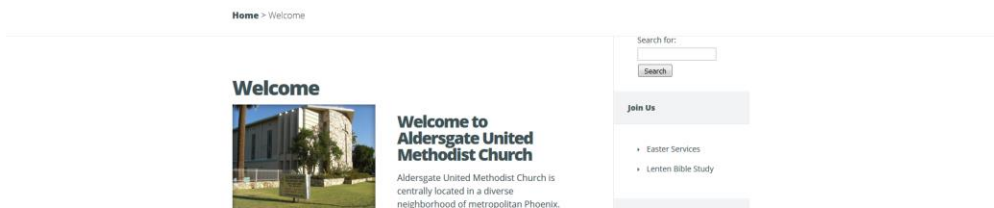
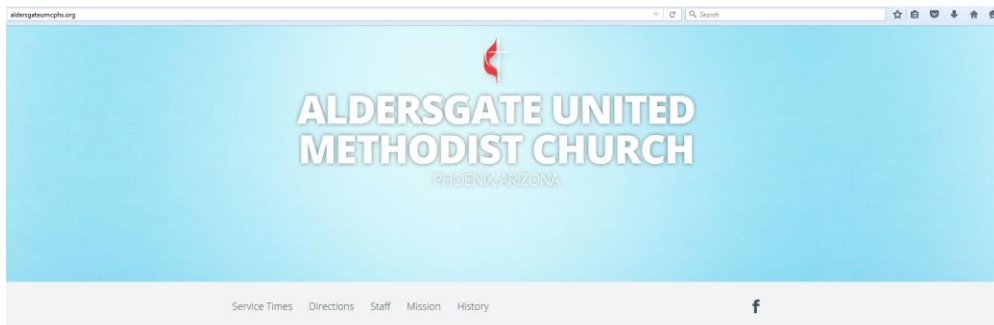
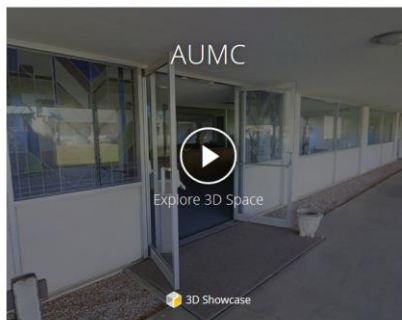


Announcing the launching of our brand new Aldersgate website!

<http://aldersgateumcphx.org/>



Martha Stowe Benton has diligently worked to create this website with learning the process from scratch! Please be patient.... we'll continue get the most current information listed, as soon as possible. I'd also like to thank my daughter, Nina, for her expert advice & assistance. Please feel free to contribute any notices or information to the Aldersgate Church Office to get posted to the website. There are some posts that will be updated soon. *Be sure to check out the "Virtual 3D Showcase" that John Brown has provided.*



There is also an Aldersgate Facebook page:  
[Aldersgate-United-Methodist-Church-Phoenix-AZ](https://www.facebook.com/Aldersgate-United-Methodist-Church-Phoenix-AZ)



Both the website and Facebook are linked together, so access is easy.

Message from the Pastor:

May I come in?

It doesn't seem possible that it has already been three months since we started functioning again as Aldersgate UMC. Of course, it is unbelievable for me that I have no longer been lounging around playing retired. What have I done! To be honest getting to know you, learning the story of Aldersgate, relearning and doing those things I laid to rest about pastoring in retirement; it has been an interesting experience; fun and a joy for me.

Many, some of you, friends and many colleagues, have asked; "well what are you feeling?" My feelings are three-fold. First I am inspired by you. Your determination to become Aldersgate, once again, to take the ball and roll; with so few and many who are up in years. It says to me, wow, life isn't over just because one is a senior citizen. Second, I am disheartened when I look at our situation; a rich history, bulging at the seams at one time, now so small and aging with a huge task before us. Thirdly, I get frustrated when I see what should and could be done but then there is so few of us, I am only part-time, lack funds and "manpower." It seems, at times, so overwhelming but then aren't we to be about faith and hope! What's this whole Lenten/Easter season all about? New Life!

I'll close with this assignment to you. I have heard numerous times "we want to fill the pews." It is a great goal and a complex task. But, one simple place to start is with each of you. Many people find a church because a friend, family member or loved one invites them. Maybe they even offer to pick them up on the way to worship. So how about it, why don't each of you start inviting and bringing people to church.

