



Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
5767 Sellger Drive  
Norfolk, Virginia 23502



## Ending the year on a high note

On Tuesday, December 6th we were treated to the *Sounds of the Season* by Cindy Crosby, Aldersgate's own Music Director.

Singing selections such as *Unforgettable*, *At Last*, *Daddy's Hands*, *The Prayer* and *I Will Always Love You*, I was informed that she brought a "tear to my eyes".

Those who were able to attend this festive event left feeling full of the Christmas Season.  
P.S. the desserts were a big hit too!



Aldersgate's own Worship Choir performed for the residents of S. Newtown Rd. Nursing Center on December 7th.

The songs were beautiful and full of the special Season. Congrats Choir and Youth for a heart filled job well done.

more pictures inside



**“Bring on the *Heat!*”**

The New Year is a popular time to consider fresh starts. It’s a time to consider a renovation of our attitudes, our habits, and our behaviors. Many people are filled with a renewed hope that things will be better this year. Sometimes things don’t get better, and sometimes they do. But one determining factor rises above all others as to which way it can go... It is a firm commitment to do our part. This is true if you want to lose weight, get out of debt, improve your marriage, or be a better disciple of Jesus. Some factors are out of our control. Some are not our responsibility. But some are!

For example, I believe that God wants Aldersgate Church to succeed in its mission *to make disciples of Jesus*. I believe God is at work in our church, doing his part in leading us to increase influence in Norfolk, in Virginia, and to the ends of the earth. And because God invites us *all* to work alongside him to fulfill this mission, we have a responsibility to do our part. As a congregation, we know this. But our passion can cool and be quenched. As we begin this New Year, let us fan into flame our passion to follow Jesus. Let us stoke the embers and rekindle our spirits to follow Jesus with white-hot intensity. The season may get cold, but things will heat up at Aldersgate. So, jump into what God has planned for 2017.



Thanks so much for all of the cards and gifts we received this season.

May God bless each and every one of you in the New Year and always.

The Aldersgate Staff,  
Pastor Lee, Cindy and Joyce



## 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

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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. 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

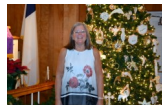




## Updates on our church family

Good News - We welcomed four new members to our church family

**Linda Crabtree**  
**Phyllis Day**  
**Dan and Veda Wolfe**



News from the Pews

Once again we had to bid farewell to two of our church members in the last month

Sympathies are extended to **Pat Wilson** and her family due to the loss of her husband, **George**. Also keep **Jane Jones** and her family in your prayers as they deal with the loss of **Larkin Jones**.



**Pastor Burgess** is dealing with some health issues resulting from an automobile accident he had last year. Reg has had 2 stints put in and still is having problems. **Phil Floyd** still struggles with breathing issues some days. Keep Phil, June and the Floyd family in your prayers.

**Nancy Redburn** would like to thank everyone for all of the cards and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Toys for Tots Update** - 55 toys were donated for local children.

**50 Blessings Bags** were assembled and placed in the Narthex. Please take one and give to one of our many homeless in this area.

**The Hat and Mitten Tree** is getting full. Thankyou for all of the warm items.

Thank you everyone for your generosity this holiday Season. Cynthia Stanley



## Living Nativity Update

What a wonderful weekend we had dressing in costumes and portraying the Birth of Christ for the community.



## A Fireside Christmas



It seems we have some very talented people among us at Aldersgate. If you happen to check out the church's Facebook page you will find several videos featuring this talent. Here are just a few of the highlights.



**"Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer"** Nealy and Melly



**Worship and Youth Choir**



**"Harold" the Angel** singing the "Blues"



**"Gary" the Cable Guy**



**Lots of music of the season**



**and inspirational readings**



## Sentara Newtown Music Outreach

The Aldersgate Worship Choir with our youth additions (JaiMarie, Chelsea, Jasiah, and Bella) joined together to serve the long-term residents at Sentara Newtown.

The Christmas Concert held in December was very well received. Smiles were all around on the faces while we sang seasonal favorites, prayed together, talked about "What is Christmas really?," and gave away a fun prize and hugs too.

A special thank you to the youth who participated in several music events over the Christmas holiday—what a true pleasure to have them.

A spring outreach concert will be announced soon—stay tuned!

