



ALDERSGATE ADVOCATE

April 2023

MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR:

Pastoral Letter – April 2023 “Our Infinite Hope”

I have a confession to share. When reading the news about a mass shooting these days, I often read the headline and skip the article. I know that it is a terrible thing to say, especially as a clergy. But I am just tired. Tired of the cycle that there are mass shootings. People offer sympathy or take it to Facebook or Twitter to express their anger. People debate what they need to do. One party supports gun control. The other party says that the problem is mental illness, not guns. We do nothing about it until we hear about another tragedy. And the same cycle happens. Innocent lives are lost. We offer prayers. And we move on.

The first mass shooting I dealt with as a clergy was the Sandy Hook Elementary School Shooting in 2012. A 20-year-old gunman entered the elementary school and killed twenty children between six and seven years old and six adults. That year, my church rang the bell 26 times in memory of those innocent lives and held a prayer vigil. Since then, every time I learned about another mass shooting, I offered a prayer during the service, shared my thoughts on my social media, and invited people to join me for a prayer vigil at the church. But I am tired of offering a prayer that we, as a society, are unwilling to tackle.

And we just heard about another mass shooting at the Covenant School in Nashville on March 27. Six people were killed, including three children. They were nine years old, the same age as my son, Daniel. One of these children was a pastor's daughter. How can someone dare to use an assault weapon against another person? How can we, as adults, watch this tragedy, shake our heads, and say, “It is just the way it is?” As Pilate washed his hands, claiming his innocence in the killing of Jesus, do we also look the other way and declare that we have nothing to do with the killing of our innocent lives? I feel tired and powerless.

Many of us could just shake our heads and say, “That is just the way it is. We need to accept war and violence as part of human reality. And it will never change.” However, Martin Luther King Jr. says, “We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.” If our hope comes from God who still works with the human beings to create the redemptive story of God by God's grace, our faithful response is not to fall into nihilistic depression but reach our hands out to our neighbors in humility and work for healing, renewal, and restoration of the brokenness in this world.

It is said that on Sundays, Rev. James. Curry brings a hammer and tongs to the backyard of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Newburyport, MA. He fires up a portable forge, turns a gun barrel white-hot, bangs it, and bends it. This program is called the Swords to Plowshares, which grew out of the tragedy of Sandy Hook Elementary School. These guns are acquired from police department gun buyback programs. After these weapons are turned into agricultural tools, they are donated to community gardens, high schools, or churches. Though once the tools of violence, they now serve a new purpose as tools of peace.

Prophet Isaiah saw this vision from God. “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore” (2:4). While such a vision might sound radically different from our reality today, it is not about our ability to imagine the world differently and say whether something is realistic or not. Instead, the future of the world is shaped by the redemptive plan of God who would lead people and nations to reconciliation, and who would sit both the rich and poor at the same table, and who seeks renewal and restoration of God's world. As our God raised Christ from death, there is nothing impossible with God. Amen.

Pastor Bob

About our new seminarian intern starting September 2023



Veejay Strama is a 28-year-old Boston University School of Theology student in his second-year pursuing a Masters of Divinity. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the University of Connecticut. Originally from Woodstock, Connecticut, he spent several years working in and around the Boston area in the financial services industry after graduating from UConn. Shortly before leaving home, he met Pastor Bob at Living Faith UMC in Putnam, Connecticut, soon after Bob's appointment. After returning home for

the pandemic, he received his call to ministry. He hopes to fulfill this call by pursuing ordained ministry.

Veejay loves to learn about all things in general and enjoys playing music. At school, his passions lie in spiritual and mystical texts within the Christian tradition. Outside of school, he enjoys trips to art museums and exploring new foods. He brings with him skills in piano, trumpet, and guitar, among other musical talents. He feels blessed to do his internship at Aldersgate UMC and is looking forward to contributing in any way possible to the congregation in service to the Lord.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity Sunday on April 30

We invite you to join us on April 30 as we will celebrate Habitat for Humanity Sunday. We will be joined by some representatives from the organization who will speak about their work during our worship services and offer some information at a table in the fellowship hall.



