



The Gateway

JULY 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.



Welcome

Encouraging
Enriching &
Empowering



Warmed Thoughts FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
As I write to you I am reminded of all the wonderful words of hope that Paul gave to the churches that he had visited or planned to visit. My hope is that you may be encouraged to begin a new journey building on what God has already done with you, for you and through you and your previous leadership.

Pastor Lilanthi and your leadership team have welcomed me with grace and peace as we begin this transition. I read somewhere, perhaps at the "Starting Well" training, that a successful Olympic runner was asked what he attributed his success to. After thinking for only a minute he responded that their success as a team was the ability to

pass the baton successfully. He said he knew that they were fast, that they could outrun any of the other teams, but if they couldn't pass the baton, it would be a fail. Again, and again, they would practice handing off the baton until it was seamless. Pastor Lilanthi and your team have mastered this. For that I am grateful and able to come to you and receive the vision that God has given to you for this area of Toledo and around the world.

Just a few words about myself so that you might get a sense of my journey in life so far.

My family and I are excited to be a part of Aldersgate United Methodist church. My husband, Rob, and I have three adult children, Andrew, Marlaina and Matthew. We also have one grandson, Robert, who will be in the 5th grade this year. We have a dog named Stan that is part of our family and I am an avid

equestrian, (a fancy way of saying I ride horses).

I have been serving in the West Ohio Conference for over twenty years. I am passionate about addressing the issues of heroin addiction, human trafficking, and prison ministry in regards to those being incarcerated, returning citizens and victims of crime.

I am also concerned with the fair treatment of people especially in regards to immigration issues.

I thank you and the Bishop for allowing me to be part of your story. I am excited to get started and see what God has in store for us at Aldersgate.

Serving in Christ,

– Melissa Steinecker.

NEW MONTH.
new beginning.
NEW MINDSET.
new focus.
NEW START.
new intentions.
NEW RESULTS.

OUR STAFF

- PASTOR**
Rev. Melissa Steinecker
- SENIOR MINISTRIES**
Barbara Myers and John Paschen
- INTERIM CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES DIRECTOR**
Katie Collins
- 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 | Sarah Hess— <i>Editor</i> |
| Pat Bischoff | Nancy Liming |
| Rose Bodeman | Vergie Johnston |
| Helen Denniss | Barb Myers |
| Nancy Einhart | Debbie Myers |
| Helen Gebhard | |

A SCRIPTURE SECOND (OR TWO)

Scripture Inspiration | James 1:19a NIV
19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak...

We are in the midst of training new Stephen Ministry caregivers and one of the most important aspects for them to learn is **listening**. How well do you listen when others are speaking? I must confess, I have too many moments when I have been more concerned with what I have to say or letting my mind drift elsewhere, rather than paying attention to what others are saying.

Being slow (thinking about) in responding is also important. I was conversing with a family member recently and they unknowingly repeated some information they had told me a few days before. I quickly responded by saying, “Yes, that’s what you said the other day.” Their physical response was one of being taken aback and feeling inept. I felt bad and tried to repair my mistake by remarking that I do that all the time (which I do). I wished I would have just let them tell me about it again as if it were new.

Listening is true for the written word, as well as the spoken word. How many times have you quickly skimmed through a text message or email and derived a completely different meaning than what the sender intended? Did you respond too quickly or inappropriately? What problems did it cause?

Work on making it a habit to being fully present when you are listening (or reading). Be quick to listen and slow to speak.

Peace be with you,
 – Sarah Hess, Editor

THANK YOU!

Words can not express my gratitude to all who helped to prepare the farewell service and luncheon, especially Tony Edgington who worked tirelessly ever since he was informed about the new appointment many months ago.

I truly appreciated the very generous love offering, the beautiful painting and canvas picture of the church, to name a few of the gifts I received. I am opening the cards and messages one by one and I am very touched by your heartfelt thanks and individual tokens of appreciation.

Thank you for the beautiful dance routine and the amazing music provided by all our musicians.

Thank you for the youth who did so much work bringing together the luncheon behind the scenes and to all for the delicious lunch.

Thank you to Sarah Hess who helped with the design of the banner.

I will forever remember our time at Aldersgate with much love and thank God for lives transformed—yours and ours. Blessings to you as God grows you to reach new people for the Kingdom.

A thanks offering, from all I have received, will be given towards funding for our next Children, Youth and Family Ministries director. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Blessed to be a blessing,
 – Pastor Lilanthi Ward



SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU

Dear Aldersgate United Methodist Church,

I thank my whole church family for their generosity for bestowing me with a financial grant towards my education. It will allow me to afford my school books or help me with paying my university’s tuition. Aldersgate United Methodist church has been a great support system when seeing me through my academic career. They were very involved during my high school graduation last summer of 2017, and recognized me as one of their graduating church members. In receiving this grant from the church, it further proves how much they support me in my academic endeavors.

