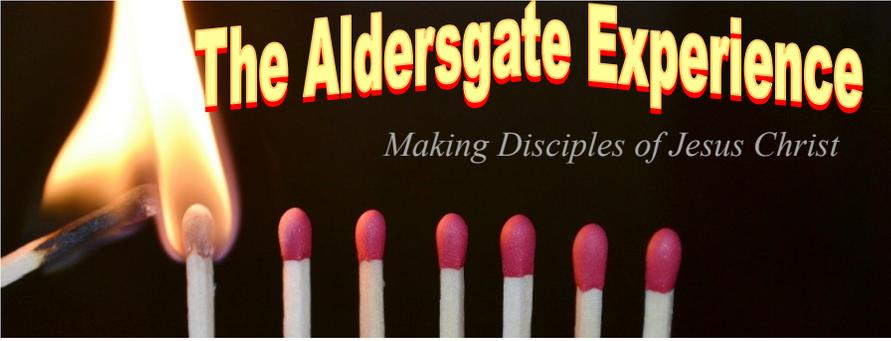


 April 2021

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



# The Aldersgate Experience

*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ*

April 2021 Vol. 24 Issue 4

*Easter Promises...*  
*an empty tomb, an open sky  
a risen Savior.*

*Easter Promises...*  
*the gift of Christ to us,  
the joy of Christ in us,  
forevermore.*

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR HIS INDESCRIBABLE GIFT! 2 CORINTHIANS 9:15 (NIV)



*“Spring Forward”*

By Pastor Lee

Springtime is the season that churches celebrate Easter. It is a wonderful time of year to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In autumn, we observe the “death” of leaves as they descend to their final resting ground. The grass withers and turns brown. Flowers wilt or go dormant. In winter, nature is much more barren. The trees have shed their clothing, exposing their spindly bare arms to cold winds. But then comes spring and we see resurrection. Grass grows, trees bud, and flowers bloom. It’s an annual event that reminds us of new life. So, it’s a perfect time to celebrate Easter.



As we celebrate Easter this year, we are once again reminded that because of Jesus, we always have something in which to look forward. We are able to endure difficult seasons because we know spring is coming. Our circumstances change like the seasons, but new life is on the horizon. That is the promise of resurrection. We trust and follow the One who stepped out of the tomb. He has risen! And therefore, so do we!

As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus this year, I want to challenge you renew your commitment to Jesus. Seasons will continue to change, but keep your eyes focused on him. He continues to remind us that spring is near, so spring forward!



# The Aldersgate Experience

Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ”

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“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  
Sunday School.....9:30 AM  
Worship Service/Kid Zone...11 AM  
Worship Team Rehearsal - Wednesdays.....6:30 PM



# SUNRISE SURPRISE

The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

### What you need:

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

### What you do:

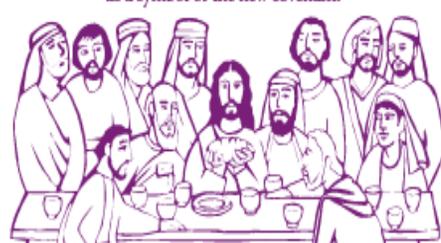
1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center – just like Jesus' empty tomb!




## PUZZLE

### Picturing the Lord's Supper

Jesus ate the Passover meal with his disciples as a symbol of the new covenant.



*Directions: Use the picture clues to fill in key words from Luke 22:19-20, NIV.*

And he took \_\_\_\_\_, gave \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my \_\_\_\_\_ given for you; do this in \_\_\_\_\_ of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This \_\_\_\_\_ is the new \_\_\_\_\_ in my blood, which is \_\_\_\_\_ out for you."

LUKE 22:19-20, NIV

Answer: bread, thanks, broke, body, remembrance, cup, covenant, poured

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Prayers of healing for Vic Supper who had back surgery in March and is recovering at home.

Chelsie Richburg—had her surgery canceled and is awaiting a reschedule time from CHKD.

Christian sympathies are extended to the Albertson and Henley families due to the passing of Shirley Henley.

New phone number for Vernon Williams-757-793-6626.