Opportunities During Holy Week

- April 2 **PALM / PASSION SUNDAY** – Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 am. Troop 81-sponsored pancake breakfast, 8:00 – 11:00 am. Chocolate sale by our Youth Group in the hall after each service. Church school at 9:30 am and adult ed at 9:45 am.
- April 6 **HOLY THURSDAY – Seder Meal** at 6:00 pm and **Evening worship** at 7:30 pm. Join us for the Aldersgate take on a traditional Jewish Seder experience with ceremony and food. To attend and/or help cook, sign up on the welcome desk or notify Betsy in the church office, by Saturday, April 1. Mike Kane will provide recipes for these simple, traditional dishes. If you have questions, you can email him at mdkane22@gmail.com or call 978-590-0556. A service of Holy Communion will follow at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. (It will be livestreamed, and a recording of the service will be posted on the church web site.) Quiet prayer time in the Sanctuary, 8:30 – 10:00 pm.
- April 7 **GOOD FRIDAY** – The Sanctuary will be open and available for prayer time from 7:00 am to 6:30 pm, with a prayer service afterward at 6:30 pm. Please sign up on the list in the welcome area for a time if you would like to pray or come whenever you would like. Soft music will be played by Jane Vooy's from noon to 3:00 pm.
- April 8 **EASTER EGG HUNT** – Saturday at 10:00 am. Friends are welcome! (Indoors if necessary!) Join in for a morning of fun including crafts, a movie about the First Easter and a fabulous egg hunt!
- April 9 **EASTER SUNDAY** – Easter Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, 7:30 – 10:30 am, with worship at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. There will be no church school for children and adults. There will be Communion at both services.

Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship

A Big Thank You to all who prepared and served the Soup, Bread and Salad as well as the yummy deserts and a special thank you to Betsey Driscoll for organizing the 5 weeks of suppers. Below are the recipes for the soups. It was so great to see everyone enjoying food, fellowship, and worship. Also thank you to our lay people - Suzanne Hevelone, Dan Ward, Jim Ortolf, Marcia Dana, and Charles McCrea – who led the services and shared their messages and experiences on “forgiveness”! You each made our Lenten journey so very meaningful

Below are the recipes for the soups. It was so great to see everyone enjoying food, fellowship, and worship. **Thank you to all our chefs.**

Minestrone Soup, aka Rebecca's Minestrone, aka Monday Minestrone

Betsey Driscoll

2-3 Tbsp. olive oil

1 onion, chopped

1-2 stalks celery, sliced

2-3 carrots, sliced

2 tsp. chili powder

1 (64 oz.) bottle V8 juice

1 (29 oz.) can ground peeled tomatoes

1-2 Tbsp. sugar

½ tsp salt

½ cup each corn, peas, green beans, summer squash, lima beans

1 (15 oz) can kidney beans

Sauté onions, celery and carrots in a large stockpot until tender. Add spices, then V8 juice and tomatoes, rinsing the cans and adding that water to the soup. Add beans and corn and simmer until all the vegetables are tender. Add peas last. Serve over cooked elbow macaroni.



Zuppa Toscana

Betsey Driscoll

½ lb. bacon, chopped

1 lb. hot Italian sausage (bulk or casings removed)

1 medium head of garlic, peeled and minced

1 large onion, finely chopped

1 qt. chicken stock

5 medium potatoes, peeled and diced

1 large bundle of kale leaves, coarsely chopped

2 cups heavy cream

Salt and pepper

In a Dutch oven, fry the bacon until crispy, then remove to a paper-towel lined plate, leaving the grease in the pan. Add the sausage and cook until crumbly and browned through. Keep the heat low enough to avoid the fat from smoking. Remove that to the plate with the bacon.

