



July 5th, 2026

Our Vision—A beacon of God’s love radiating faith, hope, and joy... Everywhere!

Flowers on the altar are given by Cate Lehan and Steve Johnson in celebration of their fourth wedding anniversary!

One Service at 9:30 am continues for the Summer

Mark your calendars! We move to our summer service schedule of one service, at 9:30

Youth Mission Trip Meeting

Sunday, July 5, 11:00 – 11:30 a.m., in the Concord Room TODAY

This is our final planning meeting for parents and youth who wish to go on the trip.

Youth Mission Trip at Mission Central (7th – 12th grade)

Sunday, July 12 - Saturday, July 18

Our youth are going on a summer mission trip to Mechanicsburg PA where we will serve at the Mission Central warehouse! We will support their disaster relief work with jobs like packing flood buckets, assembling hygiene kits, and sorting donations. We will also visit HersheyPark on the way down and Philadelphia on the way back.

Confirmation Class - Sunday, July 19, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The next class for confirmation students and mentors will be after Worship in the Concord Room.

You can schedule your appointment for the next Blood Drives for July 11th and August 8th from 9am-2pm

Please sign up if you can help this important cause. There continues to be a national shortage! Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and search under July 11 or August 8th to schedule an appointment. For more information call or email Cate Lehan or Robin Dye or the church office.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

August 10 – 14, 9:00 a.m. – noon

Children Ages 4 – 12



This year’s VBS, “Operation Overboard: Dare to Go Deep With God,” is an invitation and a challenge to dive into the waters of God’s Word and discover what true faith is all about. Kids of all ages will experience God’s Word, explore and create through fun crafts and activities, music, snacks, and games. Please see Lee Williams if you have questions or would like to help.

Registration deadline is Monday, July 27. The cost to participate is \$20 per child; max of \$60 per family. The registration form is available online at

<https://www.aldersgatechelmsford.com/education/vacation-bible-school/>

Summertime Stewardship

It's hard to believe that we are almost halfway through the year! There has been so much activity and hard work, by so many servants at Aldersgate! As we journey through the summer months, please be sure to keep your church family in mind with your prayers and your pledges.

Please feel free to bring your 2026 pledged offerings when you join us on Sunday services this summer at 9:30 am. You can also send them by mail or electronic bill pay. Thank you for your faithful stewardship! For questions about bill pay through your banking institution, contact Kelly Mongiovi, our Financial Secretary at kmongiovi@aol.com, or Finance Chair, Bob Peterson, at peteron.robertk@gmail.com.



Clean Sweep

Please see the signup sheet in the welcome area and consider signing up for a job or two helping to spruce up the church this summer. The jobs can be done on your time! If you don’t have a key, ask Betsy in the office to borrow one or when to come. Thank you! Samples of the tasks this year include clean windows, vacuum pews, remove wax off the sanctuary rug, paint the office ceiling, clean out the kitchen refrigerators, and repair hymnals.



Service in the Fellowship Hall on Hot Sundays This Summer

If the sanctuary is uncomfortably hot on a Sunday morning this summer, we’ll plan to hold the service in the **air-conditioned** Fellowship Hall. Our rule-of-thumb will be hold the service in the Hall if the temperature that morning is predicted to be over 80°. Watch for an all-church email and/or One Call-Tell All notification of the venue change if time permits. In lieu of the livestream on those Sundays, a recording of the service will be uploaded later that morning.

Sermon Notes

1. We are continuing with week 2 of this new summer sermon series this week: “The Church’s First Big Decision.” Last week we took an initial look at the social and religious walls that the early church was facing as well as some of their background. We tried to understand why those walls were there in the first place and why they were so complicated. What parts of this week’s scripture readings put us back face to face with those walls?

2. The focus-point of this series is the Council of Jerusalem, which took place on 50 A.D. and is described in Acts 15. This was the first time that leaders of the church gathered together to discern a question about theology and practice in the history of the church. We’ll be skipping around in this chapter and coming back to different parts of it throughout this series. In today’s passage (spoken by James, the brother of Jesus), is the church discovering something new or something old?

