VOLUME 59, NO. 42 WEEK OF NOV 9TH, 2025



# The Word

## 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 the Sanctuary

***Sunday, November 16th - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost and Pledge Commitment Sunday***

Attendance pads are in the pews.
The Offering box is located in the Sanctuary entryway.
This month's Offertory will take place on Sunday, November 16th Commitment Sunday.

**Scripture: Mark 6: 30-44**
**Sermon: "The Grace of Giving: Becoming inn Keepers"**
**Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin, Sr. Pastor, Preaching**
**Prelude: "All Creatures of Our God and King" arr. Sewell**
**Postlude: "Postlude on "A Mighty Fortress" arr. Sandra Gay**
**Stephen Cook, Director of Music**
**Chancel Choir: "Amazing Grace" arr. Ovid Young; "Thanksgiving" by John Ness Beck**
**Kirk Averitt, Director; Stephen Cook, Accompanist**
**Special Music by Garrison and Susan Holder**

*The November 9th Altar Flowers were given in honor of Church of the Good Shepherd Veterans and those serving our country in the military and for Craig Lucas's birthday given by Diane, Addie, and Ellie.*

## Commitment Sunday Worship & Luncheon on November 16th!



We will have a special blessing of the 2026 pledge cards and will receive new members in worship. Then all are invited to a delicious lunch in the hall as we celebrate the church ministries. To help ensure we have enough food for all, please RSVP to Pastor Eva (PastorEva@cgsum.org) or the church office (626-447-2181).

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.**

# *Church of the Good Shepherd 2026 Stewardship "The Grace of Giving"*

*2 Corinthians 8:7 "Now as you excel in everything - in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you - so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking."*

Dear Church of the Good Shepherd Members and Friends,

This year we celebrated the church's 80th Anniversary. The church began in May of 1945 when its first worship services were held in the Holly Avenue Elementary School auditorium. A faithful community grew and planted the roots of what we are today at Church of the Good Shepherd. They exhibited what the Apostle Paul was encouraging in the 2 Corinthians scripture passage- the Grace of Giving! Because of the generosity of these founding members and all who came after, we today are blessed with our lovely church campus, enriching ministries, dedicated church staff, and connections to each other and the community.

Over the next few Sundays, the worship services and sermon messages will reflect on the Grace of Giving and how we live out this calling today in our lives and as a church. I hope you will join us for worship in person or on-line. I also invite you to join us for the Commitment Sunday Worship Service and Luncheon on November 16th. On this Sunday we will receive new members, have a special dedication for the 2026 pledge cards, and gather for a luncheon to celebrate our church ministries and missions.

Enclosed is the pledge card for your 2026 financial commitment to the church. We encourage you to prayerfully consider your giving for next year. Every pledge is a valued gift that is needed for Good Shepherd to continue its ministries and missions.

Please return your pledge card by mail in the envelope provided (be sure to place a stamp on it before mailing) or in person at your convenience. The pledge cards received before Nov. 16th will be consecrated in worship on Commitment Sunday.

Let Us Continue Together the Legacy of the Grace of Giving!

*Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin (Pastor Eva)*

ORIGINAL LETTER & PLEDGE PACKETS HAVE BEEN MAILED OUT.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR COMPLETED PLEDGE CARD TO CHURCH THIS SUNDAY, THIS CARD AND ONES THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN RETURNED WILL BE BLESSED IN WORSHIP. IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PLEDGE CARD- SEE NEXT PAGE OR CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR A COPY. COPIES ARE ALSO BE AVAILABLE IN THE SANCTUARY ENTRYWAY BY THE OFFERING BOX.**

*Church of the Good Shepherd 2026 Pledge Card*

*"The Grace of Giving"*

Name(s):

Address:

Phone/Email:

Amount I Pledge to Give in 2026: $

Pledge Will Be Given (circle one): In Person By Mail On-line www.cgsum.org
OR Electronically (please return Authorization form)

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**THANKSGIVING CHAPEL SERVICE**
**& Thanksgiving Offering Note**
Will be on a Monday this Year
November 24th at 7:00p.m.
with special music, Holy Communion,
Scriptures, and Reflections.

Dear Congregation- Thanksgiving Greetings to you! As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, my heart is filled with gratitude for each one of you and the unique blessings you bring to our church family. Thanksgiving is a time when we reflect on God's goodness and faithfulness, recognizing His hand in our lives, both in times of joy and in seasons of trial.

I invite you to attend our ***Thanksgiving Chapel Service*** (see above info) and to also give a special ***Thanksgiving Offering*** to continue to support the church and its ministries. Special Thanksgiving offering envelopes will be in the Sanctuary entryway and pews and can be placed in the offering box. Or contact the church office (626) 447-2181 to receive one. You may also give online via the GIVE tab on the church website (www.cgsum.org).

With Grace and Blessings- Rev. Eva Thai-Erwin (Pastor Eva)




**November 23rd Deck the Halls!**
Volunteers are needed to help prepare the church for the Advent Season. Stay after Coffee Fellowship and help us to decorate the Sanctuary, Chapel, and other spaces.

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Dine-In or Take-Out. Order online at www.islandsrestaurants.com

# Good Shepherd Children's Center

## Islands Pasadena

Date: November 19th 2025

Time: 4pm to close

Location: Islands Pasadena

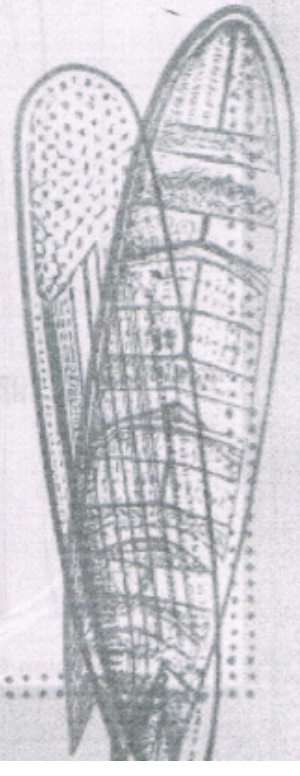
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Good Shepherd Children's Center



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**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to**
**THE WORD, Church of the Good Shepherd**
**400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007**

**Periodical Postage Paid**
**at Arcadia, California**
**USPS 592-700**

**The WORD**
**(USPS 592-700)**
**Published weekly except the weeks of**
**1/1, 5/30, 7/4, and 12/25 by**
**Church of the Good Shepherd**
**United Methodist**
400 W. Duarte Road, Arcadia, CA 91007
(626) 447-2181
**www.cgsum.org**

**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**

## *November Save the Dates*

- 11/16 Commitment Sunday Service and Luncheon
- 11/24 Thanksgiving Chapel Service **(MONDAY at 7:00pm)**
- 12/14 Lessons and Carols Service
- 12/21 Deck the Halls afer Worship
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Worship Services (5pm, 9pm, and 11pm)

***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.***