I attend Wittenberg University, which provides me with several opportunities to build upon my education and prepare me for a successful career. I declared my major in Sociology-Criminology, in which I hope to work with juvenile delinquents or troubled individuals to get back up on their feet. I also feel the passion for wanting to protect and serve my community, so I think my declared major and possible future in law enforcement will help me fulfill my

passion. With this, I want to thank Aldersgate United Methodist Church in helping me pursue that passion by awarding me with a generous grant.

In being gifted with this financial grant from the church I hope to continue my academic career at Wittenberg University. By continuing my academic career at Wittenberg, I feel like I can fully reach my full potential as a student, as well as pursuing my passion in the law enforcement field. I feel my church family at Aldersgate is very supportive of my education and my passions, so I want to thank everyone who is part of the church for their kindness, generosity, and spiritual support when it comes to my schooling.

Thank you,
 – Aislynn Ward

A DAILY THANKSGIVING PRAYER

“Dear God, Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you for your great love and care. Thank you for your sacrifice so that we might have freedom and life. Forgive us for when we don’t thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you’ve given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. We give you praise and thanks, for You alone are worthy!
 In Jesus’ Name, Amen.”

– Debbie McDaniel,
 Crosswalk.com Contributor

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.



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.

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

September 12 / 1:00 PM
September-May.

LYDIA CIRCLE

September 24 / 7:00 PM
September-May.

ALDERSGATE LADIES BOOK CLUB

August 29 / 7:00 PM
Choir Room.

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

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Anyone interested in becoming a Stephen minister or needing a Stephen Minister should contact Larry Godfrey.

EUCHRE

July 20 / 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.

Call the church office to continue receiving a printed copy of *The Gateway* newsletter.

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.

Starting in June, we will be studying Max Lucado's "More to Your Story." Contact Sarah Hess or Karen Price for information.

SENIORS

WEST PARK PLACE

3501 Executive Pkwy, Toledo, OH

Prayer Circle:

September 5 / 2:30 PM

Folding Chair Theater:

July 9 / 1:00 PM

Worship:

July 15 / 2:00 PM

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

ELDERSGATE

July 24 / 12:00 PM / We meet in Meinhart Hall. Please make reservations by 7:00 pm the Sunday evening before by calling Vicky at (419) 292-1004.

Guest speaker is Ms. Dorothy Mockensturm from Good Grief of Northwest Ohio. "Understanding and supporting childhood grief."

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.

COMMUNITY

BOB EVANS

4805 Monroe Street, Toledo
July 3 & 17 / 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 the church office for more information.

FRIENDLY CENTER

GIANT GARAGE SALE!

August 9, 10, 11 / Maumee United Methodist Church.

August 6 and 7, from 9 am to 5 pm, donations will be accepted. Volunteers are needed for setup, pricing, working the sale, and cleanup. For more information contact Diana at 419-345-6542.

Contact Sally Finnegan for help with your donations at 419-382-1714.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

We are selling T-shirts as a fundraiser towards the General Fund here at our church. T-shirt design and sign up will be located in Narthex after church, or you can call the church office to place your order. The cost is \$10.00.

Mission trip week, July 22-28, is fast approaching! We are still in need of drivers for showers (?) and a driver to transport to a couple of our sites. Please contact Katie Collins if you are available to help out.

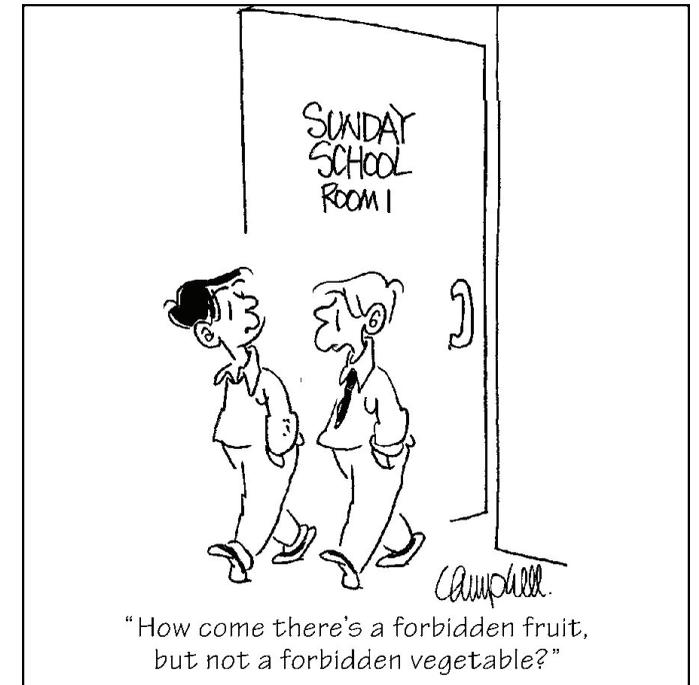
We are also in need of donations of breakfast items (cereal, milk, fruit, yogurt, bagels) and lunch items (bread, jelly, peanut butter, juice boxes, chips, fruit snacks, fruit).

