



SERVING YOUR CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Roger Morimoto

rvm878@gmail.com

Rev. Jon Visitacion

jon.visitacion@gmail.com

Your AUMC Staff:

Submit **newsletter** articles by the 15th of the month to:

Brad Shirakawa - newsletter editor

bradaumc@yahoo.com

Send **Sunday bulletin** info to Brad by the WEDNESDAY before Sunday

Mimi Funabiki and Lori Wong

do everything else:

meemfunabiki@gmail.com

lori_wong@yahoo.com

Aldersgate United

Methodist Church

4243 Manuela Avenue

Palo Alto, CA 94306-3705

ph: 650-948-6806

www.aldersgatepa.org

Aldersgate Still Closed

Aldersgate UMC will continue to remain closed to in-person worship at least through the end of the year.

If you would like to meet with Rev. Roger online, or in-person (socially distanced, outdoors with a mask) please contact him at RVM878@gmail.com (email) or 650-575-2250 (Text or call).

Masthead art: Shingo Nishiura, WWII

Words with Rev. Roger



Meeting Ourselves Again, For The Very First Time!

This month, the theme for our Online Worship Experience – OWE, has been “New Life Always Springs Forth.” With the beautiful Spring weather of late, we viscerally experience this new life spirit in our bodies, our minds and probably in our soul. We are sensing an eagerness to once again to venture out to places and encounters that we have not been to in more than a year.

During our online fellowship, one person shared that she went to Costco for the first time since the shelter-in-place was instituted. Another person shared with me that she went to Trader Joe’s. I think for both, it was a familiar yet strange experience. It was something they had done before but it felt differently.

As I pondered these feelings, I was reminded of the title of the book, *Meeting Jesus Again For The First Time* by Marcus Borg. Borg suggests that a rigorous look at the historical facts of Jesus creates a new experience of faith and understanding of Jesus. Borg is suggesting a new experience of faith.

As we return to our pre-Covid lives, we do so with a sense of familiarity – but also a deep peculiarity as the places and the people will seem to be the same but at the same time it has all changed.

Keep an open mind to this odd feeling, for it may actually be a blessing to see things in new ways. Perhaps these feelings are unexpected because we have changed, too.

It is time to rediscover the places we live, the people we know, and even ourselves “for the first time, again.”

Roger

Church News

Generosity and Kindness of the KT Foundation

As reported in the April 4 E-Newsletter...

The generosity and kindness of the KT Foundation and thus, of the legacy of Grace Kase (Takemoto) has once again touched Aldersgate UMC with a \$50,000 grant to be used to re-roof the parsonage, add solar and repair damaged exposed eaves on the church. The roof and the eaves were definitely due while the solar will enhance the parsonage and move us into a greener future. We are just so grateful.

In 2018, the KT Foundation had granted Aldersgate \$200,000 for remodeling the parsonage kitchen and bath, moisture proofing the foundation, remodel the patio area, add walkway space, and a myriad of other projects.

Grace Kase was a quiet but strong individual who had a sense and vision for the Japanese American community. One of the other projects in the community is the JCCCNC Kase program which encourages young college students to take an active role in learning, creating, and developing programs to promote and support the JA community. In 2019, Chloe Gong participated in this program. Grace and her legacy have touched our community in a myriad of important ways.

We truly thank the KT Foun-

ation board! We also thank Shelly Nagata and Pauline Nagata for connected Aldersgate to the KT Foundation.

Again, we are just so grateful!

More info on this story will be provided in the May hard-copy newsletter.

Re-Launch Committee to Meet

A Re-Launch committee is beginning to meet to create re-launch criteria should the overall situation continue to improve. Safety considerations will be the number one driver of the committee.

Throughout this past year, the church board has been monitoring the Covid-19 situation as it is related to the church.

Now, with vaccinations becoming widely available, the board continues to monitor the situation by adhering the CDC recommendations, following directive from the local health officials and from our conference leadership.

The overall situations seems to be moving in the positive direction, yet it is also fluid and continuing to change. The recommendations also are changing as people are vaccinated.

Donations April 8 to April 20 Easter

Glenn & Nancy Hamamoto
Claire Haratani
Joyce Hikido
Harold & Alice Yu
Glen & Gayle Narimatsu
Mary Tsukushi
Connie & Norman Kobayashi
David & Young Jin Kim
Patsy Obayashi
Grace Kozen
Tomoko Ozawa
Paul Ebisui
Frances Tamura
Tami Oshima
Marian Kanaya
Art & Pat Yotsuya
Rosemary Shieh
Jon Miyahara & Andrea Imazeki
Fumi Tatsuno
Janet Kakimoto
Sarah Santa Ana
James Takasugi & Mona Nakamura
Marice Tatsuno
Satoko King
Tom & Joyce Tamaru
Mits & Anne Uchida
Sachiyo Yamasaki
In Memory of Kiyo Shizuru
De Suzuki, Diane Suzuki & Dawn Suzuki
Mary Tsukushi
Heidi Danieli
Peggy Sasamoto
Elaine Loo
Sachiyo Yamasaki
In Memory of Kimi Tsukushi
Virginia-William-Katie-Kyle Lew-Lee
Mary Tsukushi
In Memory of Tak Nishiura
Paul Ebisui
James Takasugi & Mona Nakamura
Sachiyo Yamasaki
In Memory of Margaret Ishimiyama
Sachiyo Yamasaki
In Memory of Ray & Mary Kato
Isamu Morimoto
Wade & Elizabeth Kato
Evan's first birthday
Judy Wong

PAYPAL from Mar 23 to Apr 20
Ed Nieda
Elaine Morizono
Patsy Obayashi
Chris Takimoto
Alice Bowden
Janelle Shiozaki
Family Medicine & Lactation
Marion Wake
Brynn Saito
Joan Haratani
Dan & Linda Yasukawa
Herb Gong
Sharon Robinson
Russell Wong