



The Open Door

A publication of Aldersgate United Methodist Church
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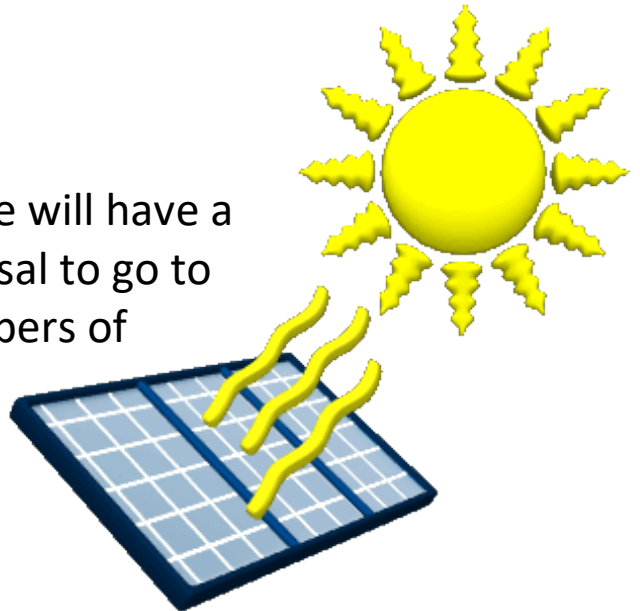
A Church of open hearts, open minds, open doors

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Sunday, July 8th

At 12:30, following the 11:00 service we will have a Charge Conference to vote on a proposal to go to Solar Power here at Aldersgate. All members of Aldersgate are Voting Members of a Charge Conference.

Neal Neuenburg will serve as our Presiding Elder



Vacation
Bible
School

July 9-13th, 9 am – 12pm

We are looking forward to a Fun Filled week of Learning about our Faith, doing Crafts, and playing Games.

Ellen is still in need of help during the week. Even if you cannot go every session there is always way to assist. Give Ellen a call or catch her at Early Service on Sunday.



Pastor Scott's Corner

Greetings friends of Aldersgate. I write this the week after Annual Conference Session. (I appreciated your prayers for myself, Larry Ducommun, and Chris Gardner. We attended together, went and returned safely – thanks for your support!) Since the ACS is now complete and all of the appointments across our conference have been made and declared; I am happy to say that I will remain as your Pastor for another year! It remains a blessing to me to be a part of the ministry here; I hope you feel the same. It has been especially nice here of late with the change we have had in our music ministry. While we were not looking to make a change, it is a real joy to see the blessing we have received in having George Fenley come on board! Eleanor is a blessing too!

Yes! It is good, to me, to be the pastor of this congregation which has a vital music ministry, teaching opportunities, youth and children's ministries, great participation and sharing in the ministry of recovery, plus support in many outside ministries such as Salvation Army, Kairos, and the many other things we do and support. And in all of this, in the last three years, we committed to, and have been paying, 100% of our Denomination Shared Giving! Thank you, Lord!

In the past three years we have seen some people choose to leave us to go to other places of worship. We have seen a drop in our overall giving. And, we have had a share of mourning through the death of some people we love. But God is faithful as His people remain faithful! We have good volunteers serving in our Office, a full group of people willing to sing in our Choir and play and sing in the Praise Team, we have a good group of people who give of their time to serve on our Leadership Team, volunteer each week by the serving of coffee and cookies, help as ushers and greeters, and did you see the people who were here for the Work Day on Jun3 9!! What a joy!! We are also blessed to have three retired UM Pastors in our Congregation. (That's right, three!!)

I thank you all for making Aldersgate this place of blessing and joy that I am happy to return to for another year, and hopefully, many more! Please pray for us all and the ministry we share together. God is leading us into the future. I think it's going to be a joy!

My prayers are with you.

Sermons for the Month of July

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| 1. | "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"
Acts 19:23-41 | 15. | "Some Warnings for the Future."
Acts 20:13-37 |
| 8. | "Paul Talks Too Much"
Acts 20:1-12 | 22. | Pastor Scott on vacation - Joyful Hosannas leading the service in song! "In His Time" |
| | | 29. | Pastor Scott on vacation
David Bartley preaching |

Pastor Scott is continuing his sermon series in the Book of Acts. All sermons at Aldersgate are recorded. You can download them from our website or get a copy on CD. (A \$2 fee is requested for each CD; but is not required.)

