



The Aldersgate Experience

Monthly News of Aldersgate United Methodist Church

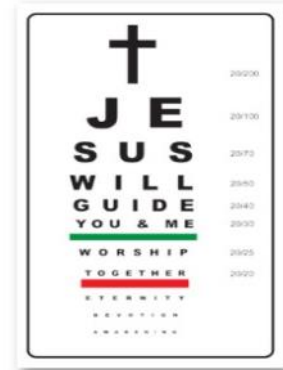
January 2017

U R Invited! VISIONING SESSION 2017

Join Pastor Troy, Aldersgate's 2017 Elected Ministry Leaders, and AUMC's Ministry Staff Directors in a VISION-CHECK & VISIONING for Ministry into God's Future for Us! Saturday, January 28, 2017 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Family Life Center!

Why an All-Church Visioning Session?

Because, when we seek to See Through the Lens of Christ, we are led into paths God has for us ... we are given dreams that transcend our fears and fumbling ... and we ultimately connect more faithfully with the world we are commissioned to meet for Christ. The 2010 Visioning Document adopted by AUMC resulted in renewal, new ministry starts, and practical connections for Christ in our community. If you are nudged by God to join the Visioning Session, please register by way of the January bulletin insert or by going on our website at www.aldersgatechurch.net. *(Registration is essential for space and luncheon accommodations.)*



2017 Ministry Funding Plan Notes

Church Council approved a \$912,218 2017 Ministry Funding Plan (Budget), representing a 2% increase. The plan calls for weekly Tithes & Offerings of \$17,543, or \$346 more each week. Given that for the first time in several years we ended 2016 with less giving income than called for, step-ups in giving will be necessary if we are to fulfill our 2017 ministry commitments. Accordingly, Please prayerfully consider how your giving for ministry might be increased and/or regularly practiced each Sunday throughout the year. We are blessed that bountiful giving in 2013 through 2015 allows us to enter 2017 with sufficient reserve to make up for the 2016 deficit.

A Few Thumbnails From the 2017 Ministry Funding Plan:

- Ministry Director salaries received a 2% Cost-of-Living Increase; Lead Pastor salary was increased 1%.
- The Pre-School Director position was adjusted upward by \$6,669 to more appropriately reflect the duties, responsibilities and value of the position and its oversight of teaching staff in the 110-student pre-school.
- A new position of Part-Time Pre-School Administrative Assistant was created at \$4,160.
- Our commitment to "TITHING" giving for Missions beyond this congregation results in a 7.6% Increase for 2017 Missions to a new total of \$91,427!
- Aldersgate Church's Shares of Ministry to the ministries of the Susquehanna Conference and The United Methodist Church increased by 4.7% to \$76,461.
- Aside from the UM Shares of Ministry, our in-house Missions formula increase, and the needed Pre-School step-ups, the 2017 Ministry Funding Plan calls for less than 4 /10th of One Percent increase for all other areas.

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1:

WOW! Look What God Has Done!

Giving is eternally tied to the level of our spiritual health – both individually and as a congregation. In the pastorates that I've served, I have seen this and I have sought to faithfully proclaim it. When we attend to the questions of who Jesus is to us and of what God has done for us, it's impossible for our hearts not to grow in gratitude ... and gratitude begets giving-with-thanks! We as Aldersgate Church had a multiple-year run of exceptional Giving financially – with Tithes and Offerings for the General Fund ministry exceeding budgeted need. That run ended in 2016, but hopefully we can return to bountiful blessings in 2017. Either way, the turnaround has been amazing and is worthy of our praise to God!

In 2008 we literally were hand-to-mouth with flow of weekly offering to expense checks with very little cash on hand. Because of God's faithfulness and of YOUR participation in the growth movements of the Holy Spirit, we experienced an unprecedented season of healthy and faithful stewardship! Even with the 2016 giving shortfall, we begin 2017 with cash on hand. In particular, we celebrate with amazement that the building loan debt has been hammered down to \$959,992 as of Dec. 31, 2016 – that's a miraculous paydown from \$1.5 million as recently as 2014 and \$1.9 million back in 2010.

