



Aldersgate In Motion



ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
The People of the United Methodist Church

7 Shannon Drive Greenville, SC 29615
864-244-1820 phone 864-244-9701 fax
www.aumesc.org

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Mini Issue

1000 ACTS OF LOVE

As we explore in worship what God's love for us looks like, we'll be putting love into action in our community during Lent.

Help us reach 1000 Acts of Love this Lent!

Send a card/text of encouragement, walk in the CROP walk, donate to the Lenten offering, do a chore for a sibling, attend Connect, volunteer with Messy Easter... the possibilities are endless!

For every act, add a heart to our banner in the Commons.

LOVE STARTS

Here

THE SEASON OF LENT-Today is the first Sunday in the season of Lent. Lent began last Wednesday and continues until the day before Easter. It is the 40 days, excluding Sundays, before Easter and is a time to remember how Jesus died for our sins and as well as a time of preparation for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection. The number 40 in the Bible stands for a period of cleansing and preparation. Jesus fasted for 40 days before being tempted by the Devil. Israel wandered in the desert for 40 years before entering the Promised Land. It rained for 40 days and nights during the flood. During the 40 days of Lent, Christians have traditionally mourned their sins and remembered why we needed a savior to gain a better appreciation for what Jesus did when he died for our sins and rose again to give us victory over sin and death.

LENTEN SERMON SERIES-Starting today and for the next 5 weeks we will have a sermon series for Lent on the theme of "Love Starts Here." These starting points of love will include: Seeking God, Sacrifice, Justice, God's Love, and Suffering. Come and explore God's love with new depth.

UPCOMING SERMONS

- Feb. 18** Mark 1:9-15 "Love Starts Here: Seeking God"
- Feb. 25** Mark 8:31-38 "Love Starts Here: Sacrifice"
- March 4** John 2:13-22 "Love Starts Here: Justice"
- March 11** John 3:14-21 "Love Starts Here: God's Love"
(Baptism at the 8:45 am service)
- March 18** Hebrews 5:5-10 "Love Starts Here: Suffering"

The "**SEEING BETTER TOGETHER**" support group for adults with low vision issues, will meet at 4:30 on Wednesday, March 7, in the Aldersgate library. Our group discussion is inspired by 1 Thessalonians 5:16, "Rejoice always." Participants will have chosen one word to guide them throughout 2018. This word selection will affect our individual choices, moods, and interactions with those around us. If you plan on attending the Connect Dinner, which follows at 5:30, please contact Susan Hamilton (864.244.1820) on or before the preceding Monday.

SPECIAL OFFERING FOR MISSIONARIES!

Aldersgate has a rich history of supporting missionaries. Next Sunday we will receive a special offering for the Attaways and Datwylers missionaries. Through them we are involved in loving our neighbors around the world. Please give graciously to support these mission efforts!

MESSY EASTER IS COMING! March 25 at 3:30 pm. This Messy Church is usually our biggest event of the year so we need plenty of volunteers to help with hospitality, activities, Easter egg hunt, and the meal. If you'd be willing to help with Messy Easter, please let Johannah know. If you'd be willing to help prep crafts or decorations ahead of time, also let Johannah know.

NEW TO CONNECT – Wednesdays during Lent. As we work towards 1000 Acts of Love this Lent, join us Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30 to hear about several local missions, including those receiving our Lenten offering this year. We'll also take on small acts of love that will support these missions. February 21 we'll learn about Interfaith Hospitality Network and will finish blankets for families we'll host this spring. Looking ahead: March 7 we'll hear from Safe Harbor and March 14 from Habitat for Humanity. Prayer Shawls and the ASL Class will also continue to meet during Connect.

CONNECT MENU FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH 2018

Feb. 21—Lasagna, salad, fruit, garlic bread, dessert

Feb. 28—Jerk chicken leg quarters, beans & rice, sweet mashed potatoes, bread, dessert

March 7—Taco Bar: Seasoned beef, 7 layer mexi-dip, mexi rice, fixings, hard & soft taco shells, and tortilla scoops, dessert

March 14—Pork Tenderloin, rice, green beans, salad, fruit, dessert

Call Susan Hamilton in the church office if you do **NOT** have a standing reservation for dinner. You will need to get your name on the reservation list in order to eat each week. 244-1820 ext. 210

Do you have an instrument at home that you have not played in a while? Please let Ryland know if you would like to play an offertory, prelude or special musical selection by sending an email to ryland.brown@firstbaptistgreenville.com.



DID YOU KNOW...that on Thursday mornings at **5:30am** a group of men are meeting at the church for a book study? Come visit and see if you want to join them. They meet in the Mac Vinson Companions Class.

GREETINGS FROM THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER!

It is time for our annual "*Hop for Leukemia & Lymphoma*" fundraiser. This is our 21st year helping raise money for this important cause. Our hop will be in memory of Aldersgate church members Robert "Bob" Boone, Jennifer Stevenson, John Beckham, and Addie Bell, and previous CDC student Kayla Bass who all passed away from this disease. The money raised will help fund research to find a cure. Last year, the Child Development Center raised over \$1,800 and we would love to match or increase that amount this year!

We welcome any donations and/or pledges from the Aldersgate congregation to help us reach our goal. You can send us a check made out to LLS (Leukemia & Lymphoma Society) or donate online by Friday, February 23rd. To donate online, visit <http://events.lls.org/pages/sc/AldersgateChildDevelopmentCenter-2018>.

Your donation to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society will then be credited towards our school goal.

For more information, contact Jennifer Nelson at 268-5028 or jnelson@aumcsc.org. Thank you!