

THE
GATEPOST
MAY 2021



Upcoming Events

May 1 Men's Breakfast All Church Work Day	7:30 AM 8:30 AM	May 11 Trustees Meeting	6:30 PM
May 2 Party in the Parking Lot	12:00 PM	May 12 Nixa Baccalaureate	
May 3 & 17 Women's Bible Study	6:30 PM	May 13 Stephen Ministry Speaker	6:30 PM
May 4 Leadership Development Meeting	6:30 PM	May 16 Nixa Graduation/Senior Recognition	
May 6 National Day of Prayer	6:30 PM	May 18 Trustees Meeting	6:30 PM
May 9 Mother's Day		May 22 Nixa Sucker Day Booth	
May 10 Card Making Workshop	10:00 AM	May 23 Confirmation Sunday	
		May 30 Peace with Justice Sunday	
		May 31 Memorial Day - Office is closed	

First Love to Confirmation and Memorialize

PASTOR DENNIS - LEAD PASTOR

We have been working through Philippians in worship and Pastor's Bible Study and it is leading us to Confirmation Sunday (23rd) and finally an opportunity to remember on Memorial Day Sunday (30th). I'm excited we also get to celebrate Communion (2nd), Mother's Day (9th) and our Graduates (16th). We will continue to require masks in May, just as Nixa Schools will do and in June they will become optional for us and not required as Nixa Schools will not require for summer school. (of course we will continue to observe and evaluate any changes that may develop in the interim.

I am so thankful for the diligence our congregation has continued for over a year and am grateful for the gracious way all have responded. I pray it continues as we reduce our procedures. The plan is to begin coffee service on June 6th as part of our fellowship on Sunday mornings. We are in need of volunteers to serve with coffee hospitality, as well as Greeters and Ushers on Sunday mornings. Of course we also need more of us to serve in Children's, Youth and Shield Ministries, too.

It is important we look forward together sharing our First Love with everyone around us. May our passion for serving God and our understanding of our sufferings in Christ continue to grow.

See You Sunday in Worship
(here or where you are!)
Love In Christ,
Pastor Dennis



Financial Update
Original Loan Amount: \$4,162,200
Principal Balance: \$3,621,000

Treasured 2021 Vacation Bible School

VBS registration opens on March 1st. You can register participants and volunteers at:
vbspro.events/p/aumcnixa

Embark on an epic quest through hidden ruins, ancient caves, and dense jungles. At Treasured VBS, kids dig into action-packed, faith-filled adventures. They'll discover God's greatest treasure isn't diamonds, gems, or gold—it's them!

AUMC NIXA TREASURED VBS 2021

JULY 26 — JULY 30

06:30 PM — 08:30 PM



**SCAN THIS QR CODE TO GET
STARTED**



JUNE 12TH 2021

THE EMBER EVENT

10AM-10PM

8TH GRADE & FRESHMEN GIRLS

PROMOTION PARTY

It's time to move up to the next grade level and we want to end our Wednesday nights with a bang.

**JOIN US WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 30 AT 6:30 PM**

We will be in the parking lot and you will have a chance to meet Amber, Abby, Caleb, and Evan from our Families Ministry Team.

Library Update

Take time for a good read, several new books have been donated for your pleasure. You can always find a complete list of books on the church's website under the ministries tab.

New Arrivals:

- *Every Young Man's Battle*
- *Once A Day 25 Days of Advent*
- *Bringing Up Boys*
- *Raising a G-Rated Family in an X-Rated World*
- *The Illustrated Bible Dictionary*
- *The Illustrated Bible Handbook*
- *Have a New Teenager By Friday*
- *It's Your Time*
- *Solo An Uncommon Devotional*
- *The Purpose Driven Life*
- *Fuel 10 Minute Devotions for Parents and Teens*
- *Explore Your Bible*
- *Prayers Loyal of a Friend*
- *Checklist for Life For Men*

Arterburn, Stoeker with Yorkey

Boa with Turner

Dobson

Hatch

Knight with Ray

Knight

Leman

Osteen

Peterson

Warren

White

Barbour Publishing, Inc.

Brighton Books

Thomas Nelson Publishers

Youth

Christmas

Parenting

Parenting

Reference

Reference

Parenting

Christian Living

Devotional

Christian Living

Devotional

Reference

Prayer

Men

All donated books should have a publication date between 2011-2021. Put the donated books on the floor next to the book return box. The library is located in the conference room outside the sanctuary. Pick up a book to enjoy and return it to the return box.

