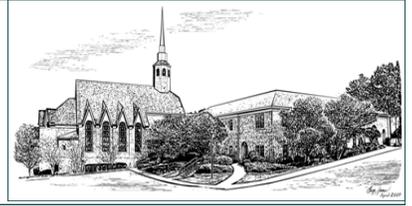




Aldersgate In Motion



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 www.aumesc.org

Volume 6

Issue 119

November 15, 2019

In This Issue



Thoughts of the Pastor	2 & 3
New Mission Outreach	3
The Great Sheep Escapade	4
Christmas Eve Offering	4
Women's Retreat	5
Milk & Cookies w/Santa	5
Disciples Class	6
United Methodist Men	6
Youth	6
UMW Fall Meeting & Brunch	7
UMW Fall Meeting & Brunch	7
New Members	8
Baptism	9
Poinsettia Orders	9
Child Development Ctr.	10
Financial Peace	11
Helpful Holiday Eating Hints	11
Prayer Concerns/ Financial	12
Attendance/Military	12
Those Serving/Memorials	13
Calendar	14

**YMCA CAMP OCOEE
 EAST TENNESSEE**

THOUGHTS OF THE PASTOR

So the other day a man greets me by saying, “Good morning, sir. How are you doing?”

It was a beautiful fall morning—cool, clear, crisp. Feeling good about life in general and God’s grace in particular I said with conviction, “I am blessed.”

He smiled and in a booming voice exclaimed, “I’m so glad to hear you say that. Yes sir! Every day’s a holiday and every meal’s a banquet!”

That simple statement—made by a complete stranger—has echoed in my heart and mind for more than a week. The Apostle Paul writes, “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus [1Thess. 5:16-18 (NIV)].” Let’s be especially mindful of that this time of year. When we sit down to a big meal of turkey and dressing, ham and mashed potatoes, rice and gravy...mmm....

...What was I talking about? ...

You get the picture... *Give thanks this Thanksgiving*. For all things and great and small—give thanks. Here are 5 things that I am especially thankful for:

1. My relationship with the Lord—my salvation.

When I examine my life—who I once was and now am—it is a miracle. John Wesley once said, “What the Scriptures promise I enjoy. Come and see what Christianity has done here; and acknowledge it is of God.” God has been so good to me, and I am so grateful. Thanks be to God!

2. The love I share with my wife.

Lucie and I met, fell in love and were married at YMCA Camp Ocoee in the mountains of East Tennessee. The picture on the cover shows the very spot where the Rev. Dr. Al Bowles, of Hixson United Methodist Church, performed our marriage. Anyone who knows us is well aware that ours is a blessed union.

3. The blessing of our children.

The Psalmist assures us that children can “become a blessing” [Ps. 37:26]. And Scripture also assures us that this ain’t easy. Godly parenting is an act of faith that requires us to believe, live out that belief and submit our will to God’s will on a daily basis. And then patiently await the Lord’s work in the life of our child/children. I have devoted much of my life to working with children, and to see the fruit of the Spirit in the hearts of our son and daughter is a blessing that I can never adequately describe.

THOUGHTS OF THE PASTOR *(CON'T)*

4. Good health.

I have had a couple of health scares over the years, and I have had more near-death experiences than many. I have also been guilty at times of ignoring the needs of my mind and body. In spite of this, God has blessed me with good health, and for that gift I give thanks.

5. My call, vocation, and appointment to Aldersgate.

In total candor, I have not always been thankful for my call into the ministry of the ordained. At times that yoke has chafed. Thankfully, those seasons have been brief. Having acknowledged that ministry is hard and not always fun, let me state emphatically that I have never been more content in my call than I am at this moment. Serving at Aldersgate is the high point of my career. Thank you for being a part of that blessing. And thanks be to God for sending me here.

In conclusion, let me summarize the teaching of Paul I cited above: Always be joyful. Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful. God really is good (all the time) and we do well to remember that. May you and yours have a Happy Thanksgiving and a very blessed day! I'll see you on Sunday.

Enjoying the Journey,
Michael

NEW MISSION OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

Aldersgate will partner with Memorial UMC, Greer on **May 3-8, 2020** for a mission trip to Hinton Center in nearby Hayesville, NC. The Hinton Center is a well established UMC site for retreats and community service.

We will work in the local area doing home repairs for needy families as well as other outreach activities. We need both men and women.

