

THE SQUEEK

MARCH 2021 Volume 21, Issue 3

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*Open Hearts,
Open Minds,
Open Doors*



Aldersgate Church...United Methodist

Andy Gloor, *Lay Leader*

Jane Nihan, *Organist*

Mary Jensen, *Secretary*

Rev. Brett Todd, *Pastor*

Church Office Hours
8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Website: www.aldersgaterkfd.org

Check us out on Facebook: Aldersgate Church
AND Twitter: @AldersgateUMC1

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SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30 Worship -- *Traditional yet informal*

MARCH 2021

Sunday, March 7 – Third Sunday in Lent

¹
Sunday, March 14 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 21 – Fifth Sunday in Lent

Sunday, March 28 – Palm/Passion Sunday

The Core Values of our church: Family, Love, Compassion.

A *Family* of God
United in *Love*
Moved by the Spirit of God
Committed to the Ministry
of *Compassion*

PASTOR'S LETTER MARCH, 2021

Dear Aldersgate family,

We are excited to tell you that we will be reopening for in-person worship in the sanctuary with overflow in the Fellowship Hall by video, March 14, 2021, at 9:30 am. Everyone is expected to wear masks and practice social distancing, whether or not you have received your vaccination. These will be abbreviated in-person worship services (30 minutes) with no singing and there will be no bulletins.



We welcome all who worship, whether in-person or online (Video Sermons), and we respect your choices. Whatever your choice may be, please stay safe and healthy. This should be your first priority.

Michael Osterholm, director of the University of Minnesota's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy believes the next 6-14 weeks could be the darkest weeks of the pandemic because of the new variants and people letting their guard down. So, don't let your guard down and be safe, we still have a long way to go until everything will be somewhat normal.

For those who have received their first vaccination, please remember that you need to have both doses and wait two weeks after the second dose for it to achieve the highest level of protection.

Here are some points as you prepare for in-person worship:

- If you are medically at risk or concerned about other family members who could be affected, we recommend caution and perhaps viewing the video sermons on our Webpage, FaceBook, or on YouTube.
- Masks are required for all persons ages 2 and older while on church property (indoors and outdoors). Properly wear your mask over your nose and mouth.
- Please remember that we are following CDC guidelines. Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds. Disinfect things you touch, and do not touch what you do not have to. Avoid touching your face. Practice good etiquette when coughing/sneezing.
- There will be no paper bulletins or hymnals.
- Practice social distancing while on church property (maintain a 6-foot separation from any people not in your immediate household).
- The sanctuary, narthex, bathrooms, and hallway will be sanitized once a week.
- Please keep all personal items, including your coat, with you in the sanctuary.
- Please do not go into the basement or offices.
- If you are feeling sick or have a high temperature, please stay home. If you are tested positive for Covid-19, please report it to the church office.
- Expect to have your temperature taken as you enter the door to worship.
- Clergy and worship leaders will wear masks at all times when not speaking behind a microphone.
- Offering plates will not be passed during in-person worship. Instead, please drop your offering envelope in the offering plates in the narthex.
- There will be no fellowship time on-site at this time.

Once again, we are so happy to be able to worship again in-person, however, we understand that not all members will feel comfortable attending at this time. We ask that you please exercise grace toward our brothers and sisters whose decisions differ from your own.

May the roads rise to meet you,
Brett

READINGS FOR MARCH

March 7

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19 (UMH 750)
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

March 14

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 (UMH 830)
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

March 21

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12 (UMH 785)
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33



March 28

Liturgy of the Palms

Mark 11:1-11
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 (UMH 839)

Liturgy of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16 (UMH 764)
Philemon 2:5-11
Mark 14:1-15:47
Or
Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)



2021 RUMMAGE SALE

Due to Covid restrictions and the slow vaccine roll out, the United Methodist Women will not host the March 2021 Rummage Sale. We appreciate your participation and assistance with our previous sales. No further decisions will be made at this time.

ALDRERSGATE GETS LETTERS

To the Aldersgate Toy Makers,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of wooden vehicles.

They are always a big hit with children we work with. We are so grateful for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Lori Poppen,
Children's Home & Aid

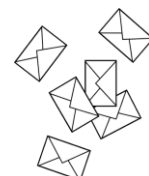


Dear Toymakers of Aldersgate,

Please accept our gratitude for the lovely hand-crafted toys you shared with our young families again this year! At Christmas we had two toddler boys living in our homeless shelter who especially enjoyed the Batman Car, fire trucks and police cars. But the toys [also] went into the stockings of over 25 MELD children – making their holidays brighter.

Thank you again for sharing your talents with MELD families!

