

THE  
**GATEPOST**

OCTOBER 2024



In This Issue

Youth Events  
Steak Dinner  
Fall Golf Tournament

# October Highlights

## October 1

Coat Drive starts

## October 2

Socktober Starts

Charity Sewing 1:30 PM

## October 3

Leadership Development Meeting 6:30 PM

## October 5

Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM

Stephen Ministry Training 8:00 AM

## October 6

Fall Golf Tournament 1:30 PM

Christmas Cantata Rehearsal starts 2:00 PM

Pet Blessing & Cookout 4:00 PM

## October 7

SPR Meeting 6:30 PM

## October 8

Property Oversight Meeting 6:30 PM

## October 9

Cantata Rehearsal 7:30 PM

## October 12

Steak Dinner 6:00 PM

## October 13

Joyful Noise Singers 2:30 PM

## October 20

Laity Sunday

Cantata Rehearsal 2:00 PM

5th and 6th Grade Bonfire 5:00 PM

Youth Corn Maze Trip 5:00 PM

## October 22

Finance Meeting 6:30 PM

## October 26

Stephen Ministry Training 8:00 AM

## October 27

Exploring Membership 4:00 PM

## October 30

Fall Festival 6:30 PM

# Weekly Calendar

## Mondays

Stronger - Men's Group 5:30 AM

Women of the Word 9:30 AM

Women of Hope (2nd and 4th) 6:00 PM

Spirit Sisters (1st and 3rd) 6:30 PM

Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM

## Tuesdays

Life Lessons Study 9:30 AM

Aldersgate Time of Prayer 6:30 PM

Disciple 1 2:00 PM

## Wednesdays

Youth Praise Band Practice 5:00 PM

Dinner 5:30 PM

Ark Wed. 6:30 PM

5 & 6 Grade Wed. 6:30 PM

7 & 8 Grade Wed. 6:30 PM

High School Wed. 6:30 PM

Choir Practice 6:30 PM

Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 PM

Young Adult Study 6:30 PM

Grace Bible Study 6:30 PM

Families Matter Bible Study 6:30 PM

Cantata Rehearsal 7:30 PM

## Thursdays

Knitwits 10:00 AM

Stephen Ministry Training 6:00 PM

Stephen Ministry Meeting (2nd & 4th) 6:30 PM

## Saturdays

Cardio Strength/Dance Exercise Class 9:30 AM

## Sundays

Young Adult Lunch 12:15 PM

Disciple 3 6:00 PM

High School Small Group 6:00 PM

# Sunday School Classes

## Sundays

Crossroads Sunday School 8:15 AM

Club Aldersgate 9:45 AM

Seekers Sunday School 9:45 AM

Youth/Children Sunday School 9:45 AM

# Sundays at Aldersgate

## Services

Traditional Service 8:15 AM

Contemporary Service 9:45 AM

Family Service 11:11 AM

# RESCUED AND REDEEMED!

## AN EXODUS JOURNEY

Greetings Aldersgate,

We have begun the beautiful fall season, and as I write this, the rain has brought what we need to prepare for the next season. We started a new sermon series called *Rescued and Redeemed*, which will take us to Advent as we learn from Exodus the lessons of living after being rescued. The Holy Spirit is moving in powerful ways as we heard from our team that attended New Room in Houston, TX. We are looking forward to hearing more from them and how we might share the experience here at Aldersgate.

We have seen a surge in those attending studies and new families are joining us weekly in our worship. Please be mindful of welcoming everyone to our campus and helping them to get connected in a group, and how they might be able to use their gifts at Aldersgate and in our community.

We did experience some very difficult moments in September, with losses in our Church Family and extended families, but as we continue in God's grace, we, like the people of Israel, will push forward to the Promised Land. I am so grateful to our leaders in the Grief Share Ministry, who held the Loss of a Spouse event in the afternoon and evening. Peggy, Kay, Lugene, and Stephen touched many lives with God's love and will offer a Surviving the Holidays event, later. In the spring, they will have the several-week gatherings of Grief Share. If you know of someone or know you are dealing with grief, then please let them know, or make plans to attend yourself.

Please watch for our students to be serving on October 6 throughout the 9:45 hour!

See You Sunday in Worship (here or where you are!)

Love In Christ,  
Pastor Dennis

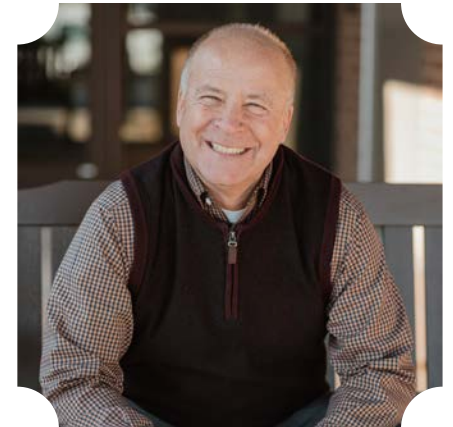
Sunday, Oct. 6 at 4:00 PM

Church  
Pet Blessing



Outside the Youth Building

Join us Sunday, Oct. 6 from 4-6 PM for a blessing of our pets and a cookout after. Please sign up in the app or call the church office at 417-725-4949.



