



# Good Shepherd United Methodist Church

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Office Hours: Mon-Tue 10am-2pm, Wed-Thu 10am-3pm

## October Newsletter 2019

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### Words from the Pastor

By: Pastor Khuong Chau

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are in October—a busy month preparing for Charge Conference. Do you care about the ministries of our church? Do you want to help our church grow? Let’s look at some of the teachings in Luke Chapter 16 about the rich man and Lazarus to remind that God wants us to care.

1. Jesus makes it clear that there is a life beyond this world of five senses; that God rules both worlds; and that life in one world affects the other. Jesus’ teaching on heaven and the hungry recorded in Matthew 25:31-46 is an underlining of this same idea. What we do in this life of five senses affects the life beyond them; not because we are making “brownie points” with God, but because each of us is becoming a certain kind of individual who belongs in a certain kind of environment.

For example, here is a person who attends church faithfully, serves his neighbors unselfishly, donates blood, tithes, read good books—including the Good Book—and enjoys the fellowship of those who, like himself, love the Lord. This person is moved by his employer to a distant community. In his new community he will probably seek the same environment—because he is that kind of person. He has been fitting himself for that kind of environment.

That’s where he belongs. It is something like that between this life of five senses and the life beyond. Each of us is creating the kind of person who is at home being with God and the environment of God or is at home separated from God and the things that belong to God’s environment.

2. Jesus says that between these two environments a great separation is fixed—an unbridgeable chasm, he puts it in our worldly language. Who digs this chasm? Rich man himself had driven a wedge of selfishness between himself and his needy fellows, therefore between himself and God. First there is an act, then a habit, then a character trait—until there is a gap so wide that Jesus says even heaven itself could not bridge it.

The clearest evidence of what we believe about God is the way we treat other people. Godly acts of goodness, generosity and compassion—or their opposites—are not simply acts in themselves. They are the outward evidence that the person who performs them is a certain kind of person. If we meanly treat our needy fellows—if we are callous and careless of their condition or their needs—we separate ourselves from them. In doing so, we separate ourselves from God.

Rich man walked past Lazarus just about every day, but he did not really “see” him at all. Lazarus’ needs were obvious, but Rich man just didn’t care. It was not what Rich man did that got him into hell; it was what he did not do.

3. It comes down to this: we are the brothers of Rich man, those whose eternal destiny is yet to be determined. What kind of persons are we becoming?

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Rich man was evidently not actively evil, deliberately devilish or consciously cruel. He was just carelessly heartless. He had lost his compassion. He had buried his brotherhood. Rags and ulcers left him unmoved and uncaring. They were merely a part of the other man's tough luck, and no concern of his.

There are people who don't care what happens as long as it doesn't happen to them. Either we are men and women of compassion, of caring and concern, or we are men and women of hell. That's pretty blunt, but on the basis of this story, how else would you put it?

We can be concerned about poverty, ghetto conditions, disease, injustice, fear and loneliness (even though these things do not happen to us), or we can shrug our shoulders and say, "What is that

to me?" The difference between those two attitudes is not a minor matter. Here Jesus makes it the difference between heaven and hell. The sharp point of Jesus' story is this: we need not be actively evil or deliberately devilish to miss the gate of heaven. We need only to be inactively indifferent and thoughtlessly selfish; to go our own contented way; to step over the beggars on the doorstep of our life, unconcerned about their condition and untroubled about their need.

Open our eyes, Lord, to the needs and sufferings of those around us. Even though we may not have caused the hurts we see, grant us compassionate hearts to respond to them, that we might be the kind of people who belong eternally with you. Amen.

# Announcements

## Upcoming Meetings

- 10/06 SPRC Meeting, 12PM
- 10/13 Trustee Meeting, 12PM
- 11/03 Church Council Meeting, 12pm
- 11/05 Charge Conference, 7PM



Please make sure to attend the meetings.

## October Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 5<sup>th</sup> James Munroe
- 5<sup>th</sup> Andrea Bessette
- 7<sup>th</sup> Mark Richelieu
- 8<sup>th</sup> Chris Somsak
- 26<sup>th</sup> Rev. Ase Nguyen

- 
- 11<sup>th</sup> Phil & Diane Maggs
  - 27<sup>th</sup> Keith & Nannette Bjelland



## Let's "Do Lunch!"

The Good Shepherd Lunch Bunch is going to the Goldenwest Diner on **Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** at 12:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us for food and fellowship. The restaurant is at 13030 Goldenwest St. in Westminster. That's the South-East corner of Goldenwest St. and Garden Grove Blvd. Please let Peggy Reardon know if you are able to attend, 714-897-5883 or perkypeggy@aol.com. See 'ya on the 18<sup>th</sup>.



## Special Church Council Meeting Set

The next Church Council Meeting has been changed to **Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**, after church. Lunch will be provided for all members of the Church Council. There will not be a meeting on October 29. Please plan to attend this meeting as we will be preparing for the Charge Conference on **Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m.



