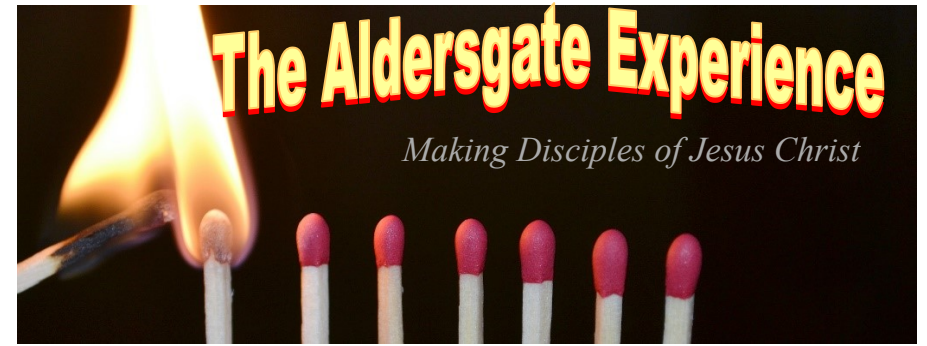


Aldersgate United Methodist Church
5767 Sellger Drive
Norfolk, Virginia 23502-5239

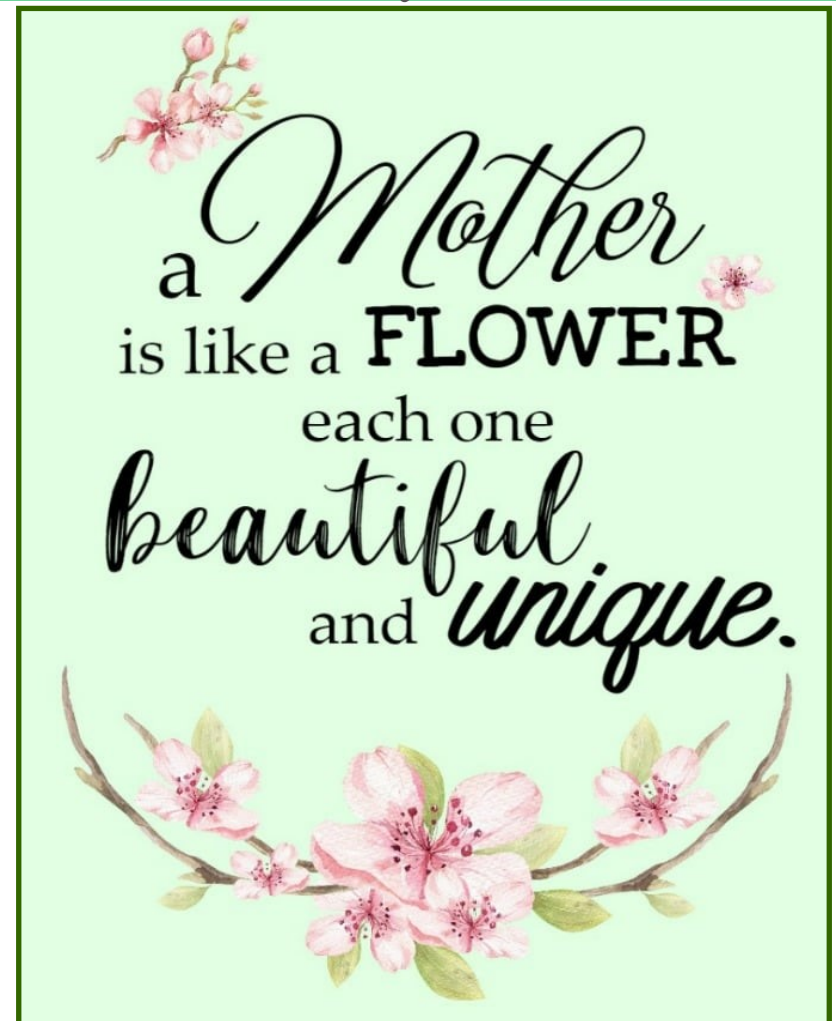


2021



May 2021

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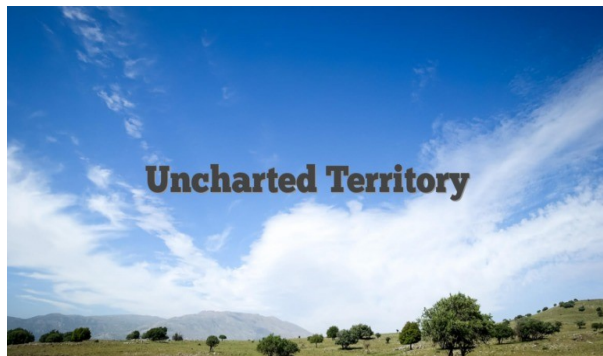
“Exploring Uncharted Territory”

By Pastor Lee

When Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were sent on an expedition to explore the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase, they began under a false premise. They believed that the unexplored terrain of the west would be the same as it was in the east. But they were wrong. Thomas Jefferson sent these two men to find a waterway to the Pacific Ocean. But instead of a waterway, they found the Rocky Mountains. Lewis and Clark realized that this uncharted territory was nothing like what they expected or prepared for. They had to reorient their thinking and their resources. And that’s what made them successful.