New Members

On Sunday, June 10, we welcomed four new Members into Aldersgate UMC! Mike and Krista Martin joined us on Confession of Faith, and Ilakay Dusch and Gail Brotherhood joined us by Transfer from other UM Churches. This being the day we had the One Service and Barbecue; the day was blessed further by these four new Members.

Plus!!! There was the additional blessing that day of two Baptisms! Krista Martin was Baptized, as was Catherine Beagle! It was joyful to watch these two women so excitedly taking on the name of Jesus through the Sacrament of Baptism!

Welcome to all, and thanks for your blessing to us at Aldersgate!

Pastor Scott on Vacation

It is that time of the year when Pastors take vacation time. Pastor Scott will be gone from July 16 through July 30. In his place will be the Joyful Hosannas, and David "Woody" Bartley

The Hosannas (Marty Morrison and Veronica Tobias) will lead our worship and bring the Word through song for the third time, on July 22nd, having done so the past two years.

David Bartley, known as Woody, will be preaching on July 29th. He is a man Pastor Scott met during Kairos 21. He was impressed with the talk Woody gave during the weekend and asked him if he ever preached in churches. Saying yes, he was asked to do so with us and he gladly accepted! David serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Placer County Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board. A bio of David is included in this Open Door. On the day he preaches he will also offer a workshop for anyone interested in attending!

Come and hear what the Lord has for us on those two days. There will be one service on July 22 and 29!

Please make a note that while Pastor Scott is on vacation we will have one service each day on those two days. The service will be at 10 AM each day. Mark your calendars now!!!

Pastor Scott's Bible Study

Pastor Scott offers a Bible Study for all interested persons every Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. He is currently looking at the Book of Judges. Feel free to come join the Study at either time; both classes cover the same texts every week. All people are welcome to attend!

However, the class is not meeting in July due to Independence Day, Vacation Bible School, and his two weeks of vacation time. It will resume in full form on August 1.

Treasurer's Report.

Checking Acct.	General Fund
May	
Income	15,686.53
Expenses	15,640.31
May 31 BALANCE	46.22

news happen! This report is therefore, always one month behind. As you see above, our income did cover our expenses, however, with very little reserve. We continue our ministries because of your generous support. Another scripture related to giving is Proverbs 3:9-10. God asks us to "test Him" and when we "honor the Lord with your wealth," He promises "your barns will be filled to overflowing." For me, that includes much more than material wealth. God wants the best for us!

The Vine

One of the teens recently asked me "What's The Vine? I see it on the Facebook messages you send us." The Vine is the name of the Aldersgate youth group for middle school & high school students. Casey Moreno, our previous youth leader, chose the name, & I continue to use it. It's based on John 15:5-8, & I think it's a good choice.

I'm making July a fun month of Sunday's when The Vine meets. On July 1, we're going to see a movie; on July 8, I hope to take the group swimming; I'm still deciding what to do on July 15; on July 22 we'll serve dinner with Craig & Susie Hawes at the Torres Shelter; & July 29 is teen camp. For the kids who don't go to camp, Ellen & I are thinking about another fun activity for the kids that night.

Teen camp at Camp Paradise (near Clipper Mills) is Friday evening, July 27 - Tuesday morning, July 31. I have applications & scholarships are available. I need to know who's going to camp by July 19 & have the applications by 7/19.

I'm still accepting your bottles & cans to recycle for The Vine activities. Bring them on Sunday, let me know and I'll get them from you. You can also leave them in room 6 (the youth room) at the church.

If you have any questions about what's happening with The Vine, please let me know. Thank you for your prayers for the teens, the ministry, & me.

