

THE  
GATEPOST

MAY 2023



In This Issue

Garage Sale  
VBS Registration  
National Day of Prayer

<b><u>May 1</u></b>	
SPR Meeting (zoom)	6:00 PM
<b><u>May 2</u></b>	
Leadership Development Meeting	6:30 PM
<b><u>May 3</u></b>	
Charity Sewing	1:30 PM
<b><u>May 4</u></b>	
National Day of Prayer Breakfast at Redeemer Lutheran Church	7:00 AM
Sanctuary open all day for prayer	
<b><u>May 6</u></b>	
Men's Breakfast	7:30 AM
Confirmation Banquet	5:30 PM
<b><u>May 7</u></b>	
Confirmation Sunday	11:11 AM
<b><u>May 8</u></b>	
Begin Garage Sale Drop-off	All Day
<b><u>May 9</u></b>	
Trustees Meeting	6:30 PM
<b><u>May 11</u></b>	
Spiritual Gifts Seminar	6:30 PM
<b><u>May 13</u></b>	
Garage Sale	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
<b><u>May 14</u></b>	
Mother's Day	
Senior Recognition at all services	
Joyful Noise Singers	2:30 PM
<b><u>May 16</u></b>	
Finance Meeting	6:30 PM
<b><u>May 17</u></b>	
Baccalaureate (No High School)	7:00 PM
<b><u>May 19</u></b>	
Youth Rally at Nixa Sucker Days	7:00 PM
<b><u>May 21</u></b>	
Youth Mission Trip Meeting	1:00 PM
Online Hymn Sing	5:00 PM
<b><u>May 22</u></b>	
Book Club	5:30 PM
<b><u>May 23</u></b>	
Office Closed	
<b><u>May 24</u></b>	
Promotion Parking Lot Party	5:30 PM
<b><u>May 28</u></b>	
Pentecost	
Hymns for 10	8:00 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 (adult class)	6:30 PM
ARK Club (pk-4th)	6:30 PM
Biblical Beauties & King's Men (5th)	6:30 PM
Confirmation	6:30 PM
7th & 8th Grade Small Groups	6:30 PM
High School Gathering	6:30 PM

<b><u>Thursdays</u></b>	
Knitwits	10:00 AM
Stephen Ministry Meeting (2nd & 4th)	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
NOVA Lunch	12:15 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

# Sundays at Aldersgate

<b><u>Services</u></b>	
Traditional Service	8:15 AM
Contemporary Service	9:45 AM
Family Service	11:11 AM



# Unashamed Gospel

## Letter to the Romans Sermon Series

Wow, it is spring!!! New Life is here and we are excited about what May will bring. Confirmation will be our first Sunday celebration at the 11:11 service and every service will meet these great kids. We have a Mother's Day with adult and infant Baptisms and new members joining. We will also recognize our High School graduates that weekend too!

We have an opportunity to help serve breakfast to the Nixa High School Project Graduation students early on May 22, but you will see our parking lot fill up on Saturday night before they head out on buses. Please let me know and look for a sign-up to participate in our 5:30 am breakfast hosting!

Our new sermon series is starting in May and will center on the Letter of Romans for several weeks and you are invited to read along. More information is available on how you connect and the Pastor's Bible Study will go more in-depth.

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

Love In Christ,  
Pastor Dennis



Ps. Disaffiliation Update. We were given the news that our payment would be reduced by over \$80k. It appears the vote at Annual Conference on our disaffiliation could take place on the afternoon of Friday, June 9th. Please pray as we complete the process during the month of June. We will be looking to have a task force for our future once disaffiliation is complete to determine if we remain independent, have an association with other churches, or even have the possibility of becoming a part of another Methodist denomination.



# PROMOTION PARTY

MOVE UP TO THE NEXT GRADE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24 AT 6:30 PM

COME EARLY FOR DINNER  
AT 5:30 PM  
AND STAY FOR SNO BALLZ



ALL CLASSES CANCELED EXCEPT FOR CHOIR



# A.R.K. Aldersgate Righteous Kids



## Registration Now Open

June 25, 2023 — June 29, 2023

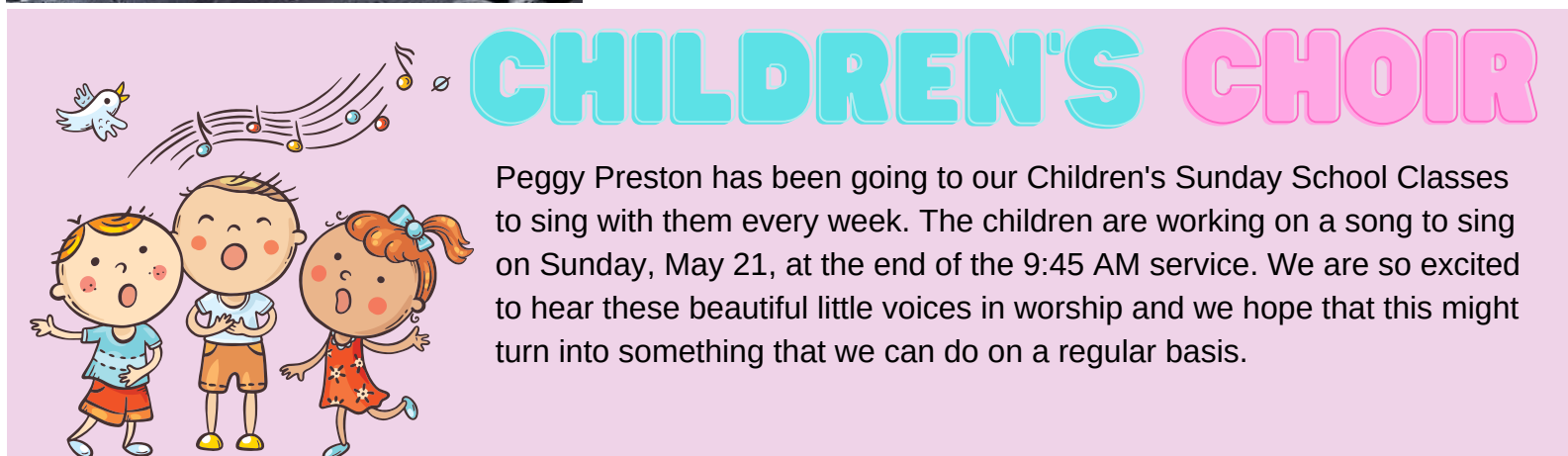
6:30pm — 8:30pm



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.

Sign up to volunteer and have an amazing week teaching kids about Jesus!

VBS shirts are on sale for \$5! VBS music streaming codes and CDS are on sale for \$7! Find both items at the children's welcome desk!



Peggy Preston has been going to our Children's Sunday School Classes to sing with them every week. The children are working on a song to sing on Sunday, May 21, at the end of the 9:45 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.

# Volunteers needed

SCAN ME!



We are in desperate need of Sunday school teachers for our PK-4th grade classes.

We are so excited to see all these children coming to Sunday school and we need to open up more classrooms. The only way to do that is to get more help on Sunday mornings. We just need one Sunday a month or a quarter, or anything really. We just need help!



We go through snacks pretty quickly at all our grade levels from PK-12th Grade.

If you would like to supply snacks, we would love for you to help.

**PK-4th Grade** - Animal crackers, goldfish, trail mix, and candy (for bringing your bible).

**5th-12th Grade** - Individual bags of chips, fruit snacks, granola bars, individual cookie snacks, small Gatorade bottles, and bottles of water.



# SUMMER CAMP

## Junior High and High School

We have two different opportunities for summer camp this year. There are two great at Camp Galilee June 4-9th and July 16-21. Evan will be at camp and these camps are open to current 5th-11th graders.

The cost of camp is \$275 but we do have scholarships available if you need financial assistance. We don't want to deny anyone a camp experience.

If you haven't been to a summer camp it is an overnight camp focused on developing a closer relationship with Christ as well as fostering positive relationships with others.

Get started by scanning QR code.



**SCAN  
ME!**



## Youth Garage Sale - Saturday, May 13

WOOHOO!! Who doesn't love a garage sale? Saturday, May 13 our youth is hosting a garage sale. This year, Aldersgate's Youth students will be hosting a garage sale during Nixa's City Wide Garage Sale Weekend. Our Garage Sale will be held at the OMC (Garage) at the church from 8:00 AM through 4:00 PM. The proceeds from this sale will help cover the cost of Mission Trips, camps, and activities for our students. We will be accepting items for this garage sale May 8th-12th during church office hours (8 AM through 4 PM). We will also be at the church Thursday, May 11th, from 4-6 PM to accept items. We are asking for everything to be pre-priced, except books, DVDs, and CDs. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Evan Reed. You can email him with questions at [EReed@aldersgatechurch.com](mailto:EReed@aldersgatechurch.com).

