



The Gateway

SEPTEMBER 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

26 Then the Lord's angel said to Philip, "Now go south from Jerusalem on the desert road to Gaza." 27 He left immediately on his assignment. Along the way he encountered an Ethiopian who believed in the God of the Jews, who was the minister of finance for Candace, queen of Ethiopia. He was on his way home from worshipping God in Jerusalem. As he rode along in his chariot, he was reading from the scroll of Isaiah. 29 The Holy Spirit said to Philip, "Go and walk alongside the chariot."

30 So Philip ran to catch up. As he drew closer he overheard the man reading from the scroll of Isaiah the prophet. Philip asked him, "Sir, do you understand what you're reading?" 31 The man answered, "How can I possibly make sense of this without someone explaining it to me?" So he invited Philip up into his chariot to sit with him.

Dear Church,

I have some alarming news to share with you. No truer words have ever been spoken than those of the Ethiopian trying to understand the scriptures. Philip asks him, "Sir do you understand what you are reading?" and he replies, "How can I possibly make sense of this without someone explaining it to me!" We are told that the Ethiopian is someone who "believed in the God of the Jews," and that he was returning from worship in Jerusalem. It is interesting that he was a believer and he was a worshiper but he had no idea of how to understand the scriptures of the Jews without being taught.

I am amazed at the connection that we can have today with some of the events that happened so long ago. We absolutely can relate to this Ethiopian. How many of us are believers in Jesus and worshipers but don't know our scriptures? My guess is that there are many who have tried but without help have simply given up. The truth is we can't understand the scriptures without someone teaching us but that isn't the alarming news. The alarming news is that we don't provide enough opportunities for people to understand the scriptures.

As fall begins, we are all aware of the return to school for our young people. My hope for Aldersgate is that we recommit to the importance of Christian education and expectations for all age groups. It is critical and a foundational understanding of Wesleyan theology to emphasize education. We have our Bible studies beginning again, please join us on Sunday Mornings and throughout the week as we come together to learn and study God's word. There is a list of adult studies for more information in this issue of the Gateway.





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 | Psalm 103:17 NIV

17 But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children—

Joyce Goodyear suggested that I write about how the opioid crisis is affecting grandparents and their role with their grandchildren. This will not be about the statistics, because we all know they are growing at staggering rates. Rather, it will be about coping with the challenges of this situation with God's help and love.

In an excerpt from her book, *Living Somewhere Between Estrogen & Death*, Barbara Johnson tells about a clipping she received from an anonymous source. It read: *Extra love from grandparents goes into a child's psychological bank account, which draws interest and can be used for an emotionally rainy day.* She continues, *"What a comforting thought—to imagine our grandchildren facing some tough decision someday or feeling lonely in some far-off place and suddenly remembering a grandmother's love and being comforted by it."* There is no greater calling than to be a constant source of comfort and love to your grandchildren.

Our world today places such great stresses on how we should act, where we should live, and what we should own. Most people cannot attain or sustain these standards, so many turn to substance abuse to cope. You may have no control over the choices your children make, but with God's help, you may be able to make a difference in your grandchildren's lives. Be strong, be full of love and courage, and rely on the Father, Son and Holy Spirit to guide you on this journey.

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.

SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU

Dear Aldersgate Church Family,

I cannot thank you enough for all of the love and support you have shown me throughout the years I have attended Aldersgate UMC. I have always felt welcome in the church and will always cherish the experiences and people I have come to know. The scholarship I received this year is an amazing gift and I am forever grateful for your generosity.

The money I received will be going towards furthering my education at the University of Cincinnati. While I am studying nursing at the Christ College of Nursing, I will still be taking classes at UC to continue my career in Air Force ROTC. So far in ROTC I have received a Warrior Flight ribbon, Color/Honor Guard Membership Award, and an Achievement Award for superior service. Along with that I have also been able to go outside of ROTC and receive a Silver Medal for the German Arms Proficiency Badge Competition and earn my Air Assault certification.

