

 Trumpet Call
Aldersgate United Methodist Church
1621 Thornton Ave.
Butte, MT 59701

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TRUMPET CALL

July 2017
**ALDERSGATE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
1621 Thornton Ave., Butte - 782-2425
Dave Andersen, Pastor 406-461-8321



“Christmas in July”

Hospitality is at the core of authentic Christian practice. The most ancient accounts of our faith show Abraham and Sarah welcoming strangers to their nomadic camp. The strangers turned out to be representatives of God, thus alerting us to the possibility that every stranger may represent the Holy. The central narratives of scripture demonstrate the importance of welcoming others into our lives. The patriarchs Isaac and Jacob found welcome under the tents of their prospective spouses and future in-laws. Joseph found welcome in Egypt and thereby saved God’s people from famine. Moses was welcomed by the priest of Midian. A desperately poor widow welcomed and fed the prophet Elijah with her last piece of bread. In the New Testament, Jesus was welcomed by Martha and accepted the hospitality of the tax collector Zacchaeus. He dined with the two disciples in Emmaus and fed the five thousand. Such stories underscore that hospitality is not just a feature of Christian practice, but the primary expression of our baptism and belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

The hospitality story that most captivates us, however, is the beautiful Christmas story of Jesus’ birth. The desperate and pregnant Mary and Joseph found themselves welcomed by an innkeeper who owned a stable where they could be sheltered for the birth of their child.

For over two millennia we have all journeyed to that place in our rituals, our songs, our Christmas pageants, our imaginations and our prayers. In our minds and hearts we have gathered with shepherds, kings, cattle and sheep in adoration of the baby in the manger. Our lives are tested by that journey. Have we allowed ourselves to be transformed, healed and saved by what we’ve seen and felt there in that stable? Do we understand that it is we who have now been welcomed by God? Are we ready to be stables of welcome for others? Everything depends on how each of us answers that question.

Last night I looked out at Our Lady of the Rockies whose light welcomes strangers to our city. She has certainly been a bright star in the East for me. I thought of the young couple and baby on their way to our city to guide our spiritual lives at Aldersgate. Melissa and Michael named their baby “Sophia”, “wisdom” in Greek. Thanks be to God who continues to bring life, wisdom and hope into our lives! To quote the supposed final words of John Wesley: “The best is yet to come!!”

Love ya, Dave



03: Jack Timmer 06: Cindy Ruffner 07: Lindsay Orr Young 09: Kathy Davis 09: Riley Hash 10: LaVerne Henrich 14: Barbara Aldredge 14: Laura Weatherly 15: Dave Andersen	15: Mary Harsh 16: Addie Thomson 18: Jordan Richards 19: Chuck Kestle 19: Nikki DeShazo 20: Shirley Permann 30: Karmen Blanthorn 31: Katelyn Hoffman
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07: Keith & Julie Carlson
18: Glenn & Sue Gerry
20: Russ & Missy Robertson

July's Trumpet Call

In loving memory of
Georgia O'Donnell
from LaVerne Henrich



Thank you to Kay Swanson for sponsoring the Saturday ads for the month of July in the Montana Standard



This summer's Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 31 to August 3. There will be a planning meeting on Monday, July 10 at 7:00. If you can help in any way, please plan on attending or call Sylvia Marcum at 494-3680.

Parents: Early registration is encouraged—just call the church office at 782-2425.

Hosts Needed for Coffee Hours

We are still in need of someone to host the fellowship coffee time for the following dates:

July 9 - July 16 - July 23
Aug 13 - Aug 27 - Sep 03

The sign-up sheet is posted on the portable bulletin board.



Mountain View/Trinity United Methodist Women

The UMW met in June, at Georgetown Lake for their annual fun day; Linda McElroy was the hostess and we were treated to coffee and donuts on arrival. Lunch was the best hot dogs of the year. The weather kept us inside for the day, but we had good views and great company.

We will not meet in July, but will return to Georgetown for the annual retreat on Saturday, August 5. It has traditionally been a brown bag day, but we decided to do a BBQ lunch this year. We would love to have you ladies join us. Because we are doing the lunch, we will need a headcount a little ahead of the date. All you need to bring is a devotion to share.

Susannah's will meet on Tuesday, July 18, at Annie's at 11:30 and August 15, same time and place. Respectfully submitted, Louise Flynn VP

Committee News

The Barnabas Committee meets on the first Monday of each month with members Carol Brown, LaVerne Henrich, Gayle Nicholls, Shirley O'Neil, Anita Richard, Sharon Smith and Jean Frank. Barnabas in the Bible has been studied and his example is honored and the guidance of Jesus is garnered in providing kindnesses and caring for our congregation. We visit the sick or injured, visit those unable to be with us on Sundays, visit shut-ins with gifts at Christmas and write get well and other appropriate cards of comfort to our church family. If anyone is aware of a person in our past or present church family with a need for whom we may extend a kindness, please let on of our members know. Our wish is to let no person be overlooked and feel lonely or forgotten.

Jean Frank, Chairperson



Dear Aldersgate friends,

We are so overwhelmed and grateful for the retirement celebration and send-off you gave us Sunday. Your gifts will be precious reminders of the very best congregation among the many we have had the privilege of serving over the years. Thank you all so much for the hugs, tears, laughter, songs, jokes (well, most of them) and sincere expressions of care. We are strengthened and encouraged for the next chapter of our lives. We are excited about the next chapter of your lives as well. Melissa, Michael and Sophia Engel will be drawn in by your love, support and encouragement as you all serve the risen Lord, together as the Body of Christ. Our love, prayers, blessings and gratitude are with you always.

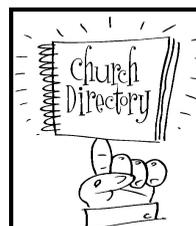
Dave Andersen and Mary Harsh

Many thanks to Aldersgate for being so hospitable and allowing me to use your church for the auditions and rehearsals in preparation for the "No Greater Love" production at the Mother Lode in June. Your help played a great part in making this dream become a reality.

Gary Funk

We are so appreciative of your kind gifts to Intermountain. They will go a long way in helping our kids. Intermountain's innovative treatment approach is changing lives, and you are a part of that change. Your congregation's Change for Children banks amounted to a total gift of \$1951.02! You are always among the top tier of our supporting churches. We deeply appreciate your generosity.

Gratefully, Terry W. Chaney, Chief Development Officer



Plans are underway for a new church directory! Because this book is such a valuable tool for the pastor, as well as newcomers, everyone is urged to make an appointment for a picture (no charge unless you want extra ones for yourself). The dates with the photographer are September 8, 9, and 11. Be watching in the next newsletter for more information.