

THE  
**GATEPOST**

MARCH 2023



In This Issue

Serve as a Family  
Easter Candy Donations  
Concert 4A Cause

<b><u>March 1</u></b> Charity Sewing	1:30 PM
<b><u>March 3</u></b> WildFire	6:00 PM
<b><u>March 4</u></b> Men's Breakfast	7:30 AM
<b><u>March 6</u></b> SPR Meeting (zoom)	6:00 PM
<b><u>March 7</u></b> Leadership Development Meeting	6:30 PM
<b><u>March 12</u></b> Daylight Savings Joyful Noise Singers	2:30 PM
<b><u>March 13</u></b> Peaceful Piecers	6:30 PM
<b><u>March 14</u></b> Trustees Meeting	6:30 PM
<b><u>March 15</u></b> No Wednesday Night Activities or Dinner	
<b><u>March 19</u></b> UMCOR Sunday Youth Missions Trip Meeting Online Hymn Sing	1:00 PM 5:00 PM
<b><u>March 21</u></b> Finance Meeting	6:30 PM
<b><u>March 25</u></b> Concert 4A Cause Rehearsal	9:00 AM
<b><u>March 26</u></b> Church Council Meeting Concert 4A Cause Hallelujah Chorus Choir Rehearsal	12:30 PM 2:00 PM 4:45 PM
<b><u>March 31</u></b> Confirmation Retreat	5:00 PM

## Spring Break

March 13-17  
Check with your groups to see if you are meeting this week.

## Sundays at Aldersgate

<b>Services</b>	
Traditional Service	8:15 AM
Contemporary Service	9:45 AM
Simply Grow Service	11:11 AM

# Weekly Calendar

<b><u>Mondays</u></b>	
Ladies' Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Spirit Sisters Bible Study (1 & 3rd)	6:30 PM
Women of Hope Bible Study (2nd & 4th)	6:00 PM
Men's Bible Study	6:30 PM

<b><u>Tuesdays</u></b>	
Volleyball	6:00 PM
Aldersgate Time of Prayer	6:30 PM

<b><u>Wednesdays</u></b>	
Fusion Praise Team Practice	5:00 PM
Dinner	5:30 PM
Choir Rehearsal	6:30 PM
Pastor's Bible Study	6:30 PM
Grow Group	6:30 PM
ARK Club	6:30 PM
Biblical Beauties & King's Men	6:30 PM
Confirmation	6:30 PM
7th & 8th Grade Small Groups	6:30 PM
Fusion Gathering	6:30 PM

<b><u>Thursdays</u></b>	
Bible Study - The Book of Signs	9:00 AM
Knitwits	10:00 AM
Stephen Ministry Meeting (2nd & 4th)	6:30 PM
Disciple 1	6:30 PM

<b><u>Saturdays</u></b>	
Cardio Strength/Dance Blast Class	10:00 AM

<b><u>Sundays</u></b>	
Time of Prayer	8:00 AM
Handbell Rehearsal	11:15 AM
NOVA Lunch	12:15 PM
Fusion Core Small Group (2nd & 4th)	6:00 PM

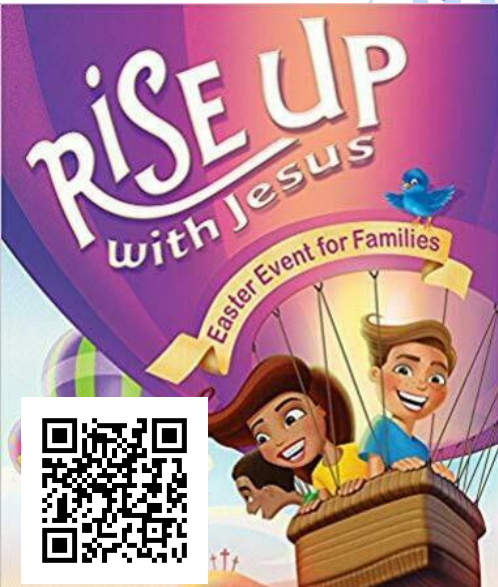
## Sunday School Classes

<b><u>Sundays</u></b>	
Crossroads Sunday School	8:15 AM
Sojourners Sunday School	8:15 AM
Club Aldersgate	9:45 AM
Seekers Sunday School	9:45 AM
Youth/Children Sunday School	9:45 AM





# A.R.K. Aldersgate Righteous Kids



## Save the Date

Aldersgate Nixa Family Easter Event

April 5, 2023

6:30pm — 7:30pm

460 W. Aldersgate Drive

NIXA, MO 65714

Lift up the true meaning of Easter!

Scan the QR code to register your children and to sign up to volunteer as an adult.



WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH  
**EASTER CANDY DONATIONS!**



## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Starting Sunday, Feb. 26 Ms. Peggy Preston will start going to our Children's Sunday School Classes to start singing with them. The children will be working on a song or two to sing on Palm Sunday, April 2, at the 11:11 AM service. We are so excited to hear these beautiful little voices in worship and we hope that this might turn into something that we can do on a regular basis.



## SAVE THE DATE 2023 VBS

June 25, 2023 — June 29, 2023

6:30pm — 8:30pm (CDT)



Launch kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Stellar rockets kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun.





# Junior High and High School

All Junior High and High School students are invited to a night of fun, worship, and food!

Dinner is served at 6:30 and is burgers and dogs.

Students need to bring a 2-liter of their favorite drink/soda and/or a snack or dessert to share.

We will have lots of big organized games, worship, and a talk by Erin Wertmiller from YIPOA.

Invite all of your friends to come with you to this awesome night of being together as a Youth Group.

MARCH 3

## WILDFIRE 2023

JUNIOR HIGH - HIGH SCHOOL

6:00 - 10:00 PM  
GAMES, WORSHIP, AND FOOD



## JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL Saturday, April 1, and Sunday, April 2 Young Christians Weekend at Silver Dollar City

We are really excited to attend this awesome weekend at Silver Dollar City. Saturday, will be filled with speakers, worship, rallies, and of course rides. We need to order tickets ASAP and would love for all of our junior high and high school students to attend. \$25 will reserve your spot.

Parents, we will need drivers willing to take the kids and hang out for the day. Please let us know if you are able to help. Scan the QR code to register.



"GREAT  
CATCH"  
CARD  
COLLECTION

Our Pastors and Staff are fishers of people. Have they "caught" you with a kind action, sincere conversation, or warmed your heart in any way?

Let them know by filling out a card of thanksgiving at the Help Desk in the Commons.

Provided by Staff Parish Relations Committee  
"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."  
1 Thessalonians 5:11

# Lent Challenge for Prayer

By: Carl Presley

A challenge has been given to Aldersgate Church members during Lent. They are asking for us to give or add something to our weekly routine. One hour to be exact. Tuesday night it became clear to me that I needed to give something and not to give up something. There are a few of us here at Aldersgate that are involved with prayer each Tuesday evening. At our last prayer meeting, we were discussing revival at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky. It started by a student chapel service. How? Through prayer.

Digging a little deeper, I have discovered all revivals start with prayer. I then asked myself, "What does Jesus want of me and us?" I believe that Aldersgate is on the front steps of a massive revival. There are just so many things in place to start. My question is, what extra thing is Christ wanting us to do during Lent? I would like to suggest prayer, but not in your prayer closet or prayer vigil but in person at church. Let's go the extra mile with God and show up. It might be a little inconvenient but as a Christian we were not promised comfort or convenience. Christ got out of the boat for us!

Will you show up for one hour of prayer for Him? We are praying for our church, our pastors, for revival, and peoples souls each Tuesday evening.

We are all busy and can always come up with an excuse for why not but I believe we are being asked to add something new. I want to suggest that the something new is prayer, in person, with others each Tuesday night at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary. I will be there, will you join me?

## FINANCIAL BRIEF

By: Ben Stone

Year-to-date financial summary through January 31, 2023:

Revenue	\$ 88,821
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 117,815
Actual Expenses	\$ 91,057
Net	\$(2,236)

The original amount of the loan for the new Learning Center was \$4,162,200. The current balance as of January 31, 2023, is \$3,359,155.

Aldersgate's 2023 is off to a good start, with giving up significantly from January 2022. While we are starting off with a deficit, it is a much smaller deficit than at this time last year. Further, worship attendance is up, and Sunday School classes are growing.

We recently experienced a wonderful Ash Wednesday service led by our current Confirmation class. It was an enjoyable and meaningful service, and I wondered how many future pastors, worship leaders, lay leaders, etc. are in that group of confirmands.

To help them, as well as our other children and youth, continue to grow on their spiritual path, our church leaders are calling for us to consider adding gifts of service during Lent. If you also give up chocolate, consider throwing your candy money into the offering box! Whether service, financial, or other gifts, thank you for all you bring to Aldersgate.



# A Lenten Challenge

By: Pastor Sarah Fotopulos

Lent is HERE! This year, instead of giving something up for Lent, how about adding something new?

We're shaking things up this Lenten season with a 6-week challenge! Instead of giving up Brussels sprouts again, (Is that really a sacrifice??) try adding an hour a week of bible study, service, or family worship!

We have several women's bible studies meetings on Mondays and Thursdays each week, a men's bible study Monday nights, and adult classes every Sunday at 8:15 and 9:45 AM. Join a study and meet new people as you learn together!

If you're looking for ways to plug in, how about serving as a children's or middle school Sunday school teacher? The lessons are already prepped for you, so you just need to arrive on time and focus on communicating God's love for everyone to the kids in your class through class discussions, activities, or games. Try it! You might love it!

Is your family ever in worship together? Did you know children who grow up feeling a part of a church family and not just part of a kids' or youth group are far more likely to stay active in their faith as young adults?

Instead of attending worship while the kids are in class, why not try a 9:45 AM Sunday school class for adults (or serve as a children's/middle school teacher) and then come to the 11:11 AM worship service as a family?

We'll be doing some new things in our 11:11 AM service all through the Lenten season to make it family-focused. You will hear new voices of all ages in prayer and scripture reading, have the opportunity to serve together as a family as ushers/greeters, communion stewards, and servers, experience spiritual truths in new ways, celebrate communion every week, and most importantly your family will be united with your church family as we all worship together.

## Concert 4A Cause

JOIN US ON SUNDAY, MAR. 26 AT 2:00 PM

Aldersgate is blessed to have a very talented congregation. Please join us for a concert showcasing these talented folks as we support our local kids clothing closet. A love offering will be taken and all proceeds will go to Abundant Blessings.

## Communion Every Sunday During Lent

11:11 AM SERVICE ONLY



*My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?* Psalm 42:2

# MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

By: Stephanie Scott

Shane Anderson. We hear Dennis and others mention that Shane will gladly pray with you. We see him standing throughout the sanctuary willing to pray for and with others. But, who is Shane Anderson? I had the honor to sit with him and ask him.



Shane shared his tremendous, all-consuming love of God. He says that he can see and taste God. He knows that God is all around us and that God loves us so much. He continues saying that God wants us to talk to him and Shane enjoys being involved in these conversations. He shared his heartfelt testimony and it was evident that all these years later, his God moment still impacts him.

Additionally, Shane has volunteered to be the leader of the Men's breakfast. When asked about this, Shane said that he "felt that it was time to step up". The men's breakfast group get together on the first Saturday of the month. This is a great time for fellowship, worship, and a way to support the youth ministry program. Of course, you will be having a great meal, too!

If you want to be reminded of God's incredible love for us, want someone to pray with you, and may need a faith boost, look for Shane. He is wearing the concert badge stating that he is the "Jesus Christ Guy". He would love to cover you with prayer. Also, don't forget the Men's breakfast the first Saturday of the month.

## Ways to Serve

### VBS SONG LEADER

Every Sunday in Lent during the 11:11 service we will begin with students leading a VBS song we have sung during a past VBS. We need a few students and adults to be upfront leading at the beginning of service. Please look over your family's schedule and sign up for a day you can lead the VBS song. Sign up at the ARK Facebook page.

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### COMMUNION

During the season of Lent, communion will be served every Sunday during the 11:11 am service. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to serve during the service. Please look over your family's schedule and sign-up for the opportunity to serve communion during the 11:11 am service. Once you have signed up, I will contact you about the directions. Thank you, Amber Huels

### USHER/GREETER

What better way to get involved on a Sunday morning than welcoming people into church. Smiling faces are great and this is a very easy and wonderful way for your family to serve. Email Tracy O'Hara at [tracyohara1970@gmail.com](mailto:tracyohara1970@gmail.com) to pick out a Sunday morning.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Think about this, what if every person in the church served just 1 Sunday a quarter in children's Sunday school? We would never be short on teachers! This would be a great way to serve if you have older kids. You all could experience the joy of teaching children about Jesus's love!

*Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.*

Proverbs 22:6



# MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



**Galentine's**



**Confirmation  
Pizza Party**



**SuperStart**



**Dennis' Talk**



**SuperStart**

## STAFF AT ALDERSGATE

### Pastors

Dennis Miller - Lead Pastor  
Sarah Fotopulos - Executive Pastor

### Staff

Amber Huels - Children's Director  
Bethany Strong - Office Administrator  
Brenda Clark - Business Administrator  
Candice Eddington - Childcare Coordinator  
Casey Freeland - Communications Director  
Christian Barnard - Contemporary Worship Arts Director  
Jared Middleton - Worship Technical Lead  
Evan Reed - Youth Director  
Peggy Preston - Traditional Worship Arts Director  
Shannon Dodson - ARK Preschool Director

ALDERSGATE CHURCH

**8:15 AM  
NURSERY  
REQUEST**

Aldersgate Church

YOU MUST REQUEST FOR THE NURSERY BY THE THURSDAY ON THE CHURCH WEBSITE OR ON THE APP. WE WILL NOT STAFF IF WE DON'T HAVE A REQUEST.