

Church Staff

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Co-Director of

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Music & Youth

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After Hours Minister

On Call:
334/544-0168

December 6, 2015

ARRIVAL

Christmas at Aldersgate



Mission Possible: The Great Christmas Cookie Caper

Sunday, December 6 | 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Cookie Contest, Mission Projects and Concert
Activities for the entire family! Ornament & Christmas Card making,
Cooking and decorating home baked Christmas cookies together

Christmas Musical - "The Silence and the Sound"

Sunday, December 13 | 10:30 a.m.

A heart stirring presentation featuring the Joyful Bells,
Chancel Choir, Children and Youth Choirs and Orchestra

The Longest Night

Sunday, December 20 | 4:00 p.m.

Gathering for those who are grieving or have difficulties during
the holiday season

Christmas Eve Services

Thursday, December 24 | 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Communion, Carols and Candlelight

Music Ministry

The Silence AND THE SOUND

CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

"The Silence and the Sound"

10:30 a.m., Sunday, December 13

*A heart stirring presentation featuring the Joyful Bells,
Chancel Choir, Children and Youth Choirs and Orchestra*
**One Combined 10:30 Worship Service with Church-wide
Covered Dish Dinner at 11:30**



MISSION POSSIBLE:

**The Great Christmas Cookie Caper
4:00 p.m. Sunday, December 6**

*Christmas Cookie Contest, Mission
Projects and Concert*

We hope that everyone will plan to join us for our "Mission Possible: Christmas Cookie Contest – The Great Christmas Cookie Caper" event on Sunday, December 6 at 3:30 in our Christian Activity Center. Aldersgate is known for its vast number of talented cooks and we hope that many of our members will provide cookies for everyone to enjoy during our special music and mission project beginning at 3:30. Our mission will be to bake and decorate homemade Christmas cookies, cards and ornaments for us to give to our homebound and food pantry ministries. Many of our choirs and ensembles will be singing for us at the beginning and closing of our activities. "Best of Show" 1st Place, 2nd Place and 3rd Place Cookies will receive an award certificate (and bragging rights of course!) You can sign up to bring cookies by calling Steve Badskey at 272-6152 or email at steve@aldersgateumc.org.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Thursday, December 24

3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Communion, Carols and Candlelight

Senior Saint Winter Schedule

Thurs., Jan. 14

2:00

Sing at Elmcroft

Dark Hot Chocolate Mix

Now available at the Fair Trade Store, this dark and indulgent hot cocoa features real ground chocolate in the mix! Great for making hot chocolate or adding to coffee. A 12 oz. container is only \$5.00.



In Memoriam

*Helon Thorne
November 30, 2015*

Stewardship Update

Thank you for a great response to the stewardship campaign! To this point, we have received estimate of giving cards from 148 families totaling commitments of \$805,648. We're off to a great start as we attempt to improve on last year's result of 180 estimate of giving cards for a total of \$941,392. The Finance Committee continues to make budgetary plans for 2016. If you have not turned in your estimate of giving cards, please place yours in the box in the Atrium. You can find blank cards in the Atrium and Christian Activity Center.

Good News!!!

Our pictorial church directories have arrived and are ready to be picked up. We will have a table set up in the hallway between the Parlor and Sanctuary over the next several Sundays with each of your names attached to your reserved directory, arranged in alphabetical order. If you did not schedule your picture for the directory but would like to receive one, we arranged to have additional directories available for purchase. The price for any additional directories will be \$ 10.00 each.

Annual Poinsettias/Water Well Project

Each Christmas the Aldersgate family decorates the sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias given in honor or memory of loved ones. This year these will be displayed on December 13 for the Sounds of the Season service and on December 24 for the Christmas Eve Service. Those donating poinsettias may pick them up after the services on the selected date or have them sent to one of our sick or shut-in members. This year you may also remember loved ones through a gift of at least \$12 to help our missionary partners Ed and Linda Baker with a water well project. These donations will be used to help provide clean water to needy communities in impoverished areas of the world.

Poinsettias are \$12.00 each. Please make checks payable to Aldersgate UMC with "Poinsettias" or "Water Well Project" in the memo line. Please place the bulletin insert order form together with your payment in the offering plate or turn in to the church office by Sunday, December 6 (or Sunday, December 13 for the Christmas Eve Service).

Missions

Because of Aldersgate's giving spirit 102 of our Food Pantry families enjoyed a Thanksgiving dinner. On Wednesday, November 18 these families started lining up at 7:00 am to receive their Thanksgiving bags. The morning was filled with hugs from clients and even tears of appreciation. One client shared she was volunteering on Thanksgiving Day serving meals so she was giving her bag to someone else in need. Another called the church office and shared the following. "I really appreciate what you've done, you've made my Thanksgiving, you're a blessing to everyone, y'all are so friendly and kind. God bless you!" Another wrote a note which said, "Thank you for making Thanksgiving possible for us. Sometimes people worry about certain things and then God steps in."

The Food Pantry Ministry is a blessing to so many men, women and children. It could not exist without the Aldersgate family's generous support. On behalf of these 102 families plus many more Thank You!

The King will reply, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these you did for me."

Children's Ministry

Our Mission:

To know Jesus and to make Him known in each child's HEART!

The Weekday Children's Ministry will present their Christmas program in the Christian Activity Center on Friday, December 11 at 10:00. All are invited to come.

Parents' Night Out: Christmas Edition will be held on Friday, December 11 from 5:30-9:30. The cost is \$15 per child (infant-5th grade) and includes dinner, crafts, and activities. Reservations must be made online (www.aldersgateumc.org) or by calling the WCM office at 277-0880. Registration will close on Wednesday, December 7, so make plans now to attend this fun event!

Youth Announcements

HUB—We will be taking a break from HUB until the first of the year!!

Sunday Nights—This Sunday is the Christmas Cookie Caper music and mission night. Everyone needs to be here at 3:00 dressed in Christmas colors. You will be helping the kids make boxes to take to our shut-ins and then the choir will be doing their performance.

Our Christmas Party is on December 12 and it is Superhero themed, so dress as your favorite hero. Meet at the church at 5:00 where we will travel to the Tinch house for games and food! Here is what you need to bring. We will be playing Dirty Santa White Elephant so you must bring a gift; the catch is you can't buy the gift, so bring something you made or you found in your home. Also, everyone needs to bring an inexpensive fleece blanket to donate to Reality and truth ministry for the homeless. And lastly, the girls need to bring a 2 liter and the guys need to bring a dessert! Pick up will be at the church by 8:15.

Your \$100 deposit for Colombia is past due! This goes for our college folks that are going as well. If you have not made the decision if you are going or not, I encourage you to think on this. Please don't hesitate to talk with me about the trip if you have any concerns or questions. If you will be going, your \$100 deposit and first payment of \$250 is due December 13. We will be buying plane tickets in December, so I need your money by then. Remember that ALL meetings are mandatory as well as fundraising

Don't forget to get me your \$30 for "A Christmas Carol" if you plan on going. We have already purchased the tickets, so the first 20 people that turn in money get to go. I will begin asking outside the youth group as well as your parents, as we need to sell the tickets. If you still want to go, please get in touch with me. The date and time that we are going is December 22, at 2:30.

Let me know what I can do for each of you all and keep me posted as to what is going on.

Brittney Liebke, Director of Youth Ministries

Rummage Sale for Missions

Proceeds go to 2016 short-term missions team to Ecuador

You may donate items Thursday, December 3, in room 27 or Friday, December 4 from noon until 7:00 p.m. in the Christian Activity Center (CAC). **Mission minded volunteers are needed and welcomed.** You may shop on Saturday, December 5, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the CAC. Items that can be donated to sell include:

- Kitchenware & Gadgets
- Children's and Adult's Clothing
- Coats
- Furniture and Housewares
- Baby Items
- Toys and Books
- Christmas Decorations

Thank You...

"The family of Royce Slate has felt and appreciates the prayers of the Aldersgate family during his illness and in the days following his death. We especially appreciate the attention and help of the church staff in handling the Memorial Service on Tuesday according to our wishes. The refreshments after the service were lovely and we thank all those who provided and set up the food. It means so very much at a time like this to be surrounded by a caring church family."

