

Aldersgate Experience



SEPTEMBER 2016

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We strive, struggle and fight to get things that we think will make us happy. And all the while, happiness is already ours to choose without the things, without the struggle, without the fight. We place limits and conditions on our happiness, and tie it to things that do not last. And all the while, happiness is already ours to choose without the limits, without the conditions. When happiness is conditional and dependent, it ceases to be happiness and becomes merely another chore, another thing to struggle for, another thing to lose. True and lasting happiness is not a result, but is a cause. Let the happiness we seek flow out from us, rather than trying in vain to get it flowing into us. Let the world around us be an expression of our happiness, instead of depending on it to provide us with happiness. Do we want to be happy? Then know that nothing is stopping us other than the limits and conditions we place on that happiness. If joy and happiness flows out of us, then the rest of our world will soon follow along. Don't worry about being better than anyone else, for that will only bring resentment. We need to focus on being better. We

need to make today an improvement over yesterday. Comparing ourselves to others will only lead to disappointment or arrogance, neither of which will be of positive value to us. Instead, let us compare ourselves with ourselves, and then we truly have something with which to work. When we seek to become better than ourselves, there's no one who will be threatened by that. We are unique and beyond compare, so make the most of it. Stop worrying about how we compare to others. We should put that energy to positive use by being the best we can be, and then by being even better than that.

Rev. Dr. Homer E. Morris, Senior Pastor



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

A large, colorful graphic of the word "OOPS!" in a bubbly, multi-colored font. The letters are red, yellow, green, and pink, with a blue exclamation point.

Due to technical difficulties, the September Birthdays are not accessible this month.



We hope to have September and October birthdays next month !



AUMC LOVES OUR VETERANS!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN TO JOIN US! THE BULL CITY STAND DOWN will be held September 16, 2016 from 8:30 am until 2:30 pm. This is an event at the Durham Memorial Stadium (across from the Armory) that provides services to veterans. This is a great opportunity to connect with those who have served our country.

No experience or prior service is necessary! Just come with an open heart, warm smile, and friendly handshake. We will be offering prayer and support to veterans. They appreciate the acknowledgement of their service and sacrifice. Let's share some love with our vets!

If you would like more info, please contact Pat Porter at: porterhome84@gmail.com or (919) 382-0795.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



We have 4 different Sunday School classes for children on Sunday morning plus our nursery. We meet from 9:45-10:45 every Sunday morning. Come to our Sunday School Welcome Table in the Family Life Center to check-in your child, and a greeter will direct you to your child's class.



Together we will dive deep into God's word using the Cokesbury curriculum "Deep Blue." We'll have adventures, hear exciting Bible stories, and learn how to live as disciples of Jesus. The Bible is more than just a big book. It's a gift to us. The Bible is meant to be opened, explored, and enjoyed. With "Deep Blue", we'll open our Bibles and learn more about God, Jesus, faith, and how it all fits together into life today.

Here are our classes and coordinators :

2-3 year old: Charlotte O'Brien

PreK-K: Evelyn Johnson

1st-2nd grade: Lara Rowland

3rd-5th grade: Sandra Reynolds

LESSONS FOR THIS MONTH: JOSEPH'S JOURNEY

September 4: Joseph and His Brothers (Genesis 37:1-36)

September 11: Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 39:1-40:23)

September 18: Joseph Saves the Day (Genesis 41:1-57)

September 25: Joseph and His Brothers Reunited (Genesis 42-46)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE FOR KIDS * MUSIC AND ARTS ! CHILDREN WILL LEARN TO EXPRESS GOD'S LOVE TO OTHERS. EACH WEEK WE'LL ENJOY:

Choir Activities AND Artists from our own congregation will help us explore...

Sept. 14th, 21st, 28th: Handbells!

Oct. 5th, 12th: Exercise for Spirituality!

Oct. 19th, 26th: Painting

Nov. 2nd, 9th, 16th: Shadow Puppetry!



GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP



Have you had a spouse or friend walk out on you, or were you demoted at work, or have you lost a loved one in the past year? Are you concerned about a grave illness that threatens you or a family member? Such painful events in our lives can lead to intense emotions that can immobilize us and generate grief and sadness. If so, you are invited to join the next Grief Share Support Group. It will begin Tuesday, September 13th and run each Tuesday night from 6:30-8:30 pm until November 29th.

