



The Open Door

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

Keep Up To Date...

We have started using a program called Text In Church, it is a way for you to get text messages from the church about what is going on. If you text the word Church to 530-882-3260 and fill out the form that will come to you and you will be added to the list that will get a text message at least once a week and sometimes more depending on what is going on at the church. A First Time Guest can text Guest to the same number and they will go through a six week process of messages to hopefully get them to continue to worship with us.

But there is more.... If you scan the correct QR Code below with the camera on your phone it will make the process even easier. And if you need help with it please see me, Larry, or ask someone else if they know how to do it. I hope you find it easy to do and you are blessed in keeping up to date on upcoming messages, etc. Here are those QR Codes:



Blessings,
Pastor Scott

Do you want the Open Door to continue?

If you do, we are requesting articles for the newsletter. They can be things like where the church stands financially, what the current mission outreach is, an article about what is going on in the United Methodist world today, what you are learning at a Bible Study or on Sunday mornings, what projects are going on around the church, really just about anything.

Ken does a wonderful job of putting the Open Door together each month and we want that to continue, but if we don't give him enough information to put in there, the newsletter will either get smaller as we move forward or will disappear, and I know we don't want either of those things to happen.

Articles are usually due 3-4 days before the end of the month. Ken does send out a request to get your article(s) in each month. Let us help Ken and our church out by sending in some articles!!!!

Blessings,
Pastor Scott



Blessings Aldersgate Church Family,

Can you believe that it already 2024? Time seems to fly by these days. As we begin the new year we are going to spend the first six weeks of the year learning ways to share our faith in our community. We will also use a symbol that has a negative image and will use it for good. This is much like a different symbol used during the times of Jesus that the world used for torture and death, but God used it for good. That symbol was the cross and today the symbol is a bomb.

We tend to think of the bomb as a symbol of destruction and war, but I see it as a symbol the God uses for good. We have heard phrases like, "you are the bomb" to mean something positive. We use things like bath bombs to make taking a bath more enjoyable. DA Bomb means something that is the best and the bomb emoji means something that is mind blowing. There are many other ways to use the word bomb in a positive light.

So, during this six-week series we will look at how we can Grace Bomb our community for the better. How are ways that we can show the love of God by doing something nice for someone else. It could be something as simple as paying for someone's coffee at Starbucks (Hello V) or even at Dutch Brothers (I see you Chris), buying a sandwich for someone that is hungry, or mowing the lawn of our neighbors who cannot do it for themselves.

I hope and pray that this series will get you to look at the word bomb in a different light and to help encourage you to pass on the love of Christ to your family, friends, neighbors, and yes even people that we do not know...YET!

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Scott Gessford

January Sermon Schedule

In service this month we will be focusing on reaching out to people and sharing the love of God in our community. This will be a six-part series that will take us to the season of Lent and our journey toward Easter. Here are the upcoming Scripture verses so you can read ahead and be prepared for what we talk about on Sunday...

7	Grace Built People Ephesians 2:1-10	21	Blasting fear Judges 6:12-16
14	The Master Bomber John 1:1-14	28	The Outsiders John 4:4-26

Please join us for this series as we look for ways to help our community know and understand who God is and how much He loves them.

Mission Update

We would like to welcome the HealthBridge ministry this year as one of our three ongoing supported missions. That means we are committed to hold this ministry in our prayers and to support it with our monetary gifts. HealthBridge has ministries as close as Sacramento with the refugees from the Ukraine and Afghanistan. HealthBridge has programs as far away as Romania and Africa.It

Our church has sent over \$10,000 to each of the following missionaries: the Drumms, the Datwylers and Katherine Parker. Besides these ministries, the Friday Night Light gatherings generated extra monies to support several local ministries plus we have supported the prison ministry at Folsom prison through Kairos.

I would also like to mention that we are still collecting peanut butter and warm socks, as a local mission, to be used for distribution by the Salvation Army. Please leave donations in the blue barrel that can be found in the sanctuary.

Pastor Scott's Bible Study:

This year we are going to be taking a closer look at Paul's letters. The catch is we are going to do them by the order in which he wrote them instead of the way they appear in our Bibles. Here is the order in which we will tackle them...

Galatians
1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians

Romans
Ephesians
Colossians
Philemon

Philippians
1 Timothy
Titus
2 Timothy

During Lent this year, starting on Ash Wednesday, which is February 14th, we will tackle the 24 Hours That Changed the World by Adam Hamilton. I will be ordering 20 books for the study so if you are interested, please let me know so I can buy more books, if needed. The suggested donation for the large print book is \$15 (checks can be made out to the church with Adult Bible Study or Lent in the memo). Or if you want to pay in cash please put it in an offering envelope and put Adult Bible Study or Lent on it.

Blessings,
Pastor Scott

Women's Bible Study



Pictures from the Bible Study Christmas party.

The new year will begin with a new study about Miracles. It will begin Tuesday, January 9th at Marva Knox's home at 1115 West 12th Avenue, at 10:00 a.m. The study is available to all women in the church. Please call Marva at 530.685.5293 for further information.

The group enjoyed the last study about Encountering Jesus so much that it was decided to do another study by the same company.



Christmas Eve service

It made my heart sing to see so many familiar faces at our Christmas Eve service. It seemed as if it were old home week! Such joy to be with the church family to celebrate Jesus' birth with the lighting of the Christ candle, the reading of the birth story from Luke, the singing of carols while carrying the light into the world afterwards.

Marva

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

As we have done for many years, members of the church rang the bell at the Salvation Army kettle. This year, as we have done since Kmart closed, we rang the bell on the Saturdays between Thanksgiving and Christmas at the Grocery Outlet on Pillsbury Road. If you have never participated in this event, you might consider doing so next year. It helps the Salvation Army raise money to provide aide for those in need.

A big thanks is due to Robert Well for taking on the job of contacting the Salvation Army, scheduling the volunteers, and filling the unfilled shifts.



Some of our volunteers

Time to take down the Christmas Decorations



*Join us after Church for a short time to help remove and pack away the Christmas decorations on
Sunday January 7th*

Many hands make the work lite for all

Birthdays

Donna Hood
Neal Neuenburg

1/19
1/21

Louise Halfen
Ron Wootten

1/26
1/27

Barbara Moon

1/28