

Website: <http://aldersgateumcphx.org/>
Email: aldersgatephx@gmail.com



May I come in?

Again! It happened again and again! Orlando how shattering that was, 49 lives wiped out and numerous others wounded. Another mass murder within our country! Then Dallas, police doing their duty; massacred, 2 bailiffs in Michigan next and it continues, more lives lost. All around the country we read of people being murdered. However, these devastating events may be labeled; terrorism, a hate crime, anger or mental illness the results are the same. Innocent people senselessly murdered, lives wiped out, families devastated and changed forever. The news reports are alarming and frightening. It brings down upon all of us a shower of emotions; sadness, fear and anger.

How many people must be murdered until our Senators and Representatives at all levels of government take action on gun control. Why, did our Congress allow the assault weapons ban expire? Why hasn't Congress taken action after so many thousands have been gunned down? There is no reason why any citizen needs to have or be able to purchase an assault weapon. This needs to be stopped. There is no reason why it should so easy for one to purchase a weapon of destruction. Each one of us has the responsibility to contact those who represent us and demand action. Another important responsibility that we have is the right to vote. We are compelled to research our candidates for office and vote for those in favor of gun control.

There are those who proclaim that the church should not be in politics but that certainly wasn't demonstrated in the ministry of Jesus. He was totally involved in the lives of people for their wellbeing even if it meant challenging the political powers and laws of his time. It is time that we as people of faith speak out and challenge our authorities; it is time to take action on gun control. We have witnessed far too many lives senselessly taken by guns.

See you in Worship,
Tom

COMING UP IN AUGUST

Every Sunday	Worship	11:00 a.m.
Every Sunday	Fellowship Hour	12:00 NOON
Every Wednesday	TOPS	9:00 a.m.
Every Wednesday	AA	7:00 p.m.

NO KARAOKE IN AUGUST

YOU ARE INVITED!

LIVING LIFE FULLY AFTER 50

These information sessions are open to the Community

Where?

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
3530 North 32nd Street, Phoenix, Arizona
For More Information -- (602) 956- 3710
website: : <http://aldersgateumcphx.org/>
Email: aldersgatephx@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

- A. **SCAMS, ID THEFT AND HEALTHCARE FRAUD PREVENTION** Come learn how to help fight and prevent Medicare/Medicaid fraud and abuse and how to get help if you or a family member is a victim of healthcare fraud.

Presenter: Presenter: Mr. Lennie Estrada
Mr. Estrada is with the Senior Medicare Fraud Patrol

SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

- B. **RESOURCE ROUND UP** A presentation to learn about **programs and services available** to enrich the lives of older adults.

Presenter: Ms. Megan Word from the Foundation for Senior Living



SEPTEMBER 27, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

- A. **CARING FOR CARE GIVERS.** If you are a “caregiver” this session is for you! Here is an opportunity to learn about programs and resources that can help you be the most effective caregiver.

Presenter: Ms. Megan Word from the Foundation for Senior Living

SEPTEMBER 27, 2016 at 11:00 a.m.

- B. **NUTRITION** Staying healthy is key to living fully as we grow older and what we eat is important. What are the best foods that seniors should be eating?

Presenter: Ms. Amy L. Pang RD, CSO Oncology Dietician, a registered Dietitian.



Bishop Bob's letter to the churches of the Conference about Jurisdictional Conference follows: (You may click on the links from <http://www.desertsouthwestconference.org/robert-tsugio-hoshibata>)

Dear Members and Friends of the Desert Southwest Conference,

The 20th Session of the Western Jurisdiction Conference of The United Methodist Church which met in Scottsdale, Arizona, was brought to order on July 14, and was adjourned on July 16, 2016. In those three days, momentous, memorable things occurred. I'd like to share some reflections with you. However, first and foremost, let me express my deep appreciation to our Desert Southwest team of planners and volunteers who poured out abundant blessings in welcoming and caring for the 100 delegates and the many more visitors and observers present at the Conference. The members and staff of North Scottsdale UMC, Paradise Valley UMC, and Central UMC also were "bend-over-backwards" generous in providing support for worship and meetings.

During this conference much was accomplished! The conference:

- *worshipped with spirit and devotion led by planner and coordinator Rev. Susan Brims and her team.*
- *remembered and gave thanks for Western Jurisdiction leaders who had died since the last Conference in 2012. Those memorialized included Pastor Diana Williams who served as Western representative to the National Committee on Deaf and Hearing Impaired Ministries; and the Rev. Dr. Jane Tews, who was a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences. ([Click here to watch the archived video.](#))*
- *heard spirit-filled testimony and visions for the Church of the future from inspirational leaders who had offered themselves for the office of bishop. Our own candidate, Dottie Escobedo-Frank was stellar in her candidacy, including her speech as she withdrew from candidacy. ([Click here to read Dottie's Gift of Words.](#))*
- *celebrated the ministry and leadership of Bishop Warner H. Brown, Jr., who retires from his episcopal assignment to the San Francisco area. ([Click here to watch the retirement video](#))*
- *engaged in discerning, prayer around the future of our church and our jurisdiction.*
- *adopted a budget, received reports, and elected leadership for our Jurisdiction. ([Click here to find out more.](#))*
- *took the delegates to the Heard Museum for a tour and a discussion about the ways we might continue the Acts of Repentance for injustices committed by the church against indigenous people. ([Click here to see photos of this outing and the rest of the conference events.](#))*
- *engaged in fellowship, laughed and cried together.*
- *felt the presence of God's Holy Spirit in many ways during the Conference.*
- *elected a new bishop for our Jurisdiction, the Rev. Karen Oliveto. Bishop Oliveto has been serving as senior pastor of Glide Memorial United Methodist Church in San Francisco. I have admired her strong leadership at that church where the poor, homeless, hungry and those at the farthest periphery of society are welcome, served, and loved. ([Click here to read her letter.](#))*

