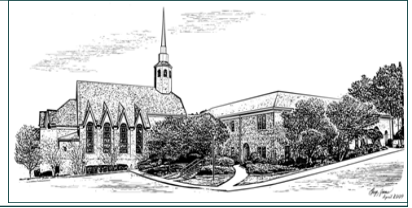




Aldersgate In Motion



ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
The People of the United Methodist Church
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Volume 6

Issue 108

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Faith ~ Hope ~ Love



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THOUGHTS OF THE PASTOR

What do you believe about the resurrection?

We believe that Jesus rose from the dead. But what really happened at the resurrection? Did Jesus' body come back to life, or was it just the spirit of his teachings that lived on? What did his disciples see? Was it Jesus' ghost or his actual body? There are Christians who believe in each of these possibilities.

From the Biblical accounts of the resurrection it is clear that it was more than just Jesus' ideals or ghost that lived on. Jesus' resurrected body had physical substance to it. The disciples could touch Jesus and Jesus ate. It was at least his physical body that rose again. But his existence was more. Jesus appeared repeatedly in locked rooms and seemed to appear and disappear at will. This has led many to believe that what the disciples witnessed was Jesus' "glorified" body. Jesus was more than just raised from the dead at Easter. His body was transformed or glorified.

The best analogy is that of a seed. When it is planted it comes alive, but not as just a mere seed. It grows into something more glorious. So, when Jesus was planted in the tomb what arose was at least what he was before his death but more. In the same way when we, who are in Christ die, what is planted in our graves will rise up more glorious when Jesus comes again.

It is important to believe that Jesus rose again, but there is another more important matter. Do you believe he lives in you? What do you believe about the resurrection? Think about it.

THE GREAT 50 DAYS

“Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!” Every time we celebrate Holy Communion, we remind ourselves of this good news. Christ died for our sins. He rose to give us eternal life. And he is coming again on clouds of glory! From now until June 6th will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Easter Day was April 21st, but the season of Easter is actually 50 days long in the church! Jesus rose on Easter Sunday but he appeared to his disciples for 40 days and then ascended into heaven. Then ten days later he sent the Holy Spirit to anoint the disciples at Pentecost. Make time to celebrate the new life that we have through the resurrection of Jesus, not just on Easter Sunday, but every day!

UPCOMING SERMONS

- ◆ **May 5:** Children's Choir presents “Arkeology: Remembering God's Plan and Promise”
- ◆ **May 12:** John 10:22-30; Psalm 23 “God's Love and a Mother's Love”

APPORTIONMENT CORNER

Since the beginning of the year, we have featured different Apportionment line items in each newsletter. Apportionments are the funds that Aldersgate gives for the ministry of the larger United Methodist Church and they make up about 12% of our annual budget. We have dedicated ourselves to paying 100% of these apportionments in monthly payments throughout the year and we are faithfully keeping up with that commitment. In this newsletter we are highlighting Retiree Health/Transition Grants, Episcopal Fund, District Superintendent Compensation, and Equitable Compensation.

1. The first of these is “Retiree Health/Transitions.” This fund provides a significant subsidy (up to 80%) for health insurance premiums for retired clergy. It also provides grant funds for those in significant transitions, such as disability. “Our-portion-ment” for “Retiree Health/Transitions” is \$9,562 this year.
2. The second is the “Episcopal Fund.” This funds our share of support for all active and retired bishops including salary, housing, travel, pensions and office expenses. “Our-portion-ment” for the “Episcopal Fund” is \$3,128 this year.
3. The third is “District Superintendent’s Compensation.” This fund provides an annual salary for each of the 12 superintendents, plus worker's compensation and travel/accident insurance coverage. “Our-portion-ment” for the “District Superintendent’s Compensation” is \$6,221 this year.

The fourth is “Equitable Compensation.” This fund provides salary support for pastors serving churches not able to meet the minimum standards set by the Annual Conference including newly planted churches. “Our-portion-ment” for the “Equitable Compensation” is \$2,844 this year.

Please continue to give faithfully so that Aldersgate can support these apportionments. To find out more about apportionments go to: <http://www.umcgiving.org>.

