

Gatepost

JULY 2025



ISSUE No 07

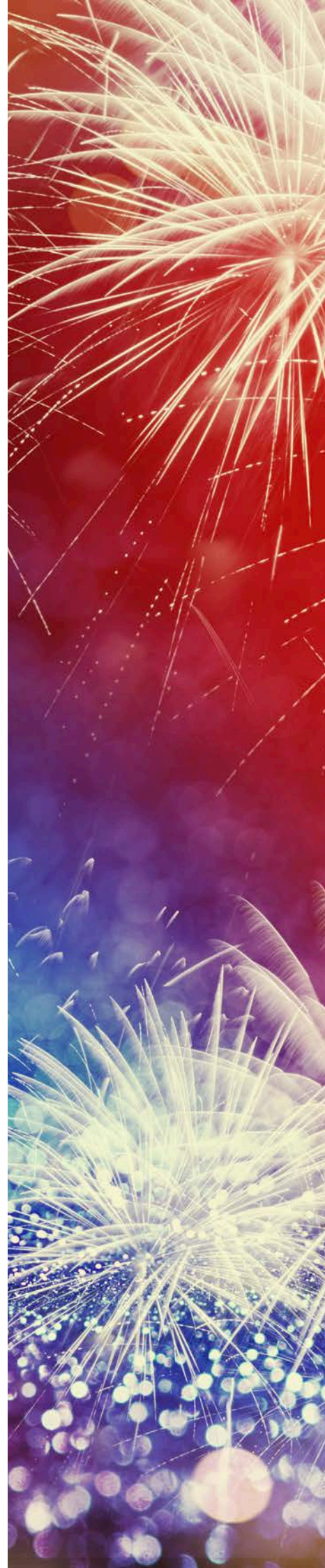
MOVIE NIGHT

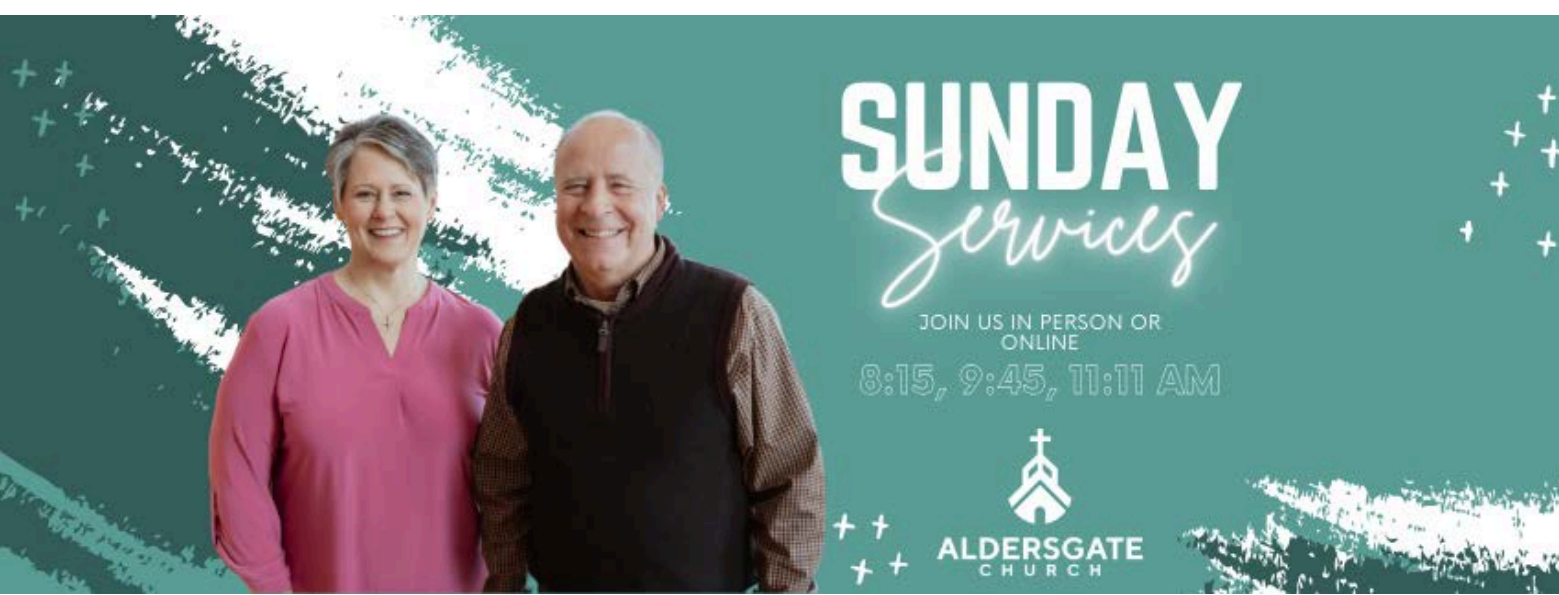
POOL PARTY

NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Upcoming Events for July

08	PROPERTY OVERSIGHT MEETING DISCIPLESHIP PLANNING MEETING	6:30 PM 6:30 PM
09	CHURCH MOVIE NIGHT	6:00 PM
12	YOUNG ADULT EVENT	6:00 PM
13	JOYFUL NOISE SINGERS CHURCH POOL PARTY	2:30 PM 6:30 PM
15	FINANCE MEETING	6:30 PM
16	NIGHT OF WORSHIP	6:30 PM
20	CHURCH BOARD MEETING	2:00 PM
22	7 TH -9 TH GRADE LOCAL MISSION	5:00 PM
27	YOUTH GROUP TO SONIC	3:30 PM
30	TOWN HALL MEETING	6:30 PM





Loving in the Right Direction

Greetings Aldersgate,

We found our "TRUE NORTH" the last week of June in the midst of VBS. I am so grateful to Ellie and Shannon for the time and effort they put into making this an amazing week. This includes our entire staff, who are serving in ways to support; our wonderful group of over 120+ youth, young adults, and adults, and our Shield Team, who are reaching over 150 of our kids in the area with the truth of God's direction in their lives. To be a part of seeing my grandchildren influenced by the family of Jesus sharing His love in such a powerful way makes my heart full!!

Our students headed out last Saturday to head to West Virginia, and we need to pray for these 29 youth and adult leaders who will spend their 4th of July driving all the way back from their time of mission! Pray for their safety and all the ways the Spirit will be at work in their lives and the community they will be a part of. Watching many of those students, the week before they leave, working with our 3-year-olds through 6th graders, I know they understand their own ministries!

How about you? Do you understand that your ministry, which is heading True North, will always reveal where God wants you to serve? We have a Movie Night on the 9th, a Pool Party on the 13th, and a Night of Worship on the 16th. Each of those events gives us an opportunity to invite someone to meet Jesus and His family, named Aldersgate. Let's be a church heading TRUE NORTH!!

