



In Depth: The Aldersgate logo was inspired by the Love Sculpture in Philadelphia, PA., to remind us that God is Love and that Love is the Greatest Commandment.

Aldersgate *In Action*



In Depth: In Depth: “A Summer at the Movies” is the name of our current sermon series, which has been designed to encourage us to examine God’s Truth as revealed in the Bible and as experienced on the Big Screen. Today’s sermon, “The Least,” is the fifth in the series and has been inspired by the 2009 biography “The Blind Side.” You will find the order of worship for today’s service on Page 4.

Welcome to Aldersgate United Methodist Church, where the mission is to raise up deeply devoted disciples of Jesus. You have a place here. Regardless of who you are, where you have been and where you are in faith’s journey, you belong here. In *Aldersgate In Action*, you will find information about various ministries and opportunities. Please, feel no pressure. Just know that if you are looking to grow in your faith and in relationships with God and others, you are welcome and encouraged to do both here. Grace and Peace!

Aldersgate United Methodist Church • 1741 Sayles Blvd., Abilene, TX 79605 • (325) 672-7893
www.aldersgateabilene.org



In the Works

Regularly Scheduled Services and Opportunities to Grow and Serve:
All are welcome! Please contact the Office (672-7893), if you'd like to know more about becoming involved in the activities on the schedule below.

This Week:

Sunday:

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship
10:05 a.m. Sunday School
11:05 a.m. Contemporary Worship

Monday:

Independence Day
Office Closed

*A Summer at
the Movies
continues
next Sunday
with...*



In Depth: Each week, the pages of the *In Action* will contain updates, news and other information about Aldersgate's music ministry, the children's, youth and college ministries, and opportunities to serve in the Mission Field. (The Mission Field has been identified as four areas of focus in which to share the love of God outside of the church locally: McMurtry University (and other Abilene colleges and universities), Bowie Elementary, Our Neighborhoods and Aldersgate Academy).

Connections: Photos in the Hallways



If you are like me, you wait for the calm and relaxed season of summer only to realize that it is anything but calm. The same can be said about the life and ministry at Aldersgate. While we do take a break from our regularly scheduled ministries like Growth Groups and Kids for Christ, our summer activities and mission trips are in full swing! The Youth Group has a full schedule of summer activities from camp to swim nights to mission trips. Our children's

ministry is busy with art nights, outings to the movie theater and activities at the garden. Our senior adult ministry recently took a trip to Albany to see *Fandangle*. That ministry continues to have a Thursday gathering and game days each month. Plus, we have all of the summer mission trips! All of these events and outings are documented through pictures showcased on the monitors in the hallway. Take some time to see all of the fun and silly moments from the youth's mystery ramble; check out the ramp that the San Antonio mission team recently built for Providence Place. If you have pictures to share, please send them to me at (210) 849-9122 or jessica@aldersgateabilene.org. — Jessica Watson

Children's Ministry: Worship Through Dance!

This summer we are trying something new for the girls of Aldersgate. They can learn how to worship God through dance! The dance classes will take place on Sunday afternoons from 4:00-5:00 p.m. for girls going into 3rd grade through youth age. These classes start next Sunday, July 10th, and go through Sunday, August 14th. The girls will then perform a dance on August 21st in the early worship service at 9:00 a.m. We'll be meeting in the Tree House room. You don't have to know how to dance to join us, just a desire to explore dance as a way to worship God. I'm so excited to be helping Paula Findley with this new endeavor! I hope to see lots of girls next Sunday!



If you have any questions, contact me at 325- 660-5529 or at children@aldersgateabilene.org. You may also contact Paula at 325-370-4386. — Alayna Brooks

Youth Ministry: Upcoming Youth Activities



This weekend many of our youth are at Camp Eagle growing in their relationship with God and with each other. From worship and breakout sessions to zip-lining and kayaking, this camp is an example of the faith-building opportunities our youth have every summer and throughout the year. Please be in prayer for our students for open minds and open hearts as well as for our leaders, who seek to pour into these students.

Our High-School Youth Mission Trip with UM ARMY is coming up during July 17-23. The cost for this trip is \$100. The link

to sign up is: <https://www.umarmy.net/Regiastrtion/Indv/1909/>. Cash or check should be given to Daniel or to the church office.

If you'd like to get our youth text updates, text "Gracepeaceyouth" to the number 313131. This is a great way to keep up with the youth program activities.

If you are interested in knowing what else is going on this summer with your youth, our summer schedule is on the Aldersgate website (www.aldersgateabilene.org.) — Daniel Mathis

A SUMMER AT THE MOVIES:
The Least* from *The Blind Side
Matthew 25:31-46
Sermon Notes

Hell, Fire, & Brimstone....or is it?

Surprise!

"I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing." Genesis 12:2

Are we asking Jesus the wrong question?

Service in the Kingdom of God

Transformation

Who do you have a hard time judging?

Ask God to help you see Jesus in that person.

How can you move toward them in service and relationship?

Our Mission: Raising Up Deeply Devoted Disciples of Jesus

College Ministry: Student Spotlight



This week, I would like to share with you Hope Rouse's summer story. Many of you may know Hope, as she has spent the last school year working with the children's ministry as an intern. Hope will be a sophomore at McMurry University in the fall, studying religion. Over the last six weeks, she has served as a college intern with the Epworth Project in Slidel, Louisiana. You might be familiar with the Epworth Project in Slidel. Our church sent a team down there to serve last summer. Coincidentally, Hope was serving with her home church from Wichita Falls during the same week our team was there!

As an intern, Hope is responsible for hosting and leading teams of mostly youth for a week of service. The Epworth Project focuses on restoring homes that have been damaged by severe weather and flooding. Hope leads these teams in replacing drywall, painting, laying new floors and whatever else required so the residents can move back in to their homes. Hope described her service as one of her life's most rewarding experiences, but she acknowledged its difficulty. She asked that we would remember her in our prayers, especially during July as she finishes her commitment to the Epworth Project and as they host a record number of people. — Kyle Watson

Open Door: The Little Free Library

Something new has sprouted out of the ground in the garden at South 19th and Amarillo streets! Thanks to Ben Morgan and the garden/neighborhood team, a Little Free Library filled with children's books and young adult fiction now stands proudly near the gazebo. Our library is one of 40,000 across the world in a movement that was designed to promote reading and contribute to a sense of community (littlefreelibrary.org). A growing sense of community is the main purpose of the Open Door Community Garden, which makes it a great home for the Little Free Library. We chose to fill our library with books for children and youth because so many of our neighbors are raising children and grandchildren, many of whom attend our neighborhood school, Bowie Elementary. Having easy access to free books within walking distance of their homes and school will give the children in our neighborhood another safe, fun activity to enjoy during the summer months. The library was purchased with Faith Promise funds that were allocated by the Mission Task Force, so thank you, all of you who choose to give in this way. And thanks for donating books! The library is open to everyone, so please, come visit! All are welcome to take a book and/or leave a book . . . pick some free vegetables, too! — Amy Wilson Feltz



In Depth: At Aldersgate, all are invited to practice faithfulness in our prayers, presence (attendance), gifts (offering of money), service (action in the community) and witness (sharing our faith). You will find information about service and witness throughout the pages of Aldersgate In Action. This page is dedicated to matters of prayer, presence, and gifts.

Prayers

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Clay Meadows | Carolyn Strain | Charles Myrick |
| Doris Ogden | Military and Families | Lou Adams |
| Dori Oiler | Mary Gregory | Clinton Gayle |
| Lou Swindell | Millie Speed | Addison English |
| Ken Schmidt | Sarah Doucette | Lora Langford |
| Rosalee Schmidt | Delmon Wilson | Bob Kuykendall |
| Alice Shaw | Delores Wilson | Kay Burkhart |
| Alice Alcalá | Billie Langston | Billy & Jennifer Butler |
| Charles Dortch | Judy English | Mary Meadows |

The e-mail prayer list is coordinated by Barbara Owens. Please send prayer requests and requests to join the e-mail list to prayer@aldersgateabilene.org.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Debi and Layne Barnhill and family upon the death of their husband and father, Tim, on June 24, 2016.

Aldersgate volunteers serve at the Methodist Food Pantry, located at N. 1st and Shelton, on the second Tuesday of the month, from 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Free childcare is available. For more information call Susan Steele at 605-381-6322.

Facebook page: [facebook.com/AldersgateUnitedMethodist Church](https://www.facebook.com/AldersgateUnitedMethodistChurch)

Twitter: @AldersgateABI

Instagram: @aldersgateabi

Presence

6.26.2016

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service = 178

11: a.m. Contemporary Worship Service = 142

Total Worship Service Attendance = 320

Sunday School = 174

In Depth: Sunday School classes are offered at 10:05 a.m. for all ages. To learn more about Adult Sunday School classes, call Amy Wilson Feltz at 672-7893 or send an e-mail to amywilsonfeltz@aldersgateabilene.org.

Gifts

Budget for 2016 = \$777,000

Received This Week = \$11,309.52

Received This Month-to-Date = \$48,524.60

Received Year-to-Date = \$372,945.43

2016 Faith Promise Pledge = \$38,312.00

2016 Faith Promise Contributions = \$24,561.04

In Depth: Aldersgate offers two forms of electronic giving: Online Bill Pay and ACH Direct Draft. EFT Authorization Forms are available in the office and on our website at www.aldersgateabilene.org. If you have additional questions regarding Stewardship, contact K.B. Woods (672-7893, kbwoods@aldersgateabilene.org).

Ministry Leaders

Pastor: Steve Brooks (325) 660-4415

Associate Pastor:

Amy Wilson Feltz (325) 660-5017

Music: David Wallis

Children: Alayna Brooks

& Amber Redman

Youth/Contemporary Worship:

Daniel Mathis

College/Young Adults: Kyle Watson

Connections: Jessica Watson

Director of Administration and

Finance: Mary Chavez Lust

Reception: Susan Acosta

Academy: Carol Rogers

Custodial Services:

Robert Sandoval

Staying Connected:

Address: 1741 Sayles, 79605

Phone Number: (325) 672-7893

Office Hours:

Mon. - Thurs. 8-12, 1-5

Fri. 8-12

Web Site:

www.aldersgateabilene.org

Facebook: Aldersgate UMC

Text Message Reminders:

gracepeace to 313131

E-mail Reminders:

news@aldersgateabilene.org



In the Word

by Pastor Steve

I thank my God every time I remember you.
Philippians 1:3

A little more than two weeks ago, I underwent surgery to remove one of my adrenal glands which contained a benign tumor. The whole procedure went exactly as planned. I continue to recover slowly as I get stronger about every third day. This is code for “I wish I was getting stronger faster,” but alas, it is what it is. I look forward to getting back into rhythm and resuming preaching next Sunday as we continue in our *A Summer at the Movies* series.

I sincerely want to thank you all for your prayers, calls, cards, texts, emails, visits, meals and other expressions of love and concern for me and my family during this time. They have been truly sustaining in every way. One of your cards said, “healing is hard but good.” I had never thought of it that way before, but I certainly resonate with it now. Thank you for being a means of God’s grace during this hard and good time. The really good news is that my blood pressure and potassium levels (the two main problems the tumor was causing) are normalizing since the removal of the tumor. For this, I give thanks to God every time I remember you as you have been so faithfully present to God on my behalf, with me, and my family! I will never forget.

I also want to publically give thanks to God for K.B. Woods. K.B. has been the church’s financial officer for the past 5 years. She has tendered her resignation (effective July 5th) as she is winding up her master’s of accounting degree and taking a new job at an accounting firm here in town. Her commitment to excellence, attention to detail and deep desire to do a good job have been inspiring to me. Aldersgate has deeply benefited and experienced transformation because of her passionate work. I give thanks for her work, the lives she has touched and our friendship that I will always cherish. K.B., I give thanks to God every time I remember you! I will never forget.



In 2016, we are reading through the Bible together using *the Bible Project* reading plan that includes introduction videos for each book of the Bible and daily readings. They have the Bible divided into 16 sections or chapters, all designed to help you get a feel for the Bible, Old and New Testaments, as one long story from creation to Christ’s ultimate return. We will publish the daily readings in the *In Action* each week. You also may find them at <http://thebibleproject.tumblr.com/readscripture> along with the suggested videos. The videos are available on the website or you can have them sent to your e-mail inbox as they come up in the cycle. There is also an app for your smart phones.

Tim Mackie, one of the founders of *the Bible Project*, says, “*We want to help you learn how to read the Bible as you actually read through the entire thing for yourself.*” Let’s begin this journey through the Bible together. Grace and Peace,

—Pastor Steve and Pastor Amy

Daily Readings

July 3: Lamentations 4-5, Psalm 30

July 4: Ezekiel 1-5, Psalm 31

Video: Ezekiel 1-32

July 5: Ezekiel 5-8, Psalm 32

July 6: Ezekiel 9-12, Psalm 33

July 7: Ezekiel 13-15, Psalm 34

July 8: Ezekiel 16-18, Psalm 35

July 9: Ezekiel 19-21, Psalm 36