### Items We Cannot Accept:

- TV's
- Computers and Computer Monitors
- VHS Tapes
- VHS Players
- Clothes (Any clothes that end up here will be given away for free)

We are also looking for volunteers to work on Saturday, May 13. We are hoping our youth can fill the spots but adults are welcome to help too.

# MAY 13



**8:00 AM-4:00 PM**

**SCAN  
ME!**



# CAUGHT IN THE ACT



Our SPR committee wants you to catch people in the act; the act of kindness, the act of friendliness, the act of gratefulness, any act that shows how Jesus is shining through us.

There are blank cards on the desk and we are asking that you fill out a card to acknowledge this act.

It is always nice to hear when people notice the seemingly unnoticed moments that happen between people. We want to be a church where

people feel like they belong. A place where we show love, a place where we serve, a place where we love, a place where we grow, and a place where we lift each other up.

All you need to do is place the card in the box and we will make sure that it gets to the right people. Even if you don't know the name of the people you caught in the act, it doesn't matter. We want to recognize the act.



## New Logo

We have started rolling out the new logo that the church council approved. You will begin seeing it on our social media pages, letterhead, and signage around campus.

## Book Review

By: Grace Bryson

A.D. 33 (A Novel)

Ted Dekker, author

Published 9/27/2016

432 pages

Read by Joe Bryson

Sequel to A.D. 30

This follow-up novel continues Maviah's journey as she shares the way of Yeshua (Jesus) with her people in the desert.

The way is soon forgotten when the enemy threatens to destroy all that she loves. She journeys back to Yeshua to help save her people only to find out he is facing death himself.

This book takes you through Holy Week weaving in historical events to provide you with a perspective of what it may have been like if you were there.

A great story of God's forgiveness and love. Bottom line ... We are in the world, but not of the world. A very good read. God bless you as you learn and grow in His word.



The library is located just outside the sanctuary. There are many categories to choose from some of which are Bible Study, Discipleship, Featured Authors, Prayer and Parenting. There are also FREE Bibles available to anyone.





# Holy Land Trip

You have an opportunity to support Aldersgate folks who will be participating in the VIM Holy Land mission trip. Team members from Aldersgate Church include Janet Bell, Katherine Clem, Sally Patterson, Peggy Preston, and Debbie Rice. They will join 12 others who will visit many places we read about in the Bible and work with children/youth and building projects at the Aboud Christian School. They are collecting items for the school.

If you prefer to purchase items for the school, please drop them off on May 7th, 10th, or 14th in one of the suitcases you will find in the Worship Center and Youth Building. We have been asked to provide peanut butter, Ziploc bags, and generic Tylenol. For monetary donations, you should write your check to "Aldersgate Church" and write "Holy Land mission trip" in the memo line. Thank you so much for your support.



Peggy Preston and Taylor King have been doing online hymn sing once a month on the AUMC Nixa Worship Ministry Facebook page. They would love for you to join them on the next online hymn sing Sunday, May 21 at 5:00 PM. They love to have comments and encourage you to sing along with them as they go down the list of great hymns. You can always email song requests to [ppreston@aldersgatechurch.com](mailto:ppreston@aldersgatechurch.com) and you might just hear your favorite hymn.

Psalms 100 says "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: Come before his presence with singing."

Our Joyful Noise Singers do just that once a month when they visit our area nursing homes bringing songs of joy and love to their lives.

This group is open to anyone who would like to join. The next time they sing is May 21 at 2:30 PM they will be at Bradford Court in Nixa.

If you would like information please reach out to Peggy or email [ppreston@aldersgatechurch.com](mailto:ppreston@aldersgatechurch.com)



## Lost and Found

We have gone all over campus collecting lost and found items. We have placed them all on the round table in the rotunda. Please take a look and see if any of it belongs to you.

# Abraham

By: Ed Vigneaux

Genesis 12, 15, 21, and 22

I recently saw the movie "His Only Son". It was a story of sacrifice; Abraham's sacrifice of his son Isaac.