PARLEZ-VOUS FRANÇAIS? SPRECHEN SIE DEUTSCHES? ¿HABLAS ESPAÑOL?

On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and gave them the ability to speak in different languages. On **Pentecost Sunday, June 9**, we will be reenacting that event as we read about the day of Pentecost from Acts 2:1-11. We will do this by having different members of the congregation, who speak languages other than English, read aloud the Pentecost account while it is being read in English from the pulpit. If you are able to read another language, we'd like you to participate as one of the readers. Please contact the Pastor, Alex Stevenson (alex@aumcsc.org) and let him know what language you can read and what service you will be attending. If you do not have a copy of Acts 2:1-11 in that language, we should be able to obtain one for you.

GENERAL CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP

The Judicial Council (the Supreme Court of the United Methodist Church) met last week to rule on the constitutionality of “The Traditional Plan” passed by the 2019 General Conference. Before General Conference the Judicial Council had ruled 7½ of the plan’s 15 petitions to be unconstitutional according to the United Methodist Church’s constitution. The 2019 General Conference amended these 7 petitions and a sentence of another petition, but they were ruled last week to remain unconstitutional.

Basically, we are back where we were before the 2019 General Conference with the addition of an expanded definition of “self-avowed practicing homosexual” and mandatory sentences for pastors convicted of performing same sex unions: 1st offence - one year suspension without pay, 2nd offence – termination of conference membership. They also ruled the “disaffiliation” petition or so-called “exit plan”, which gives a process for churches to disaffiliate with the United Methodist Church, was also found constitutional.

Where do we go from here? The issue of how we live out the Christian faith as “God’s people called Methodists” in relation to people who are homosexual will continue to be an issue that divides us. It will come up again next year at the 2020 General Conference. Churches and members of churches will continue to seek out some discernment on whether they should stay in the United Methodist Church or leave.

In the process we will need to come to terms with the fact that a majority, however small a majority it may have been, but a majority none the less, tried repeatedly to pass punitive measures despite the fact that they were ruled over and over again to be in violation of the basic rules of our covenant as a church. What does this mean about the future of the church? We will continue to struggle with what it means to follow Jesus in the 21st century. We will continue to seek a deeper understanding of what it means to love God and love our neighbor. We will continue to strive to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. And sometime we will get it wrong, but by the grace of God we can grow in faith and service. Please continue to pray for the United Methodist Church!

SUMMER SUPPERS

IT IS COMING BACK AGAIN! Summer Suppers will once again be serving dinner during the summer beginning at 5:30 pm in Parker Hall. Please note, you *MUST SIGN-UP* for this meal since this is different than *Connect*. Just call or email Cameron Vaughn in the church office and she can put you on the weekly meal list or on the permanent list. (cvaughn@aumcsc.org or 864-244-1820 ext. 206) The first meal begins on **May 15** and the meal will be: pork tenderloin, squash casserole, rolls, fruit, & dessert. I hope you can join us!

UMW GARAGE SALE

THE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S GARAGE SALE IS HERE! The sale begins on Friday & Saturday, May 3 & 4 from 8:00 am until 2:30 pm.

We also need help after the sale on Monday, May 6. Call Keith Rutherford at 895-8360 if you have any questions.



JERRY SMITH DAY

On Sunday, *May 19* the congregation will recognize Jerry Smith for his total of 51⁺ years of service and commitment to the Aldersgate children and youth ministry of Aldersgate. We will look back on his many years of service through words and pictures during the 11 o'clock service. Join us in Parker Hall following the service to say thank you to Jerry in person. We will be taking donations in his honor which will be used for much needed Youth House improvements and enhancements. If you would like to make a donation by *check*, make it payable to *Aldersgate*, for it to be in Jerry's honor, please be sure to earmark it *Jerry Smith Day* in the memo line. You can also donate in person during the reception. We hope you will be able to attend this wonderful event.

