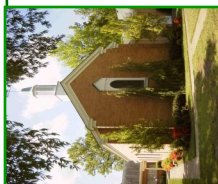




Aldersgate United Methodist Church
5767 Sellger Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23502



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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.hrcoxmail.com

web page: www.aldersgatenorfolk.org

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

Check us out on Facebook

Newsletter

Vol. 19 Issue 3

MARCH, 2016

**Message from the
Pastor**

**Ham & Cabbage
Dinner**

**Reservations for
our Annual
Bunny Breakfast
and
Egg Hunt**

Mission Updates

**Directory and
Members info.**

Easter Sunday Service **March 27th at 11 AM**



The Promise of Easter

Come, Learn About this Promise!



Dear Folks,

During Lent we take the time to examine, explore and renew our faith in Jesus Christ. But what is this faith exactly? There are many ways to answer that question, but we will let John Wesley be our informant today.

Wesley noted that there were “degrees” of faith held by people.

One (maybe the simplest and easiest to understand) was faith as knowledge and acceptance of the fact of Jesus and all that salvation entails. It would include the basics of knowing and accepting the Apostles Creed and the 10 Commandments. All of us should have such a faith, but we don’t stop there.

The second degree of faith Wesley named was Trust and Obedience. This is the faith that acts, that obeys, but perhaps out of a sense of duty. This would be the faith of a servant. This degree of faith is also necessary.

But in the end our goal is to have the faith that grows in God’s assurance of his love and our salvation. This is called the Faith of a Child. This is the faith of love. A mutual love between believers and God. It is that intimate personal relationship with God that ends in us being filled with the love of God that overflows into our encounters and efforts of others.

Where do you think you are in this scale? For me it depends, but most of the time I am caught between the degree of faith of the servant and of the child. Perhaps you are there too. What should we do to move from one to the other? We really can’t move ourselves, but we can still the voice that pushes us to achieve and instead listen for the voice of God that assures us we are loved, accepted and a part of God’s family. May we each hear that voice this Lent.

Blessings,
Pastor Tony



A churchless Christian

(the next time someone asks you “Why do you go to Church if you are already a Christian/”

In response to the question “Can I be a Christian without joining the church?” someone once said it’s as possible as being:

A student who will not go to school.
A soldier who will not join an army.
A citizen who does not pay taxes or vote.
A salesman with no customers.
An explorer with no base camp.
A seaman on a ship without a crew.
A businessman on a deserted island.
An author without readers.
A tuba player without an orchestra.
A parent without a family.
A football player without a team.
A politician who is a hermit.
A scientist who does not share his findings.
A bee without a hive.

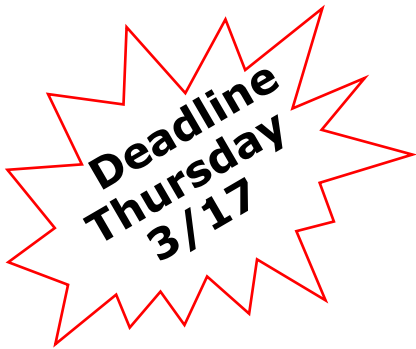
—Author unknown



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





**ANNUAL BUNNY
BREAKFAST
AND
EASTER EGG HUNT**

**Saturday, March 19th
9:00 AM**

All are invited—friends, relatives, neighbors

Infants—5th Grade -

Donations of wrapped candies, small toys, and cash appreciated.



Please fill out and return


I/We plan to attend the Bunny Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 19th

Deadline for reservations - Thursday, March 17th

Name _____

Adults _____

Children _____ Ages of Children _____
(children ages infants– 5th grade)



**Maundy Thursday
Service**

March 24th

7 PM

**Aldersgate's
Sanctuary Choir will present**

**Sunday, March 20th
11 AM Worship Service**



Don't forget to
turn your clocks ahead
on Saturday
evening, March 12th
before going to bed.



Missions Updates-- "Reaching Out to the Community"



On 2/3/16 3 youth and 4 adults from AUMC fed 24 children (and 10 helpers) from Cooke Elementary. What a joy it is to see the smiling faces of these children who have gone through such trying times in their short lifetime! If you'd like to help we'd love to have you attend with us or provide supplies such as: lemonade mix, packaged snacks to take with them, ranch dressing, packages of cut fruit, chocolate milk. Contact me if you have any questions.

What GREAT support you've given to our newest project, the Blessing Bags! We've made 75 bags to date and Sunday there were only 4 still in the basket! WOW!! We've heard nothing but POSITIVE comments and stories of passing these out to people asking for help. So we'll be putting more bags together soon! We may never know how the items in these bags are making a difference to someone but we pray God will bless them, bless all who receive them and all who have contributed to making this project successful!

