



The Open Door

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

November 2018
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A Church of open hearts, open minds, open doors

Whatever your plans are for Thanksgiving, don't miss this opportunity to join your church family for some good food and great fellowship at our Seventh Annual Thanksgiving Dinner!! Join in the fun and celebration of thanks to our Lord on Sunday, November 18th at 6:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary,



All of you are asked to bring food to share. We are looking for some people to bring turkeys or ham, cut up and ready to serve. Pastor Scott will be barbecuing one! (It's an annual thing.) For the rest we ask that

you bring the food for a Thanksgiving feast: mashed potatoes, stuffing, beans, pies, yams, pies, bread, and of course, pies!



This event is open to all who would want to come! If you would like to help with the set-up or any details, please contact the coordinator for this year, Mary Gaffney!

We hope to see you - bring a friend!

Hanging of the Greens!

The Sunday after Thanksgiving will be time to decorate our facilities for Christmas! We will do this on Sunday morning, November 25 following the second service. We did it this way last year and it really worked well! Of course, the more hands the

lighter the work so we hope you will join us. (Some strong men are needed to help with the sanctuary tree.) If this is something you like to do then come out for a morning of creating the beauty of the season, as well as some good fellowship! Let's beautify the sanctuary together!



Annual Charge Conference

Our Annual All-Church Conference will be on Sunday, November 25, 7:00 p.m. in our sanctuary. We will share a time in celebration of our ministry as well as attend to the business of the conference: pastor's salary, election of officers, care of our members, renewing any certificates of Lay (Leaders) Servants, and hearing the reports of our two retired ministers in our congregation, Jim Patterson and Neal Neuenberg.

This year's conference will have a special treat; our District Superintendent, Blake Busick, will be presiding. It's been a number of years since such has happened, so come out that night and meet Blake. (He is the second tallest minister in our conference!)

All members of Aldersgate are members of this conference with a vote. So, please come out and share in this time that will lead us into 2018. Mark this date today.

Pastor Scott's Corner

Do you ever get one of those visits to your front door where after you respond to the knock and open the door, someone asks you, "Are you the homeowner?" I've been asked that for many years, and I never know what to say. Here in Chico we are renting the house where we live, so my answer is easy, "No, I'm renting." Often, I am glad to say that because the person will say, "Thank you," and walk away. I have been saved from a 15-minute conversation on aluminum siding, new fencing, roof, or something else I was blissfully ignorant of thinking I needed.

However, for 10 years in Bakersfield I hesitated to answer the question. You see, we purchased our house in April 2001; therefore, my answer should be "Yes, I am the homeowner." BUT!!! In reality, I didn't own the home because the bank from which we borrowed the money held the Title of Ownership. We wouldn't own the home for 30 years, so for me, ethically, how could I say, "Yes, I am the homeowner." I could easily say, "I am the borrower of money to which I eventually plan on paying back in order to be called the homeowner," but all I would get was blank stares. "It's a simple question Dude!!!" For me, it wasn't. I didn't own the home so how could I call myself the homeowner? It always baffled me.

But today I can say, with all clear conscience, "Yes, I am the homeowner!" Frances and I made our last payment on our home in Bakersfield this past month. We bought the home in April 2001, refinanced it on a 15 year note in 2003, and paid that note off in October 2018. Praise God!! We are homeowners!!! We can say that the next time we are asked the question!! "Yes, yes, we own!!!" "Very good sir, can I interest you in some new carpet?" "Oh, you mean this house? Sorry, we rent...."

You know the same concept of owning resides in the question, "Are you a Citizen of Heaven?" Many of us will say, "Well, no, I'm a Member of God's Kingdom, but I await my death when I can become a Citizen of Heaven." If we did, or do, answer that way our answer is incorrect. If we are in God's Blessing, and serve as God's Children in His Lordship, we await eternity, but we already participate in the Eternal. There is a difference! The gift of God is Eternal Life. (John 3:16.) When we become one of God's Children, we gain that blessing immediately! What we look forward to is living in eternity with God and the Saints. We are already a part of the Kingdom! Jesus has made the final payment on our life; he holds the title; we belong!

