

Gatepost

SEPTEMBER 2025



ISSUE No 09

GOLF TOURNAMENT

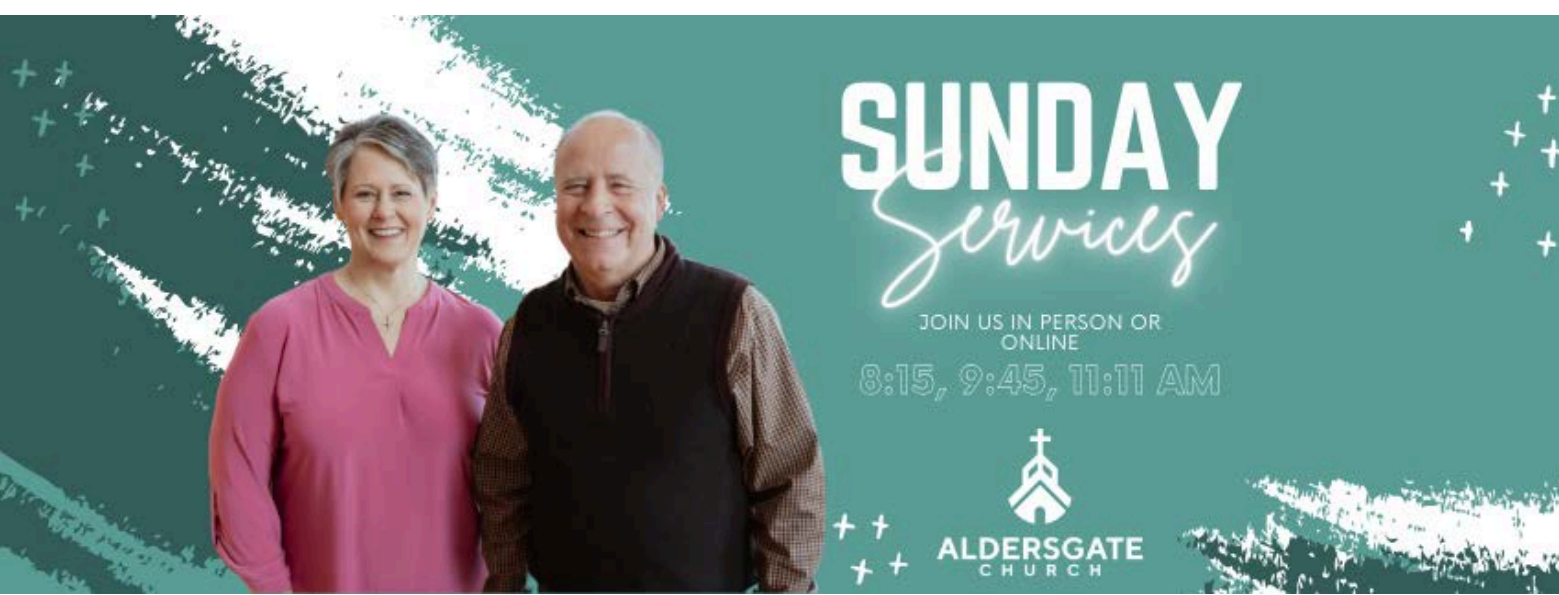
**CONGREGATIONAL
VOTE**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
ARE BACK!**

Upcoming Events for September

01	OFFICE CLOSED	
02	COUNT IT ALL JOY STARTS	9:30 AM
03	CHARITY SEWING ALL NEW BIBLE STUDIES START	1:30 PM 6:30 PM
04	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	6:30 PM
06	MEN'S BREAKFAST	7:30 AM
07	CHURCH GMC VOTE DISCIPLE 1 STARTS HIGH SCHOOL SMALL GROUP START	2:00 PM 4:00 PM 6:00 PM
08	WOMEN OF THE WORD STARTS WOMEN OF HOPE STARTS SPR MEETING	9:30 AM 6:00 PM 6:30 PM
09	PROPERTY OVERSIGHT MEETING	6:30 PM
13	ENCOUNTER NIGHT	6:00 PM
14	JOYFUL NOISE SINGERS	2:30 PM
15	SPIRIT SISTERS STUDY STARTS	6:30 PM
16	FINANCE MEETING	6:30 PM
19	MEN & WOMEN OLD TESTAMENT	10:00 AM
21	5TH & 6 TH GRADE PARK AND PIZZA FALL GOLF TOURNAMENT	1:00 PM 1:30 PM
22-23	APPLE PIES	8:00 AM
24	SEE YOU AT THE POLE	
25	OZARK VS NIXA BLOOD DRIVE	10:30 AM
28	YOUTH LASER TAG & TACOS	4:00 PM
29	ALDERSGATE BOOK CLUB	5:30 PM
29-30	APPLE PIES	8:00 AM