Darlene Slate and family

Montgomery Area Middle School Christmas Concert

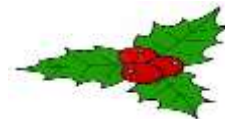
6:00 p.m. Thurs., December 17
Aldersgate will be hosting the Montgomery Area Middle School Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 17 at 6:00 p.m. in our Sanctuary. Our members are encouraged to join us in extending a welcome to all of the Choir members and their families that will be with us on this night.

Backpack Ministry



Reminder—The **Pathfinders Class** has signed up for the weeks of November 16 through December 18 to serve in the Backpack Ministry.

Aldersgate Food Pantry



**TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING
PLEASE "MEAT" THE NEED**

December Food of the Month



CANNED MEATS



Please place in collection baskets located in the Atrium, Christian Activity Center and outside the Program Staff Offices.

Join us for worship this Sunday!

8:15 Chapel Service with
 Holy Communion—Dr. Brian Miller

10:30 Contemporary—Rev. Michael Cobb

10:30 Traditional—Dr. Brian Miller

Luke 3:1-18

“Arrival—Here It Comes”

Our gifts to God!

November 29, 2015

Morning Worship—300 Sunday School—218

September, 2015

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Budget for 2015 | \$1,200,181 |
| Operating Budget Requirement to Date | 999,750 |
| Operating Budget Income Received to Date | 1,021,783 |
| Operating Budget Expenses to Date | 972,930 |
| Total Pledges to Capital Campaign | 1,419,823 |
| Total Received to Date | 1,360,204 |

Aldersgate Weekly Calendar of Events

December 6-12, 2015

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 8:15 a.m. Chapel Service with Weekly Communion
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School for Adults, Youth, Children
- 9:15 a.m. Confirmation Class/Room 29
- 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service/Sanctuary
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service/CAC
- 3:00 p.m. Carol Choir (grades 1-6)/Room 25
- 3:00 p.m. Youth Choir (grades 7-12)/Choir Room
- 3:30 p.m. Jr. Bells/Room 29
- 3:30 p.m. Christmas Cookie Contest, Mission Projects and Concert
- 4:00 p.m. Joyful Bells/Room 29

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 11:00 a.m. Women’s Study/Room 25
- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Team Meeting
Administrative Office Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Clergy & Program Staff Meeting/Room 26
- 6:55 p.m. BSF/Chapel, Parlor
All Rooms including 114, excluding 22, 25
- 7:00 p.m. Praise Singers’ Rehearsal/Choir Room
- 7:15 p.m. Men’s Rec. Basketball/CAC

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

- 6:30 a.m. Men’s Breakfast & Bible Study/Room 22
- 9:30 a.m. Administrative Staff Meeting/Room 26
- 9:30 a.m. Food Pantry Waiting Room/Room 29
- 3:00 p.m. Discipleship Team Meeting
Administrative Office Conference Room

6:00 p.m. Cub, Boy Scouts/Rooms 15-29, CAC

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 8:00 a.m. WCM—Santa Visit & Pictures/Room 22
- 9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study/Room 26
- 3:00 p.m. Knitting & Crocheting Group/Room 28
- 6:15 p.m. Orchestra Dress Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Dress Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Worship Team/CAC

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 6:30 a.m. Men’s Emmaus Reunion Group Meeting/Parlor
- 8:00 a.m. Newsletter, Bulletin Preparation/Room 26
- 8:00 a.m. WCM Christmas Program Practice/CAC
- 9:30 a.m. Food Pantry Waiting Room/Room 29
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Group/Room 20
- 1:00 p.m. Vision Impaired Group/Room 23
- 5:00 p.m. Berean Sunday School Class/Room 22
- 5:30 p.m. Set-up for Stephen Ministry Christmas Dinner
Room 25
- 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts/Room 28
- 6:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting/Room 119
- 6:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Christmas Dinner/Room 25

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 5:15 a.m. BSF Leaders Meeting/Room 25
- 8:30 a.m. WCM Christmas Program/CAC
- 12:00 p.m. Reality & Truth Ministry/CAC Kitchen
- 5:00 p.m. Crosswalk Class Christmas Party/Room 22
- 5:30 p.m. Parents’ Night Out/CAC, Rooms 112, 114 & WCM