(see picture on cover)

**giddy-up Jingle  
horse pick up  
your feet  
Jingle around  
the clock**

## A Fireside Christmas All Wrapped Up

What a fun time we had at A Fireside Christmas. Pictures are ready for viewing on the bulletin board in the social hall.

So we had great singers, poetry, and readings, fun lip syncing with reindeer, amazing jokes and quips from our narrator, a college perspective video entitled, "Christmas on Campus," a hilarious pet commercial and Harold the Angel visited too with a blues song and antics.

### Whose Harold?

Hot cider, coffee, hot chocolate and cookies abounded. What a night!! Thank you to all who helped with this gathering!

See you next year.



Pictures on pg. 3

## MASON JAR nightLight

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.

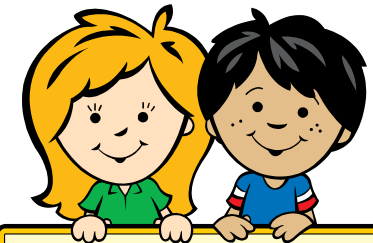


### What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

### What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.



## KIDS PAGE



## Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?  
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.  
Then read the completed Bible verse.

KEY: A E I O

" \_ \_ M TH \_ L \_ GHT \_ F  
TH \_ W \_ RLD. WH \_ \_ V \_ R  
F \_ LL \_ WS M \_ W \_ LL N \_ V \_ R  
W \_ LK \_ N D \_ RKN \_ SS."  
J \_ \_ HN 8:12, NIV



Kick off the New Year with Sunday School.  
Children's classes are each Sunday @ 9:45 am



**“Easy Outreach” Workshop**  
**Sun. Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm**  
**Social Hall**

Discover easy and fun ways to share your faith by loving people in your community. If you struggle with fear or with the know-how of sharing your faith, come explore a fun way that fits YOU!

Experience ways to give people a *taste* of God’s love that leaves them hungry for more. The class is FREE, and the first 10 people to register (and attend) receive a free book.

To register, fill out the Connection Card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate. You can also email Pastor Lee at [leecrosby@vaumc.org](mailto:leecrosby@vaumc.org)

**There will be a leadership workshop for all church leaders on Saturday, January 7th, 8 am-2 pm. This meeting will be held in the Social Hall.**

**All board members and committee members are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to be present - please let the pastor know.**

**Aldersgate Worship Choir – January News**



The Worship Choir had a great start in July and worked through challenges over the summer and fall to arrive at a wonderful sound to praise God through music. Several new pieces of contemporary music were introduced. This month and in February we will continue to teach the congregation new songs of praise and new ways of singing some old favorites.

If you would like to join the Worship Choir, please feel free to stop by beginning 18 January for a regular rehearsal at 6:30 on Wednesday...you can see what we’re all about. It’s a fun-loving group who love music and the Lord.

**4 January**

6:30 pm  
 Team Appreciation  
 Dinner  
 Off-site/no rehearsal

**11 January**

6:30 pm  
 Team Meeting  
 Social Hall

**18, 25 January**

6:30 pm  
 Wednesday rehearsals

Please contact Cindy if you have questions,  
 (757) 461-3201.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

1/3	Phil Floyd	1/12	Cindy Crosby
	Sherry Williams	1/17	Shirley Briggs
1/5	Gary Albertson	1/28	Linda Millard
1/6	Linda Crabtree	1/30	Kathy Dziagwa
1/7	Kimberly Hogwood		

*We currently have no wedding anniversaries for this month. If your anniversary is in January - please notify the church office*



## Remember in Prayer

Home: Jane Jones, Shirley Briggs, Phil Floyd,  
Reg Burgess, Barbara Jenkins

The Gardens of Va. Beach—Milton Midgette  
Sentara Village S.—Shirley Henley  
Mila Home Care—Jackie Wilkinson  
Sentara Rosemont Road--Pat Sauer  
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.