HERE'S THE RESULT OF THE PAYDOWN: For this year, 2017, our interest payments will total about \$37,000 or \$712 weekly. In 2014 interest payments totaled \$67,500 or \$1,300 weekly. A few years earlier we were paying interest (renting the loan) to the tune of nearly \$2,000 a week. Those savings in interest payments are now poured into principal payments of more than \$91,000 from the 2017 Ministry Plan.

Special thanks to all the special debt pay-down efforts ranging from Hershey Park volunteers to Election Bake/Soup Sales (\$2,758 in Nov. 2016), Giant Gift Cards, and Christmas Gift Cards.

What's Up Wednesday

The 2016 Fall WuW term provided another great fellowship and faith-growth opportunity through an array of studies. THANK YOU to all group facilitators and to Jamie Barkley and the volunteer team she coordinates in the kitchen!

Administrative Committees Will Not Meet in January

As Aldersgate's pastor, I have asked Ministry Committees to NOT meet in January – unless there's an emergency. The reason? On Saturday, January 28, I will facilitate an all-church Visioning Session with all elected leaders, ministry staff, and anyone in the congregation so interested. *(See Page 1 Story)*

Articles for the February 2017 Newsletter should be sent to the church office at secretary@aldersgatechurch.net by **January 15th**. Thank you.



Trailblazer Ministries News

Page 3

Christmas Eve Musical: Thank You!!!

This year's Christmas Eve Musical "The Christmas Cupcake" was a baking success!

Many thanks go out to head bakers Kristin Hoover and Jen Benson who were very willing to lead our Musical this year. Aldersgate continues to be blessed with people like Kristin and Jen who so willingly give back the many gifts that God has given them.

Kristin and Jen would like to give a "whisk" of thanks to Rayna Wilson, Steve Rutt, Sue Lutz, Gini Freeman, Lisa Hobday, Megan Prowell, Katie Hoover, Sara Hoover and the children who participated as well as the parents for their support.

Back In The Rhythm

December has traditionally been our month of Goals. In December, our Kindergarten—3rd Graders spent Sunday School time reinforcing Bible Basics including Creation, The Lord's Prayer, The Ten Commandments, The 12 Disciples, Fruit of the Spirit and Books of the Bible.

Sunday School gets back into rhythm on January 8th with our theme "Knowledge." We'll finish up the Christmas Story and take a closer look at John the Baptist.

WUW4Kids will resume January 11th. Whether you are part of a study or not, bring your K-5th Grader to our program from 6:30-8pm. We completed our "Bug" theme and the kids have been wanting either "Games" or "Pets." Come see what the final choice is...guaranteed to be a fun time with our church family of friends.

Sunday Afternoons are an additional opportunity for children to bond, shake loose cabin fever and learn about God. K-3rd Graders in Adventure Club experience a mini-VBS style program while the 4th and 5th Graders hang out, chat, snack and enjoy some more age-appropriate games. Each week does not build on the previous so drop by when you can. We meet 1st and 3rd Sundays from 2-4 pm. While both programs meet at the same time, they meet independently of each other.

New Year's Resolution

Does Children's Ministry fit into your New Year's Resolution? We can help with exercise, getting back to church or becoming more involved with your children. Working with kids is exercise! Many folks have told me that committing to help with Sunday School gets them out of bed on Sunday mornings and guarantees their attendance at church. And of course, you'll be more active in your child's faith journey.

Needs in 2017 include:

Sunday School Classroom Subs to help on an as needed basis when one of the teachers is unavailable.

Adventure Club Helpers lend a hand 1st and 3rd Sundays. Large Group Leaders commit to just one month of leading large group from 9:40-10 am Sunday morning.

Dates at a Glance:

Beginning January 11 (along with the re-start of meals) ~ Wednesday 6:30-8 pm WUW4Kids

January 1 Happy New Year! Combined Worship at 10am NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

January 15 2-4pm: Adventure Club and Summit Seekers meet independently

Summer 2017 VBS: June 12-16 Hero Central Theme

Do you want to know more about Trailblazer Ministries?

Contact Jodie Dodson at 737-7923 x107 or email childrensdirector@aldersgatechurch.net

ALDERSGATE OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday, 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am - 12:30 pm



Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a peaceful Christmas.

