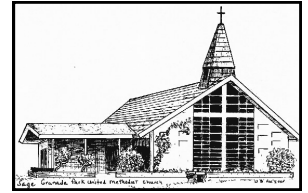




Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church

1850 West Hellman Avenue, Alhambra, California 91803



November 2022 E-Thymes



Our Vision:

We aspire to be a reflection of God's epic love:

- ♦ Engaged in a community of mutual support
- ♦ Proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ
- ♦ Inviting families to step up to ministries in the world
- ♦ Celebrated in social networks and digital media

Our Mission:

We are called to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Values:

We reaffirm our values as a multi-cultural and inclusive community united in the love of Jesus Christ.



Rev. Dr. George Martzen, Pastor
gmartzen@gmail.com

Kris Taniguchi, Organist
ktani28@hotmail.com

Ashley Parks, Sunday Childcare

Julie Quezada, E-Thymes Editor
sagegranadapark@gmail.com

Julie Quezada, Admin Assistant
sagegranadapark@gmail.com

E-Thymes October 2022

"Saints, Heroes and Anti-Heroes"

George Martzen



"[God] has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light." – Colossians 1:12b

"Anti-Hero" is the latest from pop singer, Taylor Swift. According to [TODAY online](#), she describes the song as a "guided tour" of the nightmares of her insecurities: "When my depression works the graveyard shift/ All of the people I've ghosted stand there in the room." Though she has become a hero and role model for many, Swift sees herself as having become "unmanageably sized."

We are in the age of the anti-hero. An anti-hero is usually defined as a main character in a narrative who is lacking in conventional heroic characteristics. Many of our favorite pop heroes and superheroes often have a soft or unsavory underside. Spider-Man acts like a superhero, but masked or not, Peter Parker is this shy nerd driven by grief, regret and self-doubt. Batman is the Dark Knight. Even some villains are found to be fallen or potential heroes. "Wicked," the musical, offers the sad backstory of Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West, and the one we most love to hate, Darth Vader, finds a kind of redemption in the end.

In my thinking, nurses are right up there with everyday heroes, until a couple weeks ago when I landed in the hospital with another bout of anemia. One of the nurses helping me was surely going through anger issues. You do not want an agitated nurse trying to insert an intravenous line in your arm. Ouch! Fortunately, the next two nurses exhibited balanced measures of compassion and competency, but they were clearly stressed. One shared that though she had been working in that hospital for 10 years, she was looking forward to marriage and a work-at-

home job. A third nurse said that she was working a second job as a hospice nurse to make ends meet. She was frustrated because there was such a staff shortage that she often couldn't adequately tend to patients, and had a hard time getting supplies. How did she deal with the stress? Hiking, whenever she had the chance.

Saints are kind of like heroes. A saint is often defined as one known for piety, virtue or other exemplary traits. In the Roman Catholic tradition, official saints are those deceased persons who have demonstrated a heroic level of virtue. But even St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Theresa) revealed in her published journal that she long struggled with doubt. So is she an anti-saint?

But actually, all who call on the Lord are saints-in-the-making. The apostle Paul often addressed as "saints" those members of the churches to whom he wrote, even those who were clearly imperfect. Saints are more like anti-heroes. Jeffrey Overstreet, in the Seattle Pacific University Response magazine quotes ethicist Samuel Wells as saying that hero stories "are told to laud the virtues of the heroes — for if the hero failed, all would be lost. By contrast, a saint can fail in a way that the hero can't, because the failure of the saint reveals the forgiveness and the new possibilities made in God, and the saint is just a small character in a story that's always fundamentally about God."

Thanks be to God, by whose grace you and I are saints-in-the-making. Though we may fail today or tomorrow, we are still reflections of God's epic love.

At Sage Granada Park UMC, we give thanks for all those saints-in-the-making. On Nov. 6 we will celebrate those members, friends and relatives who passed away since last November. If you wish to remember a deceased love one, please let the office know by Wednesday with the name, date of passing, list of survivors, and a photo for the PowerPoint.