Aldersgate Golf Tournament Results

Winners:

1st Place

Lee Clark
Jerry Bronnenberg
Herb Lunday
Len Ahrnsbark

2nd Place

Jody Shaw
Thomas Shaw
Bob Shaw
Steven Sharp

Longest Drive Women - Jody Shaw
Longest Drive Senior Men - Ron Grant
Longest Drive Men - Steven Sharp
Longest Putt - Caleb Miller
Closest to the Pin Women - Mary
Closest to the Pin Men - Jason Hessee



Upcoming Events

Card Marking Workshop

Ladies! Our church office is in need of cards to send out to those who need a touch of cheer. Join us for a card-making workshop to replenish the church's supply. Everyone is welcome, whether you're a crafty genius or are all thumbs! No experience necessary; we'll teach you!

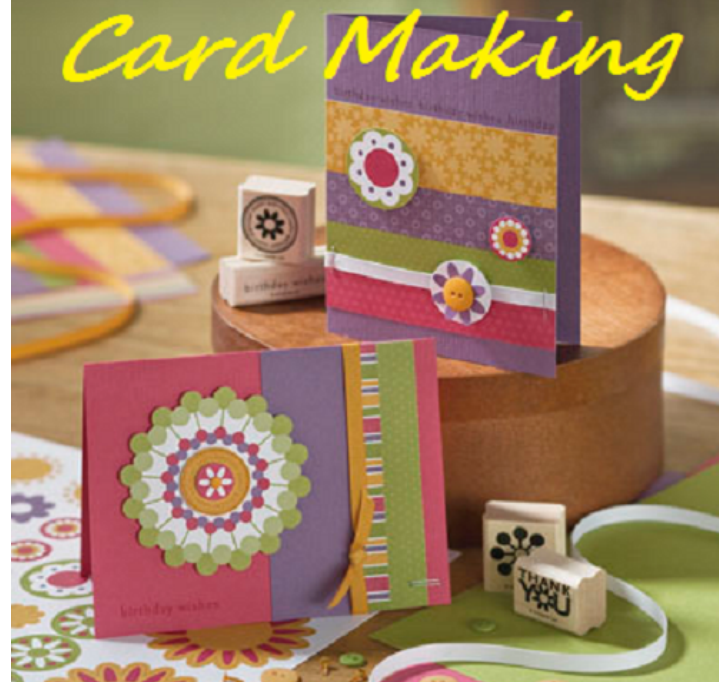
Monday, May 10, 10 a.m.-noon Room 207

Sign up by Wednesday, May 5 so we can have enough supplies prepared.

Karen Shirer

830-928-3741

kshirer@hctc.net



National Day of Prayer

The 70th National Day of Prayer observance is on May 6 this year. There will be times of prayer across the Nation in every state with coordinators planning prayer gatherings in churches, parks, city halls, state buildings, and in the Nation's Capitol. In addition, there will be a National Broadcast on Thursday evening of May 6 (go to NationalDayofPrayer.org).

The theme this year is "Lord Pour Out Your LOVE, LIFE, and LIBERTY" from 2 Corinthians 3:17.

Aldersgate will be hosting prayer in our sanctuary from 6:30-8:00 pm on that day. Aldersgate's Prayer group will be hosting the event and leading prayer. There will be prayer guides available from the National Day of Prayer. All are welcome to come at any time to join.



Bible Studies are back in person

We are happy to announce that starting in May both the Monday Night Ladies Bible Study and the Friday morning FAB Bible Study will begin meeting in person here at church. If you would like information on either one of these bible studies you can call the office at 417-725-4949 or email info@aldersgatechurch.com

The Monday night study will be led by Jan Badgett and meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays every month.

The Friday morning study is led by Pastor Phil Brucks and they will meet every Friday at 10 AM

Of course, these are open to everyone, and hope you can make plans to join.



What Do You Believe?

By: Ed Vigneaux

What do you believe? I believe this is the most significant question being asked of Christians today by non-Christians. If asked that question by a non-Christian or non-believer, what would our answer be?

Many are leaving the Christian church today because they don't know what to believe. Young people today are being taught in our schools about evolution, not creation. They are led to believe that we are evolved creatures, not created by God and that most likely, man created God in his mind. I find this hard to believe, but it is being professed in every medium in every part of the earth. Advertising today says that it's already to break the rules (sin) as long as it satisfies your needs or you don't get caught. Is that what we followers of Jesus Christ believe?

As our affirmation of faith says, "I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker (or creator) of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord, and Savior, who was created by God as a man to live among us and teach us a more perfect way to live and to die on the cross to save us from our sins. On the third day, He was raised from the dead by God as Jesus said he would be and lives today in Heaven with His Father and our Father, God." Do you believe this and tell others?

Genesis 1:26-27 says that God made or created man in His own image and breathed the breath of life into him. His breath (spirit) lives within each of us. I believe we are spiritual beings having a human experience and that our spirit will live forever in one of two places, heaven, where God lives, or in hell, where Satan, the enemy of God lives. But we get to choose!

