

# ALDRSGATE NEWS

# JUNE, 2017

Website: <http://aldersgateumcphx.org/>

Email: [aldersgatephx@gmail.com](mailto:aldersgatephx@gmail.com)

## May I Come In?

There continues to be no end to “bad” news. Worldwide, national or local it doesn’t matter; it shows no preference. This morning news from Manchester, England is frightening, confusing, troublesome and heart wrenching to say the least. Seeing the fear, panic and suffering of those present at that concert and their loved ones at home; it breaks your heart and disturbs to ones very core. Even more so as we recall how many attacks and lives lost by terrorist in the past. We realize that no country, no people have immunity.

My thoughts move from the humongous issue of terrorism to “minor” news accounts, which maybe aren’t so “minor.” I’m thinking of the fistfight among families at a graduation over saving seats. Knock down and drag outs in planes and restaurants and road rage on our streets. Are we losing control of ourselves?

As my thoughts keep evolving I recall a passage by the late Henri Nouwen in his book Mornings. He offers this suggestion: “What does it all mean? What is God trying to tell us? How are we called to live in the midst of all this?” Without such questions, our lives become numb and flat.

But, are there any answers? There are, but we will never find them unless we are willing to live the questions first and trust that, as Rilke says, we will, without even noticing it, grow into the answer. When we keep the Bible and our spiritual books in one hand and the newspaper in the other, we will always discover new questions, but we also will discover a way to live them faithfully, trusting that gradually the answer will be revealed to us.”

Perhaps too elementary or naïve? But then, look at our world! Doesn’t this mean that we all have responsibility to take control of our own lives every moment every day? We, who proclaim to be people of faith and called to live it; that means to live a life as described in Galatians 5:22-26 (your homework is to look that up) even when events stretch us to our “limits.”

See you in worship.



James Simmons  
Gladys Mercer  
David Rowe  
Ruth Wymer  
Gail Everts  
Linda Harmon

June 6  
June 9  
June 12  
June 12  
June 13  
June 13

### COMING UP IN JUNE

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

Special Retirement Celebration: *Please join us for the “Retirement” celebration for our wonderful choir director, Mrs. Gerry Baker. We will have refreshments served and you may contribute to the special Love Offering for Gerry that is scheduled for Sunday, June 4th after worship in Strivings Hall.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**No** choir practice until after Labor Day. **No** Church Council meeting is scheduled for June. A summertime Church Council meeting may be scheduled, if needed, & will be announced.



Please submit any newsletter information to the Aldersgate church office by Tuesday, **June 27<sup>th</sup>**. 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-



**Aldersgate Food Pantry Update:** We have created four closets with shelves for food supplies and are in the process of cleaning & painting them for use. When this project is complete, recipients will be assisted at the closets after checking in & will then select the foods that they want.

**Rebate Update:** Both Basha's and Fry's offer the church a rebate on any purchases made by a church member, their families, a friend or neighbor - as long as they are registered. If you shop at either of these stores, or have children who do, even if it's only once a year, please call me or stop me at church so we can register you. We use this money for our after-church get-togethers and special events. Additionally, we have a similar arrangement with Amazon. See Martha in the church office to be included in this rebate to the church. It's free money, folks!!!!



**Camelback Holistic Preschool Update:** The preschool for children 3 to 5 years old is now operating in classrooms on our campus. We wish them much success as they progress.

**Open House: Every Saturday - 10 AM - 12 PM**  
or **Contact Us** to schedule  
3530 N 32nd St - Phoenix

**We enroll children from 3-5 years old**  
Our classroom provides a clean and engaging environment that teaches the whole child. Our playground and gardens provide a secure and peaceful setting for children to learn and play.

**What We Offer**  
Research-based and Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum  
Low Teacher Student Ratios (1:9)  
Fresh Organic Meals Cooked On-Site  
College Educated Teachers

**Reaching New People Team update:** If you are interested in joining our team, please connect with Martha Benton in the church office. We can begin again to have some planning meetings and would love to have anyone join us soon. We can arrange to have weekly devotional meetings at the Lilac Bakery, which we're planning to start in early fall, so we should determine who would lead it. I'm sure you will have many more great ideas, so let me know what you think & I'll schedule a planning session soon.

Here's a sample of a church that has created a great program:

[NPR 's Lisa Napoli](#) shares a great story about churches reaching new people:

It's 7 p.m. on a weeknight at a strip mall in Huntington Beach, Calif., and people have been lined up for hours outside a laundromat here. They've been waiting for a chance to do their wash for free. As they file in, volunteers direct them to the machines and help them to supplies.

This is "Laundry Love" at work — a ministry that raises money to pay for detergent, dryer sheets and quarters for machines.

Laundry is a daunting chore for many people, but for the working poor, the cost of doing laundry — not to mention the time involved in hauling it to a laundromat — can be prohibitive. It can also mean going without other basic essentials.

Laundry Love gatherings may be the only time some people are able to wash their clothes, says volunteer Ken Kawamura.

The idea for Laundry Love began at an Episcopal congregation in Ventura, Calif., and slowly but surely, it's spreading. Now, more than 70 churches, mosques and synagogues around the country have adopted the practice.

For Giovanna Cortez, Laundry Love has become a necessity. With three kids, she has lots of laundry — and she lost her job in March.

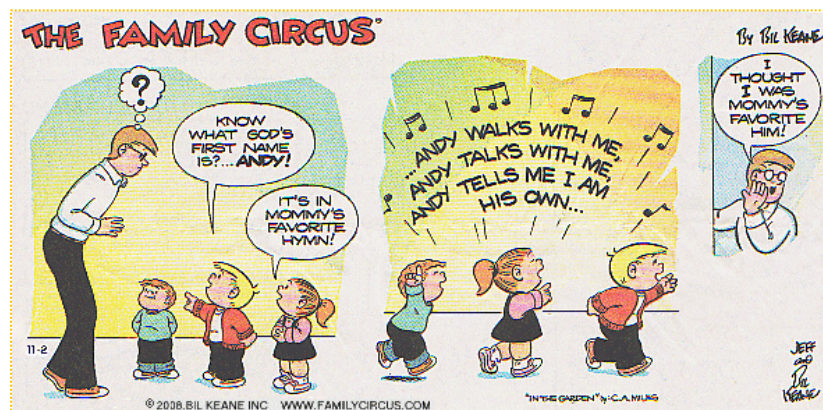
"I have to come because I have no money for laundry," Cortez says. She says she probably saved \$50 last month by using the Laundry Love service.

Shannon Kassoff, one of the organizers of Laundry Love in Huntington Beach, says it's about more than just free laundry. This group was formed by people who became disillusioned with traditional church, and started taking over this laundromat once a month.

"This is our church," Kassoff says. "It is probably the best way to be involved in other people's lives, not just handing out food in a soup kitchen, or whatever. We get to know them very well, and that's probably the best part of this whole deal."

[ <http://www.npr.org/2014/07/27/335290086/a-growing-movement-to-spread-faith-love-and-clean-laundry?live=1> ]

A little humor.....



.....Teehee!!

JUSTA CENTER NEWS:

Do you remember Job? The Old Testament fellow who had all those problems not of his making? Any number of the homeless seniors who visit Justa Center have days that they feel like Job. Rev. Geraldine (Gerr) Bast, a UMC ordained minister, is at Justa Center 12 hours a week to provide pastoral counseling to those who are having an "I feel like Job" day. A chapel is available for prayer or meditation. Rev. Bast also leads a 10 AM Sunday morning worship service.

Valerie Lintz

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