If anyone has any information about the date of Arthur Wallace's birthday—please call the church office. We have reached out to his brother but no response has been received.

Continue to check your email for updates from the Va. Conference regarding opening up fully.

Get your vaccinations when you can.

## Issue in Focus

Pastor's Easter Message

Lay Ministry for the month

Wesley Food Donation Update

News from the Pews— update on some of our church family

New Ministries coming soon

And a whole lot more!



**Do you think or Do you know....that is the question**

**Thinking about something or knowing something is totally different. We might think it is going to rain today but knowing if it actually will is different until the rain drops fall.**

**As Easter approaches we need to determine whether what we think is really what we know. As Christians we know that Jesus rose on Easter morning, we are confident in knowing this is true but as non-believers we think maybe it is true but not so sure.**

**It has never been more prevalent that what we think and what we know are two different things. The past year has shown us that the more we know about staying safe and following the guidelines the healthier we will be.**

**Our faith in what we know has never been put to the test more than this past year. Our ways of worship have had to adapt to healthy standards. We have missed important mile markers in our church services. Music, Ashes, Social times, cancellation of traditional events.**

**Easter has never been more important in reassuring us that knowing Jesus rose and the celebration of Easter brings a new promise– renewed hope for a better future.**

**I KNOW that Easter will be different for each of us and I think we can all agree that in a lot of ways it will remain the same. Remember to keep Easter in our hearts through out the rest of the year and the promise of God always with us and in us will get us through. JR**



**Just Saying Hi!!**

**It has been a year since our church closed its doors because of the Pandemic. We reopened in September but several of our church family have been missing and we just wanted you to know we miss you and hope you will be back with us soon.**

**Eric Cramer and Jo Beth Strong  
Claudia Ganaden, Lily Tipora and Norma Tipora  
Ben and Barbara Hogwood  
Grace Mahone  
Barbara Jenkins  
Deborah Knauer  
Jim and Carolyn Powers  
Paige and Mackenzie Wiggs  
Sherry Williams  
Sylvia Barbery  
Nick Albertson  
Jamie Washington and family  
All of our Kid Zone children**





### A Big Thank You!!!

Aldersgate UMC has committed to putting together 50 breakfast bags and delivering them to the Union Mission on Friday, April 2. These bags, which we are calling YUM Bags (an acronym for Your Union Mission bags), will be delivered by Union Mission staff to individuals and families currently quarantining in local hotels because they have been diagnosed with the COVID-19

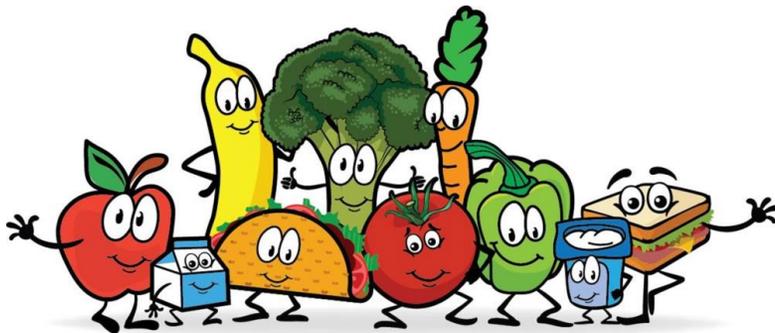
virus and/or have exposed to the virus.

Each bag costs about \$3 and we are now accepting donations. There will be a special collection plate set aside at the next service (3/28) Those who wish to write a check should make it out to Aldersgate UMC and put Union Mission on the memo line.

We have already collected donations in the amount of \$200.00 which we are very grateful for.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

Bill Bunch and Kathleen O'Hara



**In accordance with the Book of Discipline we are required to do a membership audit. The following names were read at Charge Conference for year 1. We are required to publish the names for 3 years. The following members have been inactive for some time and we have no way to contact them. If you know their whereabouts, addresses, emails, or if they have passed.. Please let the church office know.**

### Thanks

Torey Sigler  
Matthew Leverett  
Jenna Leverett  
Thomas Gabel  
Crystal Gabel  
Floyd Cross  
Henry Cross  
Kathy Kozera  
Kay Stevens  
Karen Scott  
Jerry Archer  
April Archer

Gail Bathurst  
Karen DeWald  
Joseph Moore  
Jean Moore  
Daniel Wolfe  
Veda Wolfe  
James Weddle, Jr.  
Beverly Weddle



Out of Area—Warren Briggs

### Happy Birthday to YOU...

Some in our congregation will not hear those words because our data base does not have a birth date listed for them.



