



The Open Door

A publication of Aldersgate United Methodist Church
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A Church of open hearts, open minds, open doors

The following article was received by Neal Neuenberg from Kathrine Parker, our missionary in Nepal.

Dear Neal,

Thank you for reaching out. I am safe and with family in Santa Rosa. Here is the email I just put together with updates:

Thank you for reaching out with your prayers for the people of Nepal and for your concern in the face of the devastating flooding that has occurred just west of the Kathmandu Valley. Like many of you, I have been watching the news with a heavy heart and praying for the families whose lives have been devastated.

I am still in the USA, concluding my itineration visits and spending some time with my family in Santa Rosa, CA. I am closely following security reports and response plans from my colleagues at the United Mission to Nepal as we consider how to be involved in both the immediate response and the longer-term recovery efforts.

The videos and images coming from the affected areas are heartbreaking, and the growing lists of those who have died or remain missing are a source of immense grief and anxiety. As of this morning, Ram Nath, UMN's Disaster Response Coordinator, reported to staff via WhatsApp just a few hours ago that the official death toll is at 359 with 910 persons out of contact. Please continue to hold affected families in your prayers, including both Nepalese communities and tourists who were in the area. The Nepal government has deployed over 9000 people to the search efforts and over 440 people have been rescued by helicopter or ground transportation.

Given the scale of the disaster, widespread mobilization and coordination efforts are underway to reach affected families across multiple locations. UMN is joining the rapid response effort for more than 1,000 affected families in three to four municipalities in Dhading District by partnering with CIRDS, the same organization with which we worked during the 2015 earthquake relief response.

Our longer-term plan is to support school recovery efforts in the Nuwakot region. More details will emerge as assessments are completed and response priorities become clearer. Several members of our Kathmandu-based staff have already traveled to the region to support assessments and on-the-ground coordination.

A UMN appeal for support can be found here: <https://www.umn.org.np/nepalflood26>

Give through The Advance (3023568) via your local United Methodist Church, or online at: <https://gbhem-umc.my.site.com/hemgm/s/campaign/a3fPo00000D4A4IAK/united-mission-to-nepal-integrated-community-development-project>

Even in the midst of tragedy, we are encouraged by the rapid mobilization of local communities, churches, and partner organizations working together to bring relief and hope. Your prayers, encouragement, and support are deeply appreciated as Nepal begins the difficult work of recovery.

Grace and peace,
Katherine



Purpose: To Encourage parishioners to submit articles as a communication forum in building community

Communication, whether it is easy or not, necessarily requires that we all engage. I am impressed by the founders of the Constitution USA how they were attuned to the nature of citizens who will have challenges to sustain a consensual government. To maintain freedom of individuals and yet provide guidelines to preserve the best possible outcome of a community that will flourish. So far our constitutional government has survived the experiment that has stood the test of time. It was a miracle that was long coming. But I find it very inspiring to know that their, our founders, most basic fundamental framework began in the testaments of struggling people discussed in the Bible. Jesus, God incarnate, was and is the core of potential to be successful. Theirs was the first and only institution that has provided a flourishing culture that had never been before. God's grace and mercy for those who acknowledge their fallen nature in being human, yet with his truth revealed, is the guidelines for civilization.

With permission of the editor, the invitation goes out to use this medium to uplift, inspire, share the burden, join in the thrill, and learn from each other. Each of us has taken unique paths towards the ultimate end that is simultaneously a new promise in his resurrection. This hope is what we can remind ourselves of. As it has been said, "Today is the beginning of the rest of our lives." Now that I have shared, it is your chance to share how Jesus brings to light the truth of all the various intricate valleys and mountain peaks of the path we have come before us.

Women's Ministry

Report on Women's Ministry Pool Party August 8th

The morning was already heating up when we started our time floating. The water was perfect and the company was great. As the temperature climbed, we moved to the tables around the pool and enjoyed cold watermelon and delicious cookies. Thank you everyone for coming and sharing the morning. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and conversations.

September events

Our next meeting will be on Saturday September 12th. We will be assisting Diane with the set up for our lady's annual tea on Sunday the 13th. The tea will be right after church in rooms 7 and 8. All the women are welcome to come and enjoy the morning. Hope to see you there.

Mark your calendars! The second Saturday of each month is the monthly Women's Ministry meeting in the Patterson Room. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Happy fall!

Bible Studies

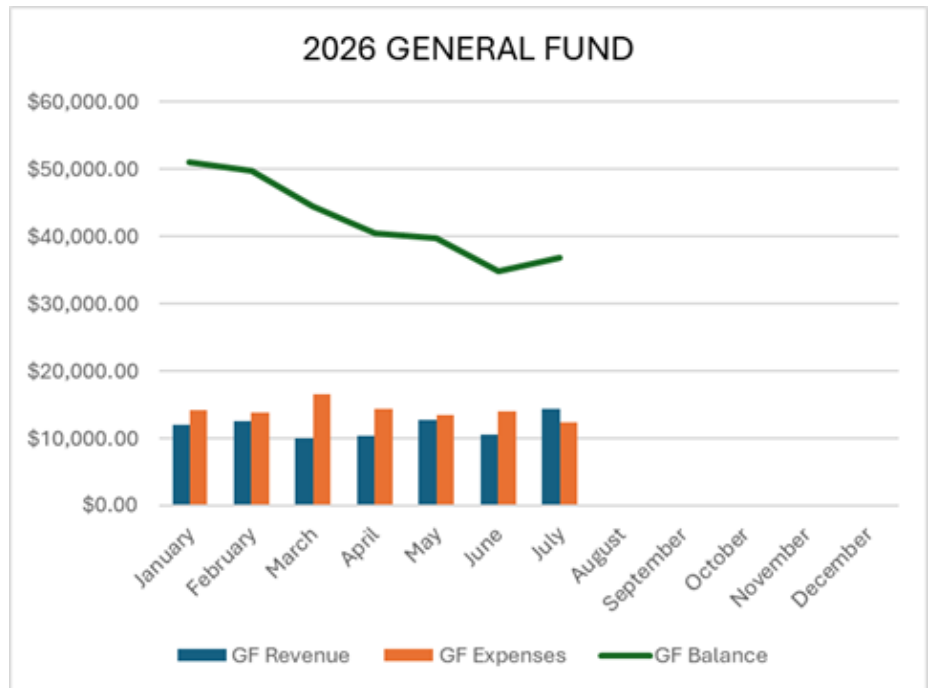
Women's Bible Study: COME JOIN US! The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study group starts on Sept 8th. 10:00. Our first meeting will be in the Jim Patterson room. Future meetings will be in rooms 7/8. We look forward to seeing you.

Men's Bible Study: Early morning men's bible study. Tuesday at 7:00 am in the back room at Cozy Diner. They are presently reading through the Max Lucado book titled: "When Christ Returns".

All church bible studies: Evening bible study meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm and Pastor Eric Cho's bible study held on Friday at 10:00 am. They are currently using "Seamless" by Angie Smith which takes you through the entire Bible in about 24 weeks. They are currently using "Seamless" by Angie Smith. Both meetings are held in the Patterson Room. You are welcome to attend whichever study matches your schedule.

Treasurer's Report:

Contributions to the General Fund from monthly giving in July were \$14,324.86 while expenses for July totaled \$12,300.90 resulting in a net revenue of \$2,023.96 to the General Fund reserves! As a reminder, July was the first month of reduced expenses based on moving to a part-time pastor. July utility costs (\$2,768.89) were split between the Hope Academy funds and the special giving designated for utilities. The General Fund balance at the end of July, after the conference tithe payment (based on giving to the General Fund and the Budget Specials Fund), is \$36,873.34. The combined balance for all accounts (General Fund, Budget Specials, & Non-Budget Specials) is \$95,471.11.



\$956.10 was paid out to the missionaries we support for the second quarter of 2026 (April-June) for a total of \$3,159.97 paid out year to date (with an *additional* \$685.00 going out specifically to Katherine Parker).

Volunteer Opportunity: if anyone would consider being part of a financial counting team (to prepare the weekly deposits after church service), we anticipate having two spots open starting in 2027 and could use your help! Each 2-person team only meets 4 months a year and would help count the weekly deposit each Sunday, during those assigned months. Team 1 is January, April, July, & October. Team 2 is February, May, August, & November. Team 3 is March, June, September, & December. If this is something that you'd be willing to participate in, or would like to get more information on, please reach out to me!

