

THE
GATEPOST
JUNE 2021

In This Issue

New Summer Bible Study

Wednesday Family Nights

Stephen Ministry Sunday



Upcoming Events

June 1

Volleyball	6:00 PM
Aldersgate Time of Prayer	6:30 PM

June 2

Family Night at Rotary Park	6:30 PM
Rest and Release Bible Study Starts	6:30 PM

June 4

YIPOA Summer Nights	7:00 PM
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June 5

Men's Breakfast	7:30 AM
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June 8

Trustees Meeting	6:30 PM
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June 9

Family Board Game Night	6:30 PM
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June 12

The Ember Event	10:00 AM
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June 13

Hymn Sing	5:00 PM
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June 13-18

Camp Galilee 6th-8th grade

June 15

Finance Meeting	6:30 PM
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June 16

Painting and Popsicles	6:30 PM
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June 17

Stephen Ministry Info. Meeting	6:30 PM
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June 20

Father's Day with Coffee and Donuts

June 23

Family Movie Night	6:30 PM
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June 27

Church Council Meeting	12:30 PM
Exploring Membership	4:00 PM

June 30

Parking Lot Promotion Party	6:30 PM
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Optional Means Your Choice

PASTOR DENNIS - LEAD PASTOR

In June we are making the transition for masks to be optional for all ministries. This means you will still find some of our staff and congregation wearing masks, which means they are choosing that option. Please allow everyone to make their own choice and do not say or gesture in any way that might reflect you have an objection to their choice. We have made our continued best efforts to comply with guidelines, from our city and the CDC, but we are choosing to follow what Nixa Schools are choosing to do for summer school and this is when they are no longer requiring masks to be worn. We will celebrate together in worship and respect those around us in all of our ministries, activities and events.

I understand and respect those who may oppose this action, but have not heard from anyone to this point expressing their objection. If you feel at risk, please continue to participate in our online offerings of worship every Sunday. If you need to discuss your circumstances and need me to provide additional support, I will be happy to be available. My hope is also to bring back coffee as an option on Sundays in June, but need help to make it happen for all services. Please let me or the office know if you are available. For the non-coffee drinkers there will be hot chocolate and tea bags available, and understand how important this step is for the coffee drinkers. 😊

I can't express my gratitude enough for how faithful you have been through the last 11 months of required mask wearing since in person worship began. I'm grateful to our hospitality team greeters and ushers who have worked so hard to help us maintain our guidelines. Please take time to thank them on a Sunday!!

See You Sunday in Worship (here or where you are!)



ALDERSGATE

Family Ministries

Updates

Treasured 2021 Vacation Bible School

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!

- Register for VBS, children ages 3 (must be potty trained) to children entering 6th grade.
- We need volunteers for VBS, register online for a week full of fun and be a part of making the week memorable for Nixa children!

- **VBS donations needed:**

- o Individually packaged Goldfish Crackers
- o Individually packaged Scooby-Doo graham cracker snacks
- o Individually packaged Pirate's Booty Snack Packs
- o Individually packaged Fruit Gushers
- o Small bottles of water
- o Small wooden treasure chest
- o Self-adhesive jewels
- o Stretch cord for jewelry
- o Crystal beads
- o Foam craft sheets 4x6 size
- o Leather cord for crafts

Email Amber Huels at ahuels@aldersgatechurch.com for details on donations.

- Spend your summer on the ARK! We are looking for more crew members to join us for summer Sunday school. Be a part of the best crew navigating children's lives towards Jesus!



**SCAN THIS QR CODE TO GET
STARTED**

AUMC NIXA TREASURED VBS 2021

JULY 26 — JULY 30

06:30 PM — 08:30 PM



Family Fun Nights

Wednesday Nights in June

Our Family Ministries team is excited to have some cool family events for the month of June. These will replace the Wednesday night classes, with more of a focus on family fun.

They have some really fun nights planned so we would love to have you join us. This would be for our ARK Kids, Spark, and Ignition grades.

Our Fusion (high school) kids will join us for the Promotion party on June 30.

- 5/26 - Fun and Games in the Gym (age 4 - 4th grade in ARK Deck, grades 5-8th in gym)
- 6/2 - Fun Night at the Park (Rotary Park in Nixa)
- 6/9 - Board Game Night
- 6/16 - Painting and Popsicles
- 6/23 - Movie Night (Hopefully at a theatre but if we can't get that figured out, it will happen at the church.)
- 6/30 - Promotion Wednesday Party

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.