Many grieving people find they are only beginning the work of healing when friends or family return home. Too often people, including we Christians, forget that grief affects everything in our lives. It can even cause us to go on buying, eating, or drinking sprees or to numb our pain in some other harmful way. We fail to realize that our loss will still be there after we've eaten that half-gallon of ice cream or bought that dozen pairs of shoes. Left unchecked, these destructive coping styles can delay our recovery and leave us longing for hope and peace.

No matter whether your grief experience is recent or in the past, you will find encouragement, comfort and help through a Grief Share support group as you face your loss. No matter what the cause of your grief and pain, AUMC'S Grief Share Support Group gives you the opportunity to be around people who understand what you are feeling. You will learn to recognize what the effects are of being stuck in grief and to realize that you do not need to be a prisoner to fear and the opinions of others. You will also be aided in facing the new normal in your life and in renewing your hope for the future.

To register, or for more information, contact Barbara Atkinson at 919-765-9784 or Jack Snyder in the church office by dialing 919-477-0509 Ext. 303.



UPCOMING STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING

The Stephen Leaders of Duke Memorial and Union Baptist Church will launch a Stephen Ministry training class beginning on Monday, September 12, 2016 from 6:30 - 9:00 pm. Members of Aldersgate UMC are invited to participate in this training.

The plan is to complete 50 hours of required training before Christmas. As part of this training, there will be two or three Saturday retreats in addition to the weekly Monday meetings. If you have interest in becoming a Stephen Minister, this could be a great time for you to be trained, for it will present an enriching opportunity for you to work with two other Stephen Ministry congregations in Durham.

Please contact Jack Snyder at 919-477-0509 Ext. 303 (jack@aldersgate.org) for more information or to apply.



MUSIC NOTES

Imagine... a path of Luminaries lighting the way... Shepherds and sheep abiding in the field!... A bright star!... Wise Men journeying with their gifts!... and a Manger scene with Mary, Joseph, Jesus, Angels, and animals! Imagine people in our community driving through to view the scenes enacted by members of all ages, and culminating in hospitality at our picnic shelter with hot chocolate, cookies and... voila!!

WE CONNECT!

NATIVITY, LIVE!

This is the vision of the Worship and Evangelism teams for reaching into the community with good news and invitation this December. We are going to offer a Live Nativity on December 10th, from 5-7 pm. Everyone will be able to join in the fun that evening by donning a simple costume and taking a pose! It will make memories for our church family and for your family as well, as all ages are invited to participate, for a 30-minute performance (we'll rotate characters in). *Right now, we're in the planning phase and we need some help.*

Here are some ways you can volunteer to be a part of this "new thing" to tell the "old, old story."

ALL HANDS ON DECK! Urgent needs:

- 1) Animal coordinator. Help us make the connections we need to get a sheep or two, maybe a cow, or a donkey or pony, (camel??)! We need someone who knows someone who has some animals to borrow. We also need a way to transport these to Aldersgate and back!
- 2) Costumes coordinator. Inventory current supply, purchase cloth for extra costumes needed, organize people to cut and create simple tunics (no sewing/possibly hemming only needed).
- 3) Carpenter. To make our simple (life-size and storable) stable and create a stand for a bright star.
- 4) Volunteer actors coordinator. Coordinate our need for about 40 to sign up for ½ hour stint (plus ½ hour ahead to costume and get instructions). Children through adults can volunteer. (Sign-ups will begin in late November.)



Later, we'll need:

- 5) Dressing Room coordinator. Help folk find a good costume, give them instructions.
- 6) Cookie bakers. We'd love to have special homemade cookies for our hospitality pavilion.
- 7) Hospitality/Evangelism friends. Greet visitors, hand out an invite to our upcoming services as well as a memento.
- 8) Carolers. Sing with your cheerful voice at the pavilion.
- 9) Publicity coordinator. To help us get the word out. Possibly distribute door hangers in the area.
- 10) Photographer. To help us remember the fun we've had!

Please contact Nan de Andrade (nan@aldersgate.org 919-477-0509 x 310) to volunteer.



MUSIC NOTES



Please contact Nan de Andrade, Music Minister, to learn more. (nan@aldersgate.org) or 919-477-0509 x 310

WNL MUSIC AND ARTS EXPLORATION for children!



