



SERVING YOUR CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Roger Morimoto
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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
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**Aldersgate United
Methodist Church**
4243 Manuela Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94306-3705
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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



A New EASTER Beginning

Starting from Scratch! Starting all over!

These could sound like discouraging words. After putting so much time and effort into something, the thought of starting over can be painful and discouraging. I know when I am working on a project, the more effort I put in, the more I resist starting over even when I reach that point where I know I really need to start over.

In other contexts, starting all over is such a blessing – especially if you are a SF Giants fan in these recent years. For baseball fans, this is Spring – and for all the teams, hope springs eternal.

For sports fans, where only one team wins the championship, the next year is a new opportunity and a new day. Everyone is starting from scratch. Everyone is 0-0. Everyone has an opportunity to experience something special, or reach a goal, or just to play ball again.

We are coming up on Easter and the resurrection of Christ is a message of starting over again. It reminds us that no matter where we are in life, each and every day is a new opportunity to start again. It is an opportunity to relate to people in our lives in a new way. It is an opportunity to start or restart new projects and goals, it is an opportunity to forgive oneself and to begin anew even with our own selves or our own images.

We don't have to carry our mistakes forward; we can start from scratch – every day!

Church News

ROGER – *continued*

This Easter, we may not be able to be present with one another in ways that we would hope; but we can start anew. We can see the life ahead of us as a new beginning. We can leave the despair behind.

It is Easter and let it be a new beginning!

Roger

CHURCH NEWS

Update on the Status of In-Person Worship

As of our March 4th Administrative Council meeting, Aldersgate will continue to remain closed for the foreseeable future. We will continue to monitor advice from CDC and local health officials.

Spring Bazaar has been cancelled.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for the church.

Easter Offering

This month, we will be receiving our Easter offering. We have enclosed an Easter envelope for your convenience. We thank you for your generosity and support as we continue to navigate through Covid.

Monthly Envelopes

We have moved away from using our offering envelopes. We are providing regular envelopes in our monthly newsletter for your convenience in donating to the church. A few folks have asked from several months worth of these envelopes. We will be happy to provide those upon request, otherwise, each month the newsletter will have a regular envelope for your pledges and donations.

Giving Online

For those who wish to give online, you may do so via the church website, “aumcpaloalto.org.” The donate button is near the top left under the picture of the church. If you have a PayPal account, you can set up recurring donations.

In the next several months, we are exploring other options in giving.

Financially Speaking...Update

Despite the impact of Covid-19 and the cancellation of in-person worship and our two primary fundraisers, 2020 was a very positive year financially for the church. This was due to the generous giving of our regular members, several special donations from our regular members and from friends from afar, continued support from the Cornerstone program, and participation in the “PPP” program.

Thus, we have been able to sustain our full staffing through this pandemic.

We continue to do well as January and February finished in the positive. However, we do not anticipate the several special donations this year and we will NOT be receiving any PPP funds as well. We already have cancelled our Spring Bazaar. The status of our Salmon Dinner fundraiser has not yet been determined.

Thus, we anticipate 2021 to be a bit tighter than 2020.

We are just appreciative of the good will and spirit of our members and friends who support the building of community as we encourage spiritual growth individually and collectively.

Easter Zoom Service Sunday, April 4 • 10am

This service will be similar to the Christmas Eve. Rev. Roger and Rev. Jon will host the service as we celebrate the risen Christ in our lives. The Easter OWE will also be available on Easter morning.

Zoom Info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87847845188?pwd=MFhhdDlZSkdqN3pjK0Q2RXI5VkpGZz09>

Meeting ID: 878 4784 5188

Passcode: 123

Phone: 1 408-638-0968

Special Gifts!

Donations

Feb 18 to March 19

Ben Hashiba & Joy Nakamura
Kit Nishiura
Guy & Lucy Funabiki
John & Andrea Miyahara
Roger Jue & Wendy Ng
James Takasugi & Mona Nakamura
Paul & Patty Sakuma
Judy Wong
David & Hiroko Yoshida
Frances Tamura
Herb Gong & Mimi Funabiki
David Nelson & Jeanne Shimizu
Glen & Gayle Narimatsu
David Nakamura
Joyce Hikido
Glenn & Nancy Hamamoto
Harry & Syd Hatasaka
Bill & Leslie Katsura
Harold & Alice Yu
Sachiyo Yamasaki

In memory of

Harry & Elise, Reid's birthday
Art & Patty Yotsuya

In memory of Tak Nishiura

Richard & Irene Sasaki
Mits & Anne Uchida
Claire Haratani
Eizo Nishiura & Ruth Nelson

Building Fund, birthday

Kit Nishiura

Appreciation

Dale & Grace Uriu
Cathy Koubek

Jon & Julie Osaki
Steve & Marice Tatsuno

Easter

Roger & Chris Morimoto

Food delivery

Robert & Lori Chinn

Koyukai

Rosemary Shieh

Grant Nieda birthday

David & Hiroko Yoshida

Moving away, lunch

Mits & Anne Uchida

In memory of Marvin

Ozawa

Tomoko Ozawa

In Memory of Kimi

Tsukushi

Gary & Lynn Barbaree

PAYPAL from Feb 16 to Mar 22

Ed Nieda
Carol Uyeno
Marion Wake
Brynn Saito
Herb Gong
Steven R Scott
Joan Haratani
Roger Morimoto
Patsy Obayashi
Chris Takimoto

E-Newsletter and Online Worship Experience

For all upcoming events, please see the latest E-Newsletter email or check the church website, aumcpaloalto.org.

If you are not receiving the E-Newsletter, please contact church office at aumcpa@gmail.com or call the office at (650-575-2250). If you are subscribed and the E-Newsletter has not arrived, check your spam folder.

Aldersgate continues to create weekly Online Worship Experiences (OWE). You can access the OWE via the E-Newsletter or the church website, aumcpaloalto.org.

Even when we are able to worship in-person, we will continue to create weekly OWE for those unable to join us on Sunday!

Going forward, we see our community both as an in-person community AND an online community. The important feature is for us to be engaged so we become a community for all.

Manju from San Jose's Shuei-do