We will stay in the modern Hinton Center Lodge and have our meals in their dining room. For more information please contact one of the folks below and check out www.hintoncenter.org

Dave Herndon 244-2159
Dick McGaughey 244-6891
Dean Martin 292-3942



The Great Sheep Escapade

The Sheep Trail begins December 2



The Sheep Trail began several years ago as a fun, free, family-friendly activity that brings together the Christmas story and local businesses. Pick up a Trail Card from a participating store or in the Commons, or print one out. Visit one of the stores, find the hidden sheep and then record the name of that sheep on your Trail Card. Once you've found all the sheep, you can turn in your Trail Card for the chance to win a prize from one of our participating stores. Enjoy a day out in Downtown Greenville and find our sheep. This year, we have TWO CAMELS on the loose as well!

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

The offerings from Aldersgate's **Christmas Eve** services go to **United Ministries**, our mission partner in the Greenville community. They offer services through a unique, integrated service model. This makes it convenient for participants to transition between program areas and move toward self-sufficiency.

Crisis Assistance is one of three program areas.

Crisis Assistance programs can save a family from financial catastrophe with things most people take for granted: a grocery bag of food, help with a power bill or a \$50 prescription.

We collect food for United Ministries' unique client-choice food pantry where participants choose which foods are best for their family. Financial assistance with rent or utilities is offered to those with a demonstrated crisis. It is also available to participants in the Education and Employment programs to help maintain employment. Families receiving assistance meet with volunteers to discuss their needs and identify solutions.

Participants can also receive services through Homeless Services as explained in the last newsletter and the Education and Employment program area which will be explained in the next newsletter.

Bruce Schug 864-268-2884

<https://united-ministries.org>



Save the Date!

ALDERSGATE WOMEN'S RETREAT
JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 2, 2020
BONCLARKEN RETREAT CENTER

Registration is now open for the 2020 Retreat. Pick up a registration form in the office or register online:
www.aumcsc.org/womens-retreat
Financial assistance is available. See Johannah for more details. Be on the lookout for upcoming fundraisers!

***REGISTER NOW, PAY LATER!
SPACES ARE FILLING UP QUICKLY!***

SAVE THE DATE!

SANTA IS COMING

Join us on Wednesday, December 4 from 6:00-7:30pm
in Parker Hall for Milk and Cookies with Santa.

Great family photo opportunity.

All donations go to support local ministry projects



DISCIPLES CLASS

On December 8, at 9:45 am in the church library, all are welcome to participate in a 4 week Advent study “Light of the World” by Amy-Jill Levine, professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Vanderbilt. She guides us thru the birth stories of Jesus connecting to the Old Testament and looking at 1st century culture and religious Judaism traditions. For more information contact Susan Smith at 864-268-6602 or suesmithumw@gmail.com

THE UNITED METHODIST MEN DINNER AND A MOVIE

CHRISTMAS



DECEMBER 16

OUR ANNUAL DINNER AND A MOVIE

PARKER HALL at 6:32 pm

(WIVES AND SIGNIFICANT OTHERS ARE INVITED)

*Deadline to register is **December 13 at 10:00 am***

YOUTH AT ALDERSGATE FROM PAM & TODD ATTAWAY



We had a great turnout as guest speaker, Brett Fulton came to speak and tell his story. Brett is the JV basketball coach at Wade Hampton High School.

As you see, we also had time for a little basketball!

Thank you all for coming. Remember to tell your friends about your youth group. It is always good to have other friends show up!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN FALL MEETING & LUNCHEON

The United Methodist Women's Fall General Meeting and Luncheon will be held on ***Saturday, November 23, 2019*** beginning at 11:30 am in Parker Hall. Lunch for this meeting will be \$8.00 per person. Once again we have the pleasure of Mrs. Marie Clinkscales as our caterer. She is a member of Bethlehem UMC and currently serves as the President of the Greenville District UMW. Our meal will be chicken salad, spinach quiche, baked apples, dessert and tea.

Our Mission Focus for this meeting will be John Greene. We heard from his mother about one year ago regarding the needs for his daily living. He is a 30 + year old young man whose needs are all-encompassing. The Aldersgate United Methodist Women Executive Committee voted at the September meeting to have this special need as this month's Mission Focus.

Items that his mother said are great for him are: gas cards, Publix cards, Visa cards, Wal-Mart cards and Bite Squad cards. If you feel led to help support this Mission Focus please make sure you drop your gift card in the big wooden box that is in the work room next to Susan Hamilton's office. This is also where you may place your reservations if you were unable to give them to your circle chair.

