



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

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The Church of the Good Shepherd
United Methodist Church
400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007 - www.cgsum.org 626-447-2181
Sunday, June 7, 2020
Trinity Sunday

Sunday Sabbath Worship, June 7

This Sunday, Pastor Eva and the worship team will take a day of rest. Please see the Bishop's message below with information on a special service that you may watch on Sunday morning instead.

From Bishop Grant Hagiya: The Appointive Cabinet and I realize how much dedication our clergy, worship teams and staffs have been putting into our online Sunday worship services. In order to honor them and give them a much needed Sabbath, we have recorded a full worship service as a video to watch at www.calpacumc.org/Sabbath



County "Stay at Home Order" continues into June. In-person gatherings remain suspended. Please join us for ONLINE Sunday Worship Services that will continue to be online (church website or Facebook Group Page).



Among the Church Family

Ella Serrano requests prayers for family friend **Joanne Dubin** who was diagnosed with cancer and is scheduled for surgery on Friday, June 5.

Our List for Memorial Day

Two corrections to last week's list of veterans:

**Gunnery Sgt. George G. Chapman USMC (deceased) – I missed putting an * by his name. George was the brother of Marian Hallin.*

Information for Tom Crosby was incorrect and should read: LCDR Thomas W Crosby, SC, USN.

Let me know if others need corrections. Thanks, Linda Doran, ldoran@cgsum.org



Celebrating 75 Years of Christian Ministry and Mission

Through the Years

Alternative Christmas Through Two Decades

Our Alternative Christmas program is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year, and who better to tell us all about it than the lady who was involved at the beginning and has loyally and enthusiastically remained with it to this day—**Carole Sano!**

In 1999, Pastor Phil Wood approached me to help start an Alternative Market for Church of the Good Shepherd. Pastor Phil and I had gotten to know one another in Monterey Park when he was serving at Monterey Park UMC, and our Sage UMC shared the facility. We started an Alternative Market there as a joint project of both churches. In 1999, a Foundation Grant was written to obtain funds to start the market at CGS. The grant paid for paper supplies and a banner to attract neighborhood people to our market, but it became evident as the years passed that putting up the banner did not attract anyone from outside the church.

In 2000, we had the first Alternative Market with Church World Service, Heifer Project International and Habitat for Humanity. Third World Crafts had a table for one Sunday. That year my aunt Lily Manaka donated handcrafts. Her items brought in \$172. We donated the \$172 back to the Foundation as further “seed money” for other projects. Over the years, other charitable groups have joined us. The various crafts groups we have sponsored along with Third World Crafts have been SERRV, African Team Ministry and, since 2010, Heavenly Treasures. Our craft tables have been organized beautifully by Barbara Buchanan. In 2005, other people donated crafts and the proceeds from that year went to the Outreach CGS Good Samaritan Cupboard. Focus changes with the times, and groups have come and gone. Among these were Trees for Life, FINCA, Cambodian Christian Arts Mission, Give Ye Them to Eat, Union Station and, in 2017, Family Promise.

Many people have helped make the market happen over these 20 years! Larry and Marilyn Callahan have helped for many years...Larry being our cashier! Linda Doran in the office has always been gracious in helping run off the shopping lists and putting articles in the Sunday bulletins and newsletters. Jeff Doran has cleared Jordan Hall and helped us put up and take down the tables. We thank all the people who have helped at the craft sales. When Heavenly Treasures started using technology to ring up sales, we recruited my two daughters, Christie and Carin, and my granddaughter, Taylor, to help cashier at the table. Of course, Jim Sano has always been there to load and carry boxes, help set up, and do anything else that needed doing. It blesses all of our days when the Alternative Market is over and we are able to send out checks to all the wonderful organizations that our Good Shepherd shoppers have enabled. See you in December!

Foothill Unity Center Bags & Egg Cartons

Thank You to the many church members who have supported the Foothill Unity Center by donating plastic bags and egg cartons. The Center is still collecting these items. During this “Stay at Home” era we have a different location for dropping them off. Whenever you are in the vicinity of the church, those bags and egg cartons can be placed in the box located near the entrance to the office. Arrangements have been made to transfer the contents of the box to Fellowship Hall for future delivery to Foothill Unity Center.

-Vern and Lynne Whitaker



Bishop Hagiya's Special Message in Response to Racism

Amid the crisis of a global pandemic, we cannot close our eyes to another crisis that has been present among us in our divided nation: the terror and sin of racism.

From Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Christian Cooper, and countless others of whom we may not have video, to the parents and children who are being separated by our federal government at the border, to others who face a daily scapegoating of our present situation, racism in all of its forms must not be allowed to be swept under the rug as our attention is focused on COVID-19. Like all evil, we must bring racism clearly into the light, so that we can repent from our own complicity and guard the innocent so that it will not happen to them.

The crisis of COVID-19 has brought out some of the best in humankind, but it is also showing some of the worst of human sinfulness. In the Los Angeles Times, there was an article on how Christian Cooper, an African-American man politely asked an Anglo-American woman to leash her dog. Her response was to call the police and claim that, "there is an African-American man, he is recording me and threatening myself and my dog." Of course, this was all a lie, as Christian Cooper made no threats to this woman, and her racist response was laid bare for all to see. On this same Los Angeles Times page was an Op-Ed by an Asian-American woman who talked about her neighbor's racist response to her simply not wearing her mask as she came to enter her own home. Because she was Asian, she was literally cursed by the neighbor who used expletive after expletive against her. The most damaging part of the article was her 3-year-old daughter having to hear this story, and being exposed to the cruelty of racism early in her life.

Of course, these examples are not to the magnitude of the killing of Ahmaud Arbery or of George Floyd; African-American men are literally being killed because of our racism. What this should show us is the pervasive, sinful nature of racism in our country, truly, the unfinished business of our country.

Like all printed words, we can rail against, talk about, and denounce racism until we are blue in the face. We, as Christians, however, cannot allow ourselves to move past this moment without meaningful action. **Therefore, I am asking every church in our California-Pacific Conference to have open talk about the sin of racism in our own lives and what we must do about it that we have not yet done before.**

This means that we have to own up to our own racism first, before we point fingers at others. And, I realize that this is a difficult thing to do without doing it in-person. However, I am sure that we can facilitate virtual discussions on what is transpiring in our country right now, and talk openly about the fact that the sin of racism is tearing us apart, even as we continue to deal with the other threat of COVID-19.

In fact, it would be easy to hide behind the crisis of the pandemic in order to avoid talking about racism. This we cannot, nor must not do. We must bring the racism we are witnessing right out into the open and deal with it directly.

In order to spark this discussion here are some questions you might want to start with:

- What are my own racist tendencies that I don't want to talk about or admit?
- How have I been complicit in American racism?
- What can I proactively do about it right now?

One book I would strongly recommend is "White Fragility" by Robin Diangelo. I read this last year and it changed the way I view racism. I hope it will spark a similar transformation in you.

Let's begin by bringing racism out in the open, where it cannot squirm away to continue to infect others.

Be the Hope,

Bishop Grant J. Hagiya

Los Angeles Area Resident Bishop

Upcoming Events to Mark on Your Calendars!!

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June 14 - Sermon Theme: Sharing the Glory of God

Pictorial Directory Photos have been postponed until October 7-10

Ladies, the 2020 Women's Retreat Weekend is October 16-18. Pastor Eva will be our leader!! Mark your calendars now so you don't have a conflict!! We hope by October we can have our event! We will keep you posted on whether we can do it as scheduled or postpone it.



The WORD

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Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist

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