Add the onion to the pan and sauté about 5 minutes, until tender, then add the garlic (yes, a full head) and sauté about another minute. Pour in the chicken stock and potatoes and cook over medium heat until potatoes are tender. Add the kale, cooked sausage, and bacon, cook until kale is wilted then stir in the heavy cream and heat through. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Lemony Lentil Soup with Mushrooms & Kale

(Christine Kelley)

Prep Time: 45 min prep time **Number of Servings:** serves 2

Recipe Source:

- 1 ½ Tbsp olive oil
- 1 large white or yellow onion, chopped
- 4 carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 8 oz white mushrooms, sliced
- Salt
- 1 ½ tsp dried thyme
- ½ tsp dried rosemary
- ¼ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 1 ½ cups dried green, brown, or French green lentils
- 4 cups low-sodium vegetable broth
- 2 cups water
- 1 small bunch kale, stemmed and chopped
- 2 Tbsp freshly squeezed lemon juice



Directions

1. Heat oil in a large pot over medium heat.
2. Add onion, carrots, and celery and cook, stirring occasionally, for 8 minutes, until vegetables are tender. Stir in garlic, mushrooms, and a generous pinch of salt. Cover and cook for 5 minutes, until mushrooms are tender and have released their juices.
3. Stir in a teaspoon salt and the thyme, rosemary, pepper, and lentils. Pour in broth and water. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat, cover partially, and simmer, stirring occasionally, for about 30 minutes, until lentils are tender but not mushy.
4. Stir in kale, cover, and cook for 10 minutes. Stir in lemon juice. Taste and adjust seasonings if desired.
5. Serve piping hot.

Nutrition Info:

257 Calories, 15 g Protein, 42 g Carbohydrates, 9 g Fiber, 5 g Total fat (1 g sat), 275 mg Sodium, ★★★★★ Vitamin A, C, K, ★★★ Vitamin B1 (thiamine), Phosphorus, ★★ Vitamin B2 (riboflavin), B6, Iron, Potassium, ★ Vitamin B3 (niacin), Calcium, Magnesium, Zinc

Seafood/Chicken Corn Chowder

Rick Newcomb

Ingredients

- ½ cup butter
- 1 stalk celery, minced
- 1 small/medium onion, minced
- ¼ teaspoon cayenne pepper or to taste
- ¼ teaspoon dried thyme
- ¼ teaspoon dried marjoram
- 3 tablespoons flour
- 3 ½ cups of whole milk (or more if you like a thinner chowder. More milk can be added as needed after soup is completed.)
- 2 cans condensed cream of potato soup (undiluted)
- 1 large potato boiled, (optional peeled) and cubed

Seafood Chowder:

- 1 ½ lbs. of mixed frozen fish - whites fish (cod, flounder or pollock), scallops and clams (approx. ½ lb. each) Two 6 oz cans of minced clams with the liquid may be substituted for the frozen clams. All the seafood should be chopped to bite size pieces.

Chicken Corn Chowder:

- 1 ½ to 2 lbs. of cooked chicken cut to bite size pieces
- 2 -15 oz. cans of cream corn
- 2 cups of frozen corn.

Directions

1. Melt 2 tablespoons of butter, sauté celery and onion until tender.
2. Add cayenne pepper, thyme and marjoram cook for another 2 minutes. Remove from heat and set aside.
3. Melt remaining butter in 3-quart saucepan over low heat.
4. Add flour and stir until smooth to make a roux.
5. Add milk, condensed soup, sautéed celery/onion and stir until piping hot. Use caution not to scald the milk.
6. When soup is piping hot, add seafood or chicken corn chowder ingredients and stir on medium heat for approx. 35 - 40 minutes.
7. Add cubed boiled potato and cook for additional 5 minutes.
8. Serve oyster or Ritz crackers.

NOTE: Campbell's condensed cream of potato soup is sold at Target, Wegman's or Walmart.

