ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

#588 **The GatePost** - The Monthly Newsletter of Aldersgate UMC April 1, 2018

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Thank you *to the following families who provided the sanctuary flowers for our Easter morning worship services:*

Rose SyQuimsiam Bautista — In honor of Bagongsilang SyQuimsiam

Lynda Bayless — In Honor of my beautiful family, Michele, Jason, Anthony, Jillian, and Danielle

Continued on Page 8

APRIL at ALDERSGATE

Sunday, April 1 - Easter Sunday

The Tomb is Empty

TWO WORSHIP SERVICES - 9 :00 am *AND* 10:30 am

Family Worship: Children ages 4th grade & up remain in worship with their families

Butterfly Release—10:00 am

~ Food Collection for Families Forward ~

Sunday, April 8 - Second Sunday of Easter

Confirmation Sunday

Paul Changes

Family Worship at 9am -Children ages 4th grade & up remain in worship with their families

Environmental Ministries after Worship in the Library

Zero Gravity (4th & 5th Grade Fellowship), 5:30pm (Youth Room)

Sunday, April 15 - Third Sunday of Easter

Paul Escapes

Worship at 9am

Food Collection for Sunday Suppers

New Member Class after Worship (Library)

Sunday Suppers, 5:30pm at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Youth Serving at Sunday Suppers this Week

Sunday, April 22– Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Church Grows

Worship at 9am

VBS REGISTRATION BEGINS

New Member Class after Worship (Library)

Sunday, April 29– Creation Sunday

Timothy is Chosen

Worship at 9am

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Aldersgate Children's Center

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E-mail: newsletter@aumctustin.org
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Next Issue *MAILED* Monday, April 30

Please remember that **ALL GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS** using the Aldersgate facility **must** contact the church office and schedule their meetings, rehearsals and events on the Master Calendar. Using the Master Calendar avoids conflicts and confusion and insures that your meeting or event is set up properly with the necessary equipment.

Our facility is in **constant** use both internally and by outside groups. What you see on the Sunday bulletin calendar is only a small portion of the events and activities that are occurring during the week.

In addition, it is **VITALLY IMPORANT** to remember to close and lock all doors and windows when you adjourn. Thank you for your help in keeping our property secure!

Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday:
9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

KARIN'S QUOTES

Let it begin with singing and never end!
Oh, angels, quit your lamenting!
Oh, pilgrims, upon your knees in tearful prayer,
rise up and take your hearts and run!
We who were no people are named anew,
God's people,
for he who was no more is forevermore.
Ann Weems

These days there are many reasons to kneel in tearful prayer, to lament all that is happening around us in our society, nation, and world. There are many problems, and many who are in need of healing, restoration, and new life. Easter is the time to remember the new life God offers to all. Easter is the time to remember that death and darkness do not have the last word. Light, salvation, new life, and love are the culmination of the Easter story, for Jesus is risen! And we, who are God's people, are given new life and a new name because of Christ who is risen.

So, my friends, let the singing never end! Let the story be told over and over again that there is hope for all, new life for all, love for all! And may we find signs of Easter all around us. For the last several years, it has been our tradition to celebrate Confirmation on the Sunday after Easter. This year, 7 Confirmands will stand in front of the congregation to confirm their faith and discover new life as a member of the church. In the season of Easter we will also celebrate baptisms, the women of our church as they gather to do mission work, the beautiful creation God has created, new members, and our children and youth. It is a season of new life, of new opportunities, and of the chance to once again say yes to Christ, the One who brings new life!

This Easter, rise up with hearts full of love and run to those who need to hear a story of hope and renewal. Rise up to be God's people! Happy Easter!

Blessings,
Pastor Karin

Uncommon Fellowship Small Groups

Join your Aldersgate family in small group fellowship.
Experience the grace, love and hope of our Lord through prayer and discussion.

