



The Open Door

A publication of Aldersgate United Methodist Church
2869 Cohasset Road, Chico, CA 95973

January 2018
Phone: 530.893.8640

A Church of open hearts, open minds, open doors

NOTES FROM THE DECEMBER 4TH ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

(The following information is some of the highlights from the annual meeting. If you desire a complete copy of the minutes please contact the church office.)



Membership:

At the start of 2017 – 163

New: Skot Stribolt, Maxine Keffer, Teri Schell, Jeremy Stock

Transfer in: Ilakay Dusch

Deaths: Dottie Coryell, Marjorie Myhre, Cathey Delaney, Betty Teter, Carolyn Lundberg,
Arlene McLane, Bonnie Steel, Joan Smith

Inactive: 12 members were declared as inactive

Baptisms: Sophie Rae Morales, Skot Stribolt, Jeremy Stock (reaffirmation)

Total members to date – 147

Leadership committee for 2018:

2018: Bob Knox (New chair), Shelly Young, John Warwick

2019: Tom Austin, Joe Hejl, Ron Wooten

New 2020: Joe Yarosevich, Debbie Ducommun, Teri Schell

Board of Trustees for 2018

2018: Fred Dietrich, Susan Hartman, Richard Hood

2019: Marlo Knox, Zach Howe, Ella Van Omum

New 2020: Eldon Schottman, Jeremy Stock, Chris Gardner

Committees:

Education: Ellen Martinez

Worship: 9:00 Ken and Sara Lind

11:00 Louise Halfen, Marva Knox

Finance: Mary Gaffney(chair)

Financial Secretary: Duane Nelson

Treasurer: Rose Schottman

Laypersons to annual conference: Larry Ducommun, Chris Gardner

Coordinators: Woman's Ministries – Vacant, Volunteers – Janice Garrett

Budget:

2017
\$ 227,120

2018
\$ 239,170

Adjustment
+ \$ 3,050

The above information can be used to know who to contact if you have comments, see needs, or if you have concerns about any aspect of your church experience.

Pastor Scott's Corner

Happy New Year!

I always like to take time with the first Open Door of the New Year to look back over what happened in the outgoing year. So, here are some highlights:

- We welcomed 5 New Members!
- We witnessed the Baptism of 3 people!
- We had another five weeks of Guest Speakers during Lent.
- We began Lent with the Lord's Supper on Ash Wednesday.
- We continued to eat and fellowship with each other during lunch and dinners at special times.
- Our Thanksgiving Dinner was a blessing – for the seventh year!
- We had several "Work Days" planned by our Trustees and saw many good volunteers.
- The Couple's Group continued to meet and had new people attend.
- We had two teams of people attend Kairos 19 and 20, as well as having two dinners raising over \$2,000 for the ministry of Kairos!
- Bible Studies continued and grew with new people attending. We saw two new Studies start with Debbie Ducommun's Study on Tuesday, and Rose Schottman's on Friday nights!
- The Men's Fellowships continue with Tuesdays at the Cozy, and the Third Saturday Breakfast.
- Celebrate Recovery continued to bless on Friday nights, and had another great May Event at Aldersgate!
- Awana Program is in its Tenth Year!
- Our Sunday School Program continues to offer good teaching for our children. Thank you, Ellen Martinez and her gang of great people.
- Music Ministry, led by Clark Minor, continues to bless us each week with the Praise Team at First Service and the Choir at the Second Service!
- Larry Ducommun is doing a wonderful work with our Youth, seeing their numbers increase to double digits since the end of summer.
- We are blessed to have several people with the gift of preaching as the Sundays when I am gone are filled by a great presentation of the Word, those include Larry Ducommun, Fred Dietrich, and Pastor Neal Neuenburg.
- We are blessed to have Janice Garrett, Cheryl Sharpe, Penny Miller, Shelley Young, Skot Stribolt, Jeannie Zepp, Maxine Keefer and Ken Lind, all who volunteer as our Office Staff!
- We are blessed by the MANY volunteers who make the church run: Ushers, Singers, players of instruments, those who prepare coffee and goodies for Sundays, those who clean the seatbacks and make sure the forms are in place and pens are there, people who see that repairs are done, those who run the sound and computer on Sunday mornings, those who work with the Youth, and the people we pay to see to the gardening and janitorial duties. Also, the people who serve on the Leadership Team, the Board of Trustees, and the Finance Committee. A church does not exist without any of these people, so THANK YOU ALL!

So, there are some highlights of 2017. There are many others but there is only so much space in this newsletter. We did mourn the loss of eight members, Dottie Coryell, Marjorie Myhre, Cathy Delaney, Joan Smith, Betty Teter, Carolyn Lundberg, Arlene McLane, and Bonnie Steele. We also celebrated many Anniversaries, Birthdays, and new births! It was a good year.

Through your giving we were able to pay 100% of our Apportionments to the Annual Conference for the third straight year! Thank you, and Praise be to God for the faithfulness of His people!

It was a good year for Aldersgate in 2017. Here's looking forward to a great 2018! Be blessed!

My prayers are with you.

Sermons for January

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| 7. | Epiphany "Why Didn't He Just Go Himself?"
Matt. 2:1-8 | 21. | "What a Contrast??"
Acts 14:8-20 |
| 14. | Back to Acts! "Pot Stirrers"
Acts 14:1-7 | 28. | "Uh-Oh, A Controversy of Law!"
Acts 15:1-21 |

Once Epiphany has passed Pastor Scott is returning to his examination of the Book of Acts. All sermons giving in Aldersgate are recorded and available for copy. You may download them from our website, www.chicoaumc.org, or make a request to have one made on a CD at the computer table. We request a donation of \$2.00 for each CD. Thank you.

A Thank You!

Frances and Scott Allred want to thank the many people who attended their Open House on Saturday, December 9. They had an exciting time welcoming everyone and are thankful to those who brought gifts, even though they were not required. (They weren't rejected either!) People came constantly from 1:10 through 7 pm, and even stayed a little later. The running joke this year was "Devilled Eggs." But, will there be more next year? Time will tell.... Even if you were not able to attend, you can see pictures on Pastor Scott's Facebook page. (Request to be a friend!) It was a wonderful time!!!

Pastor Scott Vacation and Continuing Education Event

Pastor Scott will be taking a week of vacation starting Tuesday, December 26. Neal Neuenburg will be filling the pulpit for him on December 31, and on that day there will only be one service, 10 AM. Pastor Scott will be back on January 2 and his Bible Study will resume that Wednesday!

Later in January, Pastor Scott will be attending the "Gathering of the Orders" at Mt. Hermon Retreat Center, January 16-18. His Bible Study will not happen that week.

Sunday School News

Ellen and Ruthie want to give a **HUGE THANKS** to the ones who were volunteers for the older Sunday school class during the months of November and December. They are: Karen Sandrowski, Norm Teeter, Marva Knox, Katya Yarosevich and Barbara Herndon.

God bless you all richly!

Membership Class!

Want to join Aldersgate UMC as a Member? Pastor Scott will be offering his two-day Class on the Sundays of January 21 and 28. The class starts at 6 PM both nights and lasts two hours.

All interested people are welcome to attend, those wanting to join, those who are already Members but want to take the class, as well as anyone just wanting to attend.

Please let Pastor Scott know if you will be attending.

Kairos 21!

Kairos 21 at Folsom Prison will be happening on April 12-15. Pastor Scott and several other Aldersgate people will be participating on the Team. If you would be interested in joining, talk with Pastor Scott. There is an application to complete to be accepted. All people who desire shall be considered. Pastors are needed as well as Lay People. For experiences and testimony about serving on a Kairos, you may talk with Gary Gaffney, Chris Gardner, Joe Hejl, Ron Wotten, and Terrye Lucas. All have participated before.

We will be having another Dinner for Kairos on Saturday, February 24! More information will come in the next Open Door.

Board of Trustees

It has been an honor to serve on the Board of Trustees at Aldersgate United Methodist Church for the last 4 years. As I step away from the BOT, I want to thank all that served with me. Together God has given us the strength to make necessary decisions and get work done to enhance AUMC. We saw the roof of the Sunday School Wing blow off, and have seen the repairs through. Only one small task remains; fixing the sheetrock in the hallway ceiling.

The solar energy project has been a long time in review, but approval has been given by the Conference and the permit has been submitted to the City of Chico. A new HVAC unit sits atop the office wing of the Church, replacing a 32-year-old unit. A new storeroom was built by many hands and a lot of help. The sign that identifies our Church at the corner of Cohasset Road and Burnap Ave has been upgraded to aluminum and steel. I have seen the implementation of one Copier contract to reduce the monthly expense and a second one has been negotiated with a brand-new copier on order. A new fire extinguisher hood in the kitchen was installed to allow us to cook those great meals at the Church. Drainage improvements, new paint and rekeying of the locks are just some of the accomplishments that were also done in the last 4 years.

There are still several items that are in the works and under review to make Aldersgate sturdier and a great place to come and worship. With God's grace, the BOT will be making the decisions necessary to protect the building and its contents for many years to come. This is all to benefit the people that make up OUR Church.

As the torch is passed, I would like to thank Beth Hiersche and Melinda Loy, as the other outgoing BOT members, for their service. I am still going to be available to help and I thank God for blessing Aldersgate UMC.

C Bryan Graves, BOT Chair

Leadership Round Up 2017

Another year has passed, and Pastor Scott and Frances hosted the leadership team at their house with a pizza dinner before our last meeting of the year.

During our discussion, John Warwick brought up to us that he felt God wanted him to pray for Aldersgate at least 10 minutes a day and he challenged us to pray also. That meant to pray for pastor Scott, the music team, leadership team, trustees, youth and children's ministries, and all the people at our church and those who would be invited to our church in the future. It is part of our membership vows, when we joined the Aldersgate church body, that we would hold Aldersgate up with our prayers, presence, service, support and even witness.

In our church library, there is a book called "Praying the Price" by Terry Tekel. He was a pastor in College Station, Texas who said he had one little old lady coming up to him and telling him that she is praying him and the church. Word got out and other people at the church joined in praying for the College Station church. The power of prayer opened the doors to ministries and their church grew to be one of the largest UM Churches in Texas. Can you join us in praying for Aldersgate 5 – 10 minutes a day?

During a report from the office volunteers, we learned that the volunteers sometimes must set their work aside to accommodate requests to use the computer for something else. Each day the volunteers have a list of tasks to complete before they leave at 2pm. Some of those tasks affect the following days volunteer which will add to their days work load. For example, that means information given on Monday for the Thursday bulletin may not get passed on. So, your leadership team is asking you to reframe from asking to use the office computer between the hours 10am and 2pm so the volunteers can do their jobs in a timely manner.

If have not heard the new chair of Leadership is Bob Knox. Please keep him in prayer...

Chris Gardner

Paths Straight To Recovery

This has been an incredible year for PSTR. We would like to thank all of you for your prayers, your donations, and your support in ways we don't even know of. Richard's House has been full most of the year. We have seen the men become friends, get incredible jobs (Thanks to the Firefighters), and some transitioning out into the community. We are seeing the House Manager Jeremy Stock advance to Men's Coordinator and going back to school. In a few years, he will be an incredible Alcohol and Drug Counselor. This is not a loss but a great addition. We saw a few transitions as men reunite with their families, obtain jobs including the firefighters, one training to be certified as a HVAC tech and others obtaining jobs in the community. This is what transitioning is all about. They are also stepping up to become more active at Aldersgate which is another goal of following their faith life.

Another positive addition, after a couple of years of prayer, is The Cottage. This is our first transition house for women. After much prayer and God opening doors, we found a house with a Christian landlord fully supporting our mission. What a joy as we have collected furniture, household goods, and set up a beautiful home. We hired a house manager, Kim Bailey. Kim has an incredible testimony which includes graduating from the Salvation Army Rehab and obtaining a job as the Kitchen Supervisor at the ARP. We are planning an open house in the near future so watch for further information.

We will continue to need funding for men and women coming into the houses as they look for jobs or get enrolled in school. Please continue to pray for the men and women who God is calling to the homes.

On January 29th, we are having our first Annual Appreciation Dinner. There will be good food prepared by our own Chef Jeremy, testimonies, and more. Come join in the Celebration! Tickets are \$20. Call Terrye at 530-774-4903 or the church office at 530-893-8640 for tickets. As other churches who are supporting us are being invited, there will be no tickets at the door. The deadline for tickets will be January 22.

Happy New Year! May 2018 bring you abundant Blessings!

Office News

We are having a few changes in our office staffing starting January 1st, 2018. Cheryl Sharp is retiring and Terrye Lucas will be replacing her on Thursdays. Terrye has big shoes to fill as Cheryl has had many responsibilities with the biggest two being the Sunday bulletins for both services and helping with the Annual Church conference. She also helped with the membership audit that we performed this last year- a lot of work. "Thank you" Cheryl for giving of your time and energy to our church office and all the times that you covered for me helping other staff volunteers during the last year and half.

If you were not at the annual meeting in December, you didn't get an updated copy of the church contact list. If you would like one, we will have them available in the narthex on January 7th.

Janice Garrett, Office Volunteer Coordinator

Caroling and....

'Tis the season, once again for caroling. We had 12 carolers at each gathering on December 10th and on the 23rd. All the singing was a capella, and many residents joined in singing with us. Our "grand finale" at Sycamore Glen, included Veronica singing "O Holy Night" which was absolutely beautiful.

On another note . . . our annual women's brunch at Karen & Ted's home was a wonderful gathering of friendship and sharing. Of course, the food was delicious. Thank you, Karen, Ted and all those who facilitated it.

And my final note . . . the gathering at Allred's home and the Gaffney's home for fellowship was also a wonderful gathering of friendship and sharing with delicious food! Thank you all for sharing your love by your works.

Rose

Treasurer's Report

GENERAL FUND	
Jan. 1 Balance	+5,150.41
Oct. 31 Balance	+15,505.54
NOVEMBER	
Income	15,555.62
Expenses	-16,576.22
Nov. 30 Balance	14,484.94

2018 Budget

Item	2018 Budget	Change from 2017
Pastoral Salary Package	95,118	0
Other Staff	54,682	+3,000
Programs	9,050	+250
Office	5,400	+500
Conference Tithe	22,000	-700
Bank fees	150	0
Operations	43,770	0
TOTAL	230,170	+3,050

NOTE FROM YOUR TREASURER

For several years, I have been privileged to serve as your treasurer. God gave me the gifts and made me just geeky enough to enjoy most of the duties associated with this position. However, I feel I need a break, so I will be stepping down as your treasurer. Rose Schottman has graciously accepted facing the challenges of this position. Although Rose and I have been working together for the last year or so, and will continue to work together for a while, there will still be a steep learning curve for her as she assumes the duties of this position. Fortunately, Rose is just as geeky as I am and enjoys working with numbers. Please support Rose with your prayers, and thank her for serving the church and her Lord in this way!

-- Katya Yarosevich

Women's Corner

This is the last article that I will be writing as the coordinator for the Women's group. I have enjoyed being the Women's Coordinator for the 2017 year, and have appreciated you supporting me with all with your help and attendance at our many functions.

No one has volunteered to step forward to take this position for 2018. If anyone reading this wants to consider taking the leadership of the women's group, please contact Pastor Scott. Otherwise the board has thought about offering each of you the opportunity to take on a single event. Katya has volunteered to possibility take on the Mother's Day luncheon and I think Sara Lind has said she might take the Christmas Brunch. That still leaves several activities: the 2-day Retreat at Mt. Lassen (Friday evening – Sunday noon), a one day or part day seminar, Bunko night (maybe quarterly), and is there anyone that would like to do a Beth Moore or other seminar. I will be happy to pass on the information that I have on each activity, but can no longer handle the organization and production of all these activities.

When Cheryl and I were organizing the directory, almost four years ago, we started doing visitation to several people who were ill, hospitalized, homebound and otherwise unable to participate in church activities. I truly feel I am being called to continue along that pathway.

I would like to say a special "Thank You", to my Women's Board for this last year: Katya Yarosevich, Cheryl Sharp, Linda Austin, and Sara Lind. I couldn't have asked or prayed for a more supporting Board.

Please consider ladies taking one of these events to keep our Women's activities going. I know God will support you and give you the strength that he has given me over this last year. I feel honored that I was able to serve you all this last year.

Blessing,
Janice Garrett

The Vine

Happy New Year!

The Vine didn't meet the last 2 Sunday's in December, since they were Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve. As I write this before the OD comes out, we're meeting after Christmas for a overnight lock-in at the church. The kids will play games for 12 hours & eat snacks all night.

With the start of 2018, we'll look at goals, dreams, & how does a relationship with GOD fit into your plans.

Thank you for supporting the Vine through 2018 calendar sales. For the 3rd year in a row, friends & family purchased 75 calendars which are used to pay for activities with the kids.

I appreciate your support, prayers, & encouragement of the Vine, the teens, & me. If you have questions on what's happening with the ministry, please let me know. I pray you have a blessed 2018!

Larry Ducommun
Youth Leader

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY office closed	2 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church library	3 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	4 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	5 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	6
7 Epiphany "Why Didn't He Just Go Himself?" Matt. 2:1-8 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm	8 Trustees meeting 6:00 Rm 7-8pm Finance team 7:00 pm	9 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church library	10 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	11 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	12 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	13
14 Back to Acts! "Pot Stirrers" Acts 14:1-7 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm	15 Leadership meeting 6:00 Rm 7-8	16 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church library	17 No Pastor Scotts Bible Study	18 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	19 Celebrate Recovery 7pm (Dinner)	20 Men's breakfast 8:00am Rm 7-8
21 "What a Contrast??" Acts 14:8-20 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm Membership class 6:00 pm	22	23 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church library	24 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	25 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	26 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	27
28 "Uh-Oh ,A Controversy of Law!" Acts 15:1-21 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm	29	30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church library	31 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8			

Birthdays

Doug Hays 1/5
Susan Patterson 1/7
Angel Korte 1/15

Teri Schell 1/16
Donna Hood 1/19
Neal Neuenburg 1/21

Louise Halfen 1/26
Ron Wootten 1/27
Barbara Moon 1/28