<u>October 2</u>	<u>October 9</u>	<u>October 16</u>	<u>October 23</u>	<u>October 30</u>
Attendance: 31 In Person/ 57 On Line	Attendance: 35 In Person/ 35 On Line	Attendance: 24 In Person/35 On Line	Attendance: 35 In Person/29 On Line	Attendance: TBD
Offering: \$155.40	Offering: \$20.90	Offering: \$46.95	Offering: \$2,311.05	Offering: \$335.35



Because we are not taking in-person offerings, you may give to the church by mail or online at our website www.sgpumc.org. Click on Make a Donation. Please make note of your name and contact information on the memo line. Thank you for supporting our church and ministries! *Please note that our general offerings year to date are \$103,261.52 and our general offering budget for 2022 is \$102,000.00

<u>November 6</u>	<u>November 13</u>	<u>November 20</u>	<u>November 27</u>
Worship Liturgist: Alicia Marquez	Worship Liturgist: Sengdeuane Tom	Worship Liturgist: Elaine Chung	Worship Liturgist: Youth
 <p>Thank you to our Zoom Worship Crew: Ruel Reyes, Kris Taniguchi, Doreen Bolten, Ratheesh Pillai, Brad Hutchins, Phillip Kiriara, Sengdeuane Tom, Jaimie Hill, Ruth Chon, Arnie Saiki, Louise Garcia, Kai Garcia, Sunny Kim and Rev. George Martzen</p>			



Peacemakers

A former Christian missionary to Central America spoke fervently against the dictators, police and gangs harassing the poor so intensely that many had to leave on long, dangerous treks to the U.S. southern border.

This was a mini-conference in Los Angeles on Buddhist-Christian activism. Her counterpart Vietnamese Buddhist monk sent me an email the next week. He was most concerned that her intense anger might cause herself harm. She was my good friend.

She fell dead in a few weeks. Vietnamese monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, wrote famously that those who fight for peace **must first have peace themselves** in their hearts. Nhat Hanh's writings greatly honors Jesus Christ.

Rev. Dickson Kazuo Yagi

Rev Dickson Kazuo Yagi is a retired missionary, associate member of Sage Granada Park UMC, the Chair/President of the Council of Pacific Asian Theology and facilitator of the Interfaith Fellowship.



Admission FREE with RSVP to
alhambra.eventbrite.com
or \$20 donation at the door



Bill Yee Presents

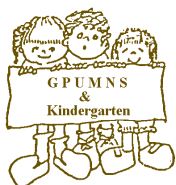
Matt Barber
EXPERIENCE

*An Evening of Sinatra Songs
and Friends*

Sat. November 12, 2022
7PM

Hosted by

Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church - 1850 W. Hellman Ave. Alhambra, CA 91803
(626) 230 5435 bizwind@yahoo.com



Granada Park United Methodist Nursery School & Kindergarten

1850 W Hellman Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803

For more information, contact us at 626-284-5006

gpumns1850@gmail.com <http://gpumnsk.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/gpumns1850>

Limited openings: We are still accepting Registration for the 2021-2022 school year: Children 2 years 6 months (potty trained) to 5 years old (Kindergarten)

OCTOBER 2022 NEWSLETTER School Year 2022

Chapel time with Rev. George



The Great California Shakeout



Working on Halloween decorations



UPCOMING EVENTS

***Marie Calendar fundraiser** begins Nov. 1st. Orders due Thursday Nov.10th and pick up pies at the preschool on Nov.23 after 11am. [Pick up an order form at the preschool.](#)

Happy Thanksgiving *School closed November 11th VETERANS DAY *School closed November 24th & 25th THANKSGIVING break

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, his love endures forever. —Psalm 107:1



- 11/1: Emmanuel Marquez
- 11/4: Steve Meza
- 11/8: Robert Austin
- 11/10: Wesley Tanaka
- 11/12: Kai Garcia
- 11/15: Elaine Chung
Erin Tanaka
- 11/29: Don Morrison
- 11/30: Bruce Del Monico



- 11/11: Louise (Wong) & Jaimie Garcia
- 11/19: Alicia & Emmanuel Marquez
- 11/22: Shoji & Shihoko Tatsugawa
- 11/25: Patricia Chou & Henry Soong



- Family of Yoko Hayashida
- Sarah Wong
- Sunny Kim
- Family of Jean McIver
- Family of Tak Yoshida
- Rev. George
- Echavarria family
- Mary Sue Lodwick
- Marilyn McIver
- Mariko Garrett
- Sho Tabata
- Alice Lopez
- Kenley Craver
- David Iwomiya
- Bruce Del Monico
- Leonard Quezada
- Laura Quezada
- Gabriel Morales
- Peace in Ukraine
- Toshiko Ozawa
- Mark and Lauri Wright
- Hurricane Ian victims

Follow us on
Facebook





From The Editor: HAPPY NOVEMBER

For me, this is a month of reflection; a time to take stock and stop to say *Thank You* to God and those in my life who bless me and are a blessing to me continually. I am grateful for all that I have. I encourage all of you to find the giving opportunity that you can support. The holidays are the most challenging time of year for ministries and outreach: they need all of us.