Larry Ducommun
Youth leader

A Note from your Treasurer

Last months' Treasurer report did not get into our Open Door – "closing the books" at the end of each month requires coordination of statements and our volunteers getting the information/news so that Ken Lind can get our newsletter printed. Thank you, Ken and all the volunteers who make the

Blessings, Rose

Thank You Ruthie



Thank you Ruthie for your dedication to Sunday school and all the children of Aldersgate. You have a very kind and generous heart. You have taught hundreds of lessons about Jesus that the children will remember for a lifetime. We will all miss you very much. You are special to so many of us.

We love you ,
Ellen the teens and the children

Sunday School News

More than ten years ago the passion on my heart was to work with Aldersgate's kids in the programs of Kings Kids, AWANA, and Sunday school. These past eight years have been primarily focused on Sunday school.

"What are you going to do when you retire from classroom teaching?" people would ask. I automatically responded "Well, it won't be working with kids, I think 32 years is enough!" But God had other plans...and my joy has been GREAT to prepare and present (to the best of my ability) God's word of the Old and New Testaments. Many rewards have accompanied this journey. But now... there are some important reasons why I must step aside. I am planning on a two years and perhaps longer time away as the Lord guides me.

I want to thank all of you who have supported me: Staff (such as Ellen), adult volunteers, teen helpers, parents, kids and particularly Pastor Scott and Church Board.

I proudly state that this is my church, and I love you all so much.

Submitted by,
Ruthie Holland

Kairos Fundraising Dinner!

There will be a dinner for Kairos in Loomis on Saturday, July 14. Several of the Kairos people of Aldersgate are going. There is a hope that many people might want to go. If you would be interested, the details are below. If you would like to go, talk with Pastor Scott; it's his hope there will be a caravan of people going to Loomis on that day! Here is the invitation:

Hello to all Kairos Community and Friends.

We are announcing that the 2018 Kairos Fundraiser dinner is all set to happen on Saturday, July 14, 2018, at 5:00 pm at Loomis United Methodist Church. The church is located at Barton and Brace in Loomis.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us as it will be a exciting event with a great meal (Rose Stapleton's steak and chicken fajitas with all the trimmings).

Tickets will be \$15 in advance and \$17 at the door. You may make reservations by replying to lumc.churchsecretar@gmail.com, and buy tickets by mailing a check made out to Kairos Fundraiser to Sandy Williams at Lincoln United Methodist Church, 659 I street, Lincoln, Ca. 95648.

We will also have a special guest speaker, Theres Gianelli, Community Relations Officer at CSP Sacramento, (Folsom Prison). We promise you that Theres' talk will be very interesting and if you know folks that have any interest in Kairos or curiosity about Folsom Prison culture and Kairos effectiveness, you need to invite them to this fun night.

This event is co-hosted by men and women from both Lincoln and Loomis churches. We had a great time last year and made nearly 2000 dollars, so LETS REALLY PUT OUR HEARTS INTO THIS ONE, INVITE LOTS OF GUESTS AND TRY FOR 3000 DOLLARS.

From Melinda Loy

Dear Aldersgate Church Family,

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers during my recent trip to Uganda. Our team felt covered in prayers getting there, during our time in Uganda, and our travels back home. It was an AMAZING trip with so many different experiences.

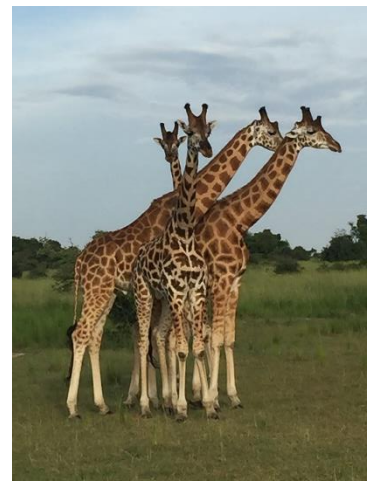
Our team worked alongside the students at AHI (African Hospitality Institute) as they were learning all about taking care of guests in a hotel setting (cleaning rooms, changing bedding, cooking, serving food, washing dishes, etc.). After more training, the 10 students will get internships in hotels and hopefully get jobs. Our team also worked with the students individually by reading with them, practicing their English, helping write their sponsors, and best of all.... relating to them by worshipping together!

