

THE
GATEPOST

A P R I L 2 0 2 4



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Concert 4A Cause
VBS Registration is Open
Spiritual Gifts

April Highlights

April 3
 Charity Sewing 1:30 PM
 Pastor's Bible Study begins 6:30 PM

April 4
 Leadership Development Meeting 6:30 PM

April 6
 Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM
 Young Christian's Weekend 8:00 AM
 All Church Work Day 9:00AM

April 7
 Confirmation 4:30 PM

April 8
 SPR Meeting 6:30 PM

April 9
 Office Closed for Staff Work Day
 Partners in Hope Planning Meeting 6:30 PM
 Property Oversight Meeting 6:30 PM

April 13
 Nixa Serve Day 8:30 AM

April 14
 Board of Directors Meeting 12:30 PM
 Joyful Noise Singers 2:30 PM

April 16
 Finance Meeting 6:30 PM

April 20
 Mobile Health Unit 10:00 AM
 Concert 4A Cause Rehearsal 10:00 AM

April 21
 Venture Crew Bake Sale Between Services
 Concert 4A Cause 2:00 PM
 Nerf and Nachos (5th & 6th) 5:00 PM

April 28
 Disciple Recognition
 Spring Golf Tournament 1:30 PM

April 29
 Aldersgate Book Club 5:30 PM

Weekly Calendar

Mondays
 Stronger - Men's Group 5:30 AM
 W.O.W Ladies Bible Study 9:30 AM
 Women of Hope Bible Study(2nd & 4th) 6:00 PM
 Spirit Sisters Bible Study (1st & 3rd) 6:30 PM
 Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM

Tuesdays
 Overcomer Bible Study 9:00 AM
 GriefShare Class 1:00 PM
 Disciple 1 - New Testament 6:30 PM
 Aldersgate Time of Prayer 6:30 PM

Wednesdays
 Youth Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM
 Dinner 5:30 PM
 Ark Club 6:30 PM
 5 & 6 Grade Class 6:30 PM
 7 & 8 Grade Small Group 6:30 PM
 High School Gathering 6:30 PM
 Family Matters Class 6:30 PM
 Grow Group 6:30 PM
 Choir Practice 6:30 PM
 Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 PM
 NOVA Young Adult Study 6:30 PM

Thursdays
 Knitwits 10:00 AM
 Stephen Ministry Meeting (2nd & 4th) 6:30 PM

Sundays
 Time of Prayer 8:00 AM
 Handbell Rehearsal 11:15 AM
 NOVA Lunch 12:15 PM
 Disciple 2 6:00 PM
 High School Small Group 6:00 PM

Sunday School Classes

Sundays
 Crossroads Sunday School 8:15 AM
 Club Aldersgate 9:45 AM
 Seekers Sunday School 9:45 AM
 Youth/Children Sunday School 9:45 AM

Sundays at Aldersgate

Services
 Traditional Service 8:15 AM
 Contemporary Service 9:45 AM
 Family Service 11:11 AM

YOU'RE INVITED

WE'D love TO SEE YOU

HE IS ALIVE/FOREVER ALTAR'D

Greetings Aldersgate,

We have celebrated the greatest demonstration of love ever presented to mankind as a family of faith and Jesus is alive! Remember as a people surrendered to God's transforming power we are ready for the Holy Spirit to work in all of our lives. I hope you are open to learning what God wants to do with your life and the gifts he has given you.

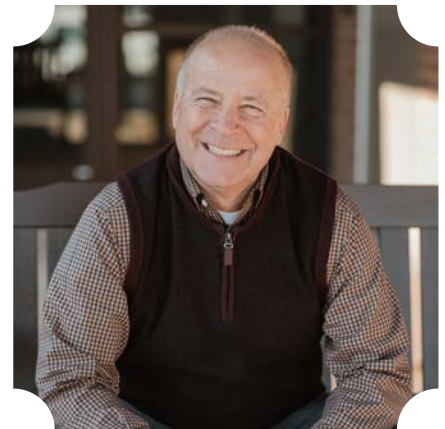
Since our youth program is in great hands, we will start a Pastor's Bible Study again on Wednesday evenings in the Worship Center. We will begin with a study of 1 Corinthians, so come ready with your Bible. You will find there are many opportunities for you to study and grow, but there will all be opportunities to serve.

