



Aldersgate United Methodist Church
5767 Sellger Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23502-5239



Come Worship with us as we begin our Journey through Lent—February 22nd



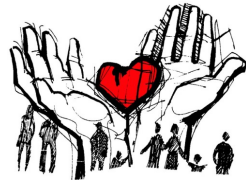
Show love

Recently I attended a church service where we sang the hymn, “They Will Know We Are Christians by our Love.” And I wondered, do “they”?

Do Christians today demonstrate love for neighbors or judge them? Do we use scripture to uplift or condemn? Are we known by our compassion or our anger? Do we choose to shelter the meek or reject them? Do we help the Samaritan or look the other way? Do we practice our moral values or merely seek to impose them on others? Do we embrace those who are different or exclude them? Do we try to understand other faiths or dismiss them?

I fear that others do not know us by our love, but by our self-righteousness and our judgment, especially in the public arena. As evidence, church membership and religious affiliation are at a historic low, particularly among younger people.

How can we have a positive effect on the world if we seek to only minister to those we consider worthy and of like mind while alienating those we do not? Truly, this is not just an issue for Christians, but for people of all faiths.



How do others know your faith?

The Apostle Paul wrote that love is patient, kind and humble. It is not judgmental, angry or shaming. It rejoices in truth. It always protects, trusts, hopes and perseveres. It never fails.

Let’s all resolve to demonstrate our faith through love in this new year so they know.

Written by Jeanie Ribble, Southern Shores, North Carolina

- This letter was recently published in the Va. Pilot (1/19/23) but it really speaks to Christian issues today....



The Aldersgate Experience

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ”

5767 Sellger Drive, Norfolk, Virginia 23502
Phone: 757-466-8999 Fax: 757-466-8999
Pastor: 1-678-463-9334 –cell

Email: joyce@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcoxmail.com
Web page: www.aldersgatenorfolk.org
“Like” us on Facebook

Bishop.....Rev. Susan Hauptert-Johnson
District Superintendent...Rev. Dr. Cecelia Brooks
Pastor..... Rev. Bertrand Griffin, II
Lay Leader..... Kathy O’Hara
Minister of Music..... Dr. Christina Pinkston
Church Secretary..... Joyce Russo

Office Hours.....9 AM--1PM—Monday-Thursday
Sunday School.....9:30 AM
Worship Service/Kid Zone...11 AM
Choir Rehearsals— 6 PM Wednesdays



Children of the LIGHT

This craft celebrates that now we are light in the Lord (see Ephesians 5:8).

What you need:

- A gallon zip-top plastic bag
- Permanent markers (dark colors)
- Black construction paper
- White cardstock
- Scissors

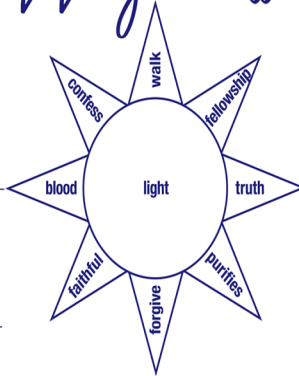
What you do:

1. Draw a self-portrait on the outside of the bag. Add details.
2. Insert the black paper and set the bag flat on a table. It should be tough to see your picture now.
3. On the white cardstock, draw a picture of a flashlight with a long beam of light coming out. Color the flashlight but leave the beam white.
4. Cut out the flashlight and light beam. Place them in the bag, over the black paper. When the white beam covers the black background under your picture, you can see your self-portrait clearly.

PUZZLE

The light of forgiveness

The Lord is full of mercy and light. What happens when we confess our sins to God?

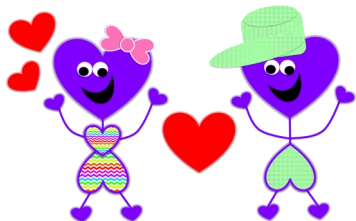


Directions:
Use the coded shapes to fill in the blanks and complete 1 John 1:7-9, NIV.

But if we _____ in the _____, as he is in the _____,
we have _____ with one another, and the _____
of Jesus, his Son, _____ us from all sin. If we claim to be
without sin, we deceive ourselves and the _____ is not in us.
If we _____ our sins, he is _____ and just and will
_____ us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 1:7-9, NIV

Answer walk, light, light, fellowship, blood, purifies, truth, confess, faithful, forgive



FREE Weekly Spaghetti Dinner



Serving Neighbors
Seeking Friends



5:30 PM Thursdays

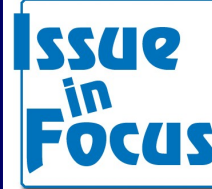
Welcome Back!

Helping Hands Ladies!



It has been awhile but we are so glad you will be returning for your regular monthly meeting on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 10 AM. Don't forget to bring your bagged lunch.

It will be great to see all of you busy working on those teddy bears and baby dolls.



Pastor's Message

Lay Ministry for the month

Financial Updates and information

Ash Wednesday Service Information

Coastal Virginia Happenings

And much more!



NEWS FROM THE PEWS

January was an especially hard month for members of the Aldersgate family. We lost three of our church family almost back to back. As we continue to support each other let us also remember their extended families: The Harrell Family, The Manuel Family and The family of Vernon Williams. “May God let the light perpetual shine upon them.”

We also need to remember several in our congregation who have not been able to be with us for a while: Jimmie and Carolyn Powers; Barbara Hogwood; Grace Mahone; Maria Davidson; Bob and Becky Repass; Linda Roberson and our long time member Arthur Wallace.



On a lighter note—the spaghetti dinners are off to a good start..

Helping Hands Group are back. Our Vision Team is busy working on missions and ministries for this year.

Volunteers needed for Cooke Elementary Ministry. See Michele Floyd or Gary Albertson.



End of year statements were distributed a few weeks ago. If you did not get one or you have any changes or questions please call the church office.

Joyce

Financial Stats for December, 2022:	
Income:	\$11,642.50
Expenses:	\$14,249.83
Difference:	\$ -2,607.33
Year to Date Income/	
Expenses:	
Income:	\$142,621.37
Expenses:	\$146,602.61
Difference:	\$ -3,981.24
December Dedicated Offer-	
ings:	
Communion:	\$ 50.00



Opportunities to Volunteer—

Saturday, Feb. 25th
8 AM—4 PM

Camp Occohannock is

putting in a new playground. Volunteers are needed—No building experience needed. Contractor on site. Lunch will be provided.



Please call 757-442-7823 to sign up.



Campus Ministry: ODU

We thank you for being in ministry with us throughout the years. At this time, we find we are in need of a few things. The list is primarily building repairs, but I am also including a link to our Amazon wish list. With the refresh of the building, I discovered many items that need replacing or that the building doesn't currently have. It would be incredibly helpful if churches would be willing to purchase and donate the items on the Amazon wish list. Thank you all for your support and help.

List of repairs needed at the building,

1. The front porch needs to be repainted, railing replaced, ceiling repair
2. Ductwork and HVAC repair to the house portion of the building
3. Steps connecting the house to the entrance way need replacement
4. Gutters need to be cleaned out and reattached in some areas
5. The cabinetry in the kitchen needs some repairs or possible replacement (this is a bigger project but there may be a congregation member willing to donate their services)

Link to Amazon Wish List:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/BKLXYVPHHCOZ?ref_=wl_share

Again, thank you so much for your support of the Wesley Foundation. Grace and Peace,
Rev. Joshua A. McCauley
Director and Campus Minister,
Wesley Foundation at ODU



Join us each Sunday morning at 9:30 am. We will be beginning a new series on the book of Matthew.

Please see Pastor Griffin if you are interested or have any questions.

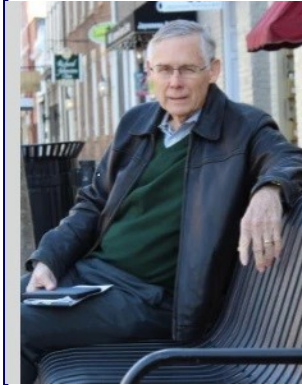
A new type of mission!

This is sort of a funny request but—do you have any bath towels or blankets that you are getting ready to replace? If so, do not throw them away—bring them to the church office.

I have a doggie daycare/rescue that is need of these items. If you knit or crochet they will take them too!..



Want to know more about the Methodist Church??



Over the next few weeks, we will share a series of videos featuring Rev. Larry Davies, the pastor at Virginia Beach UMC, exploring our United Methodism. The videos will focus on our history, beliefs, and worship.

These videos are being made available by Pastor Larry and Virginia Beach UMC to the Coastal Virginia District. As we study together, may these videos fill our hearts, minds, and souls with the knowledge we seek.

Welcome our New Bishop:

Installation Service
for
Bishop Hauptert-Johnson

Saturday, February 11
10:30 a.m.
Woodlake UMC
(15640 Hampton Park Dr,
Chesterfield, VA 23832).





Birthdays

2/7 Beverly Cooper

2/9 Michele Floyd

Anniversaries

2/15 Neal and Marguerite Windley

2/20 Pastor Bert and Rev. Kotosha Griffin



PRAYER MINISTRY

Remember in Prayer

Home: The Powers family, Greg Dziagwa, and any of our church family who are at home and still not able to attend worship in-person

Those in our church family who are in the hospital, having tests or just not feeling well.

Those who have lost family or friends.

The United Methodist church international; Our Bishops and District Superintendents as they continue to make decisions with our safety in mind.

If you know of others in the congregation who need to be included on this prayer list, please call the church office.

Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, February 15th
for the March issue.



You do not have to wait until the deadline to submit your articles. You can email the office at any time or leave it on my desk....



Ushers

Kevin and Melissa Floyd

Counters

2/5 Neal Windley, Michele Floyd

2/12 Kevin Floyd, Diane Willis

2/19 Greg Dziagwa, Jimmie Powers

2/26 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch

3/5 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson



Lawn Maintenance



2/6 Team 3

2/13 Team 1

2/20 Team 2

2/27 Team 3

3/6 Team 1

Trash Duty Randy Thrasher

Calendar Highlights



Choir Rehearsals 6 PM 2/1; 2/8;
2/15;

Spaghetti Dinners 5:30 PM 2/2; 2/9; 2/16; 2/23

Elizabeth Park C.L. 7 PM 2/7

Vision Team 6 PM 2/9

RFS C.L. 7 PM 2/13

Healthy Journey 6:30 PM 2/16

Ash Wednesday Service 6 PM 2/22

Helping Hands Group 10 AM 2/28



Choir Rehearsals for this Month

February 1, 8, 15.

Do you like to sing? Would you like to learn if you are a soprano or alto, a tenor or baritone? Are you interested in becoming part of a "choral family"? To give God glory, praise, and honor through your melodic voice provide you with immense joy? If you answered YES to any of these questions, perhaps this invitation is purposed especially for YOU.

See Dr. Christina Pinkston after the service or email her at <drchristina@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcoxmail.com>

Mark your calendars -

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

ASH WEDNESDAY
Worship

6:00 PM



Recently I was in my doctor's office having blood drawn and on the dry erase board of this young lady I saw this:

Too Blessed to be Stressed

Your heart will heal

Your tears will dry

Your season will change

Rest tonight knowing the storm will end

Faith Over Fear

By his stripes you are healed

I immediately asked if I could copy it down for my office and as I thought more and more it just seemed to be so comforting. You see this doctor specializes in Oncology, Hematology and deals with a lot of Cancer patients. These few words must make a lot of patients feel truly cared for and loved.

The next time you are in a lab or a doctor's office look around and see if their display of faith is as strong as this young lady. She is truly a gift.

Remember these few words the next time you feel a little anxious or stressed. They really do put you at ease knowing you are loved and cared for by Jesus Christ no matter what you are going through.

JR

**God's love is
Bestest of All**

