



Aldersgate United Methodist Church
5767 Sellger Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23502



You are Invited!!

Bring a friend or two with you-





“The Ride of Your Life”

I can handle just about any rollercoaster ride in any amusement park, but I cannot handle a merry-go-round. I don't understand why that is. I enjoy doing the ups and downs and loops and turns, but I get motion-sickness just going around in circles. I want my life to be like that. I want to be moving forward with a sense of purpose and direction. I want it to be a thrilling ride of ups and downs and loops and turns. I don't want it to just go around in circles. That would make me sick.

I think living in this world without Jesus is like getting on the merry-go-round. It's moving...but just in circles. It's not going anywhere. And it seems like this merry-go-round is moving faster and faster, leaving people feeling the “dizziness of busyness”. But sooner or later, people get sick of it and want to get off. Sooner or later, they recognize a longing for something more.

As followers of Jesus, we discover a greater purpose for life. God invites us to get off the merry-go-round and take a rollercoaster ride. God sends us out to do something we cannot do on our own—change the world! Every believer is not only called to BE a disciple, but to MAKE disciples of others! That means we invite people to get off the merry-go-round and get on the rollercoaster. We help them discover the joy of becoming a disciple AND to make disciples as well. When you discover the thrill of rollercoaster living, you just have to tell others how great it is.



In this issue - look for:

- * Information on Good Friday Service and Easter Sunday Service
- * Bunny Breakfast Reservation Tear-Off
- * Message from our Bishop
- * Pictures from Ham and Cabbage Dinner and Feeding the Homeless

HOMEMADE EASTER EGGS

4 Flavors

3 size choices -

Chocolate, Butter Cream, Peanut Butter and Coconut Cream

Small assortment (6 eggs) \$6.00

Large assortment (16 eggs) \$11.00

1/2 lb. Egg \$7.00 (can be personalized for \$1.00 extra)

See Joyce in the church office to place order - Eggs are Hand made by the members of Heritage United Methodist Church.

Deadline 4 orders is: **MONDAY, APRIL 3RD**



The Aldersgate Experience

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ”

5767 Sellger Drive, Norfolk, Virginia 23502

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Web page: www.aldersgatenorfolk.org

“Like” us on Facebook

Bishop.....Rev. Sharma D. Lewis
District Superintendent...Rev. Wayne Snead
Pastor..... Rev. Lee J. Crosby
Lay Leader..... Beverly Cooper
Music Director.....Cindy Crosby
Church Secretary.....Joyce Russo

Office Hours.....8:30-12:30 PM

Sunday School.....9:30 AM

Worship Service...11 AM

Worship Choir - Wednesdays.....6:30 PM

JESUS IS RISEN!

When Jesus' disciples saw that the stone was rolled away from his tomb, they knew he had risen. Make a moveable tomb to celebrate Easter.

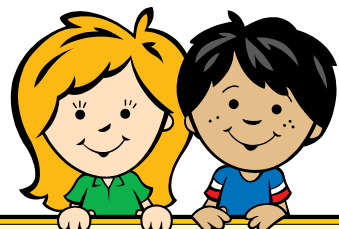
What you need:

- 4 pieces of paper (brown, blue, black, yellow)
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Glue stick
- Brad fastener
- Marker



What you do:

1. Fold the brown paper in half, short side to short side. Cut along the fold. On one half, draw and cut out a large half-circle (the tomb). On the other, draw and cut out a palm-sized circle (the stone).
2. Glue the brown tomb onto the blue paper.
3. Cut a black circle (the inside of the tomb) the same size as the brown stone and glue it onto the brown tomb.
4. Place the brown stone over the black half-circle; this is the entrance. Push the brad through one edge so the stone can move from side to side.
5. Cut out a cross from the yellow paper and glue it by the tomb.
6. Write "Jesus is risen!" atop the blue paper.



KIDS PAGE

PUZZLE

> NEW LIFE <

How did God work through Jesus to give us new life at Easter?