An excerpt from a letter received from the Salvation Army:

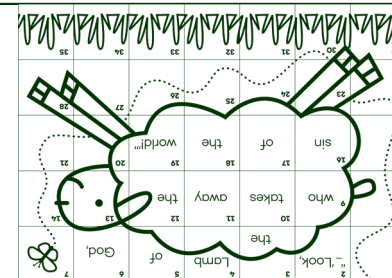
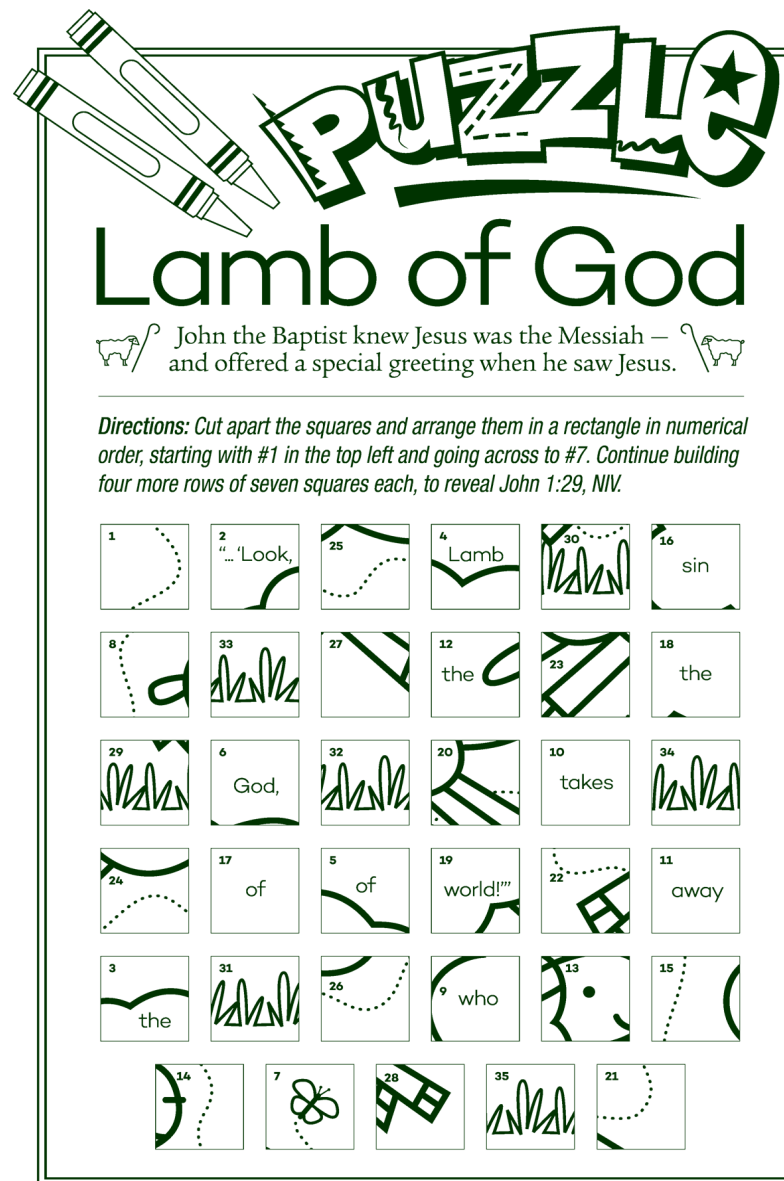
..."On behalf of those you touched this year through your generosity in adopting Christmas Stockings, we thank you.

With your partnership, we were able to distribute 5,041 filled stockings to children... In total The Christmas Depot provided 10,688 gifts in 2015 through Angel Tree, Toys for Tots...

...God bless!"

We at Aldersgate filled 40 of those stockings and donated 100 of those toys. Once again AUMC showed their amazing generosity. Thank you!

God bless!
Cynthia Stanley





The Rev. Larry Davies will be leaving his time as Superintendent of the Lynchburg District to go back to a church. Rev. Davies grew up in Aldersgate UMC, and his sister, Kathy Davies Dziagwa is still an active member of our congregation. We wish Pastor Davies, Melvina and his family blessings as he continues his journey as a Minister. Bishop Cho had this to say about Rev. Davies:

Bishop Cho offered praise for Davies and his service on the Cabinet.

"His love for both clergy and laity and his positive attitude and leadership skills have been great assets to the churches on the Lynchburg District, Cabinet and our Annual Conference," Bishop Cho said. "Additionally, he has provided exemplary leadership as chair of the steering committee for our All Things New-Equipping Vital Congregations program. May the Lord continue to bless Larry and his family as he returns to his beloved parish ministry"



Heritage UMC, Va. Beach will begin to make their homemade Easter Eggs on Saturday, Feb. 27. They have been making these eggs for over 20 years. Order forms and information is available from the church office.

Flavors: Butter Cream, Coconut, Peanut Butter and Chocolate.

Sizes: 1/2 pounders - \$7.00; 6 small assorted - \$60.0
or 16 large assorted - \$11.00.

We will be **unable to personalized any eggs** this year - sorry for the inconvenience.



Bunny Breakfast March 19th 9:00A.M.



