



# The Aldersgate Experience

Monthly News of Aldersgate United Methodist Church

*October 2017*

*Dear Friend in the Messiah,*

## **"Falling Forward in Christ" – Celebrating, Inviting, Participating**

### **Celebrating:**

In doing so, we give voice to what God is up to in and among us. Celebrating grounds us in healthy perspective as we face the day-to-day reality of this world and the challenge of ministry in it. So, what celebrations in Christ can you add to this incomplete listing of what God is up to: 150 Adults, Youth and Children in weekly What's Up Wednesday studies; Oct. 15 Fall-Fest Celebrating those who serve(d) in the U.S. Military; AUMC Pre-School Ministry expansion; the thousands of volunteer hours that make ministry here possible!; and as of October, Aldersgate Church in its 29<sup>th</sup> year of ministry, reaching souls for Jesus ... *(what Celebrations do you add?)*.

### **Inviting:**

Regardless of the ministry and movements of Christ here, real connections still are made the old-fashioned way: **People Bring People**. Take a look at the newsletter and website ([aldersgatechurch.net](http://aldersgatechurch.net)), and **ask God who** in your life circles is in a situation addressed by a ministry here. Then, **listen for the Holy Spirit's response**. Then, **INVITE**. Approach the possibility. Plant a seed. Offer your presence. Want Aldersgate Church to grow in reach? **Invite**.

### **Participating:**

Recently 11 individuals entered the membership covenant at Aldersgate. They stood before the body and in the presence of God and committed to showing up by "**their Prayers, their Presence, their Gifts, their Service and their Witness**" as committed followers of Jesus. Each one of us must continue to decide to do the same. In showing up in these ways, God grows us, blesses us, and impacts lives with the Gospel.

Celebrate. Invite. Participate. They cannot stand alone.

By God's Amazing Grace,

*Pastor Troy*



## **Choir/Orchestra**

The choir season has begun! Once again, Monday evenings are filled with music and song for those who participate in choir ministry. Very soon we will be starting rehearsals for the Christmas Cantata, "Come Messiah King." Once again we will be offering our Christmas program with a live orchestra.

Rehearsals for the choir for this special event will be held weekly, and will start at 7:15 on October 9th. It's a great time to give choir a try! Come out and join us. The Cantata will be offered on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm.

If childcare is needed during Monday rehearsals, we will provide it! If you want more information, contact Sheri at [worshipdirector@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:worshipdirector@aldersgatechurch.net) or call the church office at 717-737-7923 ext. 106.

*(Just a side note, if you play an instrument and are interested in playing with the orchestra, please contact Sheri at the email address above.)*

## **Looking Ahead**

Here are a few events to put on your calendar as we move into the next few weeks and months.

October 1<sup>st</sup>: World Wide Communion Sunday

October 9th: Choir rehearsal begins for "Come Messiah King"

October 15<sup>th</sup> 11 am: Outdoor worship, ONE COMBINED SERVICE

November 5<sup>th</sup>: All Saints Sunday

November 26<sup>th</sup>: Consecration Sunday

December 2nd: Hanging of the Greens 3 pm to 5 pm

December 3rd: Advent Begins!

December 3rd: Outdoor Nativity 6 pm

December 10th: Come Messiah King

December 24<sup>th</sup> Morning Worship: Schedule to be determined

December 24<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Eve Worship

5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, and 11:00 pm

December 31st: One Combined Worship Service at 10 am

### **ALDERSGATE OFFICE HOURS**

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

Friday, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm



# Trailblazer Ministries News

## Sharing the love of Christ with children Birth – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

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### Trailblazer Ministries News

Sharing the love of Christ with children Birth – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### ***World Communion Day October 1***

October 1<sup>st</sup> is World Communion Sunday. Children KG – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade will participate in the open table of Communion during the 9:30 Worship Service. If you do not wish for your child to participate in World Communion Sunday please notify me or one of their Sunday School Teachers. There will be a gluten free bread option. Please see me if you have additional allergy concerns.

#### ***We want every child to have a Bible...***

If your child does not have a Bible, please be sure to ask their Sunday School teacher. We want to be sure every child has their own age-appropriate Bible. Bibles are used as part of our Sunday School curriculum and children are encouraged to bring them to Sunday School, WUW4Kids, Summit Seekers and Adventure Club. Bibles are free of charge for all children.

