



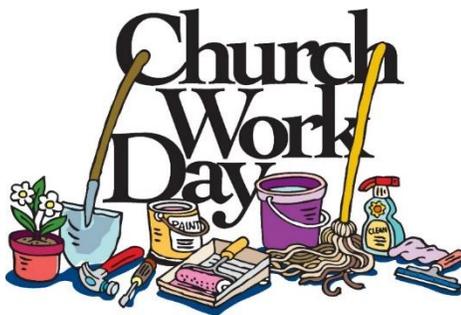
# The Open Door

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

**Get your work duds on, its time for the church fall cleaning!**



Your Board of Trustees are hoping you will come and join them on **Saturday, November 5, starting at 9 AM** (we will try to be done by 12 noon). We will be doing some cleaning, repairing, hauling some junk off, and doing some work in the kitchen. If there is something you've noticed that needs fixing, sent a note to Sara Lind and she'll get it on the list!

We do hope you will join us. If there are enough people, and we start to run out of work, we're going to add something to the day's agenda:

## Annual Church Charge Conference

This event will be taking place on **Thursday, November 10, at 7 PM**. Our District Superintendent, Blake Busick, will be with us presiding over the Conference where we will deal with four main items: Pastor's Salary Package, Care of Members, Election of Officers, and hearing reports from our Retired Pastors.

Everyone is welcome to attend, and all Aldersgate Members are voting members of this Conference. We hope you will join us.

Blake will be meeting with Pastor Scott at 6, the Leadership Team at 6:30, then all of us at 7.



## Thanksgiving Dinner

This wonderful event has not happened the past two years due to Covid. We are certainly hoping it will not be cancelled this year! It will be on Sunday, November 20 in our sanctuary.

All of you are asked to **BRING FOOD!** We are looking for some people to bring Turkeys or hams - Pastor Scott will again barbecue one! For the rest we ask that you bring the food of Thanksgiving: Stuffing, Pies, Beans, Pies, Yams, Pies, Mashed Potatoes, Pies, Bread, and of course, Pies!

*HAPPY THANKSGIVING  
MARGRET!*



This event is open to all who would want to come!

There is a rumor that Sara Lind, Shelley Young and Randy Franken said they would be the coordinators. **BUT!!** This has not been publicly announced. HA! Thank you, Sara, Shelley, and Randy! If you would like to help, or want to know how you can help, talk with either of them!

## Pastor Scott's Corner

Happy Halloween, and soon, Happy Thanksgiving. We have hit the holiday months! Yay! Oh, how I love these coming months!

However, I have something else on my mind today, and it came because I was listening to the musical soundtrack to the 2005 film, "Batman Begins" as I was driving to the office.

While listening to it I was reminded of two men from my life; my late Dad, Jerry, and my late Brother-in-law, Ron Hoff. What do they have to do with that soundtrack? Well, when I saw the film for the first time, I truly lamented that my Dad was dead, for this was THE Batman movie he had been waiting for all his life! From the time he read the first Batman story, Detective Comics #27, March 30, 1939, he was hooked! Batman was his favorite comic hero, bar none! But, as much as he loved the Batman story, he truly disliked anything that was done in a live-action format. Starting with the campy show from the '60s, to the Tim Burton Batman of 1989, he was disappointed with all that had been offered. I KNOW he would have LOVED Christian Bale's version. I wish he could have lived to see it.

It is, in my opinion, a great film. Which is why I also thought of Ron. Having seen the film already in the theater with my family, I waited for it to be released in DVD format. It was in October of 2005. I was in Sacramento for some conference business, and I was staying with my sister and Ron. Before arriving at their home, I went by a local Costco and bought a copy. I wanted us to watch it THAT NIGHT, as they had not seen it. But Ron's words were, "I don't want to watch Buttman!" He never was much of a movie goer, and sitting for over two hours, watching a story he wasn't interested in, wasn't what he wanted to do. But he did....

About halfway through the film he suddenly hit the pause. Boom, out of the blue, the film stopped. Ron started getting out of his chair, and I asked if something was wrong. He said, "I need to use the bathroom and I don't want to miss anything." Astonished I explained, "So, you're enjoying Buttman?" I received no reply, but he watched the whole film... and enjoyed it!

So, I was thinking of these two men while listening to the soundtrack. One missed it, and I think he would have loved it, and the other had no desire, but discovered he liked it. I think there is a lesson here.

Frances often tells me I'm too much of an optimist. We will have an event here at Aldersgate; I plan on 40 people showing up, and we get less than 20. I then get disappointed; she tells me "I told you so." This has happened at many events we have, or do hold here. Events like Friday Night Light, or the Before Worship Breakfast, have not been attended as I have hoped. For FNL, I have hurt for the people who have volunteered to offer us a great dinner and dessert, and some 8-10 people show. There were some events that I canceled because of a lack of support: The Pumpkin Carving Contest, the Lenten Guest Speaker Series, and the Trunk or Treat. All of these started with good support (but none of what I had hoped), but when dropping to a handful of people I cancelled them.

What I hope, and have hoped, is that people will come for one reason: to be in the Body of Christ together. We share Jesus; can we share some time together? "But I'm not interested." You might be blessed! Ron didn't want to see that movie! I really appreciated what Randy Franken said, unprovoked, one Sunday morning during Joys and Concerns, about the blessing she has received by attending FNL. I was warmed by her words, and hoped that some would listen and give it a try.