We will also have a message given to us by Ms. Laurie Fite, UMW member at Lee Road UMC. She will speak on the topic, "How Were You Raced/Raised," spotlighting the racial biases we may have learned early in our lives.

The deadline to reserve your spot will be Sunday, November 17, 2019. You may reserve your spot with your circle or by placing a check, payable to UMW, in an envelope with the name (s) of those attending. You may drop it off in the big wooden box that is in the work room. There are some envelopes on the box for your use.



* Set up for this meeting/meal will be by the Cindy Harter Circle. Clean-up will be by the Susanna Wesley Circle.

NEW MEMBERS AT ALDERSGATE UMC

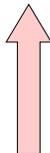


Scotty & Frances Fairbairn came to us by transfer from a sister UMC. They live near Furman University.

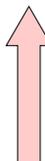
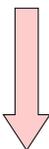
John & Judy Adamson join Aldersgate by transfer from 1st United Methodist Church in Hendersonville. They lived for 19 years in Flat Rock, NC before moving to Greenville.



Rick & Kathy Gutta transfer to us from a sister UMC church in Greer. Kathy is the daughter of other new members, Jim & Carol Fisher.



Tom & Judy Dowell came to us by transfer from First United Methodist Church in Sylva, NC. They live at The Woodlands near Furman.



Jim & Carol Fisher came to us by transfer from a sister UMC. They live at "The Cascades" and know Anne & Bill Foster.

A great big **THANK YOU** to you all for joining and **WELCOME** to Aldersgate UMC!

BAPTISM AT ALDERSGATE



Welcome baby Collins Rebekah! On Sunday, November 10 we welcomed Collins Rebekah Truesdale to the Aldersgate family through baptism. She is the daughter of Jordan & Helen Truesdale and the little sister to Carter Maye. She is also the granddaughter of Logan & Scott Bagley.



POINSETTIAS

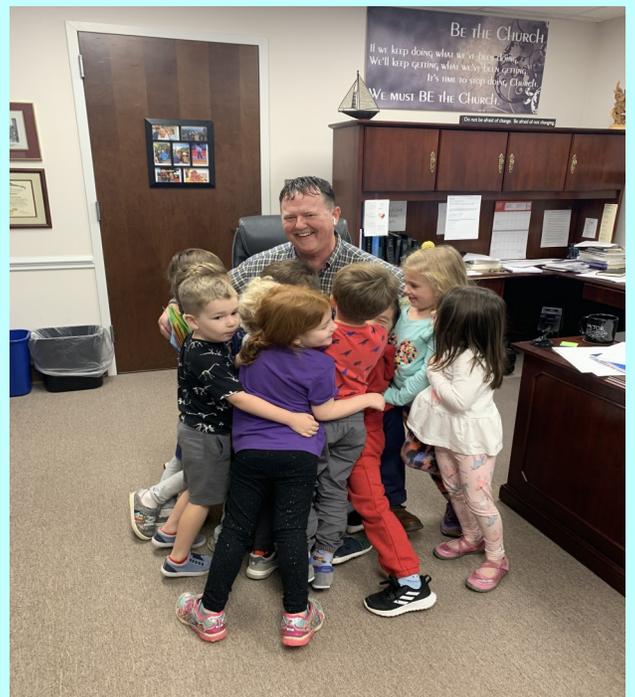
If you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia to go in the church in honor or memory of someone, please fill out the information requested on the cards out in the Commons. The cost is **\$15.00**. These will be placed in the church to help decorate our sanctuary. Please make

your checks to "Aldersgate UMC" and attach it to the form in the Commons. ***These forms and payment may be turned in until December 1.*** I will be unable to take any after this date. Thank you for understanding.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

OCTOBER WAS PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH. To show Pastor Michael our appreciation, we invited him to our hallway for our morning routines. He danced with one class, heard a song from one class, and read a book to another. We also showered him with cards that he posted on his office door. One class delivered their cards to his office. We occasionally see him walking our CDC hallway - and we always greet him like a celebrity! We are grateful for Pastor Michael's leadership and for this ministry of Aldersgate UMC.



FINANCIAL PEACE

In Pastor Michael's sermon on Sunday, November 10, he shared with the congregation about his experiences taking a Financial Peace class and how it helped his family look at money differently. By taking a more biblical approach, their anxiety about bills and money management started to lighten. Many of our Aldersgate members and friends can tell a similar story as we have been hosting Financial Peace classes since 2005.