New account balances, as of July 31st, have been posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

Prayerfully submitted,
Susan Hartman

A Joyful
Hosanna's
Thank you



The Joyful Hosannas wish to Thank all who attended our Summer Concert, whether in the flesh or in Spirit, we felt the loving support! The grace of Our Lord never ceases to amaze us, as the blessings of Love and Joy flow freely from HIS throne room, where 2 or more are gathered. We are thankful beyond measure for the generosity of our devoted sponsors and partners. To God Be The Glory, ALWAYS!!

Miscellaneous

Sunday prayer: On Sunday's at 8:30 a.m. a group meets in room 1 for prayer at Aldersgate. Everyone is welcome.

The Chosen: Friday, 9/4 at 6 p.m., an episode of "The Chosen" will be shown in the Patterson room.

Aldersgate website (www.chicoaumc.org)

The church website has been updated. You can watch the weekly sermons on it, listen to the weekly music, give your tithe or special offering through the website, or check upcoming events at Aldersgate.

If there are events to add on the website, please let Larry know.

Leadership

- The school is no longer with us. They have moved to a new location in Durham.
- The carpets in the Sunday School wing are scheduled to be cleaned.
- The security fencing is going up around the back of the church.

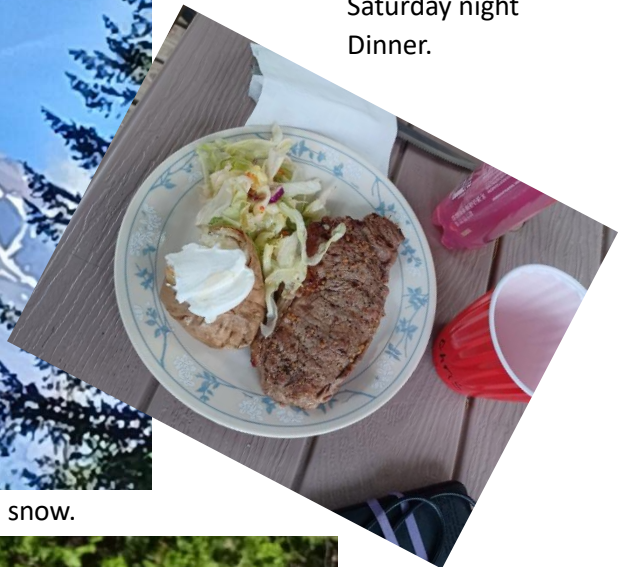
A few memories from this years men's camp

Anyone know the guy in the middle?



Mt. Shasta. Where's the snow.

Saturday night Dinner.



September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <u>Men's Bible Study</u> 7 am, Cozy Diner	2 Bible Study in the Patterson Rm 7:00 p.m.	3	4 Pastor's Bible Study Patterson Room 10: am "The Chosen" Patterson Room 6:00 p.m.	5
6 Worship Service 9 am Prayer group Rm 1, 8:30 a.m	7	8 <u>Men's Bible Study</u> 7 am, Cozy Diner <u>Women's Bible Study</u> Patterson Room, 10 a.m.	9 Bible Study in the Patterson Rm 7:00 p.m.	10	11 Pastor's Bible Study Patterson Room 10: am	12 Woman's Ministry Rm 7/8, 10 a.m.
13 Worship Service 9 am Prayer group Rm 1, 8:30 a.m Woman's Tea After the service	14	15 <u>Men's Bible Study</u> 7 am, Cozy Diner <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 10 a.m.	16 Bible Study in the Patterson Rm 7:00 p.m.	17 Leadership Patterson Rm 6:00 p.m.	18 Pastor's Bible Study Patterson Room 10: am	19
20 Worship Service 9 am Prayer group Rm 1, 8:30 a.m	21	22 <u>Men's Bible Study</u> 7 am, Cozy Diner <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 10 a.m.	23 Bible Study in the Patterson Rm 7:00 p.m.	24	25 Pastor's Bible Study Patterson Room 10: am	26
27 Worship Service 9 am Prayer group Rm 1, 8:30 a.m.	28	29 <u>Men's Bible Study</u> 7 am, Cozy Diner <u>Women's Bible Study</u> 10 a.m.	30 Bible Study in the Patterson Rm 7:00 p.m.			

Birthdays

Craig Buschner	9/13
Cheryl Sharp	9/16
Maggie Reynolds	9/17
Amy Rehdorf	9/18

Peg McElroy	9/19
Julie Cho	9/20
Betsy Coutts	9/25

Anniversaries

Dorothy & Brian Dalske	9/7/90
Bob and Peg McElroy	9/14/68