Warmly,
Terry Lynch, LCSW
MELD Shelter Social Worker



****Daylight Saving Time***

Begins 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 14. Be sure to change your clocks Saturday night to "spring ahead"!




MARCH

01 Jessica Gorham
02 Diana Marshall Quick
03 Lily Mayton
04 Stuart Glenny
05 James Sohner
05 Jennifer Gould

06 Lois Harding
07 Joyce Hart
07 Beth Whitford
11 Conner Ball
16 Pete Weller

18 Monica Glenny
22 Jay Alms
25 Charmaine Schreiner
25 Gavin Stephenson
27 Tina Warren



**MARCH
ANNIVERSARIES**

14 Dale & Rhonda Brown
27 Jean & Mary Ewaldz
31 Andy & Wendy Gloor

Remember In Your Prayers

Barb Hoey	Hank Hollar
Rena Borgman	Covella Weller
Mark Hoey	Ron Niday
Sandy Wenig	George Franklin
Don O’Hea	Cloe Sturner
Karla Burrows	David Levine
Pete Weller	Jennifer Martin
Linda Earlywine	Jean Hackenburg
Susan Bernasek	Phyllis Manrod

Cindy Fisher’s brother, Bob
Jay Alms’ nephew Bryan
Barb Hoey’s niece Mandy



The Family and Friends of Marie Kamens who passed away recently.
The Family and Friends of Ron Schwartz who passed away recently
Also please pray for people around the world, especially people who are suffering with Corona virus.

For medical and health workers, first responders, and volunteers

Note: After the printing of this *Squeek*, there may have been others hospitalized or ill. We need your help. *Please notify the Church Office. Thank you.*

SQUEEK DEADLINE

Thursday, March 18th is the deadline for the April, 2021 Squeek. Please have your articles in by this date. Thank you

BOEKES’ RECEIVE 2020 MISSION RECOGNITION FROM UMW



Usually, in the Fall of the year, our Aldersgate United Methodist Women recognize a person (or persons) in our congregation who have served our congregation in a notable way. We have honored this person(s) with recognition during a morning worship service.

For 2020, our unit selected Keith and Sandy (posthumously) Boeke to receive our 2020 Mission Recognition for their dedication to our church and specifically the annual rummage sale. As Covid restrictions have kept us from worshipping together this past year, the Certificate and Pin were sent to Keith with a letter of our appreciation.

Aldersgate United Methodist Women March meeting

The Aldersgate United Methodist Women will meet in person for our meeting on March 18, 2021. We will meet at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Tables and chairs will be socially distanced and please wear a mask.

Our program will be “Persistence in Mission” dealing with how women in scripture and in United Methodist Women’s history have been persistent in prayer and speaking up, and to find ways to develop connections in prayer and action for mission as United Methodist Women members. Coralee Hardwick will present the program.

FINANCE REPORT FOR MARCH 2021:

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Income	Jan 1,2019 Feb 28,2019	Jan 1, 2020 Feb 28,2020	Jan 1, 2021 Feb 28,2021
Regular Income	33,750.50	33,881.74	31,533.86
<i>(Including) Envelope Giving</i>	23,530.50	21,263.98	15,193.00
Other Income	62.60	214.97	0.00
Current Fund Reimbursements	4,137.07	3,031.24	3,084.00
Designated	3,559.75	3,922.13	7,714.03
Total Income	41,509.92	41,050.08	42,331.89
Expenditures			
Personnel	19,685.73	20,573.17	15,518.41
Administrative	1,117.17	162.60	881.01
Out Reach / Nurture			
Christian Education	116.93	174.43	0.00
Worship	100.24	271.75	120.99
Out Reach / Nurture	217.17	446.18	120.99
Finance	396.41	429.58	779.07
Property			
Church	9,191.09	8,106.75	9,693.71
Parsonage	575.12	668.80	591.28
Property	9,766.21	8,775.55	10,284.99
Apportionments	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Expenses	2.50	24.00	5,432.86
Designated	9,775.32	5,995.72	4,693.00
Total Expenditures	40,960.51	36,406.80	37,710.33

This is a consolidated report except for the breakout of /envelope Income, which was done to draw your attention to the difference in 2021 compared to the previous years. The difference has caused concern in the Finance committee. There are multiple reasons for this difference the first being the drop in pledging; second is a drop in the amount non-pledgers have been giving; the third is the closures of in-person worship because many of you contribute only when you attend church.

