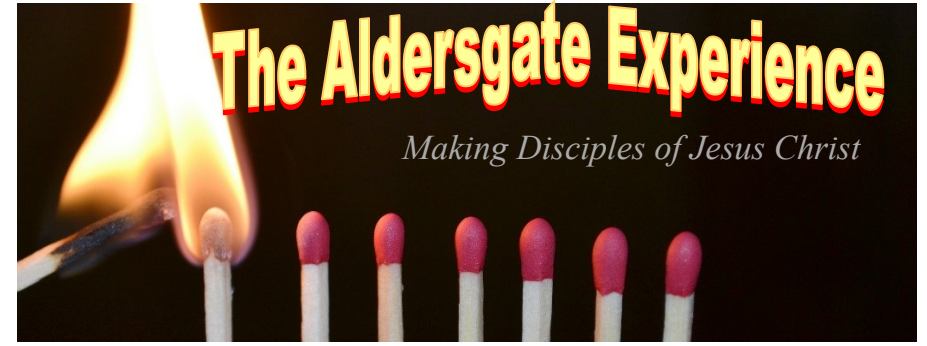


Aldersgate United Methodist Church
5767 Sellger Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23502-5239

September

2021



The Aldersgate Experience

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

September 2021

Vol. 24 Issue 9



September
Reset



God Can Meet Your Needs

*You have anointed my head with oil,
My cup overflows. – Psalm 23:5*

In these challenging times, many people are living from paycheck to paycheck. And if the truth were known, at some point or another most of us have been concerned about money. We imagine that wealthy people don't have this problem because they always have enough to cover the checks they write. We believe they have more than enough. On the other hand, some people fall just short of enough. Many possess just enough, and others will never have all they want or think they need.

God, however, doesn't want us to look at our earthly possessions and think, "Well, I don't have enough to make it, and I'm mad because that guy over there has much more." Wealth is never the issue with God. You can be the richest person in the world, but if you don't know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you are eternally poor—a pauper in God's sight.

True wealth comes when we learn to seek God for every need we have and we live within the framework He's given us. When we do this, we begin to trust and rely only on Him. We also position ourselves for great blessings because He will never leave us feeling hopeless or abandoned. Instead, we gain a growing sense of His intimate care and love for us.

If you could choose earthly wealth and riches or God's eternal love, which would you choose? Your answer reveals a lot about how much you value and treasure the Lord.

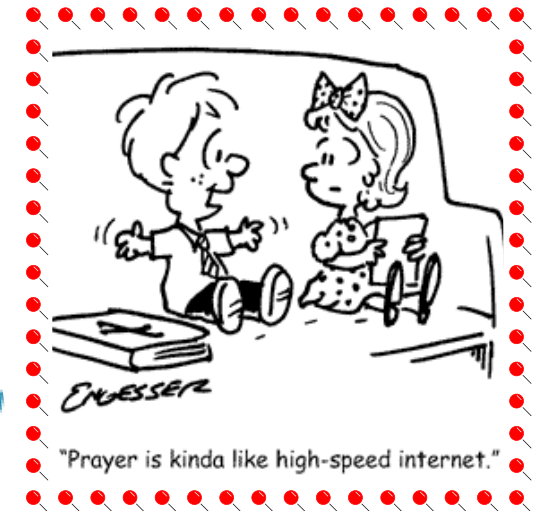
In Psalm 23, David presents some wonderful news for each one of us. He wants us to know that God has more than enough to provide for our every need. He owns everything and all that is His can be ours.

You may feel as though you don't have enough to make it through another month or that your life is stamped, "Insufficient funds." Here's the good news: God has *more* than enough. When you pray and express your needs, He **PROMISES** to meet those needs every time in amazing ways.

Pastor Bert

Did you know?

Heavenly
Humor



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
Parsonage: 757-461-3201

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

Bishop..... Rev. Sharma D. Lewis
District Superintendent...Rev. Seonyoung Kim
Pastor..... Rev. Bertrand Griffin, II
Lay Leader..... Kathleen O'Hara
Music Director.....vacant
Church Secretary.....Joyce Russo

Office Hours.....8:30-12:30 PM—Monday-Thursday
Sunday School.....9:30 AM
Worship Service/Kid Zone...11 AM





Prayer bracelet

Make this craft to help you remember the Lord's Prayer.



What you need:

- Elastic string (12 inches)
- Colored beads (see below)
- Clear nail polish

What you do:

1. Knot the string at one end. Add beads in this order: blue, white, gold, green, yellow, red, black, orange
2. Tie the ends so the bracelet fits your wrist. Place a dot of nail polish to secure the knot. Trim excess string.
3. As you pray, use the bead colors as reminders of Jesus' words (see Matthew 6:9-13):

- **blue** = the Father
- **white** = God's holiness
- **gold** = God's kingdom
- **green** = the earth
- **yellow** = wheat (bread)
- **red** = Christ's blood (forgiveness)
- **black** = temptation
- **orange** = God's power to deliver



Teach us to pray

In Luke 11:1-13 (NIV), Jesus teaches about prayer.