3. Throughout this series we’ll also be reading every week from the Old Testament. We sometimes forget that the Old Testament was the only Scripture that the early church had. All of today’s readings, in their own ways, tease a theme out of the Old Testament that was hard for many in Jesus’ time to hear (for the reasons we talked about last week). How would you describe that theme?

4. Have you ever had a moment, a day, a season in your life where you experienced the joy and excitement of discovering something new in the Scriptures—something that was there all along, but was impressing itself on you in a new and powerful way in a season of your life? What was that? What was that experience like for you?

5. What are some elements of today’s service speak to you on the theme you identified above in question 3? What do they seem to say?

Thank you from Deb Benson

I would like to thank Aldersgate for all your prayers, cards, and the altar flowers that were delivered to me. I am home and working on this recouping thing. I am so blessed with each and every one of you. Love you, Deb Benson

From Charles McCrea

Coming Soon - Aldersgate B&B. Watch for future announcements

Green Team News - for the week of 2026-07-01

We expect to share our bounty with the Chelmsford Food Pantry (CFP) every week of the summer. Here was the CFP harvest from today, 7/1/26:



4 bags Swiss Chard
3 bags Lettuce
5 pt Peas

The Garden Club also has the congregation’s share of produce, to be placed on tables in the Fellowship Hall every Sunday this summer This week we are harvesting more Leaf Lettuce, Peas (Sugar Snap TM sweet peas with edible pods!) and Swiss Chard.

New Video Monitors to Enhance Our Worship Experience

Based on suggestions from the congregation, the Trustees have acquired and installed video monitors on the front wall in the sanctuary. The monitors were purchased using available Endowment funds. The worship planning and live-stream/recording teams will be using the monitors during the service to display videos and slides, including potentially announcements prior to the service, the Call to Worship, the sermon title, and responsive prayers and litanies. (We will not be displaying the entire service, just items that may help enhance our worship experience.) Please be patient with us as we use the summer to learn how to use the monitors. And, we are looking for your feedback on the ways in which you find the monitors helpful or distracting; please share your thoughts with Pastor John, Bob Peterson, Val Shupe, or Peter Smyton.

Cardio Boost and Beginner Line Dance

Come Join these Dance Classes starting in Fellowship Hall at Aldersgate United Methodist Church – 242 Boston Rd., Chelmsford, MA 01824

For questions contact **Heather Dinsmore** dancingmom23@gmail.com

Or check with Betsy in the office.

Looking for more movement in your life? We are pleased to announce two new classes for the next few months being offered in our hall designed to help you get motivated and feel fit! A local dance instructor, Heather Dinsmore, will be offering Cardio Boost and Beginner Line Dance classes for our local community.

Cardio Boost exercise class combines cardio moves to enhance endurance and burn calories, strength training to define muscles and strengthen your core, and stretching to increase flexibility. This class begins with a warm-up and stretch, then 5 cardio boost workouts, and ends with a hand weight routine and cool down. You will get a total body workout while increasing your stamina and having fun! Participants will bring their own weights to class (2-5 lbs. is recommended).

Put on your boots and join us for Line Dancing! This lively, beginner-friendly program welcomes all skill levels. Participants will be led through classic and modern line dances with step-by-step guidance. No partner or experience is required - just come ready to have fun, get moving, and enjoy time with your community.

Each class will be \$5.00 each, payable at the beginning of class via cash, check or Venmo. No pre-registration required and must be aged 18 or older to participate. Participants must wear closed-toe shoes and comfortable clothing for each class.

Schedule:

Fridays (7 weeks) - July 31, August 7, (no class August 14), 21, 28, (no class September 4),
September 11, 18, 25

1:00-1:45 pm – Cardio Boost

2:00-3:00 pm – Beginner Line Dance