Learning Continues

Greetings Aldersgate,

We are here for the end of summer. We won't miss the heat, but we don't look forward to the cold, or at least I don't. We have finished the first 2/3rds of the year strong in many ways and will gather in a few days regarding our way forward as a local church in Christ's Church. Our vote of yes or no on September 7 on whether we accept the recommendation of our leaders to move forward as a Global Methodist Church is an exciting time for us. I believe the Spirit will provide us with "perfect" unity as children of God, loving one another and others as Christ loves us.

By the end of August last year, we were over \$100k behind in giving to spending, and we should be either still in the black or very close as we enter the last third of the year. We will be installing new roofs on the Youth and CLC buildings this month at a cost of approximately \$ 60,000, depending on the extent of our decking repair needs once the roofs are removed. We have an emergency fund to cover this expense, but we will need to give sufficient funds to replenish this amount after the first of the year. As I type this article, we are almost ready for our Wednesday night dinners to begin, and a prayer service for our church's decision will follow. Please continue to pray for one another as we gather to vote and move forward. God has got this, and we are ready for all the great things He has for Aldersgate!

We have all of our Bible study and classes beginning this month, and I hope you are taking time to learn!!

Our Youth Sunday on Aug. 24 was a true example that our church is full of life and that our students are involved in so many ways, and it blessed all of us to hear from them. Our fall kick-off was another showing of the spirit moving in our church.

See You Sunday in Worship (here or where you are!)
Love In Christ,
Pastor Dennis



Affiliation Vote

Sunday, Sept. 7

2:00 PM



All members of Aldersgate are invited to a church meeting to vote on joining the Global Methodist Church. Once you arrive to vote, you will need to check in to verify your member status and then will be given a ballot.

We will all gather in the sanctuary for a short time of prayer and reflection before the ballots are turned in. While ballots are being counted, everyone is invited to the commons area for fellowship and refreshments. Once all ballots have been counted, we will return to the sanctuary for the result. This has been a long journey for our church and we pray that the next steps will continue to strengthen our church family.



Pickleball Court

Learn to play pickleball! We now have a pickleball court in the CLC gym available on weekdays from 8 am to 10:00 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.

Thank You

Thanks for Prayers

A short note to say thanks for the prayers for my healing. I really appreciate you all for your support as a church that believes what Jesus and the Bible state absolutely—prayer works.

Love,
Rick Hood

Thanks for Your Support

We would like to thank you for your donations to Least of These Food Pantry. Your contribution is a blessing to those in need in Christian County. The 29 pounds of food will be a great difference to those we serve.

LOT Staff & Volunteers.

Thank You

I just wanted to thank Pastor Dennis, the church staff, and volunteers who made my dad's memorial service an honorable success. Also, those who attended and watched online to remember my dad are appreciated as well. The time and effort spent serving in Christ will not be forgotten.

Thankful and blessed,
Jim Davis Jr.

YET...

By: Ed Vigneaux

Habakkuk 3:17–19 NIV

Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.

The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights.

Yet . . .

Do you yet? You know, "yetting." Are you still "yetting"?

When you are in the valley, do you yet? When you feel the call to act for God, do you yet?

As it says in the above scripture, nothing seems to be going right, but the author says that he will rejoice in the Lord.

. . . yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior.

It is in the verbs. They are future tense. That's okay until we realize it is never the future. It's always the present. The time for rejoicing is always right now, and the place for rejoicing is always right here.