If you are interested in knowing more about the Financial Peace program, here are some resources you might look at:

-Listen to/Watch live, the author Dave Ramsey on your phone or computer at <https://www.daveramsey.com/events/?type=financial-peace-live&snid=events.financialpeacelive>

-Visit the Dave Ramsey website to learn about the basics <https://www.daveramsey.com/get-started?snid=start.basics>

-Join Ruth Hughes on *Wednesday, January 8th at 6:30 pm* for an informational session. This is the start of CONNECT, so dinner will be available with reservations.

Financial Peace is open to everyone, so if you are thinking about perhaps that special holiday gift, attending this class is a lifetime treasure. Keep watching for more information!

HELPFUL HOLIDAY EATING HINTS

On November the 9th, I attended a wonderful workshop called "Mindful Holiday Eating". It was sponsored by the organization **LiveWell Greenville**. The speaker, Kealani Davis, reminded us that the holidays should be a time of celebration with family and friends. Unfortunately, the food we encounter during these gatherings can get in the way of our efforts to be or stay healthy. Here are some of her suggestions:

- ◇ Eat a little something before a big meal, like some fruit or veggie snack. This will help you feel full and less likely to "load your plate".
- ◇ Look at the offered foods and choose ahead of time your favorite items. Enjoy them! Pass on the lesser favorites.
- ◇ If you are hosting a meal, consider using smaller plates, (*not the huge oval Chinet plates*) so that smaller portion sizes are naturally taken.
- ◇ Consider researching ways to make your favorites healthier or if taking a dish, bring one that you can eat without feeling guilty.
- ◇ Do not linger around the appetizer table. Move conversations away from the temptation.
- ◇ Drink water instead of the sweeter drinks and limit alcohol intake which can make you crave more food.

Be intentional about making this holiday season the best ever! Love on family and friends instead of wishing you had passed on that last piece of cake.

~ Ruth Hughes

PRAYER CONCERNS



As of printing Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2019:

Home: Beth & Warren Rambo, Pete & Martha Hendrix, John & Mary Holmstrand, Tom Barnhill, Rudy Rogers, Joan Sanford, Maxine Hardin, Shirley Cooke, Waldo Watts, Mary Murray, Iris Scott

Southern Oaks-Rehabilitation in Piedmont: Ann Armstrong

NHC Mauldin: Atrice Hughey **Brookdale @ Hawthorne:** Nita Bearden

Memory Care of Simpsonville: Jennie Ruth Waynick

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

Brookdale/Pelham: Fred Copeland **Westminster Senior Living/Augusta Place:** Melba Poole

Oakview Park: Joan Pawlus **Cascades:** Patti Welchel **Rolling Green:** Wayne Rowan

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

Local & Other Country Missionaries:

AUMC Family in Greenville: Todd, Pam, & Hannah Grace Attaway -

www.loveshareserve.blogspot.com.

AUMC Supported Missionaries in Ecuador: Daina and Tim Datwyler-

www.Puertadeesperanza.org.

Douglas & Jennings Boone in Democratic Republic Of Congo, Africa -

www.thiscongoleselife.blogspot.com

OUR FINANCIAL RECORD

General Fund Budget Needs (YTD)	\$ 647,364.70
Total General Fund Receipts (YTD)	\$ 675,360.56
Total General Fund Expenses (YTD)	\$ 648,614.41
Surplus in Contributions to Expenses (YTD)	\$ 26,746.15
<u>Weekly General Fund Budget Needs</u>	\$ 14,385.88
Previous Weeks General Fund Giving – week 45	\$ 15,373.28
<u>OCTOBER 2019</u>	
YTD General Fund Budget	\$ 623,608.90
YTD General Fund Giving	\$ 642,697.90
YTD General Fund Expenses	\$ 629,860.32
YTD General Fund Surplus	\$ 12,837.37

ATTENDANCE

October 27

S. School– 133
Worship - 270

November 3

S. School—150
Worship—311

November 10

S. School—142
Worship—345

OUR MILITARY (Family & Friends)



Jack Bissonnette ACT. DUTY

Oryan R. Lahti- ACT. DUTY

Paul Scott– ACT. DUTY

Joseph Churchwell

Paul Browder

Troy McDowell

Nick Page

Katie Pace

Patricia Kreuzberger

Bradley Brown

John Williams

Michael Pompeo

Matthew Russell

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS SERVED AND THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING!