#### ***Upcoming Trailblazer Events***

October 1 – Adventure Club and Summit Seekers: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
October 15 – Fall Fest: 11:00 am Combined Worship followed by FallFest  
November 5 – Adventure Club and Summit Seekers: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
November 19 – Adventure Club and Summit Seekers: 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

***Volunteer support is needed for all Trailblazer Events, Sunday School and FallFest.  
Want to know more about how you can help?***

Contact Melanie Feldner at [childrensdirector@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:childrensdirector@aldersgatechurch.net) or 717-737-7923 ext. 107

## **Aldersgate's Annual All-Church Conference Meeting Scheduled**

The United Methodist Church leadership/organization structure calls for an administrative committee/Council set-up to handle ongoing operational/ministry decisions throughout the year. We find this approach best frees the membership to use its time and energy to fulfill our mission as the church and to grow in our individual calling in Christ.

Accordingly, throughout the year Church Council meets and makes decisions on behalf of the Body. Additional committee work areas exist as well. This process was evidenced most recently in the work, decision, and action on roof replacement, parking lot project, and ministry staff search and hires for Children's Ministry and Facility Manager, to name just a few. To gather the whole church body for research and decision discussions, meetings, and vote processes just doesn't seem to be how Jesus outlined how he wants his people spending their time and talents.

That said, each year under our United Methodist structure we have what is called the "Church Conference" in which all members of Aldersgate have voice and vote. That annual meeting is scheduled for 7 pm, Thursday, November 30, 2017, in the Family Life Center. Again, all members have voice and vote in receiving reports and actions such as: Annual Financial Audit, Membership Actions and Roll, Appointed Clergy Compensation Package, local church administrative structure, election of leaders effective January 1, 2018, among other special items that may arise (and which will be announced in advance).

The Thursday meeting for our 2017 Church Conference is a departure of recent years in which AUMC gathered under one roof with other area congregations to conduct the annual meeting. Additional information on the November 30 Church Conference will be forthcoming as fall unfolds.



## Join The YFA Team!

### Sunday School Teachers and Youth Leaders (YOU) Are NEEDED!

Interested or want to hear more? Contact Sheryl Behr @ [youthdirector@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:youthdirector@aldersgatechurch.net) or 717-737-7923 ext.105.

High School and Middle School Sunday School teachers are needed. Teachers serve on a monthly basis. Materials are provided.

*The need/opportunity continues for both classes!*

We are always looking for extra hands on Sunday evenings, special events and behind the scenes. Please pray about these opportunities to serve and join the youth fellowship team!

## October is Missions Month!

YFA celebrates Missions in the month of October. We must train our eyes to see the needs of God's people around us. These mission opportunities are great ways for us to look past our own needs and to become God's hands and feet in our circle of influence.

- 10/15: All-Church Fall Fest! Look for 'Time to Sign Up' for face-painting and game operator volunteers!
- 10/21: God's Helping Hands: Glenn Shick will take all 14-years and older Youth to serve our community homeowners. Local projects are also planned for middle school students.
- 10/28: "Missions in Motion" Mission Central fund-raiser. You can run or walk the 5k course, or you can help serve the runners by directing and encouraging runners. If running/walking, register by 10/1 for \$25.

## YFA Responds to Texas and Florida Relief!

YFA saw the needs of Texas and Florida and responded to the challenge to donate items for flood buckets.

On Wednesday evening students loaded the flood bucket items into vehicles for delivery to Mission Central. Many thanks to everyone that responded to help support the recovery efforts in Texas and Florida!!

## Mission Central 5K Race/Walk on 10/28

Support Mission Central at "Missions in Motion" on Saturday, 10/28!

Cost: \$25 before October 1 / \$30 after and day of event

Race Day: Registration at 7:30 am; Race begins at 9 am

To register go to: <https://missioncentral.org/news-events/events/event/missions-in-motion-5k-race-walk/>

Register individually (and get a free t-shirt!) or volunteer in teams to direct runners/walkers during the race. To volunteer please email Sheryl at [youthdirector@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:youthdirector@aldersgatechurch.net) or call 717-645-8569.

Mission Central's goal is to connect God's resources with human need. They have been able to assist people locally, nationally and globally and have provided aid to people in need for every major disaster since 2002.

The proceeds of this event will help with Mission Central's daily expenses. Last year Mission Central distributed more than \$7 million in donated resources through their warehouse reaching over 3.3 million people.

## YFA WUW Continues!

What's Up Wednesday for students in grades 6-12 is held in the Youth Room following the meal at 6:30 pm weekly. Bring a friend and drop in any week!

This year we will look for biblical lessons in movies and music. Wednesday evening studies include games and activities to get to know each other better as well as grow in a deeper connection and understanding of God.