Bishop Oliveto's election and consecration have raised questions by some. ([UMNS has the story.](#)) These questions are being received and will be addressed. But for this moment, I want to share some personal reflections with you. From my perspective, Bishop Oliveto might best be described as a child of God with a pastoral heart for all persons, a profound appreciation for creation, one who connects intentionally and deeply with God, and a servant to all in the name of Christ.

I share these thoughts based on my acquaintance with Bishop Oliveto both before and after she became a bishop of The United Methodist Church. This is what I feel is important for you to know about her.

She is first, and foremost, a child of God. As a pastor, Bishop Oliveto loves all persons and has led her local church to practice that love. She will lead us all into that understanding and experience of the open arms of God embracing and loving all of us. Bishop Oliveto enjoys and honors God's created world and finds her spiritual grounding by, among other ways, being outdoors, with a particular passion for hiking. And in those moments, she is renewed and refreshed in her relationship with God. She has a humble servant's heart and a desire to give of herself to the church.

In the future, we will have opportunities to get to know Bishop Oliveto more deeply. I am looking forward to this with the high expectation that she will be a bishop for all in the name of Christ who called her to ministry.

As you might guess from these reflections, the Western Jurisdiction Conference was momentous and memorable. It will go down in history as a conference that changed the way we understand and practice our United Methodist faith. And it will long be remembered as a conference which demonstrated the extravagant hospitality of the people of the Desert Southwest Conference!

And, oh yes. Let me mention one more thing. Five active bishops of the Jurisdiction were assigned to the areas where they will lead for the next 4 years. ([Click here to find out more.](#)) And I am blessed by the assignment to return to the Desert Southwest Conference to be your bishop for 4 more years. Greta and I receive that news with great joy and celebration! We love you deeply!

In Christ,



Robert T. Hoshibata

Resident Bishop
Desert Southwest Conference
The United Methodist Church

*We will return to the sanctuary on September 11, 2016.
The choir will also resume singing on that day.*



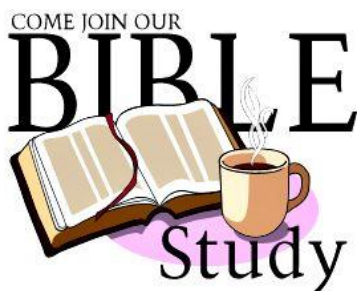
Please submit any September newsletter information to the Aldersgate church office by Sunday, August 21st. Newsletters are handed out to those in worship on the first Sunday of each month. Those not present will have their newsletter mailed the following week.

Also, if you know of someone in the hospital, ill or suffering in any way please inform the office.

THANK YOU

What a pleasant surprise on Sunday July 10th following worship. Thank you for the nice luncheon to welcome me back to Aldersgate for a new year. The beach theme was fun and reminded me; why aren't I on the beach at this moment instead of here in Phoenix in the heat? Then I remembered that the Lord has other things in store for me at this time; to be here at Aldersgate. I look forward to continuing in ministry with you. We have many challenges before us, the excitement of meeting those obstacles and fulfilling what God has called us to do. Thanks again for the luncheon, the card with so many nice messages and most of all for your love and support.

Pastor Tom



When: October 6 – November 17
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Aldersgate Church Office
What: Call to Covenant

This seven-week study is a segment from the Living the Questions Study. Our time together will be spent viewing a 20-minute video that features well known Biblical Scholars. Following the video will be a time of discussion amongst those attending. Call to Covenant will study the following: A Kingdom without Walls, Social Justice: Realizing God's Vision, Incarnation: Divinely Human, Prayer: Intimacy with God, Compassion: The Heart of Jesus' Ministry, Creative Transformation and Embracing Mystery.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

What: Aldersgate's Charge Conference with Reverend Susan Brims.

When: Saturday, October 29, 2016

Time: 10:00 a.m. All are invited to attend this Conference.

Staff Parish Relations Committee members are asked to meet at 9:00 a.m. with the District Superintendent. Lunch will be served immediately following the Conference.

Valerie Lintz

Last week when the noon temperature was 109, how much time did you spend outside in the afternoon? If you are homeless, you don't have the option of staying indoors all day because the big shelters require people leave by 7:00 AM and do not let them back inside until 3:00 PM. Fortunately, Justa Center is open from 7:00 AM until 3:00 PM seven days a week. So on the day it was 109 at noon, 130 homeless folks could stay inside. Thanks to all of you who have donated T shirts, socks and especially the hats.

Justa Center news:

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
3530 N. 32nd St., Phoenix, AZ 85018-5609