

Sight & Sound Ministry: A team that is dedicated to operating the lighting and sound boards for each service. They also record, edit and reproducing at least on worship service each Sunday.

Dinners for 8: A wonderful way to get to know people at Aldersgate Church. Eight people gather together to share a meal and fellowship four times a year. Groups decide when and how they will meet, ranging from gathering at a private home for an evening meal, to meeting at a local restaurant for breakfast or lunch. Groups are shuffled and new groups are formed each year.

Multi-Tasking Moms: A casual, small group that includes devotions, chatting, service projects and study. Meets 3rd Tuesday of the month during the school year, from 9 to 10:15 a.m. in room 237. Childcare is available.

Grill Girls: A covenant group of women dedicated to living a Christian life style, holding themselves accountable to one another. The group makes commitments to working in ministry to be the hands and feet of Christ. Meets Saturday mornings.

Heritage Group: A monthly dinner offering an informative and entertaining program held on the 4th Thursday of each month, September through May at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Stephen Ministry: A system for training and organizing lay people, called Stephen Ministers, to provide one-to-one Christian care to hurting people in and around our congregation, providing care to the bereaved, hospitalized, terminally ill, separated, divorced, unemployed, relocated, and others facing a crisis or life challenge.

GriefShare: A faith-based, confidential 13-week program for persons who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Two sessions are held each week in room 236; Tuesdays, 10 to 11:30 a.m. & Thursdays, 7 to 8:30 p.m.. Participants can come and go as they wish. Sessions do not build upon one another.

Merrimakers Clowns: Clowning is a gift from God that enables us to connect with neglected and lost persons in our community; it provides a way to minister to those who suffer physically and emotionally in hospitals, care facilities, special needs groups.

Weed-eaters: A group of dedicated workers who are committed to keeping Aldersgate's properties spruced up and weed-free.

Co-ed Softball Team: Play or keep score - Spring and summer months. Must be 15 years old with parental permission to play.

- * **Young Adults Group** - Fellowship for young adults, 18 through mid-thirties. May branch into new ministry opportunities.
- * **Financial Peace University**
- * **Divorce Care**

* Indicates the program is not currently meeting.

Contact the Small Groups Coordinators for more information or to become involved in **any** group:

Henry Daum or Cheryl Merritt by calling the church office (302) 478-2575 or email :

smallgroups@aldersgatede.org.



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

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www.aldersgatede.org

Small Groups Directory 2011-2012



United Methodist Men (UMM)

Saturday Morning UMM: A ministry to build men spiritually to be involved in the total ministry of our church. We welcome all men and affirm that Christ is the center of every man's life, creating spiritual growth and encouraging men to discipleship. Our model is the servant leadership of Jesus Christ. Breakfast meetings on the 2nd Saturday of each month, excluding July and August, in the Student Ministry Center (SMC) from 8 to 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday Noon UMM: On the 3rd Tuesday of the month from September through May from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to renew friendships, have devotions, lunch and an interesting program and discussion. The timing fits best with men who can take a long lunch once a month or are retired. Programs frequently attract interest beyond men and guests are always welcome to join us.

United Methodist Women (UMW)

UMW encourages the development of women from Aldersgate and our local community by focusing on Christian values of education, mission and service. Our goal is to enable women of all ages to establish meaningful relationships, worship and study together in a supportive and nurturing environment. **Six UMW Circles** address age-specific interests, needs and activities and meet September through June and are open to all women, they are:

Sarah Circle: Meets on the 2nd Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Church. The main fundraising event is

the annual Easter Egg Production and profits are dispersed to UMW missions. Participate with other Circles on projects like: Spring Tea, UMW Fall Pot-Luck, Cookie Walk and More, and the UMW Christmas Celebration.

Ruth Circle: A small group of "more mature women" who meet at 12:30 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday. Meetings provide opportunities for Christian fellowship and spiritual growth and include guest speakers and projects for the children of Neighborhood House.

Martha Circle: A group of about twenty women who meet at the church the 2nd Tuesday at 10 a.m. for fellowship and catch-up time with a cup of coffee, some breakfast goodies and a speaker on a topic of interest. Our service project is to provide layette bags for young women who are about to give birth and have no means to prepare for their babies.

Hannah Circle: A small group of women in their 30s/40s who meet throughout the year to engage in service and social events.

Esther Circle: An inter-generational group that the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m..

Rebekah Circle: An inter-generational group that meets the 1st Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

Music Ministry

Aldersgate's Music Ministry offers opportunities for all. Children, Junior, Vocal Impact and Bell choirs share their talents several times during the year. All choirs participate in the Christmas Concert. Practice is held September through June for all groups.

Children's Choir (Pre-K thru 2nd grade):

(Molly Atwater & Rachel West) Practice Sundays from 11 to 11:30 a.m. in the Rainbow Room.

Junior Choir (grades 3 thru 6): (Diane Shea)

Practice Sundays from 11 to 11:45 a.m. in the Music Center.

Vocal Impact (grades 7 thru 12): (Janet

Atwater) Practice Sundays from 11 to 11:45 a.m. in the Music Center.

Bell Choir: (Jeff Manns) Practice Thursdays from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Bell Choir Room.

Chancel Choir: (Jeff Manns) Practice Wednesdays 7:30 to 9 p.m. and are part of worship in the Sanctuary at the 11 a.m. service from September thru June.

Aldersgate Brass: (Bert Diemer) An instrumental group drawn from the Aldersgate community to contribute to the worship experience by accompanying the Chancel Choir or as a stand-alone brass ensemble. Rehearses in the Sanctuary on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m..

Journey Band: (Jeff Manns) A contemporary band that participates in the family-friendly contemporary worship service.

Interest Groups

Altar Guild: A group of dedicated women who support the pastor in worship preparation, in sanctuary each week. They are also responsible for seasonal decorations. Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. from September to June.