



The **WORD**
of the
Church of the Good Shepherd
United Methodist

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November 13, 2019

**The Church of the Good Shepherd
United Methodist Church**

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

Sunday, November 17, 2019

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost - Pledge Sunday

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

Scripture: Isaiah 12 and Luke 21:1-4

Message: "A Stewardship Culture of Generosity: Pledging to a Life of Generosity?"

The Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin, Preaching

10:00 a.m. is Broadcast Live to Facebook/CGSUM and to CGSUM.ORG

8:00 p.m. – Worship in the Chapel.

9:00 – Coffee Fellowship – Courtyard.

9:00 - Bible Study – Library.

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

10:00 – Worship in the Sanctuary.

10:00 – Children’s Sunday School.

10:00 – ESL Bible Class – Library.

11:00 – SSP Stock Sales on the patio.

11:00 – Coffee and Cake Fellowship in the courtyard.

11:15 – Covenant Conversations (Session 5) a Town Hall Meeting and lunch in JH. Child care available.

11:15 – Carol Choir rehearsal – Music Room.

11:20 – Youth Bells rehearsal – Sanctuary.

2:00 p.m. – Concert in the Sanctuary (outside group)

4:30 – Youth Choir – Music Room.

6:00 – Sundays @ Six is meeting tonight.

6:30 – Youth dinner.

7:00-8:00 – Youth Fellowship – UMYF.

Among the Church Family

In Our Prayers:

Please keep all those previously mentioned in your prayers. If you or a loved one needs to be added to the prayer chain or the newsletter prayer list, please let the church office know.

Calling All Children, Youth and Adults

Christmas is coming! We need animals, shepherds, wise men, angels, Mary, and Joseph for the Christmas Eve family Service at 5:00PM on Tuesday, Dec. 24, at 5:00PM. Carol Choir, Youth Choir and Youth Bells will also be participating. Rehearsals for the Pageant will be Sunday, Dec. 15th from 11:15AM – 1:00PM, and Sunday, Dec. 22nd, from 11:15AM – 1:00PM. All children, youth, young adults, and adults ages 2-105 are welcome to participate. Lunch will be included!

The Angels Have Landed!

The Angels from Foothill Unity Center have arrived! Each angel represents a child of a Foothill Unity Center client. There are requests on the back of the angels but you are not expected to fulfill every wish! Do what you can and if you'd like you can give a gift card instead of purchasing items. Please leave gifts with angels attached to the UNWRAPPED bags and leave gift cards in the church office for safety. RETURN YOUR GIFTS BEFORE OR BY DECEMBER 1st.

Nov. 17 – Pledge Sunday, Cake in the Courtyard, then Covenant Conversations Session 5: Town Hall Meeting in Jordan Hall. Lunch and child care provided.

2020 Financial Planning

On November 24th after the 10 AM service, Craig Lucas and Mike Johnson will provide an overview of the use of the Minimum Required Distribution and Qualified Charitable Distribution to fund charitable donations. This information can be used in your 2020 financial planning if your age is at least 70 1/2, and you have an IRA or similar retirement account. If this describes your situation, please join Mike and Craig for this presentation.

CGS 2019 ADVENT BOOK STUDY

“THE JOURNEY—Walking the Road to Bethlehem”

by Adam Hamilton

a simple girl, an ordinary man, an unforgettable destination

Join the Advent CGS Book Study

4 MONDAYS, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM, NOVEMBER 25-DECEMBER 16, 2019



“If you think you know the story of Jesus’ birth, think again! This wonderful book sets us on a journey to the times and characters of Christmas so that we experience the birth of Christ in our lives in a new way.” —Joel C. Hunter, author of Church Distributed

As he did with Jesus' crucifixion in “24 Hours That Changed the World”, Pastor Hamilton once again approaches a world-changing event with thoughtfulness. Using historical information, archaeological data, and a personal look at some of the stories surrounding the birth, the most amazing moment in history will become more real and heart-felt as you walk along this road. Join Diane and Craig Lucas as we journey with Pastor Adam Hamilton from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ. Bring a friend. To sign up for the class, contact Craig & Diane Lucas (dllucasarc@gmail.com) 626-447-4457. Cost of the book is \$12. Contact Diane if you want to order a book from her. The book is also available from Amazon and Cokesbury. Be sure to get the Expanded Paperback Edition!

Equipping for Renewal, Leadership Training

On Saturday, November 16, the East Cal Pac District will be sponsoring a training session for church leaders and others who may be interested. It will be held at Good Shepherd this year. There will be sessions especially designed for leaders & members of Trustees, Finance, SPRC, Lay Leaders, Youth directors/leaders, and clergy. This is an excellent time to learn & ask questions of the Cal Pac experts, & I encourage your attendance. Even if you know you will not be an officer next year, there is probably information which can be passed on to the next officer of your committee. Cost is only \$15. Pastor Eva & Franklyn will be leading a couple of group sessions.