See you in worship,

Tom



### **LENTEN STUDY**

**Thursdays, February 4 – March 24 at 10:30 a.m.**

**In the Church Office**

This Lenten season Pastor Tom is teaching the study Living the Question. This study is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers and instead strives to create an environment where participants can interact with one another in exploring what's next for Christianity. Featuring thirty acclaimed scholars, theologians and other experts. Several of the sessions will be: "Taking the Bible Seriously", "Restoring Relationships", "The Prophetic Jesus", "The Myth of Redemptive Violence" and "Practicing Resurrection", to name a few. Each session will consist of a 20-minute video presentation which will be followed by group discussion.



### **COMING UP IN MARCH**

Every Sunday	Worship	11:00 a.m.
	Fellowship Hour	12:00 NOON Following Worship
Every Tuesday	Choir Practice	4:00 p.m.
Every Wednesday	TOPS	9:00 a.m.
	AA	7:00 p.m.
Every Thursday	Lenten Study	10:30 a.m. through March 24

# LENT

*March 20, 2016 - regular Sunday morning Service at 11:00 a.m*

PALM  SUNDAY



March 24, 2016 – evening Service begins at 7:30 p.m.



*March 27, 2016 – regular Sunday  
morning Service at 11:00 a.m.*

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Marion Haggard	2
Robert Reyes	4
Betty Benson	23

## EASTER LILIES

If you wish to request an Easter Lily, please process the enclosed Easter Lily order form as soon as possible. You may indicate your dedication in Honor of or in Memory of on the form. Place your completed form in the Church Office mailbox by March 15th.

## HEALTH SCREENING

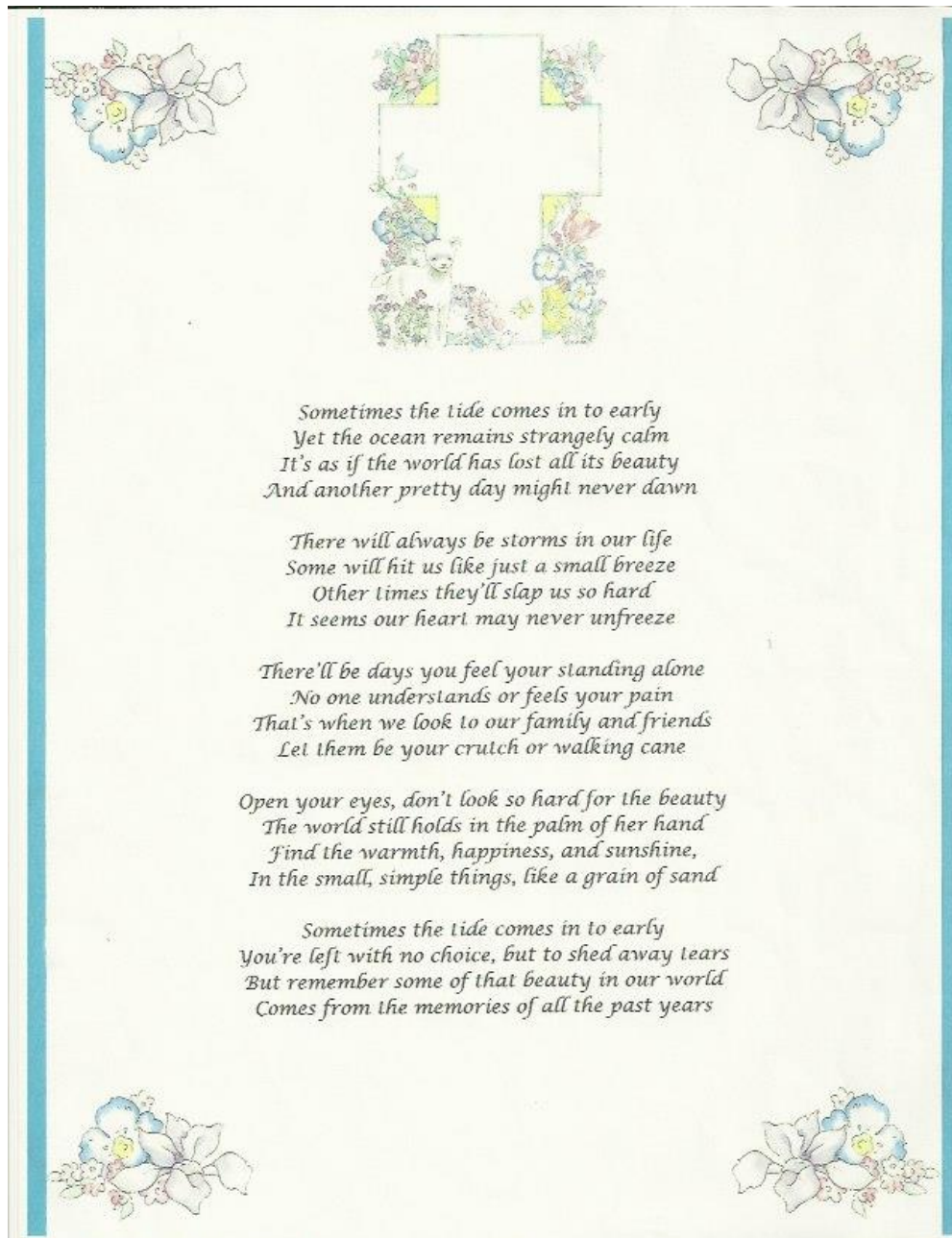
Cathedral Health Services Right Path Health Screening is coming to our campus in Strivings Hall on March 16th (see enclosure for screenings available and fees). Please plan put this date on your calendar if you wish to participate then.

