VOLUME 57, NO. 32 WEEK OF AUGUST 14TH, 2023



The Word
of the
Church of the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

The Church of the Good Shepherd

400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007 || www.cgsum.org || 626-447-2181
Join us for Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. IN-PERSON in our Sanctuary
Broadcast Live at 10:00 a.m. to Facebook/CGSUM and to CGSUM.ORG

Sunday, August 20th - 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Please enter the Sanctuary worship through the double doors off the parking lot. Name tags and check-in are not needed. Attendance pads are in the pews. Masks are no longer required, but are encouraged for those who have high risk factors.

Scripture Lessons: Psalm 133 and Luke 10: 38-42
Sermon: "Stop and Smell the Roses"
Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin Preaching
Prelude: "There Is No Name So Sweet" arr. Colvin
Postlude: "Postlude in G major" by J.C. Bach
Stephen Cook, Director of Music

The Altar Flowers on Aug. 20th were given in memory of Flo Lucas' birthday by Craig Lucas.



Special End of Summer Service

On Sunday, August 27th at 10:00am, join us in the Chapel for a special End-of-Summer Service that will include the singing of favorite hymns, anthems from young people, prayer candles, and Pastor's Reflection Message. After worship, join us in the Courtyard for an Ice Cream Social!

Women's Book Group: On August 23, we will begin a discussion of Lisa See's new novel, *Lady Tan's Circle of Women.* Join us on Wednesday at noon!

All articles, photos, and announcements are **due by 3:00 p.m. Friday** for the following week's newsletter and should be emailed to **cgsarcadianewsletter@gmail.com.**

Pastor Eva's Monthly Reflection

Last week, Phil and I were finally able to take a vacation and we chose to go to New York City! Much appreciation to the Church Office and Children's Center Admin Staff who handled everything while I was away and to Rev.'s Brenda Simonds and Stephen Wilson for being available for Pastoral Care emergencies.

It's been many years since I've been to NY and it was Phil's first time, so we did as many things as we could. We went to the Empire State building, the 9/11 Memorial, a Broadway Musical, Baseball Games, St. Patrick's Cathedral, Times Square, and the NY Public Library (which has Phil's book in one of the reserved reading rooms!). We also ate delicious food: pizza, bagels, matzo ball soup, pastrami sandwiches, dim sum, Italian ice, cannolis, plus brunch at Tavern on the Green in Central Park.

As you can imagine, to fit all these things into our 5 day trip, I had our itinerary planned out to the T. But sometimes things don't go as planned. We got rained on at the Mets game, we arrived at Chelsea Market only to find that half of the food stalls closed early on Sundays, and we got lost on the way to Rockefeller Center. When these things happened, I had to remind myself not to stress and not to worry. Things don't and won't always go as planned. Sometimes we just have to take a deep breath, let go, and see where God leads us next. Yes, I believe that God is always leading us, even when on vacation in a big city.

After getting lost on the way to Rockefeller Center, Phil and I had to choose a different place to eat for lunch since it was closer to where we were. And who did we run into on the street just as we were about to enter the new place...but one of CGS's wonderful choir section leaders Susan Holder who was also in NY that week! NYC is the largest US city with a population of over 8 million people, and yet we found someone from home. And this was because of something unplanned that caused us to change plans.



I truly believe amazing things can happen when we are willing to develop new plans, trust God, and let the Spirit lead us. In the remaining months of the year, the Church Council leaders will be working on a mission and outreach plans for the church. Keep us in your prayers as we develop new plans, trust God, and let the Spirit lead us!

Together in Christ's Service,
Pastor Eva

CGS Family Promise Hosting Week

We welcomed Stephanie and Carlos and their children Emma, age 8, and Carlos, age 18 months, on Sunday, August 13. We are having a wonderful week of sharing and caring. The family has really appreciated the delicious food, hospitality, and safe place for their family.

There are so many helping hands that have contributed and will be contributing to our joyful week of service and fellowship. On Saturday, August 12 our set-up crew of Chris and Pedro Galindo, Susan Mendenhall, David Rios, Vern Whitaker, Craig Lucas, and supervisor David Steinmeier got everything ready for our guests. Our dinner hosts for the week who will provide abundant and nutritious meals include Tom Dukes, Kathy Ellison, Leanne and Lance Baroldi, Carolyn Iga (a new CGS member), and the Shepherds, Sara Circle, and ROI fellowship groups.

Overnight hosts who will sleep at church and then set up breakfast the next morning are David Steinmeier, John Neuner, Jim and Sharon Eberhardt, Doug Van Kirk, Kim Reynolds, Leanne Baroldi, Amber Pattison, Amy and Terry Crouse, and Craig and Diane Lucas.

The take-down crew of Susan Mendenhall, David Rios, and members of Boy Scout Troop 832 will put everything away on Sunday, August 20 to get things ready for our hosting again in October. Margaret Blair, Joann Steinmeier, and Sharon Eberhardt will launder the linens for the next guests.

The Assistance League of Arcadia (ALA) will also help by providing new school clothes, shoes, backpack, supplies, and other personal items for Emma who begins school while the family is with us. Young Carlos will also receive new clothes from ALA.

Of course, there are so many others who support our hosting week with their prayers and contributions to our CGS Family Promise program.

David Steinmeier and Leslie Kenan, members of our CGS FP leadership team, continue to be most instrumental in getting our overnight and dinner volunteers. Without them, we would not be able to do this!!! Our next hosting is October 1 to October 8; mark your calendars!

Grateful thanks to everyone who continues to share their Christian love, compassion, and kindness to our guest families and to make the hosting of our Family Promise guests possible and so meaningful for all!