Don't believe me? Look up Ephesians 2:4-6. Pay special attention to verse 6. Notice the tense of some words there; they are past tense: "...and *raised* us up with Him, and *seated* us with Him in the heavenly places, in Christ Jesus." (NASB) We have been raised and seated – that's NOW!!!

So, please understand, if you are in Christ Jesus, you are a Kingdom Owner – you belong!!! As Jesus said to Thomas, "Stop doubting and believe."

And now, as a Citizen of the Kingdom of God, what will you do today?

My prayers are with you.

Sermons for November:

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| 4. | "Justice!!"
Acts 28:1-10 | 18. | Thanksgiving Week
"Enter His Gates with Thanksgiving!"
Ps. 100 |
| 11. | Veteran's Day
"The End of the Story."
Acts 28:11-31 | 25. | "Be Joyful, All of You!!!"
Deut. 16:9-15 |

Pastor Scott's Bible Study – The Book of Psalms

Pastor Scott offers a Bible Study for all interested persons every Wednesday at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. He is currently studying the Book of Psalms. Since this book is the largest of all in the Bible, this study will continue for several more months. However, feel free to come join the Study at either time; both classes cover the same

December Events!



Women's Christmas Brunch

Ladies; now is the time to mark your calendars for the Woman's Christmas Brunch, to be held on December first at 11:00 at the home of Gary and Mary Gaffney. It will again be hosted by our executive board. Your Christmas exchange gift is all that you need to bring.

The gift, if you purchase one, shouldn't cost over \$5.00. It can also be something you have treasured, but now find that it's time to pass on. But, do bring something that you would be willing to receive yourself. This year we will not open the gift during the game, only at the end. So, disguise the gift in a way that no one will have a clue what it could be. We are looking forward to lots of fun.

We will have a sign-up sheet available in the narthex during the month of November. We would like to know how many are planning to attend so that we can prepare enough food.

We are looking forward to having all the women from our church gathering to celebrate Christ's birth

Eighth Annual Decorating of the Tree!

All of us in Worship on Sunday, December 2 are invited to bring an Ornament or two from our homes to hang on our tree! During the opening songs of Worship at both services we will be welcomed to do so! We will have a tree decorated by things of our people, both young and old! So, while you are decorating your own trees at home, be sure to set one or two aside! All will be reminded to take them home again in January.

Eighth Annual Allred Open House!

Frances and Scott invite you to attend their Eighth Open House at their home, 306 Autumn Gold Drive.

There will be the usual baked goodies, deli items, several types of coffee, Frances' Famous Wassail, and good fellowship! Oh yes, there will also be the house decorations to view – yes, there are some new ones! A drawing will be held for two very special gifts, one for a person from each Worship Service, but the winners must be present in worship on December 9 to win!

The Open House will be from 1-7 p.m. on Saturday, December 8. All of you are welcome to come any time and stay as long as you wish. All are welcome – children too! Bring a friend and have some fun!

If you need directions, please talk to one of the Allred's between now and then. All are welcome to eat, drink, and be merry!





Joyful Hosannas in Christmas Concert!

On Sunday, December 9, the Joyful Hosannas will be presenting a night of Christmas Music at Aldersgate for all interested persons! The night will start with a “Dessert Potluck” at 7 pm, followed by some great music!

All are invited! Bring a friend! Also, please bring a dessert for the Dessert Potluck! Eat dinner later! Come and have fun and be blessed with the music of the season!

Before Worship Breakfast!

On Sunday, December 23 we will have our eighth **Before Worship Pancake Breakfast!** The breakfast will be in rooms 7-8, from 7:30-9:00 a.m. The breakfast will consist of pancakes, sausage, hashed-browns and drinks. The breakfast is free!! (A donation basket will be available for those who would want to help.) Come one, come all, and bring a friend!



Leadership

The Leadership Board met October 15..