Please call, email or leave a note at the church office so we can update our records. Ladies, I promise we won't tell.

Kathleen O'Hara  
Sylvia Barbery  
Bill Bunch  
Steve Carter  
Deborah Knauer  
Anna Lee Long  
Arthur Wallace  
Sherry Williams

## How do you look at your work in the church? A Job or Ministry?

Your journey in ministry is not about you; it's about God's desire to use you in ministry to others. The Biblical basis for ministry is Love.

A poem by James N. Spurgeon tells it all:

*A job is at your choice;  
A ministry is at Christ's call.  
In a job you expect to receive;  
In a ministry you expect to give.  
In a job you give something to get something;  
In a ministry you return something that has already been given to you.  
A job depends on your abilities;  
A ministry depends on your availability to God.  
A job done well brings you praise;  
A ministry done well brings honor to Christ.*

Some people have a JOB in the church; others involve themselves in a MINISTRY. What is the difference?

*If you are doing it just because no one else will, it's a JOB.  
If you are doing it to serve the Lord, it's a MINISTRY.  
If you quit because somebody criticized you, it was a JOB.  
If you keep on serving, it's a MINISTRY.  
If you do it only as it does not interfere with your other activities, it's a JOB.  
If you are committed to staying with it even when it means letting go of other things, it's a MINISTRY.  
If you quit because no one praised you or thanked you, it is a JOB.  
If you stay with it even though nobody recognizes your effort, it is a MINISTRY.  
It's hard to get excited about a JOB.  
It's almost impossible not to be excited about a MINISTRY.  
An average church is filled with people doing JOBS.  
A great and growing church is filled with people involved in MINISTRY.*

**Where do you fit in? What about you?**

**If GOD calls you to a MINISTRY, don't treat it like a JOB. If you have a JOB, give it up and find a MINISTRY. God does not want us feeling stuck with a JOB, but excited and faithful to Him in a MINISTRY.**

*The Rev Tan Cheng Huat is the Senior Pastor of True Way Presbyterian Church.*



**God's Work  
Our Hands**

## Wesley Food Pantry Great Success!

**Thank you to everyone who donated food items for the Wesley Pantry in Portsmouth. Once again the table was overflowing with items for the community. Aldersgate family you are truly amazing in your generosity! Bless you.**



Cut Out and Give to a Friend...Spread the joy!!!

EASTER

JOY

He Is Risen!

✿ *Alleluia!* ✿

NEW LIFE

*Rejoice*  
Amen.



## Follow the Yellow Brick Road

Discover the wisdom, love, courage,  
and a home in God's kingdom.

**Starts Easter Sunday**

**April 4th at 11 AM**

## Birthdays



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 4/3 Barbara Keim<br>JaiMarie Washington-Martin | 4/26 Barbara Hogwood<br>Jamie Washington |
| 4/7 Ann Manuel                                 | 4/27 John Floyd                          |
| 4/8 Ben Hogwood                                |  |
| 4/13 Brittany Floyd                            |  |



## Anniversaries

- 4/21 Oliver (Farrell) and Barbara Harrell

## Remember in Prayer

Home: Vic Supper, Chelsie Richburg  
Aaron Russo



PRAYER MINISTRY

Our church family, some whom we have not seen for a year now. Our district, our conference and the United Methodist church international.