## *YFA Continued...*

### Newsletter Events

#### **This Month**

- 10/1: YFA Sunday Evening 6-8:15 pm - MEAL NIGHT!
- 10/8: No YFA Sunday - Holiday
- 10/15: Fall Fest! No YFA Sunday Evening
- 10/21: God's Helping Hands Mission for 14 and older
- 10/22: YFA Sunday Evening 6-8:15 pm
- 10/28: "Missions in Motion 5k" Mission Central race/walk
- 10/29: YFA Sunday Evening 6-8:15 pm

#### **Long Term Forecast**

- 11/3-5: "Fearless" High School Girls Retreat
- 11/5: Battleball @ CHUM Noon to 8:30pm; No YFA Sunday
- 11/12: YFA Sunday Eve
- 11/17-19: Middle School Retreat
- 11/19: YFA Sunday Eve for High School
- 11/24: Turkey Bowl football & ultimate frisbee
- 11/26: No YFA Sunday Eve - Thanksgiving Weekend!



## **Do You Know Where the AED is?**

### **Do You Know How To Respond If Someone Has a Heart Attack?**

The Church owns an AED (automatic external defibrillator). **It is found in the narthex outside of the Family Life Center (near the Youth Director's office).** An AED is a device that delivers an electric shock to the heart of someone during a cardiac emergency. AED and CPR training can save lives! Please consider signing up for CPR/AED training. Be prepared to help someone during an emergency.

The American Heart Association offers CPR/AED training for infants, children and adults. This easy course will prepare you to respond in case of an emergency. There is no written test with this course, and it is very stress FREE.

Please contact Carol Diffenbaugh at 737-7923 ext. 104 if you are interested in registering for such a class.



The preschool is in full swing this time of year. Fall is always packed with lots of fun activities. The children and teachers are excited for all the upcoming events and are enjoying the beautiful weather.

Here are a few upcoming events that church families can participate in.

**'Giant A+ Rewards'** is a huge fundraiser for the preschool. If you shop at Giant, please consider registering your bonus card number to help earn money for the preschool. (This does not affect any of the points you earn for gas, etc.) Each time you shop at Giant, the school you designate earns a percentage of cash back. Last year the preschool earned \$1,200 from the Giant A+ program. Please register your bonus card at the following link [www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus](http://www.giantfoodstores.com/aplus). The preschool ID # is 22254. You are also welcome to e-mail me your bonus card number and I can help register you. Let me know if you need any help. Thank you!

**Sub sale** We will be holding our annual sub sale fundraiser on **Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**. If you are interested in purchasing yummy subs from *R & K subs*, please stop by the preschool office the first week of October to pick up an order form. The forms will need to be turned in by **October 24<sup>th</sup>**. You may pick up your sub after 11am on October 31<sup>st</sup> in the FLC. This is a great way to have dinner ready to go on 'Trick-or-Treat' night!

(Just an FYI- we are **not** selling the 'Savearound' coupon books this fall.)

**Parenting workshop** Please join us for a parenting workshop on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from **6-8 pm**. Lisa Murray will give us the basics every parent should know on behavior management. If you haven't attended one of these workshops before, I highly recommend it! RSVP by October 20<sup>th</sup> to Kathleen Blazey: 717-737-7923 ext. 103 or [preschooldirector@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:preschooldirector@aldersgatechurch.net).

*"LORD, You are my portion and my cup of blessing; You hold my future."*

*Psalm 16:5 (HCSB)*

## FACILITY UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2017

Todd has been very busy! Here's a list of some of the things he's done for us.

1. Replaced water pump at the parsonage
2. Replaced majority of stained ceiling tiles on first floor - will continue onto 2<sup>nd</sup> floor when finished
3. Cleaned ceiling vents on first floor and started on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
4. In process of deep cleaning all stainless steel sinks and water fountains
5. Replaced batteries in majority of emergency lights
6. Deep cleaned kitchen
7. Replaced all gas valves and meter into the building
8. Resealed and striped parking lot
9. Working on light outside back of building by kitchen
10. Tested mold on walls in the space above the storage room off the sanctuary - mold testing came back with no issues in ventilation - will contract with vendor to repair
11. Lights in sanctuary will have new panel installed on 9/25 & 9/26 - completion estimated by 9/29
12. Old section of roofing was complete on 8/18
13. Shrubs trimmed around property
14. Replaced bearing and shaft for blower assembly FLC HVAC



**Surviving the Holidays**  
**for**  
**Those Grieving the Death of a Loved One**

"Tis the Season to be Jolly"

For many individuals who have experienced the death of a loved one, the holiday season is a difficult time to cope with. If you find you are not looking forward to the holidays in the midst of your grief, please consider joining us for a one time seminar, "Surviving the Holidays," to be held on Wednesday November 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Aldersgate Church. This two hour seminar has been developed by GriefShare to help individuals cope with the loss of a loved one over the holiday season.

