



The Gateway

FEBRUARY 2019

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.
- * Scout Sunday / February 10



Welcome

Encouraging
Enriching &
Empowering



Warmed Thoughts FROM THE PASTOR

"Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. All the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can." – John Wesley

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What a season we have had and it's just beginning! Despite the snow and icy conditions we have continued to do kingdom work here in the community. As I reflect on John Wesley's vision for the people called United Methodists, I am sure that we are walking and working intentionally to live into these words.

- We have had our pledge consecration and our servant leadership installation of officers. We are solidly into the Deep and Wide study that is preparing us for the Lenten study, *Irresistible* that is coming up in March. We have had more than 30 people participate in this study.
- The Ladies Book Club, Lydia's Circle, Ruth Circle, and Eldersgate, (a ministry to the seniors in our community) are all going strong.
- We have Young Adult gatherings that meet off campus at a local coffee shop.
- Prayer meetings and Circles on Tuesday mornings.

- Youth fundraisers and events, community dinners and tutoring at Deveaux school provide guidance and learning for children and teenagers. Soon, we will be partnering with Toledo Public Schools to educate the children on safety while on the internet and keeping them safe from being vulnerable concerning issues on human trafficking.

It has been exciting to see how Aldersgate has responded to the needs within the church family and within the larger community family. And, we aren't done yet. I know that as we respond to the call of God to love our neighbors you will continue your tradition of seeing the need in the community and finding new and relevant ways to meet them. I pray that all who are part of this church family will find ways to connect with each other and the community around us. I am blessed to walk along side you as we live into God's calling for us.

Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world.

— Howard Zinn —



OUR STAFF

PASTOR

Rev. Melissa Steinecker

SENIOR MINISTRIES

Barbara Myers and John Paschen

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

Katie Collins

HEALTH MINISTRY

TBD

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 | JAMES 1:17 (NIV)

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

“Simple Gifts”

This week I was blessed by two of God’s simple gifts. They didn’t cost anything nor did they arrive in a big box. Instead, they came by His hand in nature and I was lucky enough to be still and notice them as they happened.

The first was on an evening earlier in the week as I sat reading a book in my big blue chair. I could barely hear it at first and thought I had imagined it. But then, there it was again. And a third, fourth and fifth time. The beautiful, soft trill of an Eastern Screech Owl. I’d first heard it years ago when I lived in my house and researched the sound until I found out what it was. That was the only other time I actually heard it. That simple sound just fills me with such peace and such gratitude for being able to experience it.

The next gift was one morning as I opened my blinds to glorious sunshine and saw that it was snowing tiny little diamonds from over my balcony. You could only see them from a certain angle as the sun made them sparkle. I stood there in awe and wonder at how God spoke these little gems into being. How the sun shone on them just right and how my eye was able to catch them as they slowly floated down to the ground. Simply sensational!

In your busyness this month, stop, be quiet, and listen for the still, small voice and look for all the simple gifts that God shares 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.



SCOUT'S SUNDAY

February 10

9:45 am / Boy Scout Troop 14 Court of Honor. Awards and recognition of the Scout's accomplishments.

10:45 am / Worship / If any Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, Cub Scouts or Brownies would like to participate in the service, please call the church office by February 1.

12 Noon / Lunch will be served by the Boy Scouts in Meinhart Hall. A free will offering to support Boy Scouts will be gratefully received.

YOUTH GROUP

Valentine Card Sale

January 27 – February 10 / Our youth are starting their Dollar Valentine Sale to help raise funds for our 2019 summer missions. Stop by the table located in the Narthex or find a youth to purchase your special Valentine!



Souper Bowl Sunday

February 3 / Join us for our annual Souper Bowl Sunday potluck lunch after the 10:45 service. Youth will be serving. Hope to see you there!

AND...the Youth Group will be meeting at the McKenty's from 6–8 p.m. for a Super Bowl party. Youth are encouraged to bring a friend!

www.facebook.com/aldersgatetoledoumc

Spaghetti Dinner

February 16 / Join us and bring a friend at 6 p.m. for a night filled with food and fun! Funds raised will be put towards our 2019 summer missions.



FOOD BASKETS THANK YOU!

I would like to say a big THANK YOU for the Friendly Center Baskets that your church supplied.

