



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



OCTOBER



October, 2023 Vol. 26 Issue 10

A Reminder...



*Join Us for Worship –
Our Doors are open*



A Message from the Pasto

October already? Trunk-or-Treat is just around the corner. Along with Thanksgiving and Advent season and then the BIG one, Christmas! Time really flies. So much to prepare for it can be mind boggling. We're fast approaching the time of year when everything and everyone seems to be rushed to get things done before the next event. Let us take a minute before we get caught up in activities and think about OUTREACH. October is a great time to start focusing on Outreach and the key to outreach is building relationships. We build relationships by simply being good neighbors.

Trunk-or-Treat gives us an opportunity to connect with our community and can be a great time to hand out children's books focused on Jesus and something in that order for the parents as well. Thanksgiving would be a great time to have a Thursday dinner with all the trimmings with some sort of special program that gets everyone thinking about being thankful for Jesus. Advent gives us three weeks to bring to the community through special events, again perhaps during the Thursday dinners, to get people thinking about the reality, not just a children's story, of the birth of Jesus. And then there is Christmas Day, the one day that is truly about the Savior's birth but has been so commercialized in our culture that Jesus has been almost all but forgotten. We can get the people that have to work that day—EMS crews, law enforcement, fire fighters, military on duty—thinking about Jesus' birth by providing a little Christmas cheer of food and drink in Jesus' name. What are some ways you thought of to reach OUT to your neighbors, friends, and family?

October already! Great things truly are just around the corner!

Blessings,

Pastor Melody A. Duncan



Neighborhood Widows Bible Study....

meets each Thursday am at 10:00 in the home of Joyce Thompson. Please contact Joyce for more information



Our 11 AM Kids Zone is in session! Bible lessons, arts, crafts

The Aldersgate Experience

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
"Making Disciples of Jesus Christ"

5767 Sellger Drive, Norfolk, Virginia 23502
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"Like" us on Facebook

Bishop.....Rev. Susan Hauptert-Johnson
District Superintendent...Rev. Cecelia Brooks, Ph.D.
Pastor..... Rev. Melody Duncan
Minister of Music..... Dr. Christina Pinkston
Church Secretary..... Joyce Russo

Office Hours.....9 AM--1PM—Monday-Thursday

Cozy Café—Sundays 10:30 AM
Worship Service/Kid Zone...11 AM
Music Rehearsals— 6 PM Wednesdays

Some clipart and quotes used with permission only



MISSIONARY- MINDED PRAYER

An important part of missions is prayerfully supporting the church. Use this activity to guide your family's prayer time.



What you need:

- Plastic bag (large zippered)
- Permanent marker
- Bandage
- Toy plane
- Heart-shaped drawing or toy
- Spoon
- Coin
- Hot-sauce packet



What you do:

1. Label the bag with details about the missionaries you'll be praying for (names, location, specific needs).
2. Add small prayer-prompt objects to guide your prayer time (bandage = health, plane = travel, heart = relationships, spoon = cultural connection, coin = finances, hot sauce = boldness).
3. Include other objects that will prompt prayer for missionaries' specific needs.
4. Place the bag where it will remind your family to pray regularly.



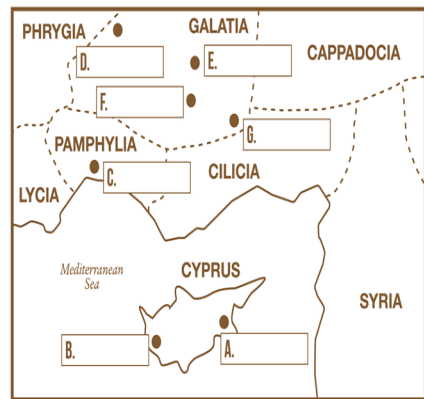
PUZZLE CITY SEARCH

God used Paul to spread the Gospel to many cities during his first missionary journey. Can you find them all?

Directions: From the fragments, guess each city and locate it on the map. Use the Bible references to help.



- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. SALAMIS (ACTS 13:5) | E. ICONIUM (ACTS 13:51) |
| B. PAPHOS (ACTS 13:6) | F. LYSTRA (ACTS 14:6) |
| C. PERGA (ACTS 13:13) | G. DERBE (ACTS 14:6) |
| D. ANTIOCH (ACTS 13:14) | |



Answers: Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe



Tuesday, October 31st
6-8 PM

Decorate your car,
wear your favorite costume
and
bring your favorite goodies to give
to the neighborhood children.
A great time for all!



Pastor's Message

Trunk or Treat Date set

All Saints' Day Presentation
Information

District News Updates

Community Picnic information

Lay ministry schedule

News from the Pews,
Sunday School news and much more

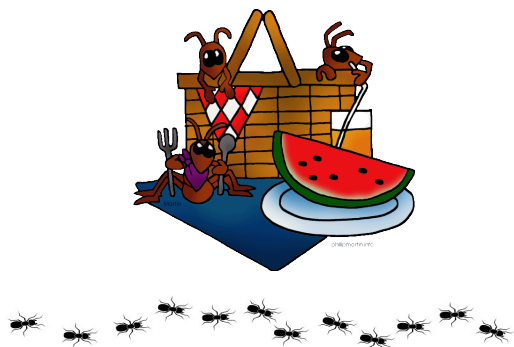


RFS/WM/EP Civic League Annual Community Picnic

Saturday, October 14th –

11 AM

at the Riverside Baptist Church Pavilion.



Rehearsals dates for
October

Wednesdays 6 PM
10/4; 10/11; 10/18; 10/25
All voices welcome

LAITY SERVICE is Sunday, October 15. You are invited to join the choir in the choir loft to sing hymns during the worship service.

Come one, come all! Let's have a GOOD TIME giving God praise through song!!!

"Music is God's gift to man, the only art of Heaven given to earth, the only art of earth we take to Heaven."



All Saints Sunday 2022



All Saint's Sunday this year will be observed during the worship service on Sunday, November 5.

The presentation will be the same as last year's in that all candles will be pre-lit prior to the start of the service

Additionally, all photographs utilized from previous years presentations will be used again unless you desire to change that photograph out. Any new photographs may either be sent to me or Joyce in the office. Submission photo deadline is Sunday 22 Oct. While electronic photos are preferred, hard copies are acceptable.

Greg Dziagwa

Cozy Café in now open!

Come "gather" each Sunday am at 10:30 for a little conversation and a cup of your favorite beverage.

Thanks to Claudia Ganaden and Norma Tipora for being our hosts.

Feel free to bring your favorite goodie to share.





Annual Charge Conference Date Set!

This year our Charge Conference will be held on Saturday, November 18th at Oak Grove United Methodist Church.

This year Charge Conference will be held in conjunction with the District Charge Conference and District Workshops. Time in 9:30 am –2:30 PM. Watch your emails for more details. Reports need to be at D.O by 11/8.

The district is in the process of hiring a new secretary. Contact information is:

Phone: (757) 473-1592

Email: coastalvadistrict@vaumc.org



Financial Stats for August, 2023:

Income: \$12,882.33

Expenses: \$ 9,165.69

Difference: \$ 3,716.64

Year to Date Income/Expenses:

Income: \$ 96,104.91

Expenses: \$ 99,865.90

Difference: \$ -3,760.99

Dedicated Offerings:

Rise Against

Hunger \$ 394.49

A Message from your Treasurer:

I would like to thank everyone for their continued support in trying to help make up for the deficit for this year. Giving was up for July and August and expenses were down a little. Thank you!!

We were able to pay \$4,000 towards Rise Against Hunger thanks to everyone's generosity with a little left over to start for next year.

Please be vigilant in keeping thermostats where they should be. When you leave a meeting, please make sure you return the thermostat back to where it was when you came in and also make sure you turn out all lights as both thermostats and lighting continue to be a problem area.

Thank you!!!

Kathy Dziagwa

Come and be a part of this great ministry!

The Helping Hands Group has resumed their get-togethers and will be in the social hall on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 10 AM. You may bring a bagged lunch with you for our Fellowship time at noon.

The group has been very busy over the summer making Surgery dolls and Teddy bears for the children of CHKD and for the infants of Newborns in Need

Group of Tidewater. Lucinda Williams also knits layettes, blankets and others items for this worthwhile mission. See Lucinda if you have any questions about either CHKD or Newborns in Need.