During this time you will have the opportunity to watch a 40 minute video filled with practical tips on how to survive the holidays. You will have the opportunity to listen to others from the group who are dealing with grief this holiday season. You will also receive your own Holiday Survival Guide which includes daily devotionals and practices to assist you over the next thirty days.

One individual from a previous Surviving the Holiday's event shared the following on the GriefShare website: "It gives 'permission' to take care of myself above perceived social obligations." For additional information on the "Surviving the Holidays" go directly to their website and view their promotional video at

<http://www.griefshare.org/holidays/event/>

Please consider joining us as we share practical tips on how to survive the holidays in the midst of grief. Call or email to register for this one time event, and receive a personal "Holiday Survival Guide."

**Surviving the Holidays; Grieving the Death of a Loved One**

**Wednesday November 15<sup>th</sup>**

**6:30 pm – 8 pm**

**Room 202**

Please register today by calling Carol Diffenbaugh: 717-737-7923 ext. 104

or email at [healthministries@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:healthministries@aldersgatechurch.net).

Articles for the November 2017 Newsletter should be sent to the church office at [secretary@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:secretary@aldersgatechurch.net) by **October 15th**.

Thank you.

## *“An Ornament for Christ”*

### LADIES Christmas Brunch



Ladies, reserve your seats now for the Saturday November 4th “Ladies Christmas Brunch”! This is certain to be fun. Invite your neighbor or co-worker and plan on a wonderful morning. Join us in the Family Life Center as it is transformed into a beautiful Christmas Café serving a FREE brunch, as we enjoy each other’s company and a fun craft. As a special treat, we will have Cindy Sollenberger with her “An Ornament for Christ; What are You Hanging This Christmas” presentation. Join us as we explore the history of some of our favorite Christmas ornaments. We promise it will be an uplifting morning!

***The seating will be limited, so sign up early. Contact Robin Fisher at [robinlfisher12@gmail.com](mailto:robinlfisher12@gmail.com) OR call 717-728-9573. The reservation deadline is October 17th!!***

*EVENT: Ladies Christmas Brunch*

*WHEN: Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>*

*TIME: Registration 8:30 am*

*Brunch: 9:00 am – 11:30 am*

***Remember to Bring Your Favorite Ornament***

*WHERE: “Christmas Café” (aka Family Life Center)*

## **DivorceCare: Surviving the Holidays**



In the past, the Christmas holiday season may have been a time of great anticipation and excitement... but this year, the prospect of facing the holidays without your mate may cause anxiety and dread. You are not alone. Here you can connect with support, encouragement and advice to survive the holidays. Join us for “DivorceCare: Surviving the Holidays” on Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in room 202 at Aldersgate Church. This is a one evening program to help you discover practical, stress-reducing ideas that will help you face the holiday season. This group event is FREE. You will watch a 40 minute video, receive a personal Holiday Survival Guide, and have the opportunity to hear from others who are dealing with a marital breakup this holiday season.

**DivorceCare: Surviving the Holidays**  
**Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:30 pm - 8 pm**  
**Aldersgate Church**  
**Room 202**

To register contact Carol Diffenbaugh at 717-737-7923 ext. 104 or email [healthministries@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:healthministries@aldersgatechurch.net).