JUNE 12TH 2021

THE EMBER EVENT

10AM-10PM

8TH GRADE & FRESHMEN GIRLS

Upcoming Events

New Summer Bible Study with Peggy Preston

REST AND RELEASE

Are you tired and burdened? This Bible Study will lead you to resting and releasing your heavy burdens to the Lord. This Bible Study includes a daily devotional written by Courtney Joseph, as she shares some of her personal struggles. God wants you to talk with Him about your struggles, pains, and frustrations, and give Him all your cares in exchange for His peace. Because we do not rest, we miss hearing God's voice. Psalm 23 comes to mind. "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

Are you experiencing the green pastures, the quiet waters, and the restoration of your soul that Psalm 23 speaks of, from resting with your Shepherd?

You are invited to join Peggy Preston as she leads this Bible Study on Wednesday nights in the Worship Center sanctuary at 6:30 pm on June 2, 9, 16, and 23.

YIPOA, Fusion High School Night

Join Evan Reed on Friday, June 4! The event begins at 7 so they will be meeting at 6:45 at the YIPOA Facility. If you need transportation to the event please get with Evan so he can arrange for you to get there.

They have everything for food and games, we would suggest bringing sneakers and running shoes to be safe.

There will be worship outside so bring blankets and chairs for the worship portion if you want. And of course, parents are invited to attend if they would like.

NOVA Movie Night

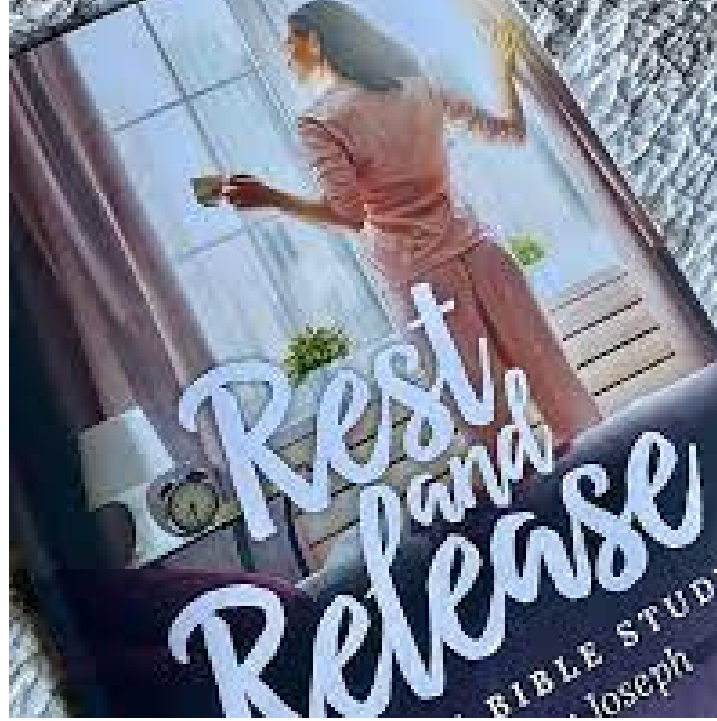
Nova is for all of our young adults at church. Join this group for a fun movie night on June 20 at 6PM. For more information text 417-425-2718 or email Christian Barnard at cbarnard@aldersgatechurch.com

Church Family Outing to Stained Glass Theater

Saturday, June 26, 2 pm

"Poor Richard" based on the Good Samaritan

Sign up by June 14 with the church office or with Linda Ramey or Dorothy Brucks. We will purchase group seats for \$12 each.



**MASKS
OPTIONAL
BEGINNING
JUNE 1**

**YIPOA
SUMMER
NIGHTS**

COME HANG WITH US!
JUNE 4 • 7 PM • YIPOA LAND

Our Prayer

By: Ed Vigneaux

I've been thinking a lot lately about my prayer life and praying. With all that is going on in the world today, it seems that we need to have a daily conversation with our Father. As I was thinking about prayer, a daily devotion caught my eye.

It was about praying the prayer Jesus taught his disciples in Matthew 6: 7 - 13 (Lord's prayer). The disciples wanted to know how to pray. They didn't have a daily prayer life and didn't know they could speak directly to God. Jesus prayed continually during His life and ministry and as the disciples witnessed the great things he was able to do, they too wanted to know how to connect to their heavenly father.

What a great way to start and end each day.

The prayer starts out by proclaiming that God, our Father in heaven, is holy and His name is to be lifted up and worshipped. Isn't that a great way to start any conversation with our Father in Heaven? He is the greatest and without Him, we would be nothing.

And then we ask that His kingdom come and His will be done here on earth as it is in heaven. Wouldn't that be awesome to have heaven here on earth right now? I believe it has already come.

John the Baptist told the people to repent for the kingdom of heaven is near. Jesus, in his first message, told the people that the Kingdom of God is near. Why? Because He was near. Jesus is the Kingdom of God. And we can have him living within us right now. As Christians, we should proclaim this at the top of our lungs and with a happy voice.

Then the prayer asks for Him to provide for us. Everything we have and need comes from Him. But remember, as Jesus told Satan in the wilderness, man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God, His Word, the Holy Scriptures. We should fill our hearts and mind every day with His Word.

Then we should always pray for the forgiveness of our sins against God and our neighbors; and pray that they will forgive us.

God does not lead us into temptation, but He does allow us to be tempted by Satan, the evil one. Following Satan's temptations leads to sin, which leads to separation from God and death. We need to ask our Heavenly Father to protect us from the evil one. He has already defeated Satan and we too can defeat Him if we put all our trust in Him. We are called by Jesus to walk a narrow path that leads all the way to Heaven. Satan does not walk that path and as long as we stay on the narrow path, we will not encounter the evil one. It's only when we wander off the path that we encounter Satan and are tempted.

The devotion ends with this prayer; "I pray that our lives will ever be inspired by our Lord's prayer and seek to live a life fully as God's servants, wherever the Holy Spirit leads us". Amen.

We are blessed to be a blessing to others.

Next Men's Breakfast is Saturday, June 5th at 7:30 AM in the CLC Gym

Stephen Ministry Sunday

Stephen Ministry Sunday, June 13

On June 13 at all services, Aldersgate will recognize those who have served in Stephen Ministry since 2001 when Aldersgate became a Stephen Ministry congregation. Since then, many people in our congregation have served as Stephen Ministers and hundreds of individuals (from within our church and the community) have received one-on-one care from Stephen Ministers who have walked alongside them during a crisis or difficult time in their lives. Thank you to all those who have served in the past and are currently serving in this ministry!

Part of the congregation's part in our church's Stephen Ministry is to 1) pray for our Stephen Ministers, 2) be aware of individuals, family & friends who may benefit from Stephen Ministry and be open yourself to having a Stephen Minister when there is a need and 3) be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit to serve as a Stephen Minister. We will have an informational meeting on Thursday, June 17 at 6:30 pm in room 207 of the Learning Center. This will describe what is involved in training to be a Stephen Minister and what topics are part of the training. There will also be a time for questions and answers. The training will begin August 24 through Nov 4.

If you have questions about Stephen Ministry, please talk to any of the present or past Stephen Leaders: Tom Johnson, Genie Taylor, Tom Furr, Paula Presley, Claren Holmes or Jan Childress.



Financial Snapshot

As the group charged with nurturing the financial vitality of the congregation, Aldersgate's Finance Committee is thankful for the faithful giving to the church that has continued over the last many unusual months. Your tithes and offerings are important in supporting the church's ministries as we serve our mission of "making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!"

Year-to-date financial summary through April 30, 2021:

Revenue	\$ 313,753
Budgeted Expenses	\$395,777
Actual Expenses	\$281,187
Net	\$ 32,566

The original amount of the loan for the new Learning Center was \$4,162,200. The current balance as of April 30, 2021, is \$3,620,900. Please stay tuned in the coming months for news on a capital campaign targeted at paying down this loan.

In March 2021, Aldersgate received a second forgivable Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP") loan from the SBA for \$94,373. Through April 30, 2021, the loan has been used to offset \$79,193 in expenses; thus, when adding this amount to the actual expenses noted above, total expenses year-to-date are \$360,380. Therefore, without the PPP loan, we would actually have a deficit of \$46,627 instead of a surplus of \$32,566. Aldersgate's first PPP loan, which was used to offset expenses during 2020, was forgiven in full by the SBA and our bank during March 2021.

We are please to report the church recently received another clean annual audit; our staff and volunteers continue to be excellent stewards of the church's finances!

Finally, as the country winds down a long tax season, if you have received a tax refund, please consider a gift of a portion to the church. As the campus opens up further, and as youth restart mission trips and various groups begin meeting and serving again, your support will have an impact as we strive together to ensure every person in our community experiences the love of God.

New Members

WELCOME TO THE ALDERSGATE FAMILY



Vickie Giesen



Greg & Cindy Smith



Jeff & Linda Merkling

May Highlights