Cheesy, Ham and Cauliflower Soup

Robin Dye

Makes 5 quarts (1 Cup per serving) Prep time 15minutes Cook time 1 hour

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons butter or ghee, divided
- 3 cups diced ham steak, extra for garnish
- 1 small onion, chopped (about ½ cup)

2 sprigs of fresh thyme plus extra for garnish
1 bay leaf
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon sea salt
½ teaspoon ground black pepper
½ teaspoon mustard powder
½ teaspoon dried rubbed sage
6 cups chicken stock
6 cups cauliflower florets
2 cups heavy cream
2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
½ cup grated parmesan cheese

Directions

1. Heat 2 tablespoons of the butter in a large Dutch oven or stockpot over medium heat. Add the ham and cook until it is browned and slightly crispy on the edges. Using a slotted spoon, remove the ham from the pot and set aside.
2. Reduce the heat to medium-low and add the remaining 1 tablespoon of butter, onion, thyme, bay leaf, garlic powder, salt, pepper, mustard powder, and sage. Cook until the onion is soft and translucent. Remove bay leaf and thyme sprigs.
3. Deglaze the pot with a splash of the chicken stock. Using a rubber spatula, scrape up and mix in any bits stuck to the bottom of the pot.
4. Add the remaining stock and cauliflower. Increase the heat and bring to a rolling boil. After 5 minutes, reduce the heat to low and simmer for 40 minutes. Using a potato masher, mash the cauliflower florets into smaller pieces.
5. Add the cream and, using an immersion blender, puree the soup until thick and creamy (or use a fork to break up the large clumps of cauliflower).
6. Increase the heat to medium and add cheeses. Stir to mix in the cheese as it melts. Add the ham back to the pot and mix in.
7. Taste and add additional salt and pepper, if needed.
8. Store leftovers in the refrigerator for up to 1 week. Reheat on the stovetop. When reheating this soup, add a little heavy cream.

Italian Sausage Soup with Tortellini

Deb Benson

1 lb sausage
1 cup chopped onions
5 cups beef broth
1/2 cup water
1/2 cup red wine (optional)
2 cups crushed tomatoes
1 cup sliced carrots
1 tsp basil
1 tsp oregano
1 cup tomato sauce
1 1/2 cups sliced zucchini
2 cups frozen tortellini

Sauté sausage until crumbled. Set aside. Sauté onions. Add broth, water, wine, tomatoes, carrots, spices and sauce. Bring to a boil and cook for 30 minutes. Add in zucchini and tortellini and simmer for 30 to 40 minutes uncovered. Serve with cheese.

Celebration of Life for Stanley Marson Jr.

A Celebration of Life Service will take place on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at 11:00 am at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 242 Boston Rd., Chelmsford. Casual attire is welcomed. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Stanley's memory to Kennedy Disease Association, P.O. Box 1105, Coarsegold, CA 93614-1105 or to the charity of your choice.

After the service there will be a time of refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. The Marson family invites you to join them.

Save the Date

Reserve June 10, 2023, for Rev Maylis' Ordination Ceremony

Reserve the afternoon of June 10, 2023. Rev Maylis will be ordained a Deacon in the United Methodist Church at a ceremony conducted by Bishop Peggy Johnson during Annual Conference at the Double Tree Hotel in Manchester NH. We need to be represented at that ceremony in support of Rev Maylis. We can set up carpools for those wishing to attend that session that is usually at 2 PM on Saturday afternoon. As we get closer to the date, we will have more information.

At a subsequent worship service at Aldersgate, we will be presenting Rev Maylis with a Jordan River stole in honor and recognition of this important milestone in Rev Maylis' journey with Christ. If you want to make a small donation for the purchase of that stole, make your checks payable to Aldersgate UMC but mark it with "Stole" in the notes section of your check. We don't need that much, only a couple hundred dollars, so if there are more donations than needed to cover the cost of the stole, the remaining money will go towards our youth attending Youth 2023 this summer in Daytona Beach, Florida. This event is sponsored by the United Methodist Discipleship Ministries.

