



# The Open Door

A publication of Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
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January 2023  
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*A Church of open hearts, open minds, open doors*

Welcome to 2023. Here is wishing you all the best for  
this year



## A flashback to the pre church breakfast on December 18



The head honcho with his sidekick BATTERMAN preparing the breakfast



A few of those who benefited from their hard work

## Pastor Scott's Corner

*Happy New Year!*

On Christmas Eve my Homily was about the Christmas Tree being a reminder of Joy. As I was coming to the office on December 22, I received a great joy! Standing on a corner, not too far from Aldersgate, was a man wearing a Santa Suit with a Grinch full mask, yes! He was waving at people driving by. I honked my horn as I passed. When I opened my door at Aldersgate, I heard a Semi Truck's horn blowing loudly, I looked in my mirror and saw the truck and trailer driving by the man – he was waving wildly. As I walked into the office, I could hear many a horn blowing; it absolutely warmed my heart! So, I went outside and filmed him on my phone. As I sit inside typing this, I can still hear horns; one that just blew was another Semi!

Absolutely CHOICE!! This guy, Santa Grinch, had nothing to do with Jesus, but it was a source of great joy for me and for those who drove by. Joy to the World, the Lord is Come! Can we be a people of Joy, reflecting it and passing it on? I know we can! Are we willing to do so?

As this is the New Year, 2023, I want to start it as I did last year by sharing the joy I received from people here at Aldersgate who help this ministry run. It's "Thanks" time!

I'll start with:

- Larry Ducommun. Thanks, Larry, for being there every week to record my sermon, for filling in while I'm gone, for posting the links on YouTube, for serving on our Leadership Team, for volunteering to help me put up my villages, and for being my friend!
- Clark Minor: Thank you for your excellent work as our Music Minister. For the music links that are so beautiful, and for the songs that fit the sermon texts! Thanks as well for doing "The Friendly Beasts!"
- Thanks to Chris Gardner who does the work of many people! He has served as our Leadership Team Chair this year, He often opens the sanctuary on Sunday (when he's in town). He has taken my wife to Oroville on many a Tuesday if she does not have another driver. He's the first one here if something is broken; and they say he's retired!
- Ken Lind: Thanks Ken for preparing our Open Door each month. (If you don't know, Ken receives everyone's articles, edits them, puts them into a good form, often using pictures, and then it gets mailed out to us. Excellent work!)
- Thanks, Sara Lind, for your year as the Chair of the Trustees!
- Thanks to Rose and Eldon Schottman for taking care of Communion each month! This is a blessing to all who receive!
- Thanks to Bob and Peg McElroy who attend the sermon recording every week, thus providing background noises! Thanks for being some of the Sanctuary Cleaners, and for bringing me a breakfast snack every Wednesday morning at Bible Study!
- Thanks to Peg who took over from Shelley Young to be our Monday Volunteer. If you're reading this, as an email or in printed form, it's Peg who took Ken's work and distributed it!
- A continued Thanks to Christine Pico who has served, very well, as our Treasurer these past three years.
- Thanks to Robert Wells who has been cleaning the bathrooms and other parts of the Hallway these past several months. Also, thanks for lighting the Candles every Sunday during worship!
- Thanks to Duane Nelson who has served us as our Financial Secretary for as long as I've been here, and before. He's also handy to call if something is broken!
- I thank my wife, Frances, for continuing to be by my side.
- I thank Susan Hartman, Bobbie Dege, Veronica Davis, and Marty Morrison for helping to lead in congregational singing during Sunday Worship. I also thank those who have joined our renewed Choir: Dick, Maggie, Diane, V, Marty, Peg, Bob, Chris S., and Clark!
- I thank Diane Evans and Larry Ducommun for helping with the PowerPoint on Sundays! And I thank Larry, Duane, Bryan Graves, and Veronica for being our Worship Leaders on Sundays.
- I want to thank those that attend my Wednesday Bible Study at both times, and to those who bring goodies to eat!
- It remains a blessing to have two retired ministers worshipping with us! Thank you, Jim, Nancy, Neal, and Fran!

- I want to thank all who served on our Leadership Team and Board of Trustees this past year!

Finally, I want to thank all of you who are an active part of Aldersgate UC. To be with you has been a Joy!

Happy New Year. My prayers are with you.

**Sermons for January** Pastor Scott will be on vacation the first week in January.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New Year's Day Vacation #3.<br/>Epiphany: Blake Busick Preaching via YouTube</li> <li>8. "I am Making All Thing New"<br/>Rev. 21:1-5</li> <li>15. (MLK DAY) "Same Old Wineskins?"<br/>Luke 5:33-39</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24. "You're Doing It !!"<br/>Luke 6:1-11</li> <li>29. "Do You See This Woman?"<br/>Luke 7:36-50</li> </ul> |
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Sermons are currently being offered on YouTube, as well as the music links prepared by Clark Minor. All our sermons are also recorded and available on our website, or by filling out a CD request. (A \$2.00 donation is requested for each CD.)

**Allred Open House a Joy!**

Frances and Scott want to thank everyone who came to their Open House on December 10. They had a lot of fun, and the goodies were excellent, those provided and those brought by others! For the second year in a row Diane Evans was the first to arrive, and therefore, the one who got to light the center candles! In its 22-year history, dating back to their days serving the Wasco UMC, there were no repeats, until this, the last year here in Chico!

Frances and Scott send wishes of a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all their Aldersgate Friends!



## **Pastor Scott's Bible Study**

Pastor Scott's Wednesday Class continues twice each Wednesday. The class is every Wednesday at 10 AM and 7 PM.

The Class is currently studying the Book of Matthew. They should finish Matthew by the middle of January. Once it is finished, they will be jumping into Acts!

We hope you will join!

## **Superbowl Sunday!!**

This years' Superbowl will be on Sunday February 13. As they have done in previous years, the Allred's invite any who would want to watch the game, at their house, ;, to come and join them. Feel free to come any time after 3 PM. Bring a snack to share. Game time is 3:30 that afternoon.

Will it be the Niners!!! Here's hoping!



## **Return of Friday Night Light!!**

The next one will be on Friday, January 27, 6 PM! The meal and the Missional Opportunity will be announced later, but mark your calendars now. What will the program be? We don't know that yet either! But... please come! Be blessed!



## **Aldersgate Christmas carolers**

ALL who participated were blessed, the Carolers as well as the recipients. Ruthie Holland played the piano for us at Sycamore Glen and then at the individual houses of John Warrick, Marva Knox, Lynn Little to name a few.

Left to right... Peg & Bob McElroy, Martha Morrison, Diane Edwards, Robin Preston, and ME (Veronica Davis) ☺ Not included in picture are Scott Allred and Clark Minor who also joined us for Sycamore Glen but the two of them did not continue to the other houses with the rest of us.

## **January Birthdays**

Susan Patterson	1/7
Donna Hood	1/19
Neal Neuenburg	1/21
Louise Halfen	1/26
Ron Wootten	1/27
Barbara Moon	1/28