

Aldersgate News

March 19, 2023

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

CONNECT

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.

Our message series, culminating on Resurrection Sunday, is entitled “Up from the Valley.” God meets us wherever we are. Throughout Biblical history, God went into figurative “valleys” to meet Hagar, Joseph, David, Jonah, Job, and Jesus (twice). This Sunday we consider Jonah, who found that not all valleys are outside (or dry!).

Last Sunday

On Sunday, March 12, 2023, 177 people worshiped the Lord in person at our two worship services, and 30 households worshiped by livestream.

From Last Sunday’s “Just Curious” Question

On Sunday, thinking about David in his cave, we asked if people have visited caverns in the Shenandoah Valley. A good number of us have, and the ones most mentioned are those in Luray! If you haven’t yet, take that as a recommendation.

The Gathering Table@Woodbrook--March 30

We are looking forward to making space for Christian hospitality around the table and meeting some of our neighbors. There are several ways to be a part of this unique ministry: 1) Praying for God's fruitfulness; 2) Serving as part of the Table Team; 3) Providing food (please sign up at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4AAFA92FA3FB6-dinner1>); 4) inviting those you know without a church home to join, especially young families and young adults. For more information, please reach out to Pastor Julie.

GROW

Remembering

Elizabeth M. Hood (Liz) passed away in the early morning hours of Wednesday, March 8, 2023. She was 88 years old. Liz was a long-time member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church (since 1979) and a choir member. At this time no memorial service is planned. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Floridise Orchids at 19154 James Madison Hwy., Gordonsville, VA 22942.

Women’s Retreat 2023

Join us for the 2nd annual Women’s Retreat on **Saturday, April 29** from 9-1 in the Reed Room. The women and friends of Aldersgate will gather for inspiration and connection. Our guest presenter will be Valerie Jackson. For more information and to register, please go to cvaumc.org/womens-retreat.

April Hike and Praise

Come join us on our monthly hike and praise God's beautiful creation! This month we will hike the Saunders-Monticello Trail on **Saturday, April 8**. We will meet in the overflow parking lot off Route 20, across from PVCC, at 9 am. Dogs are **not** welcome on this trail. If you plan to join us, please email Laura Nelson at lnelson582@icloud.com; or text at 434-227-0340.

“Just Mercy” and Bryan Stevenson

Bryan Stevenson is a Christian Attorney who has dedicated his career to clearing wrongly convicted persons incarcerated for crimes they didn’t commit, including those on death row. He will be speaking at JPJ Arena on **Tuesday, March 28**, telling of how his faith motivates his work. The primary sponsor for the event is Theological Horizons, a Christian ministry in the UVA community.

GROW

Friendship Luncheon

Friendship Luncheon is for anyone who is free during the day, especially retired people. The next luncheon is **Tuesday, March 21**, at 12:30 pm in the Reed Room where we will have a box lunch (\$12) from Bellair Market. We will play a Bible trivia quiz game after lunch.

Children's Ministry

- **KidzConnect:** Every Sunday morning, children age 4 through grade 5 are encouraged to worship together in KidzConnect time. This month's theme is "Changing Gears" where we learn how Jesus impacts our lives.
- **Roots:** 4th-5th Grade Ministry: Sunday, **Mar. 26** at 4-5:30 pm
- **Save the Date:** KidzNight Out, **April 21**. Please register at this link: <https://www.cvaumc.org/kidznight-out>

Youth Ministry

- **YouthGathering** happens most Sunday nights from 5:30-7 pm. To learn more about our youth ministry, please visit www.cvaumc.org
- **March 19:** YouthGathering, 5:30-7:00
- **Youth Bible Study:** Tuesdays at 4:30 pm

SERVE

Easter Eggstravaganza

The Easter Eggstravaganza is a church-wide outreach opportunity to share the goodness of Jesus with young families in our community. We invite you to be part of this special day hosted by Children's Ministry. Ways to serve include helping with food preparation, crafts, games, drama/story walk, set up, and Easter Eggs. Contact children@cvaumc.org to learn more, and cvaumc.org/eggstravaganza-volunteers to let us know how you would like to serve.

Here WEE Grow Again

Want to have fun and make a difference at the same time? Volunteer with Here WEE Grow Again! You can sign up either online by going to www.hereweeagain.com and clicking on Volunteer Vine at the top of the page, OR...You can sign up with Karen Chang by calling 434-284-1818. We need help during both intake and the sale. The dates are **now through March 25**. Thanks for coming out and making a difference in this outreach.

SERVE

Annual Food Drive for Emergency Food Network

Each March Aldersgate sponsors a food drive for the Emergency Food Network, a local non-profit organization that provides a 3-day food supply to individual and families in the Charlottesville-Albemarle area who find themselves in an emergency without food. Learn more about the work of EFN by visiting their website: <https://www.emergencyfoodnetwork.org>. Please place your contributions in the food collection bins in the Welcome Center and at the office entrance. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please make a check payable to Aldersgate United Methodist Church, with "Emergency Food Network" on the memo line. You can donate any non-perishable food, but our focus for this drive is "mixes." Thank you for your support of EFN.

Mowing Team

We are looking for a few good people (men and women!) to join the mowing team. It is a commitment of about once a month. We provide training and are **very flexible with schedules**. If you have questions or would like to join the team, contact Lucas Ohlendorf at lucashikes@gmail.com. The mowing season runs from about April-September.

Youth Ministry Dinners

Gathering around the table is an important part of our youth fellowship. Please consider supporting our youth by providing dinner for YouthGathering. Sign up at cvaumc.org/youth-dinner. Contact Pastor Julie with questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATES

- **March 11-25:** Here Wee Grow Again
- **March 28:** Bryan Stevenson of "Just Mercy" @ JPJ
- **April 8:** Easter Eggstravaganza
- **April 29:** Women's Retreat
- **June 3:** Blood Drive, 10 am-2 pm
- **June 25-30:** Appalachian Service Project Mission Trip for Youth
- **June 19-23:** Vacation Bible School—*Stellar!* (Astronomy theme)
- **July 17-20:** Summer Kidz Camp