With the long-term decline of churches, we find ourselves in uncharted territory. The terrain is different from what we are familiar. The strategies of the past are often ineffective in the present. We are facing the difficult decision to reorient our thinking and our resources.

I want to challenge you to drop your presuppositions, and invest more time observing your present culture. The Church must be willing to experiment, learn, and adapt to the current terrain. It’s time to go off the map, and think like explorers. And that’s what will make Aldersgate successful. It may feel like we are going into this uncharted territory with blindfolds, but we are being led by the Light of the world. So, cling close to the Lord, and join the adventure.



Special Speaker on Sunday, May 2nd

Ruth Page is the lay leader for Haygood United Methodist Church. She is a retired educator who served Virginia Beach City Public Schools well. She began her career as a teacher, moving up to an assistant principal and ultimately becoming the coordinator of VBCPS’ Parent Support & Information Center, which works to provide parents of students with disabilities key services, information and training. She is the mother of a United Methodist pastor and is also a brand-new grandmother. Ruth is an excellent speaker who teaches other lay leaders best practices for supporting their churches. We are blessed that she has agreed to share with us!



Kathleen O’Hara

The Aldersgate Experience

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
“Making Disciples of Jesus Christ”

5767 Sellger Drive, Norfolk, Virginia 23502
Phone: 757-466-8999 Fax: 757-466-8999
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Email: joyce@aldersgateumcnorfolk.hrcoxmail.com
Web page: www.aldersgatenorfolk.org
“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

HEART, LIGHT

This Mother's Day, make a bright gift for someone special in your life.

Mom, you're the light of my life!



What you need:

- Scissors
- Cardstock
- Tape
- Mason jar
- Primer paint
- Acrylic paint (3 colors)
- Paintbrushes
- Battery-operated tea light
- Paper and pen
- Hole punch
- Twine

What you do:

1. Cut out two cardstock hearts and tape them to the jar sides, near the bottom.
2. Paint the entire jar with primer paint. Let dry.
3. Paint splotches of acrylic paint over the primer. Let dry. Remove the heart shapes.
4. Place the tea light in the jar.
5. Write a note that says, "Mom, you're the light of my life!" Punch a hole in one corner of the note, thread twine through the hole and tie the note around the jar's neck.



A lasting promise

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.

Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

"But you will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8, NIV

Answers power

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

We welcome back to our services, Vic Supper, and Millie and Dewey Hanson. Vic had been home recovering from back surgery. Millie and Dewey has some medical issues but are now "fit as a fiddle" and back in the congregation. Blessings for their continued good health.

Christian sympathies are extended to Claudia Ganaden and her family on the untimely passing of her husband, Rufino.

Special thanks to Greg Dziagwa and Guy Willis III for all of their work each Sunday. So may people appreciate getting to be able to connect to our church and hear the words and music of our service. Thanks to our Praise Team too.



It is that time of year again! Time to celebrate graduations! Please let the church office know if you will be celebrating this year. I would like to post it in the June newsletter.

Issue in Focus

Pastor's Message

Lay Ministry for the month

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

Union Mission Ministry pictures.

And a whole lot more!



What is Mother's Day to You???

On May 9th we will celebrate another Mother's Day. Have you ever really thought about it. Or do you go out buy a card or small gift for your Mom and not give it any other ponderings.

In some religions Jesus' mother, Mary, is considered to be the 2nd most important person (next to God of course) in their beliefs. She is revered as a Saint. She acts as an intercessory for prayer, she has her own responsive reading "Hail Mary" and she even is given credit in some last ditch efforts in sports or events.

When you think about it, everyone has a mother. Whether it be biological, adopted, foster, youth leader or just a neighbor or a dear friend. It is the one job on earth that is forever. You never stop being a mom.

This year as you celebrate Mother's Day, think about all of the things that your mom does or has done for you. Say a special prayer for her if she is in heaven or if you are lucky enough to still have her in your life.

Like Mary, who kneeled at the cross of her son, your mom will always support you, love you and care about you no matter what you do.

