



The Gate Post

A P R I L 2 0 1 3



Our Mission: To Create Contagious Christian Community

That values children and helps them grow in the light of Love.

That meets people in the midst of crisis and walks alongside to find solace and solution.

That builds deep and caring relationships and fosters a sense of the joy of belonging.

That gathers together in worship in forms/expressions that are dynamic, meaningful and open to all.

Behold the Man

(Ecce homo)

A Year of Taking Jesus Seriously-Take Two

Easter tide:

Sermon on the Mount

<i>Apr 7</i>	<i>A Faith Of Our Blessing</i>	<i>Matthew 5:1-12</i>
<i>Apr 14</i>	<i>A Faith of Our Inspiring</i>	<i>Matthew 5:13-16</i>
<i>Apr 21</i>	<i>A Faith of Our Doing</i>	<i>Matthew 5:17-6:18</i>
<i>Apr 28</i>	<i>A Faith of Our Seeking</i>	<i>Matthew 6:19-7:12</i>
<i>May 5</i>	<i>A Faith of Our Choosing</i>	<i>Matthew 7:13-29</i>

Did you know ... that the Scripture reading and Sermon from each Sunday are on the Aldersgate website? They are posted on Monday mornings. So if you miss worship on Sunday, grab a cup of coffee Monday morning and head to aldersgatecommunity.com. Current and upcoming worship themes and scripture readings are also listed there.

Aldersgate Financial Update

In an effort to keep Aldersgate Members more informed about the ongoing status of our Church's finances, the Finance Committee is providing the following information in summary form. Please note that our Church's revenue and expenses fluctuate throughout the year; and, each Member's commitment to honoring a pledge is vital to the financial stability of our Church. Thank you for your commitment and participation in giving.

	February 2013	February 2012
Need per month	66,292	68,917
Received	60,867	50,950
Need YTD	132,584	137,834
Received YTD	128,777	142,376
Expense YTD	122,829	134,423

The total budget for 2013 is 795,500, which is an average monthly need of \$66,292.

Outreach Community Offerings

AA- Every Monday @ 7:30p.m. in room 124 , **ALANON-** Every Tuesday @ 7:30p.m. in room 131
ALATEEN- Every Tuesday @ 7:30p.m. in room 202, **12 Step-** Every Tuesday @ 7:30p.m. in room 124, **Big Book-** Every Thursday @ 6:30p.m.
Super Shots- the first Thursday of each month from 4p.m.-7p.m.
Me-N-U Community Meals- Every Thursday from 6p.m.-7p.m. in room 124.



Music, Worship & Arts Ministries



Thank you, Everyone, for the tremendous support you have given to the Ministry of Music and the Arts. We appreciate your lovely compliments of our music and visual arts during the Lenten and Easter Seasons and thank you for supporting our 'Sale of Baked Goods and Other Culinary Delights'. Our total sales were \$1000. Wow!!!

April will bring some beautiful music into our Worship Services presented by the adult handbell choirs, vocal choirs and orchestra. Our teens in handbells, vocal music and drama are going to have a lock-in on Friday evening, April 12 through Saturday morning, April 13. We're looking forward to the fellowship time, the opportunity to rehearse a bit and to watch "lots" of movies! The teens in drama will be presenting two skits at Youth Group. These skits, which were written by Dana Bixler, have very good messages to share with other teens.

The Old Crown Brass Band will end its 2012-2013 concert series at Aldersgate on Monday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m. We're so happy that these incredible band members are willing to share their talent here at our church. Please invite your friends to join us on this special evening of beautiful brass music.

God Bless You All! Marlane

A Testimony from the Children's Pastors Conference

I recently attended my first Children's Pastor's Conference as a representative member of Aldersgate's Education Council. I had never attended any kind of conference before so I felt a bit lost as to what to expect, where to go, etc. Thankfully I had two wonderful guides with me, but even with all their help and knowledge of what they had seen and been through, I never would have grasped what was to come.

Our time was limited so everything was jam-packed. First day I asked Joan, "How will I know what break-outs to pick?" She patiently told me, "You'll know. God will lead you to the right place." So here we are flipping through this book of all the titles of workshops and it starts...the whisper of my shepherd. He starts poking me and letting me know 'I think you might like this one!' I must have had a funny look on my face because Joan reassured me by letting me know once I got into the breakouts things would start to click together and I'd see God was putting things together for me.

She was right. I was so amazed at how many times I heard certain phrases or lesson points. Obviously someone was stamping me on the head with a dummy sign because I didn't see the first 6 times, I needed 7. I could ramble on all the amazing things I learned from each one of those experiences – ranging from focusing on what we as faith leaders need to be doing all the way to showing our 'warrior & warrior princesses of the world' what they need to know. Instead I'd like to share two overwhelmingly great experiences I had while at conference.