Beginning Sept. 14th, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

The Bible says, “For we are God’s masterpiece. God has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago!” (Eph. 2:10) This is our guiding verse for children at WNL this year!



This fall, our WNL program will begin with a choir practice: Ruth Kay will lead the “Young Masterpieces” (Pre-K through 1st graders) and Nan de Andrade will lead the “Masterpieces” (2nd-5th graders) with the “Make Some Noise!” children’s worship series.



Then, for the second half of our WNL program, members of our church who worship through other arts (Heidi Miller, Cheryl Joy Turner, Emily Wike) will share their “other arts” for 2-3 weeks’ modules, helping the children to experience God by painting a picture, ringing bells, making shadow puppets and creating a show, and uniting body, mind and spirit through practicing yoga poses! The choirs will share songs in worship every 4-6 weeks and also prepare leadership for special services,

such as our Chrismon service, and their products in the “other arts” will be presented and shared as well. Please help us build an exciting program for our children by bringing your children each Wednesday evening. Aldersgate desperately needs the witness and leadership of our children, and our children will benefit greatly from having an outlet for their joy in the Lord, as well as learning about worship leadership.

CHANCEL CHOIR Our Chancel Choir is a wonderful way to worship-- We offer ourselves in service. We praise God with our whole hearts. We pray - twice (“One who sings, prays twice.”) We go deep into God’s Word and inspired texts. We love one another as we share our work and lives.

If you love to sing praise to God and want a way to deepen your service and worship experience, you are invited to join us! Our rehearsals are 7:30-9:00 pm on Wednesday, just after the WNL studies. Please contact Rev. Nan de Andrade to learn more. No experience/audition is necessary. Come!!



ALDERSGATE’S GOT TALENT! MUSICIANS INTEREST AND TALENTS SEARCH

Do you (did you) play an instrument? Would you be interested in playing with a band/orchestra/small ensemble to serve in worship /outreach here at Aldersgate? How about singing? Would you be able to share a solo or are you interested in singing in a Men’s/Women’s ensemble or perhaps a Guitar jam or Bluegrass Strings group occasionally? Let Nan know you’re out there!

GUITAR/STRINGS JAM INVITE

Bob de Andrade is inviting any guitar/mandolin/banjo/uke players to join him for a jam session. This is not necessarily to perform, just to have fun playing together. Choose a song or two you’d like to play (any song!) and bring the music or lead sheet with you. Join him on Thursday Sept. 15th at 7:00 pm in the choir room.

MUSIC NOTES (CONTINUED)

HANDBELLS

Our Joyful Noise Ringers handbell group (for teens and adults) will begin rehearsals on Sept. 6 at 7:30 pm. If you read music and would like to join us, please contact Nan – there is a spot for you! If you do not read music well, but would love to try ringing bells, a beginner group will form – we only need to have seven people interested! We would rehearse at 6:30 on Tuesdays.



YOUTH

We have some great talent in our youth at Aldersgate, and this fall we hope to see you sharing music with our Sunday morning worship. We're working now to find a way to gather together and practice (2-3 week commitments at a time). We hope you know that you are also invited and welcomed as a part of the Chancel choir / handbell groups!



SACRED DANCE LEADER NEEDED!

Aldersgate's wonderful tradition of sacred dance has been on a bit of a break in the past year, but it's time to put those dancing shoes on and resume this beautiful and important ministry!! We are currently seeking a leader for a children's group and a youth group. PLEASE, if you have dance experience in your past, we have resources and support to help you lead/co-lead our dancers! Contact Nan and find out more!

“GO, TELL IT ON THE WEB”

We have a great opportunity through social media to share the love and joy that comes from being a part of Aldersgate UMC. As others scroll through member's prayer requests and answered prayers, thanksgivings and celebrations, and excitement over something that has inspired, we are using social media as a powerful tool to help spread the gospel Good News. People are watching, and our conversations and activities on FB or other social media speak volumes to them about our character as Christ-followers. As the Bible says, “by this they will know that you are my disciples.” **Our positive witness through social media may encourage someone to visit here, to rekindle or find their faith home. So, “Go tell it!”**



WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE - SEPT 14TH * NOTE A SCHEDULE CHANGE -



