



The Aldersgate

Heartbeat

The Church With The Warm Heart

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

www.aldersgate.ws

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November 2011



MISSION OF THE MONTH SHOEBOXES FOR SAMARITAN'S PURSE SHOEBOX TIME!!!!!!

Our November Mission of the Month is Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child, a ministry that the warm hearts of Aldersgate have supported for several years. Please help us this year by filling one (or MORE!) of the shoeboxes your Missions Team is providing! ("Regular" shoeboxes with lids are fine to use too!) Decide whether your gift will be for a boy or a girl, and the age category (Instructions and Boy/Girl labels are in the big Christmas-wrapped box in the hall by the Wesley Classroom...there may be some shoeboxes left for you to take too!). Mark the correct age on the label, and tape it to the top of your box. Shop together as a family for special treats "your" child might enjoy. You might like to line the box with Christmas paper, design side out, to make it more festive looking. Please put a rubber band around your filled box before dropping it off.

Donations are also very much needed for this ministry, so please be generous! [Make your check out to Aldersgate and write "SP" or "Shoebboxes" in the memo line.] Turn in your filled boxes at church between November 1st and 20th. This is a great chance for your family to get in the spirit and share your blessings with needy children all over the world. PLEASE make this a part of your Christmas tradition as a family! Shop together, pack together, and pray together for the child who will receive your gifts. For many, this shoebox with small gifts inside will be the only "Christmas" they receive. Shoeboxes are shipped, sorted, packed, and sent off to their final destination, the hands of a child. At that point, creative Gospel presentations are often offered by local churches and ministry partners, and children are offered a copy of The Greatest Gift of All booklet in their own language. That shoebox you filled is the Gospel in action, a tangible symbol of God's love, and a reminder that someone cares. Watch the Sunday bulletins for stories of children who've received these precious gifts...and PLEASE, get involved with Operation Christmas Child....you will be blessed....we GUARANTEE it! THANK YOU!

Personal Note: In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

For more info on Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child --- Check out their website: www.samaritanspurse.org. They do an awesome job of doing God's work all over the world! If you have any questions, please contact Sue DeLary. Thanks for your support of this wonderful mission effort!

HAP FOOD COLLECTION



During the month of November, we will be having a food drive to support Huntsville Assistance Program (HAP). With the Angel Food program closing and the economy as it is, more people than ever are coming to HAP for assistance. Please pick up some items each time you go shopping this month. They can use anything, but there is always a need for canned meats, soups, canned fruits, canned vegetables, cereals, peanut butter and jelly, pasta noodles and sauces, beans, rice, boxed potatoes, canned meals, saltine crackers, and mac and cheese - anything your family would like to eat. They cannot accept food with an expired date, so please check that. Place any donations in the blue baskets at either entrance. Thank you for helping to support this important program and our community!

Connie Carter



Christmas Wreaths and Centerpieces may now be purchased from Boy Scout Troop 368 for \$25 per item.

Proceeds are used to support Scout activities and equipment. You may place orders between services on Sunday mornings Oct 30 and Nov 6 or by contacting Bill Friday at 256-883-8487. The greenery will arrive around the 1st of December to be distributed by the Scouts."

Thoughts from Todd H...

I remember when I was ten years old my parents decided to have another child and my brother, Taylor, was born. In preparation for his addition to the family I was asked to give up my bedroom of ten years right across the hall from my parent's room and right beside my sister's room. I was moved to the dining room that was converted into a bedroom. It didn't even have doors that could be locked as they were wall doors that slid back into the wall. After my brother was born, the status and attention I had received as 'the baby' in the family was also changed and given to him.

You would think that all this change made me hate my brother and wish he was never born. Some days that was true. But most of the time I didn't doubt that my parents still loved me and my sister and my little brother and we were a family together. When my brother was first born, he required most of my parent's attention, but as he grew we all found our way and place in our new family. I don't regret the sacrifices I made, and those the entire family made, to allow our family to grow together.

