

THE SQUEEK

October 2025 Volume 25, 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

Begin October with us ...

Join us in worship and fellowship as the church gears up again for the coming seasons. YOU are needed to be a part of our family.

October 5 9 am. Worship
Communion Sunday

October 12 9 am. Worship

October 15 New meeting schedule begins
4:00 pm. Trustees, Worship, Finance
5:00 pm. Church Council

October 16 Deadline for Squeek Articles

October 19 9 am. Worship
Noisy Can Sunday
1 PM Rockford Area Crop Walk

October 26 9:00 am. Worship –
2-4 PM Halloween Party, Trunk or Treat at
Beth Eden UMC, 3201 Huffman Blvd.

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Insert

Halloween party with Trunk or
Treat Flyer

Come pray with us.

10:30 am.

Tuesday morning

September 30th

Open to all.



OCTOBER 2025

I have a song running through my head as I write this month's article. It's the contemporary worship song, "10,000 Reasons," by Matt Redman.



"The sun comes up. It's a new day dawning.

It's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me.

Let me be singing when the evening comes."

- Stanza 1 of "10,000 Reasons," Matt Redman

When I was a first-year ministry intern in New York City, I joked with the young adult group that I had a list of 100 reasons why I didn't want to be married. After my joke, one of young adults asked if she could have a copy of my list. I shared that I didn't have an actual list. Now, I could have come up with one, but the point was that there were lots and lots of reasons why I didn't want to be married at the time.

Can you think of 1 reason to praise God today? How about 5? How about 10? As you begin your list, you may find yourself gaining momentum and realizing there's no end to the list of reasons we have for praising God.

"You're rich in love and You're slow to anger. Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness I will keep on singing. Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find."

Stanza 2 of "10,000 Reasons"

One of my reasons for praising God is YOU. I am proud to serve as the pastor of Aldersgate UMC. You never cease to surprise me, amaze me, and humble me. One example is your willingness to work together for events such as the "Church Homecoming" on September 21st. For months, you gathered, planned, set up and cleaned. You wrote and called, ordered and organized. Because of your service, our church was been able to celebrate a day of gathering old friends and welcoming new ones.

Another reason for praise is our fall ministries including Wednesday Fellowship Time, "Anxious for Nothing" small group, Prayer group and proposed Evening prayer group. Thank you to everyone who leads and supports these ministries. God is with us as we gather for prayer, worship and fellowship.

All of us have many reasons for praise. This includes the people who serve you, care for you, inspire you, and love you unconditionally. Have you taken time to thank them recently? Perhaps it's time to send a note, make a call, and express your gratitude.

Bless You Lord and on that day when my strength is failing.

The end draws near and my time has come.

Still my soul will sing Your praise unending. Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Stanza 3 of "10,000 Reasons"

(Continued on Page 3)

PASTOR'S MESSAGE FOR OCTOBER 2025 (Continued From Page 2)

As I write this article, our church is preparing to celebrate the lives of Bill Schulz and Joyce Hart. As I listened to family share stories about their loved ones, I was struck by the dedication, love and kindness with which Joyce and Bill lived their lives. Both Joyce and Bill lived full lives marked by strength, courage, humbleness and integrity. Life is so precious and fleeting. Have you considered the legacy you leave behind? What kind of impact is God calling you to make?

Hear the good news – God is not done with you yet. If you're reading this article, there's still more for you to do. Every day offers new opportunities to plant seeds of compassion, mercy, forgiveness and kindness. So, let's do it. Thank you, Lord, for the gift of this day!

***“Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul. Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before, oh my soul. I'll worship Your Holy name.”***
Chorus of “10,000 Reasons”

Fall is a beautiful season to renew our faith and recommit our lives to Jesus Christ. On September 28, we will start a 6 week discipleship series of bible studies, sermons, testimonies and stewardship presentations. I encourage you to make weekly worship a priority this fall. We also have two wonderful opportunities to serve our neighbors: Crop Walk and Community Trunk or Treat.

Crop Walk is our partnership with Church World Services to eradicate hunger. Contact Mike O'Hea for more information. The Community Trunk or Treat is our partnership with Beth Eden UMC to bless local children and families. If you'd like to decorate your trunk or donate candy, contact Rich Thurman, Jammie Weisse and Revitalization Committee.

