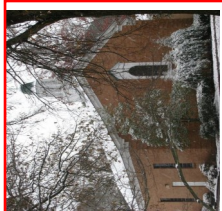




Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
5767 Sellger Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23502

FEBRUARY



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

5767 Sellger Drive Norfolk, Virginia 23502

Phone: 757-466-8999 Fax: 757-466-8999

Parsonage: 757-962-1982 Pastor's Cell: 757-506-8298

The Aldersgate Experience

e-mail: joyce@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcxmail.com

web page: www.aldersgatenorfolk.org

Church Photo Album: www.picasaweb.google.com/mmcmdz

Check out our Facebook Page

Newsletter

Vol. 19 Issue 2

FEBRUARY, 2016

Inside

Message from the Pastor

Updates on Missions

District News

New Lenten Bible Study

Ash Wednesday Service

Winton Class Annual
Valentine Dinner

Directory Updates

Thank you notes and much
more!

**Happy
Valentine's
Day**



soft drinks
chocolate procrastination
tardiness credit cards
junk food shopping
MySpace
TV sweets
movies
caffeine candy
red meat ice cream
twitter Internet
smoking Facebook
fast food coffee
parties swearing

**What
Are You Giving
Up?**



Dear Folks,

Lent and Easter are early this year. February 10th is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of Lent. We will have a worship service that evening at 7 PM.

I invite you to observe a Holy Lent by adopting one of Wesley's Means of Grace to practice more intentionally. Private prayer, Study of Scripture and fasting are possibilities.

Fasting is appropriate for Lent. However, for some people missing a meal or two is harmful. Maybe you could give up T.V., computer games or social media and spend the time in prayer.

Scripture study and reading are always appropriate. For instance you could pick a single book (Isaiah or Gospel of John) and read it through Lent. Ask questions about what you read and let the scripture question you. What does God want? How would my life change if I did what the Scripture suggests? You get the idea,,

Finally different types of prayer practices might be helpful, like, "Breath Prayer", Praying with the Bible, or centering prayers. If any of these appeal to you please ask me to teach you what you need to know.

There is a sense in which we are to reveal ourselves to God by choice, not by his omniscience. God seeks to have you as a partner, a child, a co-creator with Him. If you freely choose to share with God your most precious parts of your life He will honor your needs, whether it be mercy, encouragement, strength, assurance or direction (to name just a few).

I invite you to observe a Holy Lent and grow in your faith



Pastor Tony

Our Servant-King

Jesus began his ministry by being hungry,
yet he is the Bread of Life.

Jesus ended his earthly ministry by being thirsty,
yet he is the Living Water.

Jesus was weary,
yet he is our rest.

Jesus paid tribute,
yet he is the King.

Jesus was accused of having a demon,
yet he cast out demons.

Jesus wept,
yet he wipes away our tears.

Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver,
yet he redeemed the world.

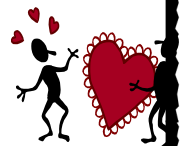
Jesus was brought as a lamb to the slaughter,
yet he is the Good Shepherd.

Jesus died,
yet by his death he destroyed the power of death.
—Gregory of Nazianzus (fourth-century church father)



Pastor.....Rev. Walton "Tony" Forstall
Lay Leader.....Beverly Cooper
Choir Director.....Peggy Muse
Organist.....Nancy Redburn
Youth Director.....Guy Willis
Secretary.....Joyce Russo

Office Hours.....8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Sunday School.....9:30 AM
Worship Service...11 AM
Sanctuary Choir - Wednesdays.....6:30 PM



News from around the District



Lay Servant Academy in Blackstone is registering now -
Classes are filling up and discount ends Jan. 30th. February 26-28
Save \$20 by registering by Feb.1st.

Update on classes:

Leading Prayer – limited space available

Preaching – limited space available

Spirituality and the Arts – limited space available

Music in Worship and Ministry – space available (class fill requirement for lay speaker)

Leadership Development – space available

Basic in English – space available

Basic in Spanish – space available

Polity in Spanish – space available

Leading, Caring, and Growing in Faith in the Second Half of Life – space available

Polity- space available

Discipleship Pathways series of mini courses- space available

Closed Classes: Evangelism, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Disciplines, Vital Congregations



Radical Hospitality

It's more than just a greeting...It's a way of Christian living through relationships.

What does radical hospitality look like?

*With your community?

*In your building and on your grounds?

*As the guest walks through your doors?

*As you follow-up and assimilate?

