



The Gateway

AUGUST 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

He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all of the plants in the garden, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

– Mark 4:30-34

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I have been with you for only a couple of weeks and already I have seen how much you care for one another and the community around us here at Aldersgate.

Our task as a faith community that seeks, as our mission statement says, "to welcome

and lead all people to Christ," is to become the kingdom of God in the here and now. Our challenge is to find new and relevant ways to do this as we plant and nurture new communities within the congregation that serves the world.

One of the most essential "plants" in our garden is our Youth and Family ministries. Unfortunately, this is also the one that needs our most immediate response. Currently we have no budget for Youth and Family ministries. That means that we are unprepared to staff and support this program.

Youth and Family ministries is the heart and lifeblood of our community, without youth and families we have no community

sustainability. It is the youth who will lead us in the future and families who reach out to and represent the community around us.

I have been meeting with our key leaders, administrative team, finance and staff parish leaders to find ways to ensure the success of this ministry, but we need your help. I would like to invite you to participate with us by sharing your prayers, presence, gifts and service however God is calling you.

We need your **prayers**. We believe that God hears and responds to our prayers when they align with

His will.

We need your **presence** in supporting the youth and family at fundraisers, weekly meetings, and on missions.



We need your **financial gifts** to support and fund a full time Director/Pastor of Children, Youth and Family Ministry in order to sustain a consistent face and direction for this ministry.

Finally, we need your **service** in whatever ways extra hands are needed.

Over the next few weeks we will see the youth "in action" as they are in mission around the Toledo area and leading worship. If you also believe that this is critical to the health of our community and have questions or wish to help, feel free to call me anytime.

Serving in Christ,

– Melissa Steinecker.



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
Pat Bischoff
Rose Bodeman
Helen Denniss
Nancy Einhart
Helen Gebhard

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

A SCRIPTURE SECOND (OR TWO)

Scripture Inspiration | Ephesians 4:4 TLB

4 We are all parts of one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future.

I have a vision in which I see our bodies as the three parts of God. Our heads with our brains represent the Father who provides wisdom and will. Our center body represents Jesus who provides love and compassion. Finally, our limbs represent the Holy Spirit who provides comfort and mobility.

I offer to you a prayer that I often pray to ask God to use these parts to further His Kingdom.

Heavenly Father, today may you fill my head with your thoughts and may my mouth only speak your words.

Use the heart of my body to love and nurture those with whom I come in contact.

Use my arms and hands to hold and comfort those who need you in the flesh.

Use my legs and feet to follow Jesus and take me wherever I can best serve you.

Thank you for this body of Christ.

Peace be with you,
– Sarah Hess, Editor



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.

THE VALUE OF YOUTH TO THE CAUSE OF GOD

by Wayne Jackson,

Which is the most difficult era of human life? Infancy? Adolescence? Mature adulthood? Agedness? It probably depends upon where you are as to how you might answer that query.

While many might suggest that one's sunset years are the hardest, my own judgment would be that the period designated as youth might be the most challenging.

Youth is a frustrating time in life. It is that period when one is hardly old enough to be on his own, and yet he is feeling a sense of independence. Youth ever are attempting to find some sense of identity; that is why they sometimes act and dress so weird. They are bizarre!

But then, so were we.

The Scriptures represent youth as a time both of danger and challenge. Moses said that “the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth” (Gen. 8:21), and Paul admonished Timothy to “flee youthful lusts” (2 Tim. 2:22).

By way of contrast, though, the Creator also recognizes the value of youth to the divine cause. Youngsters have *energy*, they are *daring*, their hearts are filled with *visions of the future*. Indeed, they can be a most valuable component in the service of Jehovah.

Solomon, who wasted much of his life in folly, perhaps thought better of the matter in his declining days. He contended:

“Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, I have no

pleasure in them” (Eccl. 12:1).

Again, Paul would say to Timothy: *“Let no man despise your youth; but you be an example to them that believe, in word, in manner of life, in love, in faith, in purity”* (1 Tim. 4:12).