Gratefully,
Diane Lucas, CGS FP Coordinator

Bishop Escobedo-Frank's Pastoral Letter on the Fires

Dear Siblings in Christ (Aug. 9, 2023):

Yesterday the wind was high as I took off from Honolulu to the West Coast. We were aware of the presence of Hurricane Dora, as the wind had been high for the last part of our trip. This morning I woke up to hear about the fires on Maui and Hawai`i island moving quickly because of the winds, and then the evacuation of the areas around Lahaina. We waited and prayed and reached out to our contacts. Finally, we heard that Pastor John Crewe and his family were safely evacuated from Lahaina to a shelter. Pastor Crewe reached out to District Superintendent (DS) Tom Choi and reported that they were able to get out and are spending time checking on members of the congregation to make sure everyone is safe.

Communication has been sparse because cell phone coverage was out. It appears that the Lahaina United Methodist Church building has also been destroyed (see photo below). Our biggest concern is that the people of Lahaina, Maui, and Hawai`i island are safe, cared for, and surrounded by the love of God's people.

Also, today we heard from DS Sandy Olewine that there is a fire in our South District, about a half-mile from Ramona UMC. Rev. Kristie Grimaud has reported that all are safely evacuated, and it looks like the fire is getting contained.

On this day, as we hear about fires, evacuations, and deaths, we offer up our prayers for safety and life. We ask for God's Presence to comfort those who grieve, to give strength to those who are fleeing and those who are rescuing, and to open up a way when it seems there is no way. The people of God and this California-Pacific Conference are praying for you. They will be in action to provide the future resources that love requires of us.

Please pray with me, with us, for these communities who have lost so much on this day. Your prayers, your gifts to UMCOR (www.umcmission.org), and your readiness to bring aide as needed are greatly appreciated.



God be very near.
Grace y paz,

Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank

Resident Bishop of the Los Angeles Area
California-Pacific Conference
of The United Methodist Church

GIVING OPTIONS THROUGH UMC CAL-PAC COMMITTEE ON RELIEF AND DISASTER RESPONSE TASK FORCE

In response to the devastating fires which have ripped through Hawai`i, a special giving link has been set up at the Conference center. As United Methodists, we want to bring our resources to the table in the most effective way possible. 100% of all you give will go towards helping the people and we are committed to supporting the community of Lahaina as they navigate the challenges before them. All of the money collected will go towards helping this community in their time of need.

Giving online: Give to the Lahaina Relief Fund at: calpacumc.org/donate.

Giving by Check: Gifts for the Lahaina Relief Fund can be made payable to the California-Pacific Conference and sent to California-Pacific Conference, Lahaina Relief Fund, PO Box 6006, Pasadena CA 91102-6006.

Save the Dates!

August 20th: Church Council Meeting for Leaders
August 27th: 10AM Worship in the Chapel for this Sunday!
September 19th: UWIF/Sarah Circle Panera Fundraiser
September 23rd: Installation Worship Service of Rev. Moonyoung Lee
Coming in October: Book Fair and A Fall Festival Sunday!

CGS at the Quakes Game, Saturday, August 12th!



We had a great time at the Rancho Cucamonga-Inland Empire 66ers game at the Epicenter in Rancho Cucamonga and the Quakes won 5-3!

Present to see the Quakes win were: (L) to (R) top row: Chuck & Matthew Richards, Dave & Jackie Raymond, Cathy & Brett Wilson, Danielle Wilson & Nick Flanders, and David Gordon. Middle row: Ken & Margaret Blair, Susan & David Janss, Doug & Karen Poindexter, Jackson, Erin, & Gavin Feola, Sara Poindexter, and Andrew Feola. Bottom row: Lynne, Suzanne & Vern Whitaker, Janice Clark, Kevin & Cindy Snavely, Barbara Bates Jensen, Kim & Heather Reynolds.

Church Leaders & Volunteers are Invited to Ignite 2023!

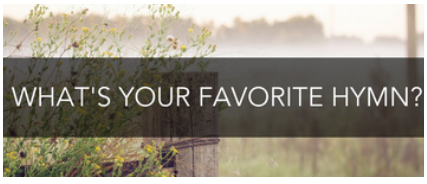


Online Group
Sept. 27-29

Are you committed to helping our church do everything it can to share God's love with your community? If you answered YES, then Ignite Leadership Institute (Online Sept. 27-29) is for you!
Leadership Institute is designed to equip, encourage, and inspire ministry leaders. You'll experience:

- Meaningful worship and Powerful keynote speakers
- Practical featured sessions/webinars to choose from
- Time for reflection, networking, team building, and more.

Pastor Eva has registered the church for online participation. You can attend online viewing sessions in the church lounge or watch online from the comfort of your home. Contact Pastor Eva if you are interested. More details to come.



Pentecost 5 Questions Series- Question #3!

What is your favorite Hymn? Please list 1-3 Hymns!
Fill in answer below and turn in to Pastor Eva in person or email to PastorEva@cgsum.org

Name (optional):_____
Favorite Hymn(s):

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Ministers: Members of the Congregation
Resident Bishop: Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank
District Superintendent: Rev. Siosaia Tuitahi
Pastor: Rev. 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
From July 1st District Superintendent: Rev. MoonYoung Lee

Prayer for the Week from Psalm 40: I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Amen.

Church of the Good Shepherd Mission Statement:
At Church of the Good Shepherd, God calls us to welcome all to a vibrant community on a continuing journey of Faith, Growth, Justice, and Service in the image of Christ.