I have noticed many times that to say "I will rejoice in the LORD" is not the same thing as actually rejoicing in the Lord. In the same way, I find it easier to say I will exercise and eat healthily every day than to actually follow through on it. "I will" is a good statement of intention, but intention will not get it done. What is that old saying, "the road to hell is paved with good intentions"?

So how do we make intentions become action? Intention awakens our will, as in "I will." If the intention is to become meaningful action, it must first rise to the level of attention.

Intention. Attention. Action.

However, Intention so often misses the mark of action because it never reaches the level of attention. I have tried so many times to go from the intention (will) to rejoicing only to find it unsatisfying, and ultimately unhelpful. Why, because our attention must be lifted and set upon the subject, verb, and direct object of all joy: Jesus Messiah.

Our attention tends to become deeply attuned to our circumstances: no figs, no grapes, no olives, no grain, no chickens, no ducks, and so on. Many times, we get discouraged and give in to despair and become depressed. It's why "yetting" is so important. The yet shifts us from the no of our circumstances to the yes of Jesus. Our attention must be lifted into the awareness of God. It makes sense, doesn't it? We are, after all, rejoicing in the Lord. Attention shifts our souls from mere thoughts about God to dwelling in the presence of God.

Intention. Attention. Rejoicing.

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thess. 5:16–18).

When I feel the presence of God in my life, I act not because I have to, but because I HAVE TO. I just can't see myself doing anything else.

Let us keep working for the Lord.

We are blessed to be a blessing to others.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday-Friday - Pickleball - 8:00 AM

Sundays - Crossroads Study - 8:15
Club Aldersgate - 9:45 AM
Seekers Study - 9:45 AM
Young Adult Study - 9:45 AM
Handbell Rehearsal - 11:15 AM
Disciple 1 - 4:00 PM
High School Small Groups - 6:00 PM

