



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

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January 20, 2021

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, January 24, 2021

This Sunday in Worship

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Scripture: Psalm 62:1-7 and Matthew 2:16-18

Message: Journey of the Magi: Healthy Relationships, Pastor Eva Thai-Erwin, preaching

**Introit and Anthems: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing", "The God of All Grace",
and Kenny Landaverde solo**

**Congregational Hymns from the United Methodist Hymnal: "Lord God, Your Love Has Called
Us Here #579", "It is Well With My Soul #377", and "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies #173"**

Among the Church Family

In Our Prayers:

Our prayers are with all those who have been mentioned previously and please include **Shary DeVore, Eric Swanson, and Mary White.**

Our condolences to the family of **Ellen Gilliam** upon her recent death. Ellen and her late husband Roy were longtime members of CGS.

Attention all 6th-12th graders, the Class of 2021 Confirmation Class is now forming!

Pastor Eva and I would like to do a confirmation class this spring. Please let me know if you have not been confirmed and would like to be a part of this year's class. Classes will be held via zoom, and we will work with those who are interested to select the best time for classes. Our hope is that if it is safe, you will be recognized live in church in front of our entire congregation! Please call me at (626) 272-5081 or email me by **Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021**, if you are interested at fnjshen@sbcglobal.net. – **Franklyn Shen, Director of Youth Ministries**

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will have its first meeting of 2021 on Saturday, January 30th, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. Details will follow.

PLEDGE CARDS 2021

Thank you to the individuals and families that returned their 2021 Pledge Cards. The Finance Committee greatly appreciates your financial commitment to the church especially after the challenges of 2020 that we all faced. There is still time for those who have not turned in their pledge cards. Please mail back or drop off to the church office.

Celebrating 75 Years of Christian Ministry and Mission

Through the Years

Just Imagine!



Imagine if you will, a group of 60 or so strangers meeting and deciding they wanted to start a church. They weren't frontiersmen living on an untamed prairie exactly, although some of their neighbors indeed were chicken ranchers. But they did want to stake a claim, so to speak, where no Methodist Church then existed. They spotted an almost-vacant, two-acre plot of land in what seemed destined to be a residential area in their city of Arcadia. Only one old house stood there. In their collective imagination they could see a House of God on the land. They set out to make their vision come true.

A small chapel was their first accomplishment. In it, Sunday worship shortly had to be conducted in two sessions, both of which were overflowing with the original members and the many others who began to attend. It was obvious that more facilities were needed to serve the desires of the people.

In their imagination, a Fellowship Hall and Lounge soon evolved. A social hall would provide space and facilities for fellowship for young and old alike. Imaginations ran large: a complete kitchen for serving as many as 200 dinners, a lounge where 75 could hold meetings, and the main hall where 400 could attend lectures.

Every imagined enlargement required, of course, some imaginative financing. But the original members, bolstered by ever-growing membership and involvement, took on the monetary commitments with zest. They saw the ways in which the Church could serve the community and set out to make their dreams come true. Their goal for the Hall and Lounge was \$60,000.

Was that enough? Should they stop there? Maybe there should be a Children's Building. Sunday School classes sometimes were held in the still-standing old house or at Holly Avenue School. Imagine instead a building with everything planned for young children: low ceilings, low cabinets, maybe a day nursery for pre-schoolers. It would add about \$32,000 to costs, but what an asset to serve the ever-growing congregation and the community!

And eventually there would be the large sanctuary, a completion of the dreams and goals of the very first strangers who'd joined together and all the others who followed them. The total cost for the imagined entire campus was projected at \$250,000.

In today's real estate climate, the funds needed for each project seem small. At that time, it was a real challenge to raise the money, but step-by-step it was done. So today, 75 years later, we of Church of the Good Shepherd stand on the shoulders of early pioneers who dared great things with faith, commitment and imagination!

Comforting Words for Troubling Times

These days seem to be filled with more troubling than joyful news. Many people are filled with anxiety and fear. It seems there is little that we can do to combat these concerns, fears, and anxieties. However, as many of us read in Pastor Adam Hamilton's book *Unafraid: Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times*, we need to keep these important words in our hearts and minds:

Face your fears with faith

Examine your assumptions in light of the facts

Attack your anxieties with action

Release your cares to God

*Don't let fear cause you to feel oppressed, defeated, controlled, or overwhelmed.
May this acronym help you to live unafraid and bring you comfort and strength!
As we celebrated Emmanuel in Advent, remember that God is with us! Amen!*

CGS Family Promise Calling All Supporters for “Virtual Hosting”, January 24-30, 2021

The Covid-19 pandemic continues to impact Family Promise (FP). Since Good Shepherd has committed to host FP guests January 24-30, 2021, CGS will “virtually” host our guest families at a motel and provide grocery cards for food during our hosting week.

We will be virtually hosting 2 families. One family has a son (19 months) and the other family is a single mother with 5 children (ages 17, 15, 13, 11, & 4). Just like all of us, the pandemic has affected their lives, but they are striving to keep and/or get permanent jobs to help them meet their goal of independence.

Because of the need to host 2 families, the CGS FP Team is asking our congregational supporters to contribute \$2,000. We will use some of our CGS budgeted funds to pay for the virtual hosting and the additional funds will need to come from donations.

Here’s how you can help these 2 families :

1. Send a check payable to Church of the Good Shepherd, 400 W Duarte Rd, Arcadia, 91007
2. Put “CGS FP #8240” on the memo line

1 John 3:17-18 –*But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in words or talk but action and in truth.*

Grateful blessings for your faith, your heart, your love, your actions, and your support!

CGS Family Promise Team, Diane Lucas, Coordinator, dlucasarc@gmail.com, cell--626-975-3100



Good Shepherd Children’s Center Fundraiser at Blaze Pizza

January 21, 2021, 4 pm -8 pm

815 W. Naomi Ave, Arcadia, CA 91007

Order Mode: In-Restaurant, Blaze Pizza App, Blazepizza.com

In-Restaurant: Bring in the flyer (attached to this email)
or show it on your phone before paying

Online Orders enter code 1333A into the ‘Promo Code’ field at checkout



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

Save the date: January 21, 2021, for a fundraiser event for the Good Shepherd's Children's Center at Blaze Pizza in the Von's Shopping Center on Naomi in Arcadia. More details and flyer attached.

The 2021 Flower Chart is now hanging in the Narthex of the Sanctuary and we can sign up to give flowers "in honor of" or "in memory of" loved ones (or in celebration of an anniversary, birthday, special event or accomplishment) by calling Linda Doran in the church office, 626-447-2181. The cost of the flowers is \$45 (payable to "Church of the Good Shepherd") Mail the check to the church and write "Altar Flowers" on the memo line. 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.

Our walking group meets weekly on Tuesdays at 8 am. You must bring and wear your mask, plan to social distance, and **Catherine Doster**, who will be leading the walks, will provide the water. If you want more information, call Catherine at 626-365-6447 or email her at catherine.doster@yahoo.com. What a great way to start the New Year!!



*open hearts,
open minds,
open doors*

The WORD

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Church of the Good Shepherd

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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