Here are a few updates from the preschool.....

The preschool is hosting a 'Kindergarten Information Night' on **Tuesday, January 31st from 7-8pm** in the sanctuary. All parents are invited to attend. Bring your questions and/or concerns about kindergarten readiness and expectations. We will have 4 kindergarten teachers from the CV school district available to answer questions.

Preschool registration for the 2017-2018 school year will take place in March. Registration forms will be posted on-line, with instructions on when to mail them in. Please contact Kathleen Blazey if you are interested in scheduling a tour of the preschool. preschooldirector@aldersgatechurch.net

We invite all parents to attend a **Parenting seminar Monday, February 27th from 6-8 pm**. Lisa Murray returns as the speaker for this event. Please come join us. There is a \$5 voluntary donation for the workshop. We need a head count for this event, so please RSVP to :

Kathleen Blazey preschooldirector@aldersgatechurch.net or 737-7923 ext. 103

The topic for the workshop will be 'Emotional Intelligence:'

"Children who have specific social and emotional characteristics are popular with peers, well liked by teachers, do well overall in a school and have a good foundation for success as adults. Did you know that your IQ only accounts for 20% of your success? Find out what social and emotional skills account for the rest and ways to encourage these traits in your children. Join us on 2/27/17 to learn how you can lay the important emotional groundwork to help your child be successful now and in the future!"

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

12/7/16

Dear Pastor Troy,

On Nov 6th, the church prayed over a prayer blanket for baby Magnolia, born 3 months premature. She's had many bumps along the way—some very scary—but overall, is growing and thriving. Her parents sent me this photo of Magnolia wrapped in the prayer blanket along with a note to express their gratitude to Aldersgate for the prayers expressed on her behalf. Kelly Heisey

Thank you to everyone for lifting Magnolia up in prayer! We were able to witness God's amazing power of healing in our little girl. She is such a blessing in our lives. She is so strong and is growing everyday. She continues to fight through the small bumps to doctors told us she would face, but they are simple fixes and she will grow out of them in no time. The blanket that was knitted for her reminds us of power and healing every time she uses it. She is going to cherish that blanket forever.

Thank you all so much!

Brandon & Adrian Bressler (Magnolia's parents)



A warm thank you to the team of people that helped make Nancy Sgrignoli's funeral luncheon special. You each are a blessing in the lives of others!

Sincerely, Amey & Michael Sgrignoli

12/16

There have been angels in my life...angels who show up when a kind word is needed,

when a smile or an act of caring can make a big difference.

Yes, there have been angels in my life, and one of them is you.

Thank You So Much.

Thank you for the prayer shawl, Sandii

Thank you! Pat

Thank you - Shelly

12/9/16

Worship Ministry Team Leaders

Below are the different team leaders to reach out to for more info about Worship Ministry:

Sheri Dohner: Choir and Praise Team: worshipdirector@aldersgatechurch.net

Joe Purdom: Sound ministry: joe.purdom@gmail.com

Jen Benson: Data Entry for Sanctuary Computer: ktjm3@comcast.net

Terrie Strockbine: Computer Operators: tstrockbine@comcast.net

Pam Caserta: Ushers: pam.caserta@yahoo.com

Carol Wesley: Communion Servers: cwesley@verizon.net

Want to Plug Into Worship Ministry?

Below are two areas where there is opportunity to plug into the Body by serving:

Communion Servers

All who are a part of the worship life at Aldersgate are invited to consider serving Communion. Serving Communion doesn't make you more "holy" than anyone else! Perfection is not a requirement; all that is needed is a love for God, and an understanding that we are all in need of His grace.

Communion is offered monthly at AUMC. If you wish to be a part of this team, please email Carol Wesley at cwesley07@verizon.net, or put your name, email address and "Communion Server Info" on the back of the communication card that is in the weekly bulletin and place it in the offering plate. No one is ever asked to serve more than one service.

