



ALDERSGATE ADVOCATE

June 2023

Watch for Pastor Bob's Letter next week

Thank you from Finance

The Audit of Aldersgate's 2022 financial records was completed on Monday, May 1, 2023 by the Audit team of Betsy Campbell (Chair), Clewis Howe and Keith Cruickshank, all members of the Finance Committee. The team was assisted by Wendy Baker (Finance Chair) and Elaine Brown (Treasurer). We are pleased to report that just one discrepancy was identified, a tally entry from the Sunday worship collection. It was confirmed by the Financial Secretary that the error was corrected at the time of her review, so no changes needed to be made as a result of this finding. There were no recommendations made for any changes in practices!

On behalf of the entire congregation, the Finance Committee would like to extend our sincerest thanks and gratitude to the Auditors, our Treasurer, Elaine Brown, our Financial Secretary, Kelly Mongiovi, for accurate, fiscal stewardship and consistent diligence. We also thank Robert Peterson and his team of counters for their focus and precision each week in recording and depositing the congregation's gifts. We are so blessed to have this entire team faithfully serving and shepherding the financial protocols of our church family.

Rev Maylis' Ordination Weekend – June 9 and 11, 2023!

On the evening of June 9, 2023, at 7 PM, 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 DoubleTree Hotel in Manchester NH. A number of Aldersgate groups, including the choir, are planning on attending the ceremony.

For those who cannot be in Manchester that evening, there will also be a streaming of the service available on YouTube at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@newenglandconferenceumc2273/streams>

or search YouTube for @newenglandconferenceumc2273.

On Sunday, June 11, Rev Maylis will be taking the pulpit to present the message. 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.

Following worship, after the second service, we will be having a potluck lunch in honor of Rev Maylis. Yes, there will be cake!

Be there as we honor this accomplishment by Rev Maylis.

BUILD Team Developing Ways to Reach Out to Community

The Church Council has commissioned a small team of congregants to develop ways to increase our outreach to the community. The team's name – Bolster and Unite for Inspiring Inclusive Loving Disciples (BUILD) – represents the objective to increase Aldersgate's ability to help meet the needs to the community and, potentially, increase involvement in all aspects of church life: worship, education, and fellowship. The team has been discerning how to apply our strengths to demonstrate “radical hospitality” to visitors and offer opportunities to better meet the needs of our local community. Look for information this summer about initiatives the team recommends. If you have questions, please ask one of the team's members: Pastor Bob, Cheryl Cruickshank, Betsey Driscoll, Katie Fisher, Clewis Howe, Christine Kelley, Cate Lehan, Michelle Mescall, Rick Newcomb, Jim Ortolof, Lee Pender, Peter Smyton, Jen van Buren, Dan Ward, and Nicole Wetherell.

Garden Update



Thank you all for supporting the Garden Club's annual plant sale. Your donations added \$107 to the Garden Fund! This fund provides vegetable plants, landscaping shrubs, spring bulbs, fertilizer, mulch and more to help beautify our church grounds.

We've been busy working in the vegetable garden, children's garden, and flower beds this month. As the season progresses, we hope you will enjoy seeing the plants grow and bloom.



Birthdays and Anniversaries – June

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.

June Birthdays

June 1 – Susan Lewis
June 8 – Joe Benson
June 9 – Peter Fipphen
June 13 – Rick Newcomb
June 18 – Mike Shupe
June 21 – Val Shupe
June 21 – Jen van Buren
June 23 – David Driscoll
June 23 – Joshua Jon
June 25 – Laurel Ash



June Anniversaries

June 18 - David and Betsey Driscoll wedding anniversary
June 29 – Jan and Frank Shumbata wedding anniversary

If we have missed your big day, please send them by email, to Betsy in the office at aldersgetechelmsford@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

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

Let Deb know if you want to join by Zoom.

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 dinner on **June 17th** at 5 pm at Bahama Breeze which is located at 413 Middlesex Road, Tyngsboro, MA 01879.

If you are a single lady and would enjoy a dinner out and lots of fun conversation, we would love to have you join us. Please RSVP by Thursday June 15th to Betsy Campbell 978-256-9400 or by email to aldersgatechelmsford@verizon.net.



Women’s Daytimers Breakfast Club

We meet once a month, Friday mornings at 10:30 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!

