



The Open Door

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

February 2018
Phone: 530.893.8640

A Church of open hearts, open minds, open doors

Super Bowl!

Sunday, February 4, is the date for the 2018 Super Bowl. The Allreds are inviting anyone who would want to view it with them to join them at their house. Game time is 3:30 pm, you are welcome to arrive at 3. If you do choose to come, please bring a snack to share. Enjoy!

Salvation Army

January 7, 2018
Aldersgate United Methodist Church
2869 Cohasset Road
Chico, CA 95973

The Salvation Army of Chico would like to thank you for partnering up with us this season in our efforts to raise funds to serve the Chico Community. In your support of our bell ringing, we were able to raise over \$85,000. Your personal Bell Ringing contribution raised \$2,279.40

These funds go directly back into the Chico community to "do the most good, to the most people, in the most need." It is partnerships like yours that provide for those in need, while giving an opportunity for the community to step up. Serve, and be a blessing to others.

Once again, thank you for sharing in this tradition. We hope to partner with you again next year!

God Bless,
Lt's Craig & Arwyn Rodriguera

Pastor's Lenten Sermon Series

Pastor Scott's Sermon Series during the five weeks of Lent this year will be on some teachings from the Book of James. This series will be called "Instructions from James" and will start on February 18 and last for five weeks. There will be one exception, and that will be on the Fourth Sunday in Lent when Ruth Rosen of Jews for Jesus will be presenting "Christ in the Passover." That will be on March 11 in both services

As with all sermons and messages given in Aldersgate, you can find recordings of them on our website, Chicoaumc.org. These include the messages of our Lenten Guest Speakers! Check it out!

Ash Wednesday Noon Communion

Pastor Scott will again offer a noon Communion Service for all interested persons on Ash Wednesday, February 14. (That is also Valentine's Day.) The service will be the ritual of "The Great Thanksgiving" from our Hymnal. It will start at 12:15 and will last approximately one half-hour. It is a wonderful way to start the season of Lent. It is open to any that want to come, including students!



Pastor Scott's Corner

It's February, and I would like to share with you three joys and one sorrow....

First Joy: If you remember the Christmas Letter I wrote in December I mentioned if we received a \$20,000 December Offering we/Aldersgate would meet and exceed our projected Budget for 2017. At the time we wrote the January Open Door we did not know the totals of the December Offerings. But, by this time we do. We did not receive a \$20,000 December Offering; we received a \$30,000 December Offering! That put us at having received \$233,234 for the year, and our Budget was \$227,120. Thank you and Praise be to God for the faithfulness of His people! With these receipts, the Leadership Team decided to give an additional \$1,000 to the Mission work of Paul and Fabiola Drumm. Excellent! Some might say, "Why not more?" Our Trustees are looking at some needed repairs and upgrades that are going to cost a bit, so the LT decided to use the extra gifts towards them. Even so, it's a great joy! Thank you!

The second joy is also connected with giving, but this time in a Missional sense. We received a letter from the Salvation Army declaring their receipts from the Kettle Giving during the Christmas Season. (Sorry, I don't have that letter to quote from, so I cannot give you to totals.) In that letter was thanks from the Army to the People of Aldersgate UMC for their work, and a declaration that the Kettle Offerings for the Saturdays that Aldersgate people served netted giving more than \$2,200! Praise be to God, and thanks for your work! This year included many people who had never rang a Bell for the Army, and they all said how blessed they were in doing so! Pictured on page one is one such asset of "rookies!" Thank you all for this magnificent work and joy!

A third joy is one to me personally: I just finished my latest Membership Class and on Sunday, February 11, we will be accepting 6 new Members into Aldersgate UMC! Yay! Praise God and thank you for this great decision! The six people will be: Zach and Courtney Howe, Barbara Bradshaw, Robert Leavitt, Jo Petelin, and AJ Petelin. In the next Open Door, I will write some detail about each, but they will all be joining on the 11th, some during the First Service, the other(s) during the Second. There is a seventh person, but she was not feeling well on the second night of my Class; she said she will complete during my next Class. So, I will need to offer another one soon. If you want to join us in Membership I/we would love to have you! Praise God for His People!

Finally, one Sorrow: We will not be having the Lenten Guest Speaker Series this year. Yes, that saddens me, but I understand the decision. Our numbers were so low during last year's Series that we made the decision to not hold it this year. BUT!!! There will be our noon Ash Wednesday Noon Communion on February 14, Valentine's Day! I hope you will come and start the Season of Lent with the "Great Thanksgiving" on that day!

So, there are my three joys and a sorrow. Praise God for all things, as it says in Scripture, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (I Thess., 5:18)

My prayers are with you.

Sermons for February

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| 4. | "The Council's Letter and a Division"
Acts 15:22-41 | 18. | First Lent: Instructions from James:
"Persevere" James 1:1-12 |
| 11. | "A Vision for Help." Acts 16:1-10 | 25. | Second Lent:
"Divide and Unconquer!"
James 2:1-13 |
| 14. | Ash Wednesday Noon Communion | | |

Pastor Scott's Bible Study

Pastor Scott's Wednesday Bible Study continues in the book of Genesis. He should complete that book sometime in February, when he will then examine the Book of Exodus. It's not too late to join!

The class is offered every Wednesday at 10 a.m. and repeated at 7 p.m. All people, from all churches, are welcome

Treasurer's Report

Nov. 30 Balance	14,484.94
DECEMBER	
Income	30,007.93
Expenses	-17,966.88
Correction	50.00
December 31 Balance	26,575.99

A note from your Treasurer:

It has been a great month working with Katya guiding me as I learn the Treasurer responsibilities. And yes, I too am geeky enough to enjoy working with numbers. I love my new job! Thank you, Katya for your hours (and continued hours) of service as I transition into this honored position.

As you see above, our finances are "healthy." Thank you for your continued giving, doing what God has called us each to do.

Rose

Board of Trustees

January is always a time of transition for the Board of Trustees; new members are welcomed onto the board while other members who have faithfully served their term are given our thanks and appreciation as they leave for new opportunities to serve. The Board of Trustees is charged with the supervision, oversight, and the care of church property and equipment. We strive to be the best stewards of this beautiful church building and all the things that allow us to worship here. To that end, in an effort to be more energy efficient, our biggest on-going project is the 20.1 kW roof mount solar system to cover our electrical needs which will allow us to keep our utility costs static, and within budget, in a world where PG&E rates just continue to rise. Approval from the District Superintendent was received in December to move forward with the solar project and the construction plans are currently in plan check with the City of Chico.

January also entails the election of board officers for the current calendar year. I am humbled to have been elected Chair through 2018. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Susan Hartman and I attend 1st service where I sing on the praise team. By day I'm a city planner for Paradise and manage the building, sanitation, engineering, planning, fire prevention, and code enforcement departments. It is a true blessing to use the gifts God has given me to serve others so I'm excited (and nervous) for this opportunity to use my unique administrative experience in building and site management to further the ministries of the church.

Yours in service, the 2018 Board of Trustees:

Susan Hartman, Chair
Chris Gardner, Vice Chair
Marlo Knox, Secretary

Richard Hood
Fred Dietrich
Zach Howe

Eldon Schottman
Jeremy Stock
Ella Van Ornum

Leadership

Here we are starting 2018!!

Thanks to those completing their three years: Chris Gardner (chair), Terrye Lucas (secretary, AMEN), and Dick Hiersche. Welcome aboard to: Joe Yarosevich, Debbie Ducommun, and Terri Schell.

A thought for the month:

I AM LEADING YOU ALONG THE HIGH ROAD, but there are descents as well as ascents. In the distance you see snow covered peaks glistening in brilliant sunlight. Your longing to reach those peaks is good, but you must not take shortcuts. Your assignment is to follow Me, slowing Me to direct your path. Let the heights beckon you onward, but stay close to Me.

Learn to trust Me when things go "wrong." Disruptions to your routine highlight your dependence on Me. Trusting acceptance of trials brings blessings that *far outweigh them all*. Walk hand in hand with Me through this day. I have lovingly planned every inch of the way. Trust does not falter when the path becomes rocky and steep. Together we can make it with "JESUS CALLING."

Bob Knox

The Vine

It's time for winter camp!

Starting Friday evening, Feb. 16 - Monday morning, Feb.19, some of the teens in The Vine will join with other teens (and youth leaders) at Camp Paradise by Clipper Mills for a fun weekend. Pastor's Steve McFarland from New Hope Fellowship in Chico & Paul Schmidt from Liberty Hill Christian Church in Cottonwood are the camp director's.

The Sunday's before & after camp, we'll look at what Jesus said about being a servant, as well as lessons leading to Easter on April 1.

Thank you for your prayers & help supporting The Vine, the teens, & me. If you have questions about what's happening at the Vine or suggestions for The Vine, please let me know.

Larry Ducommun
Youth director

Sunday School News

This past month we have been having some wonderful studies from God's word. In the younger department, led by teacher Ellen, there has been a series on "God loves me." Then in the department of grades 3-6, led by teacher Ruthie, a biblical and historically significant series of the blood line of our savior Jesus Christ continues to be taught. Presently that department is learning about many of the events occurring throughout the reign of King David.

Once again, our "teens" have provided some incredible assistance throughout the 9:00 Sunday School hour. Emily faithfully serves in the nursery, with Chancee being the assistant for Emily. Kambria, Josie, and Chancee have once again created an amazing hallway bulletin board. Please take a moment to bless and thank them. They are the future of our church.



Submitted by,
Teacher Ruthie Holland

Choir thank you

A hearty, tardy thank you to Chris Gardner and Tom Austin (and others?) for their work in modifying the choir risers! The choir appreciates the easier access, and it is much safer for all.

Clark and Choir

Kairos dinner

Mark your calendars! The Kairos Dinner is this month. February 24th is the date, 5:30 is the time, and Aldersgate UMC is the place. Come join us as we enjoy another delicious tri-tip dinner with all the fixings, Kairos music, and testimonies from Team Members. We will need lots of hands and cookies so start preparing now.

Contact any of the team members if you are interested in being on the inside or background team or if you just want to go into Folsom Prison on Sunday to see the results of what we do. Team members include: Pastor Scott, Ron Wooten, Joe Hejl, Chris Gardner, Gary Gaffney, or Terrye Lucas.

Watch for tickets coming out soon.

PSTR Celebrates with First Annual Appreciation Dinner.

Paths Straight To Recovery had a great evening of celebration on Jan.29. The dining hall was packed with 98 people attending. There was cheering, clapping and encouragement given to those who were sharing their personal stories. God is doing a new work in people's lives as they surrender to Jesus in their journey to recovery. What a difference a Christian home can make that supports a person on their on their journey! Attending 3 Celebrate Recovery meeting each week; church on Sunday; and personal accountability makes the difference!!!



The dinner was a bridge builder between churches and people in recovery. Parents, family members, and friends of our residents attended. Folks from different Celebrate Recovery groups...Celebrate Recovery and Serenity attended. PSTR is more than just Aldersgate Church. People came from more than ten churches: Evangelical Free, East Ave, Grace Community, Chico Community, Church on the Esplanade, Family Life, Oroville Nazarene, Salvation Army and others. The evening was filled with joy and hope for the future!!!

Our thanks to those who prepared the meal: Cooks: Joe Hejl, Chris Garner, Penny Miller Jeremy Stock, Terrye Lucas, men from Richard's House and women from The Cottage. Both houses and friends did the set up and take down of the sanctuary.

Continue to pray for PSTR as we have taken a big step in opening a women's house. The first six months are the most expense as we gather people into the house who have some financial assistance to cover the cost and yet need other assistance. Your monthly gifts, or one time gifts will make a difference as we move into this new year.

Pastor Neal Neuenburg

JEWES FOR JESUS: CHRIST IN THE PASSOVER

Jesus' Last Supper was actually a Jewish Passover. Ruth Rosen of Jews for Jesus will re-create the traditional Passover service and explain how it foreshadowed Jesus' death and resurrection in a presentation called "Christ in the Passover" at Aldersgate United Methodist Church on Sunday, March 11th at 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM.

Ruth Rosen will set a table with items traditionally used at the Passover meal and detail their spiritual significance. She will also explain the connection between the events of the first Passover in Egypt and the redemption that Jesus accomplished, as well as the deep bond between the ancient Passover feast and the Christian communion celebration today.

Jews for Jesus has presented "Christ in the Passover" at over 38,000 churches. It has been enthusiastically received by Christians who appreciate learning more about the Jewish backgrounds of their faith. Moishe Rosen, who founded Jews for Jesus in 1973, has also co-written the book, Christ in the Passover, with his wife, Ceil. This seminal work includes a look at Passover in ancient times and how it is practiced today. It will be available after the presentation. Also available will be a DVD of the Christ in the Passover presentation with David Brickner, the executive director of Jews for Jesus, officiating.

Brickner, a fifth-generation Jewish believer in Jesus, succeeded Rosen as Executive Director in 1996. Brickner has kept Jews for Jesus on the cutting edge as the ministry has expanded and established branches in eleven countries, including the United States, Brazil, Israel, Russia, France, and South Africa. "We exist to make the Messiahship of Jesus an unavoidable issue to our Jewish people worldwide," Brickner states. "There are still a few that haven't heard of us!"

Ruth Rosen will be happy to answer questions after the presentation. Call (530) 893-8640 or visit <http://www.chicoaumc.org> for more information. There is no admission charge.

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	2 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	3
4 "The Council's Letter and a Division" Acts 15:22-41 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm	5	6 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church office	7 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	8 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	9 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	10
11 "A Vision for Help." Acts 16:1-10 The Vine (Youth 5:00 pm)	12 Trustees meeting 6:00 Rm 7-8pm Finance team 7:00 pm	13 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church library	14 ASH WEDNSDAY Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8 Noon Communion	15 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	16 Celebrate Recovery 7pm (Dinner) Youth leave for winter camp	17 Men's breakfast 8:00am Rm 7-8 ----->----->----->----->
18 First Lent: Instructions from James: "Persevere" James 1:1-12 ----->----->----->----->	19 Leadership meeting 6:00 Rm 7-8 Youth return from winter camp	20 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church library	21 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	22 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	23 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	24 Kairos dinner 5:30 pm
25 Second Lent: "Divide and Unconquer!" James 2:1-13 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm	26	27 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church library	28 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8			

Birthdays

Marva Knox 2/3
Larry Ducommun 2/5
Kelly Williams 2/6
Evelyn Carpenter 2/6
Talea Mitchell 2/6
Debbie Spencer 2/8

Janice Garrett 2/8
Faye Brown 2/14
Bill Spencer 2/15
Terrye Lucas 2/15
Josie Graves 2/15
Skot Stribolt 2/17
Don Escola 2/18

Ken Lind 2/24
Olivia Lopez 2/28

Anniversaries

Chris and Karolyn Gardner – 2/19/73