Usher Ministry

Do you remember the first time you attended Aldersgate? Were you welcomed with a friendly handshake and a smile? If so, perhaps the time has come for you to share that same welcoming spirit! If not, perhaps you can help us to be more guest attentive and offer yourself as an usher. The Usher ministry has a need for more team members. Training is provided, and this could be a perfect place for you to find your place to serve at Aldersgate. The following names are those of the lead ushers. You can email them, or email Sheri Dohner worshipdirector@aldersgatechurch.net.

Margaret Evans: 8:00 am: mevans1554@gmail.com

Pam Caserta: 9:30 am: pam.caserta@yahoo.com

Tony Cerullo: 11:00 am: acerullo340@yahoo.com



A Big Thank you!! to everyone who helped out with the Aldersgate Live Nativity on Sunday, November 27th. We had great weather and were excited to have over 200 people in attendance. Thank you to all those who donated cookies for this event.

Special Thanks go out to the following people who helped make it all possible: Set up/ tear down, behind the scenes help, advertising, kitchen, costumes, etc. - Jeremy Taylor, Ashley Taylor, Todd Taylor, Scott & Margaret Evans, Lisa Boyer, Joe & Carol Purdom, Kayla & Ben Shughart, Sheri Dohner, Christy & Summer Malpass, Carl Wagner, Liz Gable, Carey and Brian Kint

Our cast of characters: Song Leaders/Narrators- Sheri Dohner, Kim Legore, Allen Clippinger, Carol & Joe Purdom as the Innkeepers; Colby Kint as Joseph; Elizabeth Butler as Mary; Josie Underdonk- The Angel; Lyndsey Underdonk, Scott Evans, Mitchell Taylor, Sam Gable, & Connor Kint - The Shepherds; Troy Howell, Carl Jackson, & Tom Ziegler - The Wise Men; Our Band Ensemble - Don & Lisa Underdonk, Tammy Bieler, Tom Bowman, Shanon Lichty, Bob Mitchum, Sarah Chacko, Jonathan Barber

The Dogs for God, and their owners.

All the people who helped set up and tear down chairs and stepped in where needed. Sorry if I missed anyone!



YFA (aka Aldersgate Student Ministry)

Sheryl Behr, 717.737.7923 x105, YouthDirector@aldersgatechurch.net

Cookie Walk Results!

Thank you to bakers and purchasers! We had a wonderful assortment of cookies. It was a joy to see all the excited shoppers and youth workers helping out between services.

A special thank you to Lezli Austen and Kelly Heisey for their leadership, time, amazing decorating talents and servants heart!

You helped us raise \$1,385!

YFA High School Retreat @ Doubling Gap 1/6-8

Why: We turn our focus on.. did you see that squirrel?! We will spend time learning about 'Focus,' and learn to identify and eliminate distractions that keep us from the Prize. Aldersgate High School Youth Retreat - Focus in a World of Distraction

What: A youth retreat including games, worship, small groups, and most importantly, time together having a blast! Please bring a snack to share with everyone during our time there! Examples: One bag of chips or a bag of Oreos, home baked goodies are always welcomed.

Cost: \$85 per person (includes travel, lodging, food, etc.) Payment is now due!

When: January 6th-8th, 2017; Please be at Aldersgate by 5:30pm on Fri 1/6 to pack up and depart. We will return to Aldersgate around 12:00 noon on Sunday 1/8.

Who: All high school youth are encouraged to attend! Updated Parent Consent forms must be completed to participate.

Where: Doubling Gap Retreat Center, 1550 Doubling Gap Rd, Newville, PA 17241, Phone: 717 776-5281 Please bring sleeping bags, pillows and bathroom supplies. See packing list for additional items to bring. Outdoor activities during our weekend include broom stick ice hockey*, ice skating*, sledding*, zip line, and a challenge course. *Depending on the weather!

YFA Parent Gathering 1/10/2017 from 7-8 pm

Parents and other interested parties are invited to a town hall-style meeting about Youth. Current schedules, goals for our Youth group, and lots more are on the agenda. We all desire to introduce our Youth to the faith walk that we follow. This is an opportunity to ask questions, provide insights and more to help us do that best.