## Altar Flowers

*“Flowers by Kings” has closed their shop and the church will no longer be putting fresh flowers on the altar each Sunday. We will begin to use seasonal artificial arrangements. Please feel free to provide your own fresh flowers. See Ann Manuel for more information.*



Altar Flowers



## Ushers

Greg and Kathy Dziagwa

## Counters

1/1	Mel Manuel, Ben Hogwood
1/8	Debbie Supper, Vernon Williams
1/15	Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson
1/22	Neal Windley, Michele Floyd
1/29	Kevin Floyd, Randy Thrasher

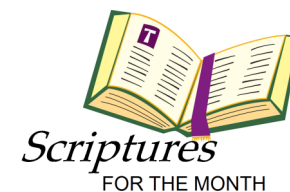


## Lawn Maintenance

1/2	Team 3
1/9	Team 1
1/16	Team 2
1/23	Team 3
1/30	Team 1

## Scripture Notes

1/1	Reaffirmation of Baptism
1/8	1 Timothy 6:17
1/15	1 Timothy 6:18
1/22	1 Timothy 6:19
1/29	Genesis 17:15-19



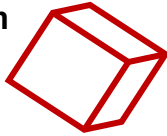
## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

**Sunday, January 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**



**New  
Technical Team  
Named "G<sup>3</sup>"**



Welcome Gary Albertson and Guy Willis III, who are working with Cindy, Pastor Lee, and Greg to usher in a new era of sight and sound for the service.

Late in the fall 2016, we had training with the use of computer projection and computer generated music slides, sermon slides, and video operation.

Unveiled in December with a VERY smooth transition, both Gary and Guy operated the new equipment.

We hope you will enjoy the opportunity to view new images, songs, and videos to accompany the worship.

Cindy is calling the new team, "G<sup>3</sup>" for Greg, Gary and Guy! They are working together to provide the visual dimension for each service.

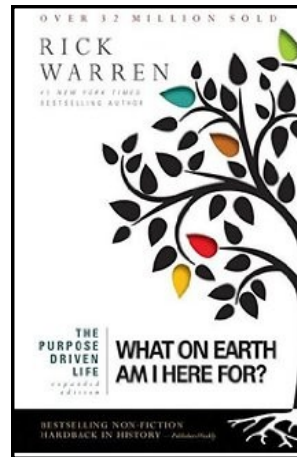
Thank you fellas for your willingness and dedication!

**My Heart Small Group**

My Heart had a great time of food and fellowship in December before taking a three week break.

On January 5th, Thursday, we begin the Rick Warren video study—

**What on Earth Am I  
Here For?**



Please contact Cindy to sign up (757) 461-3201.

JOIN us and be a blessing to others while learning and discussing God's word.

**Thursdays, 7:00 pm  
Social Hall**

**Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
Nominations and Leadership 2017**



**Administrative Church Council**

Rev. Lee Crosby, Pastor Chairperson-Neal Windley  
Recording Secretary Cindy Albertson  
Finance Chair Gary Albertson  
Trustee Chair Mel Manuel  
SPRC Chair/Treasurer Kathy Dziagwa  
Financial Secretary Ann Manuel  
Missions Chair Cynthia Stanley  
Lay Member to Annual Conference/Lay Leader Beverly Cooper  
Alternate Lay Member to Annual Conference Lucinda Williams  
Members at large Greg Dziagwa, Millie Hanson

**Staff – Parish Committee**

Lee Crosby, Pastor Kathy Dziagwa, Chair  
Beverly Cooper, Lay Leader  
Neal Windley, Guy Willis, Michele Floyd, Lucinda Williams

**Board of Trustees**

Pastor Lee Crosby Melvin Manuel, Chair  
Randolph Thrasher, L. Ben Hogwood, Guy Willis, Cynthia Stanley,  
Jimmie Powers, Neal Windley, Greg Dziagwa

**Committee on Nominations**

Rev. Lee Crosby, Chair  
Kevin Floyd, Barbara Harrell, Cindy Albertson, Ben Hogwood,  
Marguerite Windley

**Finance Committee**

Lee Crosby, Pastor Gary Albertson, Finance Chair  
Kathy Dziagwa, Ann Manuel, Beverly Cooper, Lucinda Williams  
Sherri Williams, Neal Windley, Mel Manuel

**Worship Committee**

Lee Crosby, Pastor  
Cindy Crosby, Barbara Hogwood, Barbara Harrell

**Local Church Workers**

Disaster Coordinator-Neal Windley  
Head Usher-Kevin Floyd  
Secretary SS - Barbara Harrell  
Altar Flowers - Ann Manuel  
Church Historians - Greg and Kathy Dziagwa  
Kitchen Committee - Barbara Hogwood and Linda Crabtree  
Bereavement Committee - Ann Manuel, Barbara Hogwood