



Aldersgate United Methodist Church
5767 Sellger Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23502



The Aldersgate Experience

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

AUGUST, 2017

Vol. 20 Issue 8

Life's A Beach

enjoy the waves



The Unexpected Adventure

I was watching a movie called “*The Hobbit: The Unexpected Journey*”. It begins with a wizard named Gandalf, who travels to the Shire to invite Bilbo Baggins to an adventure. But Bilbo was not at all interested. He liked life in the Shire. It was safe, simple, and comfortable. “*No adventures here.*” So Gandalf persisted by challenging Bilbo’s heart. He knew deep down that Bilbo had a desire for something beyond a safe life, and longed for an adventurous one. The next day, Bilbo changed his mind and joined Gandalf on this unexpected journey.

I believe deep down, each of us have a desire for something more than a simple and safe life. We may get comfortable with it. We may enjoy it for a while. But deep down, I believe we long for adventure. We just need someone to come along and invite us out of the Shire, and into that adventure. Jesus did that! He came into our Shire to send us out to make disciples. Listen again to Jesus as he says, “Follow me.” It’s an invitation to leave the comfort of what is safe, to join him on an adventure. What say you? Are you willing to go?

Pray and discern specifically what that looks like for you now. But don’t take too long. Jesus is on the move in Hampton Roads. Join him for an adventure. You will never be the same.

In His Grip,

Pastor Lee



But what about *here*?

At age 4, Anna was starting to make sense of prayer. Her parents had been praying with her since birth, but now her developing cognitive and language skills caused her to really ponder what prayer meant for *her*.

One night, after tucking her into bed and leaving the room, Anna’s dad heard her voice. He paused outside the door to see if she needed something. But she was speaking to her *heavenly* Father: “Dear God,” Anna prayed, “when is the best time for me to talk to you? I mean, Mama and Daddy say I can pray anytime, and I know you’re always listening. But when will you be listening *especially* hard in Minneapolis?”

—Adapted from *The Children’s God*, David Heller

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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





Happy Feet

This summer, put your best foot forward by brightening up a pair of flip-flops.

What you need:

- Flip-flops in your size
- Metallic permanent markers
- Foam stickers
- Craft gemstones
- Plastic flowers
- Ribbon
- Hot glue gun (and adult help)

What you do:

Use these ideas to decorate clean, dry flip-flops:

- Draw with markers on the soles.
- Decorate the sides and soles with stickers.
- Glue gemstones along the strap.
- Glue plastic flowers on the strap between your toes.
- Wrap ribbon around the strap and glue in place.

PUZZLE

BE HAPPY IN THE LORD

Happiness and joy are frequent themes in the Old Testament book of Psalms.

Directions: Solve the crossword using the clues below. Then fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse.

ACROSS

3. A word for happy (rhymes with had)
4. What you do when you're very happy
5. A song written by David
7. Full of joy

DOWN

1. People who obey God
2. Our Creator
6. The month after April

"But may the 1. _____ be 3. _____ and 4. _____ before 2. _____; 6. _____ they be happy and 7. _____." 5. _____ 68:3, NIV

Answers: (across) 3. glad, 4. rejoice, 5. psalm, 7. joyful; (down) 1. righteous, 2. God, 6. May

"But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful." Psalm 68:3, NIV

Movie Listing for August Military Circle Cinema - 10 AM

8/1, 8/3 The Angry Birds Movie
8/8, 8/10 Sing
8/15, 8/17 The Secret Life of Pets
8/22, 8/24 The LEGO Batman Movie



Sun. August 06—
Discovering Your Superpowers
Sun. August 13—
Defining Your Territory

Put on a **CAPE**
and join us!

Budget Requests for 2017-2018

All budget requests should be submitted to the Finance Committee **NO LATER** than 8/13.

See Gary Albertson or Kathy Dziagwa if you have any questions

thanks

BUDGET



In this issue

- *New Sermon Series in August
- *Highlights from "Rise Against Hunger"
- *New Small Group beginning in September
- *A Summer Cruise - information
- *Music Ministry Updates



Rise Against Hunger held on July 15th was a BLAST!

We had 43 individuals - our church family, friends and new folks too!
A thank you to ALL the participants of this new Outreach for Aldersgate...what an amazing group of folks.

The Upfront Team gets a special THANK YOU for all the extra help setting up early at 7:30.

We packaged 10,000 meals for families in the foreign land. That location will be announced when delivered.

July 15th made a difference in the lives of the people we fed and the lives of those who participated and gave up their time and energy to make the event a success! Our church family is truly blessed!

A picture display is viewable on the bulletin board in the social hall!



My Heart Small Group Update

The My Heart Small Group finished the study by Bill Hybels, *"Character, Who You Are When No One is Looking."* It taught us about endurance, compassion, self-sacrifice and other characteristics for the growing Christian.

This small group meets on Thursdays, at 7:00 pm. We do outreach work in the community, study the Bible, laugh, and have wonderful times of celebration and good food at the end of each series.

We are making decisions on the next study which will be begin in September 7th in the social hall.

Won't you consider joining us! We guarantee you will grow spiritually and experience new friendships too.

Contact: Cindy Crosby
(757) 461-3201.





How to Structure Your Church for Evangelism

Featuring: Jacob Armstrong

Thursday, October 19, 2017

9:00-3:00PM*

*Please plan to arrive by 8:30 AM for Registration, the event will begin promptly at 9

Francis Asbury UMC

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Everyone who has a heart and desire for reaching people who feel disconnected to God. Bring a team from your church who want to learn about and participate in adaptive change.