YFA Meetings: This Month & Long Term Forecast

This Month:

- 1/1/2017: NO YFA SUNDAY: New Years Day! Only one service in the morning and no Sunday school
- 1/6-8: High School Retreat!
- 1/8: Middle School Only
- 1/15: YFA Sunday!
- 1/21: Confirmation Session 3 9:30 - 11:30 am @ Mission Central
- 1/22: YFA Sunday!
- 1/29: YFA Sunday!

Long Term Forecast:

- 2/4: Confirmation Soup Prep
- 2/5: Confirmation Souper Bowl of Caring Luncheon, 12 noon -2 pm
- 2/5: Superbowl Party, 6 - 9 pm
- 2/17-19: Confirmation Retreat Weekend
- 2/25: Souper Slurp Off Youth Fundraiser
- 2/26: Battleball @ Messiah
- 4/21-23: Pittsburgh Project



The VETERAN'S CAFÉ at Aldersgate

Page 7

Veterans of all eras and services are invited to join the Army Heritage Center Foundation in our effort to honor veterans, preserve their stories, and educate the public about their service and sacrifice through our Veterans' Cafe program.

The Foundation's Education Director Jeff Hawks will host a meeting of the Veterans' Cafe from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, January 21, at Aldersgate Church. The program will begin with a breakfast buffet, followed by talks from featured Veterans, including Ms. Jennifer Stumbaugh, and Mr. Rich Shockey, both parishioners at Aldersgate Church. Following the presentation, we will open the floor for guests to ask questions, share their own experiences, or comment as the spirit moves them. Please join us to hear Veterans' stories and show your support for their service and sacrifice.

The cost is \$10, collected the morning of the event, to cover the cost of breakfast. There is no cost if you prefer to skip breakfast and just attend to listen to the speakers and be part of the discussion.

Date: Saturday, January 21, 2017

Time: Hot Breakfast at 8:30 am

The program concludes at 10:30 am

To register to attend the January 21st Veterans' Café, call Jeffrey Hawks at 258-1102. Deadline for registration is January 13th.

The Army Heritage Center Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Jeffrey G. Hawks, Education Director, Army Heritage Center Foundation
State Coordinator, National History Day in Pennsylvania



IRONMEN Ministry is a church-wide, integrated approach to helping MEN discover God, connect with each other, grow in relationship with Christ, and serve our world through Jesus Christ. We want every man at Aldersgate to feel a part of IRONMEN Ministry.

CONNECT

We do not care if you are from Yale or from Jail. The ground is level at the Cross. We provide a safe place for men to connect in comfortable environments. We have events throughout the year that are intentional about bringing men together to meet for the first time. We have ministries throughout Aldersgate such as the Praise Team, Recovery Groups, Men's Small Groups, and other studies that meet weekly. We intend on providing you opportunities to build friendships.

GROW

We offer many options when it comes to answering the real questions of life that matter. We have different small groups of men who meet each week and go through a process of growing in their relationship with Jesus by using a tool called Operation Timothy. We also offer Saturday morning Bible studies. Our Annual Men's Retreat is a great opportunity to dig deeper into your own personal walk with Christ. God has a plan for your life. As we grow we discover what that plan is.

SERVE

We grow best when we serve others. Being a follower of Christ is about Loving God and Loving Others.

If you want to know more or get plugged in: Contact the Men's Ministry Coordinator Todd Cressler with any questions. You may also ask David Watkins, Bill Brandamore, Eric Houston, Carl Wagner, and Todd Epply. They are the Men's Ministry Leadership Team here at Aldersgate.

New DivorceCare Group Starting

Divorced- You don't have to go through it alone!



Come and join a DivorceCare group. Meet people who understand the pain your divorce has caused. DivorceCare has started meeting every Thursday evening at 6:30pm, you are invited to join us any week and become part of a small group of people who are also experiencing divorce. You'll meet others who understand what you are feeling and who will be able to offer you encouragement. DivorceCare meets weekly for 13 weeks, featuring 13 dynamic video seminars from renowned experts on divorce and recovery.

DivorceCare is nondenominational and features biblical teaching for recovering from divorce. Weekly seminar topics include: What's Happening to Me, The Road to Healing/Finding Help, Facing My Anger, Depression, Loneliness, New Relationships, KidCare, Financial Survival and more...