Adult Ed

Adult Ed classes on Sundays and Thursdays are taking a break for the summer, but be sure to keep on reading! We will see you in September!

Hopkins Memorial Library-

There is lots to discover in the Hopkins Memorial Library located downstairs!

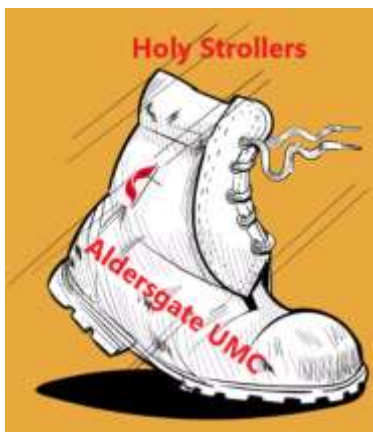
Books on:
Parenting
Prayer
Forgiveness
Grief
Living out your faith
Bible study
And more!



The library is always available to you whenever the church is open. Directions to check out a book are easy- just write your name on the card and leave it in the box. You can return your books whenever you are finished with them.

We also have a selection of fiction to choose from for your summer beach read. Check out the cart in the Concord Room for many of the books the Book Club has read in the past. You are sure to find something to captivate your imagination!

Holy Strollers



Come and hike with Aldersgate's Holy Strollers hiking group. The group hikes once a week on local conservation land in Bedford, Billerica, Carlisle, Chelmsford, Lowell, and Westford. The hikes are usually 2.5 to 3 miles or about 1 to 1.5 hours on wooded trails which often have rocks and roots. The group usually hikes on Thursday at 1:00 pm when the weather is cold or 9:00 am when the weather is hot. If the Thursday weather forecast is rain or snow, the hike will shift to another weekday. On Sunday night or Monday morning an email is sent out to the group indicating the day, time and location of the

hike. The email also includes a Google map link to the trailhead and a link to the trail map. A person from the group will meet at the church for anyone who wishes to carpool to the trailhead. You don't need to commit to every week, hike when you can. If you wish to join us and be included on the email notification for the hike or want more information contact Rick Newcomb, email: rnewcomb@comcast.net or Peter Smyton, email: thesmytonfamily@comcast.net.



Parishioners' Art Wall



The pieces on the lobby wall are on loan from our Church Family Members. This week's features are pieces from Betsey Driscoll done by her Mom, Martha Campbell. In addition to these, the picture under the clock is one from Charlotte Bair.

Items will be displayed for short time and then will be rotated out. We invite you to share your photography, drawings, paintings, mosaic, or fabric arts that are meaningful to you and welcoming to all.

Please notify Betsy in the office at aldersgatehelmsford@verizon.net or call 978-256-9400 if you would like to share your talent with the congregation for a while.

From Betsey Campbell Driscoll

My mother, Martha Campbell, who passed away in 2012, loved making counted cross stitch artwork. She started when she spent the summer in Holland in 1957, and she made many traditional Dutch cross stitch pieces. She taught me, and we spent many hours collecting new patterns, sorting floss and stitching gifts for friends and relatives. For our wedding favors, my mother and I stitched decorative covers for mason jars which we filled with potpourri. We've been married almost 29 years, and many people have told me they still have those jars! When David and I bought our home from my parents in 2000, my mother gave us The Ten Commandments picture. I had admired the pattern in a book, and even though her least favorite part of cross stitch is lettering and outlining, (she preferred making Xes) she made this rhyming picture that has hung in my hallway ever since. For our dining room, she created a pattern on her own of apple trees with the camp-favorite Johnny Appleseed song that our family sings every night at mealtime (including the change to "we" instead of "I"). I have a number of other beautiful pieces in our home, but I wanted to share a few with our church family this Mother's Day month. Her birthday was also in May; on the 29th she'd have been 88 years old.





CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Children's Sunday!

Thank you to all the children, youth, and our church school teachers that helped lead us in worship on Children's Sunday! The Spirit is with us in all we do!



Thank You Teachers! We are so blessed to have such caring and dedicated teachers!

