

THE SQUEEK

October 2024 Volume 24, Issue 10

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Open Hearts,

Open Minds,

Open Doors



Aldersgate Church...United Methodist

Andy Gloor, *Lay Leader*

Jane Nihan, *Organist*

Mary Jensen, *Secretary*

Rev. Sarah Hong, *Pastor*

Church Office Hours
8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Website: <https://aldersgaterkfd.com>

Check us out on Facebook: Aldersgate Church

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Mark your Calendar	

Insert:

October Calendar
Cruise Night Flyer

CURRENT SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 Worship -- *Traditional yet informal*

10:15 Fellowship Time -- A relaxing time with friends

OCTOBER 2024

Sunday, October 6 – 20th Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 13 – 21st Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 20 – 22nd Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 27 – 23rd Sunday After Pentecost
Pledge Sunday

*The Core Values of our church: Family, Love,
Compassion.*

A *Family* of God
United in *Love*
Moved by the Spirit of God
Committed to the Ministry
of *Compassion*



OCTOBER 2024



I have a song running through my head as I write this month's article. It's the song, "One Day" by Matt Redman. It's a contemporary version of "When We All Get to Heaven" and I hope that Aldersgate Ensemble will sing this song someday.

*"One Day You'll make everything new, Jesus.
One day You will Bind every wound.
The former things shall all pass away.
No more tears.*

*One Day, You'll make sense of it all, Jesus.
One day ev'ry questions resolved.
Ev'ey anxious thought left behind. No more fear.*

*When God's peace comes to our world,
what a day of rejoicing that will be.
When we all See Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory."*

- Stanza 1 of "One Day" by Matt Redman

Recently, I have been writing my spiritual autobiography for my Doctor of Ministry program. I discovered that a significant part of my identity is shaped by the grief around losing my spiritual role-model, my mother. Although it has been over 13 years since her passing, I am still working out my grief. I am thankful for God's grace in the midst of grief. I am grateful that during my struggles, God connects me with others who are struggling with grief. I am reminded that even in the most difficult days, there are endless reasons to praise God. During your times of hardship and disappointment, may you turn to God, who wipes away our tears, comforts us in our grief, and loves us in every season of our lives.

One of my reasons for praising God is YOU – the members of the Aldersgate UMC family. I am proud to serve as your pastor. You never cease to surprise me, amaze me, and humble me. Thank you for stepping up to volunteer as Sunday School teachers. Thank you for serving the hotdog meals at Westview Back to School Night event. Thank you for driving others to church. Thank you for preparing snacks for Sunday fellowship. Thank you for cleaning the church grounds. Thank you for painting and putting together toy cars for children in our community and around the world. Because of your love in action, our church has been able to shine the love of Christ with our neighbors near and far.

Another big reason for praise is for those who have been faithfully involved in worship services as lay readers, media center volunteers, communion servers, ushers and music volunteers. Thank you to everyone whose gifts and talents make our worship service meaningful! Thank you for your love.

My guess is – there are many people in your life who serve you, care for you, inspire you, and love you. When is the last time you thanked them? Perhaps it's time to send a note, text, email or make a call to express your gratitude.

(Continued on Page 3)

PASTOR'S MESSAGE FOR OCTOBER 2024 (Continued From Page 2)

Life is so precious and fleeting. Like our predecessors in faith, including Barb Hoey who passed away in August, I want to live a life that my family can be proud of – as a wife, daughter, sister, mother, and pastor.

*“One Day we will see face to face Jesus,
Is there a greater vision of grace?
And in a moment, we shall be changed on that day.*

*On that day, we'll be free, free indeed, Jesus.
One day all this struggle will cease.
And we will see Your glory revealed on that day.*

*When God's peace comes to our world,
what a day of rejoicing that will be.*

*When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory.*

- Stanza 2 of “One Day” by Matt Redman

The Aldersgate revival committee asks you to help spread the word. We are hosting a “Car Show” on Sunday, October 13 from 4:00 – 7:00 pm. We hope this is an exciting gathering for young and old alike. So, invite your family, friends, and neighbors. Join in the fun as we enjoy great cars and donate winter gears for students at Westview Elementary School.

