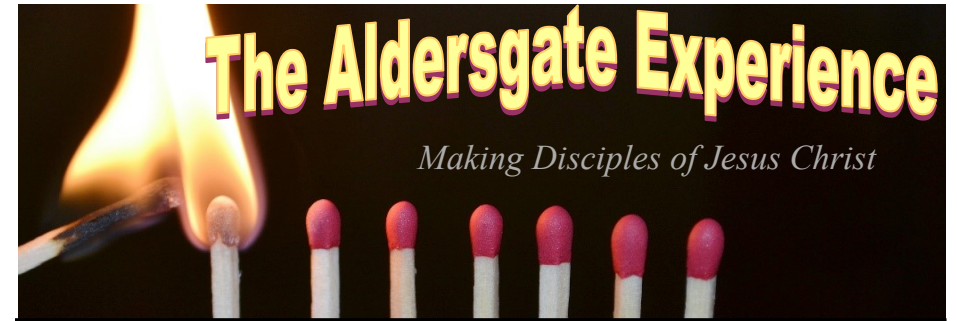




Aldersgate United Methodist Church
5767 Sellger Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23502-5239



February 2021

Vol. 24 Issue 2



LOVE GOD
LOVE PEOPLE

ObeYing the Greatest Commandments

— MATTHEW 22:37-39 —



“HEAR GOD SPEAK!”

By Pastor Lee

During the season of Lent, I will lead a six-week sermon series called, “*A Journey with Jesus*”. Walk with me through the Gospel of Mark as we explore the pilgrimage of those first disciples. In addition, I also invite you to experiment with a 40-day reading plan for hearing God speak to you. Choose a book of the Bible and apply the acronym **H.E.A.R.**

H – Highlight: Highlight a word, phrase, or couple of verses that stand out to you in your daily reading of the Bible.

E – Explain: Explain what the passage is saying. Put it in your own words.

A – Apply: How does what you have highlighted apply to your life.

R – Respond: What will you do because of what you have learned? What will be your call to action?

This is more than just a Bible study. It’s developing a habit of listening for God. So, do not rush through the process. Take your time with each step. Practice this for the 40 days of Lent and see how it impacts your life. You can read through the Gospel of Mark to compliment the sermon series, or choose another book of the Bible. But I encourage you to participate. Let us draw near to God to guide us through these difficult times, and lead us into the future as a church.



Make someone’s day special this

February 14th

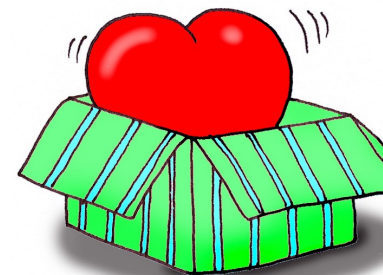
Send them a valentine a card or a

“thinking of

you note” or

better yet-

Give them a call



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. Wayne Snead

Pastor..... Rev. Lee J. Crosby

Lay Leader..... Kathleen O’Hara

Music Director.....Cindy Crosby

Church Secretary.....Joyce Russo

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

Sunday School.....9:30 AM

Worship Service...11 AM

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

Small Group Study—Thursdays...7 PM

Loving embraces

Express your love and friendship with handcrafted bracelets.



What you need:

- Adult help
- Bowl of boiling water
- Wide wooden craft sticks
- Glass cup
- Markers, paint or decorative tape

What you do:

1. Pour about 3 cups of boiling water into a bowl. Soak sticks in the water about 30 minutes.
2. Remove sticks and slowly, gently bend them into a curve.
3. To maintain the shape, place curved sticks inside a glass cup overnight to dry completely.
4. Remove and decorate the bracelets, which make fun Valentine's Day gifts.



Just for Kidz



A famous friendship

In the Bible, Ruth and Naomi are known for their loving friendship.

Directions: Using the key, fill in the blanks to see what Ruth says to Naomi.

