



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

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**Today’s altar flowers are given by Debbie and Peter Smyton in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary.**

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### **Vacation Bible School Meeting**

Anyone interested in helping with Vacation Bible School this summer is invited to join us on Sunday, **July 16th** at 10:30 a.m. in the Concord Room. We will be using a Habitat for Humanity based curriculum. Youth are also welcome to help! Please contact Cheryl if you have any questions or cannot attend the meeting but would like to help at [aumc-education@verizon.net](mailto:aumc-education@verizon.net).

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### **Sign up now for the next Aldersgate Blood Drive**

**Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>, from 9 am to 2pm**

You can sign up to donate by calling **1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)** or visit <https://www.redcross.org/give-blood> and enter “Aldersgate” to schedule a time.

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### **Pulpit Exchange**

Rev. Geisa Matos from West Chelmsford UMC will visit Aldersgate UMC and preach on July 30. Pastor Bob will preach at WCUMC.

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### **Invitation to Young Adults**

Pastor Bob invites our young adults (ages between 18 and 29) to join him for a cup of tea or coffee at Pressed Cafe (330 Billerica Rd, Chelmsford) at 10 am on July 22. If you need a ride, please contact Pastor Bob at 508-685-6291.

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### **Happy Birthday Linda Wesinger**

Please join me in wishing Happy Birthday to Linda Wesinger on July 21<sup>st</sup>. So sorry I missed this in the Advocate.



### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL! FOR CHILDREN AGES 4 - 12 AUGUST 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> from 9 - noon**

Our theme for VBS this summer is "Under Construction". We will learn about Habitat for Humanity and the way God helps us to Share, Care, Learn, Worship, and Celebrate! Registration forms are on the welcome desk. **Deadline for sign up is July 31st**

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### **Clean Sweep**

Please see the sign up 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 make arrangements to borrow one or when to come. Thank you! Samples of the tasks this year include cleaning pew cushions, weeding around the church building, and cleaning windows.

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### **Outreach – Request for Help**

The Wish Project has empty bins on their shelves for children’s clothes. We will have a box in the lobby to fill and deliver to them. If you can help, let’s fill the box in the welcome area with clothes from toddler to elementary school age. Blessings and many thanks in advance, Outreach. Jane Vooy's will deliver them for us. Thanks, Jane, for bringing this to us! **Last date to bring in clothing is July 26<sup>th</sup>.**

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### **Faire Workshops**

Carmen Umana will hold workshops for wreath decorations (picks) and bow-making from 10am to 6pm on July 18, July 20, July 25 and July 28.

No experience needed, come have fun in this creative activity to prepare for the famous AUMC wreaths and swags! Bring and apron.

**Please enter by the back door and work in the Music room.**

Please contact her to let her know who can join her! 978-376-9376

or [ca\\_umana@yahoo.com](mailto:ca_umana@yahoo.com)

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### **Summertime Stewardship**

It’s hard to believe that we are already halfway through our year! There has been so much activity and hard work—by so many faithful servants at Aldersgate! As summer approaches please be sure to keep your church family in mind with your prayers and your pledges. Please feel free to bring your 2023 pledged offerings when you join us on Sundays this summer at 9:30 a.m. You can also send them by mail or electronic bill-pay. Thank you for your faithful stewardship!

## **Donate Your Time and Talents**

It takes many hands and we need your help in running the church! Over the summer we will be working to fill our slate of committees for the Fall and we wanted to extend an invitation for you to think about where God might be calling you to use your gifts. We ask that you send in your reply to the office by August 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Committees Include:**

Adult Education, Children's Ministry Team, Finance and Stewardship, Membership & Congregational Events, Memorial Gifts, Outreach, Staff Parish Relations, Trustees, and Worship/Altar Guild. More informal groups include IT, Ushers and Recording.

Please contact the office at [aldersgatehelmsford@verizon.net](mailto:aldersgatehelmsford@verizon.net) or Jim Ortolf ([jamesortolf@gmail.com](mailto:jamesortolf@gmail.com), 978/995-0614) if you have any questions or you are interested in serving in one of these areas!

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## **2023 Pan-Mass Challenge**

Marcia Dana will be riding 84 miles from Wellesley to Bourne in the Pan Mass Challenge on August 5<sup>th</sup>. Her goal is to raise \$18,000 for the Dana Farber Cancer Institute in recognition of her 18<sup>th</sup> year riding. To support her ride, you can send a check made out to "PMC" to Marcia at 6 Sterling Lane, Westford, MA 01886. Or go online to: <https://profile.pmc.org/MD0202>. 100% of every rider-raised dollar goes directly to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute.

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## **2023 Flower Chart**

We have some empty spots on the flower chart. August 20<sup>th</sup>, November 19<sup>th</sup>, and December 31<sup>st</sup> are still available. Please call (978-256-9400) or email [aldersgatehelmsford@verizon.net](mailto:aldersgatehelmsford@verizon.net)) to reserve your dates to honor a loved one or celebrate an occasion by providing the flowers for our worship. Please include the dedication you would like printed in the announcements and then we ask that you drop off or mail your check for \$40 to cover the cost. Please mark the check for Flowers. After the service you can take them home. If you would prefer to have the flowers taken to someone who is not able to come to church, please let Betsy or Jane know. **Please also bring back the vases to be reused or returned to Floral Moments.**

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## **Lobby Window book display**

The books in the lobby windows are available for you to borrow and return at your leisure. You will find books on prayer, books that discuss Christian LGBTQ+ folks and books on creating deeper community. We welcome you to spend some time this summer expanding your faith and understanding of God's church.