### Pastors

**Dennis Miller - Lead Pastor**

**Sarah Fotopulos - Executive Pastor**

### Staff

**Brenda Clark - Business Administrator**

**Casey Freeland - Communications Director**

**Christian Barnard - Contemporary Worship Director**

**Ellie Bakken - Children's Director**

**Jeff Huber - Traditional Worship Director**

**Jared Middleton - Worship Technical Lead**

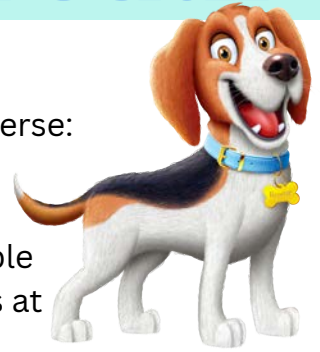
**Jennifer Kelley - Church Secretary**

**Rob Howard - Youth Director**

**Shannon Dodson - Early Childhood Director**

# A.R.K. and Aldersgate Youth

## This Month's Bible Verse

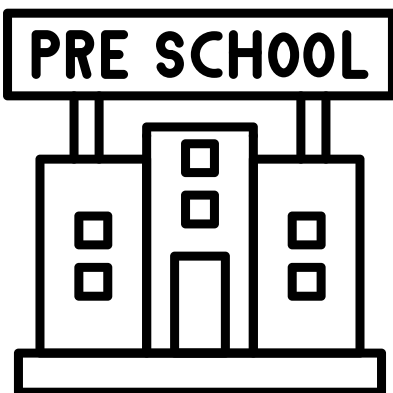


Meet Rover! In October, our Bible Buddy Rover is going to help us learn our new verse: "For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation." Psalm 100:5

Kids on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights will be able to memorize this Bible verse to get their picture taken for our star wall and get a reward. Join us Sundays at 9:45 or Wednesdays at 6:30 to feel the joy of the Lord with ARK!



**WANTED: Sunday School Teachers!!!** We have so many 3rd and 4th graders each week that we are splitting them into two separate classes! This is great news and brings another opportunity for YOU to volunteer with our children's area! We need two teachers with each class from 9:30-10:45. Lessons, videos and music will be planned and ready for you. You can choose one week a month, every other week, or a one-month block at a time. The kids of Aldersgate are showing up ready to learn about God's love, and we know that your willingness to give one hour on Sunday mornings make a huge impact on their growing in faith. Please help us grow these young disciples.



Aldersgate Righteous Kids Preschool is back!! Our program has grown so much that we have three packed classrooms Monday-Thursday and have even added Fridays to our schedule. We have 44 kids, aged 2-5, filling our hallways this year, and we pray that each of them leaves with the love of God in their hearts and a love of school in their minds. This is a great ministry for Aldersgate to open our building to many families in our community and welcome them here.

There is an option in online giving for "ARK Preschool Scholarship" so if you feel led to donate to families that need tuition help, please choose that option when you give. We don't ever want finances to keep children from sharing the good news we share at ARK Preschool!



We are collecting new socks for our friends at Abundant Blessings. Socks will go in the basket at the ARK Desk.



ALDRSGATE 5TH AND 6TH GRADE

# BONFIRE *Hayride*



**SUN. OCT. 20**

5:00 - 7:00 PM

Jon and Tammy King's House - 230 W. Cedar St. Nixa, MO

Our annual 5th & 6th grade bonfire will be October 20th from 5:00 - 7:00 PM. Bring a decorated or carved pumpkin for a contest! We will have hot dogs, sides, and s'mores! Meet at Tammy King's house (230 W Cedar St, Nixa).

# High School

SMALL GROUP

SUNDAYS

6:00 PM

OCT. 6

ROBYN THOMAS'

OCT. 13

MARY CUNNINGHAM'S

OCT. 27

CHERIE GREGORY'S

177 Carob Road Clever, MO

Campbell's Maze Daze

# 7TH-12TH GRADE CORN MAZE

SUN. OCT. 20

5-7 PM

\$10



IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN!!

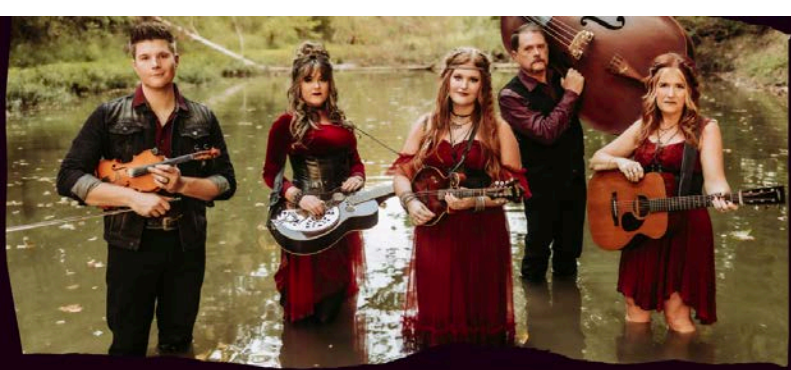
# WE NEED CANDY DONATIONS!!