For now, reserve June 10, 2023.

Troop 81 Hosting Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast April 2nd



Troop 81 BSA invites you to a pancake breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, April 2nd from 8am-11am. We will be serving pancakes, butter/syrup, fruit, coffee, tea, and juice for a suggested donation of \$10 per person, \$8 for senior citizens/kids under 5.



Cub Scout Pack 81

Cub Scout Pack 81 held a Blue and Gold dinner on March 18th. Among the cub scouts crossing over is Henry M. along with his Parents Ben Myers and Jen van Buren and his grandparents Diane and Marty van Buren. Henry will join Troop 46 BSA.

Birthdays and Anniversaries – March

We celebrate a Happy Birthday and a Happy Anniversary for the following. When you see them, you can celebrate with them or send them a card on their special day.

April Birthdays

April 1 – Cheryl Ortolf

April 3 - Emmy's birthday

April 4 – Betty Champeaux

April 18 – Dawn Jones

April 19 -Mary Jean Thurlow

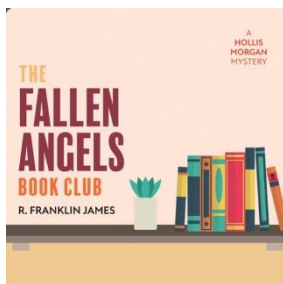


April Anniversaries

Apr 18- Ben Myers and Jen van Buren anniversary

If we have missed your big day, please send them by email, to Betsy in the office at aldersgetchelsford@verizon.net or call 978-256-9400 so she can add your names and dates to the lists for the Advocates for the coming months. We can then recognize the milestones in your life and celebrate with you.

Book Club in the Concord Room and on Zoom



Book club is meeting on April 25 we will discuss “The Fallen Angels Book Club” by Franklin James. (Betsy's pick). Let Deb know if you want to join by Zoom.

On May 30, we will discuss “The Bubonic Plague” by Josh Kilmer Purcell (Robin’s pick)

On June 27 we will discuss “On Tyranny” by Timothy Snyder, (Kim’s pick)

On July 25 we will discuss “The Keeper of Lost Things”, (Deb Teal’s pick)

Hope you all can join us! Blessings, Deb

Single Ladies Dining Out

Singles Ladies Dining Out will have lunch on May 13th at 1 pm at Nobo, 18 Boston Rd., Chelmsford, MA.

If you are a single lady and would enjoy a lunch out and lots of fun conversation, we would love to have you join us. Please RSVP by Thursday May 11th to Betsy Campbell 978-256-9400 or by email to aldersgatechelsford@verizon.net.

Women’s Daytimers Breakfast Club

We meet once a month, Friday mornings at 10 am at a local restaurant for breakfast and socializing. Please contact Chantale Shepard at 978-250-9573 for more details or if you are interested in being added to the email list. We welcome new members!

Music Notes:

The 35th Massachusetts Spring Ring is almost here! We are excited to have seven of our ringers joining the massed performances this year.

When: Saturday, April 22, 2023

Where:

Tewksbury Memorial High School

320 Pleasant Street

Tewksbury, MA

Concert Time: 3:00 PM-4:30 PM

The Spring Ring is an annual event sponsored by Handbell Musicians of America that offers handbell ringers and choirs an opportunity to come together to ring and build skills. This year's guest clinicians are Karen E. Leonard, Minister of Music at West Chelmsford UMC, and founding and artistic director of the *Merrimack Valley Ringers*; and Edward G. Henderson, Jr., director of the youth and adult handbell programs at the Tewksbury Congregational Church and founding director of the *New England Ringers*.

The day culminates with a concert that is open to the public. It is a wonderful opportunity for you to come and see the beauty and excitement of handbell ringing, and to support our own ringers! You will get to hear some of the pieces we are performing at church this season, but with many more bells! Looking forward to seeing you at this year's Spring Ring!

