ALDERSGATE
United Methodist Church
242 Boston Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824
(978)256-9400 www.aldersgatechelmsford.com

November 1, 2026

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

The altar flowers are given in celebration of Garth's birthday from his grandchildren.

Don't forget to change your clocks back on Sunday Morning Nov 1st

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.

Stewardship Campaign 2027
It is not too late to submit your pledge card!
"More Than Enough"

Thank you to all those who prayerfully considered their family's generosity plan for supporting our 2027 ministries and submitted their pledge cards to our "More Than Enough" campaign. The Finance Committee and Ministry Leaders will be working together this month to reconcile our 2027 Budget as we prepare for our year ahead. **It is not too late to send in your pledge** for next year by mailing it to the church office, dropping it in the mail slot at the front door of the church or emailing Financial Secretary Kelly Mongiovi at kmongiovi@aol.com advising her of your pledge for 2027. Please return your pledge card or email the information to Kelly as soon as possible since our budget reconciliation meeting is soon. **We need a firm estimate of the expected income from pledges to determine how much we can fund our ministries**.

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!

Calling all Faire Friends and Elves!

Our annual Christmas Faire and Festival is on Friday, Dec 4, 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm and Saturday, Dec 5, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. As we roll toward the Faire, we are grateful for your ideas and contributions of crafts, jewelry, Silent Auction items and yummy baked goods! We are collecting inputs 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. Please volunteer to staff a table on the sign-up sheets located in the Welcome Area. The Faire is an important fellowship and financial event, and we need everyone's help to make it a success! For more information, contact Bonnie or Melinda (mggoodick@hotmail.com). We look forward to ringing in the season with our Aldersgate family!

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.

Sermon Notes

Today we celebrate All Saints Day, which is really about celebrating Saints and how they have taught us to live. I want to invite you here to list some of the lives that you most want to celebrate today and next to each name write a little something about what their life has taught you or modeled for you about how to live the life Christ has called us to live.

Green Team Meeting – Rescheduled to Sunday, November 8, 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.

Food Collection for Thanksgiving Baskets

The church school will once again help our Outreach committee by supplying items needed for the Thanksgiving Baskets. Please bring in the following items by November 15 and place in the box located downstairs in the church school area:
PreK – 1st Grade class: cranberry sauce or canned green beans
2nd - 4th Grade class: large can of fruit cocktail
5th - 7th Grade class: apple juice (plastic container)
8th - 12th Grade class: plain white or brown rice (no instant rice)

YOUTH NEWS

Confirmation Check-in Session - Today, November 1, 12:00 noon – 1:00pm.
Confirmation students will meet with their mentors in groups for a check-in session. Groups may meet at The Pizza Place.

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.

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.

Senior Youth Group Meeting - College Care Packages
Sunday, November 15, 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m.
We will assemble these special packages for our college students. Lee will email a list of possible items and how many to purchase. We will also talk about our City Reach service trip in January and our mission trip next summer.

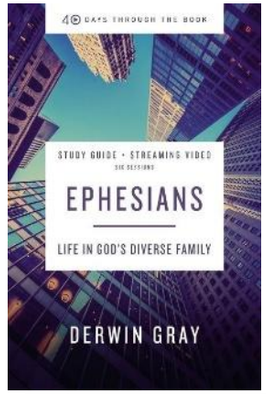


Early Bird Bible Application begins Tuesday November 3ed

Early Bird continues the examination of the second foundational Scripture (Mark 22:34-40) in the series "A Follower of Jesus Christ." This week's discussion will focus on 'Kingdom Values' and John 13:34-35. Do set aside time to participate in the discussion. Early Bird meets on Tuesday at then o'clock via Zoom.

Adult Education Studies!

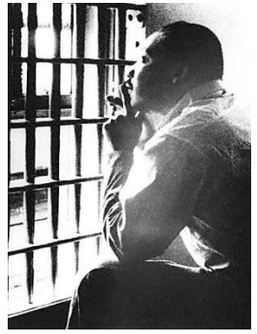
SUNDAY MORNINGS



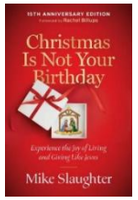
Young people, the young at heart, those crowned with silver and everyone in between are invited to join members of the Adult Education Team to dive into Paul's letter to the Ephesians. We will watch and discuss a video segment from Derwin Gray, former defensive back in the NFL and now, Pastor of Transformation Church, a multiethnic, multigenerational, mission-shaped community and author of *Ephesians: Life in God's Diverse Family (40 Days Through the Book)* If you need a Bible, please see Kim Ward (mikdraw@aol.com) or Pastor John. Grab a cup of coffee from the Fellowship Hall, then **meet us in the Concord Room at 9:45 am** to discover more about the life of the early church and what it means for us!



SUNDAY SWITCH UP!
Special One-Time discussion on November 8



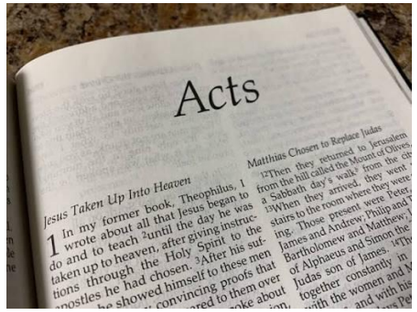
All ages and stages are welcome. Join us on Nov. 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the Concord Room, as we look at Martin Luther King Jr.'s Letter from Birmingham Jail. Our very own Dr. Suzanne Hevelone will lead us in historical reflection, new discoveries, spiritual reflection and takeaways for today. Read his letter and the letter from Birmingham clergy that prompted King to write, if you're able. The link is below or grab a copy in the lobby. If you don't have time to read it, come anyway! Just bring your curiosity and an open heart.
https://www.samford.edu/arts-and-sciences/files/History/Statement-and-Response-King-Birmingham.pdf



NOVEMBER 15 WE BEGIN CHRISTMAS STUDY
Get your book now at Cokesbury or Bookshop.org, and get a jump start on preparing your heart for Christmas.
Christmas Is Not Your Birthday the 15th anniversary edition by Mike Slaughter

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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 12 to be ready to discuss November 5th 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.

This is your Green Team reminder for this week.

Nov 7, 8:00am – noon: Electronics & Metal Recycle Day at 230 North Road, Chelmsford – Central Admin Office. Fundraiser for the Center Elementary and McCarthy Middle School PTOs.
Nov 7, 1:00 – 2:00pm: Pumpkin Smash at 50 Rear Billerica Road behind Town Offices. Smash and compost your pumpkin!
Details for these events and more can be found at
https://www.chelmsfordrecycles.com/upcoming-events

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