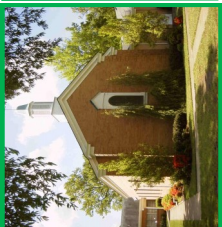




2025

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



# The Aldersgate Experience

*Making Disciples of Jesus Christ*

March 2025

Vol. 28 Issue 3

FASTING

PRAYER SACRIFICE

PENANCE **LENT** RECONCILIATION

ALMS GIVING SERVE.

THIS IS THE TIME OF FULFILLMENT. THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND REPENT AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL.  
Mark 1:15

*Come Journey with us through the season of Lent..11 AM Sunday mornings*

## Preparing Our Hearts for Lent and Easter

### Upcoming Events for Aldersgate UMC

**Ash Wednesday Service—March 5th, 6:30 PM**

**Lenten Bible Study—Sundays 9:30 AM-watch for dates**

**Lenten Sermon Series—”Last Seven Words of Christ” March 9th –April 6th**

**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.**



**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”

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

**Email: [joyce@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcoxmail.com](mailto:joyce@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcoxmail.com)**  
**Web page: [www.aldersgatenorfolk.org](http://www.aldersgatenorfolk.org)**  
**“Like” us on Facebook**

**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**



Not Just for

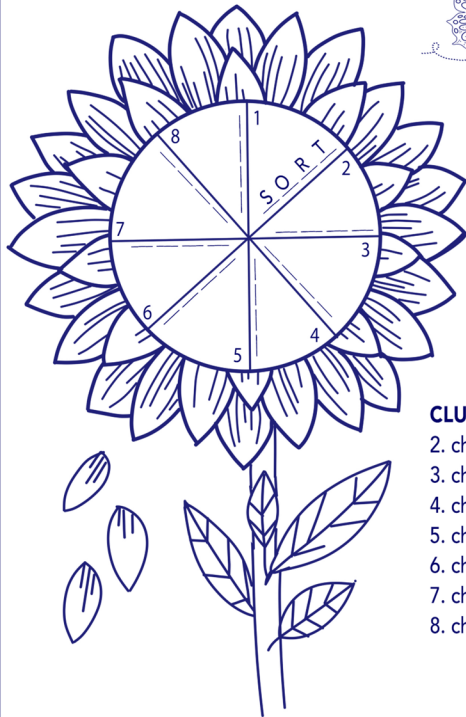


# PUZZLE

## THE LOVE CYCLE

In 1 John 4, God instructs us to love other people. Where does our love come from?

Directions: Starting at #1 and going clockwise, solve each clue to create a new four-letter word. Then write the eighth word in both blanks below to complete 1 John 4:19, NIV.



We \_\_\_\_\_  
because [God] first \_\_\_\_\_d us.  
1 John 4:19, NIV

### CLUES

- 2. change 1 letter: a tent to play in
- 3. change 2 letters: a crease in paper
- 4. change 1 letter: a precious metal
- 5. change 2 letters: a beautiful dress
- 6. change 1 letter: opposite of up
- 7. change 2 letters: a type of bird
- 8. change 1 letter: God is this (see 1 John 4:16).

Answers: fort, gold, gown, down, dove, love, We love because [God] first loved us. 1 John 4:19, NIV

### NEWS FROM THE PEWS

I would like to thank everyone for all of the prayers, calls and well wishes for my grandson,



Aaron. Aaron is still in CHKD with no release date in the future.

Joyce Russo

Thanks for all of the prayers and concerns for my mother, Martha Davies. She is recovering well but there are still some concerns.

Kathy Dziagwa

As we enter this Lenten Season, please remember those in our congregation who still do not attend in person for what ever reason. Give them a call, send a card. Let them know that they are missed.



### Issue in Focus

Lent and Easter Observances Schedule

Important Financial Updates

News from the pews, Lay Ministry Schedules

and much, much more





Thanks to our Aldersgate Trio for all of their continue hard work and presentations of great music

Rehearsal Dates for March are:

Wednesdays 6 PM

3/12; 3/19; and 3/26...

Traveling mercies for Dr. Christina Pinkston as she attends a special conference for Norfolk State.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE

The office has been informed that Cox Business Communications will no longer provide an email service. They are offering a subscription service for a monthly fee.