2023 Spring Ring Clinicians

KAREN E. LEONARD is a graduate of Boston University and UMass Lowell with degrees in church music, organ performance and conducting. She is now in her 54th year as Minister of Music at West Chelmsford United Methodist Church in North Chelmsford, MA, where she directs a graded choral and handbell program and also serves as organist. In addition, she is the founding and artistic director of Merrimack Valley Ringers, a community handbell ensemble well-known in Area 1. Karen served the Handbell Musicians of America, formerly the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers (AGEHR) as Chair of Area I and National President. In 2008, she was awarded Honorary Life Membership in AGEHR, the highest award given for extraordinary service to the organization. She continues to serve as Coordinator of the National Master Classes in Conducting. Karen and her husband Mark have two wonderful sons, two lovely daughters-in-law and two awesome grandchildren.



EDWARD G. HENDERSON, JR. of Tewksbury, MA, started ringing handbells in 1962 and has been directing youth and adult handbell choirs for the last thirty plus years. He was elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Handbell Musicians of America, Area 1 and served many positions including Member at Large, Area Chair, and Area Representative to the National Board of Directors. He has served Area and National handbell events as an organizer, a clinician, and as massed and division conductor. For thirty plus years he has directed the youth and adult handbell programs at the Tewksbury Congregational Church, Tewksbury, MA. He was the founding director of the New England Ringers, a bronze level community handbell choir which he directed for thirteen years. Ed is a retired electrical engineer who spent his entire career managing customer support operations for various companies supporting the high-tech electronic industries. He is an avid NASCAR fan, enjoys restoring and driving antique and classic cars, skiing, snowmobiling, and spending time with his wife Sue, family, and friends at their lake home in NH.

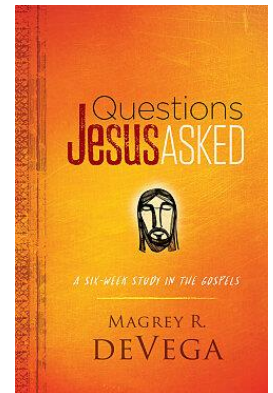


ADULT EDUCATION...

Next Opportunity for Community and Study

“What does Jesus want to know about us?”

Jesus was fond of asking questions, many of which cut right to the heart of what it means to be human. Why are you terrified? What do you live for? Who do you say that I am? In *Questions Jesus Asked*, author Magrey deVega explores six of the most provocative questions Jesus posed to others and guides us in answering them for ourselves.



Asking these questions takes courage. Not only do they reveal what Jesus really cares about, they open a window into our hearts. We all have questions for God, but growth happens when we turn things around and ask what Jesus wants to know about us. When we dare to raise them, these questions bring us a fuller appreciation for the wisdom, power, and presence of God in our lives. Are you willing to step out in faith? Are you ready to answer the questions Jesus asked?”

Join the Adult Class, held in the Concord Room at 9:45 on Sunday mornings to discuss these questions and discover more about ourselves, God’s role in our lives and those we are in community with.

We have a seat for YOU! Class starts April 16. Books can be ordered online, but are not necessary to take part in the class.

Violet Hopkins Library News...



LOBBY AND LIBRARY BOOKS

You can't miss the book display in the lobby! Please help yourself to anything that interests you. Directions



to check a book out are simple- remove the card from the back of the book and add your name to it. Place it in the floral box located near the lobby display. If there isn't a card in the back of the book, please find a fresh card in the floral box, add the title of the book and your name to it and place it back in the floral box. You can return the book at your leisure.

More than 863 items are available to you in the library located downstairs. **You are welcome to read, relax or reflect with a cup of tea or coffee.** If you'd like to check out a book from the basement library, the directions are the same – just leave the card in the wooden box on the shelf. Return the book when you are finished to the table under the window.