Thank you to everyone at Sage Granada Park UMC and our friends near and far who have been so generous this year in supporting the different outreaches and fundraisers that we promoted so far in 2022. You are appreciated!

Bazaar in Spirit Contributors: a big thank you to all who contributed so far for a total of \$5,630.00
You may continue to contribute to this fund.

Susan Arie (Yamashita)
Mary Senzaki (Tokeshi)
Hiroki Suzuki
John Furukawa
Janice Hurtado
Eric Kamayatsu
Ryan Taizo Taniguchi
Haruyoshi Fujimoto

Yukiko Okada
Beatrice Tabata
Ailene Tanaka
Wesley Tanaka
Marion Setsuko Tani
John Taniguchi
Janet Letourneau (Mayeda)

Barbara Nozawa
George Martzen
Pearl Matsumoto
Sachiko Yoshida
Marilyn McIver
Kenji Kinoshita
Tomoko (Toni) Tomita

November Giving Opportunities


Granada Park United Methodist Nursery School: Marie Callendar's fundraiser begins Nov. 1st. Orders are due by Thursday Nov. 10th and pies can be picked up at the preschool on Nov. 23 after 11am. Pick up an order form at the preschool or call the school at 62-284-5006 for more information.

HOPE Meal Kits: The HOPE meal kits are easily accessible, shelf-safe packaged foods for students that are in unstable housing or are unhoused. This provides food for these students when school meals are not available during the Thanksgiving break. We are asking that you provide breakfast, lunch, and snack items in a large reusable or plastic grocery bag. We are also requesting a \$10 gift card to a local fast food restaurant for each student. Each student will receive one HOPE meal bag and one \$10 gift card. Please don't put the gift card in the bag. They will be handed to the student (or parent) separately so that it does not get lost in storage or during transport. Rev. George has committed 25 from our church. These HOPE meal kits will be going to Bella Vista Elementary School in Monterey Park. Delivery will be made on 11/14 or 11/15 to the school so that they have enough time to distribute to the students that need them before Thanksgiving break. The kits and gift cards can be dropped off at the church office Tue-Fri, 9:30-2:30.

JLS SEE'S Candy YUM-RAISER Through December 2: From now to December 2, you can purchase your holiday candy at our online Yum-Raising shop at: https://www.yumraising.com/secure/sagegpu_sage_granada_park_united_methodist_ch96/Jan_Shi6629/.

Scouts: taking orders for wreaths through November 4— Delivery the week of November 28-Dec. 7

November 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	31 <i>Reformation Day</i>	1	2 Bible Study 1 PM	3 Evening Prayer 4 PM	4 Scouts 6:00— 9:30 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM	5 JLS 9 AM to 12:30 PM
6 All Saints Sunday Worship Service 10 PM 	7	8 	9 Bible Study 1 PM	10 Evening Prayer 4 PM <i>Marie Callendar's Pie Order Deadline</i>	11  Veterans Day Scouts 6:00— 9:30 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM	12 JLS 9 AM— 12:30 PM
13 Worship Service 10 PM	14 Hope Meals Drive 	15 Hope Meals Drive  7 PM	16 Bible Study 1 PM	17 Evening Prayer 4 PM	18 Scouts 6:00— 9:30 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM	19 Prayer Chain 9:30 JLS 9 AM— 12:30 PM Undookai
20 Worship Service 10 PM	21	22	23 Bible Study 1 PM <i>Marie Callendar's Pie Order Pickup 11:00 at the Nursery School</i>	24  Happy Thanksgiving! Evening Prayer 4 PM	25 <i>Native American Heritage Day</i> Scouts 6:00— 9:30 PM Choir Practice 6:00 PM	26 JLS: No School Thanksgiving Break
27 <i>UMC Student Day</i> Worship Service 10 PM	28 Scout Wreath Delivery through December 7	29	30 Bible Study 1 PM	31 Evening Prayer 4 PM		