SERVING ALDERSGATE ON SUNDAYS

NOVEMBER 17, 2019

Lay Reader: 8:45 am Gayle Mason 11:00 am Sherri Allred
Greeters: 8:45 am Kathie & Bruce Schug 11:00 am Cheryl LePorte/Ann Ayers
Acolytes: 8:45 am Karis King 11:00 am Brooks Schemm
Crucifer: 11:00 am Reid Schemm
Usher Captains: 8:45 am David McAvoy 11:00 am Frank Mathis
Ushers: 8:45 am Eddie Beam, Suzanne Haney, Tim Davis
Ushers: 11:00 am Coley Altman, III, Trey Covington, Jim Cox, Bonnie Lampe,
 Paul Sleight

NOVEMBER 24, 2019

Lay Reader: 8:45 am John Myers 11:00 am Karis King
Greeters: 8:45 am Nina & Henry Scoggins 11:00 am David & Marian Rose
Acolytes: 8:45 am Ansley Addis 11:00 am Henry Addis
Crucifer: 11:00 am Hudson Patrick
Usher Captain: 8:45 am Jack Cornell 11:00 am Hunt Redfern
Ushers: Jim Dansby, Danny Dobbs, Suzanne Haney, Jordan Truesdale
Ushers: Steve Graves, Bruce Royal, Terry Tallon, Joel Vanderwood

DECEMBER 1, 2019

Communion Helpers: 8:45 am TBD
 11:00 am TBD
Lay Reader: 8:45 am Wendy Davis 11:00 am Debbie Strickland
Greeters: 8:45 am Dee & Gray Walsh 11:00 am Susan & Bruce Royal
Acolytes: 8:45 am Julian Gettys 11:00 am Coley Altman
Crucifer: 11:00 am TBD
Usher Captain: 8:45 am Austin Watts 11:00 am David Rose
Ushers: Doug Jordan, Phil Martin, Waldo Watts- (*out for now*)
Ushers: David Ayer, Clay Garrison, Cody Owens

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

GENERAL FUND: In memory of Sherry Pace (*Rudy Roger's daughter*) by Lynne Cassady

MESSY CHURCH: In memory of Judy Garren (*Johannah Myer's grandmother*)
 by John & Mary Holmstrand

YOUTH FUND: In memory of Lillis Smith by Jack & Wilma Reitz

Making Disciples
for Jesus Christ



MINISTRY STAFF

864-244-1820

Michael Bingham, **ext. 207**
Pastor
mbingham@aumcsc.org

~
Dr. Johannah Myers,
ext. 211
Director of Christian
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
Musician
ryland.brown@charter.net

~
Jennifer Nelson Director
Child Development Center
jnelson@aumcsc.org
864-268-5028

~
Todd & Pam Attaway
Interim-Directors of Youth
attawaysix@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
Child Development Center 864-268-5028
E-mail:shamilton@aumcsc.org

CALENDAR DATES—NOVEMBER 2019

Sunday, November 17: Stewardship Campaign

8:45 & 11:00 am Worship
9:45 am Sunday School
5:00 pm Thanksgiving Meal – Inter-generational- Parker Hall

Monday, November 18:

1:00 am Prime Timers Bridge—Parker Hall
6:30 pm Cub Scouts @ The House

Tuesday, November 19:

6:35 am Men's Bible Study Group—Broadway Bagels off Hudson Rd.
9:30 am Women of Faith (*last one this fall*)—Parker Hall
7:00 pm Boy Scouts @ The House

Wednesday, November 20:

9:00 am Staff Meeting—Library
5:30 pm Connect—(*last meal this season*)
6:30 pm Cherub & Children's Choir Practice
7:15 pm Choir Practice—Choir Room

Friday, November 22:

10:30 am UMW Decorate Parker Hall for Event

Saturday, November 23:

11:30 am UMW Brunch & General Meeting—Parker Hall

Sunday, November 24: Women's Retreat Fundraiser

8:45 & 11:00 am Worship
9:45 am Sunday School

Monday, November 25:

8:30 am–12 noon CDC Thanksgiving—Parker Hall & Haddon Class
1:00 pm Prime Timers Bridge—Parker Hall

Tuesday, November 26:

8:30 am-12 noon CDC Thanksgiving—Parker Hall

Thursday & Friday 28 & 29: Church Office is closed

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"