



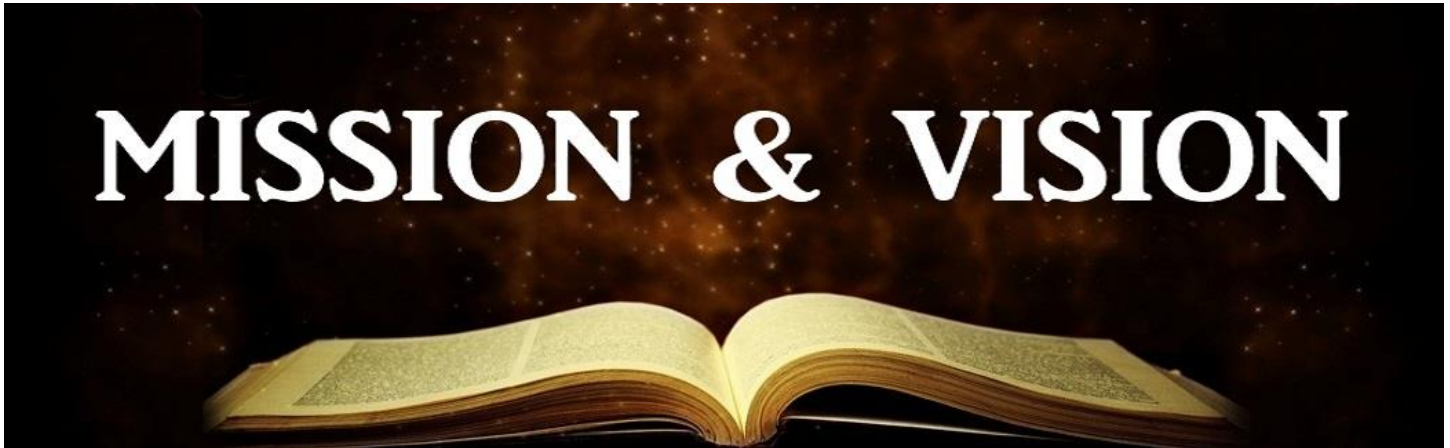
# The Open Door

A publication of Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
2869 Cohasset Road, Chico, CA 95973

September 2023  
Phone: 530.893.8640

*A Church of open hearts, open minds, open doors*

## A word from Pastor Scott



Blessings Aldersgate Church Family, On **Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup>** after our church service, we will have something to eat and fellowship before we start our visioning process. This is for the **ENTIRE** church body, not just the leadership team. This is where we will figure out our vision and mission for the church for the foreseeable future. I will guide us through this process, and it will help me know where you, the church, want to go and move forward. After we complete our visioning process, it will help us figure out HOW we get to where we want to go. This is just the first step on our journey

I have had a chance to meet with some of you already. If you have not scheduled an appointment with me yet, or signed up on the sheets I have been putting in the narthex, please call me at (530-635-1582) and let me know when would work best for you We can meet at your home, a park, Starbucks, the church, just about anywhere in Chico (this will also help me get more familiar with Chico in the process), or we can meet as a small group with a few families together. The point of getting to meet you and talk to you is so that we can get to know each other's stories and build a closer family group.



Please leave me your name so that I can know who has called, my phone goes right to voicemail if you are not in my contact list, so if I do not answer I am either busy or it went right to voicemail. I won't be able to get back to you if you don't leave me your information!

I look forward to our work together to build the Kingdom of God and reach the people in our communities!

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Scott Gessford

## Sermon Schedule for Worship in September:

In service this month we will be focusing on chapters 6-9 of the Gospel of Mark. Here are the upcoming Scripture verses so you can read ahead and be prepared for what we talk about on Sunday...

September 3<sup>rd</sup>- Mark 6:1-13. Jesus is rejected and John the Baptist is beheaded.

September 17<sup>th</sup>- Mark 8:27-38. Jesus feeds people AND Peter calls Jesus the Christ

September 10<sup>th</sup>- Mark 7:14-23. Jesus heals more people.

September 24<sup>th</sup>- Mark 9:2-13- The Transfiguration of Jesus.

## Missions

What in the world have we been doing at Aldersgate? The answer is: A LOT.

- We have met our financial commitment to the Datwylers in Ecuador, the Drumms in Southeast Asia, and Kathryn Parker in Nepal. So far, this year, we have distributed \$650.00 to each.
- Our Friday Night Light gatherings have collected \$4,768.00 to be distributed to several local agencies and even some beyond Chico.

A mission interest group met to clarify our focus for the remainder of this year.

- First off, the Drumm family notified us that they are no longer over seas in the mission field. Their need is not as needed now that they are stateside.
- We will replace the Drumm family with the Healthbridge Ministry.
- Kathryn Parker will be at Aldersgate on Sunday, October 8 at 6:00 p.m. She will speak after an old fashion church potluck. Bring a dish to share and your own utensils. Drinks will be provided.
- Another way to help is to support the Salvation Army by providing something concrete to their ministry each month. September will be peanut butter month. There will be a container at the entrance of the church for this purpose.

Submitted, Marva Knox

## Did You Know:

The church is always looking for people to volunteer around the church.

One example is the bulletin board shown to the left. Melinda Loy saw that it needed attention and took it upon herself to freshen it up. It is located on the wall, in the hall, between the kitchen and the restrooms. If you get a chance, take a moment to look it over.

We are also looking for people to help us with projects outside of the church. If you would like to get more involved please see Pastor Scott!



## Sunday Coffee

Do you like coffee on Sunday morning. Two people have volunteered to make coffee. If someone is able to volunteer to clean up and put away after church, they should let Marva Knox know at 530.685.5293.

## September Friday Night Light

The mission for Friday Night Light on September 22<sup>th</sup>, 2023, will be the Kairos Prison ministry. The program will be a testimony video from the 'men in blue'. If there is time we may have some type of fellowship.



We are looking for someone willing to be the lead person/coordinator for the meal

## 2023 Men's Retreat

The August 2023 men's retreat was a lot of fun, with men from all over our district.

The keynote speaker was retired pastor Scott Allred, sharing, with an overview of people who thought they were lost in the wilderness by themselves, but God was with them.

Chef David Pegg whipped up mouthwatering dishes to help energize us. Yes, we had to suffer with those New York steaks that he had ordered just for the barbeque.



We did have some thunderstorms move through, but just a few sprinkles to keep the dust down.

Next year's retreat will be August 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and the kick back day is August 15<sup>th</sup>. The speaker will be announced at a later date. John Villiani will not only lead music but also will bring back golf during the free time.

## Kairos

The next Kairos is scheduled for October 5 - 8. As usual Chris can use help with cookies and hands.

- If you are making cookies, please do not use the old peanut butter recipe. A new one will be out the first week of September. Cookies that are made early may be stored in the church freezer.
- Hands need to be finished and returned, along with cookies, by the **third Sunday of September**.

If you would like further information, contact Chris Gardener.

## Trustee's report

The following are items of interest:

- The mulberry tree, in the front lawn, and the walnut and oaks near the back fence are scheduled to be pruned in the next two week by Complete Tree Care.
- Lifeline Screening will be here September 26. We will need help tearing down the sanctuary after the service on the 24<sup>th</sup> and then again after they leave to reset the sanctuary for the following Sunday.
- There will be a Fall workday on October 14. We would appreciate having all hands on board for a successful workday.
- When McClelland did their semiannual servicing of the HVAC system, they found that one of the air conditioners, for the sanctuary, was not working and they gave us a quote to replace it. Because we are not in a financial position to replace it, Chris Gardener was able to get another estimate that allowed us to repair the unit. Because the unit was old, it took most of the summer to find the parts to do the repair. There is no indication how long this repair can last.
- This brought up the need to include, in future budgets, an amount to be set aside each year for capitol maintenance. This is so that the trustees have funds to replace major cost items. Think of .things like the afore-mentioned AC unit, painting of the church, roof replacement, parking lot maintenance, kitchen appliances, all the things that must be taken care of to keep the church property in the condition that we like to have it.

## Bible Studies

Tuesday: Men, 6:00 am at Cozy Dinner.

Women, 10:00 at Knox residence. Fall start date to be determined. Contact Marva Knox at 530.685.5293 for further information.

Wednesday: Pastor Scott's, 10 – 11 mornings, 7 – 8 evenings. Study held in room 7-8. Contact Pastor Scott for further information.

## Birthdays

Eldon Schottman	9/10
Cheryl Sharp	9/16
Alyson Gessford	9/17
Peg McElroy	9/19
Lynne Little	9/21

Bobbie Dege	9/21
Chancee Wootten	9/21
Rose Schottman	9/26
Penny Miller	9/28

## Anniversaries

Dorothy and Brian Dalske	9/7/90
Bob and Peg McElroy	9/14/
Ron & Rebekah Wootten	9/16/00