



The Open Door

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

Pastor Scott's Corner

Hello Folks, happy September!

We had a great Men's Retreat on August 18-21. (Special thanks to Neal Neuenburg for filling the pulpit on that Sunday!) I don't know what it was, but there seemed to be a different "flavor" this year than in previous years. It seemed more relaxed and enjoyable. Why? Well, perhaps one or more of the following reasons contributed....

1) Started on Thursday. Our Speaker this year, Lee Neish, has been coming to the retreat since 2013. In that time, he has had two Appointments, Napa and Sparks. If you know your geography, you know both of those places are considerably distant from Mt. Shasta City. (I often point that out when someone from, say, Yuba City tells me it's too far!) Three years ago, Lee asked if we could add a day so that he can relax a bit before returning home. We did; last year we added Thursday as a "Lite Day." It has been great! Not everyone can come, but for those of us who do it makes the time better; you know you have three nights before you make the return trip. We have pizza and a movie on Thursday. With nothing planned, beyond lunch, Friday is open for people to do what they want. Some went hiking; some went to one of two lakes; Chris beat me in Cribbage!

2) 8 men from Nevada! Whether it was because of Lee's presence, the Retreat being advertised in our District News Page, or me sharing it with the other Circuit Leaders, we had 6 new guys and 1 returning from our neighbors to the East! Two of these were Pastors, one active, one retired. All seemed to enjoy themselves!



3) More Musicians! There have been some years in the past when the music was made up of John Villani on keyboard and me on bass. This year there were 6 of us! John, myself, George Fenley on guitar, Mike Bray singing and leading devotionals, and Joey Carman and Mark Sargent from Sparks playing guitars and drums. George, John, and I lent our voices as well. There were several times when people complimented the "team" for the music and worship. It was very nice! The best part for me, was when John talked with George about doing some new stuff next year! Yes!





4) Having our District Superintendent with us! There were many years when Dave Samelson joined us while he was our DS, so it was nice to Have Blake Busick join us this year. He led us in closing Communion on Sunday. He was available to answer questions if needed. And one day he did something that I never saw Dave Samelson do, nor have I done it either: he washed dishes!! That's right! Seeing him bend his 6'5" frame over that sink hurt MY back! I really appreciated it. I think Robert Wells did too, for it's usually Robert that is doing the dishes! Good for you Blake!

5) We had Conference Leadership with us! In addition to Blake Busick, Executive Director of Connectional Ministries Jorge Dominguez was with us. During Annual Conference Session, Chris Gardner and I had dinner with Lee. He had invited Jorge to join us. During dinner we encourage Jorge to join us at the Retreat, He excitedly did so! He really enjoyed it, and took some time to talk about upcoming



Gathering together

Volunteers In Mission projects that will be happening in our District in some fire-scarred areas. (More will come on those when I receive information from him.) Being a hiker, and having done so all over our world, he enjoyed hiking several trails in the area. On Sunday her told me he is planning on returning next year, and hopefully bringing more people with him. He said, "I could envision this retreat as being the 'Great Northern Men's Retreat for California-Nevada Conference.'" I would greatly welcome it! I would love to see over 50 men join in! We have the room!



Breakfast is ready

6) Great Speaker. Lee Neish did an excellent job leading in his 5-part series on B.L.E.S.S.

7) Great food! Dave Pegg again did a great job providing us with food for every meal. Chris and Bryan Graves bought two new Barbecues (a gift from the Aldersgate Men), a much-needed replacement for the 20+ year old oil cans that were being used as barbecues. Our annual Friday Night Steak Dinner was a great success!



David Pegg preparing Friday dinner

8) A time for Memorial. On Saturday night we had a Memorial for Bob Knox and Doug Hays, two men who had been a large part of the Retreat for years. There was good sharing, tears, joy, and remembrances. Bob and Doug are being missed!



You know these guys?

If you're a man and have not attended, next year's Retreat will again be the third weekend in August. You can also invite a friend.

Women can invite their male friends too!

Be blessed!

My prayers are with you

Sermons for the Month of September

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| 4. | Labor Day Weekend
"God Wants Good for Us"
Matthew 7:7-12 | 18. | "Lord, if You are Willing"
Matthew. 8:1-4 |
| 11. | "Built on the Rock!!"
Matthew 7:24-29 | 25. | "Joy Comes in the Morning"
Psalms. 30:1-5 |

Pastor Scott continues his series in the Book of Matthew, then starts a series on some of the Psalms. 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 Bible Study continues in the examination of the Book of Matthew which was started at the end of May.

This Class continues twice each Wednesday. The class happens Wednesday at 10 AM and 7 PM. The 7 PM Class is offered in person or 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.

By September it will be in Chapter 11. Since there are 28 chapters it's still not too late to join!

Special Guest Preacher!

While Pastor Scott will be attending the Kairos on Sunday, October 9, preaching at Aldersgate will be former Associate Pastor, and now Retired Pastor, Toni Hartmann! Toni retired last June so she is now available on the Guest Circuit! She was glad to accept the invitation to bring the word here on that date.

Thank You

Many thanks to the individual donors for the new keyboard! While it may appear to be the same one, it is a very nice upgrade and modernization. And, I was able to find, and purchase it locally (rather than online), and spend \$500 less than anticipated.

What is unknown by most is that the sound system is not really capable of reproducing the quality of sound being produced by our now newer keyboard. The sit-down keyboard (Yamaha brand) is set up/adjusted to produce the majority of its sound independent of the sound system. I have done a similar thing with the newest keyboard (Roland brand).

Clark Minor

Friday Night Light!

September's Friday Night Light will be on Friday, September 23 at 6 PM. As of this writing the program nor Mission is set, but we will inform your of that in plenty of time.

We want to thank Randy Franken for hosting August's FNL. Her Mexican dinner was excellent! The Mission was Shasta Camp, and everyone had fun playing Win, Lose, or Draw!

If you'd like to host September's Friday Night Light, let Scott know!

Kairos is Coming!

The Kairos Prison Ministry is happening again, this time with no Covid restrictions. Chris Gardner and Pastor Scott will be attending on October 6-9. Missional Offerings are always accepted. Bags of cookies and drawings if hands are always sought as well. This Kairos will be in B Block. Your prayers are requested!

Choir Returns!

After a long break, the Chancel Choir will return soon!

The Choir provides choral music for our weekly service (except during the summer). Adult singers with choir singing experience are invited to participate! Contact Clark.

Rehearsals are Thursday evening at 5:30 and Sunday morning at 9:30

Birthdays

Peg McElroy	9/10
Eldon Schottman	9/10
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 and Brian Dalske	9/07/90
Pastor Scott and Frances Allred	9/10/83
Bob and Peg McElroy	9/14