Come join us on. A class will be starting Thursday February 9th 6:30 pm to 8 pm at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. To register or for more information contact Carol Diffenbaugh at 737.7923 ext. 104 or healthministries@verizon.net.



Join Us

Starting Thursday, February 9th 6:30pm -8pm for 13 weeks

GriefShare – New Class- February 1st at 6:30 pm

You don't have to walk this alone.



The loss of a loved one is so very difficult. If you find yourself in a season of bereaving a loved one, you are invited to join others as we travel together through GriefShare. GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. You don't have to go through the grieving process alone.

GriefShare seminars and support groups are led by people who understand what you are going through and want to help. You'll gain access to valuable GriefShare resources to help you recover from your loss and look forward to rebuilding your life.

There are thousands of GriefShare grief recovery support groups meeting throughout the US, Canada and in over 10 other countries. GriefShare is a group meeting where you can find help and healing for the hurt of losing a loved one. This video based ministry features emphasis on a biblical approach to grief recovery recognizing that real healing from the intense emotions of grieving and loss is through Christ. Each participant will receive a free workbook to use daily at home and during the weekly viewing of the GriefShare video.

Participants from previous GriefShare groups have affirmed GriefShare as being a powerful tool in their healing journey. A GriefShare group will be offered starting on Wednesday February 1st. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Carol Diffenbaugh at 737-7923 ext. 104 or email healthministries@aldersgatechurch.net.

GriefShare

Starting Wednesday February 1st at 6:30 pm till 8:00 pm



Mark Your Calendars for the 2017 Relay for Life

In 2016 the Aldersgate Church family carried almost 100 names of individuals impacted by cancer on their backs as they walked the West Shore Relay for Life. Over \$9,000 was donated to the Cancer Society as a result of God's grace and Aldersgate's commitment to this cause. In 2017 there will be yet another opportunity for the Aldersgate's family to reach out to our community with the heart of Christ and assist with the West Shore Relay for Life. For now we are asking you to: First and foremost, pray for this ministry outreach. May God guide and direct Aldersgate Church as we enter into this season of preparation and planning for the Relay. Second, mark your calendars for Saturday, June 3rd, the date of the 2017 West Shore Relay for Life. In the coming months more information about this ministry and how you can become involved will be shared.



January Prayer Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 " ..Let me have all things. let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal..." Wesley's Covenant Prayer	2 Pray for our Pastor Troy, as he leads us to a closer relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.	3 Pray for all refugees "65.3 million people around the world have been forced from their homes." UMC Resources	4 Pray for the Women's Ministries of our church, as they create opportunities for fellowship and hearing the Good News.	5 Pray for Bethesda Mission, and the homeless in the midst of winter.	6 Pray for the college students as they return to school. May they have safe travel.	7 Pray for the Aldersgate's Confirmation journey group, as they continue their spiritual journey.
8 Pray for the Church Youth Ministry, the youth and its leadership.	9 Pray for the "Hearts n Hands" Sertoma group that meet at Aldersgate as they assist individuals with cancer.	10 Pray for the Small Group facilitators and participants as WUW starts tomorrow evening.	11 Human Trafficking Awareness Day Please pray for the victims of Human Trafficking. Pray for an end to this crime.	12 Pray for the members of the Staff-Parish Committee, as they meet this evening.	13 Pray for those seeking hope during times of hardship and loss.	14 Pray for the Men's Ministry as they meet every Saturday morning studying God's word.
15 Pray for our Bishop (Bishop Park) and District Superintendent. (Rev. Barry Robison) .	16 Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Pray that " You may love others as well as you love yourself" Mark 12:30-31 (MSG)	17 Pray for the church preschool, and its advisory team as they meet this evening.	18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Pray for Christians throughout the world. "may they be one so that the world may believe" John 17:21	19 Prayers of thankfulness for those who serve and provide meals for WUW.	20 Pray for Missionaries serving around the world. In 1870 Clara Swain of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was the first female missionary medical doctor, serving in India.	21 Pray for all those who have served in the Armed Forces, present and past.
22 Pray for those who share Christian hospitality and provide refreshments during Sunday mornings in the Family Life Center.	23 Pray for the victims of the fire in Gatlinburg, TN as they continue the recovery and rebuilding process.	24 Pray for those from outside the church who use our building this evening. May the light of Christ be evident in our hospitality.	25 Pray for the children of the Harrisburg Neighborhood Center.	26 Pray for those who face 2017 without the security of steady employment.	27 Pray for the Dogs For God ministry as they share the love of Christ.	28 Pray for Aldersgate Church: its leadership and ministries. May we share the Light of Christ with all those around us.
29 Pray that we go in peace to serve God and share the Good News with our neighbors in all that we do.	30 Pray for family Caretakers. Over 40 million Caretakers in USA.	31 Praise God you have claimed us as your own, your people. Let our lives be useful for your purposes.				