We are still discerning and praying as a church for the vote on September 7th. Be fully informed and prayed up!

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

Love In Christ,
Pastor Dennis





Pickleball Court

Learn to play pickleball! We now have a pickleball court in the CLC gym available on weekdays from 8 am to 10:30 am. The plan is to teach people how to play so they can feel comfortable joining in play at local courts. Paddles and balls will be available to use. If you are interested in playing, please sign up to be scheduled. If you have any questions, call Dolph Neubauer at 417-861-8319.

Photography Team

We have a lot of events and special moments that happen at our church, and we are always looking for people who would be willing to capture those moments on film. If you have an eye for photography, we would love your help! Contact Casey Freeland, if you would like to be added as a photographer.



Sound Booth

Do you have a good ear for music? Can you hear when something is out of balance? You might make a great member of our sound team! Come find out how you can put those talents to use for worship services and/or special events! Training is required and provided. Talk to Christian Barnard if you are interested at 417-725-4949.

LifeGroups

Doing Life Together

We were not created to do life alone but in community with God and others. A small group provides opportunities to meet new people and grow supportive relationships no matter your stage in life!

There are multiple groups that meet on a variety of nights. We are always looking for new groups to spring up too.

If you are interested in joining or starting a LifeGroup, please reach out to Cindy Hughes or Grace Bryson.



