ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

#604 **The GatePost** - The Monthly Newsletter of Aldersgate UMC July/August 2019

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Sunday, July 7
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon: *"Waking a Friend at Midnight"*
Communion
Food Collection for Families Forward
New Worship Service Preview #3
New time, new place, new style…
For new people
11:00 a.m. —Fellowship Hall

Sunday, July 14
Family Worship at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon:
"Does Prayer Change God's Mind?"
Children ages 4th grade & up
Remain in worship with their families
Food Collection for Sunday Supper
Family Ministries, 10:30 a.m., Library

Sunday, July 21
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon: *"Simple Prayer"*
Family Promise Move-In
Sunday Supper—5:30 p.m. Aldersgate Serving!

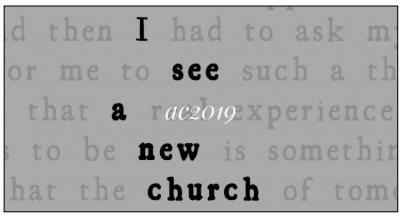
Sunday, July 28
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon: *"Never Give Up"*

Sunday, August 4
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon: *"A Life Well-Lived, Part 1"*
Communion
Food Collection for Families Forward
New Worship Service Preview #4
New time, new place, new style…
For new people
11:00 a.m. —Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 11
Family Worship at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon: *"A Life Well-Lived, Part 2"*
Children ages 4th grade & up
Remain in worship with their families
Food Collection for Sunday Supper
Family Ministries, 10:30 a.m., Library

Sunday, August 18
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon: *"A Life Well-Lived, Part 3"*
Sunday Supper—5:30 p.m. Aldersgate Serving!

Sunday, August 25
Worship Service at 9:00 a.m.
Sermon: *"A Life Well-Lived, Part 4"*
Environmental Ministries, 10:30 a.m., Sr. High



California-Pacific Annual 2019 Conference

The Annual Conference was held at the University of Redlands on June 13-15. Aldersgate was represented by Lay Members Judy Dickinson, Jack Murrieta, and Dave and Gail Kendall, as well as our pastors, Rev. Ken and Rev. Tim. You can find a complete report of the actions of the Annual Conference as well as videos of sermons and special services at calpacumc.org.

Pastor Ken's Connection

Happy summer, family and friends of Aldersgate! I pray that your summer has started off well with the blessings of special celebrations with loved ones, intimate moments with our God, and enjoyable connections with new people through various gatherings. As we close out the first half of 2019 and start the second half of the year, I thank God for all that has been happening in and through the lives and ministries of our church family. Our ministries with seniors, children, youth, women, and men, inside and outside the walls of our church continue to fill my heart with gratitude, praise, and hope. It gives me great joy to see people making genuine ***connections*** with God and others, ***growing*** and taking steps of faith forward, and ***serving*** others with genuine love.

Now, as we head into the heart of summer, I do hope that you are able turn down the dial on rush and achievement, and turn up the dial on the most important relationships in your life… with God, family, and friends. Personally, I look forward to spending time with Jesus as the sun comes up, and spending time with Sunnie and the boys outside as the sun slowly sets.

But as we make plans for July and August, I want to remind us that summer not only provides opportunities to go deeper in our relationships with Christ and loved ones, but it also provides special opportunities to go farther for Christ. What does going farther for Christ mean? Do we have to get on a plane and travel to a distant land? Absolutely not. Of course, for a few of our mission teams, it will entail traveling a good distance. However, going farther for Christ is about going beyond our comfort zones, getting out of our internally focused routines, and reaching out to others who may need a word of encouragement, a word of hope, a word of guidance, or a tangible reminder that God sees them and loves them.

Going farther for Christ is remembering all that Jesus Christ did to extend God's love and help in our life… because He was more concerned about us than He was about Himself. Going farther for Christ is simply putting faith into action and doing what we know may help someone… instead of thinking about how uncomfortable it may make us feel.

Going farther for Christ could simply be going across the street, going regularly to a coffee shop and talking to the "regulars" there, calling someone, writing a letter, making time to help someone with a task, asking someone "How are you really doing?," preparing a meal, … and through these avenues, reminding people of God's eternal love for them.

I'm still figuring out personal and family plans on going farther for Christ this summer… but let me ask you, "Where are you going to go? Who are you going to go to? What can you do to help someone in need?" Remember, it doesn't have to be "extraordinary"… because any act of love that denies oneself for the sake of another is already extraordinary.

Aldersgate family, may you have a relationship-rich, extraordinary summer! May you put your faith into action, go farther for Christ, and feel the joy of experiencing God's presence in deeper and more intimate ways as we do.

"God is looking for people who are willing to participate in acts of love and kindness to those outside of their present circle. He is looking for people who believe that a humble demonstration of love plants a seed of eternity in the hearts of others that will blossom into faith in Christ."

-Steve Sjogren

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

-Matthew 25:40

In God's reaching and life-changing love,

Pastor Ken

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!

GRIEFSHARE®

Grief Share meets each Sunday at 2:30pm in the Church Library. It 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 (714) 544-3653 for more information.

Prayer Shawl Ministry... meets on the **1st and 3rd** Wednesdays of each month **from 3pm to 5pm in the Junior High 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 just getting started. Please feel free to contact the church office if you have any questions or need further information about the group.

BeFriender—Listening Presence

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. At times, everyone can be 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.

Greetings!

We had another incredible Youth Sunday worship service on June 2nd! Our youth did an amazing job singing, dancing, reading, preaching, playing, acolyting, and everything else! The youth always do an incredible job sharing their stories of their faith, and our theme of "Stay Connected" is one that we all need to remember as we are all connected through the love of God and Christ.

Congratulations to our graduates: Mya Chahbazian, Anthony Genova, Pierson Anderson, Caleb Suhr, Sawyer Mulligan, Bryce Tanikawa, Ryan Smith, and Aidan Caporicci. They served God and the church in many ways, and we thank them for their time, love, and dedication. We wish them well, and know that their faith is deep as they continue their next step in life.

We welcome our incoming sixth graders: Josiah Suhr, Rebecca Davis, K'Sena Eve Jenkins, Jayson Lee, and Vianne Williams. We are looking forward to having you in the youth group! Thank you to all our incredible parents for all of their love and support throughout the year. We love you! Thank you to the Magers for hosting our post Youth Sunday pool party! We had an incredible time swimming, eating, and being in fellowship together!

The month of July consists of mission trips and camps. Our Junior High mission trip team goes to Smith River, California, and our Senior High team goes to Houston, Texas to be the hands of Christ to those in need in those areas. Thank you to Jeanie Dreyer for organizing the Junior High trip. Thank you to Jeremy Davis, Rich Mager, Chris Bell, Debbie Mulligan, Terri Rhodes, Tom Conklin, Chia-Ying Wang, and Keith Kuntz for going on our mission trips with our youth this summer.

Our summer camps will be at Lazy W Ranch with Elementary Camp during the week of July 7th, Junior High Camp during the week of July 15th, and Senior High Camp during the week of July 22nd.

We have a great summer planned, and there will be pictures in the end of summer Gatepost. Thank you for your constant love and support of our youth.

Blessings,

Scott Wilmoth
Director of Youth Ministries

Family Ministries

Kim Wilmoth, Family Ministries Director

A BIG SHOUT OUT to all who helped make VBS an amazing week! It was a spirit filled time where we all had the chance to grow and learn more about our amazing God.
We learned that…..

When life is unfair…..God is Good.
When life is scary…..God is Good.
When life changes….God is Good.
When life is sad….God is Good.
When life is good….God is Good.

With 97 kids enrolled in VBS, our campus was alive and thriving, but it could not have happened with out a HUGE number of volunteers!

