ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

#590 **The GatePost** - The Monthly Newsletter of Aldersgate UMC May 1, 2018

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Mark Your Calendar to Celebrate Pastor Karin, Steven, Abby & Paul

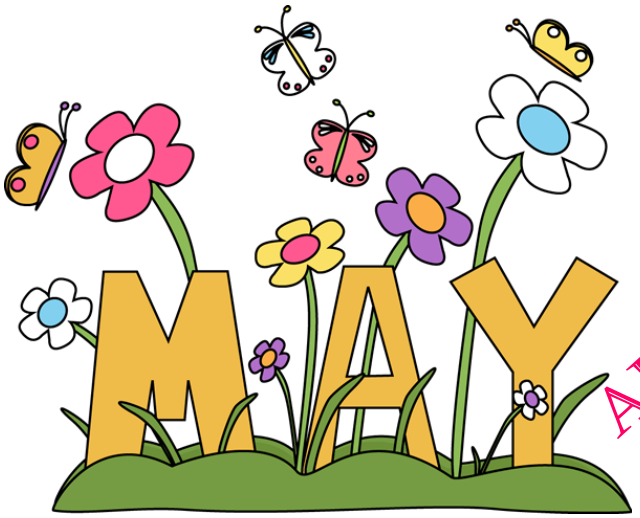
SATURDAY, JUNE 9

5-7:00 P.M.

FELLOWSHIP HALL & PATIO

Watch for Details. Sign-ups begin Sunday, May 6.

Linda Symonds for SPRC



at ALDERSGATE

SUNDAY, MAY 6 - 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Lydia

Worship at 9am

~ Food Collection for Families Forward ~

Registration for Family Camp begins

SUNDAY, MAY 13 - 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Paul and Silas

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

SUNDAY, MAY 20 - DAY OF PENTECOST

Pentecost

Worship at 9am

Receive New Members in Worship

~ Food Collection for Sunday Supper ~

VBS Volunteer Fair

Environmental Ministries after Worship in the Library

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

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

SUNDAY, MAY 27– FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Shipwrecked

Worship at 9am

Family Camp @ Lazy W Ranch

Ministerial Staff:

Rev. Ken Suhr—*Senior Pastor*
RevKen@aumctustin.org
Rev. Karin Ellis—*Associate Pastor*
RevKarin@aumctustin.org

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Aldersgate Children's Center

Jackie Kush — *Children's Center Director*
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E-mail: newsletter@aumctustin.org
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Next Issue *MAILED* Friday, June 1

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.

Pastoral Change at Aldersgate: As recently shared in worship, our church will be experiencing Pastoral Change this summer. To ensure that everyone has the same information, the letters and comments that were shared in worship are printed here. On this page is the letter our congregation received from our District Superintendent, Rev. John Farley, announcing the change. On the following page are personal remarks from Pastor Karin, Pastor Ken, and an introduction of our new incoming pastor and his family.

South District

California-Pacific Conference

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. John Farley
District Superintendent

Bishop Grant Hagiya
Resident Bishop

April 12, 2018

Mr. Don Rohrbaugh SPRC Chair
Aldersgate United Methodist Church
1201 Irvine Blvd.
Tustin, CA 92780

Dear Don and the Congregation of Aldersgate UMC,

On behalf of Bishop Grant Hagiya and his Cabinet, I share with you that after much prayer and consultation, it is Bishop Grant Hagiya's intent to appoint the Rev. Karin Ellis to a full time local pastorate beginning July 1, 2018. Pastor Karin has served Tustin Aldersgate well in the years she has been appointed to you and we know you and she will grieve this move. That said, we as a Cabinet so affirm her gifts for ministry and her call to lead a local congregation, that we feel she is needed in the role of lead pastor. Pastor Karin will be introduced to her new congregation in the coming week. We ask you to hold her and her family in prayer as she moves to full time ministry as a lead pastor of her new local church.