Outside of AHI, we had some outreach opportunities which included village visitations at family homes, schools (both primary and secondary), and an orphanage. One of our last days there, we helped "mud" a small classroom.

After leaving AHI, our team spent the last 3 days in Uganda at Murchison National Park where we went on two safaris-one on land and one in water seeing antelope, giraffes, elephants, lions, hippos, baboons.... we even went on a 2-hour chimpanzee trek in a rain forest.

I'm still in a "fog" with the time change, but I must say, I think I'm still trying to process the entire trip. I'd love to share more with you, but for now, again.... thank you for your love and support. See you in church.

Love,
Melinda



Men's Retreat

The Annual Men's Retreat at Shasta Camp is happening again on August 17-19! This year's theme is, "What Is God Calling Me to Do in My Church? A Discussion of Ministry Opportunities for People in the Church." To that end we have six Speakers addressing this question as they feel led to answer it. There are four Laymen, and two Ministers. Some of the Laity you all know: Richard Hobbs, Norm Teter, and Chris Gardner! They will be joined by Kevin Stott of Yreka. The two Ministers are Rev. Dave Samelson of Point Pleasant UMC, and Rev. Scott Allred, our Pastor!

Flyers for the Retreat are available in the Narthex of our Sanctuary. Cost is \$80.00 before July 15, and \$90.00 after that date! Sign up today!

Guest Speaker David Woods Bartley

Like most people, David Bartley has seen his fair share of successes and setbacks: from directing a nationally recognized nonprofit to battling a life-threatening mental illness.

But over the last six-plus years, David has successfully navigated from the isolation of mental "hellness" to the inclusive space of mental wellness. Along the way, David has learned how to successfully manage his condition with a host of supportive practices centered around the notion of Whole Person Care, and by leveraging the power of connection.

Currently, David serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Placer County Mental Health Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board (MHADAB). David also serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the local chapter of the Depression Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA), and Bread of Life, a community-benefit educational non-profit.

David is a member of the National Alliance on Mental Illness and the International Association for Youth Mental Health. David holds certifications in Mental Health First Aid for Adults, Mental Health First Aid for Youth, SafeTALK (Suicide Awareness for Everyone), and QPR (Question, Persuade and Refer) an innovative suicide prevention technique.

David has been invited to speak before a wide range of audiences across the country, giving keynote speeches and leading workshops on the topics of mental health, employee engagement, student wellbeing, and congregational care to organizations such as the United States Food and Drug Administration, UC Davis, Lyft, the California Highway Patrol, William Jessup University, CalPERS, the United Methodist Church, and the Sacramento Sheriff's Department.

David's goal for each speech and workshop is the same: to shed light on the issue of mental illness, teach others how to create hope, and open doors to the possibility of mental health for all.

David will be with us on Sunday, July 29. His sermon will be, "Sometimes what hurts the most can't be seen; *but, sometimes what helps the most is easy to do.*" When it is finished he will offer a free workshop in rooms 7-8 to any who wish to join and learn more. That workshop will be titled "Moving from isolation to inclusion using the power of connection; 3 simple ways to unite with others." We hope you will be blessed by David and his ministry.

Leadership

We are busy, and it only works with the total efforts of the whole committee and the supporter's wisdom.

Here are some highlights.

- Both Sundays when Pastor Scott is on vacation there will be one joint service beginning at 10:00. Please mark your calendars.
- Gary Gaffney is hard at work organizing our computer programs and usage.
- On July 8th at 12:30, after the second service, there will be a short charge conference. It will be needed to put the solar project into action.
- Vacation bible school will be starting July 9th and help is needed. Contact Ellen if you can help.
- A special thanks for all the hard work that Ken puts out so that we have the newsletter.
- Remember that leadership meetings are open to anyone that is interested in attending.

