

Gatepost

MARCH 2025



ISSUE No 03

**ALDRSGATE ARTS
FESTIVAL**

**ASH WEDNESDAY
SERVICE**

**ALDRSGATE
BOOK CLUB**

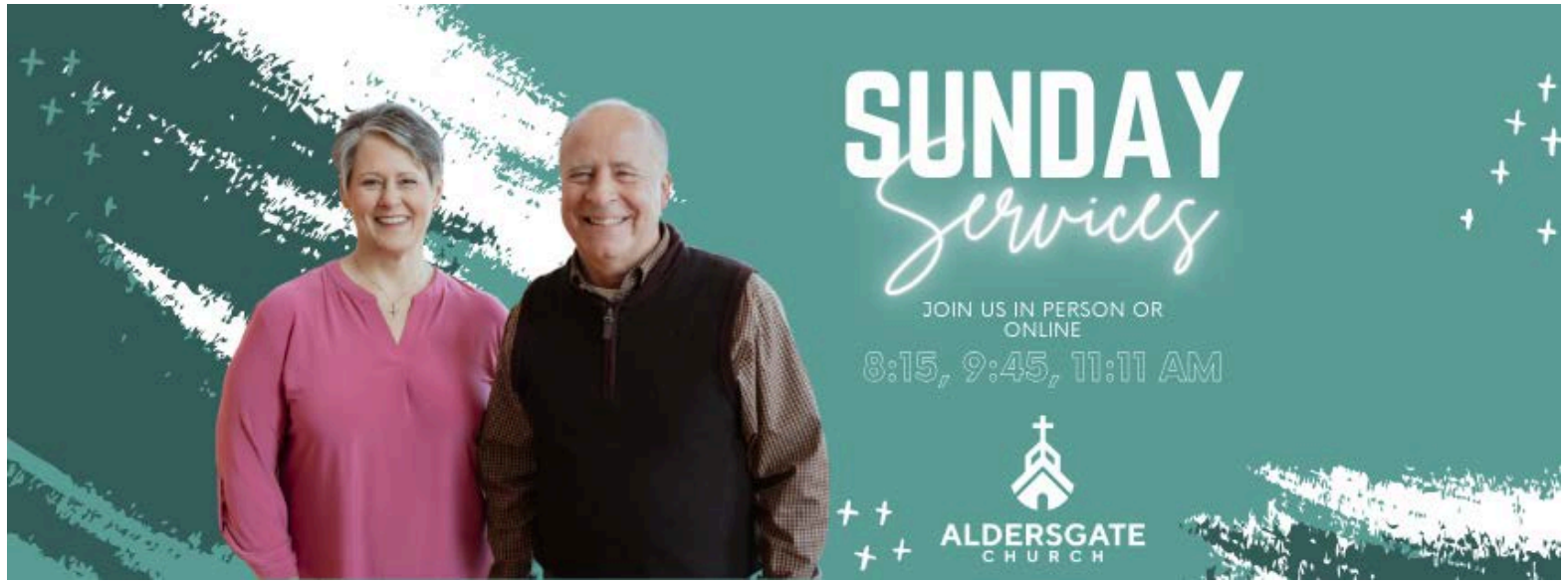
Upcoming Events March

01	MEN'S BREAKFAST	7:30 AM
05	CHARITY SEWING ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE	1:30 PM 6:30 PM
06	LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT MEETING	6:30 PM
07-08	SUPER START IN TULSA, MO	
09	JOYFUL NOISE SINGERS	2:30 PM
11	PROPERTY OVERSIGHT MEETING	6:30 PM
12	MISSION TRIP MEETING	7:30 PM
19	NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT - SPRING BREAK CHOIR WILL PRACTICE	6:30 PM
24	FINANCE MEETING	6:30 PM
31	BOOK CLUB	5:30 PM

Get
the
App

Download the church app to stay up-to-date on all church events. Search Aldersgate Church of Nixa in your App Store.





Jesus the Stranger

Greetings Aldersgate,

We have weathered the winter storm and are rapidly approaching the coming spring. We have been called to Holiness and my prayer is that we continue to explore our growth as we enter the season of Lent. We began this year with generosity from the congregation as we held our shoeper/super bowl collection for Least of the These and Abundant Blessings. In addition, we successfully covered all of January's ministry expenses with a slight surplus entering February. As we celebrate Ash Wednesday this March 5th, I hope you will join our students as they help lead this meaningful worship service.

We begin a new Sermon Series for Lent beginning March 9th, "Jesus the Stranger". Please be prepared to encounter God by offering your life as a "living sacrifice" to our Lord, and to see the transformation in your life through this time of reflection and repentance. God is doing great things and we will continue to "see beyond our circumstances" as we participate in God's mission.