In addition, the Bishop and Cabinet have discerned a new pastor to come to Aldersgate to join in team ministry with Rev. Ken Suhr. The Rev. Timothy Ellington has been discerned to serve as your new pastor in partnership effective July 1, 2018. Pastor Tim is a gifted and experienced pastor who has served for a number of years in the California-Pacific Conference. Pastor Tim is a spirit-filled leader and preacher with a rich experience in worship, music, young people's ministry, discipleship and stewardship. As a church leader and developer, he is uniquely gifted to partner with Pastor Ken to lead Aldersgate United Methodist Church into an era of vibrant growth. Pastor Tim will work together with Pastor Ken and your lay leadership for a smooth and effective ministry transition as Pastor Karin also moves to a new appointment.

On behalf of our Bishop, I thank you for your faithfulness, and ask you to hold these three fine pastors and their families in your prayers during this time of change.

In ministry together,

Rev. John Farley
South District Superintendent

JF/sn

From Pastor Karin: April 16, 2018

To my church family,
It was announced on Sunday, April 15, that I will be moving to a new church beginning July 1, 2018. These are the words I shared in worship, and I share them now with you:

As United Methodist clergy, we agree to the itinerant system, which means every year the Bishop appoints us to a church. For the last 8 ½ years I have had the honor to be appointed to Aldersgate UMC. This is a great congregation and an amazing staff- Pastor Ken and the staff are not only colleagues in ministry, but they are family to me.

You need to know this move comes at my request. I have learned a lot here, and Steven and I could not have asked for a better church family for our children. For a while now, I have felt God calling me to something else, to spread my wings, to tell God's story in a new way. So, it is time to move.

During this Easter season, we are reminded that change and new life are good things, they are God things. But it is not easy. So, I ask that you continue to keep me, Steven, Abby, and Paul in your prayers during this time of transition. And if you see tears from us, please know they are not tears of regret, but tears of extreme gratitude, for we are so grateful for all the love, support, and kindness you have shared with us. I am forever grateful for your love and prayers!

Blessings, *Pastor Karin*

From Pastor Ken:

What a blessing it has been to have had Pastor Karin, Steven, Abby, and Paul in the life of our Aldersgate family for the last nine years! As many of you know, Pastor Karin and I went through "pastoral residency" together, and we were ordained Elders together at the turn of the century :).

As she and her family prepare to go bless another church family and community, I will always be grateful that she stayed an extra two years at Aldersgate to help our church family, me, and my family start a new chapter together. These past two years of serving with Pastor Karin have been inspiring, heartfelt, meaningful, joyful, and filled with hopeful possibilities, and I know that she and her family will bring the same blessings to their new church and community. Let us spend our remaining time together giving thanks and praying for even greater things in the next chapter.

On July 1, our Aldergsate family will welcome a new pastor, Rev. Tim Ellington. Pastor Tim and his family have been a blessing to every church they have served, and he has been a caring and inspiring colleague to me for many years. I am confident that God is going to use his gifts to carry on and increase the impact of our Aldersgate family in Tustin, surrounding communities, and beyond. May God be glorified in these upcoming transitions, and may more people experience God's kingdom here on earth in the days to come.

Ever grateful and hopeful, Pastor Ken

Intro of Pastor Tim and Family:

Pastor Tim grew up in Seattle, WA, where his father served as a United Methodist pastor, and moved to Pasadena, CA while in high school. He graduated from Occidental College in Los Angeles in 1991 and then worked in campus ministry for five years. Tim graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena in 2001 and since that time has served churches in Los Angeles, San Diego and Kailua, HI.

Tim has been married since 1997. His wife Cindy is a Marriage and Family Therapist. Their two sons are Micah, 13, and Daniel, 11. Tim loves teaching and equipping people to be a part of what God is doing in the world. He is passionate about making disciples who make disciples. He also loves 80's music and Seattle sports teams, especially the Washington Huskies.

The Ellington Family

Cindy, Micah, Daniel and Tim

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®

Grief Share meets on Sundays 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 (714) 544-3653.

Youth News!

Scott Wilmoth - Youth Director

Greetings Everyone!

We had an incredible April starting with Easter Sunday! What an amazing day of worship glorifying our risen Christ! We released over 200 butterflies, and thanks to those of you who purchased a butterfly to support the youth. He is risen indeed!

The following Sunday was Confirmation Sunday, and we confirmed seven youth as members of the church! Congratulations to Olivia Falchetti, Stella Fergin, Jared Davis, Braden Suhr, Kreeley Wilmoth, Carys Mulligan, and Abby Ellis! You are a blessing! Thank you to their families for all their support and love, and thank you to the mentors for guiding them through the process. Thank you to Courtney Hunter for volunteering her time to help Pastor Karin and me teach class each week.

Pastor Karin and I met with the three graduating seniors to begin planning for Youth Sunday! We came up with a theme, scriptures, songs, and a shirt design. We will reveal all of those on Sunday, April 29th in the evening during youth. Thank you Chris Bell, Toby Suhr, and Kristine Okereke for the time, dedication, and love you have shown our youth over the years. Youth Sunday is going to be another great worship service, and it will be on June 3rd at 9 a.m. Mark your calendars because you won't want to miss it.

We have many amazing things planned for the summer! Our mission trips to Houston and Tsaile, summer camps at Lazy W, and VBS are going to be ways we can continue to grow in our relationship with God and with each other. Thank you all for your love and support. Amen!

Blessings,

Scott Wilmoth

Youth Director

It only take a spark to get a fire going, …

That's how it is with God's love…

Family Ministries

VBS Volunteers Needed too!

Volunteer Fair in Fellowship Hall on Sunday May 20! Sign up to be a Baker, group leader, craft leader, helper, set decorator, or set builder. Stop by to see how you can help!

Vacation Bible School

June 25-29, 2018

9:00 a.m.—noon

This year we venture onto an uncharted island where kids aged 3 years who are potty trained through 5th grade in the fall survive and thrive. The fun-filled week will anchor kids in the truth that Jesus carries them through life's storms.

VBS Registration now open. Costs are $40 per child, Max of $100 per family of 3 or more children. Fees include a t-shirt for each child and a re-usable tote bag. An optional CD of music for the week is available for an additional $5. Register early—classes fill up quickly, especially for our pre-k group!

Registration forms available in the church office and ON-LINE! Download a PDF of the form or follow the link on the church website: www.aumctustin.org.

FAMILY CAMP 2018!

May 26-28

Once again our church family will head to Lazy W Ranch for a fun filled weekend of camping and fellowship together. The dates for this year are Memorial Day Weekend, **May 26-28**. You are invited to come for the whole weekend, or a day visit.

Activities will include hiking, swimming, resting, board games, eating, singing, and the ever popular campfire and s'mores! There will also be time to worship together in God's beautiful creation. Sign-ups will begin on Sunday, May 6 on the patio after worship.

The campout is held at the tent camping site at Lazy W Ranch, so you will want to bring your tent, sleeping bags, and all personal items. The road back to the site is NOT able to accommodate any motorhome type vehicles. Meal supplies are purchased as a group, but you will be invited to bring snacks to share. You will receive more details at the sign-up table. See you at camp!

Environmental Ministries

Electric Cars in Your Future!

In 2011, my sister Kathy photographed our wonderful dad, Jack Miller (in the hat), attending the Grand Opening of the *first electric vehicle (EV) plug-in parking facilities* in Laguna Beach. Jack loved learning about science and technology---and the future.

A devoted member of Aldersgate for fifty years, Dad was concerned about *any* threats to God's Creation---including climate change and air pollution. He knew EVs could help combat both.

In the past, car buyers were reluctant to purchase EVs, due mainly to worries about batteries and range. But by 2011, more EVs were on the road---notably the Nissan Leaf, introduced to the U.S. in December 2010. I remember Reed Tibbetts saying he got to sit in a Leaf prototype for a picture, when it first came to Orange County.

Now, thanks to worldwide concern about climate change and air pollution, just about *all* the major auto manufacturers are producing electric and/or hybrid cars---with more coming out over the next few years. Here are just a few examples:

Tesla has gone far in changing the image of EVs from novelty to "must-have cool".
Nissan continues producing the **Leaf**.
Volvo plans to sell *only* EVs and hybrids by *next year*---2019.
Chevrolet's Volt hybrid began selling in December 2010; their all-electric **Bolt** in 2016.
Toyota has been selling its **Prius** hybrid in the U.S. since 2000---almost two decades!
Ford, which produced the gasoline-powered **Model T** over a hundred years ago…this is pretty amazing: Ford executive Raj Nair said (regarding their line of EV and hybrid models), **"We believe man-made CO2 is contributing to climate change, and we've got our part to play."** *Wow!* Their **Mach 1**, an electric SUV, will arrive in 2020.

I'm still driving a 2004 Corolla. But whenever I can afford it, I hope to buy an electric car myself. In the meantime, maybe I can talk my mother, Patty, into buying one. She would look great zooming around town in a *red* one---just like in the photo.

Environmental Ministries hopes you enjoyed our special "**Creation Sunday"** service on April 29. Many thanks to Pastor Karin and everyone involved.

You are *welcome* to join **EM.** Our next meeting will be **Sunday, May 20 at 10:30 AM** in the **Senior High Room**.

Sherri Miller, Chair
Environmental Ministries

MISSION OUTREACH

HOST WEEK—MAY 6-13 Our next Host Week for Family Promise Clients begins Sunday afternoon, May 6 and runs through Sunday morning, May 13.

There are still plenty of opportunities for you to volunteer to help. Copy and paste the following link to see how you can participate in this community ministry of welcoming and relationship with those seeking to care for themselves and their families:

https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2294950/false?popup=true#/invitation

Sunday Supper Report

(Sunday Supper is supported by proceeds from Fall Fest, your donations, and the loving labor of our volunteers.)

Thank you to our youth who volunteered on April 15. It is always a joy to serve side-by-side with the youth of our church.

Sunday Supper has served thousands of weekly meals over the last seven years. Participants are seniors, families with children, men and women who live on the streets. The people we serve live on a limited income and their lives are complicated. They know that for a few hours each Sunday they will be served a delicious meal and treated with respect. There are no eligibility or ID requirements.

In addition to supper, guests may select from a variety of take home groceries and hygiene items. Our once-a-week meal and grocery market distribution seeks to support those families and individuals who do not have enough to eat.

Food for the grocery market comes from Second Harvest Food Bank, Sprouts donations, Food Access Network (produce donated by farmers and gardeners), and members of our congregation.

When: *Every third Sunday at 5:30 p.m.* Aldersgate UMC hosts dinner. Our partner congregations host on the other Sundays. **Next AUMC date: May 20**

Volunteers: Over 35 volunteers prepare and serve supper each time. New volunteers are always welcome! Youth must be 13 or older. Contact: The Church Office (714-544-3653).

Grocery donations needed: We especially need canned tuna or chicken; small pop-top ready meals like Spaghettios, ravioli, beef stew; and small boxed juices. We collect groceries on the third Sunday of each month in front of the sanctuary.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

The Mulligan family volunteered together on April 15. While Greg, dad and chef, was cooking in the kitchen, mom Debbie and kids Sawyer, Grace and Carys helped with setup – stocking the grocery line, setting the tables, organizing the beverage table, snapping green beans, and serving drinks to our early guests. "*Fathers (and mothers), do not exasperate your children; instead bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4* Thank you Mulligans!

Opportunities and Events

Sharing Our Stories (SOS) with Mariam Corbett

We will meet in the Fireside Room at 10:00 AM on Thursday, May 17. Mariam Corbett will be with us and plans to share her childhood experiences and Methodist history.

Did you know she was in Oklahoma City the day it was bombed? Come find out more.

Mariam has stories to tell about various careers including when she was the national resource for IBM in Denver, the US Representative for an international project, and leader of a project in Beijing for the largest bank of China.

This is just a glimpse. Please plan to join us on the 17th as we welcome Mariam!!

Children's Center News!

May Fundraiser:

Ruby's Diner "Fun" Raiser! Join our Aldersgate Family for an all-day event at the Ruby's Diner located at 13102 Newport Ave., Tustin (714)838-7829 on **Thursday, May 17th from 11am-9pm.** The Children's Center receives 20% of sales generated by Aldersgate. Simply present the **Ruby's Diner** flyer available at the Children's Center Office. See you there!

Thank you for your support at our monthly fundraisers

Staff Appreciation

The Children's Center Advisory Board invites you to join them in honoring the Children's Center Staff during the week of May 7-11. Each day is made special with breakfast treats or lunch or games with prizes, etc. We are truly blessed to have such loving and dedicated staff caring for God's precious children enrolled at our Center. Sincere thanks to the entire Children's Center Staff! You are wonderful!