Letter from Bishop Carcano

On Sunday, June 24, Pastor Scott mentioned a struggle that is happening at this time between our Bishop, Minerva G. Carcaño, and the people of Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco. That very day the Bishop published an open letter talking about this struggle. It is reproduced here for your information:

Open Letter to the Pastors and Churches of the California-Nevada Conference of The United Methodist Church Concerning Glide Memorial United Methodist Church

The California-Nevada Conference of The United Methodist Church has a long-standing commitment of support for Glide Memorial United Methodist Church's work with the poor and vulnerable of the Tenderloin District and the greater San Francisco community. The Conference's commitment of support for this work stands today. The concerns that I and the leadership of the California-Nevada Conference have are related to the church life of this congregation.

While there is a remnant of those who claim to be United Methodist and thus Christian, the great majority of the participants at Glide's Sunday Celebrations claim other faiths such as Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim and Wiccan. Atheists and Agnostics comprise another segment of the Glide community. Leaders from these constituencies are quick to publicly state that they do not want the Celebrations, or the church, to be United Methodist or Christian in any form. Sunday Celebrations are uplifting concerts but lack the fundamentals of Christian worship. Baptisms are conducted periodically but in the name of the people rather than from a Christian understanding of Baptism. Holy Communion was done away with some time ago and only introduced back into the life of the congregation this past Spring, but outside of the Celebration gatherings and with much resistance. We seek to be in good and loving relationship with persons of other faiths and beliefs, and those who claim no faith. However, this should never cause us to lose our own faith.

There are also serious concerns about the governance and financial administration of the church. The church has no organizational structure to fulfill its responsibilities as per *The Book of Discipline* and has not had a United Methodist organizational structure for decades. The only body that functions in any leadership capacity is a group of congregational leaders hand-picked by Cecil Williams who have never been elected or recognized by the congregation. The district superintendent and I have worked with this congregational leader group and have found them on the whole to be thoughtful and helpful, but without authority to act on behalf of the church. The secular Glide Foundation Board makes all decisions related to the work of the Foundation and the church, and now seeks to determine who Glide's pastor(s) will be. There has not been a church conference at Glide on record for many years.

Cecil Williams retired in 2000 yet continues to act as the senior pastor. Since Williams retirement, the following have been appointed as senior pastors of Glide: Doug Fitch, Don Guest, Karen Oliveto, and Jay Williams. In addition, Theon Johnson III and Deacon Angela Brown have served in associate positions. When Karen Oliveto was elected to the episcopacy in 2016, Bishop Warner H. Brown Jr. served as the interim senior pastor through June 30, 2017. No pastor has been allowed to exercise their rightful authority or responsibilities while serving at Glide. To this day, Cecil Williams and his wife, Janice Mirikitani, make all decisions in the background at Glide.

The Glide Foundation runs the business of the Foundation under the church's 501.(c)(3), yet renders no financial reports through United Methodist disciplinary processes. Appointed pastors are left to alone protect the resources of the church yet have no access to the full financial records of the church, nor do they have any say over the use of the church property.

Over the last 9 months the district superintendent and I have worked diligently to build a relationship with the Glide Foundation Board to determine a way forward that would both support the humanitarian work of the Glide Foundation and allow for the reestablishment of a healthy United Methodist Church. The effort has been complex and difficult. What is clear is that the Glide Foundation Board under the guidance of Cecil Williams and Janice Mirikitani, have no interest in allowing Glide to have any United Methodist identity nor to be accountable to The United Methodist Church

On June 22, 2018, I received a letter from Kaye Foster, Glide Foundation Board Chair, challenging my work in relationship to the Glide Church. It included a number of misinterpreted paragraphs from our *Book of Discipline*. What was most significant, however, was that lawyers Stephanie Petit and Daniel P. Dalton were copied. Daniel P. Dalton is from Dalton and Tomich, a law firm that has been representing conservative United Methodist churches seeking to break away from the denomination because they oppose the full inclusion of LGBTQ persons. According to their own website, they have done similar work with Episcopal and Presbyterian USA churches and now make themselves available to work with United Methodist churches.

My Cabinet and I with the counsel of our Conference Chancellor have decided to conduct an assessment of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church under disciplinary paragraph 213. We ask for your prayers for this process and invite you to fast with us, as you are able, on Sunday mornings till noon during the summer months.

May God give us wisdom and love in all things.

Sincerely,
Bishop Minerva G. Carcaño

