ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

OCTOBER 2020

Aldersgate's Mission Statement:
GATHER in Community—GROW through Discipleship—GO into the world

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:00 a.m. Traditional Service
10:10 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Modern Day Service

OFFICE DETAILS:
Hours: 8:30a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Social Distancing procedures observed.
211 Alice Drive
Sumter, SC 29150
(803)775-1602
email: aldersgate@ftc-i.net
www.aldersgatesumtersc.org

STAFF
Senior Pastor:
Rev. David Day (ext. 101)
cell-(803)587-1682
[Please contact Pastor Day on his cell phone before calling the church.]
Associate Pastor
Rev. Marcus Johnston (ext. 110)
(803) 316-6373
Director of Children:
Jennifer Smith (ext. 102)
Youth Director:
Jonathan Brooks (ext. 104)
Director of Music/Organist:
Mark Hodges
Administrative Assistance:
Patricia McCormick (ext. 100)
Custodian:
Shpendi Dani

Choosing to Be Thankful!

October, 2020

"How we experience life has less to do with life's circumstances than the attitude we choose to bring to those circumstances." This is a quote from a little devotional guidebook I used to receive from one the Funeral Home Services entitled, "Clergy Talk". (November 2000, p. 3) Who of us can argue with such a statement? Why are some people so resentful and others so grateful? How can one person who is terminally ill say, *"Life is a song that keeps on singing",* while another bitterly complains when they stump their toe?

Such a contrast reminds me of the well-known writer, Simone De Beavoir, who from all appearances seemed to be enjoying the limelight of success and recognition. However, on one occasion, she confessed what life was really like to her: *"The most important, the most irreparable thing that has happened to me is that I have grown old. The promises have all been kept, and yet, I realize with stupor how much I was gypped…"* Her indignant attitude is in stark difference to a young teenage quadriplegic who was asked by a social worker if he ever wished he had never been born. With big smile on his face, he replied, *"I would not have missed being alive for anything. I thank God for each and every moment."*

The apostle Paul, as did the young teenager, clearly understood that gratitude is something we choose. It's a decision we make. And while it's true that life presents us with both moments of overwhelming joy and dreadful despair, we do have a choice to be thankful or not. Paul opted for the former and encourages us to do the same. He chose to be grateful, and in his letter to the Thessalonians he challenges us to be likewise. "*Be joyful always; 17 pray continually; 18 give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.* (I Thessalonians 5:17-18 NIV)

Yes, gratitude is a choice, and when we choose to be thankful, we realize how we can cope with, and make the most of, what we have been given, be it good or not, and just how much God has blessed us. Therefore, may we choose to celebrate our many blessings every day by developing an attitude of gratitude, regardless of our circumstances.

With Love from Jesus, and a Grateful Heart,

Pastor David

Audio/Video Help Needed
Because we are now doing both services indoors we are in need of volunteers to help with both video and audio equipment for the 9:00 a.m. traditional service. Please contact Pastor David and the office as soon as possible if your are interested in serving AUMC in this manner.

OCTOBER Birthdays

Jim Brown	1	Robin Cox	14
Shpendi Dani	1	Nancy Thompson	15
Sylvia McFaddin	1	Carolyn Hudson	19
Suzy Allred	2	Krista Jennings	22
Kendyl White	2	Stephanie Smith	22
T. Davis	4	Tanya Sari	24
Mac McLeod	4	Jean Jackson	25
Marsha Witbeck	5	Teresa Seebeck	26
Joseph Davis III	9	Jim Bowman	28
Carol Fleury	9	Wilma Crayton	28
Harry Stitzel	9	Sue Dubose	29
Mary Jane Schultz	10	Beth Morris	29
Kelly Brady	11	Ryan Dani	30
Connie Wright	13	Jack Fudger	30
Sharon Andrews	14		

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Norm & Betty Taylor, Betty Hodges, Lynn Boan, Morgan White (deployed), Carey Player, Doug Wright, John Watt, Susan Hepler

Remember all our homebound members, military, and our nation's leaders.

CHILDREN'S Ministry NEWS

Our Children's Ministry be offering a free photo per family. The pictures will be loaded to Facebook for you to share. Due to the volume of people expected, we cannot take the picture using your camera or phone. We will not be able to email it to you. We ask that you follow all recommendations regarding COVID. We can't wait to see you at The Aldersgate Pumpkin Patch on Oct 10th between 9am-12pm.

-Jennifer Smith, Children's Director

NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship
10:10 a.m.	Sunday School
11:00 a.m.	Modern Day Worship

Church Care Taker for the month of October is .

FROM the Youth Director

Happy October! Our youth (grades 6th-12th) are continuing to meet on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, typically from 6:30-8pm, as we can continue to take precautions against Covid-19. The youth are all encouraged to help unload pumpkins at the church on Oct. 7th and volunteer for shifts at the Pumpkin Patch this month as they have time available to help serve. Please let me know if your students are interested in volunteering.

We will also be continuing our Gospel Project bible study on Wednesday nights this Fall and our devotional series in Mark on Sunday nights. We will offer youth Sunday School once again this month from 10:10 to 10:50am on Sunday mornings, and we will be studying scripture in alignment with the weekly contemporary worship service teachings.

Jon Brooks, Youth Director

From the UMW

UMW COAT AND SOCK DRIVE

During the month of October the UMW is going to sponsor a church-wide Coat and New Socks Drive. Coats can be used (sweaters, hoodies, any warm clothing) but socks have to be new.

OCTOBER CIRCLE MEETINGS

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

Circle #1: 10:00 a.m. at church
Circle #2: 7:00 p.m. at church
Circle #3: 10:00 a.m. at church

UMW BOARD will meet on Tuesday, October 20 at 6:30 p.m.

WESLEY FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS will resume meeting on October 4, 2020 at 10:10 a.m. Social Distancing procedures will be followed.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Pumpkin Patch Hours: Sunday-Friday 2:00-6:00pm Saturday 10:00am-6:00pm			1	2	3
4 9:00am Traditional Service 10:10am Sunday School 11:00am Modern Day Service 6:30pm Youth	5 FH Reserved	6 10:00am Circle #1 10:00am Circle #3 7:00pm Circle #2	7 7:15am UMM (FH) 6:30pm Youth Pumpkins Arrive	8 10:00am Knurturing Knitters	9	10 9:00am-12:00pm Free Fall mini portraits for Kids
11 9:00am Traditional Service 10:10am Sunday School 11:00am Modern Day Service 6:30pm Youth	12	13	14 6:30pm Youth	15	16	17 Virtual Annual Conference
18 9:00am Traditional Service 10:10am Sunday School 11:00am Modern Day Service 6:30pm Youth	19	20 6:30pm UMW Board (Conf. Rm.)	21 6:30pm Youth	22 10:00am Knurturing Knitters	23	24 7:00pm Outdoor Movie "It's the Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown"
25 9:00am Traditional Service 10:10am Sunday School 11:00am Modern Day Service 6:30pm Youth	26	27	28 6:30pm Youth	29	30	31