It strikes me that whereas our youth can be quite impetuous and sometimes a bit silly, they are, nonetheless, a wonderful resource in the kingdom of heaven.

The fact is, the Bible is replete with examples of how God has used younger people in some of the most vital roles in the unfolding of his marvelous plan of redemption.

Let's reflect upon some striking examples that demonstrate God's confidence in youth.

Miriam

As the Hebrew people multiplied in the land of Egypt, they were perceived as a threat to the stability of that nation. Hence the order was given that Israelite male babies were to be thrown into the Nile. When Moses was born, his parents hid him for three months; then, they placed him in a small vessel fashioned from the papyrus plant, which they deposited by the river's edge, committing their precious baby to the care of Jehovah.

In the meantime, Moses' older sister, who is estimated to be about ten or twelve at this time (McClintock, Vol. IV, 330), was posted some distance away, keeping watch. Finally Miriam obtained Jochebed, Moses' own mother, as a nurse for the child. Oh, the ways of providence!

Here is my point. The entire future of the Hebrew nation — the instrument to be employed for the conveyance of the Savior — was entrusted to a young girl.

Does this say something about how God values youth? Assuredly it does.

David

The story of David, who became Israel's king, is too well-known to need elaboration. Who among us, both as child and adult, has not thrilled to the narrative of David's encounter with the devilish Goliath?

What a breathtaking episode — the soldiers of Israel on one side of the valley of Elah, the defiant Philistine champion on the other. Morning and evening for forty days, Goliath had challenged Israel to combat, but they were frozen in fear (1 Sam. 17:10-16).

When David arrived on the scene he was chagrined at the timidity of his Hebrew kinsmen and volunteered to take on the infidel. But he was disdained as a mere “youth” — initially by king Saul himself, and then by Goliath (1 Sam. 17:33,42). Never mind; God was with this “youth,” who may have been about twenty-two or so at the time (Clarke, 264). Goliath was slain and the Philistine force was routed. Edersheim called this victory “the turning point in the history of the theocracy” (89).

Again, the Lord invested in youth, and the cause of truth triumphed.

To read more visit:

www.christiancourier.com/articles/866-value-of-youth-to-the-cause-of-god-the



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
"Follow," an eight-session DVD study by Andy Stanley, takes us on a journey through the Gospels tracing Jesus' teaching on what it means **to follow**. September-May.

ALDERSGATE

LADIES BOOK CLUB

August 29 / 7:00 PM
Choir Room. We are reading "The Great Alone" by Kristin Hannah

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

August 31 / 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.

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:

August 13 / 1:00 PM

Worship:

August 19 / 2:00 PM

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

ELDERSGATE

August 28 / 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 Nancy Kelly with her Tea Pot collection.

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.

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

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
August 7 & 21 / 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

AUGUST 12:

CYMF Leader Planning meeting
12:00 – 2:00 PM

AUGUST 26:

Backpack Sunday. Students bring
backpacks to be blessed.

AUGUST 26:

CYMF Summer Blowout at
Maumee Bay / 1:00 – 5:00 PM.
Bring a snack and drink to share.
Hotdogs and burgers provided.

SEPTEMBER 8:

1-5th grade trip to Ohio Skate
3:00 – 6:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 9:

Sunday School begins
9:30 – 10:30 AM

First Youth group gathering
6:00 – 8:00 PM

IT'S CHICKEN BBQ TIME!

The 44th annual UMM Chicken
BBQ will be held on Saturday,
August 25 from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m.
at the church. Dinners consist of a
chicken half, various side dishes,
dessert and a drink. Dine-in,
take-out, and drive-thru will be
available. Tickets are on sale now
after church services. Prices are
\$10 for adults and \$5 for children.
If you have any questions, feel free
to talk to Alan Hazlett or Anthony
Edgington.

The UMM is looking for volunteers
to help at the 44th annual Chicken
BBQ on Saturday August 25. Also,
anyone willing to donate a dessert
for the BBQ would be greatly
appreciated. Sign-up sheets for
both volunteers and donations
available at the sales table.