Remember some of Jesus' last words were "Dear woman, here is your son," Jesus was letting His mother, Mary know that He was leaving her to be cared for by the disciple John the Apostle. (John 19:26-27)
JR



Color me, Cut me out and give to someone special!

Happy
Mother's
Day



Did you Know?? Aldersgate church has many mice?

During the past year while we have been dealing with a pandemic some of our members have been endlessly working on ministries of their own at home.

Lucinda Williams has been busy crocheting and sewing items and donating them to local charities throughout our community. To date she has donated 75 teddy bears to Newborns in Need along with handmade baby layettes of blankets, sweaters and hats. Lapghans have been given to local nursing homes and Ronald McDonald house. She looks forward to when our own “Helping Hands” group can begin meeting again.

Linda Crabtree has also been busy crocheting lapghans for donation.

Kathy O’Hara and Bill Bunch continue to work with the Union Mission and have (with the help of our congregation) been able to supply them with food and other essential items.

Beverly Cooper has continued her card ministry...letting our members know we are still thinking about them and celebrating birthdays and anniversaries, and offering prayers of healing and comfort.

We have collected food items for local food pantries, give some of our seniors rides to medical appointments, weeded flower beds, cut the church lawn, fixed appliances and many other little chores that we don’t really think about.

We may not be back to total normal yet, BUT, we continue to do God’s work with all of our little church mice.

We truly are blessed!!! JR



WHEN IS YOUR BIRTHDAY?

The following church members need to provide the church office database with their birthdates in order to be listed in the happy birthday section of the newsletter. Please call, email or leave a note at the church office so we can update our records.

Kathleen O’Hara
 Sylvia Barbery
 Bill Bunch
 Deborah Knauer
 Anna Lee Long
 Sherry Williams

Thanks....Joyce



How many of you remember Oscar and Jackie Pace?

Recently we heard from Oscar’s daughter and son-in-law who live in Ohio. Chuck and Becky Arena were checking in on some of our older members. Chuck sent us a picture. They may be in the area sometime this summer and may come and visit. It is always so nice to hear from old friends.





YUM Bags Delivered...more than 100 bags were delivered to the Union Mission Homeless Breakfast ministry.

Thanks to the generosity of our Aldersgate family providing these bags for special needs has been a huge success! We have made bags for 2 donations to date.

We will continue this ministry as long as the Union Mission has a need and we have the finances available. You may donate at any time—\$3.00 provides one bag and every donation is a blessing.

Special thanks to all who donated, who helped pack the bags and to Kathy O'Hara and Bill Bunch for delivering them. Want to help—contact Kathy or Bill for more information.

Another job well done!!!



If you have been a member of the United Methodist Church for any length of time you know that pastors come and go. We have some for a long time— others for such a short time.

On Sunday, April 11th, Pastor Lee announced that his time as our pastor will be ending this June. On July 4th we will welcome a new Pastor and their family.

Pastor Lee's ministry will continue (as it must) with a new congregational family in another community. Pastor Lee and his wife, Cindy have been a real blessing to Aldersgate.

The Elizabeth River District will also bid farewell to our District Superintendent, Rev. Wayne Sneed. There are a lot of changes coming to our district and church in the next several months.

Please continue to check your emails and our newsletter for more information on this sad but exciting move for them.

Community Spaghetti Dinner Update

The dinners began in 2019 and ran up until the first Wednesday in March 2020 when we temporarily closed. The decision to serve “to-go” meals was discussed however our basis for providing this wonderful meal included being able to meet and dine with our community, get to know each other and to serve them together. It was a very successful effort where many hands helped cook, serve, greet and eat— we decided to wait until we could fellowship.

The community dinners will be starting up as soon as we are free to fellowship and serve food indoors.

When we open back up, I would like to announce we have two ladies to head up the dinner: Cindy Albertson and Debbie Supper. A huge thank you to them both for their willing hands. It is our hope that every person who helped with the dinner will come back onboard at the same time. Please STAY TUNED for the date!

Serving Neighbors, Seeking Friends



Congratulations to one of our own! Kathy Dziagwa is Retiring!

Below is a copy a Foundry UMC’s newsletter article announcing the retirement of Kathy Dziagwa after 30 years.

Dear Foundry Family,

First, It's with mixed feelings and emotions that we inform you of Kathy Dziagwa's retirement from her position as Foundry's administrative and financial secretary. Her last day will be Thursday, May 27. Kathy has been in her role for 30 years, working with eight pastors and many other staff members, and is certainly Foundry's "go-to" person for most everything. She has served us very well over the years, but we're happy for her to leave us and spend much more time with her husband Greg. More information about her departure will be forthcoming.