With what I have done already, I can't wait to see what I am capable of doing this coming school year with the support from this scholarship. Again, I am so grateful and appreciate so much the generosity, kindness, encouragement, and joy that the members of Aldersgate bring to me and others. May God Bless you all. Sincerely,
Samuel Ward

LIBRARY NEWS

Our library is in the process of being reorganized. No more Dewey Decimal system. The books are arranged by categories and labeled:

- Spiritual Growth
- Devotionals
- Fiction
- True Stories
- Family
- Bible Studies
- Foundational (to our Faith)
- Youth
- Children

Each category is then arranged alphabetically. There is also a folder on the top of the bookcase that lists the books alphabetically by author and another set that lists by title. Hopefully, this will make it easier if you are looking for a particular author or book. Some of the newer books do not yet have cards, so just borrow the book if you are not able to sign a card. You are always welcome to add books that you think others would appreciate. Just place them in the basket with the magazines or if they are in a bag, just place it on the floor by the bookcase. If you have CD's or DVD's to share, they are also welcome.



Each month I would like to have a book reviewed in the Gateway. So, if there is a book you would like to recommend and share your thoughts with others, please feel free to let me know.

“Chicken Soup for the Soul”

We have six different books of these true stories of faith to uplift you.

Max Lucado, three Charles (Colson, Stanley and Swindoll) are only a few of the authors available in the Spiritual Growth category.

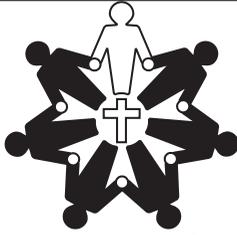
The ever popular Beverly Lewis is the most represented.

For suspense lovers there are books by Lis Wiehl, Terri Blackstock, Steven James and Ted Dekker to name a few in the Fiction section.

– Lois Garber

You know your getting old . . .

An elderly woman decided to prepare her will and told her preacher she had two final requests. First, she wanted to be cremated, and second, she wanted her ashes scattered over Walmart. “Walmart?” the preacher exclaimed. “Why Walmart?” “Then I’ll be sure my daughters visit me twice a week”



Connection GROUPS

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

September 26 / 7:00 PM
Choir Room. We are reading "The Yankee Comandante" by Michael Sallah.

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

September 28 / 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

Worship:

September 16 / 2:00 PM

Prayer Circle:

September 5 / 2:30 PM

Folding Chair Theater:

September 10 / 1:00 PM

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

ELDERSGATE

September 25 / 12:00 PM
Meinhart Hall.

POTLUCK LUNCHEON. Bring a side dish, dessert or salad to share. Meat will be provided. Please make reservations by 7:00 pm the Sunday evening before by calling Vicky at (419) 292-1004.

Guest Speaker is Kari Reyome "Helping the Environment by Preserving the Bees."

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
September 4 & 18 / 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

*Thank you to all those who helped
with the Sale. You made it happen!*

Our next meeting:

September 11 / Friendly Center
Community Building, 1336 N.
Superior St., Toledo, Ohio

Luncheon is at 12 Noon and
call Joan Pitson at 419-476-7132 for
reservations before September 7.

Program: "Tai Chi" with
Jenny Amidon

Presentation of Slate 2018-2019
Officers.

UMW NEWS

Bazaar!

November 3 / 9 AM to 3 PM

Before we know it the annual
UMW Bazaar will be here. If you
know someone who would like
to rent a table for \$25, please let
Alana or Carol Marckel know
ASAP. Alana has contracts in the
office to be signed by Sept 30. Since
Barb Myers will still be recovering
from her fall, we will need many
people to help out with this bazaar
benefiting our missions programs.

MAUMEE WATERSHED UMW DISTRICT MEETING

September 22 / Elliston Zion UMC
in Graytown Ohio. The day begins
with registration at 8:30 am and
the day ends around 3:00 pm.
The speaker for the day will be
Cheryl Kiger, Certified lay speaker
from Maumee UMC. If anyone
is interested in going, let Carol
Marckel know by September 17.

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

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



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glasbergen.com



**"Mom, if Heaven is real, give me a sign.
Post your location and a selfie on Facebook."**

HEALTH MINISTRIES

WHAT IS HEPATITIS C?