Day	Time	Location	Leader
Sunday	10:15am	Jr. High Room	Cathy Standiford
Sunday	10:15am	Fireside Room	Marlin Clark
Tuesday	1:00pm	Church Library	Pastor Karin Ellis
Tuesday	6:30pm	Fergin Home	Mike Fergin
Friday	8:00am	Room 6	Men's Group

If you need prayers for yourself, a family member or a friend, you are invited to contact:

The Church Office
at (714) 544-3653.

All prayer requests are given to the pastors and office staff, who pray together weekly. Members of the prayer chain pray specifically for those who ask for prayers for themselves and/or others. If you are interested in becoming a member of the prayer chain, please contact the church office.

Let us support you in prayer!

GRIEF SHARE®

The next 13-week session of Grief Share begins on Sunday, April 15 at 2:30pm in the Church Library. Grief Share is designed to help anyone experiencing grief or loss in their life. Whether the loss is through death or some other life loss—job, home, or anything that causes grief, Grief Share can help with coping with the tenderness of that loss. The group is open to anyone who can use help caring for their loss.

Contact the Church Office at (714) 544-3653 or Admin@aumctustin.org for more information.

Prayer Shawl Ministry…

…meets on the **1st and 3rd** Wednesdays of each month **from 3pm to 5pm in the Fireside Room.** If you are interested in being part of this important and meaningful ministry, please feel free to attend a meeting—even if you have no experience, there are knitters and crocheters willing to help those that are just getting started. Please feel free to contact the church office if you have any questions or need further information about the group.

BeFriender Ministers

BEFRIENDER MINISTRY
A Listening Presence

The BeFriender ministry of Aldersgate is a listening presence. This ministry is not a ministry of "doing", but of "being,"--being present and listening quietly. Everyone is, at times, on a difficult journey and needs a caring companion who will listen, empathize, and be a reminder of a caring, faith community. All requests and meetings are confidential. This ministry comes under the umbrella of the Care and Nurture team. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be, do not hesitate to contact the church office.

Environmental Ministries

"Creation Sunday"---*Celebrate with Us!*

On December 24, 1968 the Apollo 8 astronauts (who were orbiting the moon) sent the first-ever photo of an "Earthrise" over the moon's surface. According to Space.com, "the majesty of the Earth rising above the moon" took the astronauts by surprise. During their public broadcast on Christmas Eve, they read from Genesis, "reciting the Biblical story of how Earth came to be".

This amazing photo showed humanity just how small, unique, and precious our planet is. In a time of growing concern about endangered species and air and water pollution, it helped to turn *caring for our planet* into a worldwide movement.

On April 22, 1970, *20 million Americans* across the country peacefully demonstrated in support of our environment—simply, the world around us—the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the plants and animals we share God's Creation with. This was **the first Earth Day**, and 48 years later, we're still celebrating—and caring.

The list of new legislation that happened that same year (and shortly after) is inspiring. On New Year's Day, 1970, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) was signed into law, followed by the establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency (1970), the Clean Air Act (1970), the Clean Water Act (1972), and the Endangered Species Act (1973).

Today, a new generation of young people is bringing excitement and commitment to the same concept of "caring for Creation". One of their biggest issues is climate change, because the effects of a changing climate will extend into the future—their future. And because climate change is affecting people's lives—especially the poorest—around the world.

Although there is still so much that needs to be done, *much progress has been made too,* since that amazing time *a half-century ago* when the Apollo 8 astronauts hurtled over the moon, and gazed in wonder as the Earth, our precious and only home, rose above the moon's horizon.

On Sunday, April 29, please join Environmental Ministries for "Creation Sunday", a special church service celebrating the Biblical directive to care for God's Creation. We hope you will be cheered and inspired by scripture, music, prayers, and messages that will celebrate our world—our wonderful gift from God. Our Youth may be involved too.

You are especially welcome to *join* our **Environmental Ministries** group. Our next meeting will be **Sunday, April 8 at 10:30 AM** in the **Senior High Room**. Snacks will be provided. We also have a number of outings planned, including a hike, a garden visit, whale watching, and more.

Sherri Miller, EM Chair

Eco-Alert

Have you noticed all the construction activity along Irvine Blvd.? Got stuck in traffic? Well, it's all for a good cause. It's the City of Tustin's "Median Landscape Rehabilitation Project". Due to the drought, the State of California is requiring reduced water use in street medians, so Tustin is complying by **replacing turf with drought-tolerant plants** and decorative pavers---and also installing water-efficient irrigation systems. So yes, it *is* a headache, and right outside our church entrance too! But soon the medians will be sporting attractive new landscaping---and saving water at the same time. Thank you Tustin! (*And thank you, Gary Stenberg, for your "alert meerkat" logo idea.)* Sherri Miller

Youth News!

Scott Wilmoth - Youth Director

Greetings!

The youth had a wonderful month of March together. We committed to a daily Lenten focus of giving a compliment a day #acomplimentaday, and it's been going well. We also had a weekly Lenten focus which included focusing on overcoming challenges, nature, service, and breaking bread. We went indoor rock climbing to help us overcome challenges, and we had a great time pushing our limits and encouraging each other. We went hiking on the Shrine Trail in Santiago Canyon to focus on nature, and we had Kristine Okereke come and share her Kindness Project for Girl Scouts on our night of service. We broke bread together and experienced the work of ZOE from Grace and Stella.

Our confirmation class is winding down. On Sunday April 8th we will confirm 7 youth in the United Methodist church! It has been a great process, and our youth and mentors have been amazing! It's incredible to watch God work through each of them as they grow in their faith and claim it as their own.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a butterfly for the release on Easter Sunday! Your contributions will be well used to help support our youth on their mission trips this summer. Our senior high youth are getting ready for their trip to Houston, and our junior high youth are getting ready to go to the Navajo Nation. God has truly blessed us, and we are thankful for all that God provides our youth and families.

Blessings,

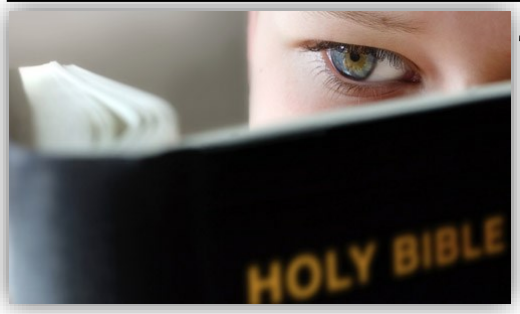
Scott Wilmoth, Youth Director

Family Ministries

Vacation Bible School

This year we venture onto an uncharted island where kids survive and thrive. The fun-filled week will anchor kids in the truth that Jesus carries them through life's storms.

Registration begins April 22 on the patio after worship. Register early—spots fill up fast, especially for our pre-k group!



THIRD GRADE BIBLE CLASS BEGINS

CALLING ALL THIRD GRADERS!

THIRD GRADE BIBLE CLASS BEGINS

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

DURING THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME IN THE LIBRARY.

Regular and committed participation is recommended for your young person to get the most out of this opportunity. A session schedule will be handed out at the first class.

Easter Flowers *Continued from Page 1*

Dick & Fay Behn—In memory of our children and grandchildren: Shanyn Behn, Kristen, Karl, Kayla, and Kendal Stuckenberg

The Bell Family— In Memory of Frank and Shirley Bell, beloved parents and grandparents

Ash and Sue Bishop—In Memory of Sue's brother, Bob Morgan

Jane and Dennis Bruckler—In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. John Bruckler and Mr. & Mrs. Lester McCorkle

Clarence Darrow—In Memory of Mary Jane Darrow

Mary DeBos—In Memory of Henry DeBos

Dolores Duckett—In Memory of Mom and Sis

Steven and Karin Ellis— In Honor of our beloved children, Abigail and Paul and our amazing AUMC Staff

Phyllis Gavitt—In Memory of family and In Honor of my three beautiful granddaughters, Erika, Megan, and Anna

Lily Goh—In Memory of Albert Goh

Bob and Nancy Grissinger—In Memory of our parents, Roy & Ruth Grissinger and Paul & Marian Eberhart

Jim and Cheryl Hartley—In Memory of Dorothy Hartley and In Honor of Marvella Fehling