The first is one of the main reasons I was so willing to go to CPC when asked. Last year when Joan and John came back from CPC they talked about a speaker, Beth Guckenberger. Her stories tugged at my heart, and I wanted to meet her, hear more stories from her – she sounded like such an amazing person to be around. Well, believe it or not, I did get to meet her and it took everything in me not to cry because I was meeting someone I looked up to immensely. She was so humble, so willing to give anything and everything she had just so that God would be recognized in what she did and what she said. She talked about marriage deeply... marriage to God. The relationship you should have with God and what that can do for your life, your ministry, and the others in your life. I tried to soak up every word I could (while still writing it down in case I forgot later) and was beyond ready to go to her next breakout. And then something happened. God gently nudged me in a different direction. For no rhyme or reason I decided to walk down the hallway away from Beth's 2nd breakout and found a sudden urge to be seated in a different room.

This room had a younger guy sitting on a stool. He was probably my age or younger – someone I definitely could relate to. He referenced testimonies he had heard and moments of "WHY GOD??" He also had an amazing story to tell from his own testimony, and this one I felt He was trying to explain some things to me. One of the big lessons I learned while at CPC was listening – listening to God and what he has to say. The speaker talked about how we pray sometimes, one sided. We say Dear God, this is what we ask, this is what we want, AMEN. How often do we sit and listen to what God wants to tell us. It is hard to sit still and listen in a world full of rushing deadlines, faster technology, and people demanding everything now. Yet, it's important to understand why we sit still, why we listen. We wait for the answers to our questions, our prayers, or sometimes we listen for the direction where we must go to serve God.

I had one wish at the end of conference, that I could bottle up the spirit and energy that came with being at conference. That way it could be shared with others. Between the 3 of us, we had tons of ideas to bat around and try or figure out if they would work for our ministry. They got us excited about what we do, and just a taste of that would be so infectious that it would spread like a wild fire. Wouldn't that be something to behold, a wild fire of Jesus inside a church. CPC offers a lot for children's ministries, but it also offers a great deal more than just curriculums and lectures. It can offer a refreshing renewal of your heart and show you who it belongs to. This is my testimony, my experience at CPC. *Becky Sawyer*

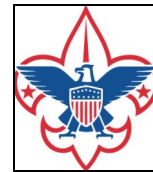
Congratulations to Becky and John Schell who got engaged while attending the Children's Pastors Conference!

Scouting Ministries

CUB SCOUT PACK 3349 meets Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Down Under. It serves boys in grades 1 to 5. Contact Cubmaster Aaron Wentland at 260-517-3212 or aaron.wentland@gmail.com

BOY SCOUT TROOP 349 meets Mondays from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Down Under. It serves boys 11 to 18. Contact Scoutmaster Dean Wilkening at 260-403-4291 or dwilkening@reawire.com

Venture Crew 2349 meets Mondays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Down Under. It is a co-ed scouting youth group for ages 14 to 20. Contact advisors Forrest and Sarah Bishop at 260-458-4292 or forrestbishop@gmail.com or sarahrosebishop@gmail.com



United Methodist Women

Martha Circle--will meet April 1@ 6:00 p.m. @ the church. Call Linda Sackman @ 403-2462.

Mary Circle--will meet April 9 @ 12 noon @ the church. Call Ruthann Keisler @ 485-5175.

Rachel Circle--will meet April 17 for a tour of Parkview Hospital. Call Gloria Gillenwater @ 436-0837 or Judy Miller @ 625-4887.

Ruth Circle--will meet April 2 @ 12 noon @ the church. Call Lynette Jehl @ 616-0164.

SPRING RUMMAGE SALE will be Thursday, APRIL 25!!! Please start cleaning your closets now to help us with this fundraiser for missions.



The Street ~ KidLINKS Children's Ministry

What's Happening...

Week of April 1st— We will be moving all our supplies into 'The Street'...come join us if you are vacationing in Fort Wayne for spring break and are bored :-)

April 7th ~ We officially move our Sunday and Wednesday classes into 'The Street'!

Summer Camp Opportunities -

- Vacation Bible Camp ~ God's Big Backyard June 16-20 Ages 3 & up Contact John Schell to register
- The United Methodist Church has several Summer Camp opportunities for kids of all ages. Go to beacamper.com
- The United Methodist Women's Mission camp ~Mission U~ at DePauw University—is for women and children to attend together (La Donna Weber is the dean and Joan Schell is leading the children's portion of the camp) July 22-26. Contact Joan for more info.

