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

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Anniversaries

07: Bob & Nita Kingsbury

Birthdays to Celebrate

03: Brandon Robinson
05: Melissa (Ryan) Kump
07: Josh Robinson
09: Austin Kingsbury
11: Daniel Harrington
12: Ed Dobb
14: Quinn Sullivan
17: Ethan McCaughey
20: Sylvia Marcum
23: Ian Boston
24: Doc Jordan
25: John Rich
25: Jake Richards
30: Becky Rolich
31: Marcia Lubick

TRUMPET CALL

MARCH 2025

ALDERSGATE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
1621 Thornton Ave., Butte
(406) 782-2425 | aldersgatech@outlook.com
www.aldersgatebutte.org

We would like to thank all of the groups that utilize our church space, bringing community and purpose to our shared environment.

Butte Miners Baseball Team

Girl Scouts

Silver Bow Youth Leaders

ABILITY MONTANA
SPARCS Dance

Mining City Square Dancing

Seth's Message

From the Pastor

We continue our series of articles about how our church works. Each month we will look at one of the ministry teams, who is on the team, what they do, and how often and when they meet.

Last month our focus was on the Committee on Nominations. This month our attention turns to our Lay Advocates.

The Lay Advocates position was created in 2018 to supplement and assist the Lay Leader by establishing a group of lay people to assist with projects and special events, support the committees of the church, and step in where necessary to ensure the success of the church. At its creation we have always had 3 Lay Advocates. Since 2022 the Lay Advocates are Terri Belke, Jyl Duffy, and Peggy Ryan. The Lay Advocates do not meet at a subscribed time but are in constant communication as to the needs of the church. Each Lay Advocate is assigned to one of our missional committees and they also serve on the Administrative Council.

Next month we will look at the ministry brought to us by the Committee on Endowment.

Seth

Midweek Lipreaders

Midweek Lipreaders – a Lay-led Bible study – will continue to meet at 10:00 AM Wednesday mornings to continue our book – "Knowing: Basics of the Faith". Anyone who enjoys good conversation and black Methodist coffee is welcome to attend!

Sermon Series

FOR ALL THE DAYS THAT END IN WH "Y" … Lent begins on March 5th and each Sunday in Lent we will probe into some very difficult why questions; questions that arise from scripture; questions that come about from our daily living. We all have why questions and we will find that scripture addresses them as well.

FOR ALL THE DAYS THAT END IN WH "Y"

March 9th – "Why Does Temptation Look So Good?" based on Luke 4.1-13

March 16th – "Why Does God Ask The Impossible?" based on Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18

March 23rd – "Why Does Jesus Hate Fig Trees?" based on Luke 13.1-9

March 30th – "Why is Loving Family Members So Hard?" based on Luke 15.1-3, 11-32

April 6th – "Why, I Earned It!" based on Philippians 3.4-14

April 13th – "Why Was Jesus Betrayed?" based on Luke 22.14-23

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation 3:00 Youth Group 4:00 Kid's Group 5:00 Youth/Kid's Meal	3 11:AM Barnabas	4 7:00 Mining City Choir	5 8:00 Women's 4th Day 9:30 Sandwich Ministry 10:00 Midweek Lipreaders 6:30 Men's 4th day 6:45 Ash Wednesday Meditation	6	7 7:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 Trumpet Call Assembly	8
9 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation 3:00 Youth Group	10	11 7:00 Mining City Choir 7:00 Trustees	12 8:00 Women's 4th Day 10:00 Midweek Lipreaders 5:30 Choir Practice 6:30 Men's 4th day	13 4:00 Girl Scouts	14 7:00 Men's Breakfast	15 10:00 Confirmation
16 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation 3:00 Youth Group	17	18 7:00 Mining City Choir	19 8:00 Women's 4th Day 10:00 Midweek Lipreaders 5:30 Choir Practice 6:30 Men's 4th day 7:00 SPRC	20	21 7:00 Men's Breakfast	22
23 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	24	25 7:00 Mining City Choir 7:00 Finance	26 8:00 Women's 4th Day 10:00 Midweek Lipreaders 5:30 Choir Practice 6:30 Men's 4th day 7:00 Ad Council	27 4:00 Girl Scouts	28 7:00 Men's Breakfast	29
30 9:00 Adult SS 10:30 Worship 11:30 Coffee & Conversation	31					

