

Church Staff

Senior Minister

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Hospitality Coordinator

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**After Hours Minister
On Call:**

334/544-0168

June 11, 2017

Sandspurs & Hospitality



Within 10 steps, the sand spurs attacked my flip-flopped feet. That was my welcome to Dauphin Island on Memorial Day weekend. Sand spurs are prickly burrs that grow along the grassy areas of the beach. They are mostly annoying. The pain they inflict isn't great. However, when a bare foot makes contact, the message they send on behalf of the gulf environment is clear: You aren't welcome here.

Built in to all kinds of environments are protective species that discourage invasion from outsiders. It's probably true even in church environments.

Guests who join us for worship already have lots of hurdles to overcome. Guests are going to a new place, where they know very few if any people. Guests don't know the way to the best parking spots, the entrance closest to where they want to go, the way to the nursery. With all of those hurdles, it doesn't take much discomfort to be discouraged.

My guess is that there are sand spurs that discourage guests from moving deeper into the life of Aldersgate. Most of these are unintentional, things we aren't aware of and things guests may or may not be able to verbalize. However, we can ask good questions that help us remove the sand spurs.

- Is parking clear for those who come for the first time?
- Do we have designated spaces for guests that make sense?
- Are our signs clear, identifying crucial locations for guests?

How do guests know where to go?

When we ask these questions and begin to act, we create a more hospitable experience for all people. When I was growing up, I always heard that "cleanliness is next to godliness." However, as I read the gospels, I grow in my belief that hospitality is actually next to godliness.

Next week, we'll focus on the sand spurs that come from experiences with us. I'll share a plan for how each of us can clear the way for guests.

Peace,

NOW HIRING: Contemporary Worship Leader



Aldersgate is seeking to hire a part-time Contemporary Worship Leader. This position will work closely with the pastors to shape weekly worship and report directly to the Minister of Worship. The Contemporary Worship Leader will create an atmosphere that engages and encourages worship through music and experiences that connect 21st century individuals to a God who is timeless. The successful candidate will work with volunteers to lead all creative and technical processes for contemporary worship. Proficiency in playing an instrument while leading worship

vocally is a must. This position is for 20 hours a week. Interested applicants should submit a resume to Bill Haigler at bill@aldersgateumc.org by June 18.

Help Needed...



greeters

The Worship Committee is in need of additional Sunday morning "Door Greeters." Please contact either Rev. Steve Badskey or Dorris Cox if you are interested in serving in this important ministry. Training is short, and your time as a greeter will be as little as one or

two 20 minutes periods every other month. We encourage your support of our church's hospitality efforts. GREETERS make a difference EVERY Sunday!

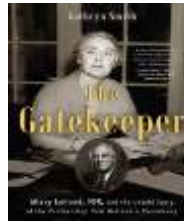
Summer Hospitality!



EVERY member of Aldersgate has a unique opportunity to show INTENTIONAL HOSPITALITY to our visitors. Many of us are creatures of habit who sit in the same pew/chair areas every Sunday, however, we ALL should be on the lookout for new faces in our worship services. We need to be

ready to welcome new folks anytime an opportunity presents itself. Specifically, we need to introduce ourselves, ask for their names, and when possible, accompany these visitors to our "Welcome Center." Also, if possible, make every effort to introduce them to one of our Ministers or staff members. YOU may be the very WELCOME our visitors need to feel at home at Aldersgate.

River Region Readers



Join the book club at **6:00 p.m. Sunday, June 11**, in room 119 as we discuss *The Gatekeeper: Missy LeHand, FDR, and the Untold Story of the Partnership That Defined a Presidency*, by Kathryn Smith. All are welcome! Come even if you haven't finished the book.

Backpack Ministry Donations



A great big thanks to all those that donated supplies for the Great Day of Service Backpack Ministry project and to those that have contributed throughout the year. With school out we are not delivering this summer, but will pick back up in August. However, if you would like to stock the ministry for the

Fall semester, we will continue to accept donations and store them in the lockers. We are fully stocked with snacks but do have a need for individually wrapped, pull top lunch entrees with a long shelf life such as Mac & Cheese, Chef Boyardee, Cup-a-Noodles, Cup of Soup and other healthy options you may find. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Ted Davis,
Backpack Ministry Coordinator

Missions



From Robert Thompson: The GO Lead Team gives a big THANK YOU to Rev. Michael Cobb for his leadership the past two years. Michael has helped us continue to hear God's calling in missions as a congregation and to stay focused on those things He has called us to. He has also been a leader in our development as a team.

Michael's heart for serving is evident in every conversation, every meeting, every discussion. It is also evident when you work beside him, be it at the church, in the local mission field, or on a project in Mexico or Ecuador. While he will be sorely missed by our team, we know the Lord has great things planned for him and Sara in Moundville. THANK YOU, Michael, for all you have done with us and for us. We love you, brother!

Children's Ministry

*Kids...Start your Engines!!
Join Team Aldersgate in the Race to Victory
During VBS 2017!*

We welcome all race fans K3-6th grade to buckle up July 10-13 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Dinner and any necessary race gear will be provided.

Don't let sensory, vision, mobility or hearing issues keep you in the stands. For anyone needing a little help navigating the track, we will have an additional VBS session for special needs children & their parents on Saturday, July 15, from 9:30-11:30 am.

Children from both sessions will join together in a family-friendly VBS Celebration Serviced on Sunday, July 16, at 10:30 in the CAC.

To register, go to www.aldersgateumc.org.

Help Needed With Our Volunteer Landscape Crew

If you are recently retired and would enjoy some physical activity on Monday mornings, we'd love to have you. Opportunities are available other times as well. Please call David Wills @ 271-6948 or 430-5350.



Our Sound Tech Multi-Media Team Needs You!

We're seeking new members to fill out our roster. Training is fast and commitment can be as little as one Sunday a month. Contact Steve Badskey at 272-6152 or email steve@aldersgateumc.org if you're interested.

Youth Announcements



Coming Up...

- * Wednesday, June 7—Youth Service at 6:00 pm
- * Sunday, June 11—Sunday School, 9:15 am; Worship, 10:30 am
- * Sunday June 11—Missions to New Orleans Meeting, 4:00 pm—for all those going on New Orleans Mission Trip, June 8-23. Parents and guardians are welcome, but not necessary. We'll go over trip details and expectations as well as prayer for God to use us during this trip.

Website

Have you checked out our Aldersgate Web Site lately? You can find us at www.aldersgateumc.org.

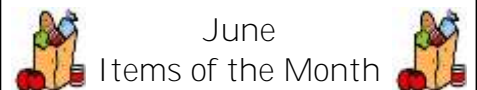
In Need of a Sunday School Class?

Have you been thinking about visiting or joining a Sunday school class? Our Aldersgate family has many classes to pick from. This is a list of the Adult Classes:

- **Ambassadors Class**
For those in their 50s-80s
Room 19
- **Berean Class**
For those in their 60s-70s
Room 23
- **College Class**
College age & 20-somethings
Library—Room 21
- **Crosswalk Class**
For those in their 30s-60s
Room 27
- **Explorers Class**
For those in their 40s-60s
Room 26
- **Maranatha Class**
For those in their 50s-70s
Room 119
- **New Creation Class**
For those in their 50s-60s
Room 25
- **Pathfinders Class**
For those in their 70s-90s
Room 22
- **Wesley Class**
For those in their 60s-70s
Room 24
- **Young Adults Class**
For those in their mid-20s to 30s
Room 28

Each of these classes begin at 9:15 am on Sundays. Just drop by the class of your choice and you will be greeted by our warm, friendly Sunday school class attendees.!

Aldersgate Food Pantry



June

Items of the Month



© Can Stock Photo

Cleaning Products—

Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap,
All-Purpose Cleaner

These items are not covered by SNAP
(Food Stamps)

Join us for worship this Sunday!

8:15 Chapel Service with Holy Communion
10:30 Contemporary
10:30 Traditional
Acts 5:34-42
“ReACTivate: Glad to Suffer”

Our gifts to God!

June 4, 2017	
Morning Worship—254	Sunday School—172
April 30, 2017	
Budget for 2017	\$1,287,351
Operating Budget Requirement to Date	428,688
Operating Budget Income Received to Date	469,102
Operating Budget Expenses to Date	409,483
Total Pledges to Capital Campaign	1,419,823
Total Received through 3/31/17	1,370,624

Aldersgate Weekly Calendar of Events
June 11-17, 2017

SUNDAY, JUNE 11	5:00 p.m. Grief Support Group Room 25
8:15 a.m. Chapel Service with Weekly Communion	
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for Adults, Youth, Children	TUESDAY, JUNE 13
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service CAC	10:00 a.m. Food Pantry Waiting Room Room 29
10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service Sanctuary	7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Meeting Rooms 22, 25, 26, CAC
11:30 a.m. Leadership Committee Meeting Room 26	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14
2:30 p.m. Set-up for Robbins Sims’ Reception	2:00 p.m. Knitting & Crocheting Group Room 25
3:00 p.m. Reception for Robbins Sims	7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
4:00 p.m. Missions to New Orleans Meeting	THURSDAY, JUNE 15
6:00 p.m. River Region Readers	10:00 a.m. Food Pantry Waiting Room Room 29
6:00 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting Room 25	10:00 a.m. Open Time of Prayer Room 20
MONDAY, JUNE 12	
1:30 p.m. Mission Prayer Team Room 20	