

October 25, 2026

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

The altar flowers are given in celebration of Isabelle Cole’s birthday on October 28 with love from her family!

Please sign the Friendship Pad on the center aisle and pass it down and back, so we can record the attendance.

Thanks for the Advent Mission Project Suggestions!

The Aldersgate Advent Mission Project (AMP) began in 2012/2013 as part of the Advent Conspiracy program to encourage us to Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More, and Love All. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation, in the 14 Advent seasons since, Aldersgate has given over \$130,000 to local, national, and international charities addressing food insecurity, clean water, disease prevention and mitigation, immigration support, housing, and disaster relief. Thanks to those of you who submitted suggestions for this year’s AMP. We received over 15 very deserving mission ideas! The Church Council is in the process of reviewing your suggestions. Look for the big reveal of this year’s mission project on the first Sunday in Advent, November 29!

Grief Share: “Surviving the Holidays” Wednesday Nov 4 from 6-8pm

For people who've lost a loved one, Thanksgiving and Christmas season can be bleak. This lay-led event offers coping tools and support for grieving congregation members and people in our community. **Wednesday Nov. 4 from 6-8. There is a \$10 charge that covers the book.**

Core Materials: Participants receive a practical holiday "Survival Guide" filled with tips, daily encouragements, and exercises.

Key Components: a 35-minute video featuring grief experts and real-life stories followed by supportive, optional group-sharing discussion.

Common Topics Addressed: 1) Managing difficult emotional triggers (sights, sounds, and memories. 2) Handling changes to family traditions and dealing with the "empty chair" 3) Settling healthy boundaries, communicating expectations, and giving yourself

permission to decline social events. 4) Finding meaningful ways to honor the memory of a loved one.

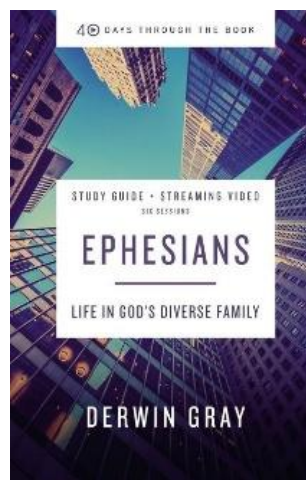
Early Bird Bible Application begins Tuesday October 27th

Early Bird begins the discussion of the second foundational Scripture passage in the lesson "Followers of Jesus Christ." That passage, Matthew 22:34-40, puts forth the foundation of God's law: LOVE. We are to love God and love one another.

Join in the discussion on Tuesday morning at ten o'clock via Zoom. You will find it enlightening and encouraging.

A New Year of Adult Education Begins with New Testament Studies!

SUNDAY MORNINGS



Sunday morning at 9:45am in the Concord Room, join members of the Adult Education Team to dive into Paul’s letter to the Ephesians. Each morning, we will watch and discuss a short video segment from Derwin Gray, former defensive back in the NFL and now, Pastor of Transformation Church, a multiethnic, multigenerational, mission-shaped community. The study guidebook provides you with a place to take notes as you watch and prompts, prayers and questions, as you read the relevant chapter of Ephesians throughout the week.

Ephesians: Life in God's Diverse Family (40 Days Through the Book) can be purchased from your online retailer in paperback or ebook. If you need a Bible, please see Kim Ward (mikdraw@aol.com) or Pastor John.

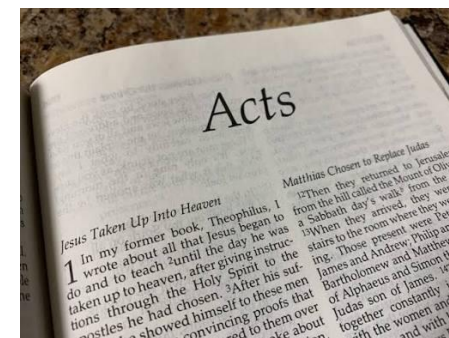
Our next Sunday class will be October 25th at 9:45. Grab a cup of coffee and meet us in the Concord Room to discover more about

the life of the early church!

THURSDAY MORNING

Thursday mornings at 10:00am in the Concord Room, join Pastor John and friends, as the group continues their study of the book of Acts. During the week, read and explore a chapter of Acts. Then on Thursday mornings, discover together what the life of the early church was like and the application of their lessons to your life today.

This week, please read Acts chapter 11 to be ready to discuss October 29th at 10 am in the Concord Room. All you need is your Bible. If you need a Bible, please see Kim Ward (mikdraw@aol.com) or Pastor John.



Sermon Notes

1. What happens when God's people each offer what they have, rather than waiting until they have “enough” to contribute?
2. Where have I seen God multiply the gifts of ordinary people for something greater than they could accomplish alone?
3. What am I being invited to offer God in this season of my life?
4. How might our congregation become a means through which God's abundance reaches our community and the world?
5. Finally, why do you think giving is a part of Christian worship?

Trunk or Treat for Everyone! TODAY

October 25th 3:00 youth set up crafts

Cars arrive by 3:30 for set up – Trick or Treaters arrive 4 to 5 pm

Congregational Life invites you to **help us create a fun afternoon** of candy and community. There are lots of ways you can participate:

- 🎃 Decorate a Car Trunk. Sign up in the lobby with your trunk theme.
- 🎃 **Prizes** for **Greenest** trunk, **Creepiest** trunk and more!
- 🎃 No car? Partner up with someone who does! The more the merrier!
- 🎃 Provide candy for the treaters. You'll find a box in the lobby to put it in.
- 🎃 Hand out candy at one of the trunks, games or craft stations.
- 🎃 Help the Youth Group lead games and crafts. Got an idea of a creative activity?
- 🎃 We'd love to help you incorporate it or partner with something we already have cookin'.
- 🎃 Welcome families, take photos and talk with parents as they enjoy time on our property.
- 🎃 Help with things we haven't thought of yet or the day of.

