



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

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July 14, 2020

**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, July 19, 2020  
Sixth Sunday After Pentecost  
The Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin, Preaching  
Sermon Topic: John Wesley's 3 Simple Rules

*A Note from Pastor Eva: Do No Harm, Do Good, and Stay in Love with God. These rules are based on the 10 Commandments from the Old Testament and Jesus's Great Commandments from the Gospels. I find these rules are fitting for us as we seek to be faithful Christians in today's world of Pandemic health concerns, economic crisis, racial inequality, environmental changes, and family dynamics. Let us journey together this month as I discuss the 3 Simple Rules in my sermon messages during the online worship services.*

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

In-person gatherings remain suspended at CGS.

Please join us for ONLINE Sunday Worship Services  
(church website or Facebook Group Page).

### **Among the Church Family**

Please continue to keep everyone previously mentioned in the newsletter and prayer chain in your prayers.

Congratulations to **Emily Crouse** for receiving this year's United Methodist Women's Youth Award. She is being awarded this recognition for her outstanding service to our church and to the community. UMW will send a gift to Missions in her honor.

### **Youth Musical**

Thank you to Janice Clark, Franklyn Shen, and Stephanie Shen for producing a fabulous Youth Musical this year. The youth did a great job! If you missed it, go to the church website and watch the show!

### **Graduation Time**



All 2020 Graduates: If you, or your child, are graduating from Middle School, Sr. High School, College or Graduate School, please inform the Church Office by email: [ldoran@cgsum.org](mailto:ldoran@cgsum.org), to be included in the annual list of graduates. Please include the name of the graduate, who they are related to (parents, grandparents, spouse – not the whole extended family, please) and the school they are graduating from. If graduating from college or graduate school, include the type of degree earned and the field of study. The deadline to submit names is July 31.

# Celebrating 75 Years of Christian Ministry and Mission

## Through the Years

### Three Decades of the Women's Retreat

Each year the call goes out: It's time to sign up for the Women's Retreat! ...and our women are alerted to sign up and reserve their spot. What has made it so popular for 30 years? Its draw is magnetic. Most women who have gone once choose to repeat the experience as often as they can. At the Retreat they may find new spiritual insights, camaraderie, respite from daily routines, and even just downright fun!



Michelle Horswill-Johnston first organized the Retreat and brought the idea to the United Methodist Women. It was held at Wrightwood United Methodist Camp in September 1990. The forested mountain site with its cabins was beautiful. It had adequate facilities, but rather basic ones. The women brought their own sleeping bags or bedding for the iron bunk beds, the upper deck of which proved a bit much for some of them. Snoring proved to be a problem too, with so many in the dorm-like room. The next year we discovered Aldersgate Retreat Center in Pacific Palisades, also a Methodist facility, and we have met there ever since. By comparison, the fine old three-story house seemed like the Ritz, creature-comfort seekers that we are!

Tina Carey led the next retreat and also helped formed a committee that has met for potluck dinners ever since. They choose their speaker, plan the program and activities, and divide up the logistical tasks—like bringing the jigsaw puzzle, the pillow treats, or the logs for the fire. Through the years, various churchwomen have chaired the committee. The speaker and her chosen topic is announced at sign-up time. Pastor Faith Conklin, the first woman to serve at Church of the Good Shepherd, was our retreat leader at Aldersgate. In more recent years, other of our pastors who have been our speakers are Cyndi Skripak, Sheila Kane, Melissa Roux MacKinnon, and Lydia Sohn.

It's a two-night retreat, beginning with check-in Friday after four o'clock. Carpooling is essential (and fun) because of limited parking space. Dinner is on our own, and over time people have returned to favorite restaurants in Pacific Palisades. At eight o'clock we gather for our opening session of the retreat. Although most of us are already acquainted, we usually have a lively ice-breaker. The retreat has a theme, and our speaker introduces her plans for the topic. We have a closing blessing, then either chat or retire—or perhaps hover around the 'treats' table to which we have all brought some goodies!

Meals are served buffet style in the dining room, and eaten in an adjoining airy room with tables that seat six. One of our talented ladies makes fall-themed centerpieces—since our retreat is held in late October or early November. The staff prepares our bountiful meals from a menu chosen ahead of time. Turkey dinner is top of our list for Saturday night dinner, but sometimes not available because turkeys aren't in markets yet when we're on retreat. Our bedrooms hold from one to six women. We make up our beds with the nice linens provided. One year we found lovely new quilts on all the beds. Some women who previously had stayed at Aldersgate had made and contributed them in appreciation. Following their example, we raised money for much-needed new dining room chairs.

We are divided into small prayer groups that either remain the same throughout the retreat, or else we sit with different women for each discussion time. In the former, we become better acquainted with a few ladies; in the latter, we come to know more of the 30 or so who are there.

One of the joys of the retreat is that it is intergenerational. Several pairs of mothers and daughters or granddaughters come together. Older and younger women get to know about the cares, concerns, and hopes of each other.

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*Next week we'll share how we spend our time at the Women's Retreat.*



## **Virtual Coffee Time Sunday at 11:15 a.m.**

As online only Worship Services continue in July, we will also offer Virtual Coffee Fellowship time! Use the following login or call in information to join us for virtual fellowship from the comfort of your home.

Join Online Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88322081934?pwd=SFY4MGltNG03Miltcmk4OQ21wblyY1dz09>

Meeting ID: 883 2208 1934

Password: 494574

OR DIAL IN BY YOUR CLOSEST LOCATION

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

## **Women's Retreat Update**

**Ladies, the 2020 Women's Retreat has been postponed until 2021.** We are still considering a one day meeting, not our usual retreat, but a chance to be together (social distancing, and masks, of course, probably at the church) and reconnect until we are able to have our actual retreat next year. Our new dates are: **October 15, 16, and 17, 2021.**

## **TOGETHER AGAIN SURVEY SUMMARY**

Thank you to all who participated in the Together Again Survey. We received 84 responses! The survey answers, along with County guidelines\* and Bishop's directions, will help the Together Again committee as they discern when it is best and safe for church services and programs to begin again during this time of Pandemic. (\*Governor Newsom announced in his July 13<sup>th</sup> press conference that certain indoor operations, including Worship Services, be closed until further notice)

Here is a brief summary of the answers: (e-mail Pastor Eva, [pastoreva@cgsun.org](mailto:pastoreva@cgsun.org), if you would like a copy of the results)

- Age Range: Under age 25 (8.5%), age 25-44 (3.5%), age 45-64 (23%) and age 65+ (65%)
- Considered in High Risk Category: Yes (66%) and No (34%)
- Worship Online with CGS during "Stay at Home" Times: Yes (91%) and No (9%)
- What is necessary to attend in person worship: -Stay-at-home orders have been lifted (65%),  
-Other public gatherings have resumed (50%), -When a vaccine or treatment for COVID-19 becomes readily available (50%), - I don't know if I will ever feel comfortable attending public gatherings (6.25%)
- There was a spectrum of responses to what areas of worship were important to individuals with Congregational Singing, Choir Singing, and Congregational Responses falling higher in the important and vary important categories.

## 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*

## Upcoming Events to Mark on Your Calendars!!

Worship services will continue to be on-line only.

**July 19** – Sermon Topic: John Wesley’s 3 Simple Rules

**July 26** – Sermon Topic: John Wesley’s 3 Simple Rules continued



### **The WORD**

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**Church of the Good Shepherd**

**United Methodist**

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**[www.cgsum.org](http://www.cgsum.org)**

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