This infection of the liver is caused by the hepatitis C virus. About 3.9 million people in the U.S. have the disease. But because it causes few symptoms, most of them don't know that they have become infected.

While many people have no symptoms, some may notice these:

- Jaundice
- Stomach pain
- Loss of appetite
- Nausea
- Fatigue

The virus spreads through the blood or body fluids of an infected person. You can catch it from:

- Sharing drugs and needles
- Having sex; especially if you have an STD, an HIV infection or several partners
- Being stuck by infected needles
- Birth—a mother can pass it to a child
- Received blood from a donor who had the disease
- Had an organ transplant before July 1992

Hepatitis C can be diagnosed by a blood test.

About 75% to 85% of people who have it develop a long-term infection called chronic hepatitis C. It can lead to conditions like liver cancer and cirrhosis, or scarring of the liver. This is one of the top reasons people get liver transplants.

Hepatitis C treatments have changed a lot in recent years. The FDA has approved a daily combination pill called Mavyret.

This medication offers a shorter treatment cycle of 8 weeks for adult patients with all types of HCV who don't have cirrhosis and who have not been previously treated. There are other medications that can be given and have the ability to cure the disease in as many as 97% of those treated.

There's no vaccine to prevent hepatitis C. To help avoid the virus:

- Practice safe sex
- Don't share needles and syringes
- Be careful if you get a tattoo, body piercing or manicure. The equipment may have someone else's blood on it.

Your Parish Nurse,
– Lynn Creager, RN



Flu Shots will be available again this year. The definite dates have not been confirmed yet by Maxim Health Care. I will put the information in the bulletin a couple of weeks prior to the correct dates. The dates will be on a Sunday morning and also at Eldersgate. Bring your insurance card with you.

– Lynn Creager, Parish Nurse

DEMENTIA/ALZHEIMER'S INFORMATION

September 29 / 10 AM to 12 Noon
Meinhart Hall

Health Ministry has invited a speaker from Parkcliffe Memory Care Community to talk about dementia and Alzheimer's. Come learn more about this topic, where to look for help, and any questions you may have. A light breakfast will be available.

– Lynn Creager, Parish Nurse



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

September 1

Carolyn Kramer
Jim Pelton
Wes Piehl

September 2

BaileiSue Smith

September 3

Joe Krum
Dorothy Unruh

September 4

Dave Lahmers
Rhonda Lahmers

September 6

Vergie Johnston

September 9

Dorothy Collins

September 12

Zach Schoen

September 13

Nina Lambert
Anthony Thomas

September 14

Bill Bradner
Cindy Lambrecht
Kay Merritt
Paul Simmons

September 15

Arthur Parsons

September 18

Helen Gebhard

September 20

Deb Crowl
Barbara Oehlers

September 21

Joyce Beavers
Andrew Collins

September 22

Jaden Feudi
Carol Lanigan
William Stetler

September 24

James Brobst

September 24

Taryn Steiner
Abigail
VanderZwan

September 26

Carol Lagger

September 27

Vickie
Christiansen

September 28

Grace Keaton
Pamela Sparks
Jeri Stetler

September 29

MaryAnn Bell



CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Report Ending July 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) \$140,311
Total Expenses (YTD) \$144,582
Net Income/(loss) YTD (\$ 4,271)

Conference Apportionments

WOC Paid (YTD) 6,500
WOC Assigned Apportionments
(Budget) \$11,000
Balance Due \$4,500

District Apportionments

District Paid (YTD) \$5,800
District Assigned Apportionments
(Budget) \$8,667
Balance Due \$2,867

Many thanks to all who faithfully give of their time and resources to Aldersgate UMC. Through the month of July 2018, our total expenses exceeded our total income by \$4,271. Though we don't like to be in this deficit situation at all, it is encouraging that we have reduced this loss by almost \$15,900 compared to July 2017. We ask that you please continue to be faithful to your stewardship commitments for 2018. Again, thank you for your generous giving.

Average Monthly Sunday Attendance

July 2018: 136

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