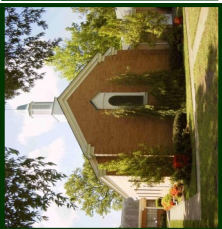




2026

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



The Aldersgate Experience

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

February, 2026

Vol. 29 Issue 3

*Join Us for as we journey
through Lent together*



LENT

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

*Worship Services each
Sunday morning at 9 AM*

The Pastor's Corner

Dear Aldersgate Family,

Faith That Speaks: Passing the Story On

Faith was never meant to be silent.



During February, the sermonic theme was, “Faith that Builds Us.” In a recent sermon, we reflected on a powerful truth found in Deuteronomy 6 and Psalm 78: faith survives when it is spoken, remembered, and intentionally passed from one generation to the next. Scripture reminds us that belief does not endure by accident. It lives because someone is willing to tell the story again.

Moses instructed the people of Israel to teach God’s words diligently—to speak of them at home, along the road, in the morning, and at night. Faith was not designed to live only in sacred spaces, but in everyday moments. It is shaped around tables, through conversations, and in the way we live our lives before others.

Psalm 78 carries this message forward, urging God’s people not to hide the story of God’s faithfulness from the next generation. Remembering is not about nostalgia; it is about formation. When we tell the truth about where God has met us—through joy, struggle, loss, and hope—we give others permission to trust God for themselves.

During the sermon, we reflected on a meaningful illustration drawn from work with veterans: writing each veteran’s story on a brick—not just a name or number, but the context of their life, service, and faith. Those bricks became quiet testimonies, reminding us that every life carries a story worth remembering. For many, faith was not abstract; it was what sustained them day by day.

Cont. page 2

Welcome to Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Norfolk, Virginia!

We are a vibrant faith community dedicated to worship, prayer, and learning. Join us every Sunday at 09:00 AM for our uplifting services.

Our church offers a range of ministries and outreach programs to help you grow in your faith and serve others.

Located at 5767 Sellger Drive, Norfolk, VA 23502, we are committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



The Aldersgate Experience

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
“Aldersgate a catalyst for God’s call through fervent prayer, active compassion and meaningful outreach”

5767 Sellger Drive, Norfolk, Virginia 23502
Phone: 757-466-8999 Fax: 757-466-8999

Email: aumcnorf@gmail.com
Web page: www.aldersgatenorfolk.org
“Like” us on Facebook

Bishop.....Rev. Susan Haurpet-Johnson
District Superintendent...Rev. Elizabeth Givens
Pastor..... Pastor Donna Tucker
Minister of Music..... Dr. Christina Pinkston
Church Secretary..... Joyce Russo

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

Worship Service/Kid Zone...9 AM
Music Rehearsals— 6 PM Wednesdays

Some clipart and quotes used with permission only



Puzzle!

HOW'S THE WEATHER?

Use the code below to fill in these forecasts in places where Jesus traveled:

CODE:

A = ☺	D = ☁	H = ❄	M = ☆	P = ◆	T = ■	W = ☂
B = ●	E = ✦	I = ✨	N = ↑	R = ●	U = □	Y = ☀
C = ☼	G = ✨	L = ★	O = ↓	S = ○	V = ☂	Z = ☂

Mt. Hermon ○ ↑ ↓ ☂

Jericho ❄ ↓ ■

Jerusalem ☆ ✨ ★ ☁

Dead Sea Area ■ ● ↓ ◆ ✨ ☼ ☺ ★ ❄ ✦ ☺ ■

Sea of Galilee ✨ □ ○ ■ ☂ ☂ ✨ ↑ ☁ ○

Mediterranean Coast ● ✦ ✦ ☂ ☂



Answers: snow, hot, mild, tropical heat, gusty winds, breezy

Cont. from pg. 1—Pastor's Corner

That reflection led us to an important question: What does your brick say? If your faith story were written down—not perfectly, but honestly—what would it tell? A story of endurance? Of prayer through uncertainty? Of trusting God one more day?

Faith that stays silent fades.