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

Church Council Corner

Special Called Charge Conference Announced
Church Council Meeting, following
May 8, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

Our regularly scheduled Church Council meeting of May 8, 2018 is being called as a Special Charge Conference following permission granted by the South District Superintendent, Rev. John Farley. The purpose of the Special Charge Conference portion of the meeting is to address and approve the compensation package for Rev. Tim Ellington whose appointment to us will commence on July 1, 2018. The increased expense for having a second full-time pastor will be partially offset by a grant from the California-Pacific Conference and the South District of The United Methodist Church.

Following this item of business, the Special Charge Conference will adjourn, and the regular Church Council meeting will be called to order. Items of business for the Church Council meeting include an update on our overall financial condition (which looks good through March!), and planning for our wonderful and varied ministries through summer and into fall.

We also expect to hear from the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) on preliminary plans to celebrate the ministry of Pastor Karin and her family before they depart for her new appointment. If you would like more information about the Church Council, who serves on it, and what we do, please contact Cathy Standiford, Church Council Chair, or one of the pastors.

Elizabeth Circle

Elizabeth Circle in June!

Elizabeth Circle's last meeting before our summer hiatus will be *Rejoicing in Books* on Monday, June 4th. Every year we share a few of our favorite books from the past year. We will each submit a written list with a synopsis of each book, then tell the group about 2 or 3 of the books. Some people bring books that they have finished and want to pass on to someone else. Join us for a potluck (A-K Dessert, L-V Salad, W-Z Bread) at Lynn Records' home. We begin at 6:45. Lynn will be the leader and Barbara Rhodes will lead devotions.

Hope Circle

WHEN: Wednesday, May 16, 9:30 AM
WHERE: Fireside Room

Rev. Karin Ellis will present our program. *"Time with Pastor Karin"*. You won't want to miss it! Hope to see you there.

Environmental Ministries: Nature Hike - May 5

On Saturday, May 5, the Environmental Ministries team is hosting an interpretive nature hike in Santiago Oaks Regional Park. ***You are welcome to join us.***

Meet at Aldersgate at 9:15 AM. Carpool or go in your own car (especially if you want to stay at the park after the hike).
We will leave the church at 9:30, and gather at the far (east) end of the main parking lot of Santiago Oaks Regional Park about **10:00**.
Park address: 2145 N. Windes Drive, Orange.
Cost: $5.00 per car---pay at park entrance.

Easy-to-moderate hike will last from one to 1 1/2 hours. You may stay with the group the whole time, or head out on your own.
Suggested: bring a hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, water, and camera---and wear comfortable, sturdy, enclosed shoes.
Dogs are allowed---but must be on a leash. (Be courteous to horseback riders and other hikers.)
Restrooms and a drinking fountain are available.

Much of this beautiful park was **blackened** by the **October wildfire**. The park is desperately in need of "healing, restoration, and new life" (good words lifted from the April "Karin's Quotes"). We will be looking for signs that winter rains have helped to nurture "new life"---animals, birds, and plants---in celebration of the church's ongoing Easter Season, a time of rebirth and renewal, for ourselves and for God's Creation.

Creeds by the 2018 Confirmation Class

CREED
by Abby Ellis

Jesus sacrificed his life for our sins.
Jesus is unconditional love.
He is God's Son who was sent down on Earth
to teach us about God.

God is the creator of humans and life itself.
He protects us and is always willing to forgive us no matter what.
God is a father that we can't see, but will be here for us no matter what.

The Holy Spirit is the wind of Christ that guides us to God, Jesus, and the church.
The Holy Spirit tells us what is right and leads us away from the devil.
The Holy Spirit helps us feel closer to God when we pray, sing, worship, cry, and feel alone.

The church is a place where you can find people who care about God and also care about you.
The church helps us pray more to God and feel more connected to him.
The church challenges your faith about God, and is where you will be taught about faith, and welcomed by the family of God.

We are the hands, feet, and body of God and Jesus.
Amen.

CREED
by Braden Suhr

I believe God the Father is the Creator of me.
I am blessed to have two fathers,
one who cares for me in the physical world,
and one who cares for me
in the spiritual world.