This year we **WILL NOT HAVE A PRAYER SERVICE AT 5:00 PM IN THE SANCTUARY.**

WE WILL HAVE A BRIEF (5 MIN.) DEVOTION AND BLESSING OF THE FOOD AT 6:05 FROM OUR TABLES IN THE FLC. SCHEDULE WILL BE AS FOLLOWS: WNL Fellowship Meal 5:30 pm - 6:20ish, Brief devotion and blessing of the food - 6:05pm, WNL Classes and Small Groups will follow from 6:30 - 7:30pm. (with the exception of Financial Peace, which will start at 6:00 pm)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE MEALS

FELLOWSHIP MEALS FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE



Now is the time for your group or class to sign up to host one of our dinners. These meals not only provide an opportunity for our church family to gather together and enjoy a delicious meal together; it also is a way for your group to raise money for a mission project of your choice. So roll up your sleeves and let's get cooking! Typically the most desirable dates *go fast* – contact Barbara Atkinson (habnc@hotmail.com or 919 638-5711) and get your group signed up with the date (s) you want. Adults: \$6.50, \$ 3.50 thru 5th Grade, Family Plan: (max) \$20.00

Sept. 14th: Haiti Mission Team: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Salad, Green Beans, Dessert

Sept. 21st: Feed My Flock: Stuffed Pork Loin

Sept. 28th: Primetimers: TBA

COMMUNITY CAFÉ FOR URBAN MINISTRIES * OCT. 9TH

Help us provide a meal at the Community Café for Urban Ministries.



On Sunday, October 9th, Aldersgate is providing a Chicken Pot Pie dinner for about 250 guests. We need twenty-five Chicken Pot Pie Casseroles in disposable aluminum trays and desserts for 250 people. We also need at least ten folks to go with us to serve the meal. Wear a baseball hat to serve or we will provide a hair net for you. All food should be at the church hot and ready to serve no later than 4:30 pm.

Our volunteers will take it to the Community Café and serve our guests. The menu is salad, chicken pot pie, dessert and drinks. The chicken pot pie recipe serves about ten people. You can pick up copies of the recipe on the Welcome Center.

If you would like to volunteer to cook or serve please just email Mary Taylor at mary@aldersgate.org Or call me at 919-225-0528 cell, or 919-479-9669 at home. Please indicate casserole, salad, salad dressing, dessert or volunteer. You may also sign up at the Welcome Center outside the Sanctuary or [CLICK HERE](#).

Chicken Pot Pie

- 2 cups cubed, cooked chicken
- 2 cans cream of chicken soup
- 2 cans of Veg-all, drained
- 1 cup Bisquick
- 1 cup milk
- 1/2 stick butter

Mix Veg-all, chicken and soup:

Pour in 9"x13" pan. Melt butter; mix butter, milk, and Bisquick (it will be a very thick batter).

Pour over chicken-vegetable mix.

Bake uncovered at 350 degrees until golden.

Approximately 45-60 minutes.



ALDRSGATE WEEKDAY SCHOOL MINISTRY

The kids are back in school! We are so excited to have all of our sweet preschool children back with us ! We have 150 preschool students ages 1 year thru 4 years old. I would like to introduce you to our preschool teachers:



- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Tammy Golden | Melissa Jacobs | Therese Griffin |
| Megan MacIver | Amy Ludwig | Deb Matthews |
| Angela Herman | Karmon Allison | Lara Rowland |
| Kimberly Riggs | Judi Collier | Carol Eddinger |
| Marcie Hutson | Kelly Reaves | Carol Finch |
| Lynn Wilfong | Pam Hartis | Ginny Hall |
| Mary Johnson | Aleda Deck | Stephanie Elston |
| Merriem Franks | Kellie Avery | Maria DiFrancesco |
| Susan Caviness | | |

There are many ways the congregation can be involved with the Weekday School:

- Pray for the families
- Pray for the teachers



Join us for our school “dinners out” each month. All the proceeds benefit our scholarship fund. Mark your calendars now!



September

Monday, September 19th

5-10 PM, **Jade Buffet** at 1720 Guess Road

October

Tuesday, October 11th

5-9 PM, **Pizza Inn** at 3906 North Duke Street

Must show flyer or tell server you are with Aldersgate

November

Thursday, November 17th

4-10 PM, **Texas Roadhouse** at 1809 N. Pointe Drive (takeout included!)