Please pray for our 5th and 6th graders, and me, 😊 as we head to SuperStart, in Tulsa on March 7th and 8th. This is an amazing experience for students and adults, serving as leaders for the trip.

We continue to pray for discernment for our Task Force and Board of Directors but are excited to hear more about the direction God is leading us in faith.

Please watch for our students to be serving on March 2nd, throughout the 9:45 hour, and join us at one of our services to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

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

Love In Christ,
Pastor Dennis

Dennis Miller
LEAD PASTOR

DID YOU KNOW?

Altar Flower Book



Out front on the round table in the rotunda, there is a binder that has our Altar Flower book on it. This lays out each Sunday for the whole year and gives you the opportunity to buy Altar flowers for a specific Sunday. The cost for the arrangement is \$35 and you can elect to take the arrangement home or donate it to our homebound members.

Aldersgate on Wheels

When friends/family are not available to help, who lovingly provides a ride to important doctor's appointments for people in our church family? Could it be you?

This ministry is a lower commitment with a call usually once a month. Contact LaNita Brumley or call the office for more information.



SHIELD (Church Security)

Shield is looking for those who want serve the Lord and their church community by helping to provide a safe environment for members, guests, and staff. If you are called to be a protector, let's talk! There is an interview process for this volunteer position.



LifeGroups

Doing Life Together

We were not created to do life alone but in community with God and others. A small group provides opportunities to meet new people and grow supportive relationships no matter your stage in life!

There are multiple groups that meet on a variety of nights. We are always looking for new groups to spring up too.

If you are interested in joining or starting a LifeGroup, please reach out to Cindy Hughes or Grace Bryson. For a listing of current LifeGroups, please visit our church website and click on the Connections tab.



CROSSING THE THRESHOLD

By: Ed Vigneaux

2 Corinthians 11:2 and Hosea 2:19

I recently finished reading a book by one of my favorite Christian authors, Max Lucado, titled *When Christ Comes*. The book is in the church library, and I encourage each of you to read it.

In the chapter by the same title as this article, Max tells the story of a Prince who asks a peasant girl to be his bride. Why would he do this? He is a stately prince, and she is a common peasant. She's plain, but could be beautiful; not ugly, but could be and often is.

According to the prince, he can't live without her, so he asks her to be his bride. However, soon after proposing, he announces that he must go away. But he tells her that he will return soon.

Why must he leave so soon? He is the prince of the kingdom and surely there is work to do in and for the kingdom.

What will the bride do while he is gone? Will she pine for his return? Would she be thinking about, and planning the wedding? Unfortunately, that is not what she does. She does just the opposite. Is she rebellious or just forgetful? How could she forget her groom?

You see, this story is not unlike us. Are we not the bride of Christ? Have we not been set apart as a pure bride to her husband?

You see, Jesus could live without us, but he doesn't want to. He longs for us to be his bride. I heard someone say recently that Heaven would not be the same without you there. That is exactly how our Lord and Savior feels. He wants to share Heaven with us, and it just won't be the same without us there.

Max ends this chapter with these words; "be obsessed with your wedding date and guard against forgetfulness. You are engaged to royalty, and your Prince is coming to take you home. Let us love and serve one another. Let us Be Love. Let us be Christ in the world.

We are blessed to be a blessing.



If you have not had a chance to venture of to the slat wall in the commons area, please take a moment to go visit it.

There are individual cards that are constantly updated with current needs around our church.

If you see a card that speaks to you, please take it and fill it out and leave it in the offering box or at the office. We will reach out to you and coordinate a time for you to complete the need.

Youth Update

High School Small Group for March
Sunday, March 2 at Mary Cunningham's
Sunday, March 9 Robyn Thomas'
Sunday, March 30 Cherie Gregory's.
If you are a high school student and haven't come to Small Group, please give it a shot. This is an enjoyable way to connect and grow spiritually with your peers. Each Sunday we meet at 6:00 PM at the host home, share a meal, and break off into small groups for bible studies.



Summer Mission Trip

This summer our Youth Mission Trip team will be going to the Appalachian Mountains to serve.

The next Mission Trip Meeting will be Wednesday, March 12 at 7:30 PM. Please make plans to attend.

We want to say a big thank you to everyone who supported the Youth Mission Team in February with buying baked goods, allowing us to watch your kids at Parents Night Out and to anyone who donated to the Red Envelope Fundraiser which raised \$9,809! We have such an amazing and supportive church family and we are so grateful for all of you.



Young Adults

Our Young Adult group here at Aldersgate is thriving. If you are a college-age student, give this group a shot.

They meet every Sunday at 12:15 PM for lunch, homemade by one of our wonderful Aldersgate family, in room LC 204.

On Wednesday night, they meet for dinner at 5:30 PM in the CLC Gym and then head to LC 204 at 6:30 PM for a Bible study. The study is usually topical and selected by members of NOVA.

