



September 1, 2024

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

The Flowers on the altar are given by Val and Mike Shupe in celebration of their seventh wedding anniversary.

Charge Conference

We will have a Charge Conference on September 4th at the council meeting at 7pm. This will include council members only. The purpose of the meeting is to accept a bequest from Nancy Goodick.

Rally Day is September 8!

Rally Day is **September 8th!** On that day we will **return to two services at 8:30 and 10:45**, with church school for children and youth at 9:30. You are invited to gather in the Concord Room that day at 9:30 to hear about the plans for the Sunday Adult Ed class this fall, or to enjoy Fellowship Hour in the Fellowship Hall.

Church School Registration for children and youth starts at 9:15 am in the welcome area downstairs. We will also present Bibles to all Kindergarten children and 3rd grade children during the 10:45 am worship service.

Beginning again on Rally Day, childcare will be available from 8:15 am to 12:15 pm during our regular Sunday services and between services during Adult Sunday School. It is open for infants through age 5. All are welcome.

After second service, join us for the traditional Rally Day potluck luncheon, with burgers and hot dogs along with fellowship and four square! Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share.

You can schedule your appointment for the next Blood Drive

on September 13th 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](https://www.redcrossblood.org) and search under August 10th to schedule an appointment. For more information call or email Cate Lehan or Robin Dye or the church office.

Aldersgate 60th Anniversary Celebration, September 22!

In three weeks, on September 22, we are celebrating Aldersgate’s 60th anniversary, 60 years after being commissioned as a United Methodist Church on September 20, 1964. We will have one service that day at 9:30 am, followed by a catered meal. We will be honoring our founding members throughout the day. Special guests include past pastors Gary Shaw and Lisa Bruget-Cass.

We are also looking for people to share special memories of Aldersgate throughout the years via short videos! It could be about a fun event, like something you experienced in a Follies or a group outing, a major church event, like burning the mortgage or the 1990 addition, or a meaningful service, like a wedding, funeral, baptism, confirmation, or special service. Please let Peter Smyton (617-893-9669, thesmytonfamily@comcast.net) know if you have something to share or have questions.

Aldersgate Faire 2024 Preparations!

Mark your calendar for AUMC Faire December 6th and 7th, 2024. Wreaths and swags with our amazing bows and picks are already being created. We look forward to wonderful baked goods and hand-crafted items as well as gift baskets and silent auction items. If you would like to donate a gift basket or auction item, please contact Melinda Goodick or Bonnie Marden. Our talented church invites the community to visit us as we begin the Advent Season!



Not *JUST* for the ladies!

Summer Reading Discussion Sept. 28– The lessons from the little book *She Did What She Could* by Elisa Morgan have stayed in Kim Ward’s heart for fifteen years. When questions of “Where do we start?”, “What can I do?”, “Is it enough?” cropped up in our discussion around *ONE: Unity in a Divided World*, Kim often retold the story of the “woman who did what she could” for Jesus in Mark 14. If you’d like to learn “five words of Jesus that could change your life, free your spirit and transform the world”, Kim would like to invite you to borrow a copy of the book from the lobby shelf and read along with her. Please let her know you are interested in attending or need help obtaining a book (mikdraw@aol.com). The book is out of print. Books in the lobby have been used and are in various conditions. Please return the copy you read so someone else can enjoy it. You may be able to find a copy online, but they are very limited.



Didn’t read the book, but want to join it? PLEASE DO!
September 28, 3:30 pm in the Concord Room for conversation and fall refreshments.



Welcome to our new Season of Music at Aldersgate!

If you have been thinking about joining one of our choirs and/or would like to offer your musical gifts to the glory of God and for the enrichment of our church's ministry, we invite you to come to our rehearsals. New members are always welcome!

We will kick off the choir season with a potluck dinner this Tuesday, September 3rd, at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. A short rehearsal will follow in the sanctuary choir loft.

The rehearsal schedule for our handbell choirs will be forthcoming. If you would like to try handbell ringing, we would love to have you join. Previous musical experience is always helpful, but not necessary. We'll teach you to read music!

If you play an instrument and would like to play at church, please let us know that also!

For questions and more information about any of our groups or opportunities to participate in our program, please contact Maylis at mdelafer@yahoo.com

We are looking forward to having you join us in worship for some wonderful music-making!

Current Christian Education Director Search

Your SPRC team has been at work the last few months searching for a Director of Christian Education. A few candidates came forward, were interviewed, but in the end, we were not a good fit for each other.

The job description has been placed with the Conference website and we have contacted some local seminaries. We do not currently have any nibbles or leads.

We could use your help in spreading the word to your community and contacts close to home and far away. Let's work together to spread a wide net, in hopes that God's choice might be revealed soon! Until then, please join us in prayer and action as we ALL work to fill the MANY shoes Cheryl inhabited to continue to bring life and connection to our kids, teens and families.

BEST WISHES AND LOVE IN A BOX- SOLDIER MAIL

Thanks so much for everyone's generosity in providing treats and goodies for Jasper and his team! They have a few more months of deployment to go and the doldrums are setting in. Mail and treats from home are a fun way to break up the day. Here are some treats that you can contribute to the box:

- Pre-cooked bacon that does not need refrigeration (#1 requested & enjoyed by all!)
- Protein snack bars
- Blueberry or raspberry applesauce cups
- Kodiak microwaveable waffles or pancakes in a cup
- Dried fruit of all kinds- peach, apple, pineapple, blueberry, etc.
- Microwave popcorn, especially kettle corn flavor
- Electrolyte drink mix single serving packets
- Iced tea or lemonade mix- single serve directions or packets
- Boxes of liquid creamer packs instead of powder
- Tooth flossers



Fall is on its way as well as the one year anniversary of their deployment. Simple decorations or holiday foods can help bridge the distance. Maple, apple or pumpkin flavored treats, and Halloween or fall leaf themed decorations like window clings, print outs, banners, etc., will perk up their surroundings.

