

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

Non-Profit
US Postage
PAID
Butte, MT
Permit No.
300



TRUMPET CALL

January 2024
**ALDRSGATE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
1621 Thornton Ave., Butte - (406)782-2425

SOUTHERN METHODISTS IN BUTTE, MONTANA

Your pastor will be presenting at the Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives for the Brown Bag lunch on Wednesday, January 10th at noon. The forum is open to the public. The title for the talk is “Southern Methodists in Butte, Montana.”

Saint Paul and Lowell Avenue are two of the churches that make up what we call Aldersgate today. These congregations in Butte’s history had a vibrant history and their buildings are still standing; one is unoccupied and the other is still a church. What sets Saint Paul and Lowell Avenue apart from Unity, Grace, and Mountain View is their origins. They were part of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. This denomination existed from 1840 to 1939. Eventually the ME, South joined with the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Protestant Church to form the Methodist Church in 1939. Today, after another merger, we are called The United Methodist Church.



So, how did southern Methodists establish not one but two congregations in a location just hours from the Canadian border? And was Saint Paul and Lowell Avenue really occupied by southern immigrants to Butte? These and a few more questions will be answered during the Brown Bag lunch. All are invited to attend.

EMAIL

Currently, we are not able to access our Bresnan email account. If you need to contact us via email, please send it to aldersgatech@outlook.com.

11: Ed & Norma Pangburn



- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 02: Laura Hash | 17: Russell Robertson |
| 08: Cayden Hill | 19: Glenn Callaghan |
| 13: Donnie Fisher | 20: Kathie Johnson |
| 17: Chase Lubick | 28: Elizabeth Bernhardt |

Sermon Series

GENERATION TO GENERATION ... This series was the highest requested by our Dream Team. The Dream Team is a group of people from this church that helped me put together our sermon lessons for this year. Later this Spring we will meet again and if you would like to be a part of our planning team for our Sermon series and lessons, please let me know.

This month, and leading up to Lent, we will be talking about each generation. Our church has seven of them and you will recognize something in each lesson. What you will find is that each generation views the church *and God and spirituality* a little differently. Our goal is to understand each other better and make the church be what God wants us to be.

- GENERATION TO GENERATION
January 7th – “The Silent Generation (1924-1943)”, using Genesis 22.1-18
January 14th – “The Baby Boomers (1943-1964)”, using Jeremiah 31.31-34, 38-40
January 21st – “Generation X (1965-1981)”, using Ecclesiastes 1.1-11
February 4th – “Millennials (1982-1998)”, using Matthew 25.31-46
February 11th – “Gen Z (1998-2013)”



WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

The current sermon lessons on GENERATION TO GENERATION is based on your input. Thank you to all who filled out the informational survey. I will try to use everyone's quotes as much as possible.

Election season is almost upon us. I know you have seen the ads on TV and social media. So, for the month of May, we will be talking about What United Methodist's believe. Our Social Principles for the United Methodist Church is 70 pages long. We cannot address every issue, but we can narrow it to three. Enclosed with this newsletter is a survey form. Please mark only three. This form will also be inserted into the bulletin during the GENERATION TO GENERATION series. We will tabulate the results and in May address our United Methodist doctrine based on your choices.



Seth's Message

On New Year's Eve we had the opportunity to worship. Many a Sunday's do not fall on this auspicious day, but this year it did. Not only did it give us a chance to pull out our ugly sweaters (Sylvia Marcum, myself, Roberta Dobb, and Jill Graff were the winners), we got to participate in John Wesley's Covenant Service.

Wesley, the founder of Methodism, described this service as the highlight of the year. I mentioned in my homily that my friend from the Methodist Church Ghana, Godson Akushie, informed me that churches on New Year's Eve or New Year's Day in Ghana are packed. Attendance is larger for the Covenant Service than it is Christmas or Easter. According to Godson, Wesley's Covenant Service is vital to a person's commitment to God for the coming year.

If you would like to watch the service again you may access it through our website: www.aldersgatebutte.org or through YouTube (just type in Butte Aldersgate December 31 2023) and the service will appear.

Wesley's Covenant Service is more than a New Year's Resolution. It is a recommitment to God for the coming year. The pledge form is never turned in to the church office. It is between you and God only.

As we all turned the calendars to another year on Sunday I pray that each one of us takes seriously our covenant with God for 2024. This year is our year to be the people that God wants us to be. The best part of our Covenant Service is that we can start today. Even if you've already failed in your New Year's

Resolution, through the grace of God you can start today by re-covenanting with God. Let us make 2024 the year we re-connect with God and allow it to be the year that God uses us for God's purposes.

HEARING SYSTEM

Our hearing system for those who need assistance is now fully functioning. If you need access to our hearing system through a blue-tooth device or a manual device for your ear please see one of the members of the Communication Staff. They are always located in the back of the sanctuary.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9:00 Sandwich Ministry	4	5 7:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Trumpet Call	6
7 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	8	9 11:00 Barndos Meeting 6:30 Square Dancing 7:00 Mining City Choir 7:00 Trustees Meeting	10 8:00 Women's 4th Day 12:00 Brown Bag Lunch – Archies 5:30 Choir 6:30 Men's 4th day	11	12 7:00 Men's Breakfast	13
14 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	15	16 6:30 Square Dancing 7:00 Mining City Choir	17 8:00 Women's 4th Day	18	19 7:00 Men's Breakfast	20
21 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	22	23 6:30 Square Dancing 7:00 Mining City Choir	24 8:00 Women's 4th Day	25	26 7:00 Men's Breakfast	27
28 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	29	30 6:30 Square Dancing 7:00 Mining City Choir	31 8:00 Women's 4th Day 5:30 Choir 6:30 Men's 4th day			
6:00 Youth Group						



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 9:00 Sandwich Ministry	4	5 7:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Trumpet Call	6
7 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	8	9 11:00 Barndos Meeting 6:30 Square Dancing 7:00 Mining City Choir 7:00 Trustees Meeting	10 8:00 Women's 4th Day 12:00 Brown Bag Lunch – Archies 5:30 Choir 6:30 Men's 4th day	11	12 7:00 Men's Breakfast	13
14 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	15	16 6:30 Square Dancing 7:00 Mining City Choir	17 8:00 Women's 4th Day	18	19 7:00 Men's Breakfast	20
21 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	22	23 6:30 Square Dancing 7:00 Mining City Choir	24 8:00 Women's 4th Day	25	26 7:00 Men's Breakfast	27
28 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	29	30 6:30 Square Dancing 7:00 Mining City Choir	31 8:00 Women's 4th Day 5:30 Choir 6:30 Men's 4th day			
6:00 Youth Group						



Thank You, God.

It is the week after Christmas, which means it is time for me to write thank-you notes. Hooray, I don't enjoy writing thank you notes but I grew up with a mother who made sure that this duty was handled promptly, or else. I remember she often used the story of the ten healed lepers and the 9 who did not return and thank Jesus for being healed. So, like every other kid of my generation, I was expected to thank grandma for the \$5 dollars on my birthday, even if I would have gladly paid \$5 to get out of sending the card.

Now you know what I was thinking about that led me to my topic for this article, Jesus healing the ten lepers, only one of whom actually returned to give thanks to Jesus and praise to God. Which led to the next thought. I don't give thanks and praise God near enough. I figured out I am better at whining to God than I am at praising God. Because after all it is so much easier for me to complain about what I didn't get or what I lost than it is for me to be thankful for what I have. I doubt that I am alone in this. I mean when is the last time you heard a tv newscaster say, "*there were no mass shootings this week, thank the Lord*" or "*We give thanks for all the cancer treatments that save or extend so many lives.*" I heard a pastor say once that praise isn't stroking God's ego, telling God how awesome God is because God suffers from low self-esteem. Praising is about being thankful doubling the joy of what was received.

So rather than *talk* about praise, I thought that what I really needed this week on a spiritual level was to actually thank God.

¹¹*On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee.*

Thank you, God, for being the one who comes to us in the places where we often fail to notice, or where we fear to notice.

¹²*As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"*

Thank you, God, for being approachable and willing to listen.

¹⁴*When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests."*

Thank you, God, for seeing me, my hurt, my fear, my heart, and my humor. Thank you for how you have sent your people with their stories, gifts, and scars, so that I see you in them.

"And as they went, they were made clean."

Thank you, God, for bringing your people together to be healed and for the times we cause harm, forgive us.

¹⁵*Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.*

Thank you, God, for the ones who turn back, who speak your name, and who remind me that you are real and that you are actively redeeming me and them and all of creation.

¹⁶*He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"*

Thank you, God, for revealing yourself in the foreigner, the outcast, and in doing so leading me through this sin-filled world to a more abundant life.

¹⁹*Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."*

Thank you, God, for all the things that have been healed and all the blessings received that I failed to notice. Thank you for this faith community at Aldersgate. Thank you for the chaos of children and grandchildren. Thank you for friends who call me back. Thank you for chocolate. Thank you for clean water and safe roads and electricity. But most of all thank you for never leaving me and for every other gift you give, which I am too blind to see.

Amen



Thank You, God.

It is the week after Christmas, which means it is time for me to write thank-you notes. Hooray, I don't enjoy writing thank you notes but I grew up with a mother who made sure that this duty was handled promptly, or else. I remember she often used the story of the ten healed lepers and the 9 who did not return and thank Jesus for being healed. So, like every other kid of my generation, I was expected to thank grandma for the \$5 dollars on my birthday, even if I would have gladly paid \$5 to get out of sending the card.

Now you know what I was thinking about that led me to my topic for this article, Jesus healing the ten lepers, only one of whom actually returned to give thanks to Jesus and praise to God. Which led to the next thought. I don't give thanks and praise God near enough. I figured out I am better at whining to God than I am at praising God. Because after all it is so much easier for me to complain about what I didn't get or what I lost than it is for me to be thankful for what I have. I doubt that I am alone in this. I mean when is the last time you heard a tv newscaster say, "*there were no mass shootings this week, thank the Lord*" or "*We give thanks for all the cancer treatments that save or extend so many lives.*" I heard a pastor say once that praise isn't stroking God's ego, telling God how awesome God is because God suffers from low self-esteem. Praising is about being thankful doubling the joy of what was received.

So rather than *talk* about praise, I thought that what I really needed this week on a spiritual level was to actually thank God.

¹¹*On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee.*

Thank you, God, for being the one who comes to us in the places where we often fail to notice, or where we fear to notice.

¹²*As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"*

Thank you, God, for being approachable and willing to listen.

¹⁴*When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests."*

Thank you, God, for seeing me, my hurt, my fear, my heart, and my humor. Thank you for how you have sent your people with their stories, gifts, and scars, so that I see you in them.

"And as they went, they were made clean."

Thank you, God, for bringing your people together to be healed and for the times we cause harm, forgive us.

¹⁵*Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.*

Thank you, God, for the ones who turn back, who speak your name, and who remind me that you are real and that you are actively redeeming me and them and all of creation.

¹⁶*He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"*

Thank you, God, for revealing yourself in the foreigner, the outcast, and in doing so leading me through this sin-filled world to a more abundant life.

¹⁹*Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."*

Thank you, God, for all the things that have been healed and all the blessings received that I failed to notice. Thank you for this faith community at Aldersgate. Thank you for the chaos of children and grandchildren. Thank you for friends who call me back. Thank you for chocolate. Thank you for clean water and safe roads and electricity. But most of all thank you for never leaving me and for every other gift you give, which I am too blind to see.

Amen