They also have fun events every month and these are open to any to attend. If you are interested in getting more information please contact Christian Barnard at cbarnard@aldersgatechurch.com or you can text Christian at 417-425-2718.



March Event

16 MOVIE NIGHT



March Bible Buddy:
Decker the decorator crab

March Verse: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."
John 13:34

Join us each Sunday morning at 9:45 AM PK-4th grade in the ARK Wing for Sunday school.



We ♥ our Volunteers

We are constantly looking for extra help on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights for our ARK classes. As we start the new year, we want to have our classes full of volunteers. That means you! Find out how you can get involved this year, the commitment is what you make it. We are happy to have you every week or once a month, you get to decide. Scan the QR code to get started.

Easter CANDY

Please grab a bag of empty eggs from a tub around campus and bring them back filled with candy!! We have a lot of eggs to fill up for our Easter Egg hunt. We also accept just candy donations.



Easter Egg Hunt APRIL 12

Save the Date!

We are excited to have our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12 at 10:00 AM.

We are adding a family event to our Easter Egg Hunt that will follow the egg hunt.



We NEED SNACKS

Our kids go through snacks pretty quickly in the ARK Wing. We would love some snack donations. Some suggestions are listed below.

- Pretzels
- Veggie straws
- Smart pop popcorn
- CHEWY granola bars



Financial Brief

BEN STONE

CURRENT AS OF 1-31-25

Year-to-date financial summary through January 31, 2025:

Revenue	\$94,937
Budgeted Expenses	\$119,793
Actual Expenses	\$93,665
Net	\$1,271

The original amount of the loan for the new Learning Center was \$4,162,200. The current balance as of January 31, 2025, is \$3,027,863.

The church budget is off to a great start to 2025! In January, we covered our expenses with a little surplus left over (with 5 Sundays). Giving in January 2025 was up 40% over January of 2024, and up 7% over January 2023. By February 1 of the last two years, we already had deficits - \$9,297 in 2024 and \$2,236 in 2023. It is great to start February without a deficit this year! Thank you to all who gave extra in December to reduce the 2024 deficit and then kept giving in January; it helps the budgeting process to have consistent giving.

In addition to consistent tithing, another way you can support the church is by considering whether you know an accountant looking for a part-time job! Aldersgate is currently looking for a church accountant, which is a paid position and is generally expected to be around 8-12 hours per week. This position involves processing payroll, managing accounts payable, and support of monthly financials. If you know of someone with an accounting background who is in a stage of life where part-time work might be appealing, please have them contact Sarah or Brenda, or reply to our ad on Indeed.

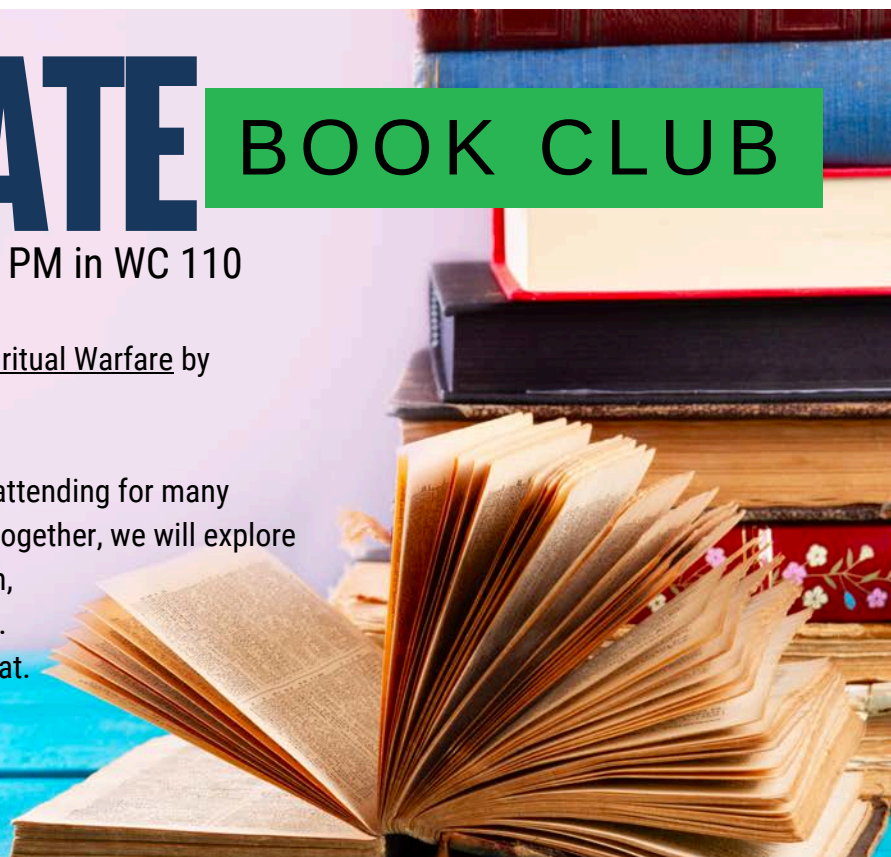
ALDERSGATE BOOK CLUB

Join us on Monday, March 31 at 5:30 PM in WC 110

We will be discussing On the Edge: A Novel of Spiritual Warfare by Parker Hudson.