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the House of the Lord together." (Ps. 122:1) I hope that means more than Sundays. Look at the events coming in this Open Door. No, FNL won't happen again until January, but we do have a Workday, our Charge Conference, the Thanksgiving Dinner, decorating our Sanctuary, the Joyful Hosannas Christmas program, the Allred Open House, and the Before Worship Breakfast. Some are in November, others in December. Will you join us? Even if you're not interested, you may, and will, be blessed! I hope you will try.

My prayers are with you.

## Sermons for November:

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| 6.  | “God’s Love Endures Forever!”<br>Psalms 136 | 20. | Thanksgiving Weekend: “Naked I Came into this World” Job 1                   |
| 13. | “Give Praise!!”<br>Psalms 150               | 27. | First Advent: The Christmas Tree: “Reminder of Everlasting Life” John 3:1-21 |

Pastor Scott continues/completes his series on the Book of Psalms with these first two sermons. After that is Thanksgiving, then the First Sunday in Advent.

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!

Advent starts the last week of November! Yes, we will have the Advent Candles and we will decorate the Sanctuary. Pastor Scott’s Advent Series is “The Christmas Tree.” Are you aware of the traditions surrounding this decorative thing many of us have in our house every year? You will!

## Pastor Scott's Bible Study

Pastor Scott’s Wednesday Class continues twice each Wednesday. The class meets every Wednesday at 10 AM and 7 PM and it takes place in Rooms 7-8.

As of this writing the Class is still on the Book of Matthew. Where it goes after this is not known yet.

We hope you will join!

## Friday Night Light

... will not happen in the Month of November and December. With the Thanksgiving Dinner and the Allred Open House we do have opportunities to gather for fun and fellowship. We will have one in January!

## Hanging of the Greens!

It’s almost time to decorate our Sanctuary for Christmas again! We will be doing so following Worship on Sunday, November 27. That is the First Day of Advent, so unfortunately the tree will not be up by then, but it will, therefore, be up for the rest of the season.

Many hands make light work, so the more of you that hang around and help will be greatly appreciated. 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 creating the beauty of the season, as well as some good fellowship! Let’s do some work and beautify the sanctuary together!

## Joyful Hosannas and an Afternoon of Christmas Music!



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The Hosannas will be doing their Annual Event on Saturday, December 3, at 3:00 PM. Last year’s earlier start time was greatly received, so it will again be at 3:00 this year.

Therefore, all of you are welcome to hear the 2022 presentation of Christmas Music through the Joyful Hosannas!

**3:00 PM, Saturday, December 3 , at Aldersgate UMC.** We hope to see you. Be blessed!

## Financial Update

Financial reports for September 2022: In reviewing... Prior Year Comparison Report..., the total contributions for September 2022 are \$19,400.00; however, \$650.00 is from cash received in August but not reported until mid September. With that being said, it is still roughly an \$8,000 increase from this time last year. Looking at the offerings over the past 10 years for the month of September, the year 2015 had the highest offerings at \$24,039.81, and the year 2021 had the lowest offerings at \$10,980.85.

Contributions to the General Fund for the month of September are \$18,414.53. Total expenses for August are \$15,576.60. Net income for August is 2,837.93. The balance in the General Fund after the tithe payment for the month of August is \$14,618.21.

Christine Pico, Treasurer

## 2023 Calendars are available!



The 2023 GOD's Creation wall calendars have beautiful Photographs to go with the inspirational weekly scriptures. They make great gifts & an uplifting addition to your home. The money raised from calendar sales goes to the missionaries supported by Aldersgate.

For questions or to purchase calendars talk to Larry Ducommun

## Paths Straight to Recovery Presents SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2022 | 5:00PM DINNER WITH A SIDE OF HOPE

Fundraiser to support Paths Straight to Recovery,  
a Christ Centered Sober Living Environment

FEATURING STORIES OF VICTORY &  
HOPE, BOOTLEG BBQ, RAFFLE,  
AUCTION AND MORE!!!!



To register, scan QR code above or E-mail [pstrchico@gmail.com](mailto:pstrchico@gmail.com)

Paths Straight to Recovery (PSTR) is a program that provides a Christ-centered sober living environment to men struggling with substance abuse. Our program has successfully brought many men to Christ, while also bringing them into a stable lifestyle. PSTR currently has one house to support the ministry, but we dream of establishing another house and providing more opportunities to the participants! Join us for a fundraiser evening of good food (supplied by Bootleg BBQ), some stories of victory and a silent auction with some really great items!

For more information, contact Katya Yarosevich, 530-228-0215 or [pstrchico@gmail.com](mailto:pstrchico@gmail.com). Hope to see you there!

In December

## Twelfth Annual Allred Open House!

Frances and Scott invite you to attend their Twelfth Open House at their home, 306 Autumn Gold Drive. The Open House will be from 1-6 p.m. on Saturday, December 10. All of you are welcome to come any time and stay as long as you wish. All of you are welcome – children too! Bring a friend and have some fun!

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 house decorations to view, and there are some new ones again! A drawing will be held for a special gift, but the winner must be present in worship on December 12 to win!

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! Bring your children, bring your friends!

### Photos from 2021 Open House



Ah, good food!



People arriving! Nancy Patterson, Ken Lind et. Al.



Ron and Rebekah Wooten enjoying some snacks.



The Joyful Hosannas, Marty and V!

### Some dates to mark on your calendars!

- Eleventh Annual Before Worship Breakfast: Sunday, December 18
- 2022<sup>nd</sup> Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Saturday, Dec. 24

## **Birthdays**

Bob McElroy	12/11
Stella Nelson	12/15
Melinda Loy	12/20
John Warwick	12/31

## **Anniversaries**

Craig & Susie Hawes	12-4-66
Eldon & Rose Schottman	12-7-74
Jim & Nancy Patterson	12-19-64