Must show flyer or tell server you are with Aldersgate

December

Tuesday, December 13th

All day at **Pomodoro** (takeout included!)

1811 Hillandale Road

We are looking forward to another wonderful year with all our Aldersgate Weekday Ministries Families and Staff.

Evelyn Johnson



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

SUNDAY SERMONS - REV. DR. HOMER E. MORRIS

September 4th – Homer Morris “Christian Posture: Stooping”
John 13:1-17, 31-35

September 11th – Homer Morris “Christian Posture: Running”
Psalm 139:7-10; Jeremiah 1:4-10

September 18th – Homer Morris “Christian Posture: Falling”
Matthew 26:69-75; Psalm 37:23-24

September 25th – Homer Morris “Christian Posture: Kneeling”
Psalm 95:1-6; Acts 9:36-42

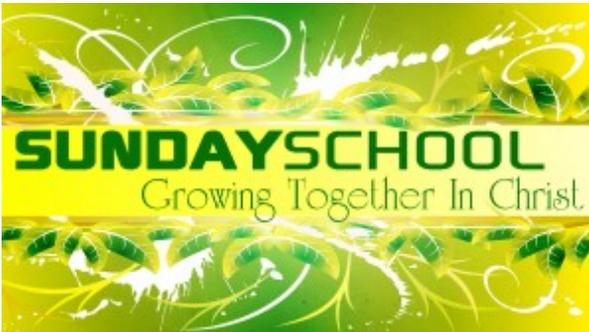
STEPHEN MINISTRY

Are you grieving from loneliness, a debilitating illness, a broken relationship, or some other loss that leaves you feeling like you are losing your mind? If so, you are not alone. In fact, you may benefit from connecting with one of our Stephen Ministers. These persons are members of our AUMC congregation who are well trained to provide you with encouragement and hope in order to help you heal from the pain. Most of all, they will listen to you as you unravel your feelings about your loss—all done in a confidential manner without cost.

David, a recent participant, says that until the time of his wife’s death, they were doing pretty good financially. He said that her social security check covered their house payment, and his social security check paid their bills, groceries, gas, and maybe going out to eat a couple of times per month. David admits that since his wife passed away, everything has fallen on him, and he has been put into a real financial bind.

At first, David said it was difficult for him to ask for help from friends and family. To do so, he thought, only made it seem as though he was bothering somebody else. Finally, David’s neighbor linked him up with an AUMC Stephen Minister who met almost weekly with him. These visits proved invaluable, for his Stephen Minister challenged him to see that he needed God and other people in his life. Finally, with God’s help, David was able to understand that he was not made to face the pressure of death alone. This insight enabled him to set aside his pride and ask for needed support from a friend and his church. “My Stephen Minister helped me to see that God was walking alongside me the whole time,” he said. “Also, I could not have rebounded so well from my grief and begun to move forward had it not been for the encouragement and support I received from my Stephen Minister who helped me to see that my grief did not have the power over me I thought it did.”

If you have experienced a recent loss or simply want to learn more about our Stephen Ministry program, or if you know of a friend or a co-worker who might benefit from talking through their grief, contact Jack Snyder at 919-477-0509 Ext. 303, or at: Jack@aldersgate.org.



SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM

THE IRON MEN - ROOM 208 (FLC) As Proverbs 27:17 says, "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another." This is an in-depth Bible study class for men focusing on different books of the Bible. Currently the men are diving deep into the book of Luke. If you want to move past the easy answers and simple object lessons approach to scripture and wrestle with some harder questions, this is the class for you. Have you ever wondered how Luke's Gospel account is different from Matthew's and why that even matters? Or why people from Nazareth wanted to throw Jesus off a cliff when he came back as an adult? Or have you wondered about the historical and social background that influences our interpretation of Scripture? This class leaves no stone unturned and every question is fair game. You will leave enriched and encouraged not only by deeper Bible study but also the support of your fellow men. Come get your iron sharpened. Led by Hank Van Deventer

YOUNG ADULTS - ROOM 205 (FLC) We are excited to offer a new class this fall for singles or couples from 20-50 years old, with or without children. We hope to have small group discussion, build relationships, and create a safe environment to authentically explore what it means to be a disciple of Christ. The focus is on fearless conversation that allows us to face life's challenges with grace.

