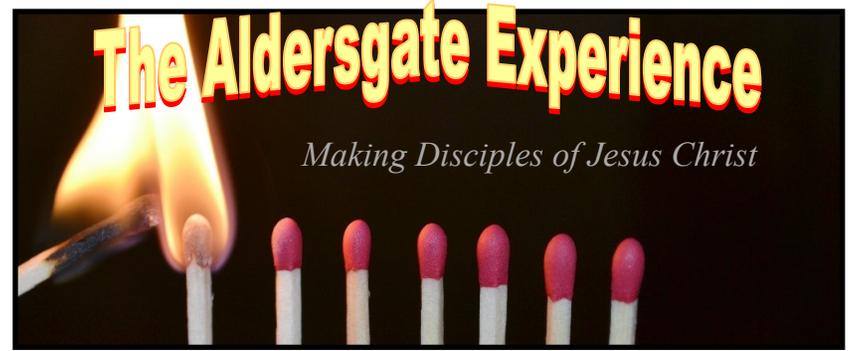


NOVEMBER  
2024

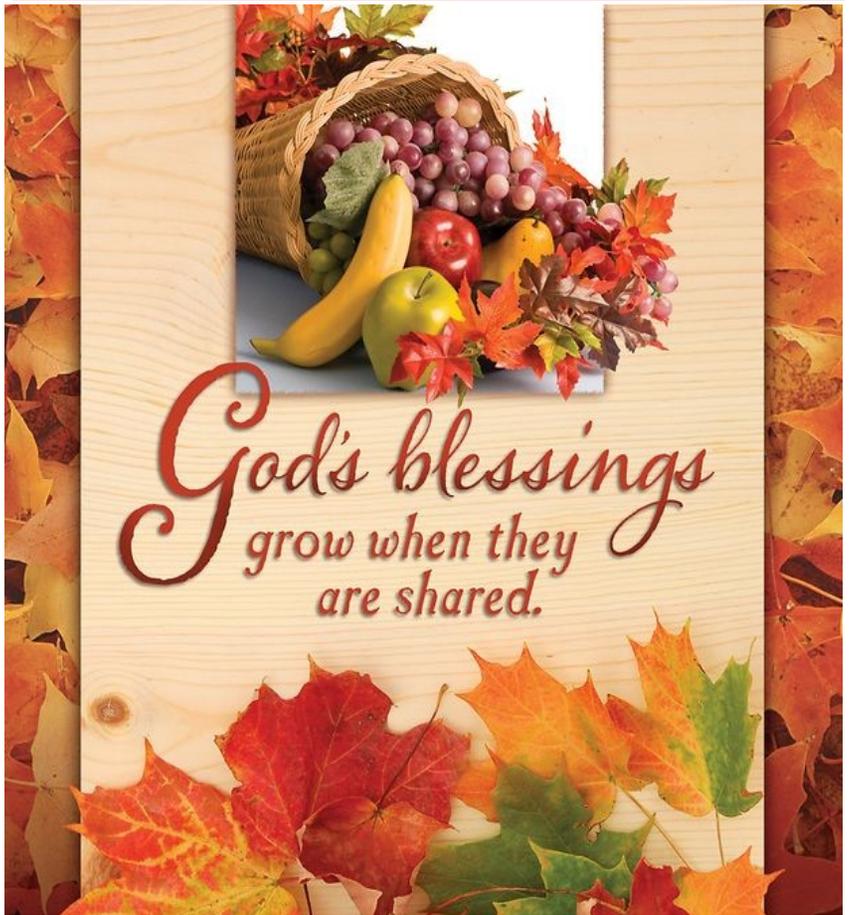
Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
5767 Sellger Drive  
Norfolk, Virginia 23502-5239



# The Aldersgate Experience

*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ*

November, 2024 Vol. 27 Issue 11



*God's blessings  
grow when they  
are shared.*

*Join us each Sunday morning at  
11 am*



**Treasurer’s Update:**

Dear Aldersgate Family,  
I hope this message finds you well. As your treasurer, I want to provide some important updates regarding our financial situation.

During September, our donations exceeded expenses by \$979.91, thanks to your ongoing support.

While September’s offerings were higher than usual, looking ahead to the first two Sundays of October, the offerings have been significantly lower.

To recap September’s *Finance Article*, the Trustees, Finance Committee and Church Council authorized the HVAC replacement/repairs with the estimated cost of \$23,320 coming from the Memorial Fund. All HVAC repairs/replacements have since been completed.

Since the launch of AUMC’s “Capital Campaign” in August, we have received \$11,430 in contributions (as of 13 October). The church is grateful to everyone who has contributed. However, we still require \$11,890 to reach our goal in order to restore the Memorial Fund.