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

Tuesdays - Count It All Joy Study - 9:30 AM
Aldersgate Time of Prayer - 6:30 PM

Wednesdays - Youth Praise Band - 5:00 PM

Dinner - 5:30 PM

7th -12th Youth - 6:00 PM

ARK Club - 6:30 PM

5th & 6th Grade - 6:30 PM

Art of Marriage - 6:30 PM

The Deep End - 6:30 PM

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 PM

Pastor's Bible Study - 6:30 PM

Young Adult Bible Study - 6:30 PM

Thursdays - Knitwits - 10:00 AM

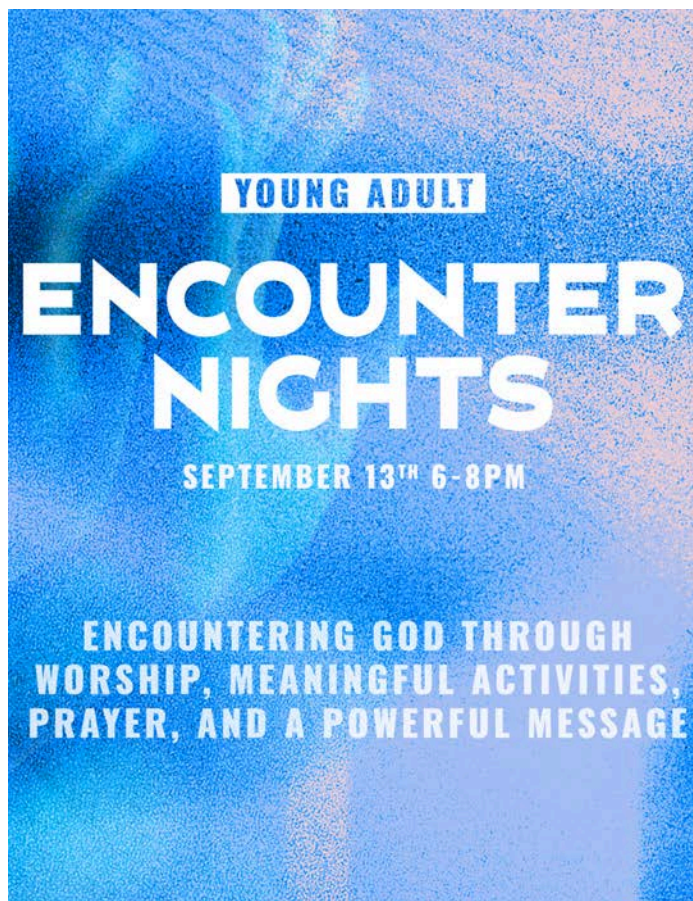
Stephen Ministry Training - 6:00 PM

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

Fridays - Men and Women of the Old Testament -10:00 AM

Saturdays - Cardio Workout - 9:30 AM

Peace in the Storm - 6:30 PM



We are doing something brand new this year!
We are pouring in to our young adults and upperclassman with a new event.

The first Encounter Night will be Saturday, September 13 at 6:00 PM in the ARK Deck

Come experience God's love in a deeper way. This powerful night is open to all young adults and upperclassmen and will include worship, meaningful activities, prayer, and a powerful message. Christian Barnard will be sharing the message, and we'll have guest worship leaders guiding us throughout the night. Plus, we'll enjoy Chick-fil-A together! Whether you're seeking direction, community, or just a fresh encounter with God — this night is for you.

Aldersgate Righteous Kids

September Bible Buddy:

Rockette the Flying Squirrel *Buddy*

September Verse: "Be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." ~ Joshua 1:9

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.



COME SERVE ON THE ARK!!

Interested in serving in our Children's ministry? Needing a fresh way to serve this fall? We are looking for people who have a heart for the Lord to help on either Sunday Mornings or Wednesday nights! Please reach out to Camilla Hyde or Shannon Dodson to take the next steps in getting you serving on the ARK (Aldersgate Righteous Kids).



**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
ARE BACK**

Join Us
each week at
6:30 PM

ARK Club
PK-4th in the ARK wing
5th and 6th in the CLC

5th and 6th Grade Park & Pizza
Sunday, Sept. 21 - 1:00-2:30 pm
McCaully Park, Nixa, MO

We will play games and hang out. We will have pizza for lunch. Bring a towel just in case it is warm enough for the splash pad. You are welcome to bring a friend with you. Scan the QR code to RSVP.



SCAN ME



ALDERSGATE YOUTH

**First Sunday of every month is
SERVE SUNDAY!! No Sunday school.**

**Youth Laser Tag and Tacos
7th-12th students
Sunday, Sept. 28, 4:00-6:00 PM
Youth Building**

All 7th - 12th graders are invited for a fun night of laser tag and a taco bar. You are welcome to bring your friends with you. Please RSVP in the band app. so we can plan on food.

**High School Small Groups
9th-12th students**

High School small groups meet off-campus at host homes. They will share a meal and break off for devotion time.

September Dates:

Sept. 7 at Devin and Emalie Lindsey's House

Sept. 14 at Drew and Cherie Gregory's House

Sept. 21 at Damon and Robyn Thomas' House



ELLIE MATERNITY LEAVE



This fall, I am going to be going on an extended leave for the beautiful new season of growing our family. In the meantime, Camilla Hyde will be keeping my seat warm & will be happy to answer questions you may have. Her email is amcnixa@gmail.com. Also, feel free to call the church office & someone can assist you. Events & all the happenings will be posted in the usual places like the Wednesday E-Blast, Gatepost, & Sunday Announcements. I look forward to reconnecting when I get back! Thank you to everyone for your support in this wonderful season.

~Ellie Bakken



APPLE PIE TIME

September 21 – Susan and Dave Harbison will drop off the apples at 5:30 pm. The youth will be here to unload the boxes and get everything set up for the next day.

September 22/23, they will make filling for the apple pies, and then September 29/30, they will make the crust. All the dates will be in the morning.

If you would like to help with apple pies, please call Vickie Giesen at 417-425-8314.

Sign Language Class

Join Amy Koenigsfeld for a one-time sign language class on Wednesday, Sept. 17, at 6:30 PM.

She will teach approximately 35 sign language vocabulary words that are often used during church service. We will need to cap the class number at around 30 or 35 maximum. Children and adults are welcome to participate. If a child is a 5th grader or younger, an adult must also sign up and be present in the class. Scan the QR code to sign up.