I also want to express my gratitude to AUMC leadership for their collaboration with Beth Eden leadership. They met on Sept 17 to brainstorm ideas for shared ministry opportunities. Let's pray for God's wisdom and blessing on their work together.

Fall is a season of change. It's a time for celebrating the bounties of God's goodness. May God bless you and your loved ones as we walk through this season together.

Pastor Sarah

Sermon Topics and Scriptures

Sep. 28th - Anxious for Nothing 1: Rejoice in the Lord (Philippians 4:4)

October 5th - Anxious for Nothing 2: Gentleness be evident (Philippians 4:5)

October 12th - Anxious for Nothing 3: Prayer Request (Philippians 4:6)

October 19th - Anxious For Nothing 4: Peace in Finance (Philippians 4:4-8)

October 26th - (Pledge Sunday) Anxious For Nothing 5: Guard Your heart (Philippians 4: 7)

November 2nd - (All Saints Day) Anxious For Nothing 6: Meditate on these Things (Philippians 4:8)



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Baylee Didier
01 Breanna Wilburn
04 Loretta Glenney
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

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**JOYCE HART CELEBRATION OF LIFE**  
will be Saturday October 4th 2pm at Aldersgate UMC. Light refreshment will be provided after the service. Come and share your memories of Joyce with her family.  
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**2025 TRUNK OR TREAT** will be held at Beth Eden on Sunday, October 26th, time is 2:00-4:00PM. This will follow Beth Eden's Fall Festival. Watch the bulletin for more details.  
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**2025 ROCKFORD CROP WALK:** This year's CROP Walk will be on October 19th at 1pm. Keep watching the bulletins and Squeek for more details.  
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**WESLEY WILLOWS MEET AND EAT GROUP.** Our next luncheon is Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:30 in the Town Center. Contact Alice Rice (815-624-7029) or call the church office by the evening before.  
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**NOISY CAN SUNDAY** will be October 19<sup>th</sup>.  
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Remember In Your Prayers

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

Harold Gibson Rachel Baskerville (healing)
Bernice Johnson Tracy Marsh
Charles & Felicity (Jan Weller)
Audrey (Andy Gloor's mother)
Mike Thurman (Rich Thurman)
Morgan Pefley (Barb Pefley)
Laura Wright (Jane Nihan's daughter)
Tom (Ray Prentice's uncle)
Jim (Sharon Miller's nephew)
Becky (Lu Franseen's sister) Brenda Westphal
Mindy Ambrose Ray & Jon (John & Linda)
Jon Boettner Pastor Lew Moon
Anita (Jane Nihan)



Safe travels for Rev. Jerry & Donna Robey
Farewell blessings to Walt Quick as he joins his family this weekend.

Continued prayers for Palestine area's children, women and other vulnerable (Coralee)

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.

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Outdoor worship on Aug. 24



(3)



Vision team met with Evans & Beth Eden

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August 31 puppets Aldersgate and Beth Eden Combined Church Councils plan future events



VISITS WITH THE CONGREGATION



NEW MEMBERS September 2025



Ray Prentice



Fred Hawn



Shary Stelter



Elaine Hyre

2025 COMBINED CHURCH CONFERENCE with Beth Eden will be Sunday, December 14th, 10:00am at Aldersgate. SPRCs will meet at 9:30am. 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 2025:

We are getting close to meeting the goal for 2025. Now is the time of year that we will start getting requests for cars for Christmas gifting.



We will plan another day to bag cars very soon. There are already approximately 700 cars bagged and ready for delivery. Another 590 or more are almost finished.

Busy!! Busy!! Busy!!