Directions: Use the puzzle pieces from the box to complete 1 Peter 1:3, NIV.

born	hope	resurrection	given	of
birth	living	Christ	mercy	great
				Jesus

In his he has

us new into a

through the

from the .

1 PETER 1:3, NIV

Answer: In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3, NIV

Be a witness to the judgement,
the verdict, and the redemption.

You're invited to experience
the drama of the Passion.

Fri. April 14th at 7 pm

Easter Sunday ~ April 16th, at 11 am

Invite a Friend to hear the Good News of Easter!
Jesus did not come to start a religion.
He came to RESET our lives.

April 16: RESET my Past

April 23: RESET my Purpose

April 30: RESET my Potential

Reset



News from the Pews

Updates

Marie Barker is home and doing well. She is still on antibiotics and coughing less.

Barbara Harrell had a mini stroke but is doing well and was able to attend the Ham & Cabbage Dinner.

Please keep **Linda Crabtree's grandson, Brody Hendricks**, in your prayers as he recovers from surgery.

Jim Powers is recovering from his stay in Norfolk General Heart Hospital. His surgery went well.

I would like to thank everyone for all of their calls, and prayers during my family's recent upsets. My mother-in-law is now in rehab; my father-in-law is home and doing well; my grandson has begun new medications and will begin PT soon and my son is on the mend. It has been a stressful month but knowing we have friends like all of you has made it a lot easier.



Blessings,
Joyce Russo

Thanking everyone for all of the prayers for my grandson, Brody.
Linda Crabtree

The Vision Team Prepares For the Future

For several months now, the Vision Team has been working hard to discern a picture of Aldersgate's future in the next three years. The team describes it like this.

"We envision a vibrant and diverse church devoted to challenging people in spiritual growth, building relationships, and meeting needs in the community."

The Vision Team is exploring three areas to begin implementing this vision:

1. Provide college students with a place to study for mid-term and final exams.
2. Provide support to widows and seniors with transportation, home visits, and group activities.
3. Provide community gatherings and outreach events to connect the church with the community.

The purpose of the Vision Team is not to DO these activities FOR the church, but to create opportunities for the CHURCH to DO the activities. For us to be a vital congregation, it is essential that every member participates. Let's work together to turn the vision into a reality.

The Vision Team members are Gary Albertson, Cindy Crosby, Lee Crosby, John Floyd, Kevin Floyd, Barbara Harrell, Cynthia Stanley, Debbie Supper, Vic Supper, Guy Willis Jr., and Guy Willis III.



Lenten Study

The Winton Adult Sunday School Class and the Circle of Friends Adult Class have combined for a 6 week Lenten Study with an average attendance of 25.

The class is held at 9:30 on Sunday mornings and is led by Pastor Lee.

This same Lenten Study is also held on Thursday evenings at 7 PM. If you haven't sat in on the small group - please come - all are welcome.

Bishop's Letter on Prayer Initiative

On April 2-8, the Virginia Conference will participate in a week of intentional prayer for the mission of The United Methodist Church and for the work of the Commission on a Way Forward which began meeting in January. This week of Praying Our Way Forward is an initiative of the Council of Bishops as a part of their larger commitment to lead the church in every part of the world in times of worship, study, discernment, confession and prayer for God's guidance.



Each annual conference in The United Methodist Church will participate in this prayer ministry which was launched on January 1 in the North Carolina Conference and will conclude in the West Angola Episcopal area in June 2018. Churches in each of the 16 districts of the Virginia Conference will be invited to participate in focused times of prayer by their district superintendents. In addition to participating in each conference's designated week of prayer, individuals are invited to join the initiative beyond the week of April 2-8 by praying daily and fasting weekly for the church, mission and future.