CEU: .5 Lunch Provided

Event Cost: \$35.00 per person
- Registration Deadline 10/6
Early Bird: \$25.00 pp -
must register by: 9/14
To register visit: vaumc.org/5talent

Jacob is the founding pastor of Providence Church, a 8 year old United Methodist church plant in Mt. Juliet, TN., reaching 1,600 people each week. Providence's vision is to see those who are disconnected from God and the church to find hope, healing and wholeness in Jesus Christ. Jacob's passion in ministry is what he likes to call "Worship Without Walls", which is taking God's love beyond the walls of a building to places of need in the community and world. Jacob is the author of *The New Adaptors: Shaping Ideas to Fit Your Congregation* and *Renovate: Building Your Life With God*

Worship Corner



Cynthia Stanley

Cynthia has been singing with the choir since 1985 with a few breaks in between—WOW! Lets hear what she has to say about worship.

Music for me, is just one way to praise and worship God. It's a way to express my love for God, my joy and sometimes, my sorrow. I believe singing puts a smile on God's face!

I really enjoy the praise music we're singing; some are familiar songs and some are new. Many have catchy tunes and are easy to learn. It warms my heart to hear someone humming one as they leave the worship service!

Thank you Cynthia for sharing your lovely soprano voice!

Aldersgate Worship Choir

Special music for "summer break" Sundays include Vic Supper with *Humble and Kind*, Gary Albertson with *Be Still* by Stephen Curtis Chapman, Jai-Marie is to feature another great Psongs and Psalms music DVD song in August, and a special treat from the "ladies" with an acapella favorite tune, *In the Garden*.



We are seeking musicians—if you play an instrument or played an instrument in high school or college it would be great for you to come check out the team to see if you would like to join! Think about it over the summer and stop by in September!

Contact: Cindy, (757) 461-3201.



Circle of Friends Sunday School Class

will be starting a new study titled

Becoming A Contagious Christian by Bill Hybels.

Learn how you can experience life's greatest thrill--leading someone to Christ. This book presents a blueprint for starting a spiritual epidemic of hope and enthusiasm for spreading the Gospel. Bring a friend! Starting promptly at 9:30 AM Sunday July 30th in the library/lounge.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

8/10 Randy Thrasher
8/17 Guy Willis
8/21 Neal Windley



We have no Anniversaries listed for the month of August. If your wedding anniversary is during August please drop a note to the church office.

Remember in Prayer

Home: Jane Jones, Shirley Briggs,
Magdalene Smith, Sherrie Harden

The Gardens of Va. Beach—Milton Midgette
Sentara Village S.—Shirley Henley
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 Tuesday, August 15th

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

Melissa Floyd and Debbie Supper

Counters



8/6 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch
8/13 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson
8/20 Neal Windley, Michele Floyd
8/27 Kevin Floyd, Randy Thrasher

Lawn Care Schedule



Lawn Maintenance

8/7 Team 1
8/14 Team 2
8/21 Team 2
8/28 Team 1

A big thank you to all the Aldersgate lawn team members and helpers! It has been a very hot and humid month and all your hard work is appreciated to make our church grounds look so nice. Thank you all for sharing God's love! Blessings, Michele

Notes: Calendar Highlights

New Sermon Series - Heroes
Sunday, August 6 and 13

PPR Meeting 6:30 PM August 7
Trustees Meeting 7:30 PM

Nominations Committee Meeting August 13 3 PM
ALL BUDGET REQUESTS DUE

Finance Committee Meeting August 14 7 PM

Worship Choir Rehearsals resume August 16 6:30 PM

Pastor on Vacation August 21-28



Sunset Sailing Cruise (Sat.) Sept. 2nd at 6 pm

Join us for a sunset sailing cruise on the American Rover, a Three-Masted Top Sail Schooner. It will be a 2-hour cruise on the smooth waters of the Elizabeth River from the Waterside Marina to ODU and back. Both fun and romantic, the sunset cruise is the perfect way to spend an evening. After the captain does a short tour of some of the sights in the harbor entertainment will be provided by our Ship's Musician. There ample seating, rest rooms, a shaded top deck and climate controlled below-deck lounges.

Cost: \$28 Adults / Seniors \$27 / Children \$18

To Register: You must register online at www.americanrover.com. At the right side of the website, click on *Get Tickets*, click to the September calendar, and click on the Sunset Cruise on Sept. 2nd. There are limited spaces, so book early. Invite a friend...or 10.

It will be a fun time together. There is parking at the Waterside Parking Garage. Plan to arrive 30 minutes before cruise time.



For questions, see Pastor Lee.

“Engage Life” Gathering

If you want to:

- * Examine the Bible more closely
- * Experience deeper friendships
- * Exercise a stronger positive influence
- * Explore spiritual challenges



...then check out *“Engage Life”*

It's a NEW small group that begins on Wednesday, Sept. 13th. We will meet at the Pastor's home from 7:00-8:45 pm. Come and see what it's all about at our first gathering. It's an opportunity to experience, listen, and ask questions, so you can decide if this is for you.

Contact Pastor Lee if you plan to come to the first gathering. You can email him at leecrosby@vaumc.org or call 466-8999, or fill out a Connection Card in the worship service bulletin.

Come and see how you can *Engage Life* together!



News from the Pews

Please update your directory

Last month the congregation bid a “see ya later” to Chas and Lucille Hulock.

Chas and Lucille have moved to North Carolina to be closer to family. Have no fear, before they left Lucille called and gave us their new address:

Chas and Lucille Hulock
354 N. Beston Road
La Grange, NC 28551



Lucille's email will remain the same
<lucillehul@gmail.com>

Have you checked out the congregation lately?

If the information coming into the office is any indication we have had several visitors in recent months. Take a moment to take extra special notice, greet them and invite them to one of our events.