Dennis and Nancy Joslyn—In Honor of our granddaughters, Samantha and Veronica Perez

Dave and Gail Kendall—In Memory of our parents, Dick & Sue Kendall and Tommy & Esther Thomas and In Honor of our daughters and their families: Kimberly & Cameron Jackson, Kennon and Callan and Rebecca & Alex Christiansen, Madeleine and Carter

Karl and Betty Anne Kreutziger—In Memory of Bette Edge, Betty Anne's mother and In Honor of Gulven & Bertha Kreutziger

Pat Lauderdale—In Memory of Dallis Lauderdale and In Honor of Grace & Irving Thomas

Dawn Marie Lemonds—In honor of my angels living and in heaven

Patty Miller—In Memory of Jack Miller

Sherri Miller—In Memory of my father, Jack Miller, and In Honor of my mother, Patty Miller

Don and Jackie Powell—In Memory of Bob & Nona Barnes and Ray & Jane Powell

Les Redpath—In Memory of Sheryl Redpath and In Honor of David and Keith Redpath

Barbara Rhodes and Cal Johnson—In Honor of our children and grandchildren

Cheri Siefen—In Memory of my mother, Tish Siefen, and grandmother, Margaret Smith

Mike and Carol Smith and Melanie Ackerman—In Memory of Jeanne Peterson

Marilyn Surbey—In Loving Memory of Wayne

The Tanikawa Family—In Memory of Roy & Jean Tanikawa, beloved parents and grandparents

Joan Truman—In Memory of Ron Truman and Kenny Ford

Todd and Cheryl Waterson—In Memory of Allan & Helen Waterson and William D. Pfleiderer

Bob and Karolyn Wells—In Memory of our parents and In Honor of Morgan Wells

Claire Westmore—In Memory of Jane Elliott and In Honor of my Family

Jeannie Powell Wright—In Memory of Patty Powell Yancer, Donald Powell and David Powell

Children's Center News!

Fundraiser: Please join us at **Pieology** located at The Market Place, 13786 Jamboree Road in Irvine, on **Monday, April 16th from 5:00pm-9:00pm.** We're looking forward to your joining us for another day of fun, fellowship, and great food! The Children's Center receives 20% of sales generated at this event.

Pieology didn't set out to create just another make-your-own pizza place. Pieology is here to feed our community, nourish creativity and bring people together. It's a bigger vision. One filled with love and purpose. For Pizza. People. Passion.

Simply present the **Pieology flyer** available at the Children's Center Office. See you there!

Thank you for your support at our monthly fundraisers held at local restaurants.

MISSION OUTREACH

Heartfelt

THANKS

A BIG thank-you to Marlin Clark for constructing a new Connection Center which made its debut Sunday, March 18. Marlin had planned to refurbish the original CC, but quickly realized that years of use had taken their toll, so he used his considerable woodworking talents to build a new one from scratch. Framed in solid oak, this Connection Center is built to last! Thank you Marlin!

Family Promise® of Orange County

Building Community, Strengthening Lives

Save the Dates!

2018 Family Promise Hosting Dates:

- Sunday, May 6 through Sunday, May 13, 2018
- Sunday, July 22, through Sunday, July 29, 2018—**please note the change of dates**
- Sunday, December 2, through Sunday, December 9, 2018

Look for information on signing up to volunteer in Sunday bulletins, newsletters and e-Connections or contact the church office.

The mission of Family Promise is to help homeless and low-income *families* achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response. Thank you for your commitment to this important outreach!

Manna Bags

Remember that manna bags are available to distribute to those who need assistance. You can pick them up in the Sanctuary or by the Connection Center on Sunday mornings or in the church office on weekdays during office hours.

In addition to sustenance, the bags also contain lists of other places that offer assistance, including a flyer for Sunday Suppers!

These are great to keep in your car for the occasions that you are out and about and may see someone that could benefit from a bag of food.

Opportunities and Events

JOY Ministries

(JOY = Just Older Youth: Opportunities for Senior and Retired Adults for fellowship, outreach, learning and spiritual formation)

Connecting Together…

Growing Together…Serving Together

Orange County Council on Aging

Guest Speaker: Lisa Jenkins

Program in Jr. High Room

Thursday, April 26, 2018

10:00 a.m.—Noon

For over 42 years, the Council on Aging-Orange County has been a trusted source of unbiased information and programs to more than 275,000 adults and families. Come and hear about the services and opportunities they provide.

For more information contact Nancy or Jack Murrieta, (714) 457-8461

REPORT FROM…

Sharing Our Stories (SOS)

On March 15, we had the privilege of hearing Betts Rivet tell her story about growing up in Florida, Wisconsin, and California. Betts began her life career as a PE teacher and continued to gain knowledge through a Master's Degree in Counseling and Guidance. She taught for 22 years in Santa Ana. She also is credentialed as a psychologist. After her children married and settled, Betts decided to see the world!

One job, in Germany, was with the Department of Defense. She managed to travel to 50 different countries. She decided to retire from the DOD and from there went to pursue a job at the Hwa Nan Women's College in China. While she agreed to teach at the college for one year, she actually stayed there 19 years, only coming home for two months each summer.

Betts shared some beautiful art pieces from her time in China as well as some awards. She received the Friendship Award in her province in 2001 and the Key to the City and a national Friendship Award in 2006. She was only one of three teachers to receive it.

Betts had much to tell us and, if you want to read about it for yourself, just ask Betts about purchasing her book: *Bits By Betts Shadows of My Footsteps.*

Opportunities and Events

Our **Thank Goodness It's Wednesday** night dinners are every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in providing a meal on a Wednesday, please contact Barbara Kuntz or the church office. All your expenses will be reimbursed.

Please join us for great food and fellowship! $5 per person and $15 maximum per family.

SPECIAL DATE!!

Elizabeth Circle is meeting on Monday, **APRIL 30** *(Yes, April!)* at 6:45pm in the Fellowship Hall. We are pleased to welcome a speaker from the Orangewood Lighthouse Project for Victims of Human Trafficking. This is an "all-church" event, so everyone is welcome. Our mission project for this month is collecting toiletries for Orangewood. Please join us.

Hope Circle will be going to The Ebell Club on Wednesday, April 18. Betts Rivet will take us on a tour of the facility and we will have refreshments. We will meet at the church at 9:30 AM and carpool from there. Hope you all can come.

This year the annual Women's Retreat will be held at Aldersgate on Saturday, April 21 from 9 AM- 4 PM. The theme will be *"Women in Mission."* We will spend the morning working on a mission activity/project, and then use the time in the afternoon to reflect on our mission. Lunch and snacks will be included. Look for the sign ups at the Connection Center on Sunday morning. If you have any questions, please talk with Pastor Karin or Kim Wilmoth.

New Member Class Scheduled

If you are interested in learning about membership in The United Methodist Church in general, or in membership at Aldersgate United Methodist Church specifically, plan on joining the New Member Class that will begin after worship on Sunday, April 15, upstairs in the Library. This 3-session series that will be on Sundays, April 15, 22, and May 6 (we skip April 29). Participating in the class is not a commitment to join. If you do choose to join, Reception of Members will be a part of the worship service on Sunday, May 20.

Mark Your Calendars:

Classes on Sundays, April 15, 22 and May 6. In the Library after worship.

Reception of Members in Worship, Sunday, May 20

ALDERSGATE
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www.aumctustin.org
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Sunday Schedule

* Worship at 9am *
* Childcare provided for infants & toddlers starting at 8:30am
Christian Education for children offered after Children's Moment in worship *

ALDERSGATE MOTTO

"We're Here for Good"

Purpose:

To welcome, accept and equip our community to share Christ's love in meaningful service.

We are guided by these principles:

- **Faith grounded in Scripture**
- **Spiritual Curiosity**
- **Gratitude**
- **Inclusion**
- **Meaningful Relationships**
- **Accountability**
- **Love and Grace**
- **Prayer**