


 Trumpet Call
 Aldersgate United Methodist Church
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TRUMPET CALL

July 2024

**ALDRSGATE UNITED
 METHODIST CHURCH**
 1621 Thornton Ave., Butte
 (406) 782-2425 | aldersgatech@outlook.com

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Please use

aldersgatech@outlook.com

if you need to contact us via email.


07: Keith & Julie Carlson
 20: Russ & Missy Robertson
 20: Dave & Jyl Duffy




03: Jack Timmer
 06: Cindy Ruffner
 07: Lindsay Young
 09: Kathy Davis
 09: Riley Hash
 10: LaVerne Henrich
 14: Barbara Aldredge
 14: Bentlee Schwartzmiller
 15: Helen Boston
 15: Dave Andersen*



Birthdays Blessings
 15: Mary Harsh
 16: Addie Thomson
 17: Chuck Kestle
 18: Jill Graff
 18: Jordan Richards
 19: Chuck Kestle
 19: Nikki DeShazo
 19: Jordan Marsh
 30: Karmen Blanthorn
 31: Katelyn Crummett Hoffman



Vacation Bible School will be July 22 - 25. The theme will be "Hometown Nazareth." Contact Jill at (406) 491-1650 or the church office at (406) 782-2425 if interested in helping. Scan the code or fill out a sheet on the table behind the pews to register a child.





Seth's Message

We continue our series of articles about how our church works. Each month we will look at one of the ministry teams, who is on the team, what they do, and how often and when they meet.

Last month our focus was the Administrative Council. This month we look at the long-sounding committee called Staff / Pastor-Parish Relations Committee. I am biased but this group of people is the most important committee of the church – specifically because they approve of my salary. In essence the Staff / Pastor-Parish Relations Committee or S/P-PRC for short operates as BOTH a personnel committee and a committee that works with the pastor. As a personnel committee the S/P-PRC meets with all paid staff members of the church. When there is a vacancy this group also makes the hire and sets the salaries (with approval of charge conference) for these hired personnel.

Switching gears, the S/P-PRC is the official body that works with our Bishop to ensure we have pastoral leadership. When there is a change in pastors it is this committee that meets with the District Superintendent to talk about the change and who shall be the next pastor. This is also the only committee that is allowed to share joys and concerns with the District Superintendent. The pastor is not hired by the church. The pastor is appointed by the Bishop to our congregation and it is through the District Superintendent that our wishes are made known.

Since we own a parsonage as the home resided by the pastor, this committee works with our Trustees. A 6-member team (three from each committee) meets with the pastor once a year to ensure that the parsonage meets the minimum standards set forth by the Mountain Sky Annual Conference. Jim Axelson, Pat Gibson, and Barb O'Brien represent the S/P-PRC on this subcommittee.

One other aspect of this team is to discern the call into ministry of any individual. The pastor makes the initial visit and then once this individual feels they are ready for the next step, it is the S/P-PRC that meets and approves of the candidate for continuation.

Sermon Series

ON THE ROAD AGAIN ... This summer we follow the journey of a fellow pastor by the name of Thomas Hall. If you caught the series last year, Thomas was a United Methodist pastor, who in 2010 was appointed to Plains and Paradise. Almost as soon as he moved to our state he began a bike journey starting in Missoula, proceeding to Billings for Annual Conference, then dropped down to Wyoming where the wind forced him into northwest Nebraska. It was here where he met me and my family. He recommended that we follow his journey on his blog. This summer we have followed him from the panhandle of Nebraska to southwest Kansas. His goal has always been Del Rio, Texas.

We are not just following a pastor on a recumbent bike. ON THE ROAD AGAIN is also looking at the journey of the development of the early church. Each blog entry has a corresponding passage in Acts. It is remarkable how similar the journey of life mirrors what we find in scripture. Join us as we get back ON THE ROAD AGAIN



ON THE ROAD AGAIN

July 7th – “Wouldn't Take Nothin' For My Journey Now”, looking at Acts 17.32-18.11

July 14th – “Small Things”, looking at Acts 18.18-23

July 21st – “Clouds Over Texas”, looking at Acts 16.25


July 28th – “Texas Panhandle”, looking at Acts 18.24-19.7

The Staff/Pastor-Parish Relations Committee does not have a set time to meet. It is usually as needed by the Conference or when concerns are valid. Due to the nature of the work all discussions are confidential.

