



The Open Door

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

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A Church of open hearts, open minds, open doors

Happy Easter

Clark Minor



Thank you, church family, for your wonderful love and support for the nearly 12 years I spent with you in music ministry. It was an absolute privilege to minister alongside you! Thank you for your many kind remarks and encouraging cards and notes - not only as I leave, but through the years.

Please know that my decision to leave was agonizing! You provided a unique place of healing and restoration for me, especially in those early years. From start to finish, the Praise Team and choir were exemplary!

We watched many staff members come and go over the years, and now I have become one of those departing. It is, as the poet wrote, with "sweet sorrow," and yet also with promise. God is faithful.

Much gratitude to all of you, and heartfelt prayers for God's providence over the ministry of Aldersgate church.

Clark

In Mourning

On Sunday, March 4, we lost Debbie Ducommun who died suddenly and unexpectedly at Enloe Hospital. She and her husband, Larry, have been a part of Aldersgate for over 13 years. Debbie played her guitar and sang in our Praise Team on Sunday Mornings, organized our Church Library, taught a weekly Bible Study, and was very active in the life and activities of our Church Family. She was also renowned worldwide as an expert on Rats! A Memorial Service in her honor was held on Friday, March 23, to a standing-room-only crowd in our Sanctuary.

Please keep our Brother Larry Ducommun in prayer during this time of sorrow and mourning. Debbie is also survived by her mother, Ona, two Brothers and a Sister. She will be greatly missed.



Pastor Scott's Corner

Happy Easter!! By the time you read this, Easter Sunday, April 1, might have already passed. If not, I do hope you will join us for a Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection at both of our services on that day, 9 and 11 am!

If you are reading this and were in worship with us the last two Sundays in March, then you might be a little sad knowing of the departure of our Music Ministry Director of 12 years, Clark Minor. Clark accepted an offer he was given to become the Music Director of another church here in Chico. Our loss is that church's gain. As I said, this news may have filled you with sorrow, or, if you had not known, has now done so.

In your sorrow I would like to remind you of the words of our Lord: "I am making everything new!" (Rev. 21: 5) Yes, a man who has blessed Aldersgate for 12 years will be missed, but I am confident that the new thing that will follow will also be a great blessing, perhaps even in ways we do not know.

For new things are always happening in the Lord!

Frances and I will soon become Grandparents for the first time! Yes, Mariah and Vince are expecting their first child! We are in great prayer for a good, safe, delivery of a healthy child. When she/he comes, this will be a new and beautiful thing! We had already told you that the Cheneys had purchased their first home; that's new too!

In the sorrow of the death of Debbie Ducommun a new thing has come. The women who were attending Debbie's Tuesday Bible Study decided that class was important and did not want it to end. So, Marva Knox is teaching the class. That's a new thing flowing out of sorrow, and it's blessed!

Last month I wrecked my Dodge Durango by rear-ending some guy in Sacramento. It took a month in the shop to be repaired. Yes, I was upset at myself and sorrowful for the damage I caused to this vehicle that has been a great blessing to me. I will say, now that I've had it back for a week as of this writing, I find that I TRULY like it! Its loss became a form of blessing to me that I did not foresee.

So too with Clark's leaving us. It is a form of sorrow, but this will turn to joy. The Lord has someone in mind to serve as our Music Director, or perhaps two someones; one for the Contemporary Service and another for the Traditional Service. Whatever happens, I am convinced that it will be of God, be a new thing, and... be a blessing!

To that end, please keep reading the announcements in this Open Door, especially the one about my being gone for two weeks. Things will be happening! They are new, and a blessing!

Can I remind you of the words of Psalm 30:5: "For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning." Yes, rejoicing comes in the morning! What will the Lord, indeed, bring us?

My prayers are with you.

Sermons for the Month of April

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|----|---|-----|---|
| 1 | Easter Sunday:
"Men Frightened, Women Listening!"
Matt. 28:1-10 | 15. | Kairos 21! Fred Dietrich Preaching! |
| | | 22. | Back to Acts, Again!: "Lydia" Acts 16:11-15 |
| 8. | Vacation #4 Larry Ducommun Preaching!
"What's Next" John 14:2-4 | 29. | "Stop Bugging Me!" Acts 16:16-40 |

All of the sermons at Aldersgate are recorded and available for listening. Even those not done by our Pastor! You may go to our website (www.chicoaumc.org) to download any sermon you wish or ask for a copy to be made on a CD in our Sanctuary. A donation of \$2 is requested for a CD copy. Be blessed!