Grace

By: Ed Vigneaux

What is grace? Webster's defines grace as an unmerited favor. When I think of the mercy and grace of our Lord and Savior, this is exactly what comes to my mind. Am I worthy of God's unmerited favor? Of course not. I can never measure up to His greatness and love for me. But because of His GREAT love for me, as told to us in His word in John 3:16, he loved us so much that He sent His only Son, Jesus, to us to save us from our sin.

I recently read the story of David and Bathsheba. They committed a very great sin against God, deserving of death for Bathsheba and her unborn son. But because of both David and Bathsheba's love for God and their repentance for their sin, God forgave them. David knew the Law of God better than most, but that couldn't keep him from going ahead and breaking the Law. It seems that nothing can keep us from committing sin. But David knew he had broken the Law and sinned against God, leading him to ask for forgiveness. And God forgave him. However, he did suffer the consequences for his sin. He and his family suffered greatly for the rest of David's life. God has promised to forgive us for our sins if we ask for his forgiveness and promise to repent, which means we won't commit that sin again. But He didn't promise to take away the consequences of that sin. He has promised to go with us as we suffer the consequences, and that is very assuring.

Below are some verses telling us of God's unending grace.

Romans 3: 21-24 – "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God and are justified freely by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that came by Jesus Christ."

Psalms 145: 8-9 – "The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made."

Titus 2: 11 – "'For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people.'"

Jesus Christ was offered as a sacrifice for all creation to save us from our sin, now and forever. If we will only recognize that sin and confess it before God and ask for His forgiveness, He will forgive us and hold us blameless. We just need to believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, knowing that our belief in Him will save us from all unrighteousness.

Praise God for His great love and mercy.

Let us love and serve one another. Let us Be Love. Let us be Christ in the world.

We are blessed to be a blessing to others.

Weekly EVENTS

Sundays - Young Adult Lunch - 12:30 PM

Mondays - Stronger - 5:30 AM

Men's Bible Study - 6:30 PM

Tuesdays - Aldersgate Time of Prayer - 6:30 PM

Wednesdays - Young Adult Bible Study - 6:30 PM

Monday-Friday - Pickleball - 8:00 AM

Thursdays - Knitwits - 10:00 AM

Stephen Ministry - 6:30 PM - 2nd and 4th

Fridays - Essentials of Faith - 10:00 AM

Saturdays - Cardio Workout - 9:30 AM

Peace in the Storm - 6:30 PM



High School Sonic Happy Hour Sunday, July 27 @ 3:30-5:00 pm Nixa Sonic Location

Grades 9th-12th

Come to Sonic to catch the end of happy hour!

Rob is buying drinks and appetizers.

Plus, we'll play some epic games of Uno No Mercy. See you there!

7th & 8th grade Mission opportunity (overnight)!
Hey friends, this summer Eden Village has invited us to help them out with some projects!
We'll have some awesome Fun together, and do some great Work together.
Hope you'll consider this exciting and rewarding overnight Mission opportunity.

Here's the schedule:

Tuesday, July 22nd

5-5:30pm: Drop off at Aldersgate:

6:30pm Andy B's

9:00pm (Overnight): Back at Aldersgate (Youth Building)

Wednesday, July 23rd

8:00am: Wake Up!

10:30am-2pm: Work Project at Eden Village (Tiny home community for the homeless)

5-5:30pm: Pick up

7TH, 8TH, AND 9TH GRADE LOCAL MISSION OPPORTUNITY

JULY 22-23

Cost is \$25

Will stay at Aldersgate Church overnight.



SCAN ME



JOIN US THIS
SUMMER!

12 JULY 12
ANDY B'S

3 AUGUST 3
END OF SUMMER
PARTY

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
CHRISTIAN BARNARD AT (417) 425-2718

Young Adults

SUNDAY LUNCH
12:15PM - UPSTAIRS IN LC 204

WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY
6:30PM - UPSTAIRS IN LC 204



Aldersgate Righteous Kids

July Bible Buddy:

Guac the Iguana

Bible
Buddy



July Verse: "He saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy." Titus 3:5

Join us each Sunday morning at 9:45 AM, PK-4th grade, in the ARK Wing for Sunday school, and 5th and 6th in CLC.

HAPPY
Sunday
SCHOOL

Many of our Sunday school teachers are traveling this summer and enjoying a break, so now is a great time to try a week serving the ARK kids by helping in a Sunday School class! Sign up for a week in July and August and help our kids continue learning about the love of Jesus. Scan the QR code to help!



We are teaming up with the Nixa Public Schools to collect glue sticks and crayons for the Back to School Bash. We will be collecting these items through the entire month of July and will take them to be donated. If you would like to donate money for us to buy the items, you can do that through online giving, or just write in your memo what the donation is for. You can also order school supplies online and have them shipped to the office.



THANK YOU

True North VBS was a huge success thanks to everyone who donated supplies, volunteered at work days, and during the week. We had so many new families join us to learn that God is our True North, and our trust should always be in Jesus. Thank you all for making the kids in our community feel welcomed and loved. ~Ellie & Shannon

It's a big church. Someone else will do that!

By: Rev. Sarah Fotopulos, Executive Pastor

You're busy. I'm busy. Your calendar, like mine, is crammed with commitments from work, family, school, friends and community activities. And somewhere, if you find a free space, a little R & R sounds like heaven.

Our church calendar is even more busy! Our Aldersgate family continues to grow as we continue in our commitment to reach out with the love of Christ and teach the Word to make disciples with an active faith in Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Praise God for the work of his Holy Spirit!

With over 500 people worshipping here together across multiple services each Sunday, our church family has reached a size where it is difficult to know everyone, and that makes it easy to get detached from the heartbeat of the church. As a result, we are struggling to staff vital ministries with unpaid servants.



I know we have many teens and adults who really love kids and want them to know how much Jesus loves them. Our superb turnout of VBS helpers each year is proof! But we are always so short of teachers and helpers for children's Sunday school and Wednesday Night Kids that it becomes a crisis whenever a teacher has to call in sick.

I know we have many adults who love teens and know how important it is to connect them to God the Rock in the storms of adolescence who would make great youth sponsors! (Even helping provide snacks on a regular basis would be a huge help!)

I know we have many adults who recognize the need for church security and who have a protector's heart of service required for such a role. But we still don't have enough members of SHIELD to provide security for all activities where kids and youth are present, let alone all our other activities.

I know we have plenty of good writers and photographers who would make great Gatepost reporters, plenty of smiling faces who would make great greeters and ushers, plenty of singers and musicians who would make great additions to our choir and praise teams, and plenty of growing disciples who would make great small group leaders or class facilitators. We have no lack of spiritual gifts among us and no one who lacks a spiritual gift because the apostle Paul affirms in 1 Corinthians 12:7, "Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good."



This is an encouragement, not a guilt trip. Take the time to discover your spiritual gifts and how you can use them "for the common good." Just like other abilities, spiritual gifts can get rusty with disuse. No one can do everything. But growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ means everyone should be serving somewhere and somehow.

Need help figuring out your spiritual gifts? Our Leadership Development Team would love to help!

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21

Now What?

Almost half of the congregation has attended one of the Town Hall meetings this summer, which is impressive! This tells the Board members that you are seeking information and God's guidance to assist you with this very important decision. Serious prayer, contemplation, and discernment are vital steps to continue over the next nine weeks. Those you appointed to leadership positions are recommending that Aldersgate join the Global Methodist Church. **So Now What?**

Some food for thought - ask yourself how will affiliation with the Global Methodist church impact our mission statement, *being who we are in Christ so we can be Christ in the world.*

Being who we are in Christ ...

- reclaim the vitality of living as a Wesleyan Methodist and share it by living a Christ-centered life
- experiences to live our faith boldly and authentically
- shift focus from internal programs and fellowship to empowering members to serve others in our daily life,
- empowerment to discover ways to minister to our community where they are,
- learn, live and share scriptural truths not adapted to cultural beliefs
- grow in holy living, both individually and as a congregation, and
- experience the excitement to serve Christ, the one who loves us the most.

so we can be Christ in the world.

- through the denominational connection, reclaim the church's evangelistic DNA for the whole world to know of God's gift of grace,
- seek and trust the Holy Spirit to guide us to be compassionate, and obedient in guiding others toward Christ
- open us up to new ideas for reaching the unchurch
- more importantly, through the testimony of new connections we receive encouragement to listen for God's voice, trust His leading, and share His love in simple, powerful ways,

Soon, we will have the wonderful opportunity to potentially affirm the recommendation to join the Global Methodist Church going forward. Ask questions, pray for God's will to be done and to grow as a church to remain true to who we are and to follow God's plan for making disciples for Jesus Christ here and throughout the world.