THANK YOU to **Sunnie Suhr** for amazing music and willingness to jump in wherever needed! **Sahra Tanikawa** for being in charge of snacks and for organizing and running an amazing Junior Crew program (which had 18 participants) for our young youth leaders…**Rev. Tim and Rev. Ken** for sharing the Bible story with us everyday in fun and memorable ways….**Sue Conklin and Jackie Powell** for fun and creative crafts….. **Dennis Joslyn and Jack Murrieta** for a successful Wednesday BBQ (We had a lot of people!)….**Jim Hartley** for building a great re-usable frame for the backdrop…..**Carrie Balmages** for jumping into the KidVid station and doing a great job….**Zela Chahbazian** for taking on the preschool program and all the littles…..Safari **Scott Wilmoth** for ALL you do: picture taking, closing

To Stella Fergin, Rev. Ken and Braden Suhr for jumping in and doing all our AV! You guys did a FANTASTIC job!

To ALL who worked in the staff lounge and provided a great break room with yummy treats….Nancy Joslyn (the fearless organizer), Phyllis Gavitt, Kathleen Klein, Gloria Henderson (thank you for filling in on Tuesday and Thursday), Joyce Rohrbaugh, Fay Behn, Anna Marie Pihl

To ALL the GROUP LEADERS and HELPERS: Debbie Gara, Carys Mulligan, Olivia Falchetti, Veronica Perez, Kreeley Wilmoth, Jillian Genova, Braden Suhr, Amber Dulebohn, Kiley Wong, Eva Chahbazian, Grace Conklin, Stella Fergin, Eva Ro, Kristin Zink, Lesley Warren, Charlotte Mager, Micah Ellington, Mya Chahbazian, Mari Rhodes, Garrett Wilmoth, Jared Davis, Lizzy Henderson, Riley Waterson, Mekhiya Montoya, Niki Mason, Carol Smith, Dina Harris, Melanie Ackerman, Kayla Stuckenberg, Fay Behn, Jenny Bourgeois, Barbara Bishop, Bryce Fleming, Kristel Schwartz, Carolyn Watkins, Nicole Zerkel, Sophie Kwon

To ALL the JUNIOR CREW Leaders: Sahra Tanikawa, Ann Falchetti, Cindy Ellington
To THE JUNIOR CREW: Ali Cardona, Bella Chase, Sienna Chase, Anna Craig, Rebecca Davis, Daniel Ellington, Gabriella Falchetti, Jaxson Gomez, Matthew Henderson, Cloe Jaimes, Matthew Kim, Danica Peterson, Josiah Suhr, Vianne Williams, K'Sena Eve Jenkins, Sienna Morgan, Jack McCroskey, Olivia Rhodes

To the MISSIONS Crew: Ron Alderson and Don Bourgeois…who counted all the mission money.

To the CRAFTS CREW: Chris Alderson, Kim Myers, Jeannie Wright, Opal Richardson, Anna Marie Pihl

To the GAMES Crew: Chris Bell, Toby Suhr, Caleb Suhr, Baden Tanikawa, Pierson Anderson, Rick Watkins, Devin Anderson

To the DRAMA crew: Sienna Lee, Bella Williams, Zoe Caagoy

To all the BAKERS and people who brought delicious treats to support all the volunteers!

To Jack Jakubowski for making the tree!

To Gavin Wilmoth, thanks for being a trouper and helping in KidVid and helping behind the scenes!

AND to all who prayed for VBS…….

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL!

During the summer months, we have a combined Sunday School class called, Circle of Friends. We meet in the PURPLE room in the Children's Center. This class is for all children entered first grade in the fall through entering 5th grade in the fall. Our preschool and nursery classes remain the same.

We are still in need of teachers… If you would like to teach Sunday (just one) this summer, please let Kim know. (families@aumctustin.org)

Environmental Ministries

A Heartfelt Tribute to Norm Henke

By Sherri Miller and all his friends in Environmental Ministries

Recently our Aldersgate family, including Environmental Ministries, was saddened to hear that Norm Henke is in hospice care.

What a great guy! A loving husband and a caring father and grandfather, Norm has always been a big supporter of Environmental Ministries, which was founded by his wife Margaret as a way to "care for God's Creation".

Norm is an engineer by profession, and he has put his vast knowledge to use in many ways. A few years ago, he bought an electric car and managed to power both the car AND his entire house using solar energy from panels on the roof! (*Zero* emissions!)