Pastor Scott on Final Week of Vacation

The week after Easter Sunday Pastor Scott will be taking his last week of vacation for the '17-'18 Appointment Year. On that Sunday, April 8, Larry Ducommun will be bringing the Word. The following week he will be attending Kairos 21. So, while he will be in the Office Monday-Wednesday of that week, Fred Dietrich will be preaching April 15. Please come and support these Brothers, both of whom are Certified Lay Servants in the United Methodist Church. We are blessed to have them!

These two Sundays will also include two people interested in filling our vacated position of Music Ministry Director. On Sunday, April 8, our First Service Worship will be led by Tena Dawson. On Sunday, April 15, our First Service Worship will be led by George Fenley. Come, hear them, and join them in Worship! Fran Neuenburg will be leading the Worship for our Second Service in the month of April.

Kairos 21

Kairos 21 is coming quickly to Folsom Prison on April 12-15. Pastor Scott will be attending as an Inside Team Member. The rest of you can help through your prayers, as well as gifts of cookies, hands, and posters. The website for Kairos 21 is open, so you can sign up for a slot on the 24-hour Prayer Wheel. Terrye Lucas and Chris Gardner have already done so! If you would want to sign up to pray for one hour during one of the four days, or more than one, you may do so by going to the following website: <<http://folsomkairos.org>>. On it will also appear the guidelines for the cookies, hands, and posters. These will be needed by Wednesday, April 11 by 2 pm.

Interestingly, Jesus said "I was in prison and you visited me." (Matt. 25:36b) A way to fulfill this mandate, if you cannot go into the prison, is to do it through the gift of cookies and hands! They are a GREAT blessing to the Men in Blue!

Please keep the Team Members of Kairos 21 in prayer; all of them! Pastor Scott is one of 32 men who will be going into the Prison, and many women and men who will be working on the Background Team. Also, please pray for the "Men in Blue" that God will be calling to be a part of this special event.

Thank you!

Treasurers Report

Checking Acct.	General Fund
February 1 Balance	20,023.49
February	
Income	23,403.68
Expense	-20,143.48
February 28 Balance	23,283.69

Pastor's Bible Study

Pastor Scott offers a Bible Study for all interested persons every Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The Class is not happening the first two Wednesdays of April but will resume on April 18. At that time, he will start his new look at the Book of Daniel.

Feel free to come join the Study at either time; both classes cover the same texts every week. All people are welcome to attend.

Next Membership Class!

Want to become a Member of Aldersgate UMC? Pastor Scott has scheduled the next Membership Class for April 29 and May 6. This Class will be held both Sunday nights at 6-8 pm, *supposedly* lasting two hours each night, and will be open to anyone who would desire to attend: those wishing to join in Membership, those not, and even those just wanting to know what he has to say!

A Note from your Treasure

We are already through a fourth of the 2018 year! Our finances remain "healthy" and certainly support our ministries at Aldersgate. We are always able to give to the various ministries (Connectional Giving, Missions, Awana, PSTR, Kairos) to name a few, because YOU give as God has called you to give. One of the many scriptures I think about and related to giving, is Malachi 3:10 Rose

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT

The roof mount solar project is still in the plan check process with the City. The engineering for the roof load took some time to organize and now we're coordinating those results with the contractor to get submitted to the City.

While we passed our annual fire inspection with the City of Chico at the end of February, the fire prevention inspector did note a correction that is a good reminder for anyone helping out around the church - please be mindful to not "daisy chain" power strips and/or extension cords. That would be plugging multiple extension cords or power strips into each other, to meet your power needs, instead of using established outlets. That requirement comes from the Fire Code (NFPA 1 Standard 11.1.4.2) which states that "relocatable power taps shall be directly connected to a permanently installed receptacle". We certainly want to be fire safe!

Thank you all for your contributions towards the stewardship of this beautiful church building! If you have concerns about the building or ground, we meet at 7:00 the second Monday of the month. All are welcome.

