will have receptions following them.

Adornment Celebration

Our annual Christmas adornment of our church campus is happening on **Saturday, December 8, at 4:00 p.m.** Please bring yourselves, your kids, your grandkids, your grandparents, etc. for this very fun evening. We will begin at 4 p.m. to decorate the church then join together for light refreshments following.



Double Rings Annual Christmas Bake Sale

Don't miss all the delicious goodies for sale after church on **Sunday, December 16!**



*Sounds
of the
Season*

Special Music and Hanging of the Greens on December 9

In addition to our annual Hanging of the Greens during worship on December 9, the Second Sunday of Advent, **Mrs. Ruth Gray and the Chamber Singers of Rosemead High School** will sing Mrs. Gray's anthems, "Christmas Canon of Peace" and "No Room, No Room" with our choir at the 10:00 o'clock service on December 9. There will be a reception in Jordan Hall for Mrs. Gray, the Chamber Singers and their families following the service.

The Alternative Market Is Here Again this Sunday!

No need to panic about filling the needs on your Christmas shopping list...the Alternative Market is here! You won't need a bag or a box to purchase meaningful gifts for friends, family and co-workers. Your gift could be a breathing, hope-giving, money-making, fruit bearing, women empowering, food providing, milk-making, shelter giving, refugee assisting, community building, life changing miracle! Your purchases helps people locally, nationally and around the world to help end poverty and achieve self-reliance. Organizations offering gifts are CHURCH WORLD SERVICE, TREES FOR LIFE, FINCA, HEIFER PROJECT, UNION STATION, HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, FAMILY PROMISE and HEAVENLY TREASURES. Come shop **December 9 and 16** in Jordan Hall.



Homelessness, Lack of Affordable Housing...

We all know the situation exists here in the San Gabriel Valley and all over the country and the world. The lowest income renters in LA County spend 70% of their income on rent. Nowhere in the US can a full-time, minimum wage employee afford a 1-bedroom apartment. People throw their hands up and see the situation as hopeless. But we can give hope by purchasing gifts from three organizations in our Alternative Market: HABITAT FOR HUMANITY builds homes and has a Home Repair Program for Seniors, veterans, and other low-income homeowners, UNION STATION supports the homeless through meals and shelter, seeks permanent shelter for individuals and families, has job training programs and special facilities for women and children, FAMILY PROMISE supports homeless families and assists them in finding shelter, they organize interim housing until permanent housing is found. Come give the gift of hope to those on your Christmas gift list and make a difference in the lives of those in need. This year Habitat for Humanity is offering a free Habitat measuring tape and pen to accompany your gift cards.

Holiday Food Collection



**Feeding the
Community**

Each year our church collects canned and packaged goods to help round out the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets given to the clients of The Foothill Unity Center. Food list reminders were distributed after church last Sunday. Please staple or tape the list to your donation bag or box. Return your donations to Jordan Hall. Donations will be accepted through mid-December. Cash donations should be delivered directly to the church office and should not be left in Jordan Hall. Make checks out to The Foothill Unity Center. Here are a few suggested needs for the holiday baskets (canned or packaged items only):

Yams, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Soups, Beans, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Meats, Cereal, Dessert Mixes, Stuffing Mix, Rice, Baking Mixes, Pickles, Olives, Jell-O Mix, Pudding Mix, Gravy, Dinner Helpers, and Cranberry Sauce.

Christmas Eve Children's Pageant

The Christmas pageant is quickly approaching! We invite all children ages 5-18 to participate in the Christmas pageant, which will be a part of the Christmas Eve Family Service on Sunday, Dec. 24, 2018. We will have two rehearsals on Sunday, Dec. 16th and Sunday, Dec. 23rd, from 11:15AM-1:00PM (lunch included), and all members of the Carol Choir, Youth Bells, and Youth Choir will be participating in the service. If you are interested in participating or helping with lunch or costumes, please contact Franklyn Shen at (626) 272-5081, or by email at fnjshen@sbcglobal.net.



Poinsettias to Beautify Our Worship Centers

The Christmas season is upon us, and, per tradition, we have an opportunity to decorate the chapel and church with beautiful poinsettias. **The final day of pre-sales will be this Sunday, December 9, after church.** Each plant is \$15, and may be purchased in honor of or memory of a friend or loved one. Poinsettias may be taken home after the 9 PM or 11 PM services on Christmas Eve. Plants left after that time will be taken to our home bound members.