A detailed calendar of events can be found on our website: aldersgatebutte.org

Message from Jackie

I would like to thank everyone for who sent positive thoughts, prayed for me, and/or sent me agape during my Walk to Emmaus. What an amazing weekend! A special thanks to Jyl Duffy who was one of my table leaders, Terri Belke who was a music leader (and was always there for me when I needed her), and especially Brad Belke who encouraged and sponsored me through my journey. I learned a lot about myself and my relationship with God and feel blessed to be welcomed into the Emmaus community.

Thanks again,
Jackie

If you would like to donate towards the cost of Easter flowers in honor of or in memory of loved ones, please contact the church office at: (406) 782-2425

GETTING YOUR STEPS IN

My son Ryan tricked me into buying a Garmin "watch." It is a "watch" in that it tells time. The problem is that it also talks to my phone, keeps track of my location, tells me my altitude, and worst of all keeps track of how "many steps" I take. I mean I feel bad enough that I have not been in a gym in 30 years, that my exercise machine is now where we hang ironed clothes and that my pedal bike is strapped to the rafters in the garage, safely out of sight and out of mind. No, now I have to feel bad about how many steps I take every day.

And since the thing is on my wrist and actually buzzes for attention, I can't ignore it like the pedal bike in the rafters. Not if I want to know what time it is, and if you know me, you know I have to know what time it is, so I am constantly looking at this "watch" and it is telling me how many steps I have or haven't taken all day long. Anyway, it quickly became clear that the only logical thing to do was to sell it, so I tried. No luck. It seems Verizon gives "watches" that chart your activity away for free and everyone my age already has one they have locked away in a drawer somewhere and as a result no one wants to pay actual money for mine.

So, it appears I am stuck with this thing, and because I am an overachiever I now have to try and get my 10,000 steps in each day. The whole thing has become like a competition. Except it doesn't make any sense because some days I get 4,000 steps and some days I get 10,000 and frankly I can't figure out why. It seems to me like I am going the same places and doing the same things I always do, so why is there a 6,000 step difference some days?

By now you are probably wondering how any of this is spiritual and why you are reading it when you could be concentrating on getting your steps in? Well, this is why, some days I feel like praying and some days I don't. Some days I have mustard seed faith and some days I don't. And like the steps I take or don't take each day, I don't always know where my prayer and faith life is going to be from one day to the next.

It seems to me that our spiritual lives have seasons; seasons of growth, seasons of abundant life, seasons of rest, and other seasons that feel like the worst part of winter. Rationally it should be easy to get our steps in spiritually during periods of growth and abundant life and yet sometimes when I look at my spiritual "watch" I feel like I get more steps in during the harshest times of winter. Why is that? A long time ago I discovered that I, like many people, learn more from hardship than I do from comfort. And while my life is still a lot like a roller coaster, I have learned that the ups are still good, and the downs just aren't as bad. It seems like everything has kind of levelled out.

It also seems clear to me that Prayer does not always have to be on your knees. I think the best prayer can be simple conversations as you drive or sit, or walk, with your Creator. Isn't that an admission by itself of your faith? This walking, talking relationship with God? I still think prayer can be a time for stepping out and asking God for help for those you love. It can be a discussion with God about the future and your concerns for your children and grandchildren. It can be a time to express your worries about the state of the world. It can be a time to argue or cry out in anger, or it can be a time for gratitude, even if it is only that you are still stepping.

All of that is to say, all the faith you need is already present. Present no matter what your feelings are and present no matter how many steps you are getting in at that particular season of your spiritual life. So maybe our prayer for today doesn't have to be about how to increase the number of steps we take today. Maybe our prayer today only needs to be about making sure that every step we take is a step in the right direction.

Brad