



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

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December 15, 2020

The Church of the Good Shepherd
United Methodist Church

400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007 - www.cgsum.org 626-447-2181

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)

Sunday, December 20, 2020

This Sunday in Worship

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love

Scripture: Isaiah 7:13-17 and Matthew 1:22-25

Sermon: Special Recording of Rev. Adam Hamilton's
"Emmanuel in the Midst of a Pandemic"

Introit and Anthems from the Youth Choir: "Fum, Fum, Fum";
"Sing We Now of Christmas"; and Youth Bells "Bring a Torch"

Congregational Hymns from the United Methodist Hymnal: "Silent Night, Holy Night #239",
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #211"

Advent Trek to the Tree DRIVE THRU Event 2-4 pm

Among the Church Family

In Our Prayers:

Our prayers are with all those who have been mentioned previously and include **Elaine Iverson** who is quarantined at home because she tested positive for Covid 19. Elaine is feeling better but needs prayers for a full recovery.

Services for **Lorene Pearsall** will be held on December 18, at 1 pm, at Live Oak Memorial Cemetery, in Monrovia.

Our condolences to **Ron Jensen** upon the death of his father, **August "Gus" Jensen**, on December 7, 2020. Prayers to the whole family, **Ron, Barbara, Holly and Thomas**, who just lost Barbara's father the week before.

Our condolences to **Dottie Zessau and family** upon the death of her sister-in-law, **Renee Zessau Bertolino**, on December 9, 2020. Renee was **John's sister, Chris, Kerri, and Paul's aunt**, and a frequent attender of CGS Crafters.

Our condolences to Karen and family and friends of **Doris Wiechman** upon her death on December 11, 2020. No services are planned right now due to Covid. Doris was an active member of CGS and PEO.

CGS 2020 ADVENT BOOK STUDY

INCARNATION - Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas

by Pastor Adam Hamilton, UMC of the Resurrection, Leawood, Kansas

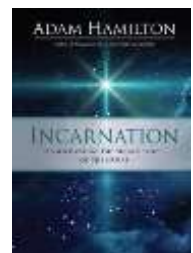
Via Zoom, discussions will be EITHER

2 more SUNDAYS, December 20 & January 3, 2021

9:00-9:45 am led by Michael Chesnut OR

2 more MONDAYS, December 21 & January 4, 2021

7-8 pm led by Diane & Craig Lucas





FUNDRAISER

Eat Chipotle, Help Good Shepherd Children's Center

Calling all burrito lovers,

Foil your dinner plans and stop by the Chipotle at **608 W Huntington Dr in Monrovia** for our fundraiser on **Wednesday, December 16** from **4:00pm - 8:00pm**. We're raising money to support our Children's Center, so just download a flyer from the link below or mention the fundraiser at checkout and they'll donate 33% of the proceeds to the cause!

Good Shepherd Children's Center December Dine-out at Chipotle Dec. 16 from 4pm - 8pm

[Click here for more details.](#) Can't wait to see you!

LAST DAYS OF THE ALTERNATIVE MARKET!

This week is the last week of our market. All orders in by Thursday will be filled. Give meaningful gifts! Get your shopping list in by THURSDAY, December 17!

Celebrating 75 Years of Christian Ministry and Mission

Through the Years

Holiday Hiatus

It's holiday time and we'll be taking a little hiatus from historical memories while we go to help Santa's Elves at the North Pole, listen to Christmas carols, and attend virtual worship on Sundays and on Christmas Eve in the wee hours when we'll light a traditional candle.

We'll welcome the New Year with prayerful hope. We shall return after the first of the year to continue our 75th Jubilee with, appropriately, stories about some of the 'firsts' at Church of the Good Shepherd.

Holiday blessings!



CGS Finance Update

CGS ended the month of November on a positive note with a net income of \$2,600! This was due to faithful tithing and generous Thanksgiving offerings. However, to meet our overall budget for the end of the year, the church still needs to receive over \$80,000 in Sunday offerings, final 2020 pledge commitments, and the special Christmas offering. There is a wonderful opportunity to bring your Christmas offering and 2021 Pledge Card to the church's Advent Trek to the Tree DRIVE THRU Event this Sunday, Dec. 20th (2-4pm). And please remember to submit all donations by Dec. 28th for them to be included in your 2020 giving statements. We are so appreciative of your generosity and continued support as the church continues 75 years of ministry and mission!

Reflection on Advent Week 3: Joy

Luke 2:10-11, *But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."*



We are just 10 days away from Christmas. And while Christmas may be different this year, as we are keeping ourselves and loved ones safe, it is still a time filled with joy. We recognize that joy is all around us- in decorations, in music, in cards, and in virtual gatherings. However, we sometimes let the busyness of the season or the worries of the year or the darkness of past memories overshadow that joy. When this happens to you, remember the joyful news that the angels shared with the shepherds. A Savior, the Messiah was born! Let us open ourselves to receive the joyful news and trust in the joy that God has already planted in us. And may it be the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared!

Advent Candle of Joy

Drive-Thru Advent Event

***THIS SUNDAY, DEC. 20TH (2:00-4:00PM)
IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT!***

Come experience the Advent Season from the safety of your own car (masks required at all times) as you drive by stations of:

- **JOY:** See Santa Claus and wave to Church Greeters
- **PEACE:** Find the Symbols of Peace on the decorated Christmas Tree as live bells play in the background*
- **HOPE:** Hear the Good News from the Angel visiting the Shepherds and listen to the singers
- **LOVE:** Be a witness the Holy Family and enjoy live guitar music
- *Drop off Christmas offering, tithes, and 2021 Pledge cards
- Pick up your preordered Poinsettias (available after 2:30)



Sunday Service Is Broadcast Live weekly at 10:00 am to Facebook/CGSUM and to CGSUM.ORG

Christmas Eve Worship Services Broadcast Live to Facebook/CGSUM and to CGSUM.ORG:

5:00 pm Christmas Cantata by our Youth Choir and Youth Bells.

9:00 pm Candlelight Service with featuring special guitar and cello music.



Tuesday mornings at 8:00-9:00 a.m. – Join the walking group in the church parking lot and courtyard!

Please help Foothill Unity center to make the Holiday season brighter for local children in need. Due to COVID 19 the Angel Project has been adapted to provide holiday gifts for children in a safe manner. Sponsor a participating child 0-17 years of age with a \$25 gift card to either Kohl's or Marshall's stores which will be utilized for either toys, clothing or personal care items for each child's selection. These gift cards will be distributed to the registered families along with a holiday food box during the drive through distributions on the week of December 21, 2020 at both sites. Please have gift cards and donations towards Angel Project in **by December 17, 2020**. Please call us or email us with any questions.

In Person Donations: Gift cards or cash or check donations towards gift card purchases may be dropped at either the Pasadena or Monrovia sites.

Decorate an Angel: Download one or a few of our paper Angels below (link attached) to decorate and write a heartfelt message on back, and drop off at our centers.

Online Donation: Donate to our HOLIDAY ANGELS by going to this site: [Foothill Unity Center, Inc.](http://FoothillUnityCenter.com) (mobilecause.com)



*open hearts,
open minds,
open doors*

The WORD

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Church of the Good Shepherd

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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