We will have sign up sheets for all these things in the lobby or you can let Angela Hughes (angelajustine@gmail.com), Jen van Buren (j.vb.myers@gmail.com) and Kim Ward (mikdraw@aol.com) know how you'd like to participate or ask any questions.

Altar Flowers needed

A big thank you to all who have asked for flowers for the altar each Sunday. They make the Altar beautiful and helps all of us celebrate with you. There are still one Sunday that is not taken. November 15th. Please let me know if you would like to take this spot. Also, please return vases to the office, so they can be returned to the Florist. Betsy

Worship Participants

Thank you to all who volunteer to participate in our services. We so appreciate that you are willing to help. If you want to pitch in on the many parts of the service, please let Betsy know. We have readers, greeters, communion stewards, acolytes, recording techs, counters and ushers. In addition, we have choir members who sing and/or play bells. You make such a difference in our services.

Request for All Saints Names by October 26th

There will be two services on November 1st at 8:30 and 10:45

On Sunday, November 1st, we will celebrate All Saints Sunday. Our Worship will include the reading of names of those who have died in the past year, who have gone on to join the “Saints Triumphant”.



If you would like the name of a loved one to be read on that day, please fill out a form on the welcome desk or email the church office or call (978-256-9400) and leave a message on the office phone, **by October 26th**.



Please include as a subject “All Saints” on your email. And also include your name and the loved one’s name as well as spell it, if by phone.

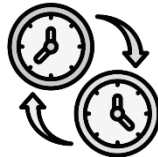
All Saints Sunday – November 1, 2026

My Name: _____

Name of Loved one: _____

Phonetic spelling if needed/special notes: _____

Date of Passing: _____



Please fill out this form and put it in the offering plate or return it to the church office. Thank you.

Green Team Meeting - Sunday, November 1, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Aldersgate’s Green Team will meet by Zoom. Join us as we review our Fall projects and share ideas on greening the holidays. Please let Lee Williams know if you’d like the Zoom link.

YOUTH NEWS

Confirmation Class - Sunday, November 1, 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.

The next class for confirmation students and mentors will be after Worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Confirmation Class - Sunday, November 8, 12:00 noon - 1:30 p.m.

The next class for confirmation students and mentors will be after Worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Senior Youth Group - Trunk-or-Treat! prep

Sunday, October 25, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

We will help set up and run games at this church-wide community Halloween event in the back parking lot. Please let Lee Williams know if you can help.

Junior Youth Group - Time Warp!

Friday, November 6, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

As we “fall back” in time, we’ll play *Minute-to-Win-it!* games and make a clock-like snack. We’ll also talk about how time is a gift from God and how He would like us to spend our free time. Friends are always welcome! We will need a parent helper to assist with this meeting.

Ditty Bag collection

For the next few weeks, we will be collecting items for filling Ditty Bags for distribution to the **Seafarers Mission of Boston**. The list of items is on the box in the lobby. Last year we were able to fill 24 bags - we hope to do the same this year! We hope you can help make some hats for the bags. Check with Betsy for patterns - Knit or Crochet.

Thank you for your generous hearts.

The list of other items:

Nail clippers	Gum	Lip balm
Pens	Note pads	
Disposable razors	Hard candy	

Deb Teal - Outreach Committee

This is your Green Team reminder for this week.

If you live in Chelmsford:

Leaves and brush will be picked up curbside this week on your regular trash day.

Details for these events and more can be found

at <https://www.chelmsfordrecycles.com/upcoming-events>

Nov. 7, Recycle Day at 230 North Road – Central Admin. Office. Fundraiser for the Center Elementary and McCarthy Middle School PTOs [Recycle Day — CSPTO](#)

Grief Share Group, Continues Wednesday October 28th, 2026

On October 28th, 2026, we will continue our Grief Share support group. The book that will be used for the group has a cost of \$20. Feel free to contact Pastor John Whitley at john.b.whitley78@gmail.com or 703-303-3603 or our three facilitators, Marcia Dana or Chris Sargent or Dottie Newcomb. If you have questions or would like more information, please visit griefshare.org. Please join us on Wednesdays 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm (in-person only). Place: Concord Room at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 242 Boston Rd. Chelmsford, MA 01824.

Calling all Faire Friends and Elves!

As we roll toward the Faire (Dec 4-5), we are grateful for your ideas and contributions of crafts, jewelry, Silent Auction items and yummy baked goods! We are beginning to collect input about donations and welcome your updates to the Office or to Bonnie at bonmarden@gmail.com. Thank you to all who are already creating and crafting for our annual Faire & Festival December 4th and 5th. If you are interested in helping create pics and bows, please let us know! During your fall cleaning, remember we welcome donations of containers for centerpieces and ideas for the Silent Auction. For more information, contact Bonnie bonmarden@gmail.com or Melinda mnggoodick@hotmail.com or Deana Peterson.deana@gmail.com We look forward to ringing in the season with our Aldersgate family!