Regarding the pledgers in 2020 who chose not to pledge in 2021 (19) resulted in an income drop of \$22,868; However, as we hoped, some of you (4) continued giving at the same rate as your pledge (Thank you). So, of the 19 non-pledgers: one death, three moving out of the area, one health issue and one left to another church leaving NINE of you who have neither pledged in 2021 nor have contributed this year (yet), let's hope that changes!

So what steps do we take to correct this problem? This statement was found in the May, 2015 Finance Agenda: OPERATING PLAN IF WE HAVE AN INCOME SHORTFALL: Some choices are: rescind wage increases, reduce staff, cut expenses where possible, reduce Apportionment payments, appeal to congregation, proceed on Faith, transfer more from PAST GIVERS FUND (Trustee Investments).

Let's hope this way – the Pandemic goes away, church gatherings grow, Pastor Brett's Ministry attracts bunches of new members, and Aldersgate, with the Blessing of our loving and everlasting Almighty GOD, becomes a very successful, effective and well known church and the problem is SOLVED!! May GOD make this be so and may GOD BLESS ALL of you !

Jon Boettner

ALDERSGATE TOY MINISTRY NEWS FOR MARCH 2021

The COVID challenges remain, causing the need to alter plans everywhere, and toy production falls into that class as well. The biggest and most impactful has been the lockout of the Wesley Willows Woodworking Group (WWWG – Roland, Jose, Lyle, Nate, Lute and Al) from the Willows Woodshop. That has caused a shift in thinking about how are we going to get the toy bodies produced without overburdening our other two toymakers – George and Bill. So, some changes have been made, both to the process and also the following:

- The Wesley Willows Woodshop will be closed. When it re-opens we will consider what to do at that time.
- The number of models has been reduced to 8. They are: Ambulance, Batman, Bug, Daisy, Fire Truck, Police Car, Princess and Race Car.
- On the models mentioned above, the Windows will be eliminated.
- Wood will have to be purchased from Menards since the “free” wood is locked up in the WW Woodshop. (Poplar 1X4)

The TOY FORM Manufacturing Process: This will begin with basic steps to PRODUCE the TOY FORM ready for painting and the start of the FINISHING phase. Previously one person or the WWWG would produce each batch of toys in their entirety. Now the process will be broken into segments, as it was done in the woodshop, but now to be done at various **private homes**. The 1X4 poplar boards will be cut into one toy size BLOCKS and taken to the LAYOUT persons (WWWG members) who will mark the toy outline and axle hole positions, NEXT these will be sent to the CUTTER who will cut the outline and drill axle holes and sand the edge. NEXT to the ROUTER who routes the edges and sands the entire form to begin the FINISHING phase.

The FINISHING phase will be broken down similarly with some steps being altered to spread the job over many people and will include such activities as PAINTING (Wheels, pegs, axle tips, toy forms), DETAILING (Special stripping and stickers), ASSEMBLY (Pressing and gluing wheels to axles and gluing pegs to the Toy Form) and BAGGING. And we are done!!

We give our THANKS and appreciation to all the Members and Friends of Aldersgate who have so faithfully and willingly participated in this FULFILLING MINISTRY. May GOD BLESS ALL of you (Bill, George, Lisa, Jon, Alice, Norm, Gene, Jean, Theresa, Nancy, Jane, Joyce, Roland, Nate, Lute, Jose, Lyle, Al, Andy, Pat, Terry, Mary, Mike, Ken, Gordie, Jerry, and anyone else whom I’ve missed) and ALDERSGATE UMC.

Jon Boettner

TOY MINISTRY SUPPLIES NEEDED

The Toy Ministry is in need of about 20 of the large (35 pound) yellow Purina Tidy Cats buckets. We also have a need for cardboard boxes about the size of a carton of copy paper.

March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 Begin Daylight Savings Time In Person Worship	15	16	17	18 UMW meeting 1:00pm April Squeek deadline	19	20 1 st Day of Spring
21 In Person Worship	22	23	24	25 April Squeek mailed	26	27
28 Palm/Passion Sunday In Person Worship	29	30	31			

EASTER FLOWER ORDER

It is time to think EASTER FLOWERS! It is time to plan your part in the Aldersgate Easter Sunday Flower tribute. You may order Easter Lilies, Tulips, Hyacinths. Your order and payment **must be in** the Church Office **NO LATER THAN MARCH 15th.** No exceptions. Please use the form below.



Given by (Your name)

Please enter my order for: **(Indicate how many of each plant you would like.)**



_____ **Lily** (\$12) _____ **Hyacinths** (\$9)
(white, blue, pink)

_____ **Tulips** (\$9)
(red, pink, yellow)

These flowers are offered in honor or memory of
(Please circle honor or memory or whatever applies)
