



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

Volume 55, No. 18

May 11, 2021

## The Church of the Good Shepherd

### United Methodist Church

400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007 - [www.cgsun.org](http://www.cgsun.org) 626-447-2181

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

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

### **This Sunday, May 16, 2021**

***Seventh Sunday of Easter and Music Ministry Sunday!***

***Scripture Readings: Psalm 105:1-6 and Ephesians 5:15-20***

***Congregational Hymns: "When In Our Music God is Glorified #140",***

***"This is My Father's World #144", and***

***"Grace Alone from the Faith We Sing black songbook #2162"***

***This Sunday's service will be filled with special music offered by our  
Choir Section Leaders, Youth Choir, Youth Bell Choir and Adult Carillon Bell Choir!***



### Among the Church Family

Please keep those previously mentioned in your prayers and include Linda and Norman Collas's nephew who lost his wife and his 14 year old daughter who lost her mother.



### In Honor of "Be Kind to Animals" Month

The Children's Center is collecting old towels for a donation to the Pasadena and San Gabriel Humane Societies, May 1-31. A box for donation drop off is located in front of the Children's Center office or Church office. Thank you for your support of this collection project!!!

### Year-Round Grant Applications for 2021 Are Being Accepted

The CGS Foundation Year-Round Grant Program is open for 2021 grant requests. The purpose of a grant must be the aid, promotion, and development of the religious, charitable, and educational activities, purposes, functions, and progress of the Church of the Good Shepherd UMC, Arcadia. All grant applications must be submitted online only using the Foundation Online Grant Form - click the link below. Online grant application assistance will be provided when requested. [Year-Round Grant Application](#)



### 2021 Memorial/Veteran's Day Flowers:

It is a tradition at our church to have special Chancel Flowers on Memorial Day and Veterans' Day in honor of **all** those who have served or are currently serving in our country's armed forces. We would like to honor your service, or the service of a loved one, by adding your name, rank and the branch in which you served to our list. We invite you to give a donation to the flower fund to keep this tradition going. Checks should be made payable to "Church of the Good Shepherd" and turned into the office with "Veterans' Flowers" on the memo line of the check. Suggested annual donation of \$20 covers both holidays. Those making a donation will be shown with an asterisk, but all who have served or are currently serving will be listed.

# Celebrating 75 Years of Christian Ministry and Mission

## Through the Years Our Chinese Congregation



For several years, a Chinese congregation was a separate but integral part of Church of the Good Shepherd. Frank Finkbiner was our pastor in 1989 and he worked to arrange the outreach to the Chinese community. Matthew Chong was appointed the associate pastor of Chinese ministry. He and his wife Ruth and their four children made their home in a church parsonage while they were here. Samuel Ng was the administrative assistant. The first Chinese worship service was held on September 10, 1989.

The Chinese church attracted worshippers from throughout the San Gabriel Valley area. At first, only about 30 or 40 Chinese people attended, but the church grew rapidly as word about it spread. They met in the Chapel, and services were conducted in Mandarin. Most of the people had been Presbyterian, Baptist or Pentecostal but became Methodists at the new church at Good Shepherd, according to Ann Cheng, an active participant and lay leader.

During the Chinese church's years here, the reverends Jim Dallas and Phil Wood succeeded Frank Finkbiner as pastors of the English congregation. The two church bodies worked together, creating an integrated feeling. Almost every church committee included members from both congregations. As an outreach to the Arcadia's Chinese community, weekly ESL classes were held to assist those who wanted to improve their English.

Children from both churches attended Vacation Bible School, and their parents volunteered help. The Mexican Medical Mission drew bike riders from both, raising money for the mission. Some joined the team that went to Mexico to volunteer at the health center. Pastor Matthew and Ann were among them, Ann serving as a nurse for 10 years. The two choirs blended their voices for the annual Christmas concert, and then again for Easter's joyous music.

There was close camaraderie among the Chinese parishioners. On most Sundays they enjoyed lunch together in Jordan Hall after the service. As attendance grew to 180 or more, counting youth and children, it was time to look for a new home. The Chinese ministry left Good Shepherd in April 2006. They moved to Temple City where they became chartered as Faith United Methodist Church.



## National Day of Prayer Service Available to View

The National Day of Prayer Service organized by the *Arcadia Interfaith Action Group* was filmed live on May 6th and is available for viewing on its Youtube channel. Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin and Michael Chesnut offered the Prayer for the Nation (near the end of the service); and Rev. Stephen Wilson said the Closing Prayer. To watch the Service please use this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSLFBAO-ud8> OR go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for "Arcadia Interfaith Action Council National Day of Prayer" and you will see the option for the service.

## Double Rings Fellowship

Please join us for a **Double Rings Fellowship Group Zoom Meeting on Tuesday, May 11th starting at 6:30 p.m.** See the Zoom invitation details below. Our topic in small groups will be; **Double Rings - June 2021...**

Let's talk about the possibility of having a regular meeting in June. Come on!! We can have some fun with this!! Bring your dinner or snacks and join in!!

**Double Rings Zoom Meeting Tuesday, May 11 - 6:30 p.m.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85184559274?pwd=cExtl1JlYzJYTjJnN1dyTlBqYlZlZz09>

Meeting ID: 851 8455 9274

Passcode: 857083

Dial-in by your phone (no video):

669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 851 8455 9274

Passcode: 857083

To Zoom?



Or, Not to Zoom????





## The 2021 Flower Chart

Sign up for altar flowers by calling the church office, 626-447-2181, to give flowers “in honor of” or “in memory of” loved ones (or in celebration of an anniversary, birthday, special event or accomplishment). The cost of the flowers is \$45. Please mail the check to the church and write “Altar Flowers” on the memo line. Or you may pay for flowers online through the church website. The church office will place your order with ZuZu’s Petals of Arcadia and have the personalized message announced in church by Pastor

Eva on the appropriate Sunday. After the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service that Sunday, you may stop by the church to take your flowers home with you or let us know and we will have them in the church office on Monday morning after 9:00 a.m. Thank you for helping to beautify our worship center.

## Walking Group

Our walking group meets weekly on Tuesdays at 8 am. Everyone is welcome! Bring and wear a mask and plan to social distance. For more information call walk leader, Catherine Doster, 626-365-6447 or email her at [catherine.doster@yahoo.com](mailto:catherine.doster@yahoo.com)



## Bishop Hagiya Briefing on Covid-19 - May 5, 2021

After a long, dark isolation we are showing signs of seeing the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel. As many of our areas are moving to the lightest level of restrictions, our California-Pacific Annual Conference will be adapting also. Due to your faithful following of safety protocols, we have not had any widespread breakouts of the virus in any of our churches. To my knowledge, we have not lost one person who contracted COVID-19 at one of our churches. Again, this is all due to your patience, discipline and faithfulness. I want to thank all of you for helping us during the most challenging of times.

As we set the stage for our own Cal-Pac Annual Conference response, one of our prime objectives is to emerge out of our COVID-19 crisis as safely as possible. Once again, we are not there yet, and we have to be diligent in our safety protocols to ensure that our churches do not transmit the virus.

However, we are not yet at the finish line. We are vaccinating more and more people, but far from the herd immunity necessary to keep everyone safe. Even if one is completely vaccinated, you can still get the virus and pass it along to others. The new mutant viruses continue to proliferate and infect more people. We are still some time away from being completely safe in opening up our churches.

In a recent article from the Atlantic, Dr. James Hamblin of the Yale School of Public Health points out,

“Our social lives can resume, but only when the whole community is ready. The turning point does not arrive for individuals, one by one, as soon as they’ve been vaccinated; it comes for all of us at once, when a population becomes immune.”

I really appreciate this statement because it applies so much to us as the church community. We all get there together, or not at all. We wait patiently for each one of us to cross the finish line. We travel together, rather than alone.

With this in mind, we continue to follow the state, county and city guidelines and tier levels. Our churches can resume in-person worship if they submit their plans to the District, receive the consent of the pastor, Administrative Council, and District Superintendent. At this point, we must wear masks and observe the standard distance between individuals. The difficult issue is singing indoors, and I hope you will remain cautious with this. For safety’s sake, you will need masks on while singing and maintain proper distance from each other.

We are close, but not there yet. If we can hang on just a little bit longer and have the patience and discipline to keep safe, we will get home soon.

Be the Hope,

**Bishop Grant J. Hagiya**

Los Angeles Area Resident Bishop

## Calling All Graduates

Congratulations to the Class of 2021! Without a doubt, the Class of 2021 has overcome the most challenges of any class that we know, and your church family would like to recognize your accomplishments. We will be doing a slide show for this year's Seniors that will be shown during the Youth Musical on Sunday, June 13. If you would like to be included, please email Franklyn Shen ([fnjshen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fnjshen@sbcglobal.net)) a baby picture, senior picture, and 3-5 other pictures that you would like included. Also, please send him a list of accomplishments, the high school you are graduating from, and your future plans. Please send Franklyn the information by Sunday, May 23, 2021. Thank you for your perseverance and congratulations on finishing high school!



All 2021 Graduates: If you, or your child, are graduating from Middle School, Sr. High School, College or Graduate School, please inform the Church Office by phone, 626-447-2181, or email: [ldoran@cgsun.org](mailto:ldoran@cgsun.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 Friday, June 18.

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



*open hearts,  
open minds,  
open doors*

### **The WORD**

Published weekly except the last week of  
December and the first week of January by

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(626) 447-2181

**[www.cgsun.org](http://www.cgsun.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