Leading up to our congregational vote on September 7, we encourage you to continue exploring what it means to be a Methodist. If you have not yet become a member of Aldersgate, it just might be the right time to speak to Pastor Dennis or Sarah to talk about it, as only members are eligible to vote on official church decisions such as this.

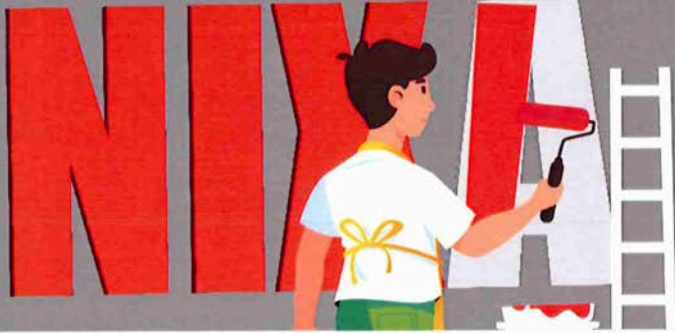
Ask questions, give us a call, text, or write an email!

Greg Shank, Board chairperson, 417-234-5554, Gregory.s.shank@gmail.com

Dorothy Brucks, Task force chair, 417-860-1392, dpbrucks@gmail.com

Paint

JULY 19
8-3



HELP PAINT NIXA HIGH SCHOOL!

We are asking that all painters be at least 15 years old and above.

Needs:

Painters - to paint the hallways

Clean Team - helping with drops, mistakes and footprints

Snack Crew - keeping us fed and hydrated.

This is a 'Bring your own' event

- paint brushes
- rollers
- paint pans
- extenders
- ladders
- anything else you think will be helpful

You can sign up individually or as a group!

REGISTER HERE



A Summer of Worship

A THREE PART WORSHIP SERIES

REJOICE - 6.4
AT ROTARY PARK DURING PARTY IN THE PARK

REFLECT - 7.16
WORSHIP IN THE ROUND

REACH - 8.13
OUTSIDE AT DOCKSIDE RESTAURANT IN NIXA



We are here for you!

Are you hurting and broken within? Are you lonely or going through a difficult time? Talking to a Stephen Minister might be just what you need. There are Stephen ministers available for you to talk to. They will listen and support you through whatever it is you're walking through. For more information contact Stephanie Scott at 417-840-6074.

Calling all Crafty People

Aldersgate Church will be hosting a Craft Fair on Saturday,
November 8, 2025, from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

Booth space will be available for \$60 and that will be a donation to Least of These Food Pantry. We will open this event to outside vendors but want to save space for anyone in our church who is interested.

If you don't want to do a full space, you can combine with someone. There will be an Aldersgate Church booth available with donated items from our crafty people who would rather use that space. If you're interested or have any questions, please call Carolyn Jacobs at 501-226-9125 or Grace Bryson at 417-830-6706, and they will send you a registration form.



Girl Scouts®



Our juniors of troop 71364 are completing their bronze award, the first highest award of Girl Scouting. The girls are making an activity cart for the residents of Harmony House.

They are collecting books for adults and children, puzzles, games, crosswords/word searches/sudoku, and doodling supplies (pens, paper). We will have collection boxes for new or used items at the church for the month of July.

We have wishlists set up on Amazon and Target to help give ideas or make purchases easier! You can also donate through your offering and the app.

We appreciate your support of our troop and of our bronze award project benefiting Harmony House.



Free Movie Night
Wed. July 9 at 6:00 PM



Free Popcorn
Bring a pillow or blanket



PEACE
in the Storm

A service with recovery in mind, come as you are. Services every Saturday evening at 6:00 PM in the Youth Building.

Serve Night



Car Wash



Serve Night



Car Wash



VBS Set Up



VBS FUN!



VBS FUN!



VBS FUN!



Mission Trip Commissioning



Trauma Llamas



VBS FUN!