Jesus loved getting people to think. He asked provocative questions, such as "What do you want?" "Where is your faith?" and "Who do you say that I am?" And he often asked just one simple question: "What do you think?" On the flip side of this, Jesus never quizzed his followers on facts such as "Where was I born?" or "How many commandments are there?" He didn't pass out fill-in-the-blank worksheets. And he didn't offer simple, pat answers. Instead he helped people wonder, grapple, and wrestle with the hard questions of life and faith. This class will focus on just that: asking questions, grappling with tough issues, hearing others' perspectives, and wondering how we might be faithful to Jesus Christ. Led by Audrey Turley

SERENDIPITY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS - ROOM 207 (FLC)

The premise of the Serendipity Class is that the Bible is still relevant to modern life. In searching out and exploring this relevance in our personal lives, we do, in fact, encounter serendipity. Webster defines serendipity as "...the faculty of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for." What we often find that as we search and study the scriptures together, we explore new and old questions, we find how the scripture applies to our daily lives and situations, we find personal renewal, and we come to care for our classmates in a deeper way as we learn from, and about, one another.

The class is comprised of a diverse group of inter-generational members, marital status, bible knowledge, and life experiences. All of this comes together to promote a safe environment for discussion as we explore the scripture lesson, providing support for those asking questions and sharing personal experiences as we share among friends. We use a variety of teaching methods such as books, handouts, videos, and interactive discussion, all based on scripture. We believe prayer works and we pray for those in need. All are invited to share and join in as they are led.

Their next study is "*Jesus the King*" by Timothy Keller. This book studies the life of Christ as told in the Gospel of Mark. We will look at how Jesus came as a King, but had to bear the greatest burden anyone ever has. Keller shows us how the story of Jesus is historical, cosmic and personal, all at the same time. How can we look at our personal relationship with God in light of what we read and learn? Keller opens the words of Mark, and challenges us to find the deeper meanings, not just the superficial. Led by Glenn Reynolds

THE OUTBACKERS - ROOM 202 (FLC) This class focuses on issues facing Christians in the everyday world. The new study will be from John Ortberg's "*All the Places to Go...How Will You Know...*" Are you ready for an adventure? Rarely in the Bible does God command someone to "stay." Instead, he opens a door and invites us to walk through it—into the unknown. And whether we stay or go will ultimately determine the kind of life we'll live and the kind of person we'll become.

In "*All the Places to Go . . . How Will You Know*"? bestselling author John Ortberg opens our eyes to the countless open doors God places before us every day, teaches us how to recognize them, and encourages us to step out in faith and embrace all the extraordinary opportunities that await. Know? This class is led by Judy Alford.



CONNECTING, KNOWING, LOVING, GROWING

Growing

AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST, AND AS A FAITHFUL
COMMUNITY CALLED THE CHURCH.

Adult Studies

MONDAY EVENING * CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER * SECOND MONDAY EACH MONTH
ROOM 201 (FLC) 7:00 PM - Contact Sandra Reynolds with questions at se.reynolds@yahoo.com.

TUESDAY MORNING * TMBS (TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY) WESLEY ROOM - 6:30
AM * The Men's Tuesday Morning Bible Class will begin the Tuesday, September 6th. All men are invited to join
us for coffee, biscuits and good discussions. For more information contact: John Hall at (919) 477-5802
or jahall@nc.rr.com. Class begins Sept. 6th.

DISCIPLE I - TUESDAY - 7:00 PM - ROOM 205 (FLC) Disciple I is a 32- week study. You will never see the
Bible the same again because you will finally understand it! Led by Regina Carver and Judy Alford. Class begins
September 13th.

GRIEFSHARE - TUESDAY EVENING - 6:30 PM ROOM 202 (FLC) GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of
people who will walk alongside you through grief and loss resulting from the death of a loved one or friend. Barbara
Atkinson and Jack Snyder will co-lead this 13-week support group.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON * THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE CLASS 2:00 PM WESLEY
ROOM. The topic this fall will be "Favorite Bible Passage, Volume Two" This class begins on September 15th and
is led by Judy Alford.