--Bishop Sharma D. Lewis



"CHAT & CHEW" with Bishop Lewis

Bishop Lewis has been traveling around the Conference meeting with clergy and laity at Chat 'n' Chew events. The Chat 'n' Chew on the Elizabeth River District will be June 3, 2017 at Courthouse Community (2708 Princess Anne Road, Virginia Beach) from about 9am to 4pm. The morning session will be for the clergy and the afternoon session will be for the laity. There will be a worship service and lunch in the middle for all clergy and laity.

The schedule:

- 9:30-11:30 - Clergy Session
- 11:30-12:15 - Worship
- 12:30-1:30 - Lunch
- 1:45-3:45 - Laity Session

To register, contact Pastor Lee by email: leecrosby@vaumc.org

What better way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day than the Annual Winton Class Ham and Cabbage Dinner. The food was delicious, the decorations eye-catching and the fellowship was delightful.



From preparations to clean up, everyone had a great time!



Worship Corner



Diane Willis has been singing at AUMC for almost 14 years. Let's hear what she has to say about worship.

"I started in the choir about 14 years ago. I took a break for about a year and a half (or was it 2 1/2?). I love to sing and fellowship with the choir. Music in worship is important to me because I believe God wants to hear our voices lifted up to Him. I love the old hymns, and I have enjoyed learning the praise music. Of course, I love many kinds of music!"

Thank you Diane for honoring God through music!

C.R.T Off to Good Start

The Care Response Team Orientation Meeting was held on Sunday, March 19th in the church Social Hall.

If you missed it and may be interested in serving the church as part of this team - mark your calendars now for the next meeting

April 30, 2017 at 4 PM
in the Social Hall.



Two of our Own Honored by Local Civic League

On Monday, March 13th the River Forest Shores/Wayside Manor/Easton Place Civic League honored Lindell and Maria Davidson with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Both Lindell and Maria have served for many years in the civic league as past president (several times), editor of the local newsletter and civic league historians.

Lindell and Maria were instrumental in advocating for an ambulance to be available from Fire Station 4 on Poplar Hall Drive. Prior to this any ambulance had to come from Station 10 on Virginia Beach Blvd. After a neighbor suffered a heart attack and had to wait an inordinate time for an ambulance the Davidson's convinced the Fire Chief to do a service study and they then proceeded to City Council. They were successful and as a result the neighbor has had faster medical service.

Many vast improvements has been accomplished as a result of Lindell and Maria's hard work. A side walk study was completed as requested by the city and many changes resulted from that study. They also helped with the acquisition of Military Gardens Park, getting handicapped ramps built, trees planted and worked to educate residents on light rail.

Aldersgate is grateful to have these two as members of our congregation where they have sang in the choir and served on various committees. Congratulations Lindell and Maria.



Photo taken from RFS/WM/EP Newsletter

Aldersgate Feeds the Homeless

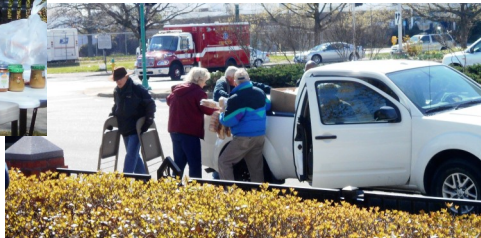


On Saturday, March 11th, Aldersgate UMC joined with St. Peter's Episcopal Church to feed the homeless in downtown Norfolk.

Five members of our church met at St. James' Episcopal Church on Brambleton Avenue to fix food and then transported it to Martin Luther King Park. Approximately 20 individuals enjoyed a nourishing meal.



Two Pastors sharing a good time! Pastor Lee and Father "Papa" John-also pictured Leonard McCoy.



With Heartfelt Thanks

Ann Manuel has served as Financial Secretary for more years than I can remember. Ann has decided to step down and let someone else take over the position.

We thank Ann for all of her many hours of hard work and dedication to the financial responsibilities of the church.

Ann - thanks for a job well done. Your help will be missed.

The Finance Committee



Rehearsal Schedules Set

Parents - The Kidz Worship Team with rehearse in the Worship Room

3/26 - 4/2 and 4/9

9:30-10:15 AM Sundays

The Good Friday Drama will have rehearsals in the Sanctuary on

3/26 - 4/2 and 4/9

4 PM Sundays

Any questions contact Cindy Crosby



**Deadline
Sunday
April 2nd**

**ANNUAL
BUNNY BREAKFAST
AND EASTER EGG HUNT**
Saturday, April 8th
9:00 AM

**All are invited—friends, relatives, neighbors
Infants—5th Grade -**

**Donations of wrapped candies, small toys, and
cash appreciated**

Volunteers are especially needed

See or Call Barbara Harrell at 466-8761



Please Fill Out and place in offering plate

I/We plan to attend the Bunny Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt on
Saturday, April 8th **Deadline for reservations - Sunday, 4/2**

Name _____

Adults _____

Children _____

Ages of Children _____

**Aldersgate
Worship Choir April News**



**5, 12, 26 April, 6:30
Wed rehearsal
14 April, Good Friday
Service
19 April, Easter Break**

**The Worship Choir is
very busy working on
some old favorites from
the extensive music files.
We are featuring a Marty
Parks rendition of *Offer-
ing* for Easter. Our Kidz
Worship Team is a also
featuring music from
Word's Kidz Music,
which includes Biblical
scripture.**

**Both music teams are
working hard to bring
honor to God and glorify
His name! If you love
music—Join us!**

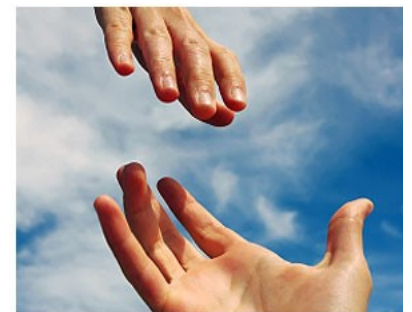
Contact Cindy 461-3201



Care Response Team

The new Care Response Team met and discussed its purpose and focus on March 19th. If you would like to know more about this ministry please contact Cindy 461-3201.

We are taking on new members to give the gift of love with hands reaching out to our church family and those around us in need in our community.



Birthdays and Anniversaries



4/3	JaiMarie Washington-Martin	4/26	Barbara Hogwood
4/7	Ann Manuel		Jamie Washington
4/8	Ben Hogwood	4/27	John Floyd
4/23	Milton Midgette (96)		
4/24	Morgan Thrasher		



4/21 Oliver and Barbara Harrell

Remember in Prayer

Home: Jane Jones, Shirley Briggs, Phil Floyd,
Farrell Harrell, Marie Barker



The Gardens of Va. Beach—Milton Midgette
Sentara Village S.—Shirley Henley
Mila Home Care—Jackie Wilkinson
Georgian Nursing Facility--Billy Thrasher

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Saturday, April 15

You do not have to wait for the deadline to submit your information you can email it anytime during the month, or just call the church office



Ushers

Neal Windley, Gary Albertson

Counters

4/2	Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch
4/9	Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson
4/16	Neal Windley, Michele Floyd
4/23	Kevin Floyd, Randy Thrasher
4/30	Greg Dziagwa, Jim Powers



Lawn Maintenance

4/3	Team 1
4/10	Team 2
4/17	Team 3
4/24	Team 1

Notes:

This month's Sermon Series - *Reset*

Calendar Highlights:

3/26, 4/2, and 4/9 9:30-10:15 AM Kidz Worship Team Rehearsal

3/26, 4/2, and 4/9 4 PM Good Friday Drama Rehearsal

4/2 and 4/9 9:30 AM Lenten Study continues

4/2 Deadline for Annual Bunny Breakfast & Egg Hunt

4/6 7 PM Lenten Study

4/8 9 AM Annual Bunny Breakfast & Egg Hunt

4/14 7 PM Good Friday Drama Presentation