I know as Aldersgate has launched our newest family member, Aldersgate on the Parkway, you hear things like, "It's all about the second campus...That's all you hear about around here is the second campus...All the attention and energy is around the second campus...We are taken for granted around here..." I can sure understand how that feels and to some degree it is true as the new baby of the second campus had to get born and up and going. But don't despair, let us learn that all of Aldersgate is one family, and as one part is added and each part makes needed sacrifices, we are all loved and in this together. Let us dream together of being one people, one faith, one Lord, with one mission to be warm hearts changing lives together. What sacrifices are you willing to make for the mission and purposes of God as part of His family?

Grace and Peace,
Todd Henderson, Sr Minister

CASA is a non-profit agency located in Huntsville, Alabama that provides services to individuals age 60 and older and to the homebound (wheelchair and bed bound) of all ages.



CASA's mission is to provide needed services to aging/homebound individuals that allow them to remain at home and age in place. Their programs are designed to enable the elderly and homebound to maintain their independence, dignity, health and safety by providing services that specifically address their special physical and emotional needs.

In November 2010 Aldersgate assembled 23 people into 5 teams of adults and teens that worked on 6 of the more than 125 houses that were winterized in Madison County that day. We will be winterizing houses again this year, and our workday is November 5th. Please email Pete Black or Dick Leiby if you'd like to help. (goofnoff1@comcast.net or alblacks@knology.net).



Thank you all for the cards & hugs after the recent death of my mother. I really felt the love & comfort of my Aldersgate family.

Laurette Smith

Mary and I want to thank our church family for the cards, prayers, visits and all the support our family received during our time of sorrow and grief following our son Bryans death. We cannot tell you how much it meant to us during such a helpless time. Thank you. Sincerely,

Ron & Mary Smith and family



Backpack Meals for Morris Elementary. Cammie Hurley

Morris Elementary School has many students from lower income families. Many of these students receive free or reduced breakfast and lunch at school during the week but may not have any food for the weekend.

Aldersgate has committed to help feed these children. Every week, 50 bags of food are sent home with some of these children. These bags include: Chef Boy-R-Dee (large cans with pop top), beanie weenies, individual boxes of cereal, juice box size shelf stable milk, shelf stable pudding, peanut butter crackers, granola bars, fruit cup, apple sauce, and some snacks like rice crispy treats, teddy grams, pretzels, fruit snacks, and cheez-its. Next time you are shopping, please pick up some food for a child in need! Boxes for the food are located in the narthex and the back entrance hallway. Thank you for supporting this mission. If you have any questions, please contact Cammie Hurley at camspann@yahoo.com.

Casa Temps Saturday, Nov 5-

A chill is in the air, and it's time for our annual mission to weatherize the homes of folks who are unable to do it for themselves. Aldersgate has been doing this for at least 15 years. It is a time for service and for fellowship, as the team members get to know each other better. The tasks are not difficult - among them are: installing plastic on windows to act as storm windows; replacing latches and return cylinders on storm doors; installing storm doors, replacing smoke alarm batteries, raking leaves. We would also like someone to chat with the clients while the work is going on. This is a volunteer effort. Work is usually finished by Noon. Signup sheets are on the Missions bulletin in the hall and on the table in the Narthex. Please join us.

Celebrating All Saints Sunday

2011- It is the Methodist belief that the saints are not voted on by a collection of bishops, but are all Christians who die in the Lord. On Sunday, November 6, we will remember all church members and immediate family members of Aldersgate Church who have died in the past year. We need your help in making sure our list of Saints is complete, so please contact the church office (call 256-883-9062 or email marcia.moss@aldersgate.ws) if you have a family member who has passed away in the last year. Please contact us no later than Wednesday, November 2, so that the names can be included in the bulletin. Thank you for your assistance in this very special and important matter.

**From the Parkway:
Open Skate Times**

At the rink we have started weekly after-school skate times for children and youth. We are open from 3-5:30 on Mondays and Tuesdays every week. Cost for each skater is \$5 (includes skates and drinks). We will also be having open skate times on several Friday nights each month. We need volunteers for this outreach ministry. At least two adults must be there at all times during the events in order to keep our children safe.

If you would be able to help, please email Rachel Sparkman at rachel.sparkman@aldersgate.ws Thank you!

