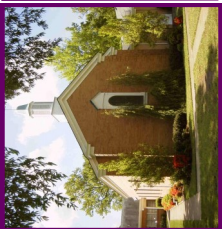




2025

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



The Aldersgate Experience

Making Disciples of Jesus Christ

April 2025

Vol. 28 Issue 4



Celebrate the

*Miracle
of Easter!*

Behold, I make all things new. REVELATION 21:5

Easter Sunday Service
11 AM



Greetings to each of you in the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! I pray this letter finds you well and in good spirits.



As we continue to walk this journey of faith together, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the many blessings we've received as a community and to encourage each of you in the weeks ahead. God has been so faithful, and we are truly grateful for His presence in our lives and in our church. It's a joy to witness the ways He is working among us.

As we move forward in the coming days, I encourage all of you to stay connected with one another, both in prayer and fellowship. Whether you are able to attend services in person or worship from home, know that the body of Christ is not bound by walls. We are united through His love and grace, and we are called to support one another in both the joyous and challenging moments of life.

I also want to invite you to spaghetti dinner Thursdays and Bible class on Sunday morning. These moments provide us with the chance to deepen our faith and strengthen the bonds within our community. Please consider being involved, whether through prayer, participation, or by sharing your gifts with others.

Lastly, I ask that you continue to keep our church, our leaders, and our community in your prayers. We are navigating through a time of change and growth, and we trust that God will lead us in His perfect will. May we all remain steadfast in His love and continue to serve Him with all our hearts.

Thank you for your unwavering faith, support, and dedication to the work God has called us to do. May His peace and joy fill your hearts as we continue to serve Him together.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Tyrek



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 11:00 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.

Greg Dziagwa

The Aldersgate Experience

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
"Aldersgate..a catalyst for God's call through fervent prayer, active compassion and meaningful outreach"

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

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

Worship Service/Kid Zone...11 AM
Music Rehearsals— 6 PM Wednesdays

Some clipart and quotes used with permission only

Here are some Easter Bible Trivia Questions

Q1: What would cry out if the people didn't?

Q2: What did the daughter of Zion do?

Q3: Who mocked and ridiculed Jesus?

Q4: Where was Jesus crucified?

Q5: In which garden at the foot of the Mount of Olives was Jesus arrested?

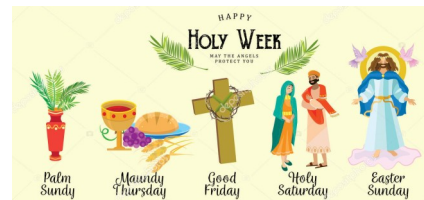
Q6: Which prisoner was released instead of Jesus?

Not!!



- Q6:: Barabbas (Matthew 27:15-26).
- Q5: Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-56).
- Q4: Golgotha (John 19:17-18).
- Q3: Herod and his soldiers (Luke 23:11).
- Q2 : Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! (Zechariah 9:9).
- Q1: The stones (Luke 19:40)

Answers to Quiz



Palm Sunday Service—April 13th 11 AM

Maundy Thursday Service (Handwashing Service with Communion) April 17th 6:30 PM

Good Friday Service—"Stations of the Cross" Social Hall –April 18th 6:30 PM

Easter Sunday Service—April 20th 11 AM

Mark your calendars. You won't want to miss any of these observances and celebrations.

Issue in Focus

Message from the Pastor

Holy Week Observances Schedule

Important Financial Updates

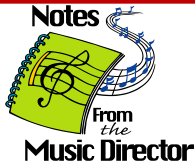
Children's Easter Egg Hunt Information

News from the pews, Lay Ministry Schedules

and much, much more



We are truly blessed each Sunday by our Aldersgate Trio and their presentations of great music each week.



Rehearsal Dates for April are:

Wednesdays 6 PM

4/2; 4/9; 4/16; 4/23; 4/30...



The **Neighborhood Widows' Bible Fellowship** is a wonderful group that meets in a home in our neighborhood every Thursday from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

During April, we will continue to study and discuss the book "Boundaries, When to say Yes and How to say No to Take Control of Your Life" by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr John Townsend. Discussions focus on the boundaries Jesus used in His earthly life and how we can apply that wisdom to our lives. Topics during April will include: Boundaries and Your Friends, Boundaries and your Spouse, Boundaries and Your Children, and Boundaries and Work. The overall objective is to have joyful and useful lives that honor God! It's only through establishing and maintaining proper boundaries that we will have a solid operating base from which we can help others.

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.**



IMPORTANT NOTICE - Don't Forget

Beginning April 1st

CHURCH'S NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:

aumcnorf@gmail.com

Please make sure to check your emails regularly so you will be able to make the change and not miss any notices from the church office.

Thanks



Easter Egg Hunt
Children to age 12
Saturday, April 12th
10 AM

This year we will not be having our Annual Bunny Breakfast, we WILL be having an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or neighbors for a morning of fun and fellowship. Don't forget your Easter basket. If we are lucky we will see that special fellow who likes carrots—his initials are E.B.

Donations of Individually wrapped candies is needed also.

Please see Barbara Harrel if you would like to volunteer to help hide eggs or supervise the children.



NEWS FROM
THE PEWS

Martha Davies has a new home. She will now be residing in Our Lady of Perpetual Help on Princess Anne Road, Va. Beach. If you would like to send her a card you can get more information from Kathy Dziagwa.

Helping Hands Group is in need of a new leader. Lucinda Williams has moved to Chesapeake and can no longer chair this long standing ministry. If you are interested please let the office know. thanks



Treasurer's Update

Dear Aldersgate Family,

I hope this message finds you well.
I wanted to provide some important updates regarding our financial situation.

In February, our expenses were higher than donations by \$2,285.53. It is getting more and more difficult to keep up with expenses, which reminds me of a recent article about another Methodist church that Greg shared at the last board meeting. It reads as follows:

"It is with a heavy heart that we must share the difficult decision to close Fairview United Methodist Church effective February 2, 2025 after careful consideration and prayerful discernment, our leadership has concluded that due to declining membership, financial instability, increases in operational costs and aging infrastructure, continuing operations at our current location is no longer sustainable. Our final worship service will be Sunday, February 2, 2025 at 9:30am in the Fellowship Classroom. The adjacent History Room will be open to provide a place to share memories and celebrate our time in faith together."

Financial Stats for Feb. 2025:

Income: \$11,059.49

Expenses: \$13,345.02

Difference: \$ -2,285.53

Year to Date Stats for 2025:

Income: \$21,596.49

Expenses: \$22,127.71

Difference: \$ -531.22

Let's pray that Aldersgate UMC does not go the way of Fairview UMC.

Your continued financial contributions are essential for sustaining the ministry and facilities at AUMC. Please remain steadfast in your giving and keep our church in your prayers. Together, we can ensure that Aldersgate will continue to thrive.

Blessings,
Kathy Dziagwa,
Aldersgate UMC Treasurer



Birthdays

4/3 Barbara Keim 4/26 Barbara Hogwood
4/13 Brittany Floyd Jamie Washington
4/27 John Floyd

Anniversaries

Please let the office know if we 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. Martha Davies, Joe Dziagwa

Those who have lost family or friends.

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



Ushers

Steve Carter, Phyllis Day

Counters

4/6 Kevin Floyd, Diane Willis
4/13 Greg Dziagwa,
4/20 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch
4/27 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson



Lawn Maintenance



4/7 Team 3
4/14 Team 1
4/21 Team 2
4/28 Team 3
5/5 Team 1

Trash Collection—Dewey Hanson

Calendar Highlights

4/2; 4/9; 4/16; 4/23; 4/30—6 PM Choir Rehearsal

4/3; 4/10; 4/24;—10 AM Thompson Bible Study

4/3; 4/10; 4/24—5:30 PM Spaghetti Dinners

4/12 Children's Easter Egg Hunt—10 AM

4/17 Maundy Thursday Service—6:30 PM

4/18 Good Friday Service—6:30 PM

4/21 Church Office Closed—Easter Holiday

4/27 Potluck immediately following 11 am service



Newsletter Deadline Tuesday, 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....



My Cup Runneth Over

Last month I wrote of hope for the healing of my grandson, Aaron. God's will was that his healing would be with the angels.

My family could not have imagined the outpouring of love and support we have received since Aaron passed away. The cards, calls and generous gifts have been a true blessing and comfort.

I may never be able to repay all that has been done, but know you all will forever be in my heart
Joyce Russo and family



**Farewell
Celebration**

Farewell Potluck

Sunday, April 27th

Following the 11 AM Worship Service

Join us as we celebrate Lucinda Williams and all she has done for her Aldersgate family. Unfortunately for us, Lucinda has moved to Chesapeake. She will be greatly missed for her smile and great hugs. Here's hoping she will be able to join us for worship once in a while.



Easter?

For me, spiritually, Easter is more important than Christmas. Easter celebrations are not as bogged down with the secular world and all of its trappings.

We still have the Easter Bunny and all of the candy but more often than not Easter celebrates the rising of Christ.

More people attend Holy Week services and Easter Worship than on any other Sunday throughout the year. For Christians, Easter is the fulfillment of a promise. The renewal of hope fills the world with new wonder. With all of the not-knowing this year brings, we need this renewal of a promise and hope.

I am more assured than ever that God is in control and He will watch over us. This year when you come to worship on Easter Sunday, say a special prayer for those who are struggling with their faith and their uncertainties.

May we all be a beacon of hope and faith for all of those who are searching.

JR