On April 6th at 9 am you can help with the Church work day; on April 13th, we can meet at Aldersgate at 8:30 for donuts and coffee and we will head with other churches in Nixa to Rotary Park to work for 3 hours and then to Redeemer Lutheran for lunch; and, on May 20th we will serve breakfast to the Nixa Class of 2024 Project Graduation.

The only alterations to your life will take place by surrendering daily to the altar of the Lord. Your risen Christ is there in every moment of every day. Let's live like it!!

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

Love In Christ,
Pastor Dennis



Spring GOLF TOURNAMENT

• SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024 •



HIDDEN VALLEY GOLF COURSE IN CLEVER, MO
1:30 PM START TIME
\$50 PER PERSON - TEAMS OF 4



Pastors

Dennis Miller - Lead Pastor

Sarah Fotopulos - Executive Pastor

Staff

Brenda Clark - Business Administrator

Casey Freeland - Communications Director

Christian Barnard - Contemporary Worship Director

Ellie Bakken - Children's Director

Jeff Huber - Traditional Worship Director

Jared Middleton - Worship Technical Lead

Jennifer Kelley - Church Secretary

Rob Howard - Youth Director

Shannon Dodson - Early Childhood Director

A.R.K. and Aldersgate Youth

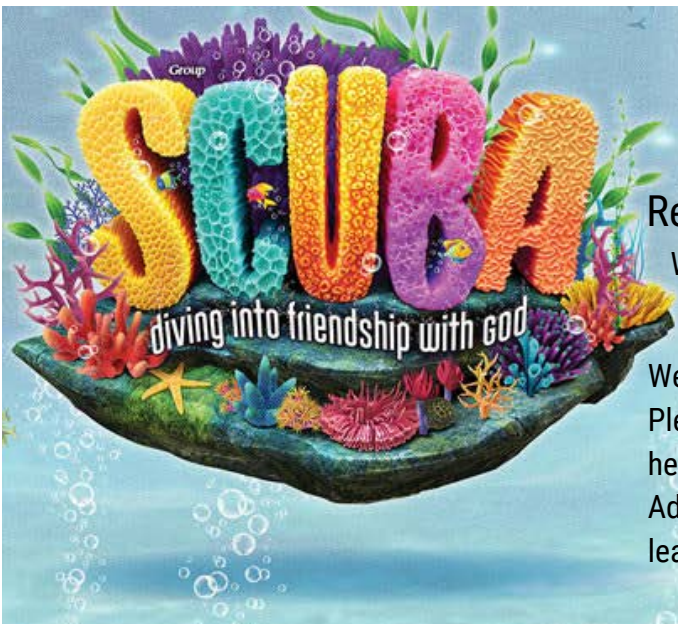
This Month's Bible Verse



For the month of April, Our bible buddy is Pogo the poison dart frog! Our April bible verse is Galatians 5:22-23 "But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control." Join us for Sunday school at 9:45 AM.

Volunteers needed

. Our children at Aldersgate are so eager to learn about Jesus and form connections through relationship. Christ's love poured out to these children is changing lives for eternity. What a priceless gift! Please take a look at our April and May sign-up and see when you would be available to serve on the ARK! Scan the QR code to the left! Also, you don't have to be a teacher, we always need helpers too so don't be afraid to sign up just to help. We need anyone who is willing to help.



SAVE THE DATE June 23-27

Registration is now open for SCUBA VBS!!

We are ready to sign up kiddos and volunteers!!
Scan the QR Code to get started.

We have a variety of ways for you to use your gifts. Please reach out to Ellie and Shannon about helping in these areas: Crafting/organizing, Administrative gifts, Decorating, Station leader/helper and crew leaders, and Clean-up!!



5TH AND 6TH GRADE



sign up here!



Sunday, April 21st
5:00-7:00 PM

Nerf and Nachos

Sunday, April 21st, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, all 5th and 6th graders are invited for a fun night of Nerf battles and nachos! Bring your own Nerf blaster, and we will provide the darts. We will play lots of different Nerf games and eat yummy nachos! Please sign-up so we can plan for enough supplies. Bring your friends, and make sure to sign them up!