I believe Christ the Son died on the cross to save our sins and bring joy to the world.

I believe that Christ performed miracles to show His Divinity but not to show off.

I believe God sent Christ to earth to bring His people together.

I believe the Holy Spirit is still on earth and dwells in our soul even though we don't see it.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is always with me and comforts me like my mother's hug.

I believe my church is a community that worships Jesus and acts as my second family.

I believe God loves me and
God loves each of you. Amen.

CREED
by Carys Mulligan

I believe God has a plan for us all;
everything happens for a reason.
I believe God hears our prayers and watches over us.
I believe God came to the Earth through his Son, Jesus Christ, who was born from the Virgin Mary.

I believe Jesus has done many miracles and changed countless people's lives.
I believe Jesus sacrificed himself to save us from our sins, and ourselves.
I believe Jesus came to this world to save and protect our souls.

I believe the Holy Spirit is God on Earth, guiding us to do good in this world.

I grew up in this church and it is like my second home.
I am the hands and feet of Christ.
I believe we were created to be the church, united and together.
I believe these things have shaped me into the person I am today.
Amen.

CREED
by Jared Davis

I believe in the Holy Father even though I may not always understand his ways.
I believe that I am here to grow my faith and trust in the Lord.
I believe that our Father is forgiving.
He is the creator, and is always there for you in the darkest times and
in the roughest storms.

I believe he gave his Son to sacrifice himself for us.
I believe that Jesus is sacrificial,
the Son of God, and our salvation.
He empowers us and gave us the power to be the hands and feet of God.
This church has helped me be the person I am today.
It's like a second home for me.
Our congregation is devoted, welcoming, loving, and accepting.

I believe that the Holy Spirit influences all of us to do the right thing, and if we ever begin to follow the wrong path, he's right there to help us find our way.
Amen.

Creeds by the 2018 Confirmation Class

CREED
by Kreeley Wilmoth

I believe in God, our Savior, our caring,
giving Father.

I believe in the Lord's Son, Jesus Christ,
who sacrificed himself for us.
He was selfless. He was forgiving.
He was the Son of God.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the feeling of God in a single moment,
the presence of Him,
the forgiveness of sins.

The church is our second home and safe place.
The church is our sanctuary.

I believe God is always with us. Amen.

CREED
by Olivia Falchetti

I believe in God because the first thing that comes to my mind when I hear his name is the reference, "Creator of all."
I believe that God gives us unconditional love even when we sin.
I believe He owns all peace and love on earth.
He is always present, even when we are in doubt.

I believe in Jesus who unselfishly sacrificed his life for us.
He was born the same way as us to a virgin named Mary.
He was crucified, died, and buried in a tomb.
On the third day, Jesus resurrected and rose from the dead.
Following his resurrection, he went to heaven.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is hard to grasp and understand.
I don't know if it talks to me and directs my thoughts, or simply affects them.
I also have no visual, or clear image, of the Holy Spirit.
It is very mysterious to me.

I believe that the church is my family.
I feel safe among the people there, and comfortable doing things out of the norm.
It is a place where I can learn about my faith in a very accepting and welcoming area.
The church is everything to me.
Amen.

CREED
by Stella Fergin

I believe that we are all here for a reason.
I believe that God made me for a purpose.
I believe that God is the painter of our picture.
I believe that we have to trust that he will take care of us and forgive us.
I believe that He will always show us unconditional love.

I believe in Jesus our Savior, God in flesh, brother, father, and friend.
He surrounds everyone in his grace.
I picture him knocking on everyone's door and asking, "How are you doing?"
He is a teacher to all.

I believe the Holy Spirit is in things we can't see.
It rolls like the ocean.
I believe that it has the ability to move us through our problems.
I believe that it is the source that is always available when we need it.
It keeps us from slipping, just like our shoes.

I believe that church is everyone around the dinner table.
It is home.
I believe that it is a place where we can go to for help, ask questions, and serve.
Church is love.

I believe that the pieces of God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the church are all connected for a purpose.

Amen.

ALDERSGATE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1201 Irvine Boulevard * Tustin CA 92780

Phone: 714.544.3653 Fax: 714.544.8894
E-mail: admin@aumctustin.org
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**