“

J E A O U O E O E E E
J E A O E E ' U N O J O U O U
O E O N C U O E J E A O
N C U O ' O E O O N U E N O U
J E A O E U F O
N U E N O U U N O
O E O O E E O
F O E E O
RUTH 1:16, NIV



W	A	E	T
B	U	H	D
G	R	L	I
N	S	P	M

Answer: "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God." Ruth 1:16, NIV

Volunteers needed

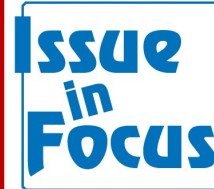
A regular time for Toddler Rhyme Time has been set: Mondays from 4:00-4:30, beginning February 1st, and carrying on until further notice. We use the fellowship hall entrance of Aldersgate Methodist Church. We greatly appreciate them for allowing us to use the space, especially Mr. Windley who comes and opens the door for us. Cheerfully, McKinzie Newman

As you know, Trustees and Admin. Board approved this program in November and it is now getting underway and hopefully will be a great success for the children and church. I will cover the program for January and February— we need volunteers for March and onward.

As you can see, it takes about a total of one hour per class to open church and close (from 3:45 to 4:45 pm). Please let me know when you can cover a class or classes.

Neal Windley,

Chair of Trustees



Our Lay Ministry in Action

Ushers, Counters (updated)
Lawn Maintenance
Schedules for the month

News from the Pews

A Call for Volunteers

New Lenten Study

Reminder for District Training Day



Loving One Another

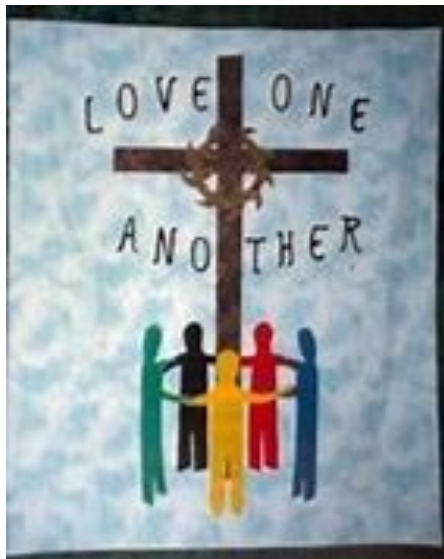
In light of recent events in our nation it is now more important than ever to remember the “*Greatest Commandment*” given to us by Jesus. “*Love one another as I have loved you*”. As Christians we know all too well how hard this can sometimes be.

During the month of February we are reminded of loving others with the celebration of Valentine’s Day; remembering Black History Month and the beginning of the Lenten season.

