

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Letter # 31 - June 21, 2020

(You may click on the links in this letter to take you to the website listed)

In Today's Letter

Aldersgate Worship Online Experience - click here!

Christian hope does not promise
successful days to the rich and the strong,
but resurrection and life to those who must
exist in the shadows of death. Success is
no name of God. Righteousness is.

Jürgen Moltmann

Intro - Rev. Roger
"Gather Us In" - Ed Nieda
Pastoral Prayer - Rev. Roger
Children's Time - Brent Yamashita
Special Father's Day Music Presentation, "Gonna Fly" by DeeDee and the Band!
Pre-Sermon, "Jurgen Moltmann" - Rev. Roger
Scripture: Isaiah 53:3-9
"Open My Eyes" - Joann Shieh
"The Fuel that Drives Us" - Rev. Roger
"Spirit of God" - DeeDee Kato
Fellowship Time:
Pet Parade 2
Fun from the Gong Family
Reflections, Announcements and Sharing
"Reflections on Reflections..." by Rev. Roger Morimoto
"Tadaima: A Community Virtual Pilgrimage" shared by Patsy Obayashi
"Manzanar and the Coronavirus" - shared by Brad Shirakawa
From the Stanford Blood Center
"Changes" by Tupac - shared by Lynn Barbaree
Updated Instructions: Birthdays
Recognizing Our Graduates - June 28th
Children's Time Video's Needed!
Prayer List
Back-to-School Backpack Drive
Upcoming Zoom Schedule
Please Note! Choir STARTS AT 6:25 PM (5 min. early) Wednesday, June 24th
Koyukai Zoom, Tuesday, June 23rd at 10:30 AM - "Cooking Demo with Sachiyo"
Other Worlds Module: "Bosnian Pyramids", Monday June 29th at 7:00 PM
CSL/Healing Arts
Video 1: Basic Self-Reiki and Distant Healing
Video 2: Qigong Movements with Ben Hashiba

Video 3: Pal Dan Gum Qigong - Part 1
Video 4: Pal Dan Gum Qigong - Part 2
Video 5: Pal Dan Gum Qigong - Part 3
Meditation Video!



Roger's Greeting

"Reflections on Reflections..." by Rev. Roger Morimoto
Written on Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Last Wednesday, I awoke to an email from Rev. Gary Barbaree. I always appreciate everyone's comments about the "Letter#s" for it helps me reflect upon how others are responding to my thoughts and my own internal process. It leads to another level of reflection within myself... mirrors upon mirrors.

Here was Gary's email to me:

Roger,

Quick Response to Quarantine Letter #30. QL30.

Words empower. Getting just the right turn of phrase can really empower people to act.

Look at your first two items.

"Think Globally..." and

"... Anti-Racist"

Are such powerfully NEW words for extremely complex solutions to catastrophically ginormous problems.

I like a phrase that MLK used back in the early days of Vietnam-War Protests:

"We Cannot Walk Alone."

When he said "Walk" he meant it as a substitute for "March".

His personal struggle was how to convert anger to civil resistance.

Passive Resistance.

When he said "March" he meant as a substitute for "Protest."

When he said "Protest" he meant it as a substitute for "Riot".

When he said "Riot" he meant it as a substitute for "Race War".

When he said, "Race War" he meant it as a substitute for "Total Collapse of American Democracy".

So: "We Cannot Walk Alone."

This is a good call to action.

I am remembering how hard it was to get Americans "woke" in 1968. It was from the Assassination of JFK in November 1963 till Kent State murders in 1969. That's what it took to wake me up. And, man, the work required after that was ginormous.

Have a blest day.

Aloha, only Aloha

GB





As I read Gary’s email, I remembered the words Brynn Saito shared when she was an undergraduate at UC Berkeley. Her professor, American poet, Ishmael Reed, told her, “Writing is Fighting!”. Those words returned to me as I reflected upon Gary’s reflection upon my reflection.

This process of “reflections”, is a way we can engage the revolution that is unfolding before our very eyes.