The families were very happy and surprised. It was a great present for them and to include everything for the whole day was fabulous. I can't tell you how much I enjoyed being involved with the distribution and seeing the families excitement. I had a couple of ladies cry because it was so wonderful. Tyson and I truly enjoyed helping some of our neighbors home with their food and talking with them afterward. This was a Christmas to remember.

Also, the extra food went into our food bank to give to our neighbors. Again, a BIG thank you!

– Terry Robideau, Friendly Center Treasurer, James (Bo) Bolden and the rest of the board and neighbors.



PRECIOUS PEOPLE PRESCHOOL

Precious People Preschool started off the New Year, during the letter "P" week, by having a Party with our Pen Pals, the residents from West Park Place. They had a fun day full of activities that start with the letter "P" from Pancakes to Painting. It was a fun day for all ages. For updates about the school and photos of the children at work, friend: www.facebook.com/pre.aldersgate.

Precious People Preschool will be completing its 23rd year and has served over 500 students since our doors opened with the love and support of YOU, our church family.

Please consider helping us finish up the school year by providing special snacks for the students and their parents during their events for Dads and Moms and or by attending any field trips and parties.

First we are in need of a donation of 5 dozen donuts and 3 gallons of juice/milk for Donuts with Dads in March, followed by 5 dozen muffins and 3 gallons of milk/juice in May for Muffins with Moms.

Sign up sheets for donations you wish to provide will be located in the church office.

Our students and staff will also be enjoying a Valentine's party in February, an Easter Egg Hunt with our West Park Place pen pals in April and a field trip to the Indian Creek Zoo in May. Come join us for the fun! Call the preschool office at 419-276-3854 for more information.

Thank you for your support!





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

February 13 / 1:00 PM
September-May.

LYDIA CIRCLE

February 25 / 7:00 PM
Please join us for a continuation of Andy Stanley's DVD study *Follow*, tracing Jesus' teaching on what it means to follow.
September -May.

ALDERSGATE

LADIES BOOK CLUB

February 27 / 7:00 PM
We will be reading *The Storied Life of A J Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin.
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

February 22 / 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 Wednesday Evenings / 5:30 to 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

WORDS OF GOD IN COMMUNITY

A ministry for young adults 18 years and older which focuses on words to help start, grow, or refresh each individual's relationship with God. The winter schedule is available on the Young Adults page of our website.

TRAVELING LIGHT LIFE GROUP

This group meets at a member's home on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month from April to December 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:

February 17 / 2:00 PM

Prayer Circle:

February 6 / 2:30 PM

Folding Chair Theater:

February 11 / 1:00 PM

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

ELDERSGATE

February 26 / 12:00 PM
Meinhart Hall. The cost of lunch is \$3.00. Please make reservations by 7:00 pm the Sunday evening before by calling Vicky at (419) 292-1004.

The program 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: Wednesday 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
February 5 & 19 / 8:00 AM to 8:00
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

Our next meeting:

February 12 / Friendly Center
1336 N. Superior St.

Luncheon is at 12 Noon and
only \$3.00. Speaker will be Rev.
Rae Lynn Schlief. Call Joan Pitson
at 419-476-7132 or email
pitsonj@yahoo.com by February 8
for luncheon reservations.

Become a member for only \$5.00
and support our mission!

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR

During 2018 your Northwest
Toledo Feed Your Neighbor pantry
distributed food and personal care
items to 4,248 of our needy people.
This total continues the declining
trend of the past several years and
we hope it continues.

2018 total: 4248, 2017 total: 5249,
2016 total: 5858, 2015 total: 6645,
2014 total: 7032

Thanks to the many volunteers
from different churches in the area
who support our efforts!

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

After 20 years of service, I am
no longer serving as Feed Your
Neighbor Coordinator. Our new
Coordinators are Peggy Gould
from Augsburg and Steve Drake
from Faith United Lutheran
Church.

In Christian Love,
Dick Miller Coordinator
Feed Your Neighbor Site #4

GIFTING THAT GIVES BACK

Find gifts for everyone and every
need while raising funds for
Aldersgate with the Scrip gift
cards from over 750 top brands,
including Best Buy, Amazon, The
Home Depot and many more.
Whether you buy the gift cards
to give as presents to family and
friends, or to use them to buy your
gifts—Aldersgate earns with every
gift card purchased. It's simple
and it's thoughtful. Vendor lists
and order forms are available at
the Welcome Center in the church
narthex.