Trustee Chair, Gail Everts, provides the following information:

Save your empty medicine bottles and bring them to the church for donation to Justa Center – they fill them with shampoo for giving to the homeless. These can be dropped off in the church lobby collection can near the stained glass window.

Please also save your empty water bottles and Gail will retrieve them from you, so leave a note in her mailbox in the office lobby and she will get that arranged. The money received from the recycling of the water bottles goes to our Food Box Ministries also.

We may be having a parking lot sale is being planned for April, but no date has been set yet.



Rewards Coordinator, Phyllis Soberg, provides the following information:

There; seems to be some confusion regarding grocery gift cards, so here are the stores that we get rebates from and information on how to participate.

**BASHAS'**: Buy a gift card from Phyllis for \$15.00, which is good for fifteen dollars' worth of groceries. Don't throw the card away, you can use it the next time you shop -- go to the customer service counter and add whatever amount you wish, then you can shop using the card. We will receive six percent (6%) of your purchases from Bashas'. There are no rebates on alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, stamp, gift cards, Western Union transactions, taxes, fuel or lottery tickets.

**FRY'S**: This program has changed. If you are a Fry's shopper, you must have an email address to participate. If you do not have an email address, please contact Martha in the church office to complete a form to create an email for your account with Fry's. We will earn three to five percent (3% - 5%) on your Fry's purchases.

Please remember, this is free money from Bashas' and Fry's.

**SAFEWAY**: Unfortunately, Safeway has gone to an entirely new program, which is all on-line. We are no longer a part of this program. Thanks for your past support.



### **FOOD BOX MINISTRY**

The pantry is always in need of food. Items that are needed: Dry Beans, Rice, Crackers, Fruit, Jell-O and Pudding Cups, Powdered Milk, Cereal, Saltine Crackers, Peanut Butter, Ramen Noodles, Canned Meat (Tuna, Vienna Sausage or Chicken) and Vegetables [no green beans are needed!]

If you can help by donating some of the above-listed items, drop them off at the church office from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays, or bring them with you to church on Sunday mornings and leave them in the choir room. Thank you to everyone that has contributed.

Thanks to Judy Peterson and to Becky Nyman for co-chairing this important ministry.



### **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

Monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 a.m. in Kephart Hall at Aldersgate. Bring a sack lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided. Ruth Circle will meet immediately following lunch.



### **IN MEMORIAM**

Longtime member, Roger Steele, Marianna Steele's husband, passed away recently and the memorial service was held on February 27, 2016 at 11:00 a.m. at our church.

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

### **KARAOKE**

We will have Karaoke in Strivings Hall on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> of March, you won't want to miss out on a good time. We will be serving snacks while people are singing or listening to familiar songs. The next karaoke will be Saturday, April 16.

The funds that are gathered at the Karaoke nights each month are donated to our Food Box Ministries. Approximately ten bags of food are distributed each Tuesday morning.

### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

Church Council will meet following Worship Service on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. This is an open meeting—everyone is invited to attend.

### **JUSTA CENTER**

Where do you go when life doesn't work out the way you planned? For senior citizens who are homeless in the Phoenix area, the answer is the Justa Center, a day resource center specifically designed to help those over the age of 55 find appropriate housing, employment, and other much-needed services. On a given day, more than 130 homeless seniors seek help at Justa Center which is open from 7:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. seven days a week. The streets are not safe for homeless individuals in general, but older people are particularly vulnerable. Justa Center helps people address the problems that have caused their homelessness, which can include catastrophic medical issues, job loss, substance abuse, and/or mental health issues. Once members move out, the safety net continues as Justa staff visit periodically to ensure they are doing well on their own. Many of these seniors face health challenges. Volunteer nurses are on hand to monitor health issues. There is an ongoing need for medical items such as canes, walkers, wheelchairs and adult incontinence supplies. If you can help, call 602-254-6524 or drop off items at 1001 West Jefferson.

*Valerie Lintz*