UMW'S MOTHER-DAUGHTER-SISTER-FRIEND BANQUET

"IT TAKES A WOMAN"

May 14, 2019 / 6:30 PM—PARKER HALL



Be sure to make your reservations for this wonderful night. You can reserve your space(s) in your UMW Circle or if you are not part of a circle, call Susan Hamilton in the church office. She can tell you how to reserve your spot.

The evening's message will be given by Rev. Kempie Shepard of the Anderson District. She is a wonderful speaker who speaks with humor, love and spirituality. She actually served here at Aldersgate in the late 1970's.

The Mission focus for this meeting is the Frazee Center here in Greenville & Easley. This is an after-school program for children of low income families. Items needed are: cleaning supplies of all kinds, paper products, individual snack products (small packs of goldfish, gummy snacks, etc.)

The cost for the meal is \$9.00 per person. It will be a hot chicken dinner, vegetables, fruit, rolls & dessert. The deadline to reserve your spot and to bring items for Frazee is **Wednesday, May 8.**

A.R.M.

ALDERSGATE RESPONSE MISSION

The Missions Committee has started a new program based on Matthew 22:39 “LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF” We would like to introduce this program as a way for all of us to help one another. Perhaps you are the one who volunteers to help or you are someone who needs a little help.

Some of the services could include:

- ◆ Minor home repairs anywhere from changing a light bulb to painting a room.
- ◆ Transportation such as a doctor appointment or picking up a few groceries.
- ◆ Yard work, such as raking leaves or trimming shrubs.
- ◆ Help with electronics, maybe setting up a new cell phone or computer.
- ◆ Baby sitting
- ◆ Other basic needs

If you would like to become part of this mission or have an immediate need, you can make contact in the following ways: Fill out this paper form and turn into the church office; call Dean Martin, 864-884-9377, Todd Attaway, 864-283-1778, or Gary Hughes, 864-616-0430; or go online and fill out a volunteer/service needed form. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf-KcnqOHGYJBmxeMnMpSAZrW0tTjsTD6NgMBGCLrv_XrkqoA/viewform

At Aldersgate we are ...**Hearts on Fire...Seeking, Sharing, Serving...For God!**

BLESSINGS FROM THE A.R.M. TEAM

NAME & ADDRESS:

DATE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

VOLUNTEER

YOUR SKILLS:

WORK AVAILABILITY

CLIENT SERVICES NEEDED

ALDERSGATE CDC NEWS

On April 4, Aldersgate CDC had our annual Spring Fling. Our families shared a Chick-fil-a meal, listened to our children sing songs from the stage and bid on silent auction items. The night was a *HUGE* success! It's always a great night for our families to meet and get to know each other outside of saying "hello!" during drop off and pick up during the day. The staff really enjoyed their time with our CDC families at the event. It was such a fun night!

We appreciate every family for helping make this the biggest fundraiser we've ever had. We are excited to announce that we raised just over **\$3,100** breaking a record for most money raised at any Spring Fling! Every basket donation, cash donation, t-shirt order, dinner purchase and auction bid helped contribute to our total. We had some amazing church members that offered items and services to auction. The night wouldn't have been as successful without our wonderful church family's donations.

Looking ahead, we have our K5 graduation on May 17 with a special ceremony in the commons area that morning. We have a large group this year with our two kindergarten classes with just under 20 students. May 22 will be our final day of school for the 2018/2019 school year. We always have a school wide picnic on the playground to say goodbye before the summer. Please say a prayer for our students who will be leaving us and transitioning to new schools and all students to have a safe and fun summer.

Katie Watts
CDC Board Chairperson

UMM MEETING

The United Methodist Men will meet on Monday, May 20 at 6:32 pm in Parker Hall. Dinner will be served and cost is \$8.00. Our special guest will be Monroe Free from Habitat for Humanity. We would like to have a good turn out for him as he speaks all around Greenville.

PRIME TIMERS PICNIC

Prime Timers will not have a program in May since most will be in the gym helping clean-up from the UMW Garage Sale.

In June, we will be switching to the second Monday of the month, **June 10**, so that we can go back to Lake Robinson in Greer for our summer picnic. Ruth will take the bus so if you need a ride, let her know.