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www.glasbergen.com



**“Our pastor says all men are brothers. Does that mean
all men want to pull my underwear up over my head?”**

WHEN HEARTBURN IS DEADLY!

Increased incidence of acid reflux appears to be linked to a spike in one form of a particular lethal cancer. Esophageal adenocarcinoma cancer of the lining of the soft tube that delivers food and drink from the mouth to the stomach has increased sevenfold since the early 1970s. The American Cancer Society estimates that 15,850 Americans will die of esophageal cancers this year. Eighty five percent of esophageal cancers are found in people 55 and older; roughly four times as many men get the disease as women.

The cancer's increase has paralleled the rise of gastroesophageal reflux disease, the medical name for when you have bouts of acid reflux two or more times per week. GERD has several causes, led by obesity, a tendency toward large meals and a high-stress lifestyle. But many people don't realize that common heartburn symptoms can both lead to, and mask, something more serious.

Chronic heartburn can sometimes lead to a disorder called Barrett's esophagus, in which the cells of the esophagus, normally squamous cells like those of your skin, begin to change into glandular cells like those of your stomach. When it's exposed to stomach acid, the esophagus tries to make itself look more like the stomach. Five percent of GERD patients will develop Barrett's, and 10% of those will go on to develop cancer.

Chronic reflux sufferers aren't likely to get immediate care, which is part of the reason esophageal cancer has a five-year survival rate of less than 20%.

If someone has heartburn that is not controlled by medication or simple measures like not lying down after eating, it's critical that they follow up with their doctor. The doctor may order an endoscopy to see if you have signs of esophageal issues. If you have difficulty swallowing, see your doctor immediately; it could be the first sign of a tumor.

Your Parish Nurse,
– Lynn Creager, RN

*Thank
you*

I want to thank everyone who wished me Get Well after my recent fall and surgery.

– Helen Gebhard.



A Prayer for Summer to Autumn

As summer into autumn slips,*

O give me grace today

To rise and turn as
summer's leaves

Draw life and strength from
heavenly rays.

(*first line from Emily Dickinson)

**Sometimes
it's okay if the
only thing you
did today was
breathe.**

goodlifeequator.com



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

August 1

Patricia Goodman
Tyler Merritt
Mary Sampson

August 5

Al Bittner

August 8

Patty Lankey

August 9

Patti Dawson
Phyllis Graves
Madden Potulski

August 10

Sara Boerst
Lauren Potulski

August 12

Kathy Hamm

August 15

Nicole Davis
Olivia Matuszewski
Terry Wilkins

August 16

Jacob Bitter
Michele Sanderson
Meghann Shearer

August 18

Dorian Brown
Zachary Collins
Florence Neuendorff
Zachary Thomas

August 22

Kathy Ledyard

August 23

Benjamin Thomas

August 24

Sharon Gibson
Jack Piehl

August 25

Chris Collins
Alice Miller

August 27

Diane Langhals
Diane Smith

August 28

Nancy Einhart

August 29

Ethan Byram

August 30

Karen Price

August 31

Abby Bammert

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)\$118,292
Total Expenses (YTD)..... \$126,605
Net Income/(loss) YTD..... (\$8,313)

Conference Apportionments

WOC Paid (YTD) \$5,300
WOC Assigned Apportionments
(Budget)\$11,000
Balance Due\$5,700

District Apportionments

District Paid (YTD) \$5,000
District Assigned Apportionments
(Budget) \$8,667
Balance Due \$3,667

Thank you for your generous tithes and giving to Aldersgate. We are truly blessed to have such a caring congregation who live and share God's word. Though our year-to-date expenses currently exceed our receipts, it should be noted that our year-to-date operating loss is \$14,300 less than it was through June 2017. Though our total receipts are down \$8,270 as compared to June 2017 and our total expenses are down \$22,585 compared to the same period. We would like to encourage everyone to continue to be loyal to your stewardship commitments to Aldersgate during the summer months. Even though some may be away more during this period, the church continues to serve our Lord through our ministries. Blessing to all.

Average Monthly Sunday Attendance

June 2018: 148

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