2017 Leadership for the Sake of Ministry

*Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Mechanicsburg, PA
2017 Organization and Officers for the Sake of Ministry in Christ's Name*

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL () - indicates the year of service on Council

Council Chair: Judy Vandercoy (2)
Lay Leader: Mike Galbraith (1)
Staff-Parish Relations: Jennifer Starner (2)
Trustee Chair: TBD (1)
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Bob Mitchem (2)
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Kim Dolbin (2)
Missions Ministry Core Facilitator: Tom Ziegler (1) and/or Rev. David Watkins
Stewardship & Finance Chair: Len Beasom (1)
At Large Member: Harriett Shrader (2)
At Large Member: Rich Shockey (1)
Appointed Elder (Pastor)

**Aldersgate Church's Lay Members to Annual Conference: Bob Mitchem (2) and Kim Dolbin (2)
Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference: Carol Diffenbaugh**

Administrative Ministry Committees:

A) LAY LEADERSHIP

(Whose purpose is to prayerfully seek out and identify gifts and graces for leadership & ministry in and through the church for the sharing of the Gospel).

Class of 2017: Wayne Noss; Don Underdonk; Andrew Shumway
Class of 2018: Lisa Laubach; Karla Brenneman; Sue Moran
Class of 2019: Gary LeGore; Lorraine Wagner; Pete Vandercoy
Lay Leader: Mike Galbraith Pastor (Serves as CHAIR)

B) STAFF-PARISH

(Whose purpose is to join the pastor, staff and congregation in identifying and interpreting the ministry challenges/opportunities of our context, and to seek God's leading in the ministry call before us. Specifically, this committee is charged with providing supervision, support and care of ministry staff, and is charged with partnering with the pastor in fulfillment of ministry, and in discerning and interpreting that ministry with the congregation.)

Class of 2017: Scott Coburn; Preston Buckman; Mark Steinhart
Class of 2018: Jen Starner (CHAIR); Adam Hoover; Lauren Breed-Berrios
Class of 2019: Stephen Rutt; Peter Train; Jen Benson
Lay Leader: Mike Galbraith A Lay Member to Conference: Kim Dolbin

C) TRUSTEES

(Whose purpose is to ensure that the facilities and related aspects of this situated congregation are appropriate for supporting and conducting ministries in the name of Jesus Christ. This is a vital ministry in and of itself, without which all other ministries in this setting and beyond are impeded.)

Class of 2017: Linda Ebbets; Lisa Stanford
Class of 2018: Tom Bowman; Betsy Keys
Class of 2019: Joe Prowell; Tom Boyer

Trustees work with AUMC's Facility Manager to fulfill its purpose in an effective way for the sake of ministry.

D) STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE

(Whose purpose is to lift up the Gifts of God and the responding privilege to be Stewards in Ministry for Christ. The committee also oversees and is called to lead the congregation in its financial and response to the ministry visions God sets before us. The committee also shall cultivate Stewardship awareness and Giving Response through specific action, communication, educational activities, and ministry offerings on an ongoing basis – and specifically in fulfillment of ministry needs and debt-reduction, and as capital funding issues are anticipated.)

Class of 2017: Kandi Buckman; Stan Olejarczyk
Class of 2018: Debbie Smith; John Blazey
Class of 2019: Roger Breed; Len Beasom (chair)
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Bob Mitchem
Other S&F Committee members by virtue of office: Lay Leader; a representative from Staff-Parish; a representative from the Trustees; Pastor.

