



# ALDRERGATE NEWSLETTER

## JULY & AUGUST

As we gather every Sunday for worship, our sanctuary is a place of home. The elements around us change to draw us into our worship experience. During the holiday season, evergreens and lights surround us. We've had fountains, eagles, butterflies, banners and other various items.

Starting a few weeks ago, on a corner shelf by the organ, we've added something to our worship space. On that shelf are stuffed animals. There are bears, lions, dogs, and we anticipate all kinds of animals showing up on this shelf. Around each animal is a tag that reads:

*This little animal has spent time in the midst  
of our congregation. It has heard the  
Scriptures read, sermons preached,  
prayers prayed, and songs of praise sung.  
It knows both the joys and the heartaches of  
our people, and has been surrounded by the  
love so freely shared by our community of faith.  
It comes to offer you healing, comfort and peace,  
with all the blessings of God's love.*

These animals are available for all of us to use to share God's love. If you know of a need or situation, especially with a child, where a physical reminder of our prayers for them would be special, you are invited to send them one. All you have to do is select the animal that you would like to send and take it to them or mail it to them as a reminder that we are praying. Send an email to the church office or call us and let us know that you have sent a prayer animal so that we can make sure we always have enough stuffed animals available for needs as they arise. Also, by notifying the church office we can be sure that persons are on our prayer lists. We want to be faithful in our witness and prayers.

One of our bears has already made a journey to remind a special person of our prayers for him. We are excited to see all the places our life of prayer will take us.

*Pastor Brad and Pastor Stephanie*

## FAMILY MINISTRIES

Mark your calendars now for Family Fun Day on August 1, 2010 beginning at 4:00 pm. We will have water inflatables for the kids, games and activities will include ladder ball, washer game, Croquette, Facepainting, parachute play, Bocci ball, basketball, and pickleball, picnic at 6pm and our day will conclude with the outdoor movie, *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*. Each family will need to bring with them a pack of hotdogs, one package of buns and a picnic dish. Be sure to bring enough to include the folks you invite to our family fun day. Bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on the lawn for the movie. Don't forget your sunscreen and bug spray. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite folks to join us for an activity at Aldersgate so that we can get to know each other better.

## FOOD PANTRY NEWS

### *He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack* **Proverbs 28:27**

As the number of families needing help from the food pantry continues to grow and many of those families need additional support in the summer months. We have applied and been approved to purchase food from the Gassaway Food Bank. Also, we are in the process of applying for membership in the Huntington Food Bank. If approved we will be able to receive USDA food at no cost. We should know if our food pantry has been approved in the next few weeks. This will allow us to receive dairy, bakery, produce, and frozen meat from the Gassaway Food Bank (if it is available).

The food pantry ministry will always need your support and prayers. The donations received from Aldersgate and the other churches can be used to purchase additional items for the families. These programs will provide us with the opportunity to serve meals to families in need.

Please help with preparing boxes prior to Thursday, working on Thursday evening, or picking up the bread on Tuesday afternoon. During the summer months would be a great time for students to receive community service credits for helping with the food pantry. Call Judy Stanley on 304-984-1572, or Kay McClanahan on 304-984-9301, if you are interested in helping in the food pantry.

It is truly an exciting time in the Food Pantry ministry. Thanks to everyone who supports this ministry.

**MAY GOD HAVE THE GLORY!**



## Aldersgate United Methodist Women

All women of the church are invited to join this group. We have the following events coming up.

**August 14** – Rummage Sale 8:00AM-2:00PM

(Please bring your **GOOD** items and help us raise money. We will be setting up on Wed., Thursday & Friday evenings to get ready.

We invite each of you to join us in delightful fellowship and serving others.

## Youth Group Opportunities

We have some wonderful opportunities for fun, worship and spiritual growth this summer. I hope you are having fun. Join me Friday evening, July 16 as we go to the Charleston Civic Center, and join The Gate, National Youth conference at Aldersgate 2010. We will meet at the church at 6:45PM. Check it out at: [www.Aldersgate2010.org](http://www.Aldersgate2010.org)

Our Summer Sunday School, Serendipity has truly been serendipitous. The topics and Scriptures are chosen based on who attends that morning. Stop by and check it out.

Sunday night youth groups continues at 6PM on the following Sundays:

July 18, July 25, August 1, August 8, August 15  
(Cookout)

Summer activities:

July 5-9 Camp CJ

July 8-11 Spirit Song at Kings Island

July 14-18 Aldersgate 2010 National Conference at the Civic Center - special Youth conference called "The Gate" Evening sessions are free (7:30PM) volunteers are needed and receive 50% off registration.

