



The Gateway

MARCH 2018

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday Mornings:

8:30 and 10:45 AM

- 8:30 AM worship is Communion and Meditation in the Chapel.
- 10:45 AM worship is a Family service in the Sanctuary. During the school year, our choirs and praise band, The Fire Within, provide inspirational music.
- See inside for additional worship and fellowship opportunities.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

March 4 / Communion Sunday, First Sunday Offering, Message: "Humility"

March 11 / Message: "Frugality"

March 18 / Message: "Generosity"

March 25 / Palm Sunday Celebration

April 1 / Easter Sunday worship at 7:30 and 10:45 with breakfast at 8:30 a.m.

See inside for details on these events and more.

**Encouraging
Enriching &
Empowering**



Warmed Thoughts FROM THE PASTOR

JOURNEY OF Faith

Let me begin by saying a HUGE thank you to our Chair of SPPR, Tony Edgington who has shouldered and continues to carry responsibilities for our transition in pastoral leadership, as well as caring for the wonderful staff that we have at Aldersgate.

I have just heard from our District Superintendent that my last Sunday at Aldersgate will be on June 24. I continue to hold the Aldersgate Church family as well as the St. Andrew church family in my prayers. Sometime in the next month or so, the SPPR committee will be meeting with our District Superintendent, Scot Ocke, to prepare for the next pastor. After that dialogue and introduction, the announcement will be made to inform the congregation who that new pastor will be.

In preparation for my vacating my office, I will place books that I will not be taking with me outside my office on a bookcase. Periodically I will remove any books still left on the bookcase to a second hand bookstore and put new books on the bookcase.

As we go through this Lenten period, I invite you to consider the sacrifice Jesus made for you and me. He left His heavenly home and came to live amongst us; He experienced human frailty; suffered abuse and torture; He suffered pain and anguish; His body was broken and He bled. As we consider the sacrifices of Jesus and

seek to follow Him know that we too might experience life the same way.

Being a Christ follower does not give us immunization from the hardships. In either case we are given the strength to endure and the courage to go forward as we keep our eyes on one who understands and gives us hope—Jesus.

May the prayer of St. Francis be our prayer for this Lenten Season. Our world is in turmoil, and as Christ followers we are the instruments God can use to usher in God's Kingdom on earth. May prayer become our cornerstone for our lives as individuals as well as a church.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:

where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

OUR STAFF

PASTOR

Lilanthi Ward

SENIOR MINISTRIES

Barbara Myers and John Paschen

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

DIRECTOR

Christian Taylor

HEALTH MINISTRY

Lynn Creager

STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADER

Larry Godfrey

CHANCEL CHOIR

DIRECTOR

Jacob Smith

CELEBRATION RINGERS

DIRECTOR

Jacob Smith

ORGANIST

Judy East

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Alana Danko

CUSTODIAN

Becky Buchanan

THE GATEWAY VOLUNTEERS

Annie Bailey
Pat Bischoff
Rose Bodeman
Helen Denniss
Nancy Einhart
Helen Gebhard

Sarah Hess—*Editor*
Nancy Liming
Vergie Johnston
Barb Myers
Debbie Myers

THE GATEWAY NEWS!

The Gateway Newsletter has been a monthly reading staple in Aldersgate households for decades. Communication in our community and world is constantly changing and evolving. The church communication process through the Gateway is changing, also.

We have come up with three options for everyone to get their church information beginning in May.

1. For those who do not have access to a computer, you may request that you still receive a printed version of The Gateway in the mail by calling the church office at 419-473-1294.
2. Copies will be available each month to pick up at the church for those who prefer a printed copy.
3. For those who have access to a computer and the internet, The Gateway will be found online at the church website: aldersgatetoleidoumc.org

Thank you for your cooperation as we seek to be good stewards of our resources as well as maintain healthy communication.

– Your Gateway Staff



GIFT CARDS

Stop at the Welcome Center in the Narthex to place or pick up your order on these dates: *Order: March 25 Pickup: April 1*



INCLEMENT WEATHER During inclement weather we will inform Channel 11 and Channel 13 if we are not having worship on Sunday. For information regarding meetings, please call either the church office or your team leader.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

HOLY THURSDAY SERVICE

March 29th at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary to receive Holy Communion and hear the events of this Holy Thursday through Scripture, song and meditation.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

March 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary a time to remember the crucifixion of Jesus through Scripture and song.

EASTER MORNING WORSHIP

April 1 – Communion in the Narthex at 7:30 a.m. and Celebration Service at 10:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Celebration Breakfast is at 8:30 a.m. in Meinhart Hall. Come celebrate the Risen Christ with thanksgiving. Invite friends to come to worship!



LENTEN STUDY

Wednesdays 12:00–1:00 p.m. and 6:00–7:30 p.m. with soup. Come on a journey with Albert Day as we read Scriptures that remind us of what it means to be a Disciple of Christ. Each week we will read from Albert's book *Discipline and Discovery* as a large group and in small groups to discuss how this applies to life and walking the path to follow Christ.

CY&F MINISTRY LUNCHEON

March 18 / After 10:45 worship. All are welcome to join us at our March youth and family luncheon. Come and get information for the upcoming week of missions and serving in our local community. Menu: Corned Beef, cabbage and potatoes.

All registrations for the mission trip are due first week of April 2018. Deposits of \$50.00 are due at time of registration to ensure your spot.

For more information contact: Christian Taylor at 614-270-8899 or Katie Collins at 419-345-3539

PRAYER LABYRINTH

During Holy Week the prayer labyrinth will be open for you to walk at your own pace between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. and again in the evenings between 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. When you enter the labyrinth you will be given a CD player with instructions on walking the path and what to do at each of the stations along the path. Up to six people can walk the path at any one time.

If you have a CD player we can borrow for this time or if you would like to be involved in setting up the labyrinth on March 25, please call the church office.



There is power in persistent prayer.

- Micah 7:7

BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH

You are invited to use these prayer cards (shown to the right and are also available at the back of the sanctuary) **TO PRAY** for ourselves and the church at Aldersgate **DAILY AT 4:30 P.M.** (The time correlates with our address: 4030 Douglass Rd.)

We are expecting God to revive our church and community and the foundation for that is the people of God praying together. Everyone is asked to pray wherever they might be at 4:30 p.m., and if you are awake at 4:30 a.m., you can pray then too! God is doing a new thing in our midst and we can all be part of that when we join together to pray.



Pray at 4:30



Gracious God, today I pray for our church, for the wisdom and courage to show up, stand up and speak up for Your truth. *By the power of the Holy Spirit may we experience the breakthrough necessary to stop Satan in his tracks and set us and our community free from his power. Remove the barriers that stop us from seeing and hearing the needs of others and how you want us to meet them. By your Holy Spirit, show us how to be effective instruments to be used for your Kingdom work. In Jesus name I pray. Amen.*



At Aldersgate, Connection Groups are a vital part of our time spent with God and with our community. Take a look at these possibilities and if you don't see what you are looking for or want more information, you can check our website, or contact our office with your suggestion.

SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:30 to 10:30 AM

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Discussion group about current issues and faith.

BIBLE IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Discipline and Discovery (See page 3 for details.)

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY FUN

Sunday Fun group leaders:

Infants & Pre-schoolers

Kara Brown

1st-3rd Grade

Catherine & Corey Grice,

4th-5th Grade

Sue Keaton & Sharon Merritt.

If you are willing to sub for any of these age groups please contact Amy Allen at 419-215-4483.

WOMEN

RUTH CIRCLE

March 14 / 1:00 PM
September-May.

LYDIA CIRCLE

March 26 / 7:00 PM / Choir Room. September-May. We are continuing our DVD study, "The Longing in Me."

ALDERSGATE

LADIES BOOK CLUB

March 28 / 7:00 PM
Choir Room. We will be reading *Bear Town* by Fredrick Backman.

MEN

MEN'S GROUP

This group meets the first and third Sundays of each month during the school year from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in a member's home. The group is open to all men from 18 on up.

WOMEN & MEN

PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY

Discipline and Discovery (See page 3 for details.)

EUCHRE

March 23 / 7:00 PM / All are welcome, even if you don't know how to play Euchre. Bring a snack or beverage to share. Coffee is provided.

AUDIO-VISUAL CLUB

This group meets Mondays at 5:30 to 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.



TRAVELING LIGHT LIFE GROUP

This group meets at a member's home on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 PM. They study, fellowship and travel life's roads together. A video/discussion study by Joyce Meyer on the Book of Colossians.

SENIORS

WEST PARK PLACE

3501 Executive Pkwy, Toledo, OH

Bible Study:

March 7 / 2:30 PM

Folding Chair Theater:

March 12 / 1:30 PM

Worship:

March 18 / 2:00 PM

All are welcome to join together in a time of worship and celebration of our Christian Faith.

ELDERSGATE

March 20 / 12:00 PM / **Potluck Lunch.** Bring a favorite dish to share. We meet in Meinhart Hall. Please make reservations by 7:00 pm the Sunday evening before by calling Vicky at (419) 292-1004.

Entertainment will be the Sylvania Senior Center Band.



MUSIC

CHANCEL CHOIR

Rehearsals: Thursday Evenings 7:00 PM / Adult choir that provides worship music at the 10:45 am worship and some special services. September-May.

THE FIRE WITHIN PRAISE BAND

Rehearsals: Monday Evenings
5:30 PM / A contemporary group
that helps lead worship on Sunday
mornings at 10:45 am and for
special events.

CELEBRATION RINGERS BELL CHOIR

Rehearsals: Thursday Evenings
6:00 PM / Adult bell choir that
plays monthly at the 10:45 am
worship and some special services.
September–May

CHILDREN'S BELL CHOIR

Rehearsals: Thursdays at
5:00 PM. 1st grade on up are
welcome to join. They play at the
10:45 am service occasionally.
September–May

COMMUNITY

BOB EVANS

4805 Monroe Street, Toledo
March 6 & 20 / 8:00 AM to 7:00
PM. Don't only go to taste the food
but taste the sweet fellowship of
eating with friends and knowing
that the cost of your meal is also
supporting ministry at Aldersgate.

DEVEAUX ELEMENTARY

2620 W. Sylvania Avenue,
Toledo / An ongoing partnership
of helping with supplies, in the
library, mentoring and tutoring.
Contact Christian Taylor for more
information.

Tutoring: Wednesdays after school.

Bell Choir: Thursdays after school.



FRIENDLY CENTER

March 13 / 12:00 PM / Guild
Meeting at The Friendly Center.
Reservations are needed by
March 9. Contact Joan Pitson
at 419-476-7132.

UMW EVENTS

Maumee Watershed District UMW
has asked Aldersgate to host their
spring meeting on Saturday,
April 21, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
We will need volunteers to help
prepare the lunch and assist the
board wherever needed.

Also, on Friday, May 4 and
Saturday, May 5 we will have a
rummage sale. This will be a \$5.00
bag sale both days with setup on
Wednesday and Thursday. When
you clean out your closets this
spring keep us in mind. If you
need your items stored until the
sale, Sally Finnegan has room in
her garage.

This year's assembly will be from
May 18–20 in Columbus, OH.
Contact Joan Pitson at
419-476-7132 for more
information.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

March 9 / 6:30 p.m.

Come and enjoy some British
Humor. We will watch a few
British comedy shows and enjoy
concessions that will be available
for purchase. A free will donation
will be taken.

Feed Your Soul
**FEED YOUR
NEIGHBOR**

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017

Dear Friends,

During 2017, your Northwest
Toledo Feed Your Neighbor pantry
distributed food and personal care
items to 5,249 of our people. These
people included 1,810 children
under the age of eighteen.

This total continues the declining
trend of the past several years.
I hope that this trend continues,
for it reflects improved living
conditions in the northwest Toledo
neighborhood.

Thanks to the many volunteers
from different churches in the area
who support our efforts. Working
with the poor, you are walking in
the footsteps of our Lord Jesus.

Due to the demise of Toledo
Area Ministries, our Feed Your
Neighbor Program now falls under
the auspices of Lutheran Social
Services. Our pantry will continue
to be located within Augsburg
Lutheran Church.

Thanks to all that you do!

In Christian Love,

Dick Miller, Coordinator

Feed Your Neighbor Site #4

Augsburg Lutheran Church

HEALTH MINISTRIES

SURPRISING THINGS YOUR DENTIST MAY FIND

When your dentist is checking for cavities and gum disease, he is also looking for signs of oral cancer, diabetes, acid reflux and more.

Bleeding gums are a classic sign of periodontal disease, but if they don't improve with treatment—flossing and brushing, everything looks good, but they are still bleeding—you may suspect Type 2 diabetes.

Certain sores of the mouth could be human papilloma virus, which can develop into cancer. Other sores could be shingles, which is fairly easy to distinguish because shingles never goes past the midline of the mouth.

Damaged enamel happens with long-term exposure to acid. People with reflux disease or bulimia often have acid in their mouths, which causes problems only a dentist can see. On the inside, the enamel will be all gone. On the lip side, the teeth are white.

Diabetes, antidepressants and blood pressure medications can cause dry mouth, which makes you prone to cavities. If you don't have saliva, the food just sits there on your teeth. Medications are the main reason for dry mouth.

Bad breath is the result of poor oral-hygiene habits and periodontal disease. If it persists, stomach acid may be to blame. Sugary breath is also concerning. "Sweet smelling candy breath" is an indicator of uncontrolled diabetes.

Tooth loss is seen more in older patients. Osteoporosis may play a role, but poor brushing habits are

often to blame, especially among patients with dementia.

When your dentist takes a panoramic x-ray, it shows your carotid artery. If he sees a blockage, then you should go to your doctor immediately because it could be a warning sign of a heart attack.

Most people go to the dentist twice a year, which is more often than most people see their doctor, so they might pick up on a non-dental problem sooner.

By seeing your dentist regularly, you can stay on top of your overall health.

– Your Parish Nurse,
Lynn Creager, RN

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

March 21 / 1:00 PM / In the Choir Room. (The date/time change is to accommodate those folks who don't drive after dusk.) Open to all who are struggling with loss in their lives. It may be a loved one, the loss of a home, or job, or pet. There are many events that can cause us to experience grieving. Pastor John Paschen will be facilitating this group.

GIVING THANKS!

Dear Pastor Lilanthi and members of Aldersgate,

I am sorry my appreciation is so late incoming, but, I have been in hospitals and rehab most of the past year. I was very happy to receive all of the lovely cards and prayers. I am young in spirit, but the OLD body tells me otherwise. I have been a member for 58 years, and miss being with all of you very much.

Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I do all of you.

Thanks again

Dorothy Unruh

THE ALDERSGATE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP GRANT

We want to remind all the members of the church that the deadline for scholarship grant applications is April 1. Education Scholarship Grant Applications have been placed in the pews in the welcome information folder. The church office can mail you an application if requested.

This year, we would like you to consider gathering up any loose change laying around the house, in the drawer, or the bottom of your purse. Then, deposit those pennies, dimes, nickels, and pennies of change in the Education Scholarship container found in the Narthex of the church. Look for the pile of textbooks on the table with a donation jar sporting a graduate's mortar board. We are turning "Change Into Dollars For Scholars."

Remember memorials and designations for the Education Scholarship are really appreciated but we are unable to acknowledge the donation since we are not privy to who made the gift.

God Bless Your efforts !

Sincerely yours,

David J. Neuendorff

Aldersgate Education Scholarship Grant 2018 Committee

BIRTHDAYS

March 1

Greg Hite
Kevin McKenty

March 2

Kevin Crowl

March 3

Frank Scherer

March 4

Carter Depew

March 5

Richard Corliss

March 8

Rose Bodeman
Nikki Tafelski

March 9

Darla Cully

March 10

Elliot Boerst
Vivian Dunn
Emma Smith

March 11

Tom Blansett

March 12

Morgan
Anderson
Corey Baker
B. J. Wilkins

March 13

Al Davis
Kenneth Samples

March 15

Stephanie Cole
Benjamin
Dawson

March 16

Kevin Kramer
Lillian Thomas

March 17

Karen Allison
Florence Gibson

March 19

Alexis Tafelski

March 20

Sara Allan
Makynna Crowl

March 21

Jason Brobst

March 22

Scott Limpf

March 24

Dan Baxley

March 25

Jan Kennedy

March 27

Tatum Boerst
Joe Wertz

March 28

Lauren Bedee

March 29

Kyle Garner

March 30

Kara Brown

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Report Ending January 31, 2018

Contact Carol Marckel at (419) 509-2243 if you would like information on how to make direct debit payments for your pledged giving to Aldersgate.

Total Income

Total Income (YTD) \$20,209.50
Total Expenses (YTD) \$28,151.52
Net Income/(loss) YTD (\$7,942.02)

Conference Apportionments

WOC Paid (YTD) \$00,000
WOC Assigned Apportionments
(Budget) \$00,000
Balance Due \$0

District Apportionments

District Paid (YTD) \$0,000
District Assigned Apportionments
(Budget) \$0,000
Balance Due \$0

As of January 31st we have not finalized the budget for 2018 but that information will be coming next month. Thank you to all members who have turned in their pledge cards. It is not too late to send them in.

STEWARDSHIP SHARING ON SUNDAY, MARCH 4TH

Being a member of any family comes with responsibilities—we teach children to be involved in the care of the home—teaching them chores that are age appropriate and encouraging them to participate as a member of the family.

The same attitude is appropriate to apply to our church family. All of us have a responsibility to help with caring for our church its building and the ministries. Like at home, we have to pay heating and electric bills, we pay for our staff that continues to bring vision and purpose for all that we do to build God's Kingdom at great sacrifice.

On Sunday, March 4, there will be a time towards the end of worship to share with the church family the joys and concerns about our resources to serve God's kingdom here on earth. All are invited to come to hear what the Ad Board and Finance team have been working on with our stewardship for 2018.

Average Monthly Sunday Attendance

January 2018: 129





The Gateway

Non-Profit Organization
US Postage Paid
Permit No 556
Toledo OH

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
4030 Douglas Road Toledo Ohio 43613

Address Service Requested



Worship & Study

8:30 and 10:45 AM, 6:30 PM
Sunday Worship Services

Connection Groups

Call the Church Office for details

(419) 473-1294 *Church Office Telephone*

(419) 473-1295 *Church Office Fax*

(419) 474-7144 *Precious People Preschool Telephone*

E: office@aldersgatetoledoumc.org

W: www.aldersgatetoledoumc.org



S: facebook.com/aldersgatetoledoumc