Wild Night at the Zoo ~ August 9th-10th Ages 7—12. Join us for a fun filled evening and sleep over at the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo as we experience 'Creatures of the Night' and get a special behind the scenes tour of the Aquarium workroom which is above the aquarium! Contact Joan for registration information...space is limited so don't wait too long to claim your spot to sleep with the sharks! For more info go to: <http://kidszoo.org/programs-and-events/wild-nights/>



Youth Ministry

Youth Group meets on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 7:45 p.m. (Meal from 6:00-6:30). Join us for....

April 7: Discipleship Night: 6:00p.m.-7:45p.m.- Down Under (Second Sunday of Easter)

April 14: Discipleship Night: 6:00p.m.-7:45p.m.- Down Under (Third Sunday of Easter)

April 21: Discipleship Night: 6:00p.m.-7:45p.m.- Down Under (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

April 28: Discipleship Night: 6:00p.m.-7:45p.m.- Down Under (Fifth Sunday of Easter)

Our **High School Bible Study** is meeting in the Youth Ministry office each Wednesday from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Summer Mission Trip: The Youth are going to Hinton Rural Life Center in Hayesville, NC. The tentative date is June 30—July 5 (awaiting confirmation from Hinton RLC). We will conclude our trip with rafting on the Ocoee River.

For additional information or questions contact Rev. Christopher Millay at 432-1524.



Senior Adults

Jolly Gaters - Tuesday, April 16th, at noon in the church lounge, Carry-In. Paul Sell, Alaska Adventures Lectures, Bluffton, IN, will speak about Alaska. Please come and join us.



RADA Cutlery Sales – Still have some dip mixes in stock available for sale. See Roy if interested or would like a catalog and order form or if you have any questions. This is a fundraiser for Senior Adults.

If there is anything that I can do for any Senior Adult, please contact me. I am in room 125 mid-mornings to mid-afternoons on Tuesdays and Thursdays, phone 432-1524, ext 250.

Roy Horther, Senior Adult Ministries Coordinator

Parish Visitor

This has been a different Lenten Season for me. It is the time that I have to serve communion to those who were unable to get out. But, as most of you know, because of my recent knee surgery I am not able to do that. You are all in my thoughts and prayers and I will be back visiting with all of you very soon. I continue to keep the bulletins and letters coming to you, even doing them at home, but that does keep us in touch.



I want to thank all of you who have sent me cards and called and kept me in your prayers. I am doing very well, according to the doctor, and will be back among all of you in a few weeks.

Special Prayer are needed for:

Jeff Melton, son of Dave and Judy Melton, who had a massive heart attack and is still fighting to stay alive long enough for a heart transplant. Please keep all of them in your prayers. He is 42 years old and has a young family.

Kathie Bell and Paul and Jeanette Bridgett, as Kathie lost her husband, Jeff. She is the daughter of Paul and Jeanette. Kathie is in Canterbury Nursing Home following her massive heart attack a couple of years ago. Jeff was always right there beside her giving his love and support. Pray for strength for all of them.

Pastor Derek's parents, who are in Tennessee and need our prayers.

There are many others that are listed each week in the bulletin. Just keep them all in your prayers. Just remember, I am a phone call away and will help in any way I can.

Ellen Rhoades, Parish Visitor

Bear Creek

The special 2nd offering on the second Sunday in April is dedicated by the Outreach Committee to be given to The Aldersgate Bear Creek Native American Mission. With recent across-the-board cutbacks in Federal Government Funding, the anticipation is that money for education will be far less than it has been and that the schools which will be hit fastest and hardest will be those on Native American Indian Reservations and Military Bases. Therefore, our largest project this year will be to help provide needed school supplies to the Eagle Butte Elementary School. We express our heartfelt gratitude in advance for your generous support of the Bear Creek Mission.

Pilamaya-Thank You! Marlane

The Aldersgate Community



There's A Place For You

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Our Ministry Staff

Dr. Derek Weber- Lead Pastor
Rev. Christopher Millay- Associate Pastor
Marlane Sturm- Dir. of Music, Worship & Arts Ministries
Phyllis Lahr- Organist
Joan Schell- Director of Children's Ministries
John Schell- Cradle Care and J12 Coordinator
Michele Phillips- Church Administrator
Deb Eckler- Financial Assistant
Ellen Rhoades- Parish Visitor
Roy Horther- Sr. Adult Ministry Coordinator
Andrew White- Tech Ministry Coordinator
Judy Smith- Volunteer Librarian
Roy Horther- Custodian
Tina Mihalec- Custodian
Ken Arend- Night Host

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