Adults, if you can stay and help with the fun, please sign-up at the bottom of the form. We need help with the games and help with the food! There is a place for everyone!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out!

Spiritual Gifts One hears a lot about spiritual gifts, but what are they?

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you." Acts 1:8 NLT

Spiritual gifts are special abilities, talents, or capacities given to you by the Holy Spirit so that you can serve God and others by their use. They are meant to be used.

Imagine a gift or talent that God wants you to use to serve Him, His church, and His community.

Every time we use our gifts, we are giving back to God and His grace. We are able to bless Him.



So, how do we identify our gifts, special abilities, or talents? Stay tuned for information about upcoming Spiritual Gifts tests. They will be available both on paper and online.

Please take the time to fill them out. With that information, we will be able to assist you in using those gifts to honor and bless God.

Finance Brief By: Ben Stone

Year-to-date financial summary through February 29, 2024:

Revenue	\$ 138,214
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 205,580
Actual Expenses	\$ 168,336
Net	\$ (30,122)

The original amount of the loan for the new Learning Center was \$4,162,200. The current balance as of February 29, 2024, is \$3,215,538.

This month's discussion of tithing and stewardship comes in the form of a few "jokes":

-Over dinner in a nice restaurant, Pastor Liz was trying to convince a skeptical wealthy parishioner on the need to tithe income to the church – all to no avail. The pastor played her trump card as they were paying the bill and leaving money on the table. "We give the waitress 15 percent out of gratitude for good service," she said, "but we can't give God 10 percent for our good lives?"

-At the vestry meeting, the congregation's wealthiest member decided to share a portion of his faith story. "I'm a millionaire," he said, "and I attribute it all to the rich blessings of God in my life. I can still remember the turning point in my faith, like it was yesterday: I had just earned my first dollar and I went to a youth meeting that night. The speaker was a missionary who told about his work. I knew that I only had a dollar bill and had to either give it all to God's work or nothing at all. So at that moment I decided to give my whole dollar to God. I believe that God blessed that decision, and that is why I am a rich man today." When he finished and sat down, the chair of the stewardship committee leaned over and said: "Wonderful story! I dare you to do it again!"

-An Obituary:

Our church was saddened to learn this week of the death of one of our most valued members, Someone Else. For many, many years as a part of this church, Someone Else did far more than a normal person's share of the work. Whenever there was a job to do, a class to teach, or a meeting to attend, everybody said, "Let Someone Else do it." Whenever leadership was mentioned, this wonderful person was looked to for inspiration as well as results; "Someone Else can work with that group." It was common knowledge that Someone Else was among the most generous givers. Whenever there was a financial need, everyone assumed Someone Else would make up the difference. Now Someone Else is gone! We wonder what we are going to do. Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow, but who is going to follow it? Who is going to do the things Someone Else did? When you are asked to help this year, remember – we can't depend on Someone Else anymore.

Church DNA – What might it be?

By: Dorothy Brucks

Are you bored of these articles yet? I'm sure some of you see the article and read it all, some just pass it by thinking the topic of Aldersgate and future affiliation with a denomination doesn't affect you, so you're not interested. I hope there are many of you who read it thoroughly and pray for the task force and God's will for His kingdom of believers here in Nixa.

I will admit, that there are days in this process when I feel overwhelmed thinking about the future of Aldersgate. Then at times, I feel excited about the potential to grow God's kingdom for generations. I do trust that God already has a plan and that He is leading us in this quest, not just for the task force, but for each of you.

From the church website:

- Jesus' instructions to his disciples in Matthew 28, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you," (Mat 28:19) forms the basis of our mission statement.

At Aldersgate, our mission is to be who we are in Christ, so we can be Christ in the world.

Our Wesleyan theology and spiritual practices offer us ways to deepen our own relationship with Jesus and to love others so deeply that we seek the transforming life only the Holy Spirit offers us.

John Wesley along with his brother Charles Wesley, played a pivotal role in the development of Methodism within Protestant Christianity particularly in the 18th century. Wesley developed the system of "bands," "classes," and "societies" designed to foster spiritual growth, accountability, and support among members. Intentional deepening of heart and mind became the DNA of the church.