You may not want to share your reflections publically but I encourage you to reflect, and perhaps write/journal, or paint, or other forms of artistic expression, or create a construction expression to be shared online (or just for yourself). It will deepen you and help you feel engaged in what is happening to us and within us. It will help you to feel empowered.

And though we may not always like what others share or for that matter, what I share, the process will help all of us move to a place of transformation and empowerment. It will keep us from feeling powerless and alienated as if this great shift is something happening “to us” rather than “through us”. We are all needed in this moment and in the time that is to come - and just remember ...

As Gary and Dr. King said, “We cannot walk alone!”

* The murals are from Steve Murata. They



were painted along the walkway near his home.

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Submitted by Patsy Obayashi: “Tadaima: A Community Virtual Pilgrimage”

We of the Poston Community Alliance is currently a partner for Tadaima - A Community Virtual Pilgrimage.

Due to Covid-19, many camp pilgrimages were canceled including ours. Kimiko Marr, co-founder of Japanese American Memorial Pilgrimages, and Hanako Wakatsuki, chief of interpretation at Minidoka National Historic Site, quickly organized a virtual pilgrimage, which is currently happening until August 16, 2020.

To register, please go to:
<https://www.jampilgrimimages.com/virtualpilgrimagereregistration>

The Poston Community Alliance will hold their Virtual Pilgrimage on Oct. 3, 2020. We will keep everyone informed regarding registration.

--- This Tadaima site has an amazing resource of videos on the Japanese American incarceration experience. [CLICK HERE THE FOR GENERAL SITE.](#)

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**Submitted by Brad Shirakawa from the LA Times:
“Manzanar and the Coronavirus”
by Louis Sahagun
June 15, 2020**

Click here for the story, about a pear orchard left behind by the internees, the virus and more.

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**From the Stanford Blood Center:
by Clayton Toller**

The Stanford Blood Center anticipates a drop in their opportunities for regular blood drives through tech companies and schools. They are encouraging people to come to the blood center or to a mobile blood mobile which can be found at <https://sbcdonor.org/donor/schedules/geo>

Blood Center Info:
Stanford Blood Center
3373 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94304
650-319-5666 cell
stanfordbloodcenter.org

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From Lynn Barbaree... “Changes” by Tupac Shakur

These lyrics from “Changes” by Tupac from the 1990’s, are as poignant now as they were 25 years ago (as Lynn Barbaree recognizes). Lynn invites us to revisit Tupac’s words and music in the midst of these times.

Tupac was an American rapper and actor. He is considered by many to be one of the most significant rappers of all time. Much of Shakur’s work has been noted for addressing contemporary social issues that plagued inner cities, and he is considered a symbol of resistance and activism against inequality.

Note of Caution: Parents, please note, the language is adult-like in nature.

“Changes” Video and Lyrics PDF

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Birthdays

Last Sunday, we celebrated on our OWE the birthdays for people born in January through May. On June 28th, we'll celebrate the June Birthdays. Please send me the names (and month) of your and other friends and family members' birthday (no years please).

(NOTE: If you or your family member's birthday was in Jan-May but you missed sending it, please still send it and we'll include on the June 28th.)

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Response to Online Worship Experience(OWE)...

We need your Tik Toks, talents, humor, and fun videos. People have truly enjoyed our OWE and Fellowship Time has helped us know each other and just appreciate getting through this pandemic together even in the age of SIP.

Rev. Roger needs some Children Time videos! So if you have an idea, go for it and share it with Rev. Roger.

Our Prayer List:

Haruye Ng, Paul Osaki, Sue Nakamura, Tak Nishiura, Kiyo Shizuru, Lea Haratani, Kamila Young, Hitoshi Tachibana, Chloe Gong, Ginger Powell, Jieun Lee, Patricia Orr, Jamie Campbell, Mel Imai, Harry Hatasaka, Sue Lemba, Martha Tanji, Bonnie Pennebaker, Nagi Hashiba, Tim Ome, Alex Baquiran, and Susie Lui.