# October 2017 Prayer Calendar

*Please pray for....*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>World Communion Sunday</b> Pray for all our Christian brothers and sisters worldwide	<b>2</b> Pray for the church choir as they prepare for the Christmas Musical	<b>3</b> Pray for single parents	<b>4</b> Pray for world peace, may we too be the instruments of God's peace	<b>5</b> Pray for all those serving on the Trustee's committee as they meet this evening	<b>6</b> Pray for all those caring for the ill, here at home and around the world	<b>7</b> Pray for the lay leadership of our church and the United Methodist Church
<b>8</b> Pray for our sister church, the Krichew Revival Church, and her Pastor	<b>9</b> Pray for the victims of hurricanes, as they mourn and rebuild after the extensive flooding	<b>10</b> Pray for those serving in the church office	<b>11</b> Pray for our country's leaders	<b>12</b> Pray for those serving on SPRC and their ministry as they meet this evening	<b>13</b> Prayers of thanksgiving: 10/14/1735 John Wesley traveled to Georgia, and was influenced by Moravian's pietism	<b>14</b> Pray for Fall Fest tomorrow, may God use this to his glory
<b>Fall Fest</b> <b>15</b> Pray for Our Active Military & Veterans	<b>16</b> Pray for the 1 in 6 people world-wide without access to clean water	<b>17</b> Pray for those taking Zumba at our church this evening	<b>18</b> Pray for the facilitators of the WUW studies	<b>19</b> Pray for those suffering with anxiety <i>"Fear not for I am with you"</i> <i>Isaiah 41:10</i>	<b>20</b> Pray for those without shelter or a home	<b>21</b> Prayers of thanksgiving as we give thanks for 3 meals a day
<b>22</b> Pray for all those involved in the DayStar Ministry	<b>23</b> <b>Breast Cancer Awareness Day</b> Pray for those battling breast cancer	<b>24</b> Pray for the eyes and heart of Christ as we witness to the community around us	<b>25</b> Pray for Bishop Park and D.S. Rev. Robison	<b>26</b> Pray for our Pastor Troy Howell	<b>27</b> Pray for the Girl Scout leaders and the Girls Scouts who meet at our church	<b>28</b> Pray for the United Methodist missionaries
<b>29</b> Prayers of thanksgiving, for the gift of life we have been given	<b>30</b> Pray for God's Helping Hands Ministry	<b>31</b> Pray for families with loved ones suffering from addiction				

## CHRISTMAS IS COMING !!!!



Christmas will be here before we know it. What a joyful season, celebrating our Savior's birth. I have been blessed to lead our Angel Tree Mission for many years and this year I would like to give someone else the extreme joy of coordinating this project. I will of course help in all aspects but new blood and ideas is always a good thing.

Please consider stepping into my shoes, which are quite large, and bring Christ's love to many families in our local area that may not be feeling much joy this year.

Please contact me, [pam.caserta@yahoo.com](mailto:pam.caserta@yahoo.com).

The Angel tree will appear in the church lobby November 18th in plenty of time to gather gifts.

God bless you,  
Pam

## SMILE !!! 😊 😊 😊 😊 😊

Searching for those who love to greet new people and welcome all God's Children to Aldersgate.

If you are new to the church or have thought you might like to usher, contact me. Training is painless and your fellow ushers are FUN !

The more people we have in our group, the fewer times each person needs to serve. We don't want to wear out our greeters. We want to keep everyone FRESH.

Pray about this mission of serving and listen to God's voice.

Contact me at [pam.caserta@yahoo.com](mailto:pam.caserta@yahoo.com)

God bless.  
Pam



*Dear Aldersgate Family,*

*We want to thank you for caring for us during our recovery from our accident. The cards, meals and especially the many prayers were very much appreciated. We are so blessed that God lead us to this church many years ago. You have all brought many blessings to our life. May God bless you all!*

*Love,*

*Tomianne & Gary Mann*



## Building Up Our Youth (BUOY)

Keeping our kids afloat while riding the wave of adolescence



### FREE TRAINING

#### WHO:

Parents, caregivers, professionals, teachers and those who work with youth.

#### WHERE:

3rd Floor Conference Room D  
Human Services Building  
16 W. High Street  
Carlisle, PA 17013

#### WHEN:

##### SESSION 1

Tuesday, October 17, 2017  
6:00-8:30

##### SESSION 2

Tuesday, October 24, 2017  
6:00-8:30

Sessions will begin promptly  
Light meal included



#### SESSION 1

- Stages of adolescent drug and alcohol use
- Display of drug-related paraphernalia
- Current drugs of abuse

#### SESSION 2

- Parental attitudes
- Developmental assets and protective factors
- Treatment options
- Community and school-based resources

The Cumberland-Perry Drug & Alcohol Commission believes that any use of alcohol or other drugs by adolescents demands a strong response from adults. We have developed a training series designed specifically for adults to enhance their ability to respond both appropriately and effectively to any level of adolescent drug and alcohol involvement.



#### Advance registration is required

To register please call the Cumberland-Perry D&A Commission at least one week prior to selected session(s).

Call either of the following numbers:

Carlisle: 717-240-6300

All other areas: 1-866-240-6300



**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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October 2017 Edition

### **Aldersgate Staff**

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**Kathleen Blazey**, Preschool Director: [preschooldirector@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:preschooldirector@aldersgatechurch.net)

**Melanie Feldner**, Director of Children's Ministries: [childrensdirector@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:childrensdirector@aldersgatechurch.net)

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**Todd Eppley**, Facilities Manager: [facilities@aldersgatechurch.net](mailto:facilities@aldersgatechurch.net)

**Maureen Nacci**, Child Care Provider

**Kristi Prowell**, Accompanist