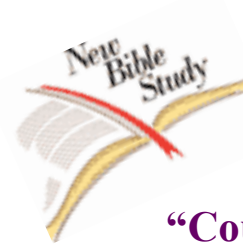
Trainings will be held at St. Andrews in Va. Beach and Centenary in Portsmouth several times this year. All classes are 9 am - 1 PM

St. Andrews - January 30; April 30; July 16; and October 15

Centenary - Feb. 6; April 23; July 23; October 22

Brochures are available from the church office upon request.

It is Easter Egg time again. Homemade Easter Eggs will be available from Heritage UMC. Sales begin 2/1/16 through 3/16/16. Contact church office for order forms.

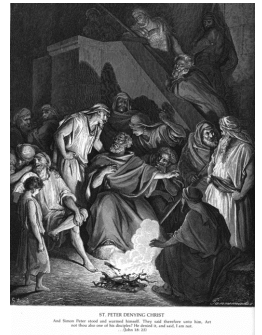


Lenten Bible Study

Join us Sunday afternoons for a Bible Study titled

“Courage, Failure, and New Hope”

As we examine Peter’s relationship with Jesus we will recount the journey of faith each of us travels during Lent.



We will meet at 4:00 pm beginning Sunday, Feb 14th through Sunday, Mar. 20th

We will meet in the Church Library.

Come and join us for this enlightening journey.



SHROVE TUESDAY

**Pancakes and all the fixin’s
February 9th 5-7 PM
St. Peter’s Episcopal Church**

**Cost: \$7.00 for Adults
\$4.00 for children 4-10
Free for children under 4**

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, February 10th

7 PM





Directory Updates

We have found her!

For those church members who have been wondering where **Betty Reid** has gone - we have the answer

Mary "Betty" Reid is now residing in Pacifica Nursing Facility on 5417 Wesleyan Drive, Virginia Beach. Stop by and visit.

News from the Pews

New Email Address - **Phyllis Day** <rday24@cox.net>

Dear Congregation,

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift. It is with pleasure that I continue to serve Aldersgate as your Choir Director.

Peggy Muse



Dear Aldersgate Family,

Thank you so much for all of the Christmas cards and gifts. May God Bless all of you.

Joyce Russo

Dear Aldersgate Friends,

It seems we hardly "blinked our eyes" before it was 2016. Happy New Year and may the year bring you joy and peace.

The Santa Sacks were ready and delivered to crews of the ships entering our ports in December. Thanks to your contribution of beautiful knitted wear, which helped to fill a Christmas gift for a seafarer, and share the holiday spirit with someone far from home and family. Our thanks to **Lucinda Williams** for bringing them!



One of the ships has been in port for a long length of time, without visas for the crew, so imagine a lot of smiles and happy hearts from sharing your love and generosity to them.

Sylvia Butler, President
Norfolk Seamen's Friend Society

February 14th is Valentine's Day.

Drop a card to one of our shut-ins, ill, moved members or someone you haven't seen at worship for a while.



It will definitely brighten their day to know you are thinking about them.



FRIENDSHIP CARDS

This month, don't just send valentines; be a valentine! Create these Friendship Cards to express love through kind acts for your loved ones — all month long.



What you need:

- 29 index cards
- A small box or container
- Colored pens or glitter pens
- Stickers

What you do:

1. On each card, write something nice you can do for other people. Ideas include "Give someone a hug," "Clean someone's room," "Read to someone" and so on. You can use colored pens to draw a picture.
2. Decorate the box or container. Place the cards inside.
3. Each day in February, select a card and do that nice thing for someone!

True Friendship

What makes someone a good friend?
The Bible offers lots of advice about true friendship.

Directions: Starting at the *, connect the dots clockwise and complete the words using the word bank. Then fill in Proverbs 27:9, NIV.

WORD BANK:
heart prings ir verbs vice ness end

27:9, NIV

pleasant

• PRO

* The

• of

• ad

• a

felt

• Fri

the

• s

from

27:9, NIV

Answers: The pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice. Proverbs 27:9, NIV



Important notice from the church office

In order to use up some accrued vacation time the church office will be closed on Friday mornings during the month of February. This will begin Friday, 2/5.

Should an emergency arise the Pastor is always available by cell phone (506-8298).

I hope this is not an inconvenience for anyone.

Thanks

Joyce



**The Pastor
Will Be Away**

The Pastor will be gone the first week of February. In the event of an emergency he will be available by cell phone (506-8298) or you can call the church office



Did you know we have little church mice here at Aldersgate??

They come and go without anyone knowing!

