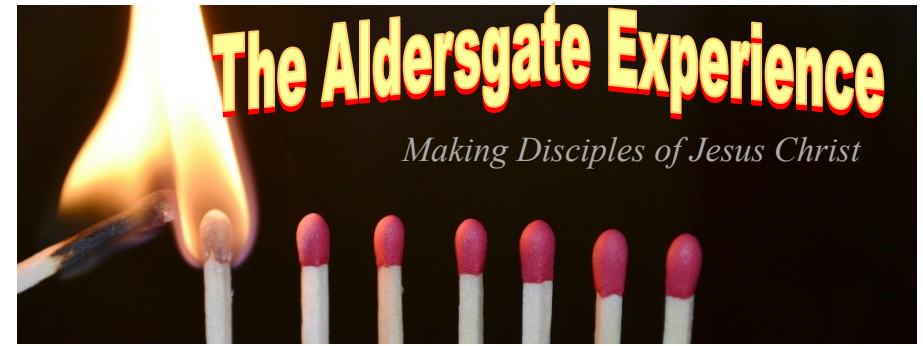
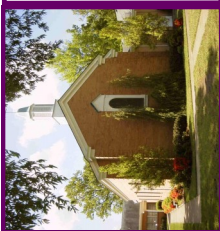


June
2021

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



June 2021

Vol. 24 Issue 6

Pastor Lee and Cindy....



May God Bless your new ministry!



Farewell

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve at Aldersgate for the past 5 years. Your acceptance of Cindy and I has made our time here most enjoyable. Together, we have gone through some seasons of change, and you embraced it with steady faithfulness. I thank God for your passion and commitment as followers of Jesus. I take with me many wonderful memories for which I am grateful.

As of July 1, you will have a new pastor. I know you will love and support Pastor Bert as you did Cindy and I. God has great plans for Aldersgate, and I am convinced that Pastor Bert will help lead you there.

I want to say farewell with the words of Paul:
(2 Corinthians 13:11)

Dear brothers and sisters, I close my letter with these last words: Be joyful. Grow to maturity. Encourage each other. Live in harmony and peace. Then the God of love and peace will be with you.

And now, lift up your faces and received this blessing.

You are the light of the world. Let your light shine!
May God grant that for each and every one of you...

Amen!



Worship Team Rehearsal Schedule

June 6	10:00 am	Sanctuary
June 13	10:00 am	Sanctuary
June 20	10:00 am	Sanctuary
June 26	10:00 am	Sanctuary

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
Parsonage: 757-461-3201

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

Follow the Sun

Make a sunflower, which turns its head to follow the sun.

What you need:

- Paper plate
- Yellow marker
- Scissors
- Yarn (black and brown)



What you do:

1. Color the entire plate yellow.
2. Around the edge, cut out an odd number of triangles. Evenly space the cuts to form flower petals.
3. Poke a hole in the plate's center. String black yarn through the hole and over one triangle cut. Tie a knot at the back of the plate.
4. Continue looping yarn through the hole and over the remaining cuts. Secure the end. The flower should look like a wagon wheel with black spokes.
5. Tie the brown yarn to a black "spoke." Weave the brown yarn over and under the spokes in a circle. Continue until the sunflower has a large center. Then tie the end.
6. Display your craft as a reminder to follow the Son, Jesus!



Conundrums of creation

God's creation is filled with amazing and sometimes puzzling works.

Directions: Use the bank of picture clues to answer the riddles.



- You can hold but not touch this. -----
- Before using this, you must break it. ---
- This falls without getting hurt. ----
- This gets bigger the more you take away. ----
- This has an eye but cannot see. -----

"In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the ____.
It is like ... a champion rejoicing to run his course.
It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit
to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth."

PSALM 19:4-6, NIV

Answer: breath, egg, rain, hole, hurricane, sun

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

We are deeply touched from the outpouring of support our church family has shown during Melissa's recent hospital stay.

The food, phone calls, texts, cards and hospital visits have meant so much to our family! Doctors are hopeful for a recovery but will take time.

THANKS
from the
HEART

Your time and effort are very much appreciated by Melissa, Kevin and I.

Fondly,
Michele Floyd

Thank you for allowing us the use of your Social Hall for Toddler Rhyme Time and special thanks to Neal Windley, whose gentle and jovial presence blesses us all. McKenzie Newman



Christian Sympathies are extended to Neal and Marguerite Windley for the passing of Neal's sister in May.

Issue in Focus

Pastor's Message

Lay Ministry for the month

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

Ministry in Time—Pics

Farewell messages from e congregation

And a whole lot more!



COME, JOIN US FOR A



**Farewell
Celebration**

**SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH
1 PM
CHURCH YARD**

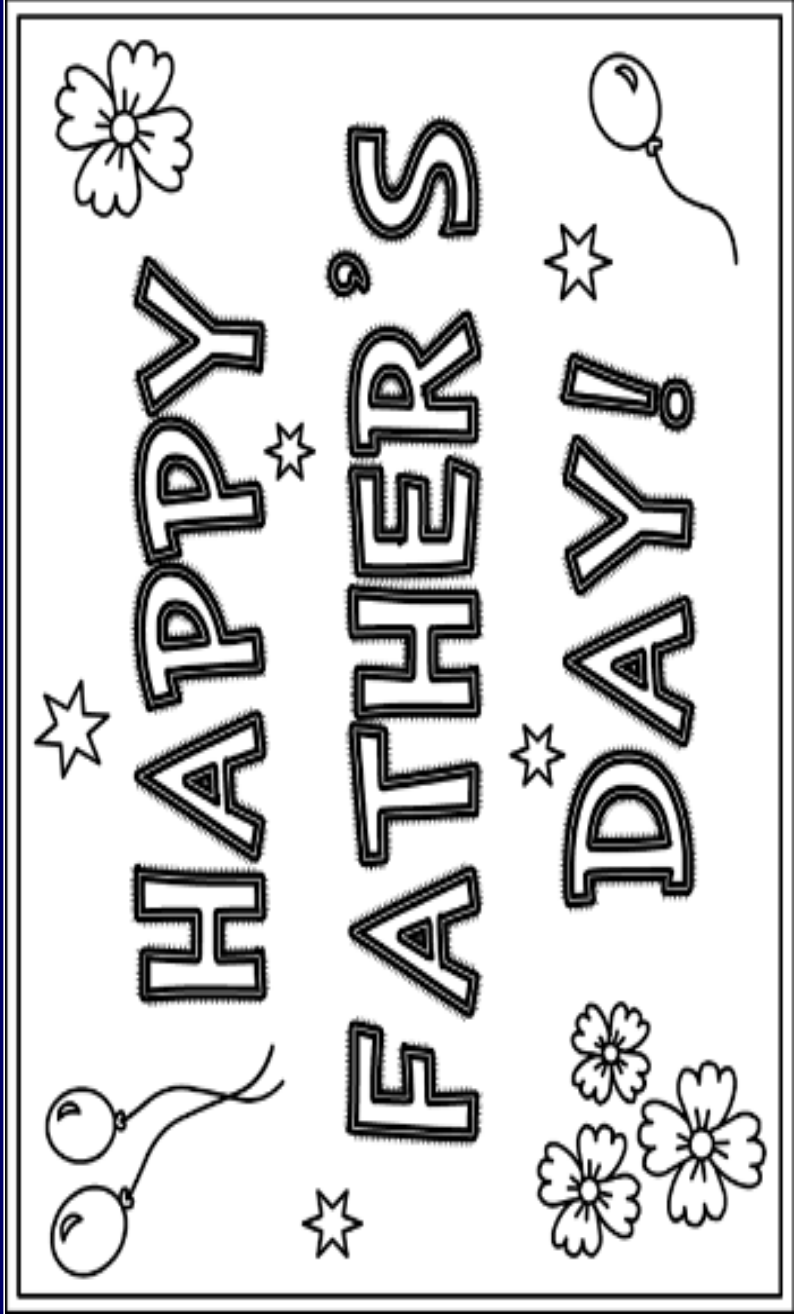
**CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF
PASTOR LEE AND CINDY CROSBY**

**HAMBURGERS AND HOTDOGS
PROVIDED
PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE
PICNIC SIDE DISH**

**RSVP TO THE CHURCH OFFICE NO
LATER THAN JUNE 8TH DUE TO
SPACE LIMITATIONS**



Color me, Cut me out and give to your favorite "Dad"



TEAM UPDATES

So much work, so little time...Thank you ladies for your dedication to serve. It has been my honor to work alongside each of you!

Bless you, Cindy

Community Dinner Team

Leads: Debbie Supper and Cindy Albertson

Assistants: Lucinda Williams, Norma Tipora, Lily Tipora, Claudia Ganaden, Linda Crabtree

Care Response Team

Lead: Millie Hanson

Assistants: Mary Ellen Gillispie, Sherry Williams, Ann Manuel

Remember we are always:

Serving Neighbors, Seeking Friends



Some Ministry
Memories

Corn Hole Tournaments

Choir concerts at
Nursing Centers



Mission Team
Trips

Rise Against
Hunger



Saying Farewell but not Good-Bye

I saw a quote recently that said “Christians don’t say good bye—we say Until we meet again” This is so true for the pastors and their families of the Methodist church. We never know when we will meet again... A conference meeting, a district event or even at another local church. Pastors are always being moved to further their ministry. This is a sad but necessary event.

At the end of June we will say farewell to our Pastor, Lee and his wife, Cindy. They have been with us for the past 5 years. We have celebrated many good times, many community events and many, many ministries.



Those sermon series’ have been enlightening and have brought us closer to God in a lot of Ways...We have followed the yellow brick road, heard about Daniel and his faithful ways, and unleashed our worship.

Who could forget Pastor Lee’s rendition of the blues during many Fireside Shows (it is still on the Facebook Page) or his playing the drum during the service. You never knew what to expect on Sunday morning.

Thanks to Cindy, our worship experience was heightened by her love of music and the many new ways she expressed it with the Worship Team. Her energy is exhausting to most of us. Her love of doing things for others will always stay with us as we continue some of the groups she started.



Yes, we have to say farewell for now, but their ministries will live on in Aldersgate as we continue our associations with our community outreach partners.

So, Lee and Cindy...”until we meet again”....
May God Bless you and Keep You....



It has been a long year since March 2020 yet the music stayed in our hearts even though we couldn’t sing it with our lips. The time to sing has begun once again and it is glorious to give praise to our God through song.

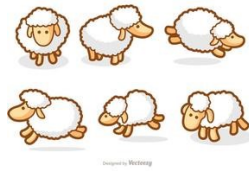
My time here as the Music Director has been a wonderful joy; filled with challenges, successes, fun, and family love. I know whoever follows in this position will bring the music together. Much work has gone into the last 5 years with new equipment, video upgrades and the use of new music. I thank each of you for the support given as we walked through those changes. I know they will continue in the months to come. Thank you to the team: Ann, Diane, Cynthia, Marguerite, Sherry, Vic, Gary, Greg, Guy, Anna Lee Sylvia, Chelsea, Jasiah, Jai-Marie and Bella for all the amazing efforts in music—you are all my treasures.

A special thanks to Greg, Guy, Gary and Vic for their dedicated work during the pandemic to continue with music even though it was a difficult time.

May God bless you all, church family, I take with me your love and joy....I will miss you greatly! Always sing praise to HIM!!

Cindy Crosby, Director of Music

Notes of farewell from the flock



Lee and Cindy,
I know you put your heart and souls into the church and its people. I know because I felt it; I still feel it. While I will miss you both dearly, it is with the keen awareness that you will give that energy to another church, another people and it will be for the good. You are truly servants of God.