Merry Christmas!

Christmas is coming. We wait anxiously and busily for its arrival. Somewhere in the flash of time, we need a few minutes to relax. That's when the book display in the church library comes in. For beautiful pictures and quotations from many people, read Thomas Kinkade's, I'll Be Home for Christmas. Look through The Blessings of Christmas for poetry, stories, prayers, and Scripture. Find out what made Christmas for a child named Effie.

Read Jim Bishop's The Day Christ Was Born for a picture of the blessed event. A delightful story is Once in the Year by Elizabeth Yates. Animals do talk, but only once in a year! Meet people who were, according to the story, actually at the manger and others who feel as if they were. Read J. Barrie Shepherd's Faces at the Manger. Perhaps you'll see yourself there.

For different reading, look at the Augsburg Fortress books. It's the first time they've been on display. Find stories, recipes, beautiful illustrations, songs, and poetry. Why does the owl sleep during the day and hunt at night? The answer is in one of the books!

Have a meaningful, joyous Christmas! And, somehow, may God move us to bring peace to a tortured world.

-Elaine Drew, Librarian

Blue Christmas Service

While bells are ringing and people are singing, this season is not always the most cheerful season for everyone, particularly those who are missing loved ones, struggling with depression or going through a life hurdle. If you are looking for a safe space to reflect, pray and receive God's love during this season where you feel particularly estranged, you are invited to join our Blue Christmas service, December 20, 2018 in the chapel at 7:00 p.m.



Grace Notes – 12/03/2018

The season of Advent is a time of preparation. We know what God has done in the past, is accomplishing in the present, and will bring about in the future. Hope causes us to make room for all of this to be made real in our lives. When we know that visitors are coming, we prepare a place for them. I invite you to prepare your lives for the coming of Christ!

This Sunday at the 10 AM service we will welcome guests in worship: Ruth Gray and the Choir from Rosemead High School will bring two original songs in worship. Following the service we will share in a reception in Jordan Hall.



Kathy and I also invite you to join us for a:

**Christmas Open House at the parsonage
141 White Oak Drive in Arcadia
Sunday, December 23, 2-4 PM**

We will have homemade cookies and I will share some savory snacks from the grill. We look forward to preparing our home for your arrival!

Grace and Peace,

George

Many Upcoming Events to Mark on Your 2018 Calendars!!



December 8 – Adornment Celebration at 4:00 p.m.

December 9 – Hanging of the Greens. Bring canned goods.

December 9 – Final day to purchase poinsettias. Alternative Market in Jordan Hall.

December 9 – Mrs. Ruth Gray and the Chamber Singers of Rosemead High School will sing Mrs. Gray's anthems, “Christmas Canon of Peace” and “No Room, No Room” with our choir at the 10:00 o'clock service. There will be a reception in Jordan Hall for Mrs. Gray, the Chamber Singers and their families following the service.

December 9 – Glendale College Concert – Glendale College Concert Singers will be performing this afternoon in our Sanctuary. The concert will feature new choral music by Whitacre, Esenvalds, Gjeilo, Ticheli, Kirchner, and Malpede, as well as holiday music. The singers are under the direction of our own Dr. Peter Green. Suggested donation \$15 (seniors and students \$10). There will be a reception in Jordan Hall following the concert.

December 16 – Alternative Christmas Market and Double Rings Bake Sale in Jordan Hall. 11:15-1:00 Christmas pageant rehearsal.

December 20 – “Blue” Christmas Service in the Chapel at 7:00 p.m.

December 23 – “Trek to the Tree” at 8 & 10 a.m. - 11:15-1:00 Christmas pageant rehearsal.

December 23 - Christmas Open House at the parsonage at 141 White Oak Drive in Arcadia, 2-4 p.m.

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services: 5:00, 9:00 and 11:00 p.m.



*open hearts,
open minds,
open doors*

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Church of the Good Shepherd

United Methodist

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www.cgsum.org

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District Superintendent: Melissa Roux MacKinnon

Pastor: George Hooper

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Franklyn Shen

Director of Music Ministry: Peter Green

Director of the Good Shepherd Children's Center: Linda Brown