The yearly charge conference will be November 25 at 7:00pm. We will be electing officers and reviewing the high points on this last year. Please mark your calendars and plan to come. Our District Supervisor Blake Busik will preside. Come out and meet him.

The all church Thanksgiving dinner is planned for November 18. Mary Gaffney will be coordinating. Thanks Mary for stepping up.

We are continuing to look for full time (52weeks/year) child care person. Our temporary efforts are working for now.

If you have any questions, ask any BOARD Member. We will be happy to help.

Treasurers Report

No Trustees report

Checking Acct.	GENERAL FUND
Aug. 31 Balance	16,332.76
Income	19,946.23
Expense	- 17,713.26
Sept. 30 Balance	18,565.73

A Note from your Treasurer

Jeremiah 17:7-8 says a wonderful truth - Trust!! Picture yourself in the midst of “drought” (whether it be financial, physical, spiritual or emotional) & doing what this scripture promises! Wow! I want to be without fear, without worry. The only way for that to happen is “trust in the Lord” - in all those areas of our lives. I’ve seen it again & again, He does what He promises.

God wants the best for us! Blessings,
Rose



Kairos

We would like to thank everyone for the support for Kairos #22 in "B" block with prayers, hands, cookies and finances.

I know God is working in B yard and is doing great things.

Your Kairos team members

Consecration Sunday

Consecration Sunday was a wonderful celebration of thanks and joy! We had fantastic music, a wonderful message about Joy from Rev. Gary McAnally, and a delicious luncheon provided by Garibaldi Catering - all within facilities provided at a very reasonable price by the Boys and Girls Club. Many thanks to all who pitched in to make this event such a great success! I'm sure to forget someone if I try to name them all, but we should also thank Linda Austin for the beautiful table decorations! We worshiped God with our Presence, Prayers, Gifts and Service! Some of those gifts were financial (represented by the Estimate of Giving Cards), some gifts were in the form of prayers and service – all gifts are valued!!

OUTREACH (MISSIONS)

The Datwylers in Ecuador invite us to join them in offering special Christmas treats to those children and families that touch their lives each day. Your donations to their ministry will allow the Datwylers to buy special Christmas treats for the children who do not have "Compassion Sponsors." Only \$10 will provide a child with a special Christmas love gift! Please make any checks to Aldersgate UMC, with "Datwyler love gift" in the memo

November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Praise team 7:00 pm Choir 5:30	2 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	3
4 "Justice!!" Acts 28:1-10 The Vine 5:00 pm	5	6 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Women's Bible Study 9:45 – 10:45 am Church office	7 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	8 Praise team 7:00 pm Choir 5:30	9 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	10
11 Veteran's Day "The End of the Story." Acts 28:11-31 The Vine 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 Women's Bible Study 9:45 – 10:45 am Church office	14 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	15 Praise team 7:00 pm Choir 5:30	16 Celebrate Recovery 7pm (Dinner)	17 Men's breakfast 8:00am Rm 7-8
18 Thanksgiving Week "Enter His Gates with Thanksgiving!" Ps. 100 All church Thanksgiving dinner 6:00pm	19 Leadership meeting 6:00 Rm 7-8	20 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Women's Bible Study 9:45 – 10:45 am Church office	21 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	22 Praise team 7:00 pm Choir 5:30	23 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	24
25 "Be Joyful, All of You!!!" Deut. 16:9-15 Hanging of the greens following 2 nd service Annual Meeting 7:00pmfg The Vine 5:00 pm	26	27 Men's Bible Study 6:30 am Cozy Dinner Women's Bible Study 9:45 – 10:45 am Church office	28 Pastor Scotts Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Rm 7-8	29 Praise team 7:00 pm Choir 5:30	30 Celebrate Recovery 7pm	

Birthdays

Kathy Vail	11/7
Alex Martinez	11/8
Marge Houser	11/8
Marlo Knox	11/10
Sheri Stephens	11/12

Diane Evans	11/15
Duane Nelson	11/15
Jim Patterson	11/21
Susie Hawes	11/27

Anniversaries

Joe & Becky Hejl	11/1/03
Robert & Karen Wells	11/19/88