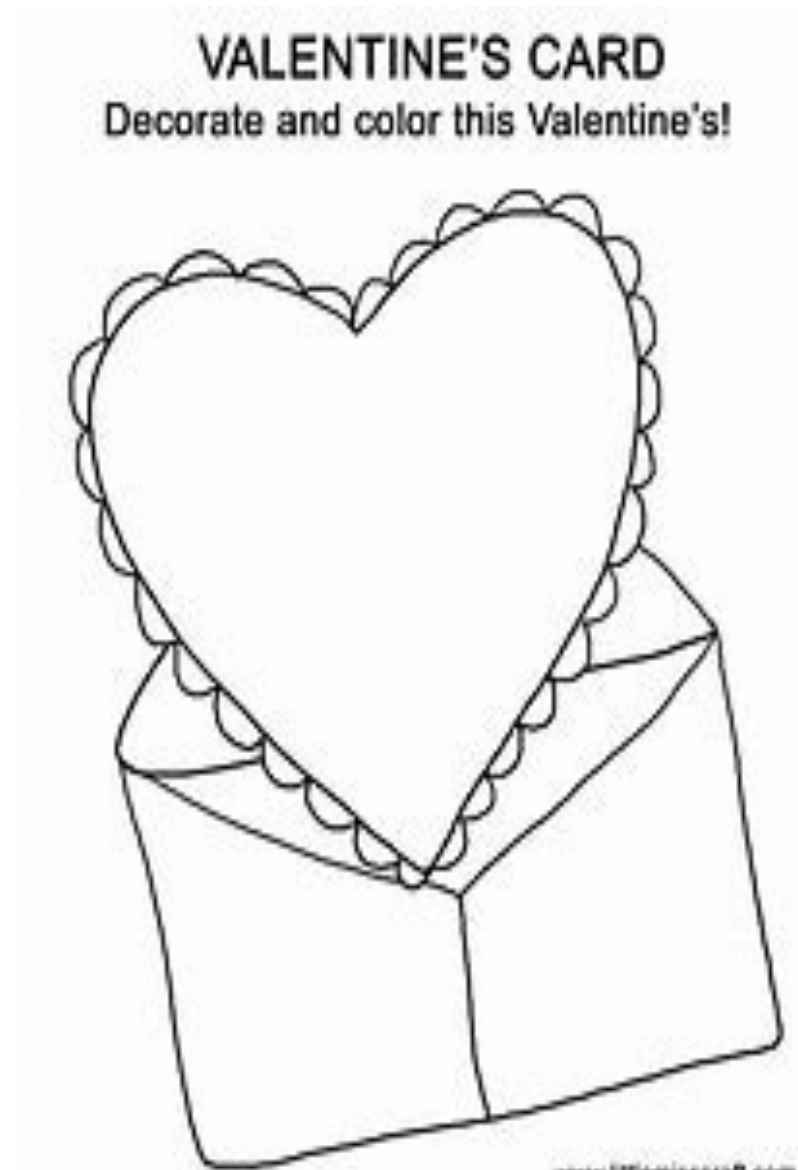
This month make an effort to send a card “thinking of you” to someone you haven’t been in touch with because of a differing of minds. Or a note to a shut-in who may be lonely because of having to stay home because of the pandemic. Check in on a neighbor– see if they need something from the store or a ride to the doctor. Sometimes an act so small as a smile or a wave to your neighbor may brighten their days for a week or more.

As we began a new year in January let us continue to try to make all things new for this month too. A new government, a new vaccine, a new hope for being able to open up our lives again.

Think about it. JR



Color and send to a special someone!



Some answered questions



Who should get tested for the virus??? Below is a list of checks if you are unsure if you should get a Covid-19 test. Recently we had a member test positive.

- People who have symptoms of COVID-19.
People who have had close contact (within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more) with someone with confirmed COVID-19.
- People who have taken part in activities that put them at higher risk for COVID-19 because they cannot socially distance as needed, such as travel, attending large social or mass gatherings, or being in crowded indoor settings.

People who have been asked or referred to get testing by their healthcare provider, localexternal icon or state health department.

Not everyone needs to be tested. If you do get tested, you should self quarantine/isolate at home pending test results and follow the advice of your health care provider or a public health professional.

How to get tested for current COVID-19 infection

You can visit your state or localexternal icon health department's website to look for the latest local information on testing.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 and want to get tested, call your healthcare provider first.

Results:

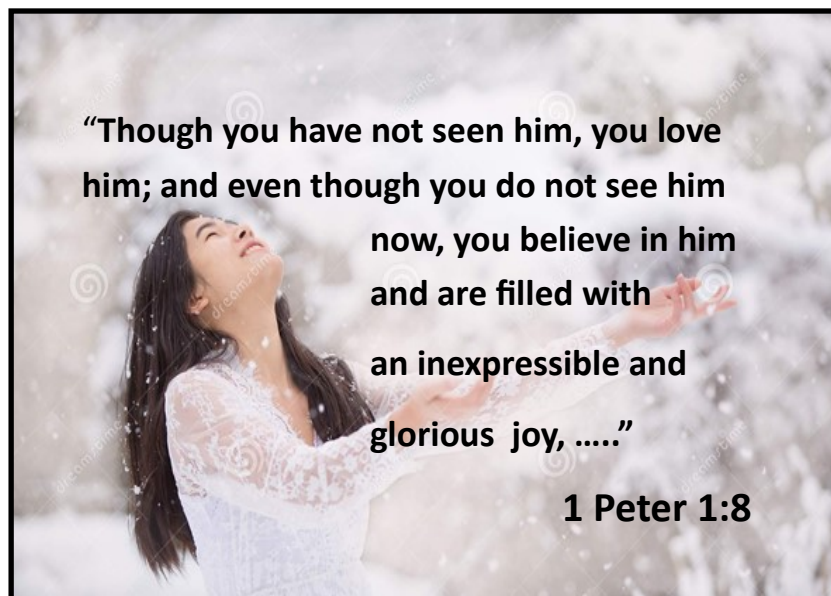
If you test positive, know what protective steps to take to prevent others from getting sick.