SATURDAY MORNING * SEPTEMBER 10th & NOVEMBER 12th
QUIET DAYS - WESLEY ROOM - Quiet Day is a time set aside for silence, solitude and reflection. QUIET
DAYS begins in the Wesley Room from 8:30 am until Noon. This mini-retreat is led by Barbara Atkinson.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTLIVE

WEDNESDAY EVENING

ON OUR WAY: CHRISTIAN PRACTICES FOR A WHOLE LIFE 6:30 PM

- WESLEY ROOM This study will examine different Christian practices for living a whole life, attentively, together, in the real world, for the good of all, and in the presence of God. In the early church, Christians were called "followers of the way." Christian discipleship is not about a set of ideas, it is a way of life! In this class we will discuss how we can live out our faith in our everyday life through community, friendship, study, care for creation, singing, honoring our bodies, and practicing justice among other things. By cultivating these habits and practices, we can experience God's abundance more fully. Led by Eric Preshaw. This class will begin September 14th.

JOHN: THE GOSPEL OF LIGHT & LIFE - 6:30 PM ROOM 206 (FLC) - The Gospel of John is the most deeply spiritual of the four gospels. It includes some of the loftiest and most loved verses in all the Bible: "And the Word became flesh...", "For God so loved the world...", "You who are without sin cast the first stone...", The writing is filled with rich images and profound truths, but John notes that his aim in writing the gospel is that his readers will not only believe in Jesus Christ, but that they "may have life in his name." Join Adam Hamilton and experience a season of spiritual growth and life-changing renewal while reading the entire Gospel of John. Led by Homer Morris. This will begin September 14th.

FINANCIAL PEACE - 6:00 PM - ROOM 202 (FLC) You can find Financial Peace at Aldersgate. Most Americans live paycheck to paycheck, regardless of their income. This means that "broke" has become the new normal in our nation. If this is you, we've got good news. You are not alone. Financial Peace University is that plan. This nine-week class taught by money expert Dave Ramsey can change your financial story in a matter of ten weeks and your family tree for generations to come. Classes start Wednesday, September 14th. Led by Sandra Reynolds, April Twine and Mary Taylor.

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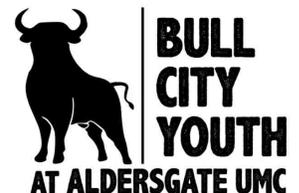
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YOUNG ADULTS - ROOM 205 (FLC) This class is for singles or couples from 20-50 years old, with or without children. The focus is on fearless conversation that allows us to face life's challenges with grace. Led by Audrey Turley.

If you have any questions about Adult Sunday School, please contact: Eric Preshaw (eric@aldersgate.org)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE FOR YOUTH * Wednesday Nights from 6:30-7:30 the Youth will gather in the Youth Room to focus on mission projects which will include: Genesis Garden, Circles of Love, Fall Coat Drive, Families Moving Forward and much more!



SUNDAY MORNING FOR YOUTH * Sunday morning at 9:45 am we gather with the rest of our congregation for worship. Sunday school is broken into middle school and high school classes (Room 201 FLC). Our focus will change as we move through out the year.

SUNDAY NIGHT FOR YOUTH * 5:00-7:00 pm at AUMC. This is our main community gathering! Table Time (meal) Games, Discussions and Missions and more!

CONTACT Andrew Woods - Director of Youth and Recreation Office: 919-477-0509 ext. 316 or email: andrew@aldersgate.org

FROM THE TRUSTEES



Over the past few months you may have noticed a lot of “sprucing up” going on around the two church buildings. There have been questions regarding expenditures for maintenance, repair and improvement projects at Aldersgate given the current budget situation. The Trustees balance all expenditure decisions against available funds. There are several possibilities to fund work: general operating budget, restricted funds and specific donations. The church received a donation of property at the end of last year, which the Trustees placed in a restricted account for maintenance and repair projects.

Glenn Reynolds
Chair, Trustees
AUMC

When you think about AUMC’s finances, more than likely numbers, commas, and decimals come to mind.



Some may think of the annual budget. Others may think about monthly giving or the church’s capital debt. While these are important aspects of the church’s finances, they are not our most important numbers. The real story is what your generous and faithful financial support of the church makes possible – creating disciples of Christ. It is the lives touched, needs met, and relationships deepened with our Lord and Savior. Throughout the remainder of the year in addition to being transparent with how the church is operating financially, the finance committee wants to highlight a few of the numbers you make possible each month.

