



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

a significant place where disciples are made

2313 Concord Pike
Wilmington, Delaware 19803
(302) 478-2575

www.aldersgatede.org

FIND YOUR PATH.



2013

THE MESSENGER

Hey, Hey everyone!! Listen up!!

IN THIS ISSUE

Reading a devotion recently I encountered an interesting and important assignment. I was challenged to write a proclamation of the good news of God's kingdom. So here's what I wrote:

Hey, Hey everyone!! Listen up!!

I just can't wait to tell you something. I have the best news. God loves you. Do you know what that means? It means that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. No matter what you're facing in this world, there is something super-terrific waiting for you.

If you are in the midst of the toughest struggle of your life, it won't last. God's love for you, however, will never end. If you are in the midst of the most joyous time of your life, rejoice even more because this time will dim in comparison to what God has in mind for you. You see, this wonderful love that I'm talking about and this beautiful plan for you is found in the Kingdom of God and this Kingdom is available to everyone and anyone who will put their trust in God's Son, Jesus Christ.

Sounds too good to be true, doesn't it? It's not, though. Jesus came into this world to save us from all of the messes in which we keep finding ourselves. Jesus is the ultimate "get out of jail free" card. He doesn't charge you anything to free you from your wrongdoings. He paid that bill already. The only thing He asks is that you devote your life to Him and believe in Him fully. If you'll ask him into your life and give your heart over to Him, He'll fill you with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness & self-control. These are the wonderful fruits that God's Holy Spirit offers to His believers. Imagine getting gifts like those without having to pay a cent! Come on, join me in following the one true Redeemer, the Prince of Peace, the Wonderful Counselor, the King of Kings, Jesus the Christ!

Are you able to share the Good News with a friend or even a stranger? Sure you are! For some, though, it may take some practice to get the words out right. Not all of us can easily rattle off these words about our Lord. I would like

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to challenge each of you to try this assignment and write out your own proclamation. It will not only help you understand what you believe in but it will prepare you for the time when you run into somebody that desperately needs to hear those precious words. When you get it done, send me a copy at Chris.pennington@aldersgatede.org I'd love to read yours.

Grace and peace to you...

Chris



SPRC Spotlight on Jeffrey Manns

By Bea Massey, SPRC Member

This month's spotlight is on Jeffrey who is Director of Music Ministry. His wife, Rebecca, leads the Audio/Visual Ministry at Aldersgate, and together they have two daughters, Savannah (12) and Gabriella (9). All are very active at Aldersgate.

Jeffrey claims "his real musical passion is in the choral arts" and is currently a member of several ensembles including **The Tucson Chamber Artists** (Tucson, AZ), **Vox Humana** (Dallas, TX), **Spire** (Kansas City, MO), **The Crossing** (Philadelphia, PA), **The Thirteen** (Princeton, NJ), **The Princeton Singers** (Princeton, NJ), and local ensembles **CoroAllegro**, **Quinctus**, and **The Mastersingers of Wilmington**. Jeffrey also performed for six summer seasons with the **Santa Fe Desert Chorale** in New Mexico.

In July, Jeff sang with **Vox Humana** at the Texas Choral Directors Convention in San Antonio, followed by two performances in Waco and Dallas. The concerts were to promote the ensemble's recently released CD *Into the Night*, available on iTunes or at Barnes and Noble. Upcoming performances for Jeffrey include appearances with **The Crossing** at The Crane Center for the Arts in Philadelphia and the **Metropolitan Museum of Art and Carnegie Hall** in New York City; **Spire**, in performances of the *Rank Martin Mass for Double Choir* at the Kauffman Center of the Performing Arts; **The Princeton Singers**, in a Composers forum on the campus of Lehigh University; and **Vox Humana**, in performances at the Meyerson Symphony Center and on the campus of Southern Methodist University. Locally, Jeffrey will appear in performances with **CoroAllegro**, **The Mastersingers of Wilmington**, and **Quinctus**.

Jeffrey currently serves as Assistant Director of **CoroAllegro**, Wilmington's select vocal chamber ensemble and is also Assistant Director and co-founder of **Quinctus**, a new 5-member men's ensemble based in Newark, DE.

In August, Jeffrey presented two sessions on Music and Worship at the American Choral Directors "Voices United" Conference at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. During the convention, he was selected by his peers as the Music and Worship Repertoire and Standards Chairperson for the State of Delaware. As part of this election, Jeffrey will participate in board meetings and events, as well as help plan, program, and serve regional and national conventions.

At Aldersgate, Jeffrey conducts the Chancel Choir, Gateway Ringers, and Journey Band weekly, as well as coordinating and conducting the Aldersgate Brass, the Aldersgate Men's Ensemble, The Arts @ Aldersgate Music Series, and works with the musicians who provide music each Sunday for worship. Along with his musical duties, Jeffrey also assists Pastor Chris and Pastor Don with worship planning for the traditional services and the Journey.

Jeff is excited for the year ahead. His plan for Christmas is a combined concert with all ensembles of the Music Ministry presenting *A Feast of Carols* by Randall Bass.

With an eye to getting as many as possible involved, Jeffrey says, "Whether you are a professional musician, or a music lover, we have a place for you at Aldersgate!"

The SPRC (Staff-Parish Relations Committee) is the administrative unit in a local church where staff and congregational interests are integrated to focus on the mission of the church. The committee relates to all staff, both bishop-appointed staff and employed staff. The SPRC has some of the same functions of a personnel office or Human Resources department in other organizations.

Dear Aldersgate Family,

I want to thank everyone who came out on Thursday evening, September 12th for our organizational meeting for visitation. I will try to give you a regularly quarterly report on how we are doing. Several of you called or contacted me about your interest in visitation. Be patient and I will get back to you.

I am excited about this outreach. Also, let me remind you that I am having office hours on Tuesday's and Thursday's from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. If you'd like to stop by to get your blood pressure checked or talk about medications I'd be happy to do that. Hope your fall is off to a great start!

See you in worship! **Pastor Don**





Silent Auction—Friday, October 4 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Spirit of Giving Gala & Auction

By Bob & Carolyn Reis, Silent Auction Chairs

It's a night of entertainment, food and fun. Along the way we hope to raise some money. We hope you are planning to attend on Friday, October 4! We will gather to be serenaded and entertained, enjoy hors d'oeuvres, beverages, desserts and each other's fellowship. There will be more than 50 items on which you can bid in the silent auction, and three "extra" special items in the live auction to be conducted by Pastor Chris. Whether you're interested in bidding on any items or not, come join us for a fun evening. A sample of items to be auctioned include:

- ⇒ Lunch with our Pastor
- ⇒ A central Florida condominium timeshare for one prime week per year
- ⇒ A Roy Halladay signed baseball and Jersey
- ⇒ Barbara Buckley's renowned Crab Cake Dinner for four
- ⇒ A very full basket of admissions around Wilmington from the Altar Guild
- ⇒ Dinners at a wide variety of Wilmington's restaurants
- ⇒ Introductory spa memberships and personalized fitness training sessions
- ⇒ Theater tickets
- ⇒ An iPad
- ⇒ and a host of other offerings with minimum bids starting at less than \$20

Tickets are \$15 per person/\$25 per couple. Childcare is provided for all ages with a meal at no cost. Contact Bob or Carolyn Reis (302-654-7133) if you need a ride to and from the event.

The Silent Auction Committee members are: Bob & Carolyn Reis, Sandy Anderson, Janet Atwater, Barbara Buckley, Kathy Daum, Sharon Jennelly, Royal Lowthert, Chris & Christy Pennington, John & Mary Jane Prince, Joanne Smeltz and Adam West.



Finance Update

Finance at a Glance

By Brett Landis, Finance Committee Chair

Greetings from your Finance Committee Chair! Our report for August wraps up our summer months and finds us in good position entering September. While August itself set us back, year-to-date we are in a positive position through what is historically the most challenging season of the year. Here is a look at the past 6 months...

	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD Total</u>
Income	\$133,859	\$102,406	\$96,380	\$74,714	\$75,980	\$51,035	\$706,942
Expenses	\$89,146	\$ 85,618	\$91,609	\$67,240	\$62,581	\$82,030	\$675,986
Net Income	\$44,713	\$ 16,537	\$ 4,820	\$ 7,473	\$13,427	-\$31,045	\$ 30,735

With a quick review of the monthly finances outlined above, you can see that year-to-date through August, Aldersgate finances were running in the black. **A positive \$30,000 figure at this point in the year is truly something to celebrate!** In comparison, our financial position in August of 2012 was completely the opposite. But 2013 is challenging past trends and we are so blessed to be entering the fall months on very solid ground.

For that, I would like to recognize that it is the members of this congregation who have made this happen. Thank you for your generous support of the missions of Aldersgate! I look forward to working through the remainder of 2013 and the wonderful opportunities it will provide us!

Thank you for your generous support of the missions of Aldersgate!



Notes from The Music Guy

Jeffrey Manns

Director of Music Ministry

(302) 478-2575 ext. 120

jeff.manns@aldersgatede.org

Music Ministry Rehearsals:

- **Brass Ensemble:**
Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.
(Sanctuary)
- **Chancel Choir:**
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.
(Music Center)
- **Bell Choir:**
Thursdays at 7:15 p.m.
(Bell Choir Room)

Arts @ Aldersgate announces 2013 Fall Schedule

A@A are pleased to present the following events for the 2013 fall program:

Sunday, October 13 at 4 p.m. in the Auditorium—CANCELLED—however...

Sunday, October 20 at 4 p.m. in the Music Center

Broadway Bound is an ensemble of theatrical performers who perform year round in the Delaware Valley and beyond. Brought together primarily for their passion as performers, Broadway Bound has performed thousands of concerts since the ensemble first began twenty years ago. All the performers associated with Broadway Bound continue to perform in professional and community theatres. Broadway Bound tailors their performances to the desires of the audience. In addition to their classic up-tempo Broadway reviews, Broadway Bound has created Vaudeville, Hollywood, and Patriotic shows, as well as Holiday programs and shows for children. Broadway Bound's performance at Aldersgate will include primarily music from Broadway and Hollywood.

Sunday, November 10 at 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Kurt Collins, Organ Recital—Our talented Kurt Collins is sure to present a recital of outstanding music on the Aldersgate Cornel Zimmer Organ; one of the premiere solo instruments in the Mid-Atlantic.

Sunday, December 8 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Aldersgate UMC Christmas Concert—Come and celebrate the season with Aldersgate! This concert will feature all of the Music Ministry's performing ensembles.

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***The Chancel Choir and Bell Choir are both seeking new members. Won't you consider joining the Music Ministry at Aldersgate? Contact Jeff Manns, Director of Music Ministry for more information.***



Thanks to your willingness to step up, we have filled the open positions for the youth music ministry! Our directors for this year are:

**Children's Choir**—Kim Provo, Director—Bennet Atwater, Guitar—James Shea, Assistant

**Junior Choir**—J.E. Hammer-Maansson, Director—Dinah Schlecht, Accompanist

**Vocal Impact**—Diane Shea & Janet Atwater, Directors—Debbie Mulrooney, Accompanist

**Aldersgate's Youth Music Ministry Rocks!**

### ***Volunteers Needed: Audio/ Visual Ministry***

The Audio/ Visual Ministry is seeking volunteers for participation in all services. No experience is necessary and training is available. The A/V Ministry is responsible for providing sound and visual support for our worship services weekly.

To learn more about these opportunities to serve the church, please contact Rebecca Manns at [hopeandgrace4@yahoo.com](mailto:hopeandgrace4@yahoo.com). If you are interested in helping out with the video ministry, please contact John Prince by emailing [john.prince@aldersgatede.org](mailto:john.prince@aldersgatede.org) or call the church office at 302-478-2575.



**AUDIO-VISUAL**  
---team---



## September Update

By Bob Reis, Chair of Board of Trustees

We have begun to meet again after a restful summer and note that there are now a number of issues to work on, some of which are carryovers from the earlier part of the year and others which have now presented themselves.

**Security:** Our primary focus this fall will be instituting a new security system for building access. We have secured three bids from local companies and will select a vendor and all hardware with a redesigned procedure in October. It looks as if the best fit for Aldersgate will be an entirely new outside door entry system, still making use of the keys we use for all areas inside the building. We are wrestling with how to secure the building and its various doors while making sure doors are closed and locked when they are not being used or are unattended. The next edition of the Messenger will have a complete explanation of our new hardware and procedures for entering, leaving and securing the building. Insofar as possible, we will change only that which is absolutely necessary to increase safety in the use of the church.

**Building Maintenance:** The building presents a number of other challenges, which are rapidly becoming needs, as opposed to wants, and which need to be scheduled. If you've looked at the outside of the building at the roof line, particularly above the glass doors, you will note that we are in need of painting or resurfacing the areas just below the roof. Our initial thought has been given to how we might best do this and when. Options and pricing are being assembled.

**Heating /Air Conditioning:** We also have three *rapidly aging* central air conditioning units. Parts are no longer available for the one unit that has a deteriorating drip pan (large cookie sheet type of metal tray that catches the water that is produced when air is conditioned and funnels the water into our drain system). We are looking into whether or not a pan can be fabricated to allow us an extra year or two from this unit, or if it is wiser to simply replace the entire unit now. Some energy cost savings would be realized with a newer unit. In checking on this unit, we realize that the other two we use are nearly as old. Needs-planning will require that we look at replacement of these units within the next couple of years at a cost of \$10,000 per unit.

**Our Parsonage:** Work continues at our Oakwood Parsonage. The lawn is being brought back to better condition and a dead tree was removed from the front yard. Gutter cleaning has been accomplished, as has some general clean up of the grounds. Further lawn fertilization is planned for the near future. In the coming year we will look into re-siding the house which has been deferred from prior years along with repairing some of the outstanding issues in the interior.

**New Dogwood:** You may have noticed that in the place of the large and decaying Maple tree, we have a beautiful young Dogwood. This was a Memorial gift to the church. Unfortunately, it is in a heavily trafficked area and needs further tender loving care in order to have a good start in the flower bed area near the glass doors. As always, the grounds group would love to have help in weeding, mulching and in pruning several of our bushes and trees. If you have an interest, watch for our notices as to work days and join us.

**Labyrinth Benches:** The next time you visit the Labyrinth, note that the memorial plaques have been placed on the benches. We would like to add other benches to that area in the coming years. They make a great and lasting memorial for loved ones that were once a part of Aldersgate.

**The Budget:** Thus far in 2013 we have spent a great deal less than the budgeted amount allocated for Trustees. This is likely to change in the last few months of the year, although we remain very cognizant of proper stewardship guidelines. With a healthier financial position, we will plan on a larger budget for maintenance and building improvement issues in the coming year, with extended planning for replacement of certain critical portions of the building (roofs, heating and air-conditioning plants, and doors for example) in the coming years.

The Trustees next meeting will be Tuesday, October 1. If you have any business that you feel the trustees should address, concerns about the buildings and grounds or otherwise, please feel free to contact any one of us and we'll make sure they are addressed.

**The trustees are: Bob Reis, Dave Dunbar, Carolyn Fleckenstein, Jane Smith, Jay Doughty, Doug DeVoll, Don Moore, Rick Cross and Joanne Smeltz. Royal Lowthert is the staff ex officio member.**

## In God We Trust

*Every great dream begins with a dreamer.*

*Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience,  
and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.*

**Harriet Tubman**

*Thanks for your Prayers!*

*My grandson, Matthew Downham, has now returned from Afghanistan. Praise God! Thanks to all who prayed for his safety. Sincerely, Kate Downham*



Each month, milestone anniversaries are listed as well as all those over 50 years. While we can all benefit from knowing that marriages truly can exist for more than 5 decades, we want to recognize those milestone years (i.e. 5, 10 15, 20 ) for all. **Congratulations!**

|                           |          |            |
|---------------------------|----------|------------|
| Don & Mary Blythe         | 40 years | October 6  |
| Bill & Beth Donovan       | 15 years | October 10 |
| Carl & Sally Moran        | 63 years | October 14 |
| Ron & Phoebe Smith        | 58 years | October 15 |
| Carl & Renate Muendel     | 52 years | October 16 |
| Bob & Donna Hanson        | 68 years | October 17 |
| Anant & Leighanne Bhushan | 15 years | October 24 |

If you are not sure we have your anniversary and would like it to be included in the future, please contact Betty Moore (302-478-2575 ext. 117) or [betty.moore@aldersgatede.org](mailto:betty.moore@aldersgatede.org). All additions or corrections are gratefully accepted to keep our records up to date.



|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| Thomas Wilson    | August 31   |
| Charles Davidson | September 6 |

### Occasional Computer Help Wanted: Share your talents!

Michael Luternau is seeking one or more people to stop by occasionally to help him enter information in his computer, usually in MS Word documents, and sometimes to read and write short email messages. The work is very basic, easy, and can be done in occasional visits of just an hour. If two or three people could help him just once a month, he would be very grateful. Please contact Michael at church or talk with Nancy Hough, 302-762-5321. **Thanks!**



### Seeking Coffee Hour Volunteers



The Fellowship Committee is seeking hosts to serve coffee hour this Fall after the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services. Individuals, families, and Small Groups are all welcome to serve. Training is available. The following dates are open:

- October 27—hosts needed for all coffee hour times
- November 3—after 9 a.m. service only
- November 17—hosts needed for all coffee hour times
- November 24—Single service at 10 a.m.
- December 22—hosts needed for all coffee hour times
- December 29—Single service at 10 a.m.

The Fellowship Committee is also accepting donations of home-baked freezer cookies or non-perishable pre-packaged cookies, crackers, chips, or snacks to supplement the regular staples provided by the church. If you would like to donate food items to the Fellowship ministry, please label donations "for Sunday Coffee Hour" and leave marked packages in the kitchen off of the auditorium at your convenience. Thanks!

Heather Burket & Jen Xenakes, Co-Chairs Fellowship Committee

Heather: [hkaten@gmail.com](mailto:hkaten@gmail.com) or (609) 504-3112

Jennifer: [jhxenakes@gmail.com](mailto:jhxenakes@gmail.com)



### Ubuntu Journey, Lithuania

**May 12-19, 2014**

**in-country dates**

*United through faith, history and culture we come together to share our stories.*

Join us for an exciting Journey to the largest of the Baltic States in Europe-Lithuania. We will visit churches and people whose lives have been re-built and restored following the country's declaration of independence from the Soviet Union in 1990. The women of the United Methodist Church-Lithuania are currently meeting within their separate churches but desire a unified organization. This Ubuntu Journey offers a unique opportunity for Ubuntu Sisters to assist their Lithuanian Sisters in organizing and establishing a Lithuanian-suited United Methodist Women structure.

If you would like more information on this mission opportunity, please contact Carolyn Fleckenstein at [frittsie39@comcast.net](mailto:frittsie39@comcast.net).





Aldersgate United Methodist Women are excited for **UMW Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**. Look for UMW members as worship leaders, greeters, ushers,

liturgists and hosts for Fellowship at all services. We will share information about the activities and mission of UMW as an integral part of a Faithful Congregation.

**Tuesday, October 29 at 9 a.m. in the Auditorium:** Aldersgate United Methodist Women invite ALL women and men to attend the UMW sponsored Fall Bible Study, which will be led by Rev. Beverly Lewis, pastor of Richardson Park UMC. Coffee and refreshments will be served. You may sign up for the study with a Circle Leader, after church on **UMW Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**, or online at <http://eeumw.wufoo.com/forms/umw-bible-study>. Please join us in welcoming Pastor Beverly back to Aldersgate. Childcare is available during the Bible study if requested by October 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Pecans** will be for sale this fall, as usual. The grower informs us that harvesting the nuts will be a bit delayed because of a cool spring, but we hope to have them before Thanksgiving. Halves and pieces are offered; pieces need to be pre-ordered. Pecans can be ordered from circle leaders, from Laura Parrish (call 302-477-1718) or online at <http://eeumw.wufoo.com/forms/umw-pecan-order>.

**Two local opportunities to join in fellowship with UMW members from other area churches:**

- \* **Wilmington District UMW Annual Meeting**  
Saturday, October 5 with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m.  
Mt. Lebanon UMC, 850 Mt. Lebanon Road, Wilmington, DE 19803  
Topic – **Bullying** - this is so widespread and we need to find ways to stop it.
- \* **Peninsula-Delaware Conference UMW Annual Meeting**  
Saturday, October 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Neighborhood House, 1218 B Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

**May everyone who reads this message be blessed. There are 12 months, 12 disciples, 12 tribes of Israel, Jesus' birth celebrated in the 12th month. Prayer is one of the best free gifts we receive. There is no cost, just a lot of reward. Pray, believing God will answer.**

*May the Lord use you today to do His work in the lives that surround you.*

*May today be all you need it to be.*

*May the peace of God and the freshness of the Holy Spirit rest in your thoughts,*

*rule in your dreams tonight, and conquer all your fears.*

*May God manifest himself today in ways you have never*

*experienced before.*

*May your joys be fulfilled, your dreams be closer, and your prayers be answered.*

*I pray that faith enters a new height for you;*

*I pray that your territory is enlarged.*

*I pray for peace, healing, health, happiness, prosperity, joy, true and undying love for God.*

## **Rummage Sale Pick up Saturday, October 19**

Rummage Sale Logistics Team



We are so appreciative that you think of donating to the Annual Rummage Sale when you are cleaning out, down sizing or just disposing of items you no longer want or need!

If you have items and need them removed, you're in luck! There will be a pick up on Saturday, October 19, beginning at 9 a.m., so please let us know (contact information below) if you'd like someone from our team to stop by.

That said, Regina Steele, has very graciously loaned her excess garage space to us for many years and now that garage is FULL! We **desperately** need some additional garage space.

If you have a piece of your garage that we could use for storage until April please contact Chris Burkett, [cburket@gmail.com](mailto:cburket@gmail.com), (609-504-3107) or Don Moore, [Indmoore@comcast.net](mailto:Indmoore@comcast.net) (610-558-6817). If you need help rearranging your garage to make space we will even help you! THANKS!

**Mark your calendars: The Annual Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2014 and it will be here before you know it!**



### **Reminder: Bearing Witness**

*Tuesday, October 8 at 10 a.m. to noon*

By Margaret David

Come join us on as Martha and Rebekah Circles welcome Ann Jaffe to Aldersgate UMW. Ann, as a 10-year old child in

Poland, was one of the "lucky" ones who managed to survive the cruelty of the holocaust. Through her story of survival hiding in a forest, Ann bears witness to that terrible time.

All are invited to hear this delightful and interesting lady. Please let us know if you can attend by calling Kate Downham, Martha Circle, at 302-426-8038; or Margaret David, Rebekah Circle, at 302-478-0947.

## Volunteer Opportunities



**LAUNDRY COORDINATOR:** We need someone to coordinate laundry for Family Promise. This task has been performed by Susan Schrank since our second year of hosting. Along with coordinating the laundry, Susan has also been in charge of set up and take down which she will continue to do. The success of Family Promise has largely been because of Susan's dedication to doing a good job – **thank you Susan!!**

The *Laundry Coordinator* is responsible for sorting the laundry into bundles for the volunteers who will do the laundry on the day we take down the rooms. The other responsibility is sorting the laundry into bedding units once the laundry has been returned and then placing them in our storage area until the next hosting time. *How about you?* Do you have a couple of hours four times a year to help with Family Promise? This is not a difficult task but an extremely important one. If you are interested in serving as *Laundry Coordinator*, please contact Sarah Ogilby via email [sogilby@comcast.net](mailto:sogilby@comcast.net) or by calling 302-998-6334.



**OVERNIGHT HOSTS:** We are always looking for those volunteers who won't mind giving up their comfortable bed to stay on a blow up mattress (like our Family Promise guests) for an evening and serving as the hosts for the night. Responsibilities include making sure all guests are in the church and doors are locked by 10 p.m. and getting up early enough to make sure our guests are up in time to catch the van the next morning. Again, not a challenging job but extremely important. Note: We need to have two people per evening.



**VAN DRIVERS:** This is one of the easiest tasks we have with Family Promise. Either drive the van from the church to the Family Promise Center early in the morning to take our guests to the Center or drive to the Center in the evening and pick them up and return them to Aldersgate. About one hour of time is needed for this task. Would you help? Ned Landis is the coordinator for the Van Drivers.

Dates for the next Family Promise hosting are **December 8 through December 15.**

### I WANT—I WANT—I WANT

Everyday you hear people saying what they want.  
Well, this is what I WANT:

- I want people who are sick to be healed.
- I want children with no family to be adopted.
- I want people to never have to worry about food, shelter and heat.
- Most of all, I would like to see people start to care for one another.

(Thank you to Facebook  
for this profound statement!)







## Prayer for Creation

*From the Aldersgate Caring for Creation Team*

God, our Creator, whose glory fills our planet, help us to discern your vibrant presence among us and our kin in Creation, especially in the mysteries of all of Earth's living things. Help us to empathize with your creatures who are suffering and to serve you as agents for healing your Creation. In the name of Christ, who reconciles and restores all things in Creation. Amen

*Adapted from The Season of Creation*

*The Caring for Creation Team is seeking your input and comments on the logo in the upper left hand corner of this article. Please share your comments and suggestions with any Caring for Creation team member. Members are: Emily Bankert, Doug DeVoll, Carolyn Fleckenstein, Sharon Jennelly, Chris Pennington, Shirley Rollins, Joanne Smeltz, John Walker, and Lorraine Fleming, Facilitator.*



**Tuesday, October 15  
12 noon to 1:30 p.m.**

The United Methodist Men will meet on Tuesday, October 15 at 12 noon in Fellowship Hall.

The guest speaker will be Lee Eldredge, a former member of Aldersgate Church, who has served in a variety of rolls in the State as an addictions counselor. Lee has a Masters Degree from the University of Delaware and is certified as a drug and alcohol counselor and as a gambling counselor. He has had a variety of experiences in these roles for over 20 years and he will share some of these on the 15<sup>th</sup>. He was a social studies teacher for 7 years in the Mt. Pleasant High School and served another 8 years there as Chairman of the Counseling Department. Lee was the owner/manager of the Dunkin Donuts on Concord Pike for 15 years. He has been "pop-pop" for three years and he says this has been his most important position to date.

Mark your calendars! It's the third Tuesday in October and *guests* are always welcome. If you are not on the "contact list" sign up in the HUB and indicate your choice of sub (turkey, roast beef, Italian or ham). If you have any questions contact Tom Short, Bob Hawkins or George McKeown or send email to: [UMM@aldersgatede.org](mailto:UMM@aldersgatede.org)

# Harvest Food Collection

Remember to bring non-perishable food and household items with you to church on **Sunday, October 6** as we partner with St. Mary Magdalen for our Annual Food Drive.

Donated items will be distributed to various food pantries in the Wilmington area. The need is great at this challenging time.

***Please help if you can!***

## Aldersgate UMC is A Caring Community

Intentionally ministering to persons with mental illness and their families.



**Thursdays—6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

Are you facing a separation or in the middle of a divorce situation? Have you been divorced in the past year? Need some Christian friends and a safe, confidential, support group to talk it out and begin to heal? Do you know someone in such a situation?

Contact Randy Husbands by calling the church office 302-478-2575 or by e-mail @ [randyhusbands@verizon.net](mailto:randyhusbands@verizon.net).

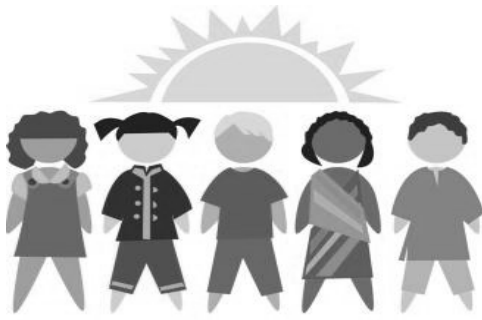
## GriefShare

GriefShare, a grief recovery support group, welcomes all those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

- **Tuesday mornings**—10 to 11:30 a.m. in room 236
- **Thursday evenings**—7 to 8:30 p.m. in room 236

Please call the church office at 302-478-2575. For more information: <http://www.griefshare.org/>





## Children's Update

Sharon Jennelly, Director of Children's  
Ministry & Aldersgate Preschool  
302.478.2575 ext.118  
[sharon.jennelly@aldersgatede.org](mailto:sharon.jennelly@aldersgatede.org)

### Annual Hayride & Bonfire—Sunday, October 13 at Bellevue State Park

All families are invited join the fun! Two wagons will depart at **4 p.m.** and one wagon at **5 p.m.** Hot dogs, juice and s'mores will follow the hayrides. Please register now by emailing [sharon.jennelly@aldersgatede.org](mailto:sharon.jennelly@aldersgatede.org) or call Sharon at 302-478-2575 ext. 118. A family donation of \$10 is requested to offset some of the expenses. Please make your check out to Aldersgate and indicate "Hayride" and place them in HUB mailbox #7.

### Trunk or Treat—Saturday, October 26 from 6 to 7 p.m. in the church parking lot.

The community is invited to collect candy from the trunks of "decorated" cars. Your family will want to enter the contest. Please let us know if you will donate candy, decorate your vehicle and be part of the harvest activities. Fun but no scary costumes, please. Contact [Sharon.Jennelly@aldersgatede.org](mailto:Sharon.Jennelly@aldersgatede.org) and /or [Adam.West@aldersgatede.org](mailto:Adam.West@aldersgatede.org)



Aldersgate Preschool has had an excellent start to the new preschool year. Our teachers this year are:

- A new teacher, "Joyful Jen Lee" teaching our youngest 18-month old class along with "Loving Millie Lightcap".
- "Brilliant Bridget Young" was promoted with her children and now teaches the 2's class along with a new teacher "dedicated Shannon McKenna" who previously substituted for us.
- We are blessed to have "fabulous Julie Lapinski" and "incredible Erin Greenberg" jointly teaching the 3's class.
- We welcome "terrific Terri Huff" with "jazzy Julia Michael" who teach our oldest Pre-kindergarten class.

Everyone is just so happy to be in our positive and loving environment. All the teachers are so caring and love what they do and it shows. We were awarded a laptop computer to aid our teachers in documenting the Teaching Strategies Assessment program. We also are very proud to have progressed to the Level 4 in the Delaware Stars evaluating preschools rating program.

Aldersgate Preschool will have a Chick-fil-A Spirit Night on Thursday, October 10 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Concord Mall. Be sure to tell your cashier before ordering that you are there to support Aldersgate Preschool. A percentage of sales will go towards the preschool.

## ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



### Student Ministry News

Adam West

Director of Student Ministry  
[ADAM.WEST@ALDERSGATEDE.ORG](mailto:ADAM.WEST@ALDERSGATEDE.ORG)

Fall is my favorite time of the year, and that's not just because my birthday is in October. In youth ministry, it is a time of renewal as we start a new year of ministry. I'm very excited about what this year has in store for our group.

Sunday school class. At times last year our group was too large for to have only one middle school class meet on Sundays. We hope to provide a better environment for our students to learn this year by having two smaller classes for middle school students.

Continuing with the theme of renewal we will be having our first confirmation informational meeting in October. There are two chances for students and parents of 7<sup>th</sup> graders and above to collect information. Both meetings will be during the Sunday School hour in the auditorium. The first will be October 13 and the make-up meeting will be on October 20. If you know a student who you believe might be in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade please tell them about our confirmation informational meetings.

The youth program will be taking part in the **Trunk-or-Treat** on October 26, from 6 to 7 p.m. Please join us as we pass out candy to the neighborhood families from the trunks of our cars. This is a great opportunity for our church to reach out the community and make some new friends!

I'm looking forward to this year in the student ministry and want to thank you all for your support of our students over the years. Our student ministry would not be able to thrive at Aldersgate without your love and support.

**Adam**



# TRUNK-OR-TREAT

Join us for some **FREE** trick-or-treating and Halloween fun! This event is a family activity and provides trick-or-treating in a safe environment. Everyone is welcome!

**From 6 - 7 p. m. Saturday, Oct. 26  
in the Aldersgate parking lot.**

**Aldersgate UMC**

2313 Concord Pike

Wilmington, DE

[Aldersgatede.org](http://Aldersgatede.org)

(302) 478-2575



*\*Rain date is Oct. 27 from 5-6 p.m.*

With God’s help and  
through prayer, we:

gather



as God’s people

grow



In faith and love

go



Into the world as Jesus’ disciples




**Aldersgate: A significant place where disciples are made!**



Aldersgate United Methodist Church—A significant place where disciples are made!

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