Kathy O'Hara

On the occasion of Pastor Lee and Cindy's move from AUMC to their new church(s), we both wanted to express our sincere appreciation for the outstanding jobs they have both done during their time they shared with us. Lee and Cindy are an awesome team who have inspired our church to a new level of living a life of faith and have been a blessing to Aldersgate. Your steadfast leadership will be deeply missed! Good luck to the both of you in your future assignment and may God bless the both of you!

Sincerely, Greg and Kathy Dziagwa

We will miss you!! Enjoy YOUR very own home and being closer to that grandson.

Love Millie & Dewey

It has been rather refreshing to see GOD in action ; that is what I have experienced the entire time you and Cindy have been with us . I do not know what church you both will be assigned to , but I do know they will be truly blessed to have you.

Praying you both will continue to be a blessing to your new congregation, and I hope they recognize and appreciate your gifts and your talents.

Praying GOD be with you both as you continue on your Christian journey and your Calling.

Be blessed, your sister in Christ, Beverly

Thank you for all you have done for us! You will be missed
Guy, Diane and Guy III Willis

Father's Day

We would be remiss if we didn't give the same attention to fathers that we do to our mothers.

Fathers, somehow, always get forgotten. We look for that special gift for our mom but dad gets the same old tie or tee shirt. Mom gets breakfast in bed...dad is lucky if the children even remember it is Father's Day.

As Christians we all have the same Father. One who is loving, forgiving, caring and always with us. Sometimes it is hard for us to remember because we relate more to Jesus, the Son, more easily than to the Father. I wonder if we are sometimes more afraid to ask "The Father" than to ask Jesus even though they are one and the same. The Trinity is so hard for us to understand.

In some cultures your prayers are directed more to Jesus than to Our Father or to specific saints for whatever the situation may be. St. Christopher, St. Francis, etc.

This Father's Day (June 20th) make your dad feel extra special. Invite him to lunch after church, or make his favorite dinner. Find that perfect gift whatever it may be. Let's give him the same attention we do our Moms.



Birthdays

6/6 Diane Willis 6/29 Bella Hanson
6/10 Melissa Floyd



Anniversaries



6/26 Dewey and Millie Hanson
Happy 50th

Remember in Prayer

Home: Cassandra Lewis, Chelsie Richburg
Aaron Russo, John Russell, Vic Russo,
Bonnie Mae Savage



PRAYER MINISTRY

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.

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.



Newsletter Deadline
Tuesday, June 15th
for the July 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

Steve Carter, Linda Crabtree

Counters

6/6 Debbie Supper, Bill Bunch
6/13 Mille Hanson, Gary Albertson
6/20 Kevin Floyd, Linda Crabtree
6/27 Greg Dziagwa, Jim Powers



Lawn Maintenance



6/7 Team 2
6/13 Team 3
6/21 Team 1
6/28 Team 2

Calendar Highlights

6/6 7 PM Called Charge Conference

6/8 Deadline for reservations for
Farwell Picnic

6/13 Guest Speaker at Worship Service

6/20 Father's Day Service

6/27 Pastor Lee and Cindy's final service



More great pics of ministry in action



Lots of good times to remember, food collections, coats for kids; light rail greetings, Live Nativity, Good Friday, and so much more.



Union Mission – YUM Bags, Mission Accomplished!

Good News!

With the donations collected for YUM Bags, Aldersgate UMC has delivered 655 breakfast bags to the Union Mission.

These bags have helped support the City of Norfolk's and Union Mission's efforts to help the homeless during the COVID pandemic. Purchases of granola bars, cereal bars, yogurt cups, fruit cups, juices and water were packed in lunch bags, loaded and transported to the Union Mission to be dispersed to the lodging used to house the homeless. While working on this project, we have been ever mindful that your generosity made these efforts possible. Thank you for donating to this project.

Special thanks to Kathy, Lucinda, Barbara and Linda for helping shop, pack and transport the bags. Additional thanks to Lucinda for providing the majority of the lunch bags that were packed.

Even though this project is ending, we will be looking for additional opportunities to help and serve the less fortunate. I hope you will consider helping again next time either by contributing donations or participating directly.

Bill Bunch