Your continued financial contributions are essential for sustaining the ministry and the facilities at AUMC. Please remain vigilant in your giving, and keep our church in your prayers. Together, we can ensure Aldersgate will continue to thrive.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment.

Blessings,

Kathy Dziagwa  
Aldersgate UMC Treasurer

**Financial Stats for Sept. 2024:**

**Income:** \$12,131.00  
**Expenses:** \$11,151.09  
**Difference:** \$ 979.91

**Remaining Balance:** \$ 9,974.73

**Year to Date Income/ Expenses:**

**Income:** \$114,613.48  
**Expenses:** \$107,119.25  
**Difference:** \$ 7,494.23

**Dedicated Offerings:**

**Communion** \$ 10.00  
**Capital Imp.** \$7,805.00

**For all of our Veterans—we wish you well.**

**For all of our church family—we hope you have a happy, safe Thanksgiving Holiday.**

**If you are traveling—have safe travels and return to us for Sunday worship.**



**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

Email: [joyce@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcoxmail.com](mailto:joyce@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcoxmail.com)  
Web page: [www.aldersgatenorfolk.org](http://www.aldersgatenorfolk.org)  
“Like” us on Facebook

Bishop.....Rev. Susan Hupert-Johnson  
District Superintendent...Rev. F. Elizabeth Givens  
Pastor..... Tyrek Person  
Minister of Music..... Dr. Christina Pinkston  
Church Secretary..... Joyce Russo

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



Make this craft as a helpful reminder of Jesus' free gift of grace.



**What you need:**

- Small cardboard box
- Small stones
- Tape
- Wrapping paper and bow
- Permanent marker

**What you do:**

1. Fill the box with small stones to weigh it down. Tape the box securely closed.
2. Wrap the box and add a bow on top.
3. With marker, write a capital letter on each side of the box and the bottom to spell GRACE.
4. Use this as a decoration or paperweight, or give as a gift.
5. Explain GRACE to someone.  
For help, use Ephesians 2:8-9 and the acrostic **God's Riches At Christ's Expense**.



Have fun—coloring me.

Have a happy, safe holiday



### Charge Conference Update

Our annual charge conference was held Tuesday, October 22 at 5 PM. We had 7 members in attendance.

Election of officers for Trustees, Staff Parish Committee, Finance Committee, Administrative Board and local church committees were approved. (2025 listing will be in December newsletter).

Rev. Tracy Bass, elder from Impact UMC, Chesapeake, presided over the meeting in place of the District Superintendent Rev. Givens. He was quite interested in what Aldersgate missions and ministries are and our interaction with the surrounding community.

Charge conference booklets are available on the rack across from the office for pick up.



A message from our Pastor

Lay Ministry Schedule for the month

News from the Pews

Important Message from Your Treasurer

Leadership Training Information

And much more



## Spaghetti Dinners off to good start

Our Thursday night Community Spaghetti Dinners resumed October 3rd. We have had good attendance from the surrounding neighborhood.



Church volunteers average 8 members each week with guests totaling 20 or so. Come and enjoy good food, salad and dessert.

Cindy and Debbie

## Save the Dates and Times

District Training Events—  
January 11, 2025 at New Creation UMC  
Morning and afternoon. Speakers,  
breakout workshops and worship . Time not set. Check  
bulletins and newsletter for updates



Leadership Training –Zoom Meeting—Dec. 1-5, 2024  
Finance/Treasurer, SPRC, Trustee and Lay Leaders.  
Registration will begin 11/5 . Check below for schedule

|         |         |                                       |
|---------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| Dec. 1  | 7:00 PM | Leadership Zoom Training - Trustees   |
| Dec. 2  | 7:00 PM | Leadership Zoom Training - Lay Leader |
| Dec. 4  | 7:00 PM | Leadership Zoom Training - SPRC       |
| Dec. 5  | 7:00 PM | Leadership Zoom Training - Finance    |
| Nov. 17 | 4:00 PM | via Zoom District Annual Conference,  |
| Dec. 31 |         | Pastor/SPRC preference forms due      |

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 9th for Pastor Lee and Cindy Crosby's mother, Ruth Crosby.

The service will be held at Mt. Jackson U M Church, 141 Orkney Drive, Mt. Jackson, VA 22842. It is quite a drive but all are invited. Service time is 11 am.

Please Pray for...



Christian sympathies are extended to Maria and Patti Davidson on the death of Maria's son, Leslie.

Keep Rev. Celeste Heath in your prayers, She will be having surgery on November 4 at Mary View.

Rev. Jones, Pastor Tyrek's family—the loss of his wife, Theresa. Memorial Service—Nov. 9 at 11 AM

If approved by the next Administrative Board Meeting the Newsletter to go to every other month beginning January 2025. Lay Ministry Schedule and Calendar will still be printed monthly.  
Joyce



## Saturday, November 2nd



Turn your clocks BACK



Remember When... looking back—picture of Christmas Eve 2006. Have a picture from the past – send to the church office and I will print it in future newsletters.