Many Thanks to our painters and 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

	<u>Lay Readers</u>	<u>A/V Technicians</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
October 5	Jenny Graham	Jay Alms	Jean Carruthers
October 12	Theresa O’Hea	Mike O’Hea	Marylon Cole
October 19	Shary Stelter	Jenny Graham	Andy Gloor
October 26	Jay Alms	Andy Gloor	Barb Pefley

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR 2026: *Anyone interested in lay reading or greeting in 2026, please contact Andy Gloor in person or via email. Anyone interested in working the AV booth in 2026, contact Mike O’Hea.*

SEPTEMBER 21 ALDRSGATE’S HOMECOMING SUNDAY MANY, MANY THANKS

to the following people for their help in making our Homecoming Sunday a very special event!.
I appreciate ALL of you:

- Set-up – Rich Thurman, Jay Alms, Barbara Pefley, and Marylon Cole;
- Displays – Missions – Mike O’Hea and Jan Weller; AUMC history – Theresa O’Hea and Pat Clankie;
- Poster and bulletin cover design and shoe display in the worship area – Jenny Graham;
- Gift bags – Rich & Cheryl Thurman with special thanks to Jan Weller for the crocheted crosses and Jeremiah Griffin for the wooden ornaments;
- Cake – Andy & Wendy Gloor;
- Beverages – Monica Glenny;
- Caterer liaison and provider of the beautiful fresh flower arrangements - Barbara Pefley;
- Worship service participants – Pastor Sarah Hong, our District Superintendent Hwa-Young Chong , and lay reader and MC, Andy Gloor;
- The ensemble and Jane Nihan for the music;
- Former pastors who shared in the service with us – Pastor Kitty Ganzel, Pastor George & Myra David, and letters from Pastors SungJa Lee Moon, John Alan Boryk and Thomas Hardwick;
- Penguin Catering – we appreciated their serving, cordiality and the yummy food;
 - To everyone who joined us in this celebration of Aldersgate United Methodist Church!

And especially to my committee: Monica Glenny and Theresa O’Hea.

I am thankful for all of you! Coralee Hardwick

*At Homecoming Sunday, we forgot to mention one of the former pastors, Brett Todd. He was a wonderful pastor who served and cared for many from 2020 to 2023 at Aldersgate. Brett retired in June of 2023 and resides in Stillman Valley, IL. He was a former pastor right before pastor Sarah Hong.



Trunk or Treat

Photo Booth

Games and Prizes



Costume Contest

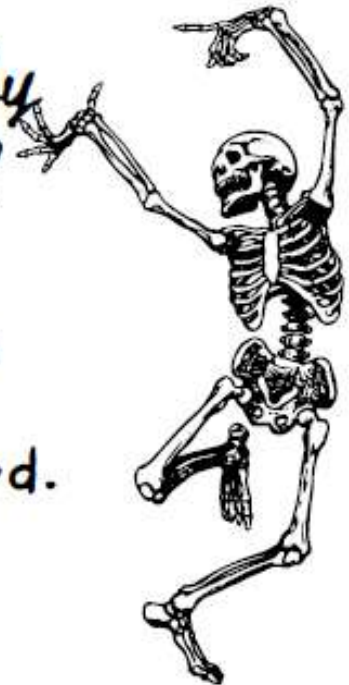
Sunday, October 26th
2pm to 4 pm

Brought to you by
Aldersgate UMC

815-654-3800

Held at Beth Eden
UMC

3201 Huffman Blvd.
Rockford IL



October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Wednesday Fellowship time 10:00 AM	2	3 WW Meet & Eat	4 Joyce Hart Celebration of Life 2:00 PM with light refreshments following
5 17 th Sunday after Pentecost Communion Sunday	6	7 “Anxious for Nothing” Bible Study 3:30 PM	8 Wednesday Fellowship time 10:00 AM	9	10	11
12 18 th Sunday after Pentecost	13	14 “Anxious for Nothing” Bible Study 3:30 PM	15 Wednesday Fellowship time 10:00 AM 4:00 Trustees 4:00 Worship 4:00 Finance 5:00 Church Council	16 Squeek Deadline	17	18
19 19 th Sunday after Pentecost Noisy Can Sunday Crop Walk 1:00 PM	20	21 “Anxious for Nothing” Bible Study 3:30 PM	22 Wednesday Fellowship time 10:00 AM	23 Squeek goes out	24	25
26 20 th Sunday after Pentecost Halloween Party with Trunk or Treat at Beth Eden 2-4 PM	27	28 “Anxious for Nothing” Bible Study 3:30 PM	29 Wednesday Fellowship time 10:00 AM	30	31	