Whether you are new to our church or have been attending for many years, our Aldersgate Book Club welcomes you. Together, we will explore the depths of Christian literature, grow in our faith, and support one another on our spiritual journeys. Bring dinner with you and we will discuss as we eat.

Contact Jan Badgett if you have any questions at 417-848-4707 or janbadgett@gmail.com.





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

The Great Disappearance Bible Study
9:30 AM
Aldersgate Time of Prayer 6:30 PM

Wednesdays

GriefShare 1:00 PM
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
The Art of Marriage 6:30 PM
How to Share Your Faith 6:30 PM

Thursdays

Knitwits 10:00 AM
Stephen Ministry Meeting (2nd & 4th) 6:30 PM

Saturdays

Cardio Strength/Dance Exercise Class 9:30 AM
Peace in the Storm – Recovery Worship Service 6:00 PM

Sundays

Handbells Rehearsal 11:15 AM
Young Adult Lunch 12:15 PM
Disciple 3 4:00 PM
High School Small Group 6:00 PM

Sunday School Classes

Crossroads Sunday School 8:15 AM
Club Aldersgate 9:45 AM
Seekers Sunday School 9:45 AM
Youth/Children Sunday School 9:45 AM

Weekly events are always being added so be sure to download the church app or check on the church website to stay current.

WWW.ALDERSGATECHURCH.COM



A service with recovery in mind, come as you are. Services every Saturday evening at 6:00 PM in the Youth Building.

Aldersgate Arts Festival!

Do you have an artistic talent that you would like to share with our church family? Do you have children that take music, dance, or other lessons? Do you create pottery, paint, sculpt, knit, embroider? This spring we will be having our first-ever Aldersgate Church Arts Festival. We have had our Concert 4A Cause in the past and this will be an expansion to that event.

There will be a program open for all ages to share their musical, dramatic, or other gifts on Saturday afternoon May 3rd. In addition, there will be a display in the Commons for visual arts - painting, sculpture, pottery, and other crafts.

As a conclusion to the festival, there will be a Hymn Sing of our church's favorite hymns on Sunday afternoon, May 4th. Be watching for a survey in April asking about your favorite hymn.

This event will be open to all ages, especially children and teens who play a musical instrument or have other artistic talents... beginners to advanced. God has blessed us with many talented people and we want to encourage you to share your gift(s). We want to celebrate YOU!

If you have any questions or would like to participate, please email Jeff Huber at JHuber@aldersgatechurch.com or call the office 417-725-4949.



If you have ever sung or have wanted to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" from The Messiah by Handel, this Easter Sunday (April 20) the choir and all interested singers will join together at the 8:15 and 9:45 services. If you're interested, please let Jeff know. We will have some rehearsals and those will be scheduled soon.

Calling all Crafty People

Aldersgate Church will be hosting a Craft Fair on Saturday, November 8, 2025, from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM.

Booth space will be available for \$60 and that will be a donation to Least of These Food Pantry. We will open this event to outside vendors but want to save space for anyone in our church who is interested.

If you don't want to do a full space, you can combine with someone. There will be an Aldersgate Church booth available with donated items from our crafty people who would rather use that space. If you're interested or have any questions please call Carolyn Jacobs at 501-226-9125 or Grace Bryson at 417-830-6706 and they will send you a registration form.





Snow Fun



Youth Pinball Event



Parents Night Out



Youth Mission Trip Team Bake Sale



Parents Night Out



NOVA Superbowl Party



High School Small Group



ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5 at 6:30 PM

Join us for a worship service led by our students that marks the start of Lent. This service includes scripture, prayer, communion, and the receiving of ashes.



LENT FISH DRIVE

Donate cans or pouches of fish to provide protein-rich options for food insecure neighbors!

We will be collecting protein like canned chicken, tuna, beans, and more during Lent and donating to Least of These. We will have shopping carts out front that you can leave your donations in.

Easter Plant Order

Last year we tried a new plant for our Easter services and it was a big success. We are excited to offer Kalanchoe plants for Easter again this year.

We will begin sales on March 23 and these plants can be purchased in honor or in memory of someone. The plants can be taken home after Easter services or you can choose to donate them to our homebound members. Be on the lookout for the signup form in the bulletins.