Susan Hartman, Chair, Board of Trustees

Mother's Day Brunch



Ladies, mark your calendars for the annual Mother's Day Brunch, Saturday May 12th at 11am. Whether you *are* a mother, *have* a mother or *know* a mother, we invite you to join us for a delicious, festive brunch and fellowship! We will be handing out **free** Mother's Day brunch tickets ahead of time – no cost!! We just need to know how many will be attending!! Watch for more details about the program. Let's celebrate the mothers we know who have blessed us all!

Say thank you

If you have enjoyed the daffodils around the sign at the entrance of the church, you need to tell Ted Sandrowski. He is the landscape contractor that does the landscape maintenance for the church and he and his wife Karen attend the first service. Although he is paid to do the basic maintenance, he does many things beyond his contract at reduced or no cost to help with the care of the church. One occurrence was a recent Sunday morning when water was found coming up from the ground in front of the office. On Monday morning he was there digging and looking for the cause of the leak. It turned out to be the water service to the church. He had it quickly repaired at minimal cost to us. The daffodils were supplied and installed by Ted at no cost to the church. So, if you see Ted let him know that you appreciate what he does.



Leadership

Well, 2018 has started with a lot of impact for the church.

First was the loss of Debbie Ducommun. We and the total church have lost a jewel.

Second, we received that our long time Music Director, Clark Minor is moving on for a positive opportunity after being a blessing to us for nearly 12 years. The search is on for a suitable replacement with Jesus Christ looking after us.

Leadership is greatly supported by the hard work of:

- Board of trustees, with Susan Hartman as chairperson
- Finance chaired by Mary Gaffney
- Treasurer, Rose Schottman
- Financial secretary, Duane Nelson

This gives us a large group of volunteers that help make the work of running the church run smoothly.

Scott, for all that you give us – Buy a FORD.

Reminder: The leadership team meets on the third Monday of the month and all interested members are welcome to attend.

Submitted, Robert Knox, Chairman

Outreach (Missions)



We had a wonderful visit from Paul Drumm, who is living and serving in Asia with his family. His description of the difficulties they have been experiencing was very moving. We were blessed to hear good stories as well! In return, we will be able to bless the Drumm family with \$860 in gifts - this is on top of some special giving we were able to send them earlier this year. Paul is very thankful for all your prayers and support!!!

On another note... the Outreach/Missions group has been discussing what might work best for supporting overseas mission teams. We discussed the following...

- 1) This group would like to see the church continue to support the Datwylers (Ecuador) and the Paul Drumm family (Asia) long term, since we have supported them for so long and since they are able to visit us in person from time to time. We would like to complete our commitment to the Billy Drum (Spain) family to the end of this year, then either find a United Methodist mission team to support or just stay with the Datwylers & Drumms. Since the Billy Drum family is based in Texas, it is just not possible for them to visit us in person. We think it is important that the mission's teams visit us in person from time to time.
- 2) In taking on missionary teams in the future, the group would like to commit to supporting United Methodist mission teams that can visit us in person from time to time.
- 3) We will bring other local and overseas outreach/missions information to the congregation from time to time. Anyone who feels moved to support other mission's teams with their prayers and/or financial support can do so.

If you would like to share thoughts or ideas with any of the Outreach team, they are: Katya Yarosevich, Neal & Fran Neuenburg, Marva & Bob Knox, Ruthie Holland.

Pathways Straight to Recovery

Things are doing very well with both Richard's House and The Cottage.

Richard's House is full, and The Cottage has only 3 of 10 beds left to fill. We do need a few items though. We can ALWAYS use dressers. Some dressers don't seem to last too long with the use they get. Other items we are desperately in need of are comforters, sheet sets, and pillows. Only twin size. We could use a mower for the women's house.

The women and men now have another Celebrate Recovery group they can attend on Thursday nights at Grace Community Church at 7 pm. Special thanks goes out to A.J. Petelin for helping with escorting the women to groups and church. Kim came to me and said I don't have enough room to take all the women at once. PRAISE GOD!". Please continue to pray for both houses; Especially that God would bring in the clients. Thank you for all your help and contributions.

Terrye, Women's Coordinator

The Vine

I'd like to tell you that I have a thought-out plan for the Vine this month, but I don't. Debbie's death has me living from day to day & week to week. The one message I'm sharing with the teens is that GOD loves each of us and is with us (me) in times of struggle, sadness, pain, as well as times of joy. That's why it's important to build relationships with each other and with GOD through Jesus.

