



# The Open Door

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

## Gary and Mary Gaffney's last Sunday



GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK



A few  
shots  
from the  
men's  
retreat



## **Pastor Scott's Corner**

Hello folks, happy September!

That was how last September's Pastor Scott's Corner started. This is September, and I hope it will be a blessing for you. But for me, August ended with a sad event. Gary and Mary Gaffney had their last day of worship with us on Sunday, August 22. Although they did not make the announcement public until about a month ago, Gary had told me several months back that Fifth Sun, the job that brought he and Mary to Chico, had been bought out by another firm and that company was moving the business to San Diego. They wanted Gary to remain with them and made it financially feasible for them to move to San Diego.

With a great blessing their fine Chico home sold in two days! With that, and his first day on the job looming around August 30, August 22 became their last day with us.

Both Gary and Mary have been blessings to Aldersgate UMC. Gary, with a background in computer software, has helped us many times with our office and sanctuary computer needs. The new TV in our sanctuary may have been hung by Chris Gardner, Ken Lind, and a few others, but it didn't work until Gary gave it his attention. Gary has served our leadership team as a member, and as a past chairperson. He has been one of our lay worship leaders, operated our Sunday power-point and sound, and even came in every Thursday during praise team rehearsal to work sound and PowerPoint while George Fenley was with us. He preached a sermon one Sunday, and worked with me in the Kairos Prison Ministry.

When he came, Mary, his wife, came with Gary. She was quickly blessed with a position at Chico State as the head of their Finance and Accounting Office. It was her financial background that served us so well at Aldersgate. She joined our finance team, and soon was serving as our finance chairperson! She was very beneficial in the Miracle Sunday we had the year I ate broccoli!! Perhaps the greatest thing Mary did was to tell the leadership team and finance committee that she could not serve on a finance committee that operated in the red. Her license as an accountant would not allow her to do that. Under her leadership we made decisions that affected our finances. Eventually, we began to operate in the black, and as a result, have paid our denominational commitments (apportionments) at 100% for the past four years! Additionally, she is a great cook and would often host events and guests at her home. I appreciated that many a time. She also joined Gary at the computer and soundboard on many a Sunday!

Mary and Gary, you have been a blessing and will be greatly missed!

To the people of Aldersgate, we are now in need of some others to help with the sound and PowerPoint on Sundays, and we also need of a new finance chair. The former is not that difficult, and with Larry's help and teaching, you can be a pro in no time! If you are interested in helping here, please talk with me on a Sunday morning. If finances is your thing, please pray about that... and talk with me as well.

In the meantime, September is upon us! So... Happy September!!

My prayers are with you.

## **Friday Night Light!**

We have now had two Friday Night Light events, in July and August. The September event is scheduled for Friday, September 24! The meal will be Spaghetti, with salad and bread, provided by Chris Gardner and Bob Knox! Dinner starts at 6. We will have a missional opportunity and some entertainment! Chris has reported that they have chosen to support the KIAROS ministry. All contributions are voluntary.

The entertainment will be a music program by George Fenley and a supporting cast. Cost? Donations only, and then only if you want to.

We want this to happen once a month every month. If you'd like to host a Friday Night Light, let Pastor Scott know!

## Sermons for the Month of September

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|-----|---|-----|--|
| 5.  | Labor Day Weekend<br>"The Backfire"<br>Esther 7 | 19. | <u>Some Warnings</u><br>"End Times"<br>Matt. 24:1-28 |
| 12. | "The Defense"<br>Esther 8-9                     | 26. | "Different Gospels"<br>Gal. 1:6-24                   |

Pastor Scott concludes his series on "A Young Woman," his examination of the book of Esther this month. He will then start a series on biblical warnings. This will be an examination of texts that give the Church some warnings about life. It will also be about some "Teaching" that is not Biblical, and for which we should be on guard.

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!

## Pastor Scott's Wednesday Bible Study

Pastor Scott's Wednesday Class has been meeting only at 7 PM since Covid started in March 2020. We returned to public gatherings a few months ago, but still offer the class as a Zoom gathering as well. Soon, it will return to offering two times, 10 AM and 7 PM. The 7 PM Class will still be offered as a Zoom, while the 10 AM class will be in person only. If you want to join the Zoom Study, contact Pastor Scott at [Aldersgaterev@gmail.com](mailto:Aldersgaterev@gmail.com).

The class is currently on the book of Jeremiah. It is scheduled to be completed as of August 25. Therefore, the next book to be examined will be James, and that should start on Wednesday, September 1! As stated, this will be twice every Wednesday at 10 AM and 7 PM. We will be back in Rooms 7-8 at both times.

We hope you will join!

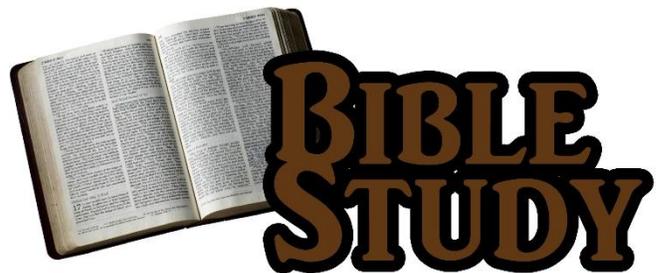
## Recycle

Thank you for supporting the Vine activities with your CA CRV glass bottles, plastic bottles, & aluminum cans. With the end of the Vine & the recycling center closing in Chico, I wondered if it was time to end it. I didn't want to because I believe recycling them is the right thing to do.

Since I couldn't get into 20th Street Recycling before it closed, I did some searching and found recycling centers in Orland and Oroville. I went to one in Orland, & it was very easy.

Since it was simple, I will continue to take your CA CRV bottles and cans left at the church. The money will be donated to ministries we support, such as Kairos. Bring me your empty, crushed, & discarded CRV cans and bottles, yearning to be recycled.

Larry Ducommun



## Tuesday Morning Woman's Bible Study

Tuesday Morning Woman's Bible Study will resume on the morning of September 14. It will be held in room 7/8 from 10:00- 11:30 every Tuesday. The study is **The Words of Life** by Adam Hamilton. It is a study of the Ten Commandments. Please let Marva Knox (530-592-8903) know if you plan to participate. There is a study book that goes along with a video. I want to be sure I have enough books for the class. There will be a \$10.00 donation person. Do not let the cost keep you from participating ♡

## Leadership

We are now meeting in a hybrid mode. Some people are at the Church and some are on zoom...we are leaning to grow with the times...LOL Anyone else finding new and creative ways to deal with the current times? I'm sure everyone is. Anyway, Scott is still doing Friday Night Lights and from what I understand they are going well...are you missing the fun?? Might want to catch the next one.

Surprisingly this year is slipping away and we are beginning to look for people to be on Leadership and the Board of Directors. This is actually easier than you think, and you only have to commit to one meeting a month, please consider these important committee positions. It lets you see the inner workings of the church and you get a voice to help with direction.

We were sad to see the Gaffney's move to San Diego but happy for their new adventure. This leaves an opening that we need to fill as well since Mary was our overseer of the finances. Anyone out there ready to fill those BIG shoes?? Mary and Gary both did much for us and will be greatly missed!

Have a great September and see you in Church....

## Joyful Hosannas



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Joyfully announcing: Our 2<sup>nd</sup> "Facebook LIVE ~ Virtual Hymn Sing " with The Joyful Hosannas on Tuesday September 28th at 6:00pm. You can Sing along or just listen, all in the comfort and safety, of your own home!! If you do not have Facebook, send a message to [Christstidings.org@gmail.com](mailto:Christstidings.org@gmail.com), with your email information, and we can send you a direct Link to watch it. You can also email us a hymn request and see if it ends up in our program.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude for the donations we have received from beloved members of the congregation toward our ministry; which includes our Hymn Sings and music time shared with beloved seniors at various assisted living facilities. If you are interested in ways to do so, please visit our Facebook page or reach us directly at (530)345-2345

As always, To GOD be The Glory!

## Birthdays

Mary Gaffney	9/6
Joe Hejl	9/9
Eldon Schottman	9/10
Emily Martinez	9/11
Cheryl Sharp	9/16
Lynne 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
Bob & Peg McElroy	9/14/68
Ron & Rebekah Wootten	9/16/2000