NEW MEMBERS



Cyndi Presson



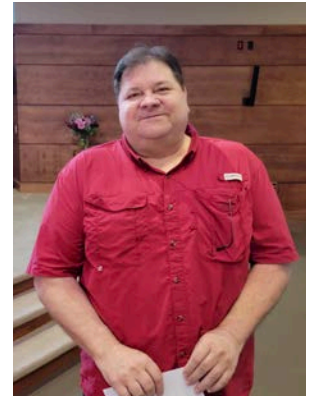
Dick & Shirley Molden



Tyler & Elyse Hartley



Brittney Jones



Jeff Fike



Liska Simmons



Jimmy & Carol Smothers



Amy Anderson



Kent & Nancy Ward



Exercise Class

"This class is designed for all ages and all levels. Barbara Purrington, a member of Aldersgate Church who attends the 8:15 AM Sunday service, has been a participant in the class for 2 plus years. She says, 'This class starts with prayer and we exercise to Christian music - while working at our own pace. If you need to sit -- it's okay!'"

If you know Barbara and are interested in the class, please feel free to find her at church or call the instructor, Peggy, at 417-893-1441 if you have any questions about getting started in this exercise class.

Fall Golf Tournament

Please join us for the fall Aldersgate Church Golf Tournament on Sunday, September 21, with a 1:30 pm start at Hidden Valley Golf Course. The format will be a 4-person scramble. The cost is \$55 per person and is due when you register.

Forms will be available in the church office or online. There are plenty of prizes to be awarded, but the primary goal is fellowship.

Checks should be made out to Aldersgate Church. If you have questions, contact Ralph Ernst at 417-425-4225 or ralern@gmail.com or Dick Williams at 417-773-5902 or johnwilliams@missouristate.edu.



JOIN THE NEXT STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING CLASS!

The next Stephen Ministry training class is getting ready to start up again. If you have a servant's heart and would like to help others through difficult times, becoming a Stephen Minister might be for you. If you are interested in finding out more or if you are going through a difficult time and would like to speak to a Stephen Minister, please 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.



Financial Brief

By: Ben Stone

Year-to-date financial summary through June 30, 2025:

Revenue \$ 721,498
Budgeted Expenses \$ 838,548
Actual Expenses \$ 697,838
Net \$ 23,660

The original amount of the loan for the new Learning Center was \$4,162,200. The current balance as of July 31, 2025, is \$2,942,553.

After another month of summer, we are still in the black! The summer months can be leaner times, but giving has remained strong, and we had a budget surplus of about \$20,000 through the end of July. This is great news that should be recognized and celebrated (considering it is a better position than last year at this point by about \$100,000!). There is some less-pleasant news, though – we are facing some large expenses later in the year. Multiple repairs and maintenance services will be required, totaling several thousand dollars, including HVAC-related items, window washing, and stripping and waxing the gym floor.

The largest upcoming expenses are new roofs that are needed on the CLC and Youth buildings. There have been significant water leaks that our church's Handymen have held off as long as possible, but both roofs are at the end of their lives and need replacement. Competitive quotes have been obtained, and a roofing contractor has been selected at a total cost of approximately \$60,000 for both buildings. The Finance Committee has voted to use our Emergency Fund to pay for this expense. The Emergency Fund was set aside many years ago to be used at the pastor's discretion for a "rainy day," and the Fund has not been touched, to the best of our recollection. The Finance Committee has faith that our operating surplus will grow so we can replenish the Emergency Fund as soon as we can.

ALPHA

more information at alphausa.org

Join a conversation...

Alpha is a series of group conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith. Everyone's welcome. You're invited, no matter your background or beliefs.

New class starting in January.

Questions?

Talk to Jeff Huber

jhuber@aldersgatechurch.com

- Connect with new people
- Watch an episode on a question of faith
- Share your thoughts and hear from others



August HIGHLIGHTS

NOVA at YIPOA



Worship at
Dockside



3rd Grade Bibles



River Baptism



River Baptism



Youth Takeover
Sunday



Youth Rocket Wars

Fall Kick Off

