



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](http://www.cgsum.org) 626-447-2181

Sunday, June 28, 2020

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

The Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin, Preaching

Scripture Lessons: Psalm 13:1-6 and Matthew 11:25-30

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

**“Stay at Home Order” continues through 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).**

Dear Church Members and Friends,

The question that has been asked of me the most often this month, is when will we be able to worship together again? There are many factors that guide the answer to this question: Conference guidelines, LA County & CDC mandates, ongoing COVID updates, and the health and concerns of our church members. However, the simple answer is guided by one of John Wesley's 3 simple rules to Do No Harm and we will gather again when it is safe.

I appreciate the statement that the Alaska Conference published as I believe it also describes this point of view.

*“As an act of radical hospitality and Christian love, we will not go back until we have a thorough, well-communicated plan that we are all committed to put in place and follow to ensure both the safety and the quality experience of all who come through our doors.”*



A special church committee, called Together Again, has been formed to work on the required guidelines. The committee would like your input as we work on reopening worship. Please fill out the attached survey and mail or return it to the church office by Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> OR complete it on-line via the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YJS35BR>

Your participation is greatly appreciated.  
*Together in Christ's Service- Pastor Eva*

**TOGETHER AGAIN SURVEY FOR RE-OPENING CGS**

California Pacific UMC Guidelines along with LA County and CDC policies will require churches to practice the following procedures for Worship Gatherings: all must wear face masks; maintain 6 feet seating distance; NO congregational or full choir singing; one way in and one way out foot traffic; sanitizing of Sanctuary and Restroom spaces immediately after use; and pre-worship check in that may include temperature checks, health update forms, and liability waivers.

*To help the church prepare for open worship services again- please answer the following questions.*

**1. What is your age group?**

- Under 25
- 25-44
- 45-64
- 65+

**2. Do you consider yourself or someone in your home to be in one of the “high-risk” categories for COVID-19 (e.g., older adults, underlying health conditions- such as diabetes, lung disease, heart disease or compromised immune system)?**

- YES
- NO

**3. Have you worshipped online with CGS during the “Stay-at-Home” weeks?**

- YES
- NO

**4. Given your current understanding of the spread of coronavirus, which of the following is necessary for you to attend an in-person worship service? (check all that apply)**

- Stay-at-home orders have been lifted
- Other public gatherings have resumed (concerts, theaters, sporting events, etc.)
- When a vaccine or treatment for COVID-19 becomes widely available
- I don’t know if I will ever feel comfortable attending public gatherings

**5. In addition to the CAL-PAC safety and sanitation guidelines as stated in this material, when we resume in-person worship services, how important will the following activities be for you to have a sufficient comfort level? (check all that apply)**

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Congregational singing				
Choir singing				
Congregational responses or readings				
Child care, nurseries and Sunday School offered				
Coffee service & Fellowship after worship				

# Celebrating 75 Years of Christian Ministry and Mission

## Through the Years

### The Library's Recent History

After the launching and early years of our Library, as related last week in this column, the history of its progress is not as well-documented. We know that somewhere in the mid-'90s, Joy Gordon was a prime mover and shaker who kept watch over our supply of reading material. Laura Derrick became aware that Joy could use some help. Laura had experience, mostly with children's books, having worked in public libraries while she was in high school and college. At that time, she chaired the Education Department at Church of the Good Shepherd. These two ladies brought order to the library, which had languished for some years. They spent hours culling and sorting the books. The collection had come from motley sources: some from the United Methodist Women, some purchased, some from ministers when they left for their next assignment. And often stray books just showed up randomly, having been left behind in the choir room, the lounge—simply forgotten until the librarians took them back to their proper home!

To give new life to books they discarded, the librarians donated them to the Sierra Madre Library's free-books box outside the back of the library. Many of the retained books were organized according to the Dewey Decimal System, while others were grouped into fiction, Bibles, devotional, UMW study books, and other appropriate topics. While Laura was more critical of culling books she deemed dated or untouched for years, she says Joy tended more to promote the library. Joy publicized it in *The Word*, and she brought a Book Cart out during coffee hour. And she kept excellent, detailed records on each book. Laura says her biggest regret while working with them was not having books be more accessible to churchgoers, rather than off in a separate room.

After Joy Gordon moved away from the church neighborhood, the library began to show signs of neglect. Then in the early 2000s, Elaine Drew became interested in it. Once again, the passage of time meant that much culling was at the top of the to-do list. To give away or to keep was sometimes a tough call, but if a book hadn't been checked out for years, it seemed logical to pass it on to another venue where it might be greeted with eager eyes. Hence, Elaine says that several truckloads went eventually to the Arcadia Library. The shelves in the church library were totally reorganized. No longer was the Dewey Decimal system used; rather, the books were grouped according to topic. As one would expect, most are of a religious theme. But what an abundance of rich categories is to be found!

The collection of Bibles comprises both the Old and New Testaments in many translations. To assist in exploring them are some Concordances. Books on the history of Methodism tell of how and why our branch of the Protestant church began. Two important sections are those on God and Jesus. Another is on Theology. Christian Education books can provide ideas and theories for Sunday School teachers and for Bible Study classes. Both sermons and prayer books, some written by former pastors, have their spots. The section on Women in the Bible describes the sometimes-unsung roles women have played in the church since early times. Topics like personal growth and aging are included. Some non-fiction, such as Tom Brokaw's *The Greatest Generation*, is available. Novels such as the popular *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* also find a place on the shelves. Books on Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas may inspire ways to celebrate those holidays and remember their significance. A card file, in which books are listed both by category and the author's last name, makes locating a book easy. Every few weeks, Elaine sets out a group of books and then describes them in *The Word*. It's an invitation to wander over and browse through the abundance of riches available in the library at Church of the Good Shepherd.



## Upcoming Events to Mark on Your Calendars!!

Worship services will continue to be on-line only during the month of June.

**June 28** – 4<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday

**Theme: To Be Welcoming**

**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. One option is to move it to spring next year. We are in dialog with Aldersgate Retreat Center about possible dates in 2021...avoiding Easter, of course! Or just reschedule for fall 2021. If you have any feedback at this time, please email Linda Doran at [ldoran@cgsun.org](mailto:ldoran@cgsun.org) with your thoughts.

We are also considering a one day meeting, or possibly three Saturdays in a row to meet in the fall. Not our usual retreat, but a chance to be together (social distancing, of course) and reconnect be we are able to have our actual retreat next year.



### **The WORD**

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