Update: Rev. Mariellen is amazingly back at work. We grateful for your successful surgery and recovery.

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ALDERSGATE
SHARING BUILDING COMMUNITY

Thank you for participating in our 2020 Back-to-School Drive! We hope to raise enough funds to prepare over 42,000 local, low-income students with the tools needed for a successful school year.

Backpacks come in many sizes and colors, so we've made selecting one easy! Just click a grade level and then browse through the choices. Let's do it!

Live Stats*
• Donations Pledged: **\$346.00**
* Stats based on pledged amounts. Actual numbers may vary.

Cart Amount: **\$0.00**
[View Cart](#) [Monetary Donation](#)

Back-to-School Drive

Every year, we have supported the Back-to-School Drive sponsored by The Family Giving Tree (FGT). This year is not different EXCEPT we will be doing it online. The FGT has created an online link specifically for Aldersgate. If you click the link below you will be taken to a website where you can select the age group and backpack style. FGT purchases in bulk and then assembles everything.

We will track our progress and report to you each Sunday on our progress. This year, with all the uncertainty let's truly support the education of the children who are most in need. **CLICK HERE FOR THE ONLINE DONATION FOR BACKPACKS!**

Upcoming Zoom Meeting and Online Gatherings:

Choir Practice , June 24th at 6:25 PM
Practice is exactly one hour and ends at 7:25pm.

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/511182912>

Meeting ID: 511 182 912
One tap mobile cell phone for audio and video:
+16699006833,,511182912# (San Jose)

Dial by your location for audio only:
+1 669 900 6833 (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 511 182 912

Koyukai, June 23rd at 10:30 AM

So, our next KYK Zoom session will be a cooking demo by Sachiyo. She will be showing us how to prepare the Japanese Nimono dish. This is one of my favorite dishes and maybe for you too. Hope you can join this special Zoom session with Chef Sachiyo!

JAPANESE NIMONO INGREDIENTS

3 boneless chicken thighs
1 table spoon sake
1 medium gobo
2 medium carrots
3 bamboo shoots
1 block konnyaku
4 shiitake
1-1/2 Tablespoons canola oil
1/4 cup sugar
1-1/2 cup dashi
1/3 cup soy sauce
Dash of mirin

Below is the link to log in. For those of you who need assistance, Paul S. is available to assist you.

You can join us 15 min. earlier to make sure you don't have any issues.

Judy cell: 650-400-0371
Paul Sakuma cell: 650-799-1742

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83089506748>

Meeting ID: 830 8950 6748

One tap mobile phone for Audio and Video:
+16699006833,,83089506748# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location for Audio only:
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 830 8950 6748

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Next Other Worlds Session
“The Bosnian Pyramids”
Monday, June 29th, 2020
7:00 PM

In 2005, Bosnian born anthropologist Dr. Sam Osmanagich announced to the world's media his discovery, that a group of hills in the vicinity of Visoko, a small town in central Bosnia, were not hills at all but were in fact buried and forgotten Pyramids of both monumental size and extreme age. The Bosnian Pyramid of the Sun, the largest of the Bosnian Pyramids, is estimated to be at least 300m (900ft) tall. The Bosnian Pyramid of the Moon, though smaller at 190m (600ft) tall, is still over 50m (150ft) taller than the Great Pyramid of Giza.

We will explore “Bosnian Pyramids” and other general ideas related to new emerging archeological discoveries that challenge the traditional idea of the past on this planet.

Please RSVP to RVM878@gmail.com or text Roger at 650-575-2250.

Roger's Office

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/240390733>

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (646) 749-3131
Access Code: 240-390-733

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Center for Spiritual Life -
Healing Arts

Click here to go to our new website Healing Arts page!

- 1- Basic self reiki and distance healing
- 2- Qigong movements with Ben
- 3- Pal Dan Gum #1
- 4- Pal Dan Gum #2
- 5- Pal Dan Gum #3
- 6- Meditation