Directions: Add or subtract the letters indicated and unscramble the letters to form a new word, using hints from the passage. Then unscramble the circled letters to answer the question below.

party - t = p r a y (v. 1)

lady + i = _ _ _ _ (v. 3)

drab + e = _ _ _ _ (v. 5)

rod + o = _ _ _ _ (v. 7)

bask - b = _ _ _ _ (v. 9)

keeps - p = _ _ _ _ (v. 9)

define - ee = _ _ _ _ (v. 9)

shift - t = _ _ _ _ (v. 11)

sneaky - y = _ _ _ _ (v. 11)

sift + g = _ _ _ _ (v. 13)



What will the Father give to those who ask of him?

_ _ _ _ _ (v. 13)

Answer: pray, daily, bread, food, seek, ask, door, root, fish, snake, gifts, Holy Spirit

September is generally a month of new beginnings.

A new school year begins, trees change their outfits, spring and summer flowers fade and new fall ones emerge.

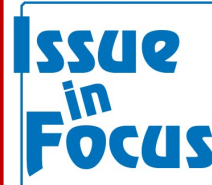
There are a lot of restarts for Aldersgate this fall—

our Civic Leagues will begin meeting again,
Sunday School classes are returning
(depending on virus)

Gearing up with new missions and ministries

Church neighbors hosting
new events

Keep an eye on your emails—you
won't want to miss out on a thing!



New Pastor's Message

Lay Ministry for the month

News from the Pews— updates on our
church family

Some Community Happenings and Notes of Interest

Annual Charge Conference...

And a whole lot more!



Is your heartlight on?

During one of my daily treks to Suffolk and back I heard this song by Neil Diamond. For some reason the words seem to be especially important that day.

“Turn on your heartlight, let it shine wherever you go; Let it make a happy glow for all the world to see.”

As Christians isn't that what Jesus has been telling us to do. “Don't hide your light under a bushel, let it shine for all the world to see”. Today more than ever this just seems so relevant. So many upsets are happening in our lives now and in our world.

People getting ill, children getting shot, the economy, companies getting hacked. We need to turn on our “heartlights” and act as a beacon for those who need hope and comfort.

As our children are going back to school (we hope) we need to be as positive as we can. We need to instill some good news so that we all can return to some normal lives.

Check out your heartlight...is it on and glowing for all your neighbors to see??? JR



A Special Celebration

On Sunday, August 22nd, we had the privilege of attending one of the few special events in the life of the church. The Baptism of an infant. We would like to congratulate Saige Victoria Floyd and her parents, John and Brittany, on this momentous occasion.



Scheduling Conflicts

Small Group, Committee Chairs, Civic League Presidents

It has come to the attention of the office that groups are meeting and not placing day and times on the church calendar. So far we only have one conflict and that has been resolved.

Please, if you schedule an event, meeting or group activity make sure it is on the calendar in the office or email us, or let Trustees know.

As we continue to open and get back to “normal” business the calendar will become quite full and we would hate for your group or event to have to be cancelled because something else has taken that slot...

All groups/meetings have to be entered into the conference vital congregations website. Number of attendees also has to be entered. Thanks Joyce



Mark your Calendars....

We have a tentative date for our Annual Charge Conference, Sunday, October 31st at 2 PM. Oaklette UMC will be hosting 6 other churches that afternoon. Our zoom set-up meeting occurs after the printing of this newsletter and changes may be made.

Committee Chairs, leaders please get your dates on the calendar if you have to have a meeting for your committee: especially Lay Leadership and Staff Parish.



Speaking of charge conference, this is when our new lay leadership changes on some of our committees occur. You may receive a call from your Nominations Committee members regarding accepting a position. Prayerfully consider your response before you say no.

Remember





New District Office Hours and other notes

As of August 9th there have been several changes at our Elizabeth River District Office.

The interim Administrative Assistant is Connie Owens, who currently works part-time for the Eastern Shore District. She will work remotely and can be reached by email at

<ElizabethRiverDistrict@vaumc.org>

or by phone at 757-710-8258.

She will be handling Charge Conference Planning, emails and the weekly newsletter.

The District Office will only be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 am—3 PM.



Recently, text messages have been received by people claiming to be pastors in our District, asking for gift cards. This is spam and a spoof. Please do not reply to these text messages and alert your pastor.



In addition, there have been reports of emails being sent by someone spoofing DS Kim and Bishop Lewis. Again, if you receive an email from someone claiming to be one of these leaders that seems suspicious, please do not respond.



Offering Envelopes and 6 month Finance Statements are available from the church office. Please let me know if you are in need of envelopes or would like your statements.

Thanks



According to charge conference we have to publish those inactive members who may be removed at least two times.

This is the 2nd year for this list of names... If you know a contact address or email for any of these listed.

Please contact the church office...thanks Joyce

Ms. Torey Sigler
Matthew Leverett
Jenna Leverett
Thomas Gabel
Crystal Gabel
Floyd Cross
Henry Cross
Kathy Kozera
Kay Stevens
Karen Scott
Jerry Archer
April Archer

Gail Bathurst
Karen DeWald
Joseph Moore
Jean Moore
Daniel and Veda Wolfe
James and Beverly Weddle, Jr

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Beverly Cooper's surgery went well and she is home and recuperating. She will be back with us soon.

Thanks to Neal Windley and Randy Thrasher for advising us on a wheel chair ramp for my grandson. Joyce



Thanks to those people who went to VWU to distribute water to the Freshman...

You Are Invited!

Piano Recital by
Rev. Joyce Wilkerson
Saturday, September 11th- 3:00 PM
Heritage United Methodist Church
815 Baker Road, Va. Beach



St. Peter's Preschool is in need of a Teacher's Assistant to work with their 2 year old class. Hours are 5 days a week, 12:30-5:30 PM. If interested please call Vel at 466-9392.

Great Bridge Baptist Church, 640 Battlefield Blvd. S, Chesapeake, VA will be hosting a Live Concert on Saturday, October 9th

For Christian comedian Chonda Pierce.
Please call the church for ticket information at 757-482-2111.

FYI.....

Effective **September 11, 2021**, if you have a 757 area code, you should begin dialing the area code + telephone number whenever you place a call. If you forget and dial just seven digits, your call will still be completed. New phone numbers would then be assigned the new area code.



From Your Staff Parish Committee

Aldersgate UMC, Norfolk VA, is immediately seeking an energetic, outgoing, organist or pianist, with a good knowledge of music and a warm personality.

Skills in leading worship music while playing guitar or keyboard, while not required, are very desirable. The Music Director will work under the supervision of the pastor using ProPresenter and will be responsible for providing leadership in music ministry, planning music for weekly and special worship services in consultation with the pastor. He/she shall also be responsible for the proper custody and maintenance of musical instruments.

As a representative of the church, the Music Director must always conduct him/herself professionally. The ideal candidate should be a Christian willing to accompany weekly choir rehearsals and 11:00 am Sunday services. A successful background check is required before the start of employment. If interested, please email your resume, two references, and a cover letter to the attention of PPR Chair at Joyce@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcoxmail.com

If you know of someone who may be interested in this position please see Michele Floyd.



Birthdays

9/17 Rev. Kotosha Griffin
9/19 Jimmie Powers

9/24 Phyllis Day
9/25 Vic Supper



Anniversaries

9/17 Greg and Kathy Dziagwa

Remember in Prayer

Home: Beverly Cooper, John Russell,
Bonnie Savage, Barbara Jenkins, Dixie Hodges and
Nancy B



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, September 15th
for the October 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

9/5 Kevin Floyd, Diane Willis
9/12 Greg Dziagwa, Jim Powers
9/19 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch
9/26 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson
10/3 Neal Windley, Michele Floyd



Lawn Maintenance



9/6 Team 3
9/13 Team 1
9/20 Team 2
9/27 Team 3
10/4 Team 1

Calendar Highlights

9/6 Church Office Closed
9/13 7 PM RFS/WMEP Civic League
Meeting
9/14 6:30 PM Elizabeth Park Civic
League Meeting
9/21 7 PM Finance and Admin. Board
Meeting



Something to think about....

As stated earlier, September is a month of change. The Virginia Conference considers its ministries and missions for the upcoming year, and all UM churches throughout the state are busy with reports and plans for the coming year.

What is a Ministry? The Biblical basis for ministry is love, however remember it is ultimately God's ministry, not yours. Your journey in ministry is not about you it is about God's desire to use you in ministry to others. The calling is bigger than you or I so it relies on God to help you fulfill it. Some people have a JOB in the church, others involve themselves in a MINISTRY...What is the difference?

"If you are doing it just because no one else will, it's a JOB.

If you are doing it to serve the Lord, It's a MINISTRY.

If you quit because someone criticized you, It was a JOB.

If you keep on serving, it is a MINISTRY.

If you do it only as it does not interfere with your other activities, it's a JOB

If you are committed to staying with it even when it means letting go of other things, it is a MINISTRY.

If you quit because no one praised or thanked you, it is a JOB

If you stay even though no one recognized your efforts, it is a MINISTRY.

It's hard to get excited about a JOB. It is almost impossible to not be excited about a MINISTRY.

The average church is filled with people who are doing JOBS.

A great and growing church is filled with people involved in MINISTRY.

Where do you fit in?"

This writing was taken from an editorial printed in 2011. The writer is Rev. Tan Cheng Huat a senior pastor of the True Way Presbyterian Church. He wrote it because he was very troubled after reading yearend reports "Why Christians are not coming forth to serve and even those who are serving struggle with commitment" This is still true even today, maybe even more so. Just think about it! jr



Facebook Postings, Website Postings —Permission Needed



In order to make more information available on the church's Facebook page we will soon begin to post pictures of events and services.

All individuals under the age of 18 must have parental consent for any publications.

Please let the church office know if you would NOT like your photo posted to our page. We will keep a record of who DOES or DOES NOT want their pictures on line.



I do or do not want my photo used on line

Name _____

Circle your choice and drop at the church office