Holiday Food Basket Collection – Now through New Years!

It's mid-November and many of us happily look towards Thanksgiving and Christmas. The clients of the Foothill Unity Center also would like to celebrate these special holidays with their families and you can help! The Center distributes special Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets and our donations can help fill them.



**Feeding the
Community**

Anything you enjoy at a holiday meal can be donated. Make sure it DOES NOT come in a GLASS CONTAINER! Here is a list of some suggested items: (canned or packages of:) yams, vegetables, fruit, hearty soups, beans, spaghetti sauce, salad dressing, dessert mixes, stuffing, rice, baking mixes, pickles, olives, jello, gravy, dinner helpers, beef stew, cranberry sauce, bread mixes such as cornbread, mac and cheese mix, canned pumpkin.

If you prefer to make a donation towards the turkeys, chickens, and hams that are provided please make your check out to The Foothill Unity Center and leave it in the office for safe delivery. Food items should be left in Jordan Hall. Thanks and blessings!

November 25 – Interfaith Service at Holy Angels at 7:00 p.m.

November 27 – Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service in our Chapel at 7:30 p.m.



ten thousand villages™



November 15 through 30, fair trade holiday shopping to benefit Family Promise of the San Gabriel Valley!

Shop for handmade fair trade gifts at Ten Thousand Villages and they will donate 15% of your entire purchase to Family Promise. The Kickoff Party is November 15, at 6:00 p.m., at 567 South Lake Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101. There will be refreshments and music to start the two weeks of holiday benefit shopping! Any purchase made that evening also enters Family Promise into a drawing to win an extra \$100 donation!

Covenant Conversation Sessions

Thank you to all who have attended any of the Covenant Conversation Sessions and Small Group Discussion times. These sessions are for us to learn, discuss, and vision together as we work towards creating a Covenant Statement for Church of the Good Shepherd in regards to LGBT+ issues. This is especially important as churches, clergy, and laity will be affected by the upcoming 2020 General Conference that will revise the United Methodist Church's stance on human sexuality.

CGS is a diverse community with a vast range of theological positions, yet we are all members of the same church and share many missions and values in our service to God. It is vitally important that all viewpoints are expressed and taken into account. Our last Session is a Town Hall Meeting this Sunday, Nov. 17th at 11:15am with lunch and childcare provided.

Fellowship Welcome for New Director of Music Ministries Dr. Stephen Pu

Please join the SPRC and Choir members in officially welcoming Stephen this Sunday, Nov. 17th during the fellowship time in the courtyard at 11am after worship. There will be coffee, tea, juice, cookies and a welcome cake!

Pastor Eva's Message

Growing up my grandmother always told me to "count my blessings." As a child, I didn't really understand what that meant, so I would gladly count the number of candies I collected on Halloween, or the number of times I won a tetherball game on the playground, or the number of hugs my parents would give me at bedtime. As an adult, I learned that counting your blessings was a reminder to be grateful for the good things in your life, and to stop yourself from becoming too unhappy about the bad things.

When we think about church finances, we can often be overwhelmed with the costs of maintaining the properties, the fair wages we want to pay staff, and wisely using monetary resources for all our ministries. Let's pause and count our blessings. To be thankful for each member's generosity in service and tithes to the church. This Sunday, Nov. 17th will be pledge Sunday. I invite all to prayerfully count your blessings. To consider the financial commitment you are able to give to the church in 2020 and to help us focus on the ministry that God is calling us to do!



Pastor Eva

Upcoming Events to Mark on Your Calendars!!

The Finance Committee is thankful for each member's generosity as it funds the ministries of the church for its members and the people in the community. Join us each Sunday as we explore Stewardship and what it means to give generously to support the ministries of the church. And please save this Sunday, November 17th for Pledge Sunday.

November 16 – East District Training Conference here at CGS, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

November 17 – Covenant Conversations – after church with lunch served in Jordan Hall.

November 17 – Pledge Sunday.

November 23 – Arcadia Band Review – Duarte Road is closed 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

November 25 – Interfaith Service at Holy Angels at 7:00 p.m.

November 25 – Advent Book Study begins at 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the church library.

November 27 – Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service in our Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

November 28 & 29 – Thanksgiving weekend holidays – office and Children's Center closed.

December 1 – Adornment at 4:00 p.m.



The WORD

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Resident Bishop: Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

District Superintendent: Melissa Roux MacKinnon

Pastor: Eva Thai-Erwin

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Franklyn Shen

Director of Music Ministry: Stephen Pu

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