Members of the S/P-PRC are: Lauren Kippen (chairperson), Brad Belke, Jim Axelson, Pat Gibson, Barbara O'Brien, Bonnie Canty, Nita Kingsbury, Becky Rolich, and Jyl Duffy. There is one vacancy.

Next month we will look at the ministry team known as the Committee on Trustees.

Seth



Secretary Snippets


Apologies for the Upper Room being late. They should be here soon.



EMAIL

We are unable to access our Bresnan email account. If you need to contact us via email, please send it to:

aldersgatech@outlook.com



The Mid-Week Lipreaders - a lay-led Bible study - has finished their study of the Book of James, and will begin a new book titled "Galatians through Colossians, and Philemon." All are welcome to a little mid-week conversation and coffee with the Apostle Paul.

JULY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6
		6:30 Men's 4th Day		7:00 Men's Breakfast	
7	8	8:00 Women's 4th Day 10:00 Midweek Lipreaders 6:30 Men's 4th day	11	12	13
9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation		11:00 Barnabas 7:00 Trustees		7:00 Men's Breakfast	
14	15	16	17	18	19
9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation		6:30 Men's 4th day	8:00 Women's 4th Day 10:00 Midweek Lipreaders		7:00 Men's Breakfast
21	22	23	24	25	26
9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	5:30 VBS Dinner 6:00 VBS	5:30 VBS Dinner 6:00 VBS	8:00 Women's 4th Day 10:00 Midweek Lipreaders	5:30 VBS Dinner 6:00 VBS	7:00 Men's Breakfast
28	29	30	31		27
9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation		7:00 Finance	6:30 Men's 4th Day 8:00 Women's 4th Day 10:00 Midweek Lipreaders 7:00 Ad Council		



The Rest of the Story

Before the disciples met Jesus, they all probably knew what to expect from their future, how their lives were going to unfold, and based on what they saw they probably would have laughed or scoffed at anyone who suggested that they would be part of an ongoing creation story that would last for more than 2000 years. I suspect that Peter and Andrew would never have dreamed of a life where they were not fisherman or where they did not live and die within a few miles of Galilee, unremarked and unrenowned. Yet that story changed when Jesus walked by the shore one day and simply said “follow me”.

So, follow they did. Which leads me to my next observation, did they have any idea where they were following, or even who they were really following? Based on history and the common understanding of the time, it always seemed to me like they expected this Messiah to be like King David; you know chariots, swords, restoring the kingdom of Israel to glory. I think you see that in the triumphant entry on Palm Sunday and maybe again in the story of Judas.

And then the whole Kingdom thing disappears when their Rabbi is arrested, crucified and buried. Because that’s the end, right? I mean it has always been the end before, because the death of the hero has always been the ending point in any story. An ending point where the apostle’s future must look like that of a simple fisherman once again.

But wait, the story keeps changing on them. No matter what evidence they had in front of them, no matter what was expected, something else, something stronger and more beautiful was happening. Something they never could have expected, because they found themselves swept away into something wholly unexpected, into a new story, God’s story. A place where grief and death were real enough, it just turns out death isn’t as real as resurrection.


It’s so easy to surrender to grief and death, to surrender to the tragedies, hardship and bad diagnosis that surrounds us as the end of our story. Maybe that makes us a little strange. Because somehow, we became the people for whom the story *is* never finished. We are the people for whom there is always more, the people for whom the creation process never ends. We are the people of hope, even when life seems hopeless, because we know there is always more. Because we know that after the suffering of the cross – there was more – after he was laid in a tomb - there was more – and after the resurrection, there was more.

We as Christians do not base our hope on chariots, or power, or riches, because we know that all our hope is based on the God of an empty tomb. An ongoing creation story of birth, death, resurrection, love, and redemption, which is still as real today as it was 2000 years ago.

And that is not only the rest of the story, but also the best of the story.

Amen

Brad Belke



Committees take a break from Coffee Hour during the summer.

Individuals will be able to sign up to host Coffee Hour.

Watermelon Popsicles

Equipment:

- Popsicle molds (ice cube trays will also work)

Ingredients:

- 6 cups cubed watermelon
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice

Instructions:

1. In a blender, place the watermelon and lime juice. Blend until completely smooth, then pour into popsicle molds, leaving ½ inch at the top for expansion.
2. Cover and add popsicle sticks if necessary. Freeze until set, 4 hours or overnight.