At the time Norm and Margaret had to leave their beloved Aldersgate and move to Georgia, he was doing research on solar panel companies, to assist AUMC in a future project to add solar panels to our church buildings.

Norm was *always* very active at Aldersgate. He was on the staff of the church for 20 years. He served as Finance Chair and Lay Leader, and led the Men's group — to name just a few of the many things he was involved in.

Norm was also on the Board of the Children's Center, and volunteered there. He enjoyed reading books to the kids, and got a kick out of bringing things for "show and tell" — including his *cat* (that must have been a BIG hit), plants and flowers from his yard, insects, and seashells. The children loved him and when they saw him at church, they would run up to him excitedly and shout "Grandpa Norm!" We're glad that when he and Margaret moved to Georgia to be closer to family, Norm was able to enjoy good times with his own grandkids too.

Norm has always been a good friend to *everyone* at Aldersgate. We're thinking of him and Margaret so much, and wishing them love, peace, and lots of good memories. Thank you Norm for *everything*, from everyone at Environmental Ministries!

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EM's "On the Road for Climate Action" was a hit! Many thanks to everyone who attended the special presentation by environmental scientist Dr. Shahir Masri in the Sanctuary on June 23. We had a wonderful turnout, people asked great questions, and everyone enjoyed the huge assortment of delicious refreshments provided by our EM members on the patio. Thank you, also, to our great church staff for all your help!

SPRC TRIBUTE

SPRC Recognition of Youth Director Scott Wilmoth

Our children are definitely blessings from the Lord! We cherish, love, teach, raise, and guide them in the Lord. But we cannot do it ourselves. It takes a village! Especially when it comes to teaching them the word of God, steering them through peer pressure, guiding them through confirmation, and providing a fun, safe place for them to grow and socialize with other like-minded youth.

The AUMC junior and senior high youth have that safe place here at Aldersgate largely due to Youth Director Scott Wilmoth. He tirelessly works to be that guide, safe place, sounding board, and listening ear for our youth. He does this through Sunday morning Youth Group, Sunday night Youth Group, Broom ball, Capture The Flag, Feeding the homeless, 9 square, Hungry, Hungry Hippo, Confirmation, Youth Mission Trips, youth caroling, and of course Youth Sunday!

And this past Youth Sunday on June 2nd, 2019, was one that topped them all. There was beautiful singing, blessed praise songs, testimonies, sermons, laughter, tears, recognitions, heartfelt prayers, and of course the youth handshakes. All this and more was written, produced, and performed by our youth under the guidance of Scott Wilmoth.

Scott worked over the last several months with the youth guiding them through this most memorable Youth Sunday all while finishing up the year as a high school teacher. This Youth Sunday was amazing! We heard numerous comments of praise from the congregation and visitors alike. It could not have been done without the professionalism, expertise, tenacity, and servant heart that abides in Scott Wilmoth!

The AUMC SPRC would like to recognize Scott for his dedication and love for our youth, our children.

Thank you, Scott. ***Aldersgate Staff Parish Relations***

Opportunities

Thursday Iron Men Group begins New Study

The new Lesson Series for the Iron Men will be: *Believe God Loves You, By Marlin L. Clark*.

"*For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believed in him might not perish but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16, KJV).

This verse of scripture is one of, if not the best known of all the scriptures. Millions have memorized it and millions more have seen it referenced. But do we really believe it? Do we live our lives knowing how much he really loves us?

This book, *Believe God Loves You:* His Promises in the New Testament, illuminates fourteen of God's promises in a new way that will lead readers toward both an understanding of what it means to "*believe in him*" and a personal acceptance of the simple truth that God loves them with a love that is unconditional, and unlimited. *Believe* also provides insight and examples of how readers can claim each of these promises for themselves.

Men of Aldersgate, come join us as we grow in Christ's love!

Copies of the book will be provided on Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 7 pm in the Hub.

Proverbs 27:17: As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.

Summer BBQs
1st & 3rd Wednesdays,
June, July, August
(except for 7/3 because of the 4th of July)
6:00—7:00 p.m.