Come, Join Us as We

  
**DECORATE**  
the Church

Saturday, November 30th  
10 AM

## Neighborhood Widows Bible Fellowship



is a wonderful group that meets in a home in our neighborhood every Thursday from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

We have completed our study of “**The Battlefield of the Mind**” by Joyce Meyer. We are now going to take a look at “confronting fear” in a Biblical way. We will then move on to our new book “Boundaries, When to say Yes and How to say No to Take Control of Your Life” by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr John Townsend.

If you are a widow and would enjoy fellowship with other Christian widows, please call the number below and join us.

If you know a widow who might enjoy such a fellowship, please pass this announcement on to her so she can join us.

If God has put on your heart that it's time for **you** to start your own group, be it for widows or widowers, parents of young children, couples, adults singles, or other groups, please call:

**757-515-8194 for more information. If there is no immediate answer, please leave a voicemail. Joyce Thompson**

## Need or Looking for Something to do??

**Think about volunteering for Lee's Friends of Norfolk. They are always in need of drivers for clients who need rides to medical appointments and treatments.**

**Call 757-440-7501 or visit  
<[leesfriends.org](http://leesfriends.org)>  
for more information.**





## November Birthdays

11/1 Lily Tipora  
11/8 Claudia Ganaden  
11/10 Chelsie Richburg

11/11 Greg Dziagwa  
11/13 Kathy O'Hara  
11/24 Steve Carter

## Anniversaries

11/18 Gary and Cindy Albertson



## Remember in Prayer

Home: members of our church family who are at home.

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

Those who have lost family or friends. Pastor Tyrek and Rev. Jones' family.

Our Bishops and District Superintendents as they continue to make decisions through their cabinet meetings and conferences

For Peace throughout the world

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

## Newsletter Deadline

Friday, November 15th  
for the December 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

Dewey & Millie Hanson

## Communion Servers

Diane Willis and Sub needed

## Counters

11/3 D. Supper, B. Bunch  
11/10 M. Hanson; G. Albertson  
11/17 K. Floyd, D. Willis  
11/24 G. Dziagwa, sub



## Lawn Maintenance

11/4 Team 2  
11/11 Team 3  
11/18 Team 1  
11/25 Team 2

Trash—Vic Supper

Team 1—Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch

Team 2—Dewey Hanson

Team 3— Kevin and John Floyd

## Calendar Highlights

Thompson Bible Study—  
11/7; 11/14; 11/21;—10 AM

Spaghetti Dinners—11/7; 11/14; 1/21;—5:30 PM

Finance/Administrative Boar Meeting—11/19—6:30 PM

Helping Hands Mtg- 11/26—10 AM

Choir rehearsals 11/6; 11/13; 11/20—6 PM

Decorate the Church—11/30 —10 AM



**Cooke Elementary to begin in November.**

**On Wednesday, November 6th, our faithful group of volunteers will begin serving dinner to the children of Cooke Elementary.**

**Together with CHKD bears and dolls this is one of the oldest mission programs of Aldersgate church.**



**It began as a mission project for the youth in November, 2009. Sixteen years and counting.**

**Thanks to all of the dedicated volunteers for their continued commitment to this mission.**

**Guy/Diane Willis**



## Changing Focus

too?

Recently I have heard several of my church friends discussing the same issue. “We don’t have any people” “We can’t do what we did before” Do you think this

Well, maybe we have to change our focus from the negative to the positive and look at the things we can do.

Yes, we are now older and churches lack young families to take our places so we do have to rethink our priorities.

What if we are not able to do some of the more big events or activities because we don’t have enough volunteers—so what! We can still do things on a smaller scale. Instead of a week long VBS—a weekend one or instead of a live Nativity we just light the big tree on a Sunday during the worship service and sing a few carols.

Rejoice for that which we can do—teddy bears and surgical dolls for sick children; school supplies for those in need; feeding a tutoring group at Cooke Elementary; collecting items for Union Mission; Salvation Army or other community groups in need. We even cook dinner once a week. All great ministries.

The next time you are in a meeting and someone says we can’t do that anymore—don’t feel bad or fret over it—focus on how you can do something else. God doesn’t care how big the mission only that we do one. JR

## Volunteers Needed

If you have looked around the congregation lately you know that our numbers have dwindled. However, this has always been a church with a lot of spunk and willingness to do what is needed. Right now we are in need of servants to fill a few vacancies in the ministry teams of the church. You do not have to be a member of this congregation for some of the positions.

Counters; Communion Assistants; Lawn Crews and Café hosts/hostesses.

Please let the pastor or the office know if you are interested in serving.



Changing  
Your Focus  
Could Change  
Everything