Preschool/Kindergarten Class – Suzanne Hevelone, Susan Hunt, Holley Ready

1st & 2nd Grade Teachers: Dottie Newcomb and Wendy Xu

3rd–5th Grade Teachers: Jim Ortolf & Gail Casiello

6th - 8th Grade Teachers: David Jones & Dan Ward

High School Teachers: David Driscoll, Lee Pender, & Peter Smyton

High School Recognition Sunday - June 4th

Congratulations to the following youth
who will be graduating from High School:

Jack Dorsey
Declan Hughes
Justin Randall
Shaylee Wright

We will recognize our graduates during the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service.

There will be a brunch for all from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. as we celebrate this milestone in their life!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

AUGUST 14 – 18, 2023



Cost: \$20.00 per child, family max: \$60.00 – make checks out to Aldersgate UMC
Scholarships are available – please see Cheryl Ortolf

Under Construction: A Habitat for Humanity Vacation Bible School is a Christian education resource that uses a construction metaphor to help children learn about community. Children will learn a Bible lesson each day, create, assemble, and produce projects which can help care for needs of people in the community or for use by Habitat for Humanity volunteers and partner families, and learn about the Bible Theme Story through play and be refreshed by a healthy snack.

Your children won't want to miss learning about how they are part of a community that helps one another! Register them today and let's get moving and help our neighbors!

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP *5th – 8th graders*

Nerf Night!

Friday, June 2nd from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

5th – 8th grade

Come join the fun of playing a variety of nerf sport games! I will provide the nerf sport items. Bring a snack to share.

Junior Youth Lock-In!

Friday, June 23rd – Saturday, June 24th

5th – 8th grade

5:00 p.m. – 10:00 a.m.

We will vote on what activities we will do – more information to follow.

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP *For High School Students*

Mini golf and Ice Cream

Sunday, June 11th from noon – 2:00 p.m.

We will go to Kimball's for ice cream and play mini-golf.

Father' Day Breakfast

Sunday, June 18th from 8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Come help cook and serve breakfast!

July 4th Booth

Monday, July 3rd & Tuesday, July 4th

Please sign up for a time to work on Monday evening or Tuesday morning. (*7th & 8th graders will join us*)

Father's Day Breakfast



Sunday, June 18th
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.



Egg Casserole
Bacon & Sausage
Sliced Fruit
Pastries
Vegan/Gluten Free Options

All donations will go towards our trip to Youth 2023.

Music Notes for June Advocate, 2023

Our Shepherd Bells ringers drove down to Rhode Island on Sunday, May 7, to participate in Haven UMC's Spring Festival Benefit Concert. The funds raised at this event will benefit the ongoing ministry of Haven Community Music Project, founded by Rev. Juhee Lee, the church's pastor, and will also contribute to relief efforts for those affected by the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.

It was a true blessing to be a part of this wonderful celebration. Attendees were impressed by our performance and expressed their gratefulness for our music and our presence. Other performances included an organ solo by Kyung Lee; a saxophone solo by Daniel Kim; the A Capella group "The Higher Keys," from Brown University; two tap dance groups from Bayside Tap Company; and teachers and students from Haven Community Music Project playing some pieces on their own and others together with orchestra musicians from Brown University.

We had the additional joy of spending time at the reception with family and friends of our ringers. We even had the unexpected meeting of a friend of Charles, Dr. Clarence Tucker, who we later found out Pastor Bob knew from his work at Union UMC! We are blessed to be in our United Methodist Connection.

Thank you to our ringers for their willingness to dedicate an afternoon in support of this sister church's mission and ministry!



Dear Aldersgate family,

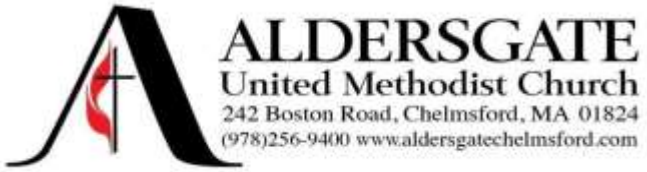
We would like to thank you for the outpouring of prayers, support and assistance during Kevin's illness and memorial service. We could feel the love of everyone during this very difficult time. Though we are heartbroken because of our loss, we take comfort in knowing that we are surrounded by our faith family and know that you continually lift us up in prayer.

Kathy, Tyler, and Alyson Mireault

To our Aldersgate Family

Thank you for your caring friendship and love. We remember Stan and we are at peace because he is at peace. Each day is a gift, a new beginning, blessings abound. Praise God for each one of you. God's Peace and Love be with all of you.

The Marson Family



To: