



# ALDRSGATE NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2010

My adventure began as a hike to a fishing lake in Mount Hood National Forest. It ended up a treacherous descent through miles of old growth forest, sheer drop-offs and an unexpected long, cold night waiting for daylight to show us the way home. We did eventually make it home and it most certainly was an adventure. Adventure is exciting, exhilarating, includes some challenges to overcome and always involves some level of risk. That's pretty much the way Jesus described our life of discipleship. We will have the excitement of sharing the good news, healing the sick, binding up the brokenhearted and setting the captive free. We will face the challenge of resistance, disbelief, persecution, imprisonment and even the threat of death. But we also experience the exhilaration of changed hearts, healed lives and eternity with God.

Our church is embarking on an adventure, a new building that will become a multi-purpose space for ministry and outreach. This adventure has been in the heart of this church for many years. Forty-five years ago a group of faith-filled Christ-followers could see God's vision for Aldersgate including a facilities building, a sanctuary and a multi-purpose building. The adventure began with the facilities building. This is where Aldersgate first began to worship together, do ministry and become the church on the hill. As the church grew, in the 80's it was time to add the sanctuary. It has been a beautiful, amazing adventure of faith. This is where we now gather every Sunday for the adventure of encountering the living God together. This is where we experience the adventure of salvation and baptisms and weddings and sermons and discipleship and prayer. This is where the grace of God has met many of us and the power of God has become real.

And the adventure continues. I feel humbled to now stand with the faithful who have adventured before us. They saw beyond the facilities building and sanctuary to a new multipurpose building that will expand our ministries to connect with families and bring them to Christ. We have visions of health and sports ministries, a multipurpose room that can house receptions, dinners, dramas and large events that we haven't even imagined. There are even provisions for an indoor walking track. Phase II will bring a bigger kitchen to serve more people and a music room to house and expand our music ministries. This expansion will create more space for our food pantry and enable us to provide even more outreach with room to live and grow and bring people together to encounter the reality that is Jesus Christ in our midst.

So let me invite you on this adventure of which you are a critical part. October 3<sup>rd</sup> will be our ground breaking event for the new building. Our special guest speaker will be Rev. Anne Rex, who looks forward to sharing with you as years of planning now leads us to break ground. We will worship together, share world communion and move outdoors for a groundbreaking celebration and reception to follow.

During the month of October, the entire church will focus on Building Faith, Family and the Future. You will have the opportunity to make a difference with your resources, to see lives changed today and to leave a legacy for future generations. As a church, we will celebrate together on October 31<sup>st</sup> during worship with our commitments to resource this grand adventure of a Family Life Center.

Pastor Stephanie and I feel honored and humbled to serve as pastors of this loving and committed congregation. We feel honored to be part of this faith-filled group of Christ-followers whom God has chosen to carry on the legacy of Aldersgate for this phase of the adventure. Let the adventure begin.

Pastor Brad and Pastor Stephanie

## Once a Month Meeting Night

Our once a month meeting night in October will be Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. Pastors Brad and Stephanie will meet with team leaders and committee chairs prior to the meeting night to review the meeting agenda. During these meeting nights a light meal will be available in the kitchen area. If you can help with childcare for the evening you can sign up on the same nursery sign up sheet that we use for Sunday morning worship.

Schedule for October 2010 Meeting Night

5:00	Prayer Team (Sanctuary)	Staff (Pastor's Office)	TBA
6:00	FLC Building Committee (Fellowship Hall)	Worship (Music Room)	TBA
7:00	Finance (Faith Weaver Classroom)	SPRC (Parlor)	TBA
8:00	Administrative Council (Fellowship Hall)		



Trunk or Treat is coming up October 16<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm.  
Keeping checking weekly bulletin for more information.

## Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. We're lucky to have two pastors. It would be nice to send a card, take them out to eat or invite them to your home for a meal. They work very hard and we need to show our appreciation.



## COMMISSION POSSIBLE 2011

### Ambassadors for Christ

*In Christ, God was reconciling the world to him-self, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ.*

*II Corinthians 5:19-20a (NRSV)*

April 8 and 9, 2011

The Clay Center for Arts and Sciences

This evangelism conference event is sponsored by the **West Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church** with special thanks to the Midland South District and the A.J. Humphreys Foundation . It will begin at 1:00pm on Friday and conclude with a worship experience at 3:30pm on Saturday. Keynote speakers will be Rev. Cathy Townley, Rev. Tyrone Gordon, and Dr. Paul Borden. The music director is Parkersburg native Rob Webster. There is also a special youth conference during this event featuring Rev. Jim Walker of Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community in Pittsburgh with two time Dove Award winner DecemberRadio providing a concert on Friday evening. First round of registration will be done December 1<sup>st</sup> so let Pastors Brad or Stephanie know if you will attend. \$25 per person.

## Aldersgate Youth Group

It's Sunday night, you have all your homework done – NOT, and you are trying to figure out what to do. You don't want to miss Sunday night youth group from 6PM to 7PM. There are games and food and usually some kind of fun! Did you catch that there was food? Plus, our Aldersgate youth group has some exciting things planned for the coming months and I don't want you to miss out on any of it.

Youth Group nights: October 10, 17, 24, November 7, 28

On October 16<sup>th</sup> we are helping to make Apple Butter with the United Methodist Men in the morning and assisting with Trunk or Treat and Pumpkin decorating starting at 2PM.

November brings you the opportunity to attend Fall Workshop, November 19-21, called Square One just up the road at Cedar Lakes. It's a great time of fun, high energy music and spiritual growth. Please let Pastor Brad know by October 10 if you would like to attend. Some scholarship funds are available.

In December we will have a Christmas Party and go Christmas caroling together. We will also be helping with the Christmas program, either through drama, music or production.

In January we will make pilgrimage to Resurrection in Gatlinburg, TN, possibly tubing and youth Sunday. February will bring a Super Bowl party and Valentine Dance. March will include 30 Hour Famine, Ice skating, a drama and a church cleanup service project. April will include a shadow drama, helping with the Easter egg hunt. Sometime in the spring we also hope to incorporate a work team mission project, slide show for the church and helping with Habitat for Humanity.

We have a great year ahead of us so come on out and join in the fun!

## Youth 2011 - Purdue University, July 13-17

Youth 2011 is the national youth gathering for the United Methodist Church. It is an event that only happens every four years and is the largest single gathering of UMC youth in existence. This four day conference will bring together top United Methodist leaders as well as the best ecumenical speakers, bands and talent with thousands of youth from all around the nation for what is sure to be a life-changing event that consists of:

Passionate Worship Experiences

Concerts

Bible Study

Small Groups

Workshops and Trainings

Interactive Exhibits

Onsite Mission Opportunities

Late-night Fun and Games and more!

It's like Resurrection only bigger

Keep watch for more information. check out: [www.youth2011.net](http://www.youth2011.net)



## Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. We have set a goal of filling 50 boxes. The bulletin board outside the sanctuary shows our progress and you will be able to tell what items we need in order to reach our goal. Children's Ministry is taking responsibility for updating the bulletin board as they sort items. In the sanctuary there are two baskets available for your donations each week. We will be taking donations until November 7<sup>th</sup>. The boxes will then be delivered to a distribution site.

The complete list includes, Crayons, Coloring Book, Solar Calculator, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Bar Soap (mild), Comb, Washcloth, Lollipops, Gum, Socks, Hair Clips, Ball Caps, Socks, Toy (small cars, balls, small dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®)

## Disciple Bible Study: BECOMING DISCIPLES THROUGH BIBLE STUDY



Are you interested in growing in your knowledge of the Bible? Are you aware of the stories in the Bible but struggle to understand how it all fits together? Have you studied the Bible for years and would love to continue to know more? Consider being a part of Disciple Bible Study: BECOMING DISCIPLES THROUGH BIBLE STUDY. Over a period of 34 weeks, this course will lead participants through an exploration of the scriptures and will draw upon the work of scholars to aid in understanding the Bible.

This study requires reading large portions of Scripture each week and is based on careful study and preparation. Class time will be a two and a half hour session per week. During the course of the study, groups will move through the biblical stories of Creation to the New Jerusalem. The titles of the sessions along with theme words; theme verses; and major persons, events, and topics will set the sequence of the biblical story in the minds of the participants. The principal Scripture for each session follows the chronological movement of the biblical story.

This study time will meet regularly on Thursday mornings beginning at 9am. There is preparation for the first class on Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. If you meant to sign up but forgot, please call Pastor Stephanie immediately to receive your resources for the first class.



### Undie Sunday

“Oh My!” Yes, that really does say “Undie” Sunday but that doesn’t mean to show up at church only in your undies. It is a conference wide focus to help supply our mission project clothing pantries with **NEW** undies to give out. We pass on our gently used clothes but let’s face it; new undies are needed for children, men and women at all of our clothing banks. So, on Sunday, October 10<sup>th</sup> you are invited to bring a packet, or two, or more of new undies and we will collect them at worship. Our offering will be taken to CDOM (Community Development Outreach Ministries) and kept in our area to offer help to those in need.

### Lay Speaker Training

Midland South District Lay Speaker Academy will be held at Dunbar United Methodist Church on October 22-23, 2010. Classes run from 6:30-9:00pm on Friday evening and 8:30am – 4:30pm on Saturday. First time attenders must register for the Basic Lay Speaking Course. The Advanced Courses offered this year are “Spiritual Formation: Developing Your Devotional Life,” “Ministry to Shut-Ins: Reaching Those Who are No Longer Able to Attend Church,” and “Behind the Walls: Sharing Christ with the Incarcerated.” Registration forms available in the church office.

### Pocatalico Parish and Charge Conference Renewal Services October 12, 13, 14

The Pocatalico Parish is a cooperative ministry of United Methodist Churches in this area. On Thursday, October 14, our annual charge conference meeting of accountability will be held in the context of the parish at Baber Agee UMC at 7:00pm. District Superintendent Ed Grant will be present not only to conduct the necessary business meeting, but to share God’s Word with us. To celebrate our annual gathering, the parish has decided to host three nights of renewal services at Baber Agee which will include the night of charge conference. We will meet each evening at 7:00pm for prayers, singing and God’s Word. A parish choir will share in special music. If you would like to participate in the parish choir, there will be a one time practice on Monday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Special speakers will be Rev. Stephanie Bennett, Rev. George Webb and District Superintendent Rev. Ed Grant.

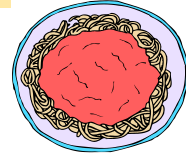
## Aldersgate United Methodist Women

### We Need Your Help!

The United Methodist Women will be having an Italian Feast and Bazaar on Nov. 5. If you have a talent for making crafts, canning, baking, sewing or anything that I have not mentioned, we would love to have you help us. Contact Talma Coffman or Lynn Long.

THANKS!

Mark your calendars for this event on Friday, November 5th from 4:00-7:00pm. Bring your family to enjoy the food and fellowship. We will also have some crafts and baked goods for sale. All women of the church are invited to join this group. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month. We support several different missions with our income. We invite each of you to join us in fellowship.



## Worship Committee

We had our monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 22, 2010. Some of the future events we discussed are:

World Communion Sunday and groundbreaking – October 03  
 Undie Sunday – October 10  
 Capital Fund Celebration – October 31  
 All Saints – November 07  
 Operation Christmas Child Shoebox – November 14

As a committee, we meet with pastors to discuss special ideas or needs. We reviewed each of the committee member's responsibilities and how we can help each other.

Current members of the Worship committee are: Lynn Bostic, Joyce Fanning, Ann Humphreys, Beverly McElroy, Charlotte Myers, and Sue Humphreys.

As always, you are invited to purchase flowers to place on the altar table each Sunday. The cost is \$25.00. If you are interested in ordering flowers, please contact Charlotte Myers or the church office.



## Scrapbooking and Craft Night

Join us Friday, October 8 beginning at 6:00pm. Whether you knit, or scrapbook, make cards, do latch hook, sew or paint, you are invited to bring your projects and supplies. You can stay a few hours or hang out until midnight. Bring a snack and drink to share. During our time together we will have a devotion and will discuss future gatherings and opportunities for fun and crafting. *Bring someone new with you and receive a prize. Come for the first time this year by yourself and receive two prizes.*

**Nursery Volunteers** - Be a blessing in the lives of families and their children. Volunteer in the nursery during worship and for our once a month meeting night. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board outside the Church Office.





## Food Pantry

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

We will be receiving food from the Mountaineer Food Bank on the third Wednesday of each month. This month we received 625 pounds of frozen meat and a wide variety of bakery items. It is a wonderful blessing to be able to purchase and/or be given all of these items. The children were very excited to receive cookies, donuts, and cakes. Items many of us take for granted.

We need approximately 700 pounds of meat to provide one package of meat to each family served in a month. However, we need another freezer before we can order any more. Pray that God will provide the means for the additional freezer.

We are scheduled to receive some food from the Huntington Food Bank next week.

Students needing community service hours should schedule to work on Thursday evenings. Also, anyone wanting to work in the food pantry on Thursday evenings are asked to sign up to work.

We continue to need help in picking up bread on Tuesday afternoon. The sign up list is on the Food Pantry door. Folks who sign up need to pick up bread trays at church and take to Heiner's on Tuesday, pick up bread and return to church. On Friday, leftover bread is then taken to Men's Shelter in Charleston.

**ALDRERSGATE MEMBERS PLEASE BRING CANNED MEATS AND CANNED FRUITS.**

Thank you for giving to this ministry.

May God have the Glory!

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT – AUGUST 2010

**Tithes and Gifts**-----\$ 18,071.00

**Designated Gifts:**

Food Pantry -----	\$ 350.00
FLC -----	1,532.00
Altar Flowers -----	45.00
Use Fellowship Hall ----	60.00
Insurance Refund -----	83.46

**TOTAL DESIGNATED** ---- \$ 2,070.46

**TOTAL RECEIPTS** ----- \$ 20,141.46

**FLC BALANCE** ----- \$ 311,649.46  
(AS OF 08/31/10)





**Apple Butter** – The United Methodist Men will be making Apple Butter October 16<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00am. It should be coming off around 3-4:00pm. We will need help in preparing the apples starting on Tuesday, Oct. 12th. and it is open to all volunteers. We do need help and it is a great time to spend a morning or an evening working on this project.

It would be nice if you could donate a box of pint jars to the United Methodist Men. This is a project of the UMM to raise money and to expose our church to the community. By doing projects like this, we will be able to communicate our building project to the community and how they as a community will benefit from this project. Contact Curt Caldwell at 304-984-1226 for more information.



### Attention Kroger Shoppers!

Are you paying for your purchases at Kroger's with a gift card obtained from the Aldersgate United Methodist Women? If not, you are missing an opportunity to help earn money for the Family Life Center Building Fund. To date Aldersgate has received \$1,538.50 from this program. See Pat Caldwell or call her at 304-984-1226 and she will get you a card and get you started on earning money for the FLC.

**Thank You** for your prayers and contributions for the Annie French Fundraiser. Your love and support was overwhelming and much appreciated. Annie continues to be hospitalized at Charleston General. She is now in Medical Rehab and making progress. Please continue to keep her and her family in your prayers. Contributions may be made to the "Annie French Fund" at any Poca Valley Bank.

### Music News



**Handbells:** A new beginners group is being organized for those that have never played and would like to learn to play. Please contact Nick or Candice Slate.

**Children's Music:** Children will begin learning music for Christmas and will be singing with the adult choir during the Christmas season.

**Choir:** Practice on Sunday evenings at 7pm. We are practicing on Christmas music and new choral arrangements. If you would like to join us come on out.

We are looking forward to leading our congregation into the future.

# OCTOBER 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*** **Building Faith, Family and the Future**

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!

## **Ground Breaking October 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

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**ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
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