In July, we will not have a 1st of the month event but instead we will take part in the Summer Supper 4th of July celebration dinner on Wednesday, July 3 at 5:30 pm. Once again, if you need transportation, let Ruth know.

864-244-1820 ext. 204

YOUTH EVENT

SUNDAY—MAY 5: Frankie's Fun Park!
Meet at the church at 4 pm, back by 7 pm

FRIDAY—MAY 17: Guys/Girls Night
Everyone will meet at the church at 6 pm
The girls will head to Camp Consalvo (my house-with Jenny) and the guys will be staying at the church for an overnight event. All done by Saturday at 9 am

PRAYER CONCERNS



As of printing Wednesday, May 1, 2019:

Home: Beth & Warren Rambo, Pete & Martha Hendrix, John & Mary Holmstrand, Ann Armstrong, Bill Culbertson, Lillis Smith, Tom Barnhill, Rudy Rogers, Joan Sanford

Oakview Park: Joan Pawlus **NHC Mauldin:** Atrice Hughey

Memory Care of Simpsonville: Jennie Ruth Waynick

Myrtle Beach, SC: Randy Hale **The Woodlands:** Peggy Miller

Cascades: Patti Whelchel **Mt. Pleasant, SC:** Florence Hale

Haywood Estates: Ann Linse **Rock Hill/Daughter:** Bill Taylor

Brookdale @ Hawthorne: Nita Bearden **Westminster Senior Living/Augusta Place:** Melba Poole

Rolling Green: Wayne Rowan, Ralph Bell

Local & Other Country Missionaries:

AUMC Family in Greenville: Todd, Pam, & Hannah Grace Attaway, go to their blog to read more www.loveshareserve.blogspot.com.

AUMC Supported Missionaries in Ecuador: Daina and Tim Datwyler, visit their website at <http://www.Puertadeesperanza.org>.

Douglas & Jennings Boone in Democratic Republic Of Congo, Africa - (Wycliffe Bible Translators) www.thiscongoleselife.blogspot.com

OUR RECORD

General Fund Budget Needs (YTD)	\$ 244,559.96
Total General Fund Receipts (YTD)	\$ 276,260.19
Total General Fund Expenses (YTD)	\$ 236,306.63
Surplus in Contributions to Expenses (YTD)	\$ 39,953.56
<u>Weekly General Fund Budget Needs</u>	\$ 14,385.88
Previous Weeks General Fund Giving – week 17	\$ 11,486.00

ATTENDANCE 2019

April 21
S. School -167
Worship - 503

April 28
S. School -123
Worship - 233



OUR MILITARY (Family & Friends)

Jack Bissonnette ACT. DUTY

Troy McDowell

Nick Page

Joseph Churchwell

Patricia Kreuzberger

Paul Browder

John Williams

Michael Pompeo

Katie Pace

Hank Gettys

Oryan R. Lahti- ACT. DUTY

Paul Scott- ACT. DUTY

Bradley Brown

Matthew Russell

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

SERVING ALDERSGATE ON SUNDAYS

May 5, 2019:

Greeters: 8:45 am Greeter Group	11:00 am Greeter Group
Acolytes: 8:45 am Karis King	11:00 am Anna Kate Schemm
Crucifer:	11:00 am Reid Schemm
Usher Captains: 8:45 am David McAvoy	11:00 am Frank Mathis
Ushers: 8:45 am Doug Jordan, Phil Martin, Waldo Watts	
Ushers: 11:00 am David Ayer, Clay Garrison, Cody Owens	

May 12, 2019

Lay Reader: 8:45 am Wendy Davis	11:00 am Tom Angster
Greeters: 8:45 am Joe & Kay Sprott	11:00 am Nancy Angster
Acolytes: 8:45 am Bobby Keith	11:00 am Anna Hoffman
Crucifer:	11:00 am Rebekah MacGregor
Usher Captains: 8:45 am Jack Cornell	11:00 am Hunt Redfern
Ushers: 8:45 am Jim Dansby, Danny Dobbs, Suzanne Haney, Jordan Truesdale	
Ushers: 11:00 am Steve Graves, Bruce Royal, Terry Tallon, Joel Vanderwood	