If you test negative, you probably were not infected at the time your sample was collected. The test result only means that you did not have COVID-19 at the time of testing. Continue to take steps to protect yourself.

Worship Team News

Hello everyone and welcome to the new year 2021! We are so grateful for a new year with opportunities to sing praise to Him!

The team is recording for services each week in the sanctuary after the service. If you are interested in joining the team please see Cindy.



Rehearsal Schedule

February 7	10:00 am	Sanctuary
February 14	10:00 am	Sanctuary
February 21	10:00 am	Sanctuary
February 28	10:00 am	Sanctuary

Join Us for this
special Sunday Service

Guest Speaker
Rev. John Gray
of Union Mission

Sun. Feb. 14
11:00 am



A little bit of history...

The Union Mission was founded in 1892 by a group of Methodist businessmen who had a vision to provide for the physical and spiritual needs of the poor and homeless. From that vision, the original Union Mission opened its doors, and to this day continues to provide for the homeless and poor throughout the Hampton Roads community.

In 1956, Rev. Theodore A. Bashford, became our Executive Director. For more than 50 years, “Brother Ted” led and guided The Union Mission, strengthening our relationships with local churches and city officials and expanding our outreach capacity. When he passed away in October 2008, his daughter Linda Bashford Vaughan succeeded him as Executive Director. Having worked alongside with her father for years, Mrs. Vaughan ran the day-to-day operations until February 2016 and now serves as Executive Director Emeritus.

Our current Executive Director is Rev. John W. Gray, Jr., who had served under both Rev. Bashford and Mrs. Vaughan.

Something to think about

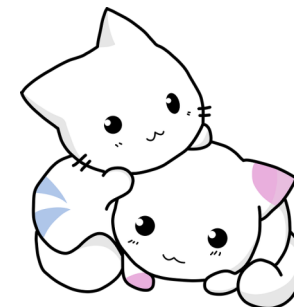
Feline-informed faith

I am the epitome of a “cat lady”: Each of my five felines has taught me a bit about faith. As I settle into bed, Piccolo presses his body tightly against mine. As I type, Tina sits on my lap, often reaching to rest a paw on my hand (the one on the mouse, of course!). Pumpkin cries persistently, even raising his front legs like toddler arms when he wants to be picked up. Yet, as any cat lover knows, these animals can be stubbornly aloof — at least until mealtime.

My cats’ actions make me think about how intentional daily Bible reading is like pressing myself against God. When I see God’s presence in nature or someone’s kindness, pausing to give thanks is like reaching out to touch God’s hand. When I feel needy, I can stretch my spirit toward God’s embrace with an honest prayer. And when I make myself aloof — as, alas, I sometimes do — I can rejoice that God’s love always calls me back, to nourish me again

—Heidi Mann

From Newsletter, Newsletter.com
Used w/permission



Notes of thanks...

I would like to thank the congregation for all of the prayers, cards, calls and offers of help during my recent illness. It was quite the journey but I could truly feel the love of my church family...Bless you All! Guy Willis



The staff would like to thank the members of Aldersgate for all of the support and gifts this past year. It has been different but our church family's faith has never waived.
Pastor Lee, Cindy and Joyce

The church received a beautiful Christmas Card from Arthur Wallace. He misses everyone but has made new friends in Tennessee.

A few reminders

In light of the virus pandemic the following events have been cancelled: Ash Wednesday Service and Bunny Breakfast.

Please watch your emails for more updates regarding the Lent and Easter season.

If you still have not received your end of year statement—please contact the church office.

Offering envelopes are available upon request.



Fairlawn Pen Pal Update

Our December Christmas letters went out to the students immediately after the holiday when school resumed. The students are very excited about their Aldersgate pen pals.

