



The Open Door

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



Memories



Pastor Scott's Corner

Hello Folks, happy September! This is normally the month when I talk about things starting up again now that school is back in session: Awana, dinners, things to plan in October, Choir returning to our morning worship. But alas, it is not to be... yet. No, we do not know when things will resume, but we are praying that it will be soon. And now we're adding into the mix all the fires around our state and some are looking forward for 2020 to end!!!

Meanwhile, we are still having our outside Worship Service in our front yard. It's been interesting; it's been hot; it's been smoky! But, it has been going on now since July 12. We have a small group, averaging around 25 people each Sunday. Clark plays music, our Lay leaders lead us I Joys and Prayers, and what Announcements we may have, and we're all heading home within an hour. If you have not tried it, give it a shot! Bring your own chair, or sit on the ground as some do, or stay in your car as others have. I don't know how long we will keep doing this, but there it is!

In the meantime, I am aware, and I am sure many of you are too, that many of our local merchants and business owners are having a tough time in the shutdown. In recent months, two Chico food locations have closed: Outback Steakhouse and IHOP. Both Chains were already hurting, but Covid 19 did not help. I noticed Smokin Mo's has their Trailer parked in the Chico Power Equipment Parking Lot. Taking with a Scott in the trailer one day, he told me their dying downtown: no business and no place for outdoor seating. The Trailer is helping!

Yes, there are many others; some private restaurants have closed; some of our own Aldersgate People are Business Owners, struggling at this time. We talked about this, prompted by an out-of-town request, at our last Leadership Team Meeting. Can we, Aldersgate UMC, possibly through a surplus of funds, help some local businesses in any way?

Naming one or two, three, might be difficult with so many out there. But we do feel it's a great challenge. Yes, our giving is down from previous years, and understandably so, but our expenses have also been far lower than previous years, so we remain in the black. Praise God!! Therefore, we decided to accept this challenge to see if we can financially prop some business up, financially speaking. And you can help....

If you want, you may make a donation to Aldersgate UMC, and notate it "Business Help." We will be glad to put this money to work somewhere. You can aid us in this way: Do you know of a place that can use help? Tell us!

Eight years ago we did a similar thing with our Thanksgiving Offering. We were hurting financially as a church, but we decided to give away our Offering to the Well Ministry. It was a blessing to them, and us! We have been doing so ever since! This isn't Thanksgiving, yet, but can we bless others from our Bounty? Let's see!

My prayers are with you.

Sermons for the Month of September

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| 6. | Labor Day Weekend
"Peace"
Gal. 5:22 | 20. | Annual Conference Weekend
George Fenley Preaching |
| 13. | "Patience"
Gal. 5:22 | 27. | "Kindness"
Gal. 5:22 |

In July, Pastor Scott started a series on the Fruit of the Spirit. He continues this series in September. You may watch all sermons at Aldersgate on YouTube. Search for Aldersgate UMC Chico CA in the YouTube app, and you will find the sermons. You can hear Clark's music selections by searching for Worship at Aldersgate Chico. Each week he has music and songs for Sundays, often with something special added! You can find these on your Smart TV, Computer, or Smart Phones.

Be blessed!

George Fenley Preaching!

In August, pastor Neal Preached one Sunday while Pastor Scott was in the congregation. In September, George Fenley will be returning to us to do the same! Pastor Scott was supposed to be out of town for Annual Conference Session. George happily accepted the invitation! ACS has now been changed to a collective ZOOM meeting, so Pastor Scott will be in town. But like with Neal, he is not going to rescind the offer to preach.

So, come and hear George on Sunday, September 20! Or, if you are not coming during Covid 19 shutdown, listen to him on YouTube that weekend!

Annual Conference Session

As was said in the Sermons Announcement., Annual Conference Session for 2020, postponed from June due to Covid 19 to the weekend of September 18-20, is now going to be a collective ZOOM Meeting for all pastors and Lay Members. This means Pastor Scott, Chris Gardner, and Norm Teter will not be spending the weekend in Modesto, but right here in Chico... on their computers!

Likewise, our Annual Church Conference this year, date TBA, will also be a ZOOM. But, it will be a Charge Conference, not a Church Conference. Only the Pastor and the Leadership Team will be invited to join. Sorry to the rest of you who have enjoyed attending all these past years, but this is the decision of the Bishop and Cabinet for 2020. Hopefully, we will be able to return to normal in 2021. When we know the date we will inform you.

Leadership

Leadership continues to meet but at this time there is not much to report. We are still having a service on the lawn on Sundays and putting it on You Tube and our website as well. Hope all are well, safe and enjoying the sermon either way. We are looking forward to when this is all over and we can again meet in the church and get back to a normal life.

Prayers to all

From Bob Knox

FREE!!

- Marvin has an almost new boys bike (24" frame, 32" seat) looking for a new home. Would like to find someone in church with a need.
- Jessie is looking for a car to start college. He has been working this summer and is looking for something that will fit his budget.
- Bob knows someone in need of a large padded recliner.
- For more information or to help call Bob at 343-9273

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Down the Road!!!

With Covid 19 Shutdown still in effect, we do not know the future, so we do not know what will be happening in coming months. Will we have our Annual thanksgiving Dinner? We do not know. Therefore, the only thing on the calendar at this time is:

Tenth Annual Allred Open House, Saturday, December 12! You might be required to wear a mask and have your temperature taken, all is unknown, but at this time it's still on the calendar!!

Editors note: How does Scott expect us to wear masks and social distance while drinking Wassel and partaking of all the delicious treats that are put out each year?

Birthdays

Mary Gaffney	9/6
Joe Hejl	9/9
Eldon Schottman	9/10
Emily Martinez	9/11
Cheryl Sharp	9/16
Amy Rehdorf	9/18
Lynn Little	9/21
Bobbie Dege	9/21
Chancee Wootten	9/21
Jerry Allred	9/21
Rose Schottman	9/26
Penny Miller	9/28

Anniversaries

Dorothy & Brian Dalske	9/7/90
Pastor Scott and Frances Allred	9/10/83
Ron & Rebekah Wootten	9/16/00