



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

Volume 53, No. 46

November 19, 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 24, 2019

Christ the King

Thanksgiving Sunday

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

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.

9:00 – Youth Bell call time – Sanctuary.

9:30 – Youth Choir call time – Music Room.

9:30 – Carol Choir call time – Music 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 Fellowship - JH

11:15 – Carol Choir rehearsal – Music Room.

11:20 – Youth Bells rehearsal – Sanctuary.

4:30 – Youth Choir – Music Room.

6:00 – Sundays @ Six is meeting tonight – see below.

6:30-8:00 – UMYF Heritage potluck. – see below.

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.

Sundays @ Six:

This Sunday, we will be having our UMYF Heritage Potluck after Sundays @Six Service. Please bring a side dish or dessert that represents your heritage. We will be having a Honey Baked Ham as the main course.

Sundays @Six will be taking the month of December off. We will have Youth Choir on Dec. 1, but will not be having Youth Dinner or UMYF that night.

Calling All Children, Youth and Adults

Christmas is coming! We need animals, shepherds and wise men for the Christmas Eve family Service at 5:00PM on Tuesday, Dec. 24, at 5:00PM. Please note the following casting change! This year, Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus will be played by Jennifer, Tom, and Joanna DeClerk! Sister Ella will also be an angel or animal. Jennifer is a Youth Choir and UMYF alumnus, and was one of my first youth at CGS. She teaches at Highland Oaks, and has taught or is currently teaching many of our children and youth. Jennifer told me that she always wanted to be Mary, and is happy to finally get that opportunity! Cousins Emily and Olivia Bulgin will also be in the cast as animals or angels. If there is a part that you have always wanted to play, this is the year to do it! 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. It is not a problem if you are unable to make both rehearsals. 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.

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 (dlucasarc@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!

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. 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.

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a bit less than two weeks away. It is our official time to thank God for our blessings. I am especially thankful for my life, for being an American, for Church of the Good Shepherd, for hope that is hidden in every day.

Ronald Clark's biography of Benjamin Franklin stands for gratitude for being an American. We enjoy freedoms many others are denied: speech, religion, press, choice of career/lifestyle, the freedom to be.



The 1997 pictorial phone directory for Good Shepherd stands for the community of Good Shepherd, the caring members, the opportunities for service, the feeling of belonging. Albert Outler's John Wesley stands for the founder of our faith, John Wesley.

Philip Yancey's What's So Amazing About Grace stands for gratitude for God and God's ways/ Grace is a gift to those who don't deserve it and can't earn it. Jerry Bridges' Trusting God stands for gratitude to God.

Lastly, I'm thankful for the gifts given to the library. Last year David and Debbie Massey gave a large number of books to the library. They are all about a subject that interests us or will in the future: aging. Growing Old in Christ and Marc Freedman's Encore, are from the Masseys' gift.

Thanksgiving is November 28. Give thanks then, but remember to thank God whenever you feel the need. I have done it as a lovely scene in nature appeared. Thank you, Lord, that I'm alive to see that!

Happy Thanksgiving, Elaine Drew, Librarian

You Are Special

You're special! In all the world there's nobody like you. Since the beginning of time, there has never been another person like you. Nobody has your smile. Nobody has your eyes, your hair, your hands, your voice. You're special!

No one can be found who has your handwriting. Nobody anywhere has your tastes for food or music or art. No one sees things just like you do. In all of time there has been no one who laughs like you, no one cries like you. And what makes you laugh and cry will never provoke identical laughter and tears from anyone else, ever.

No one reacts to any situation as you would react. YOU ARE SPECIAL! You're the only one in all of creation who has your set of abilities. Oh, there will always be somebody who is better at one of the things you're good at, but only one in the universe can reach the quality of your combination of talents, ideas, abilities and feelings.

Through all of eternity no one will ever look, talk, walk, think or do like you. YOU'RE SPECIAL!! You're rare. And in all rarity there is great value. Because of your great and rare value, you need not attempt to imitate others. You will accept—yes, celebrate your differences.

You're special!! And you're hopefully beginning to realize it's no accident that you are special. You're beginning to see that God made you special for a very special purpose. God must have a job for you that no one else can do as well as you. Out of all the billions of applicants, only one is qualified, only one has the right combination of what it takes.

That is because... YOU ARE SPECIAL!

The Arroyo Singers Present **Christmas in L.A.**

Featuring music by Faure, Bernstein, Whitacre, Vulfpeck,
Mariah Carey and other holiday favorites!

December 7, 2019 – 4:00 p.m.

Church of the Good Shepherd
400 W. Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA

Ryan Brown, Music Director
Dr. Lauralie Pow, Collaborative Pianist

Ticket donation \$15 at the door (children under 12 are free)

For more information visit www.arroyosingers.org



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. Pledge Sunday was November 17, but pledge cards may be brought any Sunday, mailed to the church office or dropped off in the office.

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. Details next week.

December 7 – Arroyo Singers concert here at CGS at 4 PM.



The WORD

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(626) 447-2181

www.cgsum.org

Ministers: Members of the Congregation

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