Dear Aldersgate Family,

There are times when words are inadequate to express gratitude, and this is one of those times. H and I have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love, care, cards, prayers...and food!...that has been bestowed upon us by the Shepherds, the Sunday morning Uncommon Fellowship group, the choir, the pastors, and the congregation at large. Having simultaneous medical conditions has not been fun, but being loved and cared for by folks like you has made it bearable. Thanks and blessings to all! Jan & H Hanson

Dear Aldersgate Family,
Thank you for your abundant generosity. I was amazed when we counted over 100 boxes of cereal! Many, many children were fed and nourished, helping them learn and play.

With gratitude and love, Ann Falchetti - Anaheim Elementary School District

Opportunities and Events

SAVE THE DATE / MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

The **Christmas Candlelight Dessert** will be on Saturday, December 7th at 6:30pm. Hostess sign ups will begin on October 27 and tickets will go on sale November 17.

Love, Actually….

Yes, Love IS what was shared during the "Holy Expectation - Let There Be Love!" concert held on Sunday, June 9 at 2 pm in our sanctuary, featuring the compositions and arrangements of Anna Ferraro. A huge thank you to all the singers and instrumentalists and others who made it come alive, including the audience, plus a special shout out to our social media team of Grace Conklin and Stella Fergin.

Hope Circle

HOPE & ELIZABETH CIRCLES ARE ON SUMMER BREAK!
WATCH FOR SEPTEMBER DATES

Elizabeth Circle

Ice Cream Social forALL

JOY Ministries will host an Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social on Saturday, August 10 from 3:00pm to 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. **This is a community outreach event for everyone and not just the JOY Group. Families are welcome!**

We will serve ice cream sundaes and include a concert by the Singing TV Guy, Mike Chamberlin. He will be singing "Love Songs from the '40's, '50's and '60's. **It will be a summer time fun event.** Suggested donation will be $10 per adult and $5 per child.

Family Promise of Orange County
Building Community, Strengthening Lives

FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING WEEK IS APPROACHING

During last Sunday's worship service we recognized and commissioned a group of adults and youth who will be participating in various mission projects outside our local community this summer. Those of us who remain behind will have an opportunity to again support Family Promise locally as we host three or four families on our campus the week of July 21-27. Volunteers to provide evening meals and overnight hosting can sign up on the patio after worship. If you have questions about Family Promise and how you might help, see Dave Kendall or contact the church office at (714) 544-3656 We have always had good support, but we would like to have more of our congregation become involved, so please give this some thought and prayer and look for the sign-up table on Sunday morning.

Sunday Supper at AUMC for the Summer

"For nothing will be impossible with God." Luke 1:37

When the planning started for moving Sunday Supper to Aldersgate UMC for the summer, a team of can-do people went to work. (St. Paul's is under construction.)

Trustee Chair, Herb Chatterton, and the Trustees members "rolled out the red carpet" to prepare for hosting Sunday Supper every week for three months. Lynn Records and a dedicated team cleaned out the storage room *and* the kitchen. If we had questions or a problem to solve both Herb Chatterton and Ron Alderson found a creative solution. A host of AUMC volunteers packed and moved supplies and groceries. Another dedicated group is volunteering as the open/close manager each Sunday.

"*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*" Romans 8:28

Sunday Supper has served thousands of weekly meals since 2010. 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, treated with respect, and welcomed back the following week. There are no eligibility or ID requirements. It is a community of acceptance and safety.

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 each week.

Volunteer: Aldersgate UMC prepares the meal on the third Sunday of every month, with our partner congregations serving on the other Sundays. **New volunteers are always welcome.** If you are interested, please contact the church office at (714) 544-3653.

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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 *

CONNECTING	GROWING	SERVING
People with People	In Knowledge and Faith	Our Church, our
People with God	In Christ-likeness	Community, our World

A movement devoted to connecting, growing, and serving together

So Nobody Walks Alone!

Email GatePost submissions for publication consideration to:

newsletter@aumctustin.org

Submission Deadline: Monday, August 26
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Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday
9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.