As you read the story of Abram, whose name was changed to Abraham by God, you will find that God calls Abram out of the land of Ur, which is currently the country of Iraq. At the time of his calling, Abram was not a worshiper of God, but when God came to him, Abram believed that He was the one true God and that he needed to follow his command to leave his family in UR, and travel to a land that God had given him. God told Abram that he would make a great nation out of him and bless him, that he would make his name great, and all the peoples of the earth would be blessed through him. This was the first covenant that God had made with his people.

So, Abram left with his family and traveled to the land that God had promised him. God greatly blessed him and his family and he became very wealthy. God watched over him and everything God promised Abram came true, except for the fact that Abram and his wife, Sarai, had not had any children to make a great nation.

In the movie, Abram did not give up hope that one day he and his wife would have a son, and that through him, a great nation would be born. However, Sarai did give up hope in God's promise and tried to take things into her own hands by persuading Abram to lay with her maiden, Hagar, which Abram did. Of course, we know that a son was born to Hagar and his name was Ismael. Soon after, Sarai caused Hagar and her son to leave the family, but God came to Hagar and promised her that her son would become the patriarch of many descendants, but that they would live in hostility to all his brothers.

We read in Genesis 21 that God did as he promised, and Sarah became pregnant through Abraham and a son was born, whom Abraham named Isaac, as instructed by God.

In chapter 22, God tells Abraham to take his son to Mt. Moriah and to sacrifice him there as a burnt offering. With no argument or debate from Abraham, he takes Isaac and goes to Mt. Moriah as God commanded him. As he prepares to sacrifice Isaac on the altar he has built, God stops him and provides a lamb for the sacrifice.

The question many think of in their own mind is why God would command Abraham to sacrifice, and kill, his only son, the son that God promised him in the first covenant. Like Abraham, we too are called to leave a life of unbelief (sin) and follow God. This means leaving a life we have become comfortable in, to a life that sometimes is not very comfortable. We will be tested and tempted to turn away from this new life, but as in Abraham, we must believe and hope that God is watching over us and guiding us to eternal life with him. If we believe as Abraham did, we too will be blessed beyond our comprehension and understanding. Maybe not in the secular things of this world, but in the spiritual things of God's kingdom.

At the end of the movie, the scene switched to another sacrifice that was even greater than Abraham's. God sacrificed His son, Jesus, to die on the cross to save the world. One thing we can always count on is that God keeps His promises. John 3:16, tells us that if we believe in God's son, Jesus, we too will be saved, and will spend eternity with God and Jesus.

Let us love one another. Let us Be Love.

We are blessed to be a blessing.



# Charitable Sewing

Do you like to sew? Do you like to help non-profits? The Charitable Sewing Team is just for you!!

Come on the first Wednesday of every month at 1:30 PM.

The team works on baby blankets, burp cloths, and other baby items for Newborns in Need.

All fabric and materials will be provided but you need to bring your own sewing machine. We would love to have you join us. If you have any questions please call the church office.

## Aldersgate Book Club

The next Aldersgate Book Club will meet on Monday, May 22 at 5:30 PM in LC 207. The next book we will discuss is called The Extraordinary Deaths of Mrs. Kip by Sara Brunsvold.

Here is a brief overview: Aidyn Kelly is a cub reporter for the Kansas City Star with dreams and confidence bigger than her britches. To put her in her place, her section editor sends her to interview a little old lady in a hospice house.

We would love for you to join us to discuss your thoughts. Please bring your own dinner with you and be ready to share. If you have any questions please talk to Jan Badgett or call the church office.

## Ways to Serve

### COMMUNION AT 11:11AM SERVICE

We have started offering communion at the 11:11 AM service every week. We are always looking for people who would be willing to serve communion at this service. If you are interested please sign up on the app or by calling the office.

### HOSPITALITY/COFFEE TEAM

This is a very easy way to help out on Sunday mornings. We are always needing to make coffee on Sundays. We are looking for people who could help out in between services to make sure we have our coffee and hot water canisters full and ready to go. If you would like to help please call the office.



### SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are seeing more and more children coming to the 9:45 Sunday school classes each week. It is a huge blessing and we are facing some growing pains. We need help! If you can sign up to help we would appreciate it so much. Just one Sunday is better than nothing at all. Sign up in the app or stop by the ARK desk on Sunday morning.