Seriously we would like to thank the lawn maintenance teams who not only keep the lawns looking great in the Spring and Summer but who also rake leaves, shovel snow and salt the parking lot and sidewalks.

The mice are busy cleaning the rest rooms, taking out trash and vacuuming.

If you happen to see one of these folks on Sunday mornings - tell them thanks and how much they are appreciated.



Updates on Christmas Missions

Toys for tots

A special thank you to all for contributing to the toys for tots, because of your contributions we were able to donate 100 toys and stuffed animals. You can all feel very proud that you played a part in making Christmas special for the children. Thank you again for your generous contribution.

Post office

Thank you for participating in the Aldersgate Post Office. You helped us raise \$195.40.

This will be used to purchase items for the blessing bags. Thank you for helping to accomplish two good projects. Sending greetings to our church family and being able to make and fill more blessing bags.

Thanks



LOCAL MISSIONS

On January 17th the Circle of Friends class spent their class times making up "Blessing Bags".

Blessing Bags are filled with toiletries, snacks, and other necessities for those who are either homeless or begging. Members take a couple with them to put in the car to give to those they might encounter around town. Introduced in November and the first batch of bags having been handed out it was time to make more! You can pick up your bags to give away from the basket in the Narthex.



Birthdays

2/5	Joe Dziagwa	2/18	Michele Floyd
2/7	Beverly Cooper	2/26	Magdalene Smith
2/9	Ed Weddle	2/28	Taylor Moore Joseph Forstall



Anniversaries



2/15	Neal & Marguerite Windley
2/23	Chas & Lucille Hulock
2/27	Phil & June Floyd

Remember in Prayer

Home: Larkin and Jane Jones; Jim Mahone; Shirley Briggs;
Earl Henley, Ski and Beth Watzlavick, Richard and Joyce
Thompson

The Ballentine—Ed Weddle
Gardens of Va. Beach—Milton Midgette
Chesapeake Place—Beulah Eatmon
Hermitage Eastern Shore—Bob Bloxom
Sentara Village S.—Shirley Henley
Clair Bridge of Va. Bch.—Charles Williams, Nel Lyon
Mila Home Care--Jackie Wilkinson
Pacifica Nursing Facility--Betty Reid

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



Altar Flowers

2/7	Communion - NO FLOWERS
2/14	Dewey & Millie Hanson
2/21	Kathleen O'Hara
2/28	Milton Midgette



Ushers

Kevin Floyd, Vernon Williams

Counters

2/7	Debbie Supper, Vernon Williams
2/14	Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson
2/21	Neal Windley, Michelle Floyd
2/28	Kevin Floyd, Randy Thrasher



Lawn Maintenance

2/1	Team 2
2/8	Team 3
2/15	Team 1
2/22	Team 2
2/29	Team 3

Scripture Readings for February

2/7	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Luke 9:28-36
2/14	Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13
2/21	Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35
2/28	1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

**February 15th
Noon**



Reconnecting with Our Face Book Page.

After having attended a social media class at the annual district training session this weekend, I plan to stand-up our Facebook page again and utilize this as another tool to “get the word out” about activities and need to know news and events at our church.

While email, the newsletter and website are good tools, they are only “one way” communications and do not allow church members to engage in any conversation with one another or exchange comments and conversation in real time.

Email, the newsletter and the church website are not going away but rather these means of communication will be augmented by Facebook. This allows anyone who wants to get involved in any events to engage in conversation with other members that may be interested and hopefully generate further interest and perhaps participation in functions at the church. The added benefit is that now anyone can get the word out about events without having to rely solely on the website administrator and church secretary.

We have many members in our church of all ages that use Facebook and this is just one more way of getting the word out and generating renewed interest in Aldersgate.

So feel free to go online, get engaged, help revive our Facebook page and possibly generate a renewed interest in church news and activities.

Greg Dziagwa
Web Administrator



Winton Sunday School Class'

Annual Valentine Banquet

Saturday February 13th at 6 PM,
in the church social hall.

The cost is \$10.00 per person.

Join us for a night of food, fun and fellowship

Please see Barbara Hogwood if you are interested, all
reservations and monies need to be turned in by
Sunday, February 7th.



Bunny Breakfast

It is hard to believe but it's time to start getting ready for Easter. With that in mind we need to start thinking about the annual Bunny Breakfast, which will be on March 19th at 9:00AM.

We will need volunteers to help with this event. We will also need wrapped candy and small toys for the bags, if you would like you may make a monetary contribution. .
Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks Barbara Harrell