Financial Information: YTD

Income \$485,232.23
Expenses \$535,633.84
Net Loss: \$ 50,401.61

MANY WAYS TO GIVE



One convenient way to give is to set up an EFT or electronic funds transfer. You can give a one-time gift or set up weekly, or monthly donations. You can set it up yourself by going to our Aldersgate.org website select Mission & Giving then select on-line giving. You may also contact our church treasurer, Mary Taylor (mary@aldersgate.org).

You can make donations to the operating budget, the capital campaign or to special ministries such as the Community Backpack Ministry or Urban Ministries, or make a special memorial gift.

Another way to give is by donating shares of stock. We use the United Methodist Foundation and Morgan Stanley to assist us with gifts of stock. If you are interested in this option just contact Mary Taylor by email at mary@aldersgate.org and she will give you or your stock broker the necessary paperwork to transfer the stock.

 SEPTEMBER LAY ASSISTANTS

USHERS GREETER WELCOME STATION LAY READER
8:30 Service**O = Office Door M = Main Door**

9/4	Chick Hinton Richard Riggsbee Katherine Siler John Field	Carol Brese-M Dave Brese-O	Carol Brese	Ed Osteen
9/11	Kathy Chmielewski Carl Chmielewski Paul Jones Linda Jones	Mitch Adkins (M) Ed Osteen (O)	Mitch Adkins	Richard King
9/18	Stacey McCorison Jeff Sturkey John Field Kirk Brown	Richard Riggsbee (M) Mitch Adkins (O)	Richard Riggsbee	Sharon MacLaurin
9/25	Mary Tom Roberts Doug Morris Carole Morris Chick Hinton	Jeff Sturkey (M) Carl Chmielewski (O)	Jeff Sturkey	Kathy Chmielewski

11:00 Service

9/4	Bill Smith Ginger Hawkins Judy Alford Ronnie Oakley	Nancy Gaither (M) Janie Howell (O)	Nancy Gaither	Lee King
9/11	Ronnie Oakley Amelia Oakley Kirk Brown Nancy Gaither	Lindsay Brown (M) Pam Boatright (O)	Lindsay Brown	Julie Reo
9/18	Paula Veasey Pam Boatright Roy Swarigen Kimberly Riggs	Audrey Turley (M) Nancy Gaither (O)	Audrey Turley	Lynn Baird
9/25	Jan Howe Ronnie Oakley Michele Tucker Ed Osteen	Paula James (M) Gary James (O)	Paula James	John Howe

NURSERY MINISTRY

EACH SUNDAY MORNING:
8:30 AND 11:00 AM

NURSERY TEACHERS ARE:
LYNN WILFONG, ELLEN WHISNANT AND DAWN ECKHOFF



ACOLYTE

8:30 AM SERVICE

- 9/4 **KAYLEE ECKHOFF**
- 9/11 **DANIELLE NIXON**
- 9/18 **McKAYLE NYE**
- 9/25 **ABBIE ROBINSON**

11:00 AM SERVICE

- 9/4 **Riley Hale/Sammy Turley**
- 9/11 **Elizabeth Healy**
- 9/18 **Meadow Snyder**
- 9/25 **Joshua Bosecker**



An acolyte is a person who assists the presiding minister/pastor in worship and carries out certain duties, including candle lighting; carrying the processional cross; holding or getting items the pastor needs at baptisms, Holy Communion, and other worship acts. Acolytes may be children, youth, and adults.

ALTAR GUILD

PAULA JAMES
KATHY CHMIELEWSKI



Altar Guild assures the worship space and supporting materials are prepared for worship.

TRUSTEE FOR SEPTEMBER

EDDY SHIPMAN



Trustees are Christian stewards of the property God has entrusted to the congregation. Effective trustees supervise and maintain the property of the congregation to ensure that disciple-making ministries of the congregation are effective and that local legal requirements related to the property are satisfied.

ALDERSGATE UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

1320 Umstead Drive
Durham, NC 27712

Phone: 919-477-0509
Email: holly@aldersgate.org



FIND US ON:

Facebook: Aldersgate UMC Durham
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Methodist Church