In Matthew 5:48, Jesus calls us to be perfect, just as our Father in Heaven is perfect. Wow, what a high bar. God, our creator, who loves all of His creation, wants us to be just like Him. God knows how hard it is for us, but He instructed us to do it anyway (Matthew 7). Jesus told us in John 14 and 16 that we would not be alone, but that God would send someone to help us, His Holy Spirit, the most powerful Spirit in the world that created the heavens and the earth and everything in it.

Galatians 5:16 says to walk or live by the Spirit (Holy Spirit), which I call the personality of Christ. It goes on to say that if we walk by the Spirit, we will not desire the acts of the flesh. They are contrary to each other. We can't have it both ways. What are the qualities or fruit of the Spirit? Galatians 5:22 says they are love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. That is the personality of Christ.

I believe we are living in end times, those in which Jesus said there would be an increase in lawlessness (sin). Christians are called to show love to our enemies as found in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, 13. We are called to follow the example of Jesus. This is our daily cross to bear, to be an example of love to others. I heard a quote recently that said, "the way of the cross leads all the way to heaven." Amen and Amen.

We are blessed to be a blessing.

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Galatians 5:22-23

The Blessing of Stephen Ministry



God is our light in the darkness

Psalm 146 is a reminder that when we face difficulties, loss, or hurts, God is our helper. . . our mighty and merciful God who remains faithful forever. "He upholds the cause of the oppressed. . . and lifts up those who are bowed down." If you are facing painful circumstances, let God minister to you through a trained Stephen Minister- they will walk alongside you, pray with and for you, and listen with compassion to the things that are weighing you down. Let God bring light into your darkness. Call 725-4949 to be connected to a Stephen Minister.

For more information about Stephen Ministry, talk with Aldersgate's Stephen Leaders: Genie Taylor or Tom Johnson. You can also go to the Stephen Ministry, St. Louis website: www.stephenministries.org

THE JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF

Have you lost a loved one or someone close to you in the past year? The Aldersgate Stephen Ministry would like to offer you a series of four books for people who have lost a loved one. The books are written by Kenneth C. Haugk, the Stephen ministry founder. The books are warm, short, and easy to read. You will receive helpful insights about grief, biblical truths, and stories to provide comfort and reassurance in a difficult time. The books are sent to you in intervals, each one deals with different stages of grief. For more information on this series of books or Stephen Ministry in the general contract an Aldersgate Stephen minister or the church office.

How to Parent (and How to Help Parents' Parent) a Prodigal Child

All are invited to come on May 13 at 6:30 PM to hear Elizabeth Buchanan discuss faith.

Elizabeth will be discussing Luke 15: 11-32 about the Prodigal Son and the role of the parent when a child walks away from their faith. She will look at excerpts from *Boundaries with Children & Boundaries with Teens* by Dr. John Townsend and *Doing Life with your Adult Children* by Jim Burns. After Elizabeth shares her thoughts and ideas, there will have time for Q & A discussions. All are welcome.

Elizabeth is currently an Intern at Synergy Counseling Center. Before she moved into the career of counseling, Elizabeth was the Director of Youth Ministries here at Aldersgate Church. She and her family have attended Aldersgate for many years and we are excited to have her back to speak on this important subject.



Thank You

Dear Aldersgate Family,
Thank you for the lily from the Easter service, as well as the altar flowers you shared with us. Both were beautiful.
J.L. & Betty Percy

Dear Aldersgate,
Just a note to say thank you for the lovely flowers I received. What a wonderful surprise. Thank you again & God bless you all.
Marilyn Haefner

Dear Friends at Aldersgate,
Thank you so much for the lovely Easter Lily. I am trying to prolong its life. I gave it a home in a little larger pot today to give it some support. If I had a camera or one of those magic phones I'd send a picture.
Again Thank You, Gerry Pepper

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers & we appreciate your prayers.
From Duane & Sherry Wyman

Dear Aldersgate Family,
Thank you for the lily from the Easter service, as well as the altar flowers you shared with us. Both were beautiful.
J.L. & Betty Percy

We want to thank our Aldersgate family for all the prayers, caring words, and food that we received during Jean Amsden's (Pam's mother) illness and her passing. Through all of you, we felt God's love for us, thus allowing His peace and grace to fill and wrap all around us.

Thank you for loving us,
Amsden and Johnson Families

A very big thank you to all the staff and church members who helped other members of our church family to obtain COVID vaccinations. I had registered in numerous places but could not get an appointment. When Brenda Clark called to ask if I could be at a specified location on short notice to get my shot, I jumped at the chance and the following day, I had received my first dose. My 14 day wait is nearly complete following the second dose and I am so grateful that people in our church were willing and able to offer their assistance in wading through the sea of red tape and getting the job done. Thank you so much!
Marcy Barthelette

Thanks to everybody for their prayers, cards, and food donations after & during my surgery.
In Him, Saundra & Cheryl Rhodes

"Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

Psalm 106:1