In a recent conversation with the school, our next letters will be coming over the wire at the end of January and I will deliver them to you in early February —so stay tuned! A thank you to all the pen pals for your patience during this time of virtual transmissions.

God is honored in your obedience to make a difference in the life of a student!



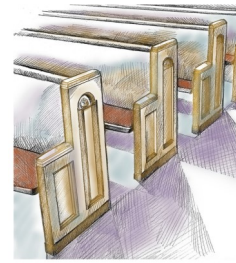
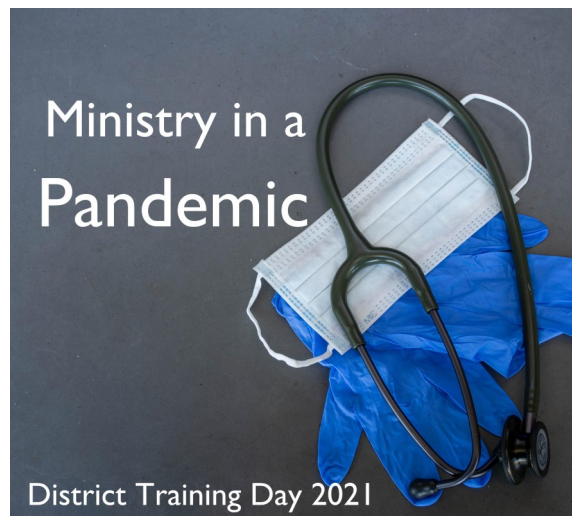
Just a reminder-registrations now open

If you are serving on a committee for the first time or have questions about a committee you are on...sign up for the Virtual District Training Day.

In partnership with the James River District, the 2021 District Training Day will focus on equipping clergy and laity for ministry during and beyond the pandemic.

Six (6) workshops will be offered live on Saturday, February 6, 2021, via Zoom. These workshops will be recorded and made available with other prerecorded webinars on Saturday, February 13, 2021.

Cost: \$10 for clergy and laity from the Elizabeth River and James River Districts; \$20 for others. The cost includes participation in any or all of the 6 live workshops and access to the 10+ on-demand webinars. Check out the District website for a full listing of workshops and speakers.
<elizabethriverumc.com>



News from the Pews

Christian sympathies are expressed to the Bulman, Wiggs and O'Hara families for their loss of Gary Bulman who passed away in January.



Expressions of Sympathy are also sent out to the Vernon family. Cora (one of our Nursing home residents) passed away on January 18th. She had been a member of Aldersgate since the 1957.

We send out prayers to all of our church family members who are coping with the effects of this pandemic. Some have lost friends, sisters, brothers, moms and dads. Some have been ill, some have become care givers. We offer prayers of healing, prayers of comfort and prayers of hope.

If you have a prayer request (no matter how small) please let the church office know. There is immense power in group prayer.





2/7 Beverly Cooper
2/19 Michele Floyd

2/20 Courtney Dziagwa
2/28 Taylor Moore



2/15 Neal and Marguerite Windley

Remember in Prayer

Sentara Village, Rosemont —Shirley Henley

Our members who have moved out of the area

Those who have lost loved ones to this virus
Those who are ill

Our community, our church and any other
silent requests others may have.

If you know of any others in the congregation who are in need of prayer, please let the church office know.



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR
March EDITION
Monday, February 15th**

You do not have to wait until the deadline to submit articles. Articles may be emailed or left at the office at anytime.



Ushers

Kevin Floyd, Melissa Floyd

Counters

2/7 Kevin Floyd, Linda Crabtree
2/14 Greg Dziagwa, Sub
2/21 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch
2/28 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson



New schedule for 2021 is available in the counters office.
Pick up your copy today. Gary Albertson, Chair of Finance

Lawn Maintenance



2/8 Team 3
2/15 Team 1
2/22 Team 2
3/1 Team 3

Calendar Highlights

Monday 2/1, 8, 15, 22

Toddler time 4-4:30 PM

2/7, 14, 21, 28 Worship Team—10 AM

2/14—Special Worship Service with
guest speaker

2/15—church office closed

2/17—due to virus—NO Ash Wednesday Service