Thank you,
Nancy Norman -Chairperson,
Staff-Pastor-Parish Relations



Birthdays

5/2 Cindy Albertson
5/3 Millie Hanson
Dewey Hanson

5/9 Pastor Lee Crosby
Tyler Moore
5/16 Lucinda Williams
5/18 Barbara Jenkins



Anniversaries

5/1 Kevin and Michele Floyd
5/7 Guy and Diane Willis
5/24 Vic and Debbie Supper

Remember in Prayer

Home: Vic Supper, Chelsie Richburg
Aaron Russo

Any of our church family who are at home and still not able to attend worship in-person

Those who have lost family or friends.

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

John and Melissa Floyd

Counters

5/2 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch
5/9 Millie Hanson, Gary Albertson
5/16 Neal Windley, Michele Floyd
5/23 Kevin Floyd, Linda Crabtree
5/30 Greg Dziagwa, Jim Powers



Lawn Maintenance



5/3	Team 3
5/10	Team 1
5/17	Team 2
5/24	Team 3
5/31	Team 1

Calendar Highlights

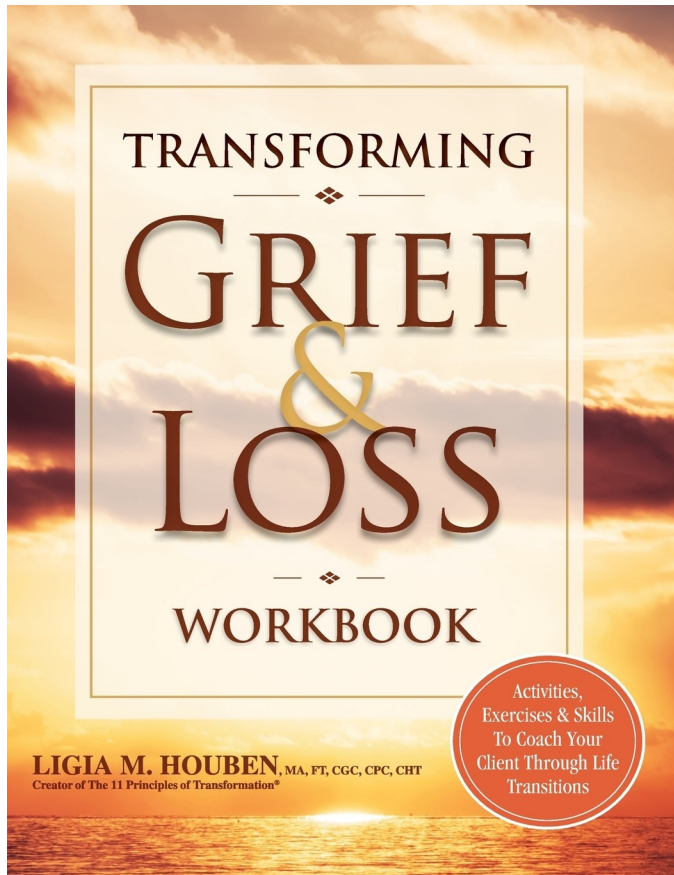
5/2 Special Speaker at 11 AM Service
5/6 Secretary out of the office
5/9 Mother's Day

"Feeding the Homeless" Ministry continues



Newsletter Deadline
Saturday May 15th
for the June 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....



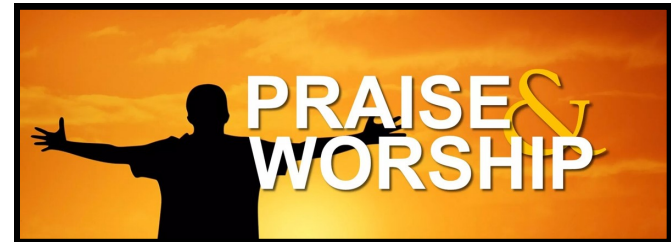
Managing Trauma and Grief Class

Tuesday Evenings at 7 PM

Contact Leslie Garrett at
leslieg0939@gmail.com for more information

The Worship Team and Choir meets weekly on Sundays at 10:00 to rehearse and then again at 12:10 to record music.

Until we are released to sing openly again in church we will adhere to this adjusted schedule....hopefully returning to regular rehearsals will be soon! If you would like to join please contact Cindy (757 461-3201).



Worship Team Rehearsal Schedule

May 2	10:00 am	Sanctuary
May 9	Team off	Moms Day
May 16	10:00 am	Sanctuary
May 23	10:00 am	Sanctuary
May 30	10:00 am	Sanctuary

Recording Schedule

May 2	12:10 pm	Sanctuary
May 9	Team off	Moms Day
May 16	12:10 pm	Sanctuary
May 23	12:10 pm	Sanctuary
May 30	12:10 pm	Sanctuary