

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

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TRUMPET CALL

June 2023

**ALDRSGATE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

1621 Thornton Ave., Butte - (406)782-2425
<http://www.aldersgatebutte.org/>



Mission of the Month

Starting this year, the Aldersgate United Methodist Church will be adopting a Mission of the Month. Each month you will read and hear about the mission that we have adopted. For the month of June, we feature the Butte Rescue Mission.

On June 4th, we will be hosting one of the Executive Directors of the Butte Rescue Mission. Brayton and Syd Erickson run this incredible ministry and we have confirmed that one of them will be here to talk about their role in the community, what the Butte Rescue Mission does, and how we can help. I invite you to check out their website at www.butterescuemission.org for more information. And don't forget to bring a can of food and some lightly used shoes for their Week of Compassion. Finally, all monetary donations for the month of June for missions goes directly to the Butte Rescue Mission.



If you are not familiar with the work of the Butte Rescue Mission, I invite you come on Sunday or check out their website to learn more. The mission and vision of this organization is ... Restoring Hope. Together.

The Butte Rescue Mission is a safe place to heal in a loving and supportive environment for anyone experiencing homelessness. We work diligently to FEED, CLOTHE, and SHELTER every person who comes through our doors. We equip our guests with the tools they need to successfully navigate a life rooted in Jesus.

1 Peter 4:8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins.

- 03: Bethany Allen Powers
- 09: Lara Robinson
- 09: Lisa Johnson
- 12: Trudi Olson
- 17: Chelsey McCaughey
- 21: Stacy Nixon
- 29: Jessica Peters

- 07: Joel & Jill Graff
- 09: Dave & Bonnie Canty
- 14: Larry & Kathy Davis
- 21: Crispin & Heather Marsh
- 25: John & Becky Rolich
- 26: Dale & Trudi Olson



- 06: Vicki Kestle
- 09: Alice Given
- 12: Dan Hash
- 17: Madison Hash
- 19: Dave Duffy
- 21: Riley Lubick
- 30: Barbara Coon

- 08: Jack & Arlene Timmer
- 12: Ron & Joyce Kuecks
- 16: Ed & Betty Banderob
- 24: Bill & Carol Rhoads
- 25: Rick & Dena Hamry
- 26: Bill & Janet Ralph



I remember the day well. It was Father's Day, 2010, and I received a call on my cell phone from a number I did not recognize. He told me his name was Thomas and he was a United Methodist pastor and he wanted to stay spend the night in the church. I was a bit cautious. I have been burned before by individuals "claiming" to be a United Methodist or even a pastor asking for a handout; and he wanted to stay in the church; have free reign to do whatever he wanted. On the one hand I was sympathetic, on the other I was thinking of my responsibility to the church I pastored. I said "sure" but wanted to check this guy out first.

The church I served was right next door to the parsonage. It was Father's Day and I wanted to work in our garden. It was then that I saw a guy riding by the parsonage on a recumbent bike. Ever see one of those? Google it! I then get another call from Thomas. He is at the church. I go over, let him in, and indeed, he is a United Methodist pastor. After he gets settled and cleaned up, he comes over and actually helps me work in the garden. What a guy! I invite him in for our Father's Day supper and we visit. Boy, did we visit. The Nebraska Conference was seriously thinking of appointing me to start a new church in north Omaha. Thomas had started churches in Pennsylvania. In fact, he was getting ready to start a new church in the Yellowstone Conference. That night we visited our ministries and our future and then he headed to the church to get ready for an early start on his bike ride.

This story is so rich with small-world experiences, connections, and some wonderful lessons to talk about our journey in life ... and to learn about the journey of the early church. This summer we will use his blog entries from the summer of 2010, when Thomas rode his recumbent bike from Paradise, Montana to Texas. A journey where we were not supposed to meet, but we did. A journey that did not end the way he expected. A journey that too often mirrors our own life with twists and turns and moments that take your breath away and times that you have to turn left. And a journey where Thomas and I have now reconnected ... but that is a story for later. I think you will really enjoy this summer's lessons. And if you are gone this summer, make sure to check in with us on-line at www.aldersgatebutte.org.

~ Seth



IT'S NOT THE DESTINATION ... It's the Journey
 Make sure to check Seth's about Thomas Hall and the day he met. His blog of his journey from Montana to Texas will be our lessons this summer.
 IT'S NOT THE DESTINATION ...

June 4 th – "Riding in Montana for South Africa", using Acts 9.1-19
 June 11 th – "Inch By Honkin' Inch", using Acts 9.23-30
 June 18 th – "Just Call Bob", using Acts 10.1-8, 44-48



July 24-26 (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday) are the dates for this summer's Vacation Bible School! Each night begins with a meal at 5:30 with our program and games going from 6:00 to 8:00. The ages for this years VBS start with 4-year-olds and continues to 5th grade. Our theme is "PETS UNLEASHED: WHERE JESUS CARES 'FUR' YOU." We are looking for pets to accompany our activities that week and the Sunday following VBS on July 30th we will be having a Pet Blessing ceremony. If you would like to help in anyway call the church office.



If you are interested in performing special music this summer or hosting coffee hour, please call the church office at 406-782-2425 or sign up at the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 7:00 Men's Group 10:00 Trumpet Call	3
4 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	5 11:00 Barrabos	6	7 8:00 Women's 4th Day 9:00 Sandwich Ministry	8	9 7:00 Men's Group	10
11 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	12 6:00 Women's 4th Day	13 7:00 Trustees	14 8:00 Women's 4th Day	15	16 7:00 Men's Group	17
18 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	19 6:00 Women's 4th Day	20 7:00 Trustees	21 6:30 Men's 4th day	22	23 7:00 Men's Group	24 Annual Conference in Colorado Springs, CO
25 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	26 6:00 Women's 4th Day	27 7:00 Finance	28 8:00 Women's 4th Day 6:30 Men's 4th day 7:00 Ad Council	29 **Trumpet Call Deadline**	30 7:00 Men's Group	



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THE STORY WORKS OUT

I've been feeling my age lately, more than that, I have been feeling my mortality. After all I am 68 and there are friends and acquaintances in the obituaries I know, or knew, almost every day. And some of them were younger than I am. So, I saw this New York Times article where a woman wrote about the passing of her father with whom she had a complicated relationship. One sentence about her father's failings stood out for me – writing about their reconciliation at the end of his life, she said “[His] shortcomings that seemed so glaring when I was young suddenly faded because I could see how the story worked out.”

That is a pretty special thought, read it again and work it through. “*The shortcomings of our lives that are so glaring now fade when we see how the story works out.*”

I am convinced that there is only a thin veil between this world and the next, and I am confident that we are surrounded by countless witnesses who have gone before us. Thinking about this I thought this verse from the book of Revelation was appropriate when considering how my story works out.

These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason, they are before the throne of God and worship him day and night... and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more and thirst no more ... and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

There in John's vision is an image of countless saints gathered around God's throne. All of whom had suffered the ordeal of living in a world that can break your heart, their souls tarnished by loss, regret, sin and shame. But now, at the throne of God they have been washed in the blood of the Lamb and made clean. These saints have all encountered the compassion of Christ which perfectly healed what was broken – it polished bright what had been tarnished.

How special is that? That we can go through ordeals – of our own making and the making of others – and that we can accumulate so much grief and pain in this life and yet, in any spiritually significant way those are not the parts that remain at the throne of God. Because Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, is still at work, every day, all around us. Which means the story is still working itself out. Your story. Your loved one's story. Your victims' stories. Because even with all my (our) failures and shortcomings God promises you this. The story works out. Amen.

Brad Belke

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