On the 4th Sunday of each month, we're helping Craig & Susie Hawes serve dinner at the Torres Shelter. The teens really enjoy serving there, & the people at the Torres Shelter seem to like being served by the teens.

Thank you for your prayers for the Vine, the teens, and for me. Your prayers, your hugs, & your support has blessed me during this sad time. You have been GOD's arms, hands & heart in action.

Larry Ducommun, Youth Leader

Children's News



We were grateful once again, in March, for the teens and adults who created a hallway bulletin board entitled "He Is Risen".

In Awana, the life of Saint Patrick (one of the greatest missionaries our world has known) was presented by Ruthie. All kids and adults attending were sent home with St. Patrick hats, rings, and cookies. It was a great night.

In Sunday school, the younger children are studying a unit on "God loves me" with Ellen as teacher. The older children

are studying a unit of the Old Testament, "Arks of the Covenant" with teacher, Ruthie.

An Easter egg hunt on the Saturday prior to Easter Sunday was coordinated by teacher Ellen. Fun was enjoyed by Sunday School kids and their friends starting at 10:00 am and concluding with lunch at noon. A huge thank you is expressed to all who provided goodies and/or assisted in any way.

Submitted by Ruthie Holland.



Women's Retreat – Yreka

Toni Hartman has sent this information to welcome all the women of Aldersgate to attend a Women's Retreat that they are holding on June 15-16 in Yreka at their church. The theme of the Retreat is "ALL IN". Toni, Shawn and Colleen will be the speakers for the Retreat. They are hoping that they can house the women who want to come at their members' homes. All are welcome, and they are encouraging us to stay over and worship with them at their Sunday service.

More information will follow in next month's Open Door. Save the date!!

9:00 Service Help

If you attend the 9:00 service and would be willing to help by being an usher and/or greeter, we would appreciate hearing from you. We could use people willing to serve on a regular schedule or as fill in for those who are absent. If you volunteer for a regular schedule you generally serve one Sunday a month. Fill ins serve on call as needed. We will train you for the few things that you will need to know to do the job.

We could also use some volunteers that are willing to occasionally bring treats for after the service.

Talk to Ken or Sara if you are willing to help or want more information.

BIRTHDAYS

Judi Ocampo 4/1
Oscar Morales 4/4
Kambria Lucas 4/6

Randy Korte 4/11
Mike Boyce 4/16
Martha Davis 4/24

ANNIVERSARIES

Duane and Stella Nelson
4/28/79

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EASTER Men Frightened, Women Listening! Matt. 28:1-10 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm		3 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie 's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church office	4 NO Pastor Scotts Bible Study	5 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	6 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	
8 Pastor Scott's Vacation #4 Larry Ducommun Preaching "What's Next" John 14:2-4 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm		10 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie 's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church office	11 NO Pastor Scotts Bible Study	12 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm KAIROS----->----->-----	13 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	14
15 Pastor Scott at Kairos 21 Fred Dietrich Preaching ----->----->----- The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm	16 Trustees meeting 6:00 Rm 7-8pm Finance team 7:00 pm	17 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie 's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church office	18 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	19 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	20 Celebrate Recovery 7pm (Dinner)	21 Men's breakfast 8:00am Rm 7-8
22 Back to Acts, Again! "Lydia" Acts 16:11-15 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm	23 Leadership meeting 6:00 Rm 7-8	24 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Debbie 's Bible Study 10 – 11 am Church office	25 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	26 Choir rehearsals 5:30 Praise team 7:00 pm	27 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	28
29 "Stop Bugging Me!" Acts 16:16-40 Membership class 6-8 pm, Rm 7-8 The Vine (Youth) 5:00 pm	30	May 6 Second Session Membership class, 6-8 pm, Rm 7-8 May 12 Mother's Day brunch June 15 – 16 Women's Retreat – Yreka				

Calendar:

All groups: Please remember to get all special events on the calendar. Dates and times need to be on the church calendar to prevent conflicting activities. Also, if activities of a group that regularly meets outside the church are not on the calendar and someone wants information about it, it may be hard to give correct information. Everyone's help would be greatly appreciated.