Birthdays

10/7 Barbara Harrell
 10/17 Shawn Dziagwa
 10/19 Rev. Melody Duncan

10/19 Bob Repass
 10/24 Bob Dziagwa
 10/27 Carolyn Powers

Anniversaries

10/24 John and Brittany Floyd



Remember in Prayer

Home: Millie Hanson

Any of our church family who are at home and still not able to attend worship in-person

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

Those who have lost family or friends.

The United Methodist church international;
 Our Bishops and District Superintendents as they continue to make decisions with our safety in mind.

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



Newsletter Deadline
Sunday, October 15th
for the November 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

Bill Bunch and Steve Carter

Counters

10/1 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson
 10/8 Neal Windley, Michele Floyd
 10/15 Kevin Floyd, Diane Willis
 10/22 Greg Dziagwa, Jimmie Powers
 10/29 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch
 11/5 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson



Lawn Maintenance

10/2 Team 1
 10/9 Team 2
 10/16 Team 3
 10/23 Team 1
 10/30 Team 2

Trash—Dewey Hanson

Calendar Highlights

10/3 Eliz. Park Civic League Mtg

10/4; 11; 25 10:30 AM Prayer Group

10/5; 12; 19; 26 –5:30 PM Spaghetti Dinners

10/5; 12; 19; 26– 10 AM Bible study at J. Thompson's

10/10 RFS/WM/EP Civic League Mtg.

10/10 6 PM Vision Team Meeting

10/14 11 AM Civic League Community Picnic

10/15—10/23 Pastor on vacation

10/22 Noon—Deadline for All Saints' Day submissions

10/31 6-8 PM Trunk or Treat



NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Congratulations to **Taylor Moore** and **Cody Sandlin** on their recent Marriage. Cody and Taylor were married on Monday, Sept. 18th



A tentative date has been set for the **Baptism of Axel Tyler Floyd**. Mark your calendars you won't want to miss this very special Worship service on October 29th at 11 am.

Our **Vision Team** has been very busy scheduling some special activities for the church. Please be sure to check your emails for all of these events.

On October 15th we will observe "**Laity Sunday**" during our worship service. We will have a guest speaker "**Guy Willis III**". Come and be an active participant in this service. If you have a special hymn request you would like to sing please let Dr. Christina know or contact the church office. The deadline for these requests is **Sunday, October 8th**



A special thank you to all of our church volunteers who have taken such good care of our lawn and flower beds this past summer. Your dedication has not gone unnoticed.

We also recognize those little "church mice" who have taken care of the inside of our church building. Whether it be cleaning the restrooms; vacuuming the floors or just emptying the trash and seeing that the buckets get out to the curb and back. You all are a blessing!

New Prayer Group to begin 9/27 at 10:30 AM.

Note: The Pastor will be on vacation the week of 10/15—10/23.

Enjoy the fall weather—(as cool as it can be in Hampton Roads).

See You in Church

Feeling Disconnected

Have you ever been somewhere or been with some friends and suddenly feel that you don't belong.



With all of the recent changes in our society of late, I am beginning to feel that way a lot. I am not sure if it is because I am getting older and may not like change or my outlook is getting a little more scathed.

The one place I have always felt I belong is in the church. Over the years it has become my safe place and a place of peace from all of the hustle and bustle of the world.

Lately I have become a little disturbed that on Sunday mornings the congregants of my church stay out in the Narthex until the very last church bell has rung, run into the sanctuary with no sense of reverence for what is coming. Have our churches become an entertainment venue instead of God's place? Or is it just me??

Have you ever thought that way? I can truly understand why some older members have found it better to stay home and watch the service on the web. It is a little hard to become "worship minded" with all of the distractions of laughing, loud talk and carrying on of some.

Fellowship is great but I need at least five minutes before the service to sit quietly and reflect on what the hymns are and what the Pastor may want to say during their message. I was asked this question.. "Is there some way we can create an environment for friendly fellowship AND quiet reverence to prepare for corporate worship?"

God doesn't ask for much-except our faithfulness, time, and respect. Maybe we can throw in a little reverence and awe on Sunday mornings as a bonus.

Just saying!

jr