VOLUME 59, NO. 1 WEEK OF JANUARY 13TH, 2025



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

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, January Nineteenth - 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany and MLK Weekend

Attendance pads are in the pews. The Offering box is located in the Narthex.

Scripture Lesson: Psalm 36:5-10 and John 2:1-11
Sermon Title: "Gathering at His First Miracle"
Prelude: "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" by Charles Converse
Postlude: "Worthy of Worship" by Mark Blankenship
Franklyn Shen, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries
Youth Choir: "This is The Day" arr. J.L. Clark;
and "Praise His Holy Name" by Keith Hampton;
Janice Clark, Director; Franklyn Shen, Accompanist
Choirs and Congregation: "A Closing Prayer" by Don Besig

Resources to Donate to or to Receive Support for Those Impacted by the Eaton Fire

Red Cross:
Anyone who would like to register as a volunteer can sign up with the Red Cross at RedCross.org/volunteer

Pasadena Humane:
If you are able to foster an animal, please email foster@pasadenahumane.org.
If you are interested in volunteering, please email volunteer@pasadenahumane.org.

Donations: For links to organizations accepting monetary donations, check visitpasadena.com/eaton-fire/

ALSO PLEASE SEE INSIDE PAGE FOR CGS DONATION OPPORTUNITIES

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.**

Children's Center Dine Out Fundraiser at Blaze Pizza

Cause a scene for a good cause at Blaze Pizza! 815 W Naomi Ave Unit C (inside the Vons parking lot)

The Good Shepherd's Children Center is holding a Dine Out Fundraiser at Blaze Pizza on Wednesday, January 15th from 4pm - 7pm. You can either bring the flyer into the restaurant or show it on your phone. Online orders must be placed via the Blaze Pizza App or blazepizza.com. Enter code "1333A" in the Promo Code field at checkout.



Enjoy yourself and support our cause at a special fundraising event for:

Organization name: Good Shepherd Children's Center
Date: January 15, 2025
Time: 4pm to 7pm
Location: **815 W. Naomi Ave Unit C, Arcadia**
Order Mode: In-Restaurant, Blaze Pizza App, Blazepizza.com

TWO WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR ORGANIZATION:

In-Restaurant: Bring in this flyer or show it on your phone before paying.

Online Orders: Orders must be placed online via the Blaze Pizza App or blazepizza.com. Enter code **1333A** the 'Promo Code' field at checkout to have your transaction count toward the fundraiser. If entered correctly, you'll see a $.01 discount applied to your check which that 20% of your transaction will be counted into the total donation.
VALID FOR PICKUP, CURBSIDE & CARRYOUT ONLY.

FAST-FIRE'D BLAZE PIZZA

VALID FOR DINE-IN, PICKUP, CURBSIDE & CARRYOUT ONLY THROUGH THE BLAZE PIZZA APP & WEBSITE. For online orders, only transactions that have the promo code applied during the time and date specified above will be counted toward the donation total. Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax and gift card purchases. Excludes 3rd party delivery or phone orders. Alcoholic beverages excluded. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant







A REFLECTION FROM PASTOR EVA

On Tuesday, Dec. 31st at midnight, I rang in the the new year with family and a sparkling cider toast! A week later, on Jan. 7th at midnight, I was at the church because of the mandatory Eaton Fire evacuations (top photo of the fire to the NW of the parsonage).

These windstorms and fires are a solemn reminder of how true the Ecclesiastes 3:1-5 passage can be: *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them.*

The next day, I was in Pastor mode: taking pictures of high wind damages; checking in with the director who wisely closed the Children's Center; getting updates from senior members; and arranging for gardeners, dumpster crews, So Cal Ed. work. I was going from task to task not pausing, until I stopped in front of the Peace Pole. I noticed the rocks that we had painted and placed around the pole 3 years ago. They were not scattered, all still in place together and centered around the pole. One white rock, with the word "Faith" painted on it stood out to me. We weep and mourn for those who have lost homes, loved ones, and irreplaceable items. But the rock is a reminder from God to stay together, to stay centered, to stay strong; and in time we will heal, plant, and rebuild. *-Together in Faith- Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin*

WAYS CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD IS HELPING

- Gift Cards (Grocery Stores, Target, Restaurants) to be given to church members affected by the fires, Altadena UMC (Target) and St. Mark's Church & School families. Drop them in the offering box on Sundays or to the church mailbox.
- Monetary Donations (please give to the Conference Fire Recovery Fund- see below).
- Donate only essential items (food, toiletries, clothing, baby supplies, pet food) to the following places: Foothill Unity (Pasadena), Santa Anita Park, LA County Food Banks, YMCAs, Red Cross.
- Please do not drop off donations to the church- the places listed above are already set up for immediate distribution for families in need.
- Remember that Pastor Eva and church staff would never ask for money or gift cards to be directly made out to them or given to them directly.

INFORMATION FROM OUR CAL-PAC CONFERENCE LEADERS:

Bishop Escobedo-Frank and the Cabinet met with affected churches. Visit the conference website for the Bishop's message and more details on ways to give or receive (www.calpacumc.org).

- TARGET GIFT CARDS: Altadena UMC members are requesting gift cards to Target for clothing and other immediate needs. Send gift cards to the conference office for distribution:
  Denyse Barnes c/o California-Pacific Annual Conference PO Box 6006 Pasadena, CA 91102-6006
- MONETARY DONATIONS: Los Angeles Fires Recovery Fund – you can give directly to relief and recovery from the effects of the winds and firestorms this week. www.calpacumc.org/donate OR CHECK donations payable to the California-Pacific Conference can be mailed to California-Pacific Conference, Los Angeles Fires Recovery Fund, PO Box 6006, Pasadena CA 91102.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
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Ministers: Members of the Congregation
Resident Bishop: Rev. Dottie Escobedo-Frank
District Superintendent: Rev. Moonyoung Lee
Pastor: Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries: Franklyn Shen
Director of Music Ministry: Stephen Cook
Director of the Good Shepherd Children's Center: Linda Brown

January Events:

- January 14th Shepherds Fellowship Dinner
- January 15th Children's Center BLAZE PIZZA Fundraiser- see flyer
- January 23rd UWF/Sarah Circle PANERA Fundraiser- details to come
- January 25th Church Council & 80th Anniversary Planning Meeting

Plus join us Sundays for Adult Sunday school (9:00am), Worship (10:00am), Children and Youth Sunday school (10:15am) and Fellowship Time after worship in the hall with coffee & refreshments

Church of the Good Shepherd Mission Statement:
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.