

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

The Upper Room

The Upper Room, a daily devotion magazine, for March/April is available in the narthex, the office hallway, and the take-out box outside the church office. You may take an extra copy for a friend.

Journey to Healing Conference

All are invited to the "Journey to Healing" Conference sponsored by the Racial Justice Network and Cornelius Corps on **Saturday, March 1**, 9:30 am-4:00 pm at Belmont UMC, Richmond, VA. The conference will focus on building relationships and how they are integral to racial justice. Contact Rebecca Wagner at wagnerwimps@yahoo.com for more information.

Beginning Lent Together: Ash Wednesday

Gather with your Aldersgate Church family on **Wednesday, March 5**, as we mark the beginning of the Lenten season:

- Simple soup lunch, conversation, and imposition of ashes, 12 noon in the Reed Room (soup provided).
- Traditional service with scripture, music, and imposition of ashes, 7 pm in the Sanctuary and livestream.

Women's Day Retreat 2025

Join other women from 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 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.

Day Trip: Museum of the Bible

A group from Aldersgate Church is planning a trip on **Friday, March 14** to visit the Museum of the Bible in Washington D.C. Tickets start at \$30/person. If you are interested in being a part of this immersive Growing Together in Faith opportunity, please contact Pastor Julie.

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Men's Online Bible Study – Starting Gospel of Matthew

The Men's Online Bible Study life group just completed the Book of Acts and is starting the Gospel of Matthew. We meet online via Zoom each **Wednesday**, 7-8 pm. This is an informal study where we read scripture and discuss questions sent out prior to each session. Men of all ages are welcome to join. No weekly commitment nor previous experience with the group is necessary. Email the facilitators if you would like to join: John Oliver, johndoliver@comcast.net or Mike Thornton, mikethornton100@gmail.com.

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 **March 16**, (and on each 3rd Sunday) from 5:00-6:30 pm. To learn more, contact Emily Potter or Jen Merriman.
- **KidzNight Out:** Zip Zap Boing with the children's ministry team at Kidznight Out, **Saturday, March 1**. Dinner at 6 followed by Bible Story, games, and crafts aimed at preparing kids for Holy Week. Fun ends at 8:30. Please sign up here: <https://cvaumc.org/kidz-night-out/>.
- **Jesus Alive! A Family Easter Experience: Saturday, April 12**, 3-5 pm. Head to the custom's booth and make your passport. Tour guides will lead you through Jerusalem as storytellers share the true story of Easter. Collect your travel stamps at each station symbolizing the events of Holy Week. Enjoy a petting zoo, creative art project for kids, and refreshments.

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:** Wesley Memorial UMC will host the next C'Ville Youth Collective on **Sunday, March 9**, from 5:00-6:30 pm. Invite your friends to join you.

SERVING OTHERS IN GOD'S LOVE

Meals for PACEM—Cold Weather Shelter

Thanks for your generosity in feeding the women at PACEM on February 2 and 3! We will be feeding the men on **February 26-28**. Here is the sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4DABA82EA0F94-54675129-pacem> for food and servers. For more information, please contact Ann Galione, Debbie Topping, Shannon Davis, or Jane Shutt.

Here WEE Grow Again

Here WEE Grow Again is coming up fast! We need volunteers starting February 26, including cashiers, greeters, inspectors, runners, shopper assistants, etc.! It is a lot of fun and a great way to meet new people! The sale dates are **March 8** and **March 14-22**. If you would like to learn more, please visit our website at HereWEEGrowAgain.com, or email us at hereweegrowagain@comcast.net.

Habitat for Humanity

Aldersgate's next Habitat for Humanity Build Days are **March 14** (the second Friday each month) and **March 22**. Youth are encouraged to join us. Contact Greg Brown at gabrown2926@outlook.com or 434-327-8763 for information.

UPCOMING DATES

- **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
- **March 15:** Hike and Praise
- **April 12:** *Jesus Alive!*, Family Easter Experience, 3-5 pm
- **June 7:** Blood Drive, 10 am-2 pm
- **July 7-11:** Vacation Bible School, 5:30-8 pm



Aldersgate News

February 23, 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.

Darkness and light are part of our world and our lives. In spite of the darkness, we can see God's light and we can see ourselves and everyone and everything around us in light of God's light. Jesus said of Himself "I am the Light of the world." And Jesus said of us, "You are the light of the world." This week as we continue the series, "When Light is Most Needed," we consider the life-changing power of the light of God.

Last Sunday

On Sunday, February 16, 2025, 214 worshiped the Lord in the sanctuary and 108 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 asked about what light we use when the power goes out (and then many of us experienced that later in the day!). Our responses included: candles, flashlights, battery LED lights, oil lamps, generator, mini lantern and SON-Light. What would you say?

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 on **Sunday, March 16**, 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.