



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

Volume 54, No. 33

August 18, 2020

The Church of the Good Shepherd
United Methodist Church
400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007 - www.cgsum.org 626-447-2181
Sunday, August 23, 2020

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

The Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin. Preaching – Fruits of the Spirit: Love
Scripture: Psalm 100:1-5 and 1 Corinthians 13:1-7

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).

Virtual Coffee Hour at 11:30 am (see back page for more details)

Sunday Worship CDs and DVDs are available each week for those cannot view worship online. Please stop by the church office for a CD or DVD or call the office if you would like it delivered.

Among the Church Family

In Our Prayers:

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



Bible Study Led by Michael Chesnut, Seminary Intern

Bible Study Schedule for the Upcoming Week:

Tuesday, August 18th at 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. -- Philippians 2:19-3:21

Sunday, August 23rd at 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. -- Philippians 4:1-4:23

Join us for a time of fellowship and Bible study! Over the next few weeks, we will study Philippians, a letter from the Apostle Paul. We request that you read the Scripture passage before the study; it is long enough that we won't have time to read it during our study. Over the course of reading Philippians, we'll discuss themes such as church unity, joy, and what it means to live like Christ. We look forward to seeing you there as we explore God's Word and draw closer to Him in community.

Join Online Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86197714895?pwd=cVpXZXdlV29ocjRrTllyVVF6K3NJZz09>

(You only need the Meeting ID to join this Zoom Meeting. You do not need a password. We intentionally deleted the need for a password to make it easier to access.)

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Celebrating 75 Years of Christian Ministry and Mission

Through the Years

Our History in the News



Long ago—or at least as far back as 1995—our history was preserved for posterity, perhaps unintentionally, in articles in our local newspapers. It often came in weekly doses that detailed the routine happenings of our church and featured the festive events, as well. Church of the Good Shepherd was not the only church that enjoyed such lavish press coverage; it was what local newspapers did in those days.

Among the yellowed clippings in my files is one dated February 25, 1995, telling of the church's reception for its 26 Golden Anniversary couples. All had been married at least 50 years, and were pictured together in a large photo. This event was a prelude to the many festivities planned through June to mark the 50 years since the launching of Church of the Good Shepherd.

Plans for the Golden Jubilee Week celebrations were announced in a May 18, 1995, newspaper. "Pastors of our Past" and their spouses were to be honored guests May 19 at a dinner dance at the Monrovia Holiday Inn. Dinner music was to be by the Chancel Choir, and dancing was to the tunes of the memorable Jack Lantz Combo. The paper listed all 11 pastors who were expected to be among the 200 members attending. A special note was that Archer Frey, the first person to sign as a Charter member in 1945 when he was 14 years old, would attend.

The next evening a family-oriented spaghetti dinner and fundraiser sponsored by the Youth Fellowship was planned. Dinners reflected donations appropriate for the times: \$10 for adults, \$3 for children. The money would help underwrite the youths' Sierra Service Project of a week of summer work at the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Arizona. The Jack Lantz Big Band and Chancel Choir were to provide music for a Good Gospel Concert and Sing-Along by the congregation.

But that's not all! The newspaper article also announced that there would be one great service Sunday, May 21, with the combined English and Chinese congregations. The resident Bishop Roy L. Sano would be the guest speaker. Festival Brass and a presentation by the Good Shepherd Sacred Dancers were to be featured.

Not to be outshone during this 50-year celebration, the United Methodist Women planned a Jubilee Reunion for all church women to honor wives of former and current pastors. The dessert meeting was set for Thursday of the following week.

Regular church announcements were included in the news article—the Adult Forum, children's church school, junior and senior high students' meetings, and times and places for each. The special coverage of the Golden Jubilee likely took up more space than a regular week's listing would. It is two columns (3") wide and 13" inches long. So this is the generous, detailed reportage that now gives us a glimpse of our history circa 1995.

But even bigger is an old full-page spread, replete with photos focusing on our church and its volunteers. You may remember some of them for their dedicated work around the campus. We will take a look at that page of the December 7, 1995, issue of the Sierra Madre News next week.



Plastic Bags and 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

The Good Shepherd Children's Center is now enrolling infant - five years for Fall, call 626-447-1249 for more information.

From Our Seminary Intern:

I am taking a class on Paul's Letter to the Romans this summer, and we recently studied Romans 5:12-21. This is the famous passage where Paul speaks about how through Adam's action sin and death enter the world, yet through Christ's act grace reigns and life comes to the dead. My professor emphasized how Paul here is not talking about two separate humanities (the humanity under Adam/the humanity under Christ) or two separate families (the family of Adam/the family of Christ). Apparently



Christian tradition has often read the passage this way. Naturally, I wondered why my professor made such a big deal of this. I tend to be a practical person, so I wondered why this was important at all. After my professor continued speaking, though, it became clearer. The humanity that was under the power of sin and death is the very same humanity that Christ redeems and carries to life. God brings life out of death. And this is the point my professor meant to communicate. Just as District Supt. Melissa Roux-McKinnon said in Sunday's sermon, God creates life in darkness.



This is a hopeful message in the midst of a pandemic, where many of us are holed up in our homes, hardly going out and yearning for in-person connection. However, such difficult times are also the soil from which God grows new life. Throughout this experience, may we pray for the ability to discern where the God is sowing seeds of new life (whether that's through something like Zoom ministries at church or more frequent calls to friends and loved ones in your personal life), and may we co-work with God to help usher that new life into our midst. **- Michael Chesnut**

Pastor Eva's Article: Advent in August, a Time of Patience and Waiting

Every August, my church mailbox begins to receive catalogues for the upcoming Advent Season. This may seem too early for some since Advent does not begin until the Sunday after Thanksgiving. However, for clergy, it's never too early to plan for the Advent Season. Advent is more than just a countdown to Christmas. It is a season of patience and waiting. It is a time to celebrate the little things with great joy and to spread love wherever we go.

However, there are still so many unknown factors in this time of global pandemic, so Advent maybe very different this year. Because of this, I feel as if we are in a season of Advent and a time of waiting right now. Our days can seem long and stressful. We can be anxious or exhausted and finding patience is probably the last thing on our minds. But it should be the first thing for us to do during these unique times.

Psalm 40:1-3a reminds us, *"I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God."* When we are patient, then we allow God's guidance to lead us make our steps secure. I invite you to experience Advent this August: to practice patience and waiting; to turn to God for guidance; to celebrate the little things with great joy; to spread love wherever you go; and to listen for God's answers and sing a new song of praise!



Blessings,

Pastor Eva

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Foothill Unity Center, Inc.

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OR ORDER ONLINE**
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Upcoming Events to Mark on Your Calendars!!



Broadcast Live on Sunday at 10:00 am to Facebook/CGSUM and to CGSUM.ORG

Aug. 23	12 th Pentecost	Fruits of the Spirit: Love	Psalm 100:1-5 1 Corinthians	13:1-7
Aug. 30	13 th Pentecost	Fruits of the Spirit: Joy	Psalm 106:1-5 1 Corinthians 15:1-11	
Sept. 6	14 th Pentecost Drive-thru Communion Labor Day Weekend	Fruits of the Spirit: Peace	Psalm 95:1-7 2 Corinthians 2:5-11	

As online only Worship Services continue, we also offer Virtual Coffee Fellowship time on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 11:30 am! Use the following login or call in information to join us for virtual fellowship from the comfort of your home.

Here is the Zoom Login Info: only the meeting ID is needed- no password required.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87937808985>

Meeting ID: 879 3780 8985



The WORD

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Church of the Good Shepherd

United Methodist

400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007

(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 Cook

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