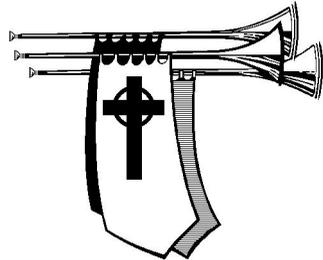



 Trumpet Call  
 Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
 1621 Thornton Ave.  
 Butte, MT 59701  
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# TRUMPET CALL

February 2020

**ALDRSGATE UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

1621 Thornton Ave., Butte - 782-2425

**FROM  
THE  
PASTOR**


In the two short months I've known the community of Aldersgate UMC, I've discovered something marvelous... it's difficult to know *exactly* what time the Sunday worship service begins. While it's clearly advertised the service is at 10:30 AM, and indeed that's when formal worship begins, so many connections are made long before the acolytes process into the sanctuary with the light of Christ. As I open the front door at 8:30 AM, I'm greeted by the smell of fresh coffee. A welcoming environment is already awakening. By 9 AM the fellowship area is abuzz with conversation as the adult study group gathers. Coffee and discussion continue to flow as study and sharing unfolds. By 10 AM the sanctuary is beginning to fill with the arrival of worshippers, eager to connect with friends old and new. It's exciting to see a faith community with the feel of family time. Food... fellowship...sharing...dialogue and debate... support...and sendoff. And the awesome thing is... it's a family for all...even those who may have no other "family" connection the remainder of the week.

We *hear* these words from Matthew's gospel, "for where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." But we *touch* these very words when we gather at Aldersgate, whether it's during a greeting of welcome at the front door, the sharing of peace during worship, or as informal conversation over coffee. God is with us... God is in this place in SO MANY WAYS. Read on... the pages to follow are a testament to what it means to be "church." Where do you see yourself in these offerings and experiences?  
 Let's journey together –  
 Pastor Sue



**February Trumpet Call**  
 For the family members,  
 from Laverne Henrich and  
 Family

The Saturday ads in the Mt. Standard for February are sponsored by Becky Rolich in memory of Tom Lane.



## It's About Us.

At the recent table talk with the Bishop members of several other churches voiced complaints about the pastors they have been assigned in recent years. These individuals complained that pastors were not more eloquent, didn't reach young people, cost too much money and that if the current trend did not change, they saw their churches failing. None of our members voiced these concerns, although several members and I discussed what we heard following the table talk. What I heard supported the lessons I think we have learned as a congregation over the last 10 years.

**Lesson One:** It is all about the attitude and complaining never solves the problem. At Aldersgate we work together to get the work done, we don't expect someone else to do the work, we understand it's up to us to solve our problems.

**Lesson Two:** If we expect the pastor to bring in new members or young people the church will probably die. It is the responsibility of every member of the congregations to tell everyone we know in the community about our Risen Savior and the family at Aldersgate.

## NEEDED HELP:

At our charge conference on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Aldersgate added 3 new positions to help with the workload. The new positions will be identified as Assistant Lay Leaders and will help the Pastor, Lay Leader and our church family with a variety of projects over the coming year. For example, Peggy Ryan ram-rodged the recent Wednesday Night dinner with Bishop Oliveto and the Mountain Sky Conference Cabinet.

The 3 new Assistant Lay Leaders are Peggy Ryan, Terri Belke, and Judy Reel.

## WEDNESDAY DINNER:

On January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Aldersgate hosted a soup and bread dinner and table talk with Bishop Oliveto and the Cabinet (the Cabinet is made up of all the District Superintendents) and a couple of directors of special projects. Over 80 people attended including about 40 from Aldersgate and representatives from Whitehall, Sheridan, Dillon, Philipsburg, Townsend, Helena and East Helena. I talked to the Bishop, several District Superintendents and other members of the Cabinet and they were all impressed by our hospitality.

Peggy Ryan asked that I thank everyone who made soup or helped with set up and clean up.

Brad Belke



January was a month of "new." New schedule, new faces, new activities, and new projects. The youth are enjoying their special times with their same-aged peers. We have welcomed new faces to our youth program, both youth and adult helpers. New activities included turning lemons into lemonade (Wow, that was sour!) and watching *Overcomer* to begin our new Sunday School series based on the book/movie. A new project for the youth is heading the Sweater Drive to help keep our neighbors warm.

Our spring will be busy with retreats (High schoolers will be heading to CONVO in Helena Feb 14-16; Aldersgate will be hosting YouthQuest for 6-8th graders April 24-26th). We will also be fundraising for our summer mission trip as we

expect more youth to attend this year. The youth will be hosting brunch at the Variety Show on Sunday, Feb 23 after worship. Please start preparing your acts for the show! The youth will also hold a bake sale and Easter Egg decorating on Palm Sunday (April 5).

Thank you for your continued support of our youth program. Christ is very much alive at Aldersgate! Our youth program is open to all youth (Aldersgate associated or not) in the 6th-12th grades. If you have ideas, questions, or are interested in helping chaperone one of our events, please contact Jill Graff at 491-1650 or [jillgraff@gmail.com](mailto:jillgraff@gmail.com).

Fat Tuesday variety show February 23rd after worship. Prepare your acts. Youth will be hosting a free will donation brunch for mission trip! Come eat and enjoy the show!



01: Brad Belke  
03: Missy Robertson  
08: Jim Hash  
12: Justin Olson  
16: Nancy Sullivan  
19: Mary Lou Wolstein  
25: Jackie Timmer



**FEBRUARY**  
BIRTHDAYS

12th annual Valentine's Dinner will be held February 8th. Dinner will be served at 4:30 PM and 6:00 PM. The cost of the dinner is \$10. Please contact Marylyn Shovlin at 560-7421 to RSVP, or Heather at 782-2425.

*Valentine Dinner*

Annual rummage sale will be February 29th. Donations will be accepted the week before. Please call the church office at 782-2425 if you have any questions.



03: Pat Gibson  
05: Vicki Stevenson  
11: Lauren Kippen  
15: Marcus McCaughey  
19: Terri Belke  
21: Don Fisher  
28: Will Brandon