## This Is an Important Meeting!

All church members and friends are encouraged to attend the Charge Conference on **Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m.



We will elect officers for 2020, vote on the budget for next year, including salaries for the Pastors, and hear about the state of the church. This is your chance to be involved in the administration of the church and its ministries. The meeting will start promptly as the SPRC will not be meeting before the Charge Conference.

Also, we want to plan all the activities and special services for the holiday season. The goal is to plan the rest of the year so we don't have to have another Church Council Meeting until January. We know that this time cuts into your family time (the rest of the family will have to have lunch without you) but since so many members can't make an evening meeting we are hoping that this will work out better. Please bring all the information that you will need for your report to the Charge Conference and all the plans you have for programming the rest of the year to the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact one of the Pastors or Linda Priester. Any interested members of the church are invited to attend this open meeting and lunch.

# Good Shepherd Preschool



The New School Year has gotten off with a good start. The Preschool numbers are a bit lower than previous years. However, we have some prospective children that are going to start in October and some in November.

Since a family erroneously reviewed our school on Yelp with one star, our school is no longer number one on Yelp. Sadly we are not even in the first page...so no exposure to new families is affecting enrollment. We made a report/complaint to Yelp a long time ago but we are still waiting to hear from them. Hopefully, they will remove the review that is affecting us soon.

We just had back to school night and pass out some referral flyers to all of our families and we also asked them to review us on Yelp so that we hopefully at least move back to the first page. We are hoping and praying that this will help us bring our enrollment up.

On a positive side, we have improved our environment with more shade and AC units in all of the classrooms. We have also improved our outdoor environment with more learning incorporated into it (reading areas, ABC area, etc.).

The before and after school program is about the same in numbers as last year. We are hoping to be able to transfer our program to the new room.

## On the news...

Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> Halloween parade/trunk or treat, 9:15 a.m.



## We need volunteers for this event...

If you would like to decorate your car and pass out some candies, please let us know as soon as possible.

We are in need of candy, pumpkins, bales of straw or fall décor donations, any help would be greatly appreciated it.

Please continue keeping our school in your prayers as we need more children in our program.

**Your continued prayers for the school are much appreciated.**

# OCTOBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b> 9am Shepherd's Hands—Carol B. 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm New Beginning Church	<b>2</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Living Hope Church	<b>3</b> 10am Bible Study 3pm After School Program 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7pm New Beginning Church 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>4</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Living Hope Church 7pm Viet. Bible Study	<b>5</b> 9am Viet. Computer Class 12:30pm Sabbath Study Group 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice 5:30pm Unplugged—Youth Gathering
		<b>6</b> 8:30am 1 <sup>st</sup> Service 10:30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Service 12pm SPRC Meeting 1pm New Beginning Church	<b>7</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba	<b>8</b> 9am Shepherd's Hands—Carol B. 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm New Beginning Church	<b>9</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Living Hope Church	<b>10</b> 10am Bible Study 3pm After School Program 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7pm New Beginning Church 7:30pm AA Meeting
<b>13</b> 8:30am 1 <sup>st</sup> Service 10:30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Service 12pm Trustee Meeting 1pm New Beginning Church	<b>14</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba  Columbus Day	<b>15</b> 9am Shepherd's Hands—Carol B. 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm New Beginning Church	<b>16</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Living Hope Church	<b>17</b> 10am Bible Study 3pm After School Program 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7pm New Beginning Church 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>18</b> 12:30pm Good Shepherd Lunch Bunch 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Living Hope Church 7pm Viet. Bible Study	<b>19</b> 9am Viet. Computer Class 12:30pm Sabbath Study Group 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice 5:30pm Unplugged—Youth Gathering
<b>20</b> 8:30am 1 <sup>st</sup> Service 10:30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Service 1pm New Beginning Church	<b>21</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba	<b>22</b> 9am Shepherd's Hands—Carol B. 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm New Beginning Church	<b>23</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Living Hope Church	<b>24</b> 10am Bible Study 3pm After School Program 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7pm New Beginning Church 7:30pm AA Meeting	<b>25</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Living Hope Church 7pm Viet. Bible Study	<b>26</b> 9am Viet. Computer Class 10:30am Men & Women Gathering 12:30pm Sabbath Study Group 2:30pm Viet. Worship Team Practice 5:30pm Unplugged—Youth Gathering 7pm New Beginning Church
<b>27</b> 8:30am 1 <sup>st</sup> Service 10:30am 2 <sup>nd</sup> Service 1pm New Beginning Church	<b>28</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba	<b>29</b> 9am Shepherd's Hands—Carol B. 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm New Beginning Church	<b>30</b> 3pm After School Program 6:30pm Zumba 7pm Living Hope Church	<b>31</b> 10am Bible Study 3pm After School Program 7pm Viet. Prayer Gathering 7pm New Beginning Church 7:30pm AA Meeting  Halloween		