Bring donations by the office or Sunday mornings



# STEAK DINNER

Oct. 12



## ALDRSGATE STEAK DINNER

ENTERTAINMENT BY:  
LINDLEY CREEK

SAT. OCT. 12

DINNER - 6:00 PM

SHOW - 7:15 PM

DINNER TICKETS \$25 EACH  
SHOW INCLUDED

460 W. ALDRSGATE NIXA, MO

Acts 2:42-47 talks about believers coming together praising God, fellowshiping, and sharing a meal. The annual Men's Fellowship steak dinner is just that, a time believers will gather and enjoy a meal together praising God for what He has provided and for being always present in each of our daily walk. The date is October 12 at 6:00 PM with a concert by the Bluegrass gospel group Lindley Creek to start about 7:15 PM. Tickets are available for purchase between services on Sunday and in the office during the week. Tickets are \$25 each and this year we are able to take credit card payments.



CHRISTIAN COUNTY OPTIMIST CLUB

Coats for Kids Drive

THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

COAT DRIVE

Every year, we team up with the Optimist Club to collect winter coats for our area kids. We will have a big blue bin out to collect coats for the entire month. They do collect adult sizes too so if you have an extra coat in your closet or your kids have outgrown their coats from last year, please bring them to church and we will get them to people who need the.



EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP



ALDRSGATE CHURCH

The next Exploring Membership class will be Sunday, Oct. 27 at 4:00 PM. If you would like to attend please call the church office at 417-725-4949.

## FAMOUS ALDRSGATE PIES

The famous Aldersgate Apple Pies are ready for purchase starting Monday, Sept. 30 at noon. They will be in the CLC Gym and will be \$15 each. After Monday, they will be available for purchase on Sunday mornings between services and Wednesday nights until they are gone. Be sure to pick up your pie early because they will sell out fast.



# FINANCIAL BRIEF

By: Ben Stone

Year-to-date financial summary through August 31 of this year and last year:

	2024	2023 (excluding disaffiliation costs)
Revenue	\$ 664,603	\$ 641,789
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 882,803	\$ 824,705
Actual Expenses	\$ 768,712	\$ 763,243
Net	\$(104,109)	\$(121,454)

The original loan amount for the new Learning Center was \$4,162,200.

The current balance as of August 31, 2024, is \$3,097,208.

As you read this, we have begun the fourth quarter of 2024. We enter this last quarter of the year much like we have entered the final quarter of the previous several years – having accumulated a sizable budget deficit. In the last few years, God has moved our congregation as a whole, and deficits have been wiped out with generous giving in the last three months of the year. Let's finish 2024 strong! One place to start – if you have automatic payments to the church established, please review to ensure payment information is current and contributions are being made as intended. Also, if it's been a while since you set up your recurring payments, the Kindrid interface has changed to allow you to add on an amount to cover processing fees; please consider checking this box to help the church cover the cost of providing this convenient payment method.

In addition to opening the fourth quarter with a deficit, another thing happening right now is our ministry groups are developing budgets for 2025. One's faith can be stretched when planning to invest in all the things we do to nurture relationships with God and bring Christ's love to the community, while knowing we currently have a large deficit; it is a little uncomfortable. "Discomfort" was one of the themes when a few of our brothers and sisters, on a recent Sunday morning, shared their experiences at the New Room conference. If we're comfortable, we're probably not maxing out our capacity for which we were created. As we head into the holiday season and a new year, may we be full of a bold love and pervasive hope, seeking and honoring God with our hearts, minds, time and finances.

## Christmas Cantata Rehearsals

If you love Christmas and love to sing, we would like to invite you to be a part of the Christmas Cantata this year.

The first rehearsal will be on Sunday, Oct. 6 at 2:00 PM, followed by a rehearsal on Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 7:30 PM. Come and see if this would be a good fit for you. All are welcome. Email [JHuber@aldersgatechurch.com](mailto:JHuber@aldersgatechurch.com) if you have questions.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

SAT. OCT. 5  
7:30 AM  
CLC GYM



## CHRISTMAS CANTATA

# SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



3rd Grade Bibles



Young Adult Pizza Olympics



See a Need Fill a Need Powerwashing

Battle Bows and Tacos



Battle Bows and Tacos

5th and 6th Grade Bowling



5th and 6th Grade Bowling



New Room Conference



Youth Kick-Off Pool Party