- 1. Bands: small groups of around five to twelve individuals who meet regularly for mutual accountability, spiritual growth, and confession of sins. Members share their struggles, pray for one another, and encourage each other in their faith journey. They were separate groups for men and women to facilitate openness and accountability.
- 2. Classes: larger groups comprising several bands, the leader provides guidance, pastoral care, and oversight. They focus on spiritual instruction, examination of personal holiness, and practical application of Christian principles to daily life.
- 3. Societies: organizational units, consisting of all members within a community. Regular society meetings included preaching, worship, and opportunities for mutual support and encouragement.

From the church website:

Our vision is not to be the biggest church on the block or to have the highest steeple. We just want to love people the way Jesus loves, spreading light, truth, and grace in all of our words and deeds. We do this by meeting and ministering to people where they are and helping them grow in a relationship with Jesus to become fully devoted disciples.

As both you and this body of Christ called Aldersgate Church of Nixa continue seeking to know God through His Holy Word, lives will be changed! That's just who God is! What are each of us doing to deepen our spiritual DNA?



This is a 2 book series. We will discuss both books on April 29, 2024

This month we will be having a discussion over two books at once, The Captain's Daughter and The Heart's Appeal by Jennifer Delamere.

We will meet in LC 203 at 5:30 PM. Please feel free to bring dinner with you. You are always welcome to bring a friend with you. Can't wait to hear what you think!

A circular graphic with various gardening and service-related items like a shovel, scissors, a watering can, a heart, and flowers. The text 'SERVE DAY' is in large pink letters in the center.

SERVE DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 13
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

This community-wide event will bring local churches together to work at Rotary Park. We will begin at Aldersgate Church with donuts and coffee, work in Rotary Park, and finish with lunch at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

APRIL 21 2:00 PM

CONCERT 4A CAUSE

BENEFITING LEAST OF THESE

Concert 4A Cause returns on Sunday, April 21st, at 2 PM in the Worship Center. Admission is free but please bring a non-perishable food item as your "entry ticket". A free-will offering will be taken with all donations going to local charities. Enjoy an afternoon of music presented by members of our church family.

If interested in participating, it's not too late! Contact Jeff Huber at jhuber@aldersgatechurch.com or 417-725-4949.

A graphic with a target symbol and the words 'LASER TAG' in white on a black background, surrounded by colorful light trails.

7-12th Grade!
Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 28, 6:00-7:30 PM. We will be having a fun night in the CLC. Laser Tag and Pizza. You will need to sign up so we know how much pizza to order. Sign up in the band app or the church app. Friends are welcome to attend with you.

A graphic with various gardening tools and flowers. The text 'ALL CHURCH WORK DAY' is in large, bold, blue letters with a white outline.

**ALL CHURCH
WORK DAY**

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 AT 9 AM
COME SERVE WITH YOUR WHOLE FAMILY
ALL WORK WILL BE OUTSIDE.

A graphic showing a plate of breakfast food including eggs, bacon, and mushrooms. The text 'MEN'S BREAKFAST' is in large, bold, white letters.

**MEN'S
BREAKFAST**

SAT. APRIL 6
7:30 AM
CLC GYM

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Journey to the Cross



SuperStart 5th and 6th Grade



See A Need Fill a Need



Leadership Conference



March Food Drive



Dr. Seuss Week at ARK Preschool

THANK YOU!

Pastor Dennis and all our friends at Aldersgate, Words cannot express how grateful we are for your continued support of Abundant Blessings. Your generosity helped us serve over 850 children at nearly 1,800 visits in 2023! Thank you all for everything you do to support us and the children in our community!
Sincerely, Shannon Thomason

THANK YOU!

Thank you Aldersgate family for your prayers and calls during my replacement hip surgery.
A special thanks to Pastor Dennis for his prayers and visit at the hospital and to the ladies that knitted the prayer shawl. Thank you to my life group for their prayers, cards, food, and concern for me.
What a blessing it is to be a part of the Aldersgate Family.
Bobby Neal

THANK YOU!

Staff, congregation (aka family) and pastors, Bryan, Will and I appreciate all your prayers, love, support, and gifts. We are blessed by all of you and I felt your prayers which helped me get through some tough moments and days. Love you all.
Katrina Stephens