Faith that is spoken takes root.

Faith that is shared becomes legacy.

As a church, we are called to be people who remember, who speak, and who pass the story on. May we never underestimate how God can use our lived faith to encourage, strengthen, and inspire generations yet to come.

So again, I ask, what does your brick say?



Pastor Donna

Issue in Focus

*Pastor's Corner

*News from the pews

*Mission Opportunities

*Calendar Highlights

*Lay Ministry Schedules

and much, much more





Lenten Lunchtime Connection
12:00 PM—
Wednesdays during Lent
“The Questions We Carry”

Growing closer to God through worship, food and fellowship. Lunch provided by the church.

- February 25th** **Christ UMC**
(1601 E. Bayview Blvd)
- March 4th** **Miles Memorial**
(9450 Granby Street)
- March 11th** **Larchmont**
(1101 Jamestown Crescent)
- March 18th** **Wesley Grace**
(288 E Littlecreek Road)
- March 25th** **Aldersgate**
(5767 Seller Drive)

Our Aldersgate Duo (Dr. Christina and Gary) continues to enrich our weekly Sunday morning service.

If you would like to join us (new voices are always welcome) see Dr. Christina Pinkston for more information. Choir Rehearsals are Wednesdays 6-7:30 PM.

March rehearsal dates are:

3/11; 3/18; and 3/25



A thank you note to our church family

On behalf of The Tipora sisters, we would like to send our sincerest gratitude to you all that have had us in their thoughts, prayers and hearts. It means so much to us for all the love and concern you have given us for our dear sister Edith. She was at peace at home with her loved ones at the time of her passing. We have missed you all and may God keep you safe in his loving arms.

Warmest regards,

Claudia Ganaden, Lily and Norma Tipora




SUNDAY 15TH MARCH
TIME: 2 PM

VENUE: 23532 LEE MONT RD PARSKLEY, VA 23421
THEME: DREAM IT - BELIEVE IT - DO IT
THEME COLOR - SHADES OF BROWN
GUEST SPEAKER REV. DONNA TUCKER

ADAMS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PRESENTS
ADAMS WOMEN'S DAY

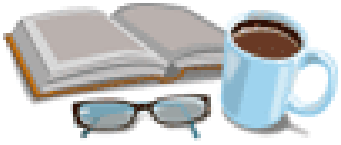



Heritage Food Pantry

Saturday, March 14th

10 am– Noon

If you are interested in helping.



Weekly Bible Study

Neighborhood Widows' Bible Fellowship (NWBF)

The **Neighborhood Widows' Bible Fellowship** is a wonderful group of widows that meet in a home in our neighborhood on Thursdays from 10:00 am to Noon.

Our March fellowship will continue to study one of the best selling Christian books of all time: **"In His Steps"** by **Charles M. Sheldon**. World-wide, it has sold over 30 million copies! Quoting from the book jacket: "It is the story of a group of modern Americans who pledge to follow "in His steps" for a year, to ask themselves before each action, "What would Jesus do?" Their efforts to apply the basic teachings of Christianity to the complexities of the modern world, with its problems of personal gain, business ethics, of poverty and unemployment, make this an absorbing novel, one which profoundly stirs the soul, carrying a rare spiritual message."

This study is helping us take a closer look at our lives, listen ever more closely to the Holy Spirit, and move closer to what we believe that Jesus would do if He were in our situation.

If you are a widow and would enjoy fellowship with other Christian widows, please call the number below and join us.

If you know a widow who might enjoy such a fellowship, please pass this announcement on to her so she can join us.

If God has put on your heart that it's time for **you** to start your own group, be it for widows or widowers, parents of young children, couples, adults singles, or other groups, please call:

757-515-8194 for more information. If there is no immediate answer, please leave a voicemail.

"Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart." Psalms 37:4

ANNUAL BUNNY BREAKFAST and EASTER EGG HUNT Saturday, March 28th 9:00 AM

All are invited—friends, relatives, neighbors
Infants—5th Grade

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

This event is the one of the times we can reach out to the community's children. They have such a great time hunting for the eggs and seeing the Easter Bunny(sometimes).