The library is a work in progress, so please use it and help us keep it in good condition for the next person. Your help is always welcome to shelve books, add cards and sleeves to books or review books that have been donated. This library belongs to all of us- so please make your mark or contribution in the way you are best gifted! If you have questions or ideas, please see Kim Ward (mikdraw@aol.com or 978-256-2014) to compare notes.

OUTREACH...

Advent Offering: A total of \$10,550 was collected and sent to Dig Deep, a human rights non-profit working to ensure that every American has clean, running water which changes a life forever. While most Americans take running water completely for granted, millions of our neighbors struggle to get enough clean water to survive. 100% of the donation funds programs to close the “Water Gap in the U.S”. NOTE: Since Aldersgate began the Advent Conspiracy in 2013, we have collected and distributed funds totaling \$108,110 over the past 11 years to provide local and international outreach and support to people in need.



On March 14th we received a note of thanks from Dig Deep.

We can't thank you enough for Aldersgate United Methodist Church's generous gift.

With your support, DigDeep is empowering communities to build smart water projects that fit their needs. Our water access projects are community-led and measurably improve human rights standards like gender equality and access to education - making people healthier, happier, and more equal.

At your request, we've sent 100% of your donation toward our programs that close the Water Gap in the U.S. If you have shared an email address with us and would like to be updated on our work, we would love to share our monthly newsletter with you. To learn more about the impact of your gifts, check out our most recent Annual Report! Please contact us at development@digdeep.org for a direct link.

We believe that all people – no matter who they are or where they live - have a right to clean water. Some need a community – led project like a well. Others need an education project to help them better understand and protect the resources they already enjoy.

Either way, DigDeep is here to defend the right to water we all have in common.

Here's to changing the world, together.

George McGraw/Chief Executive Officer/Dig Deep.

UPCOMING EASTER EVENTS



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 8th

10:00 am - 11:30 am

Bring your friends and neighbors!

Join us for fun crafts, an Easter Egg Hunt and a special movie – bring your friends!

EASTER BREAKFAST

APRIL 9TH

7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Easter Services: 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

No Church School



Breakfast menu: Egg Benedict, French Toast, Hash Browns, Fruit selection, Bacon/sausage, Baked Goods, Yogurt Parfait, Cold cereal

Vegan/Gluten Free Breakfast Menu: Breakfast Casserole, Sausage and Fruited Coffee Cake

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

SUMMER VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 14 – 18, 2023 from 9 a.m. – noon

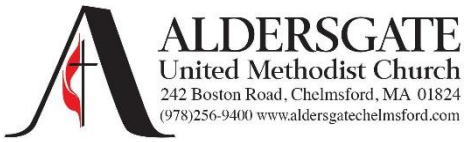
For children: 4 - 12 years old

Cost to register: \$20.00 per child, family max of \$60.00



This summer during VBS we will be "Under Construction" learning about Habitat for Humanity and the way God helps us to Share, Care, Learn, Worship, and Celebrate!

REGISTRATION FORM IS NOW AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE, IN THIS ADVOCATE AND ON THE WELCOME TABLE IN THE CHURCH SCHOOL HALL



VBS Registration Form
August 14 – 18, 2023 from 9 a.m. – noon
For children: 4 - 12 years old



Cost to register: \$20.00 per child, family max of \$60.00

Student's Name _____

Parent/Family/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Date of birth _____ Age _____ Last school grade completed _____

Home Church (if any) _____

Friends of your child at this church _____

Special Needs/Allergies/Medical Information/Other: _____

Emergency Contacts Name _____

Phone _____

Name _____

Phone _____

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS _____

Photo Release: _____ Church/VBS has my permission to use my child's photograph publicly in VBS materials. I understand the images may be used in print publications, online publications, presentations, websites, and social media. I also understand that no royalty, fee or other compensation shall become payable to me by reason of such use.

Parent/Guardian's signature: _____ Date _____

Junior Youth Upcoming Event

This fellowship group is for youth in grades 5th – 8th grade. Friends are always welcome!