Christmas Parties at the AP

Would you like to have a Christmas event at Aldersgate on the Parkway? We have several dates blocked off in December just for Aldersgate members! If the event is for a small group or other Aldersgate ministry, it will be free to use the facility. For other events, Aldersgate members get a reduced rental rate of \$50 an hour. For more information or to book an event, contact Rachel Sparkman at rachel.sparkman@aldersgate.ws or leave a message for her at the church.

Life Groups (that meet in Homes) began on October 16th and are open to any and all who want to grow spiritually. A complete listing of Life Groups, locations, leaders, days and times are available at the Connect Centers and online on the church website. It is not too late to sign up!

Care Callers - If you are interested in helping Aldersgate continue to be the known as "the church with the warm heart" by reaching out to those who might need a special touch, please contact Diane Blocker.

Facility Update

We have added new tissue, towel and soap dispensers throughout our facility so that we have uniform equipment in each area. Hopefully these upgrades will improve the function and appearance of our facility.

I would like to **"Thank"** all the volunteers who helped with the Aldersgate on the Parkway. It has been amazing.

Connie Nicholson

A Special Note of Thanks to the Relay for Life Team for cleaning and organizing the church kitchen! We are blessed by your gifts of time and energy.

If you enjoy reading the newsletter and would like to continue receiving it, please email Kathy at kathydmahan@gmail.com or call Marcia at the office 256-883-9062.

November Birthdays

1 Mike Cornell
David Cutten
Will Patty
2 Arnold Puckett
Dulce Rivera
3 Bertie Cobb
Diane Carson
Don Hamilton
Barbara Rickman
Daniel Jeziorski
Arnold Staton
4 Connie Nicholson
Sara Fleming
Leah Drinnon
Rebecca Wiggs
5 Matt Patty
6 Jona McCauley
Lauren Blumkin
Spencer Shorter
7 AeSun Pray
Truman Mabee
Colleen Laymon
Beth McCormick
Annie Brown
8 Jim Byham
Jana West

10 Dot Summers
Cindy Shaw
Taylor Spano
11 Carolyn Shaver
Cammie Hurley
Marisa Wofford
Leigh Spano
David Martin
Lee Tibbetts
12 Samantha Abercrombie
Bob Carothers
Dee James
Jamie Fisher
13 Deborah Callins
Jake Sims
Elizabeth Klar
14 David Smith
Kathy Cowan
Lisa Williams
Lesley Burnette
Sara Hammontree
15 Cathy Skievaski
16 Heather Askew
17 Sidney Sexton
Becca Laymon
18 Claudia Westerfeldt

19 Bill Arnold
Lorri Seibert
Tim Markell
Harper Berry
20 Wayne Jordan
Murray Carroll
Kathy Mahan
21 Glenda Huffstetler
Beverly Salazar
22 Jim Bunnell
Wanda Robinson
D D Bocchino
Nigel Berry
23 Beth Sparkman
Sarah Harris
Cody Moore
24 Helanne Jordan
Owen Hofer
Nancy Harris
Matt Schlessel
26 Ray Keller
Katherine Bradley
Matthew Edwards
Allie Ciaccio
27 Rich Sampson
28 Anna Kate Bullock
29 Nick Crook
30 Sue Estes
Bernita Sapp

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
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e-mail aldersgate@knology.net
Web Site: www.aldersgate.ws
Traditional Worship 8:30 and 11:00 AM
Contemporary Worship 9:45 AM and 11:05 AM
Aldersgate on the Parkway 11:05
Sunday School 9:45 AM
Office Hours:
Mon - Thurs 8:30 to 3:30
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
Pastor - Todd Henderson
Pastor - Todd Owen
Pastor - Pat Mahan
Pianist/Organist - Rebecca Bundy
Director of Music/Organist - Michael Gimenez
Contemporary Worship Leader - Dennis Cornelison
Director of Youth - Chris Jones
Director of Discipleship & Family - Lydia Locke
Asst. Discipleship & Family Minister - Rachel Sparkman
Office Manager - Marcia Moss
Financial Manager - Wendy Sampson
Facilities Manager - Joey Hough