So I hope you will help support this event. We will need volunteers to help with setting up tables, kitchen helpers and egg hiders as well as supervise the children when they hunt for the eggs. Greg's kitchen team is ready to do their part. Consider **VOLUNTEERING** I promise you won't be sorry . I thank you in advance I'll be waiting to hear from you.

Barbara Harrell

**Reservations required— call 757 466-8999 or email:
aumcnorf@gmail.com**

Deadline March 22, 2026

Name _____

No. of Children _____

Ages of Children _____

No of Adults _____





Birthdays

3/18 Kevin Floyd
Jo Beth Strong

3/30 Norma Tipora
Marguerite Windley

Anniversaries

We currently do not have any anniversaries for the months of March or April. Please contact the church office if we have missed yours.



Remember in Prayer

Home: 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, especially Paul and Denise.

Those who have lost family or friends.

Those in our church family who are no longer with us in attendance but always in our hearts, Lucinda Williams, Maria Davidson and Barbara Hogwood, and Arthur Wallace.

The United Methodist church international; our sister church, Heritage. Our Bishops and District Superintendents as they continue to make decisions with the denomination 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, Mar. 15th
for the April 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

Diane Willis, John Floyd

Counters

3/1 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson
3/8 Kevin Floyd, Diane Willis
3/15 Greg Dziagwa
3/22 Bill Bunch
3/29 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson



Lawn Maintenance



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

Trash Collection— Kevin Floyd

Calendar Highlights



3/3 7:30 PM Eliz. Park Civic Lea.

3/7 Turn Your Clock Ahead 1 hour

3/11; 3/18; 3/25; —6 PM Choir Rehearsal

3/5; 3/12; 3/19; 3/26—5:30 PM —Spaghetti Dinner

3/5; ; 3/12; 3/19; 3/26—10 AM —Thompson Bible Study

3/15—Newsletter Deadline for April Issue

3/28 9 AM Bunny Breakfast

Impact Worship Center may be using the facility on some Tuesday evenings. Will update when I get some dates.

Looking Ahead

Palm Sunday—March 29, 2026 —9 AM

Good Friday—April 3, 2026 6 PM
Joint Service at Aldersgate UMC

Easter Sunday—April 5, 2026 9 AM



The Season of Lent

According to AI— Lent is a solemn 40-day Christian liturgical season (excluding Sundays) of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, starting on Ash Wednesday and ending before Easter Sunday. It commemorates Jesus Christ's 40 days of fasting in the wilderness and acts as a period of repentance, reflection, and spiritual preparation for the Resurrection.

What does Lent mean to you? Is your focus on what do you give up for 40 days (what food or activity you really won't miss) or is it a time for you to reflect on your faith.

I think that this year, Lent has more meaning than in the past. I am hearing pastors of all faiths saying we are in the end times. Are we? Are you prepared if we are? What do we need to do to prepare? A lot of questions need answers. Our world is in such upheaval lately. Our faith and trust in God needs to be stronger than ever.

It has been a year, this month, since my little grandson passed away. My faith, I hope, is stronger now having been tested more than I could have imagined. I will say my prayers for all of our safety, trust in God for his guidance and keep hoping my faith will endure.

JR

"Lent is not something we do for God – Lent is something we do *with* God."



Heritage United Methodist Church
Vendor & Crafter Fair
Virginia Beach, VA

Do you have a business or a craft you love?
Do you enjoy sharing your products with people who love buying local?

Bring your creativity and passion to our Vendor & Crafter Fair!

Saturday, April 25, 2026
Heritage United Methodist Church • 815 Baker Road

Vendor Details

- Table Fee: \$30
- Open to local vendors, artisans, and crafters
- Handmade goods, jewelry, art, home décor & more!
- A great community atmosphere!

Register Today!

Contact Sharon Stevens to reserve your table:
Email: heritageumcvb@gmail.com
Phone: 757-497-3943