### FLOWER DELIVERY

Did you know that altar flowers get donated to the church regularly? We break those arrangements down and take them to people in our church. Flowers bring instant cheer to people who are confined at home or hospital. All it takes is a car to get the arrangements there. Call the office for info.



## Golf Tournament Winners



Ryan and Max Fishel -  
Carolyn and Gary Jacobs

Thank you to everyone who played in the tournament this year. We had a lot of fun and plan to do it again this fall!



Yipoa is hosting a youth rally night at Sucker Days on Fri. May 19 at 7:00 PM. We would love for our youth to come out and be there. Evan Reed, our Youth Director and Christian Barnard, our Contemporary Worship Director will both be in the band that night. This a free event and open to the public. Bring your friends.

## SPRITUAL GIFTS SEMINAR

Join us on Thursday, May 11 for a night of discovery. Did you ever wonder what spiritual gifts are? Or what YOUR spiritual gifts are? Do you ever think about what you can offer to God and your church family? Have you ever considered what your special ministry might be? Stephen Ministers are hosting a spiritual gifts exploration seminar to help answer those questions.

Thursday, May 11, Pastor Sarah will present a Spiritual Gifts Seminar in LC Room 207 at 6:30 PM. If you have not taken a spiritual gifts assessment recently, please register in advance so we can send you the assessment prior to the event. To get the most from this time, please bring your results with you. You may register at the information desk, online, or through the app.



*Thank You*

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Spring Workday! We were blessed to have enough volunteers that we were finished by 10:30. Thanks also to Boy Scout Troop 205 for the great fish fry following the work. From the Trustees Committee

*Thank You*

Thank you for what you have done for Nixa Head Start! Ms. Angie  
Thank you for your support. Matt  
Thank you! The cooker lady





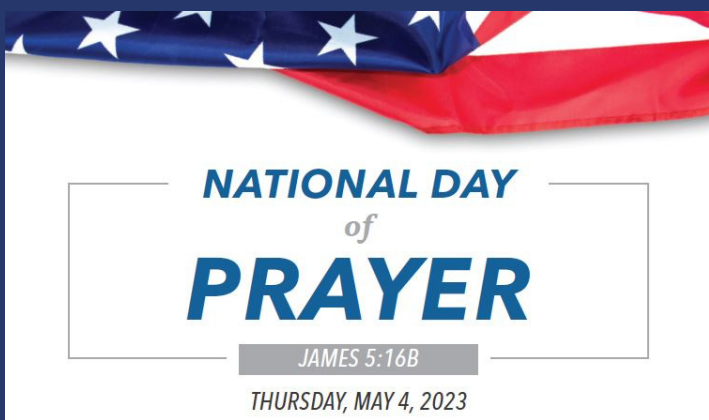


How do you fill a servant's heart? Have you ever taken a spiritual gifts questionnaire and discovered your gifts? Carol Greene did just that. She discovered one of her gifts was "shepherding". She uses that gift, and others, in NOVA.

NOVA is a ministry for young adults 18-30. This group helps young adults meet each other and learn life and faith skills. Carol says that she has been involved with NOVA for about 1 and a half years.

The group meets Sunday afternoon after the 11:11 service. They will have a meal and fellowship at the church. One can see her joy and the blessings she receives talking to her about her group of young adults. She shares that she loves to encourage them and let them know that someone is there for them.

If you have a servant's heart and would like to assist in this ministry, please contact Carol Greene. She says that she would like to have 6 or 8 other adults willing to invest their time and gifts to help support this ministry. She, and her husband Joe, usually attend the 9:45 service. Please ask her if you are interested, have questions, or would like to assist her in any way.



The National Day of Prayer is an annual day of observance held on the first Thursday of May, designated by the United States Congress, when people are asked "to turn to God in prayer and meditation".

Prayer breakfast at Redeemer Lutheran Church starting at 7 am. Following the prayer service, community leaders will share what prayer means to them and enjoy a light breakfast.

Our sanctuary will be open during business hours for anyone who would like to stop by and pray.



## New Members



Samuel & Brittany Yoo

# APRIL HIGHLIGHTS



**Easter Egg Hunt**



**Easter**



**Easter Egg Hunt**



**Sisters in Hope**



**Nerf & Nachos**



**Young Christians Weekend**

## 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