

CONNECTING WITH GOD

Family Gathering Table

Are you looking for a way to meet new people and to experience love and hospitality through a shared meal as Jesus and the disciples did? Please join us for the Family Gathering Table tonight, **January 19**, 5:00-6:30. After a shared meal, you are invited to participate in a group such as Roots, Youth Group, or Faithful Families. Childcare is available upon request.

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

Ring in the New Year!

The Aldersgate Ringers will begin rehearsals again in February on **Tuesdays** at 6 pm in the Sanctuary. We need a couple of new ringers. No experience is necessary - just a willingness to learn. Join this fun group as we make music to glorify God! Contact Jane Shutt for more information.

Bible Study Life Group

This group meets on **Thursday** nights from 7:00-8:30 pm in the parlor. We are studying the gospel of Luke, considering life applications, and enjoying meeting new people. All are welcome to join us. Contact George Gorman at 434-222-7293 or georgegorman@gmail.com.

Friendship Luncheon

Friendship Luncheon is for anyone who is free during the day, especially retired people. The next luncheon is **Tuesday, January 21** at 12:30 p.m. in the Reed Room with food from Wood Grill Buffet. Our guest speaker will be Raymond Klein with Love, Inc. If you have any questions, please contact Carolyn Mawyer at cmawyer1252@yahoo.com or 434-962-4285.

Women's Day Retreat 2025

Join other women from other United Methodist churches in Charlottesville on **Saturday, March 8**, from 8:30 am-3:00 pm at Charlottesville First UMC. Our theme for this year is "Who am I? Who is God?" based on Isaiah 43:1-2. The cost is \$25/person and can be paid online or by check in person. Registration is open through February 5, and there is space for up to 100 women. You may sign up here at cvaumc.org/womens-retreat, and don't forget to invite a friend. Please contact Pastor Julie for more information.

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

GriefShare Support

GriefShare is a group processing the loss of a loved one(s) and navigating the pain and isolation of missing someone. We will meet at Aldersgate for 13 weekly meetings on **Thursdays, January 23- April 17**, from 10 am-noon. Please contact Mary Seymour at mseymour442@gmail.com or 540-661-7700, or register at griefshare.org/findagroup.

Children's Ministry

- **KidzConnect:** On Sunday mornings at 9 and 11, children age 4 through grade 5 are encouraged to worship together in KidzConnect. We explore our faith through music, art, Bible stories, activities, and more.
- **Roots:** This is a special small group fellowship specifically designed for 4th and 5th graders to explore faith and friendship. We will meet tonight, **January 19**, (and on each 3rd Sunday) from 5:00-6:30 pm. To learn more, contact Emily Potter or Jen Merriman.

Youth Ministry

- This summer, we plan to join our friends from First UMC and serve with ASP (Appalachia Service Project) to help people repair and improve their homes. Our week is scheduled for **June 22-28**. This experience is open to students in grades 6-12. Sign up at <https://cvaumc.org/appalachian/>.
- **C'Ville Youth Collective:** Restoration UMC will host the next C'Ville Youth Collective on **Sunday, February 9**, from 5:00-6:30 pm. Invite your friends to join you!

SERVING OTHERS IN GOD'S LOVE

Red Cross Blood Drive—Rescheduled

January is National Blood Donor Month; help us meet our mission to provide 20 lifesaving pints of blood at our rescheduled blood drive on **Monday, January 27**, 1-6 pm. To make an appointment visit RedCrossBlood.org to download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App and enter "Aldersgate" to schedule an appointment, or call 1-800-733-2767. Contact Linda Handy at handyparishnurse@gmail.com.

SERVING OTHERS IN GOD'S LOVE

Habitat for Humanity

Aldersgate's next Habitat for Humanity Build Days are **February 14** (the second Friday each month) and **January 25** (fourth Saturday, first month of the quarter). Youth are encouraged to join us. Contact Greg Brown at gabrown2926@outlook.com or 434-327-8763 for information.

Acolyte Winter Training 2025

We are having a winter training for all acolytes on **February 2**, at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. This training will help to better serve the church and to better understand our role as acolytes. We strongly encourage all acolytes to participate so that we can get to know our fellow acolytes and learn more about our important role. Contact Andrew Smith at andrew20675@gmail.com.

Woodbrook Elementary Partnership

Aldersgate is excited to partner with Woodbrook Elementary as part of our commitment to serving the community and fostering a positive, supportive environment for children and families. Ways to serve include: Being a lunch buddy; Volunteering to help with school events; Tutoring 3-5 graders; Filling the Clothing Closet; Supporting Saturday School. For more information, please contact Liz Peterson at Liz@psdiweb.com.

UPCOMING DATES

- **January 27:** Blood Drive, 1-6 pm
- **January 29:** Service of Prayer and Healing
- **February 9:** C'ville Youth Collective, Restoration UMC
- **February 11:** Wesley Dinner, Wesley Foundation UVA
- **February 16:** Family Gathering Table
- **February 21-23:** District Youth Retreat
- **March 5:** Ash Wednesday
- **March 8:** Women's Day Retreat
- **March 8:** Here We Grow Again Opening Date
- **March 14:** Night of Worship, 7 pm



Aldersgate News

January 19, 2025

Aldersgate News can be mailed to those without email and is included in the E-Note each Saturday.

CONNECTING WITH GOD

Sunday Worship

We worship God online and in-person every Sunday at 9 and 11 am. Please invite guests to join you, either in person or by sharing the online link.

During January we are focusing on "Living 2025 on Purpose." God has designs for our lives and for the world. We do well to invite, recognize, and follow God's purpose for our lives and the world. And we are not the only ones for whom God has a purpose. What is our role in helping others recognize and live according to God's purpose (not our purpose) for them? We have a good biblical model in Paul's encouragement of Timothy.

Last Sunday

On Sunday, January 12, 2025, 221 worshiped the Lord in the sanctuary and 38 households worshiped by livestream. We also welcomed others to worship via the recording later on Sunday or later in the week.

From Last Sunday's "Just Curious" Question

On Sunday we were invited to name a potential spiritual distraction. Our responses included Facebook/TikTok reels; Food; Phone/Device; Love of reading; Computer; Fear; Electronic puzzles or electronics in general...What would you say?

Service of Prayer and Healing--Rescheduled

Are you searching for a new sense of peace and wholeness? Is there someone else you would like to pray for more intentionally? God invites us into holy space to seek healing and hope through scripture, songs, and prayer in a special service on **Wednesday, January 29** at 7 pm. Is there someone you know whom God may be encouraging you to invite?