Place or pick up your order on
these Sundays:

2019 DATES

Order Pick Up
February 3 February 10
April 7 April 14
June 2 June 9
September 8 September 15
November 24. December 1
December 15 December 22



HEALTH MINISTRIES

CHANGE IS HEALTHY

With the New Year are many changes with our Parish Nurse office. Lynn, and her husband Doug, have moved to a new home and we wish them well. We will miss them. In the interim, Sara and I will make things work. We are going to have blood pressure checks on the first and third Sundays of the month at 9:30 until 10:30. If you need something and we are not there ask pastor to find one of us and we will be happy to help you with your need.

We are in need of more nurses or healthcare professionals to help us fill in the other Sundays, as well as members for the Health Cabinet. If you or someone you know would be interested, please let us know.

COPD

Weather-related breathing complaints always surface at this time, so I am writing today to give a few tips on dealing with COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease). In 2015, 3.2 million people in the world died from COPD which is up 11.6 % from 1990. In the U.S an estimated 16 million adults have COPD. Women are more likely to die from COPD, or its complications, than men. There is no cure but it is very treatable and warning signs are often missed or misdiagnosed. What is COPD? This disease encompasses two components: chronic bronchitis and emphysema. Emphysema is a condition in which the alveoli at the end of the smallest air passages of the lungs are destroyed as a result of damaging exposure to

cigarette smoke or other irritating exposures like particulate matter and environmental concerns. Many come from a career in an area that prolonged exposure to chemicals, dust, or other pollutants. Chronic Bronchitis is inflammation of the lining of the bronchial tubes, which carry air to and from the air sacs of the lungs. It is characterized by daily coughing and mucus production.

After being diagnosed with COPD, learning to pace yourself so you can breathe while doing your daily activities is a great help. You may need the aid of inhalers or breathing treatments prescribed by your physician. Pulmonary rehab programs offered by several hospitals can be very helpful and often insurance will pay for these programs. Pulmonary rehab teaches breathing exercises and easier ways to get through daily tasks. Ask your doctor if he can recommend a program for you.

Here are some tips to help you during the winter season.

Stay away from those with cold and flu. HAND WASHING is so important and use your arm to push open public restroom doors. If you have a cold or respiratory infection stay home if at all possible! If you are susceptible to cold and flu, wear a mask in public places. You may think you look funny but protecting yourself is the most important key to good health.

Check the bulletin board outside the Parish Nurse office for more info on COPD. As always please discuss these things with your doctor.

Wishing you the best of health in the New Year.

Your Parish Nurse office,
Sara and Sandy

From His Word...

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you know.”

PROVERBS 3:5 (GNT)



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

February 2

Bryce Crowl

February 3

Wendy
Millenbach

February 5

John Goings
Bob Wilkins

February 6

Alexander Early

February 7

Keith Godfrey
Jeri Krum

February 9

Lucas Kimberly

February 10

Pat Bischoff
Adam Ley
Christian Shearer

February 11

Evelyn Thomas

February 12

Matthew Black
Helen Hatcher
Suzan Smith

February 13

Rick Knott
Kamryn Morse

February 15

Tony Edgington

February 19

Charmin Steiner

February 20

Nadine Black
Fleming Goings
David Lahmers
Mike Lankey

February 21

Shari Morse
Evelyn Osburn

February 21

Trace Lambrecht
Matthew Tafelski

February 22

Joan Pitson

February 23

Michelle
McElroy
Julie Whitaker

February 24

Meyanna
Hennigan

February 26

Amy Allen

February 28

Daniel Warner

February 29

Corey Keaton
Jessica Merritt

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Report Ending December 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)	\$232,366
Total Expenses (YTD)	\$237,624
Net Income/(loss) YTD	(\$5,258)

Conference Apportionments

WOC Paid (YTD)	\$11,050
WOC Assigned Apportionments (Budget)	\$11,000
Balance Due	+\$50

District Apportionments

District Paid (YTD)	\$8,667
District Assigned Apportionments (Budget)	\$8,667
Balance Due	\$0

We ended the year with a \$5258 deficit which we borrowed from our reserves to balance our 2018 budget.

Average Monthly Sunday Attendance

December 2018: 122





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