NOTE: Treasurer (Carol Purdom/Christy Malpass as staff) and Financial Secretary (Zedna Haverstock) as a volunteer with the possibility of a long tenure of service, have membership with voice but no vote.

Auditors & Offering Tellers: Assigned and are not members of the Committee.

E) Missions Ministry CORE GROUP:

The Missions Ministry CORE GROUP is charged with overseeing and bringing together the various missions ministry "interests" and "callings" which God has and is stirring within this faith community. This CORE consists of a "Facilitator" who four times per year calls the CORE group (and others) together for reflection and decisions on Missions aspects. All members of the congregation, technically, have membership in the "Missions Ministry" area and are welcome to attend these meetings. CORE Group members are asked to commit to that meeting process and to assist the Facilitator with coordination and/or identifying persons to assist with coordination. The Facilitator and CORE Group are charged with communicating and making participation in missions and the living out of missions' ministry possible in a variety of ways that allow people to respond to God's call.

Purpose:

To facilitate the Missions Outreach ministries by identifying, interpreting, and presenting missions ministry opportunities (personal & group involvement as well as financial support opportunities) so that the love and saving grace of Christ is known to all.

Missions Ministry Facilitator: Tom Ziegler (assisted by Pastor David Watkins) in CONJUNCTION WITH CORE MISSIONS MINISTRY GROUP :

CORE Members:

Class of 2017: Tom Ziegler, Facilitator

Class of 2018: Shari Swope

Class of 2019: Mike Rusnak and Jane Engle (2 in this Rotating Class)

With Gratitude & Thanksgiving to God: We Acknowledge the Following Persons Whose Specific Season of Ministry Concluded, December 31, 2016

Missions CORE: Gary Mann; Bill Brandamore (Facilitator)

Stewardship & Finance: David Beasom (Chair); Tricia Dovenspike; Andy Swope; Marsha Fisher (Interim Chair)

Trustees: John Erno; Doug Dodson; Robin Fisher (Chair)

Staff Parish Relations: Norm Runk; Kathy Galbraith; Doug Haverstock

Lay Leadership: Chris Keffer; Loren Hursh; Randy Strite

Council, Member-At-Large: Ann Ahlf

Lay Leader: Rob Duffield

NOTE: Aldersgate Church's "Church Conference" on Nov. 13, 2016 approved a plan that calls for a STUDY AND PROPOSAL in 2017 to restructure how the congregation is administratively ordered. This may result in change to our existing committee structure for the Sake of Ministry. Updates on the study will occur, as will findings and eventual proposal to be presented at a 2017 Church Conference meeting to be announced.

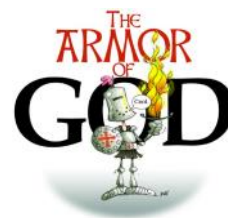
Girlfriends in God is starting a new Bible Study

On January 3rd at 9:15 am in room 207 with a brunch (bring your favorite dish, if able). One study is described below and the other is yet to be decided. Come join us for a little fellowship and a chance to look at the studies we will be offering. If you are interested in participating in one of these studies, but can't attend the brunch, please contact the facilitator by January 3. Childcare is provided.

The Armor of God by Priscilla Shirer

All day, every day, an invisible war rages around you — unseen, unheard, yet felt throughout every aspect of your life. A devoted, devilish enemy seeks to wreak havoc on everything that matters to you: your heart, your mind, your marriage, your children, your relationships, your resilience, your dreams, your destiny. But his battle plan depends on catching you unaware and unarmed. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with your guard down, this study is for you. The Enemy always fails miserably when he meets a woman dressed for the occasion. *The Armor of God*, more than merely a biblical description of the believer's inventory, is an action plan for putting it on and developing a personalized strategy to secure victory. (7 Sessions)

Facilitated by Tricia Dovenspike, triciad623@gmail.com





Aldersgate Church
A United Methodist Congregation
1480 Jerusalem Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

*"Reaching with the Heart of God
for the Lives of Our Community"*

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