August 1 - Family Fun Day 4PM with movie at dusk

August 15 Cookout at 6PM

**New Building Design and Location Approved!**

Aldersgate United Methodist Church held a special charge conference immediately following our worship service on June 20, 2010 to vote on a new building design and location for the Multi-purpose building/Family life Center. District Superintendent, Dr. Ed Grant presided over the special charge conference. Rod Canterbury, Chairman of the Family Life Center Building Committee made the motion to approve the new proposal. By show of hands the motion was nearly unanimous. Dr. Grant stated that he looks forward to returning to consecrate the new building.

The small group appointed by the building committee has met to request the architectural drawings and select a general contractor. The detailed drawings along with the proposed financial plan for financing the construction must then be approved by the District Committee on Buildings and Locations. We hope to break ground by the end of summer.



**New Address For Gabe**  
 Gabriel Brill  
 2153 Brandy Mill Lane  
 Jacksonville, NC 28546

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT – MAY 2010**

Tithes and Gifts -----\$ 16,965.34

**Designated Gifts:**

Food Pantry -----\$	922.00
FLC-----	2,013.25
Memorials -----	50.00
Vacation Bible School	150.00
Youth -----	680.00

**TOTAL DESIGNATED-\$ 3,815.59**

**TOTAL RECEIPTS -----\$ 20,780.59**

**FLC Balance ----- \$ 307,923.93**  
 (as of 05/31/10)



**Aldersgate 2010 National Conference Seeking Volunteers**

Aldersgate 2010 is a United Methodist national conference on Spirit-filled living and the largest United Methodist Family Conference in the US.

[www.Aldersgate2010.org](http://www.Aldersgate2010.org)

Aldersgate 2010 National conference is seeking volunteers to help them during any sessions July 14 - 18 at the Civic Center. They need volunteers to help with ushering, registration, etc. Each evening session (7:30PM - 9:30PM) is free and open to the public. They are bringing in some great speakers: Craig March from New Zealand, Terri Tekyl, national UM Prayer Ministry, Candace Lewis, UM Church Starts Path 1 Ministries. I want to encourage you to attend as many of these free evening sessions as possible. Volunteers are given a 50% discount on registrations on the entire event.

As a family conference, youth and children are encouraged to attend as well. There is a special youth session called "The Gate." If you are interested in helping please contact Cheryl Wintz Withrow, [clw2121@msn.com](mailto:clw2121@msn.com), (304)760-2121.

**FLOOD RELIEF INFORMATION**

Floods roared through the Sissonville area on May 12th and again on May 17th. The entire community responded to help flood victims. Aldersgate UMC was privileged to assist as a disaster relief center and focus for physical, emotional and spiritual support. Here is a summary of some of the support provided:

Buckets Issued	41
H2O Issued	28 cases
	25 gallon jugs
Bleach	269 gallon bottles
Red Cross Boxes	24
Boots	52 pairs
Food	2 families
Misc.	14
Trips to the field checking of people	42
Homes Serviced some more than once	35

## Lay Leadership Committee

The lay leadership committee will begin meeting in August in preparation for our annual charge conference in the Fall. Meeting dates will be posted in the weekly bulletin. Every autumn a charge conference is held to make decisions about leadership for the upcoming year. In order to prepare for this time, the Lay Leadership Committee will begin their busy season of discernment and discovery for the lay leadership of Aldersgate UMC. The committee will begin meeting in August to review the current slate of officers and team leaders that guide the ministry of Aldersgate throughout the year. Interest surveys will be made available in September to help guide the work of the nominations committee. After consultation with persons serving and seeking input from others who are interested in serving, the committee will enter a time of prayer and discernment to prepare the nominations for the charge conference. Please keep members of the lay leadership (formerly known as Nominations) in your prayers as we embark on this assignment. Members of the Lay Leadership Committee as listed in last year's charge conference packet are, Dana Burns, Opa Jones, Kay Canterbury, Jean Wilson, Becky Funk, Candy Kister, Curt Caldwell, Debbie Messer and Kay McClanahan.



### Congratulations

Will Miller received his Masters Degree from WVU on June 26, 2010.

### Children's Ministry



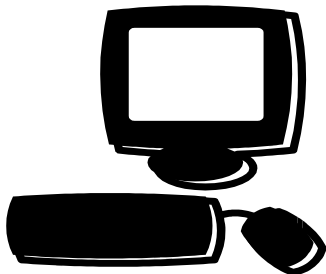
Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00pm. Games, snacks and activities at the church

Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00pm Games, snacks and activities at the church

Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Back to School Lock In

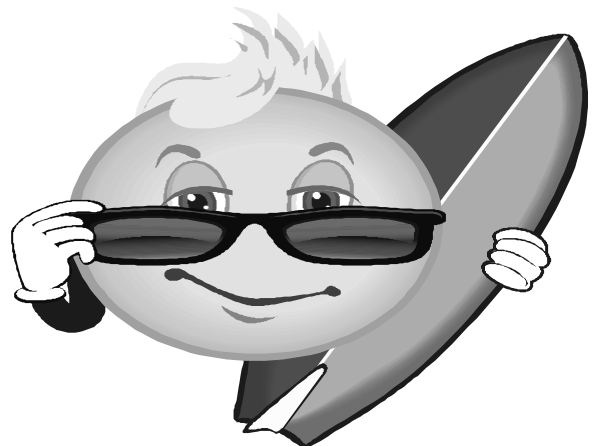
**Weekly Schedule will return in the Fall**



### New Email Address

Please remember that we have a new Email address:

[office@AldersgateWV.org](mailto:office@AldersgateWV.org)





## West Virginia Annual Conference Summary June 2010

The West Virginia Annual Conference met June 10 – 13 on the campus of West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon, W.Va. The Conference's four-year emphasis on Evangelism continued with the theme *I Will be Your Witness - Passion*.

In his opening sermon, Bishop Ernest Lyght asked worshippers to "find the fire" of Christ in their churches, communities, and lives. Guest preacher, Bishop Gregory V. Palmer of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference urged us to regain our passion and a sense of urgency in churches. He said the church should not be attached to its institutions, but instead should focus on being in "the resurrection business". Using the story of the woman at the well, Palmer asked if we might do what she did: "Is there anything about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus that you want to run and tell someone about?"

Crossfire United Methodist Church from North Wilkesboro, visited Conference on Friday and Saturday to share how their church reaches beyond the typical upper middle-class demographic of the United Methodist Church. Dr. Alan Rice, pastor of Crossfire talked about the church's unlikely start and shared his experience with the Circles program, designed to help people free themselves from generational poverty.

Ron Crandall who recently retired as a professor of Evangelism at Asbury Theological Seminary near Lexington, KY presented *ABIDE: A Model for Renewing Smaller Congregations*. One success story of a small congregation that he highlighted is Independence United Methodist Church in West Virginia.

In business, Conference approved the following resolutions:

- The Montcoal Mine Disaster Resolution calls for a complete investigation into the April 5 explosion at a coalmine in Raleigh County, W.Va.; recommends new legislation to be created as needed to protect miners.

- Affirmed the value of Monitoring to insure that diverse voices are represented in worship and in business sessions.

Annual Conference did not pass a resolution that would encourage the governments of the states of Maryland and Pennsylvania to change the name 'Negro Mountain' to 'Nemesis Mountain' after an

African-descended slave to honor his bravery in a 1756 battle. The resolution states, "...the acknowledgement that was chosen, naming the site of the battle 'Negro Mountain,' caused Nemesis to be remembered for his ethnicity and not his unique, God-given personhood..."

Annual Conference members in opposition of the resolution said history should not be changed. Conference also approved the report of the Conference Board of Pensions and Health Benefits, which includes the following:

- Conference retirees will be transferred to Medicare Part D for prescription benefits; this will save the Conference \$600,000. Conference will continue to provide coverage for about 50% of participants in the 'doughnut hole', to assist retirees with high prescription costs.

- Health Care premiums increase by 18% next year; for retirees, premiums will jump from \$56 to \$135/month. Active participants will see an 18% increase to \$548/month for singles and \$1316/month for families.

- Approved a three-year 'Comprehensive Protection Plan Holiday' (CPP); instead transferring the 3% collected for CPP to death and disability liabilities for retired clergy who served between 1982-2006.

Other Highlights:

For the second year, Annual Conference was streamed live with almost 900 unique visits during the week of Conference, with 1596 total views of the stream.

Patrick Friday from GBGM, representing the Advance, reminded Conference of the importance of missions in the work of the church. The West Virginia Annual Conference has given more than \$483,000 to UMCOR to aid in the clean-up and restoration of Haiti after January's massive earthquake.

The Bishop ordained 9 elders; commissioned 9 provisional elders, and 2 provisional deacons. In addition, recognized the orders of one associate member and received one associate member. 19 pastors entered the retired relationship with the Conference.

# JULY - AUGUST 2010

## **Aldersgate United Methodist Church**

Post Office Box 13673  
Charleston, WV  
25360-0673

PHONE:  
(304) - 984 - 1164

E-MAIL:  
[office@AldersgateWV.org](mailto:office@AldersgateWV.org)

Church Office Hours  
Monday-Friday  
9:00AM to 1:00PM

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## ***Welcome to Aldersgate United Methodist Church***

Our Church is located at 6823 Sissonville Drive just down the road from Sissonville High School. Look for our sign and then up the hill! You are always welcome at Aldersgate.

Worship Service 10 AM

Sunday School 11AM

We have other opportunities for you during the week as well!

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### **ALDRSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Post Office Box 13673  
Charleston, West Virginia 25360-0673  
"Return Service Requested"

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