We are still in need of volunteers for this event. If you would like to help with set up of tables, help with the children or help by contributing candy or small toys please see me. This is the one project we do as an outreach to the community.

I hope you will consider helping with this project. By giving of your time or contributions. The children of our community have such a good time looking for the eggs. So please consider volunteering I promise you will not be sorry you helped.

If you plan on attending please complete the reservation ticket and return to me or to the church office. The reservation form in on another page in this newsletter.

Thanks Barbara Harrell

New to Aldersgate? This is how the Bunny Breakfast works.

For those of you who are new to Aldersgate our Bunny Breakfast is an annual event for the children.

There is no cost to attendees but donations are always accepted (if you wish to make one) The menu is simple but has always been a big hit with everyone. We have Greg Dz's famous pancakes, sausage patties, juice, fruit and eggs.

Then the children go outside and hunt for the eggs. The children are usually grouped according to age. They fill their baskets and return to the social hall.

When they bring in their bounty of eggs they visit the Easter bunny and receive a bag of goodies in exchange for their eggs. A great time is had by all Young and Old alike. So please join us.

Thanks Barbara Harrell





Birthdays

3/12	Cynthia Stanley	3/27	Betty Reid
3/18	Kevin Floyd		Becky Repass
3/20	James Field	3/30	Marguerite Windley
3/22	Shirley Henley	3/31	George Wilson
3/25	Hazel Williams		

If we missed your wedding anniversary for March please let the church office know

Remember in Prayer

Home: Larkin and Jane Jones; Jim Mahone; Shirley Briggs; Ski and Beth Watzlavick; Richard and Joyce Thompson; Norma Richardson

The Ballentine--Ed Weddle
Gardens of Va. Beach--Milton Midgett
Chesapeake Place--Beulah Eatmon
Brookdale Facility--Charles Williams
Hermitage Eastern Shore--Bob Bloxom
Sentara Village S--Shirley Henley
Mila Home Care--Jackie Wilkinson
Pacifica Nursing Facility--Betty Reid
Lake Taylor Rehab--Billy Thrasher, Mary Ellen Gillispie

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

Altar Flowers

3/6	Communion— No Flowers
3/13	Cynthia Stanley
3/20	Mel and Ann Manuel
3/27	Easter Sunday - Circle of Friends



Ushers

Jimmie Powers, John Floyd

Counters

3/6	Greg Dziagwa, Jimmie Powers
3/13	Mel Manuel, Ben Hogwood
3/20	Debbie Supper, Vernon Williams
3/27	Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson



Lawn Maintenance



3/7	Team 1
3/14	Team 2
3/21	Team 3
3/28	Team 1

Scripture Readings for March

3/6	2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
3/13	Philippians 2:5-11; John 12:1-8
3/20	Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
3/27	1 Corinthians 15:19-26; John 20:1-8



**Newsletter Deadline will be
Tuesday, MAR. 15th**



Newsletter Deadline



News from the Pews

Directory Updates....

Nel Lyon is no longer at Clair Bridge Estates (Brookdale is the new name) on Wesleyan Drive. Her family has moved her and we currently do not have her new address.

Billy Thrasher has been moved from Lake Taylor Rehab to Georgia Manor - 651 River Walk Pkwy, Chesapeake, Va. 23320.

Mary Ellen Gillispie had knee surgery and is currently recovering at Lake Taylor Rehab Center.

Pat Sauer is in Sentara Chesapeake for some rehab. Her room number is 132. You can call her at 983-5458

We have had a loss in our church family - James (Jim) Richardson passed away on Saturday, February 20th. Please keep Norma and her sons in our prayers as they begin to deal with this loss. Jim will be missed.



Many Thanks!!!

I just want to say "Thank You" to everyone for the monetary gift from the church for Christmas and the many Christmas cards that I received. I appreciate your kindness and generosity.

Nancy Redburn

You are Invited!

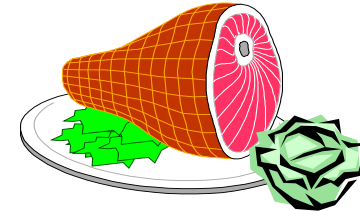
The Staff Parish Committee will be hosting a farewell for our Choir Director, **Peggy Muse**, on Easter Sunday immediately following the church service.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. We wish Peggy the best in whatever her future holds.



WINTON CLASS ANNUAL

Jimmy Wilkinson HAM AND CABBAGE DINNER



**Saturday, March 12th
5:00 - 6:30 PM**

**Donations: Adults \$9.00
Children 4-12 \$4.00
Children under 3—FREE**

Dinner includes: Jello Salad, Green Beans, Oven roasted Potatoes; Cornbread, Dinner rolls and Delicious homemade desserts.

Tickets are available from any class member
Invite your friends, neighbors and come join us to celebrate this St. Patty's Day meal.

Don't forget to wear something **green**!
See Mel Manuel if you would like to volunteer to help set-up.