In the next month we will be switching our email to either gmail or yahoo. This will take some time due to the notifications of all business, district and conference accounts which will have to be notified.

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



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.

Ash Wednesday, March 5th, starts the 40-day season leading to Easter. We will be looking at ways of deepening our relationship with Jesus during this time so we can become even more deeply committed to walking along the path God has laid out for each of us.

We are currently studying 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. 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 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.**





ASH WEDNESDAY

Service, March 5th

6:30 PM



Coming Soon!

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Books have been ordered...cost is \$8.00 per book. Couples may share if they wish.



REMEMBER TO  
**Change  
Your  
Clocks**

**SPRING AHEAD**  
Saturday, March 8th

Move them 1 Hour ahead.

## Treasurer's Update:

### Financial Stats for Jan. 2025:

|                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Income:</b>     | <b>\$10,537.00</b> |
| <b>Expenses:</b>   | <b>\$ 8,782.69</b> |
| <b>Difference:</b> | <b>\$ 1,754.31</b> |

Dear Aldersgate Family,

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

In January, our donations were higher than expenses by \$1,754.31.

The Capital Campaign is still ongoing from the air conditioning and roof repair expenses and as of January 31st, we still have \$12,955 left to replenish the Memorial Fund for the monies we borrowed for the air conditioners.

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.

Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment.

Blessings, Kathy Dziagwa  
Aldersgate UMC Treasurer





## Birthdays

3/18 Kevin Floyd  
3/27 Arthur Wallace

3/30 Norma Tipora  
Marguerite Windley

## Anniversaries

3/26 Mike and Joyce Russo



. 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. Aaron Russo, 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.

**Newsletter Deadline**  
**Saturday, March 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 and John Floyd

## Counters

3/2 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson  
3/9 Kevin Floyd, Diane Willis  
3/16 Greg Dziagwa,  
3/23 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch  
3/30 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson



## Lawn Maintenance

3/3 Team 1  
3/10 Team 2  
3/17 Team 3  
3/24 Team 1  
3/31 Team 2

Trash Collection—Volunteer Needed

## Calendar Highlights



3/5 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service

3/8-TURN CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR

3/12; 19; 26—6 PM Choir Rehearsal

3/6; 3/13; 3/20; 3/27—10 AM Thompson Bible Study

3/6; 3/13; 3/20; 3/27—5:30 PM Spaghetti Dinners

3/25 10 AM—Helping Hands Grp

6:30 PM—Finance and Board Meeting

## Missions and Ministries

Sometimes being closely associated with more than one church has its advantages and disadvantages. Lately I have been hearing from several members of these churches concerns that there are not enough people to do this or do that in regards to missions or ministries.

After much discussion at my Bible Study regarding this issue this determination was made:

It only takes one to do a mission or a ministry. If you have a passion for something don't wait for 10 others to do it with you, begin yourself.

I know someone who purchases 1 bag of dog food and 1 bag of cat food each month and donates it to the local shelters or SPCAs. Or a member who crochets or knits blankets, hats or burp cloths for babies who don't have them. How about volunteering at a local hospital or school...that only takes one person.

Do you know someone who may need a ride to a doctor's appointment or to the store...that is a ministry.

Yes, I agree that some of our churches are in need of members who want to serve on committees, head of major projects or Bible Studies but don't let that be a deterrent for you not doing something your really care about.

Just some food for thought.

JR



Allowing Your Faith to Lead the Way....

As most of you know this month has been very trying for my family. Not since my son had Cancer has things been so unknowing.

My youngest grandson, Aaron, is 16 years old and has Duchene's Muscular Dystrophy. He is totally wheel chair dependent. A month or so ago he was a participant in a clinical trial for muscle restoration. The unknown side effects of this trial have been very puzzling to say the least.

He has been hospitalized at Children's Hospital on and off for almost the entire last 4 weeks. Even a week in the Pediatric ICU. I have had people ask me how are you doing? My answer although not very comforting to them is...How can I be. It is not in my hands..only one person can do anything now—that is God. My faith has to take over for it is the only hope we have. If you can't give it to God to handle what else can you do. Lots of prayers and just wait.

The next time you feel like the storms won't end just remember to give it up to God and sit and wait.

His will is the only one that counts.

JR