May 19, 2019

Lay Reader: 8:45 am Youth Sunday	11:00 am Youth Sunday
Greeters: 8:45 am Danny & Cookie Dobbs	11:00 am Sara & Jerry Bowden
Acolytes: 8:45 am Graham Addis	11:00 am Trace King
Crucifer:	11:00 am Hudson Patrick
Usher Captains: 8:45 am Austin Watts	11:00 am David Rose
Ushers: 8:45 am Doug Jordan, Phil Martin, Waldo Watts	
Ushers: 11:00 am David Ayer, Clay Garrison, Cody Owens	

MEMORIALS/HONORARIUMS

GENERAL FUND:

In memory of Annette McDuffee by The Louise Best Circle, Carol Durham

In memory of Brendan Sullivan by Kevin & Angela Sullivan

In Appreciation & Love of Rev. Alex Stevenson, Melissa, Mary & Kaitlyn by Mary & Jerry Thomas

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND:

In Appreciation & Love of Rev. Alex Stevenson by Rachel Drake

Making Disciples
for Jesus Christ



MINISTRY STAFF
864-244-1820

Alex Stevenson, **ext. 207**
Sr. Pastor
alex@aumcsc.org

Johannah Myers, **ext. 211**
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Formation
jmyers@aumcsc.org

Ruth Hughes, **ext. 204**
Director of Children &
Leisure/Adult Ministries
rhughes@aumcsc.org

Dr. Grant Knox,
Director of Music
gwhitknox@gmail.com

Ryland Brown
Musican
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Jennifer Nelson Director
Child Development Center
jnelson@aumcsc.org
864-268-5028

Josh Consalvo, **ext. 212**
Director of Youth
joshconsalvo@gmail.com

Susan Hamilton, **ext. 210**
Office Manager/Comm.
shamilton@aumcsc.org

Cameron Vaughn, **ext. 206**
Financial Secretary
cvaughn@aumcsc.org

Sunday Worship Schedule
8:45 am & 11:00 am Worship Services
9:45 am Sunday School
Church Office Hours
Monday-Thursday: 8:30 am-4:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am-12:00 pm

ALDERSGATE UMC
7 Shannon Dr. Greenville, SC 29615
Phone: 864-244-1820
Fax: 864-244-9701
Child Development Center 864-268-5028
E-mail: shamilton@aumcsc.org

CALENDAR DATES

Wednesday, May 1:

8:00 am—4:00 pm Garage Sale Receiving

Thursday, May 2:

Garage Sale Get Ready Day

Friday, May 3:

8:00 am—2:30 pm—Garage Sale

11:00 am—Scouts BBQ Sale

Saturday, May 4:

8:00 am—2:30 pm—Garage Sale

10:00—11:30 am AUMC Children Practice for Sunday Musical

11:00 am—Scouts BBQ Sale

Sunday, May 5: Children Singing

8:45 am & 11:00 am Worship

9:45 am Sunday School

3:00 pm Cindy Harter Circle—Mac Vinson Companions Class

Monday, May 6:

8:00 am—Clean-up from Garage Sale

1:00 pm Prime Timers Bridge—Parker Hall

6:30 pm Program Council—Mac Vinson Companions Class

Tuesday, May 7:

8:30 am Pastor Alex in Columbia at Meeting

1:00 pm Tuesday Bridge Group

Wednesday, May 8:

11:30 am Mary Teasley Lunch (away)

Thursday, May 9:

1:00 pm Stephen Ministry—Mac Vinson Companions Class

Friday, May 10:

6:00 pm Girl Scouts -Parker Hall

Sunday, May 12: Mother's Day

8:45 & 11:00 am Worship Services

9:45 am Sunday School

MISSION STATEMENT

... We are called to make disciples by embracing all people with God's love in Christ and equipping each other for service to God and His world.

OUR VISION

Hearts on Fire...Seeking, Sharing, Serving...For God

"A Stephen Ministry Congregation"