A PRAYER FOR MISSIONS

Matthew 13:8 / TLB

8 But some fell on good soil and produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as he had planted.

Please give ears to hear to those to whom the missionary speaks. Please prepare the listener and let your words fall on good soil. Give the missionary success for your glory.



HEALTH MINISTRIES

OUR STATE OF MIND

A surprising number of Americans still don't recognize the signs of mental illness or know how to seek help. New research from Michigan State University reveals that many people still lack basic knowledge about mental health conditions, their treatments, and how drug and alcohol abuse can sometimes mask the symptoms of common psychiatric disorders.

The survey shows that more than half of those who responded didn't recognize the common signs of anxiety. Most did not know what to do about depression even when they did recognize the signs. A full 80% didn't believe prescription drug abuse is a treatable problem, while 32% didn't recognize the signs of prescription drug abuse.

According to NAMI, one in five Americans lives with a mental health condition. This includes disorders such as depression, anxiety, bipolar, attention-deficit disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, autism, and binge and restrictive eating, as well as less common conditions such as schizophrenia and psychosis.

There is a risk factor for all people to have mental illness. If you get past the age of 25 without any mental illness, you may be less likely to have one. But there is never a time when you're out of the woods. There are life challenges such as postpartum depression, under-employment in your forties and fifties, and elderly folks who are alone and who have lost their support network.

Mental illness is often triggered by something. A first manic episode in college—the onset of bipolar disorder—might be triggered by sleep deprivation or the breakup of a relationship.

Depression is a real, clinical, treatable problem. Once a person begins to have symptoms of sleep deprivation, loss of appetite, inability to concentrate, they're way past the "get over it" model. Depression is a clinical syndrome that can lead to suicide, alcohol overuse, problems with work, and general functioning.

Co-occurring disorders, which are mental health issues and substance issues together, are common. At times, it's a matter of self-medicating, and at times it's not. People using substances may be actively treating, or imperfectly attending to, a mental health vulnerability.

People with mental illness are far more likely to be victims of violence than to be perpetrators of violence.

Your Parish Nurse,
– Lynn Creager, RN

Tonight praying for the one
who wants to be seen and
wants to be heard but is
trapped by their pain.

God sees you and He will not
leave your side.

@ChristianMentalHealth

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

July 9 / 7:00 PM / In the Choir Room. 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.

With it being daylight longer, we are returning to our regular evening meetings on the second Monday of the month.

Pastor John Paschen facilitates this group.



In this church...

We are **REAL,**

We make **MISTAKES,**

We say **"I'M SORRY,"**

We give **SECOND CHANCES,**

We have **FUN,**

We give **HUGS,**

We **FORGIVE,**

We are **PATIENT,**

We **LOVE.**

Encouraging, Enriching & Empowering

BIRTHDAYS

July 1

Alexa Dreyer

July 2

Sherrri Fischer

July 4

Amy Edgington

Nicholas Keaton

Maya Mitchell

July 6

William Keaton

July 7

Matthew Dawson

Jessica Galati

Laura Labrie

July 8

Joy Anderson

July 9

Donald Bailey

Dana Frank

July 12

Rebecca Shaw

July 14

Barbara Myers

July 17

Jonah Galati

July 18

Parker Allan

Diane Ayers

Justin Brobst

Lulu McElroy

July 19

David Lankey

July 22

Cole Kimberly

Geoffrey Shearer

July 23

Helen Schoen

July 24

Macey Ann

Scherer

July 25

Bridget Allen

Jessica Brobst

Brielle Moore

Tom Myers

July 26

Marilyn Poore

July 27

Gail Berning

Harold Keaton

Lilanthi Ward

July 28

Richard Chesko

Jonathan

Edgington

Ralph Engelhardt

Kelsey Garner

Maria Lankey

Vicky Musgrove

July 29

Ken Lager

Leslie

Neuendorff

Daniel Sanderson

July 30

Corrin Krum

Diane Ley

July 31

Carol Marckel

Jodie Piehl



CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Report Ending May 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) \$100,094

Total Expenses (YTD) \$107,431

Net Income/(loss) YTD (\$ 7,337)

Conference Apportionments

WOC Paid (YTD) \$4,300

WOC Assigned Apportionments

(Budget) \$11,000

Balance Due \$6,700

District Apportionments

District Paid (YTD) \$4,000

District Assigned Apportionments

(Budget) \$8,667

Balance Due \$4,667

Thank you to all who faithfully give your time, talents and resources to Aldersgate UMC. We are so blessed to receive tithes and offerings, in the name of our Father, so we may better serve Him. Blessings to all.

Average Monthly Sunday Attendance

May 2018: 125



GIFT CARDS

Stop at the Welcome Center in the Narthex to place or pick up your order on these dates: **Order: September 9 Pickup: September 16**



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