During September and October, our worship services will center around the theme, “Committed to Christ.” I hope you are challenged by these messages and finding new ways to renew your faith through your prayers, study, worship, giving, serving, and witnessing. It's not too late to join the Tuesday morning Bible study at 10:45 AM.

Pastor Sarah

OCTOBER SERMONS, 2024

Oct. 6th (Sun.): Worship - Communion Sunday

Oct. 13th (Sun.): Service

Oct. 20th (Sun.): Financial Giving

Oct. 27th (Sun.): Witness – Pledge Sunday

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER SERMONS, 2024

Nov. 3rd - Daylight saving ends(earn one hour)- All Saints Day

Nov. 10th – Veteran's Sunday (Bethlehem market Advertisement day)

Nov. 17th – Memorial dedication day (Toy Ministry Blessing Day)

Nov. 25th – Pulpit Exchange with Centennial UMC pastor Audrey Rochet

1st Sunday of Advent: Dec. 1st – The Promise: Wonderful Counselor (Isaiah 9)

2nd Sunday of Advent: Dec. 8th – Combined Worship with Aldersgate(Charge Conference) –
DS Hwa-Young preaches (At Beth Eden UMC 10am)

3rd Sunday of Advent: Dec. 15th – The Promise: Mighty God (Isaiah 9)

4th Sunday of Advent: Dec. 22nd - The Promised: Everlasting Father (Isaiah 9)

Christmas Eve (Tuesday, Dec. 24th - Aldersgate 4pm, Beth Eden - 6pm) – The Promise:
Prince of Peace(Isaiah 9)



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Baylee Didier
 01 Breanna Wilburn
 04 Loretta Glenny
 05 Wes Franklin
 06 Marilyn Lang
 07 Clay Sohner
 07 Alexa Baker
 09 Bill Brown
 09 Rich Thurman

10 Linda Ruhl
 11 Diane Helsel
 13 Debby Dimke
 15 Ryan Alms
 16 Alice Rice
 17 Ramona Barker
 18 Tammy Bartolomei
 18 Mindy Ambrose

19 Amanda (Thomas) Kessler
 20 Tracy Marsh
 20 Kitty Ganzel
 21 Vanessa Thurman Monson
 23 Alice Nelson
 24 Joan Wenger
 24 Mike O'Hea
 31 Melissa Hoey



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

03 Steve & Michele Wirtz
 04 Doug & Jenny Graham
 06 Bob & Pat Shaw
 25 Geoff & Connie McNames

Remember In Your Prayers

Those in the congregation who are experiencing physical or emotional distress:

David Levine Mark Hoey
 Donelle & Parker Moyer Dolores Moon
 Bill Gridley (Jennifer G. Johnson)
 Don & Colleen O'Hea (Mike O'Hea)
 Caramie Waugh & children
 Ron Lemke, in hospice (Margaret Kasak)
 Darlene(Rich Thurman)
 Baby Alyssa (Lew & Dolores Moon)
 Pete Weller Jean Ewaldz
 Mark Caldwell (Nancy Whitson)
 Noah (Rich & Cheryl Thurman)
 Sue Pedersen Joyce & Bill Brown
 Neva & Lori (Bernice Johnson)
 Bill Rhodes David (Stuart Glenny)
 Congratulations to Natalie & Olivia O'Hea for getting new jobs and positions
 John - (Jan & Pete Weller)
 Abbey (Deb & Jay Alms)
 Elizabeth - Jenny Graham



HAPPY 90TH & 75TH BIRTHDAYS TO REV. THOMAS HARDWICK & CORALEE HARDWICK (IN SEPTEMBER 2024)

NEXT NOISY CAN SUNDAY will be October 20. Save your change to bring for various local missions. Contact Sue Murr for any questions.



LUNCH & LEISURE The next Lunch and Leisure will meet on Friday, October 18th at 11:30 at Lydia's Cafe. It is located at 1710 Rural St in Rockford. Sign up by Wednesday, October 16 or call the church office or Beth Whitford at 779-424-2207.

REMEMBER: If you want the Pastor to know about a sick family member, or if you want news of a sick church family member relayed to the congregation for their prayers and support, **please make sure to let the Pastor or Mary know.** Mary will then send out the info via email and post on the AUMC FaceBook page in a timely fashion.



FALL STEWARDSHIP BIBLE STUDY Tuesday Mornings

The Finance Resource Committee & pastor Sarah invite you to join ‘24 Aldersgate **Fall Stewardship Bible Study & sermon series** that started September 17th. We use “Committed to Christ” (Bob Crossman) curriculum. Committed to Christ: Six Steps to a Generous Life is a six-week stewardship program that presents giving as a lifelong journey in Christian discipleship. This curriculum has an introductory part of stressing the importance of “Commitment to Christ” following six steps to a generous life: Prayer ; Bible Reading; Worship; Witness; Financial Giving; Service.

2024 Bible Study series Order

Curriculum: Committed to Christ - 6 steps to a generous life (Bob Crossman)*

Oct. 1st (Tues.): Worship (10:45 AM – Noon)

Oct. 8th (Tues.): Service (10:45 AM – Noon)

Oct. 15th (Tues.): Financial Giving (10:45 AM – Noon)

Oct. 22th (Tues.): Witness (10:45 AM – Noon)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27 IS PLEDGE SUNDAY

STEWARDSHIP QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS If you have any questions for the Stewardship team, stop into the meeting room after the Worship service on September 22, October 6 and October 20. The Stewardship team looks forward to your input.

2024 Rockford Crop Walk

HEY AUMC - Let’s take a walk...at the 2024 CROP Hunger Walk

Riverfront Museum Park, 711 North Main, Rockford is start and end point for walk

Registration starts at 1 PM, walk begins at 2 PM

Walk is on paved surfaces in the Rock River area

If you won’t be walking with AUMC, please support others at AUMC who are walking.

See Mike O’Hea if you have questions or wish to participate.

Thanks for your support, 2023 AUMC Mission Committee

WESLEY WILLOWS MEET AND EAT GROUP

The new group, WWMEP (Wesley Willow Meet, Eat, Pray), is for Wesley Willows residents. Our next luncheon is Friday, October 4 at 11:30 in the Town Center. Reservations can be made by contacting Alice Rice (815-624-7029) or by calling the church office by the evening before.

Last year the NIC Anti-Racism Task Force Pilgrimage Team conducted a Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Southern states. This year’s pilgrimage is in our own back yard. **Together with The Northern Illinois Conference Committee on Native American Ministries (CONAM), we are looking at racism from an Indigenous point of view.**

The 2024 pilgrimage is an October 14, 2024, Indigenous Peoples Day (formerly known as Columbus Day) event at **Starved Rock Lodge near Utica, Illinois, from 10 am- 3 pm.** We will have speakers, vendors, and an optional meal with a native twist. Additionally, **leading up to the event there will be four 90-minute Zoom sessions presented by Indigenous people.** The Zoom sessions are free and the only cost on the day of the event is for lunch.

We are encouraged to attend/participate. Details can be found at <https://www.umcnic.org/IndigenousPeoplesDay2024>.

Illinois abounds in native history and treasures (some of which will be on display at the event). Come and learn about your own backyard.

BIG THANKS to Stuart(Monica) Glenny for donating delicious sweet corn for Aldersgate congregants multiple times in August and September.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: There will be our church council meeting October 8th at 5:00. We will meet in the fellowship hall. If you cannot make the meeting please forward any information you would like shared to me and I will bring it up during the meeting.

Thank-you all council members for your dedication and service to the church. Rich Thurman – Chair

VISITS WITH THE CONGREGATION



WELCOME BACK!! Mary Ellen Francis, June Foster's daughter, has reinstated her membership with Aldersgate. We are glad to have her back!!

THANK YOU so much to Pastor Sarah, To Monica and to each one of you who helped make our transition from Grace UMC Church to new members of Aldersgate UMC Church so special. The day will remain a memorable event in our lives! Sharon and Stan Miller.

ALDERSGATE CRUISE NIGHT On October 13 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM, a fundraiser collecting coats, hats, hats, mittens for neighborhood kids. See the flyer for more details.

2024 CHARGE CONFERENCE Date and time is set. We will do it together with Beth Eden UMC. The location will be at Beth Eden UMC (3201 Huffman Blvd. Rockford, 61103). **December 8th(Sun.) 10am** - DS Hwa-Young will lead the worship as well as charge conference business matters during this time.(Regular worship time). Mark your calendar and plan to attend. The more details on Charge Conference booklet articles, reports and forms will be shared later.

TOY MINISTRY NEWS FOR OCTOBER 2024:

October already!! We still have toys to finish and we already have more than 800 ready to deliver and more almost ready to be put into bags. All of the car bodies are painted. We still have wheels that need to be painted; about 600-800. When the wheels are painted, Bill Rhodes puts one wheel on the axel, then George Franklin puts them on the cars, adding the second wheel. “♪ *The wheels on the cars go round and round*♪” after we get them painted. The last step is the Daisy and Bug detail and the rest of the cars get stickers.



Our busy production crew is: Pat Clankie, Tracy and Richard Clark, Pete Weller, Jean Hackenburg, Helen Garment, Theresa O'Hea, Stan Miller, Scott Miller, Anne Vestal, Bill Rhodes and George Franklin.

May God Bless all of you who are involved in this fulfilling ministry!

*Want to help the **TOY MINISTRY** but do not want to take "the work" to your home? Come and work downstairs (Toy Ministry Room at Aldersgate UMC) every Tuesday 9:30-11:30am. Contact Beth Boettner (815-633-6416) if you have any questions on Toy Ministry*

OCTOBER HELPERS

Lay Readers

October 6 Mike O’Hea
 October 13 Rachel Baskerville
 October 20 Jay Alms
 October 27 Rich Thurman

A/V Technicians

Andy Gloor
 Jay Alms
 Mike O’Hea
 Jenny Graham

Greeters

Rich & Cheryl Thurman
 Barb Pefley
 Anne Niday
 Sue Pedersen

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR 2025: *Anyone interested in lay reading or greeting in 2024, please contact Andy Gloor in person or via email.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - YOU ARE INVITED!

*Fall Festival (Beth Eden & Aldersgate UMC Combined event) - instead of having Trunk or Treat, this year, we will host Fall Festival on Oct. 27th (Sun.) 11:30am-1pm at Beth Eden UMC Fellowship hall. Fun games, crafts, activities, lunch and snacks will be provided in the space decorated with fall and Halloween themes. Wear your costume and join the fun.

*Bethlehem Marketplace to experience the Nativity scene at Beth Eden UMC on Dec. 7th (1:30pm-4pm) - Bring your family, walk around and interact with the 1st century Bethlehem people and the holy family. You will be filled with Christmas spirit.



Bethlehem Market planning mtg

Aldersgate and Beth Eden help West View Back to School celebration:



Children’s message
(Back pack blessing)



Commissioning
Teachers for
Sunday School



Revival Committee meetings

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Bible Study 10:45am- Noon	2 Clergy Meting Noon- 2:00pm	3	4 WW Meet & Eat	5 Christ UMC Tender Loving Craft Sale 9am to 3pm
6 20 th Sunday after Pentecost	7	8 Bible Study 10:45am- Noon Church Council Meeting 5:00pm	9	10	11	12
13 21 st Sunday after Pentecost Aldersgate Cruise Night 4:00pm-7:00pm	14	15 Bible Study 10:45am- Noon	16	17 Squeek Deadline	18 Lunch & Leisure	19
20 22 nd Sunday after Pentecost CropWalk	21	22 Bible study 10:45am- noon	23	24 Squeek goes out	25	26
27 23 rd Sunday after Pentecost Pledge Sunday Fall Festival at Beth Eden 11:30 am – 1 pm	28	29	30	31 Halloween		

ALDERSGATE *the*
"CORN BOIL"
CHURCH

4055 N ROCKTON AVE ROCKFORD
(NORTH OF RIVERSIDE BLVD)

October 13th
4 - 7pm



CruiseNite



AN EVENT TO RAISE
FUNDS TO ENSURE
OUR KIDS ARE
WARM THIS WINTER
SEASON.

Music by
"Wolfman",
Fellowship,
Food Trucks

**COME SEE
VINTAGE
VEHICLES &
MEET YOUR
NEIGHBORS**

Admission:
New or gently
used coats, hats,
mittens for our
neighborhood
school-aged kids



Trophies awarded: People's choice, Area reps choice & Pastor's choice.