Any who are ill or who just need a prayer to lift them up

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



## Ushers

Neal Windley, Phyllis Day

## Counters

- |      |                               |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 4/4  | Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson |
| 4/11 | Neal Windley, Michele Floyd   |
| 4/18 | Kevin Floyd, Linda Crabtree   |
| 4/25 | Greg Dziagwa, sub             |



## Lawn Maintenance



- |      |        |
|------|--------|
| 4/4  | Team 2 |
| 4/11 | Team 3 |
| 4/18 | Team 1 |
| 4/25 | Team 2 |

## Calendar Highlights

4/4 at 11 AM Easter Sunday Service

4/5—Church Office Closed

4/15—Secretary Out of office

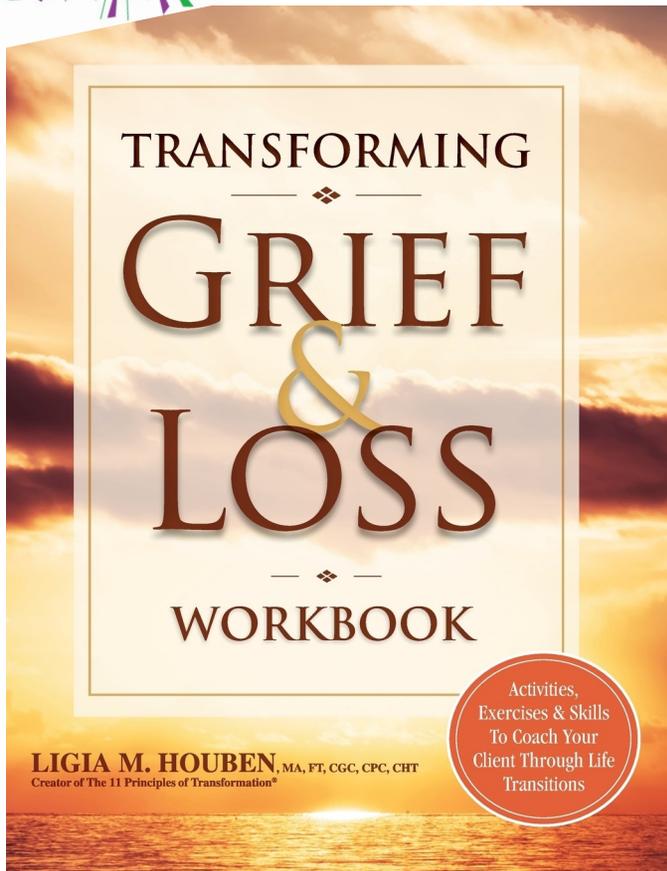
New “Feeding the Homeless” Mission coming soon



Newsletter Deadline  
Thursday, April 15th  
for the May issue.

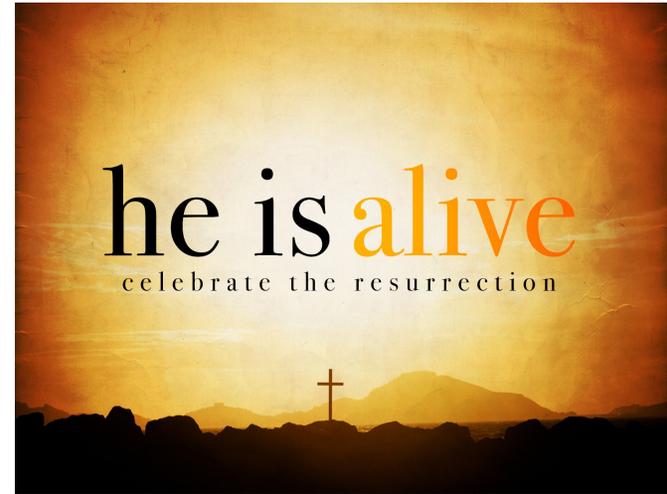
You do not have to wait until the deadline to submit your articles. You can email the office at any time or leave it on my desk....

**COMING SOON!**



## Managing Trauma and Grief Class

**Check your emails and Newsletters for date and time**



### Worship Team Rehearsal Schedule

April 4	Happy Easter—Team off
April 11	10:00 am Sanctuary
April 18	10:00 am Sanctuary
April 25	10:00 am Sanctuary

The worship team is once again meeting each week for a rehearsals of the music we are recording for services. If you are a member of the team and choir we would love to have you back if you feel comfortable.

We meet briefly at 10:00 to go over prayers, concerns and get updates on church progress. After the service we record 4-6 songs for use in upcoming services. We are social distancing during recording sessions.