Friendships

Friday, April 14th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

5th – 8th grade

We will talk about friends and what a friendship should be as part of God's family. Bring a friend and a snack to share.

Laser Tag

Sunday, April 23 from noon – 2:00 p.m.

We will go to Laser Craze– bring money for food and playing arcade games. The senior youth are inviting the junior youth to join them.

Senior Youth Upcoming Events

All youth in grades 9 – 12 are welcome to join us at any time. The 7th & 8th graders will join us for some activities.

We ALWAYS welcome friends and remember you are an important part of this group!

Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Breakfast Prep

Saturday, April 8th from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast Prep - noon – 1:30 p.m.

Come join the fun as we host a special Easter Egg Hunt for the children in the community and will also prep for our Easter Breakfast. For those that help with the Egg Hunt – I will provide pizza for lunch.

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 9th

6:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Sign up for a time to work a shift during the breakfast.

Laser Tag

Sunday, April 23 from noon – 2:00 p.m.

We will go to Laser Craze– bring money for food and playing arcade games. The junior youth are also invited to join us.

Aldersgate '23 Youth Retreat

May 6 – 7 11am – 11am

Youth in 6th – 12th grade



We will be joining other United Methodist Youth Groups from around the area at Camp Aldersgate in North Scituate, Rhode Island for fellowship, worship, music, games and discussion. We will also have fun on the ropes/challenge course. Please talk to Cheryl if you are interested in joining us or if you would like to find out more information about this group event.

To my dear Aldersgate family,

While my heart may be irreparably broken, it is at the same time overflowing with love and gratitude for all the support our family has received since my mother's passing. Words can never adequately express my heartfelt appreciation for all who contributed to making my mom's service such a beautiful honoring of her life. Aldersgate truly is the church with a warm heart and we're blessed beyond measure to be part of this church family.

Blessings,
Sherri and family

CONCERNS AND PRAYER LIST...

Please let us know if you would like your loved ones included on this list.

Our Church Family

Vern Champeaux
Rich Regan
Ann Harris
Meera Prasad Smith
Tyler Mireault
Tracy Knox

Relatives and Friends

Bonnie (Janice M.)
Mary (Janice M)
Hildred (Laurel A.)
Willow (Robin K)
Lorraine (Audrey/Ed W.)
Christina (Betsy C.)
Marge Anderson (Audrey W.)
Fred Haley (Jim/Sue H)
Tim Leary (Elaine B.)

Pregnancy

Amy Beth Umana Stephens

Sympathy - for the Panneton family upon the passing of Sherri's Mom, Sandra Dillman

Sympathy – for the Marson Family upon the passing of Stanley Marson Jr.

Our Military and Families

George and Symantha Cole (their families)
David and Alyssa Buemi (Holly F)
Jeffrey Clark
Shane Seamens
Ryan Conole (Evelyn H.)
Ryan Miller (Holly F.)
Tyler Matsubara (Krueger Family)
Chris Larson
Josh Briggs (Evelyn H.)
Chris Hillman (Ardie D.)

World & Community Concerns

For all in Syria and Turkey who are affected by the Earthquakes

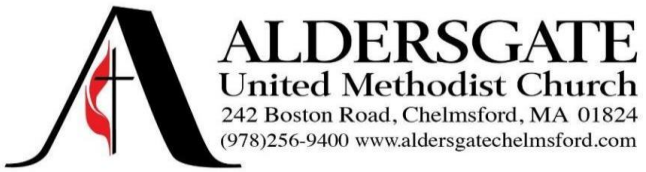
For our church family as we continue to Reimagine the Possibilities

Our covenant with the Sierra Maestra school in Nicaragua

For world's leaders, our country's leaders, with the decisions they make that affect the lives of so many.

For those who are battling illnesses of many kinds

For those who are recovering from surgery, undergoing treatment, or waiting for test results.



To: