

*Radiating Christ's love in the community.*

# *The Advance*

*September 2010 edition*

## WELCOME HOME!!!

I am looking forward the fall, not only for the cooler weather (I've had enough of the 80-95 degree days, thank you) but for the chance to reunite and refocus our energy as a congregation. While summer is all about getting out on the boat or up to the cabin or to that family gathering, fall is all about getting back to basics, back to school, back to seeing one another in church on a more regular basis.

I have been looking forward to seeing all of you on a more regular basis and getting back into my regular spiritual routine, a routine that I do well in for weeks at a time, but then when I'm interrupted by life, I sometimes lose my focus.

This summer we have been praying, using a guide I have enclosed in each Advance over the summer, as well as in each bulletin. We've been praying for ourselves, for our community and for our world, in an effort to spend more time together practicing and talking about our faith. I've enjoyed the time I've had to connect with my prayer partner as well as the time I've had with the dozens of you who covenanted to pray over the summer. Those 'Prayer Parties' we've had together have confirmed my enthusiasm for this prayer journey.

As a next step on our Journey to Renewal as a congregation, we will be entering into some times of prayer and study together as we form small groups at various times throughout this year and learn more about how to pray, how to study God's word, how to Unbind the Gospel (the name of the resource we'll be using) in ways that glorify God and are true to our United Methodist roots. We're going to have opportunities to talk with people we trust about our faith journeys, to explore new ways to renew our faith, in other words, to have a renewed spiritual life together.

As a congregation we are all about Feeding the Root this fall, or becoming Resident Rhizonauts. A rhizonaut, according to our bishop, is someone who studies the rhizosphere—the root zone—in a way that an astronaut studies outer space.

As resident rhizonauts we can explore new territories, grow our spiritual roots and bring new learning not only to our own faith, but to the faith journey of others.

Here's to exploration, to feeding the root, to learning new skills as we journey together!

On the journey,

### **Aldersgate UMC Staff**

**Pastor:** Rev. Holly Aastuen

**Christian Education/**

**Youth Director:** Marjie Brodersen

**Office Manager:** Serena Steffenhagen

**Financial Secretary:** Judy Chirpich

**Parish Nurse:** June Sand **Parish Visitor:** Lois Rene

**Handbell Choirs Director:** Sandy Stoneking

**Music Director:** Serena Steffenhagen

**Organist:** Becky Kristensen

**Custodian:** Rick Palm

### **Contact Information:**

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St. Louis Park, MN 55416

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*The Advance is a monthly publication of Aldersgate United Methodist Church.*

## WORSHIP SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER:

### Sunday, September 5

*Communion Sunday*

9:30 a.m. Devotions

9:45 a.m. Hymn Sing

10:00 a.m. Worship

Guest Preacher

Rev. Judy Myers

### Sunday, September 12

*Welcome Home Sunday*

10:00 a.m. Worship

“Ministry 101: Gratitude and Grace”

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Rev. Holly Aastuen

### Sunday, September 19

10:00 a.m. Worship

“Ministry 101: Prayer”

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Rev. Holly Aastuen

### Sunday, September 26

*New Spirit Sunday*

10:00 a.m. Worship

“Ministry 101: Generosity”

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Rev. Holly Aastuen

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER:

**September 5:** Jeremiah 18:1-11; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33.

**September 12:** Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10.

**September 19:** Jeremiah 8:18-9:1; Psalm 79:1-9 or Psalm 4; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13.

**September 26:** Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31.

## SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

### Beginning Sunday, September 12

9:15 a.m. Choir Warm-up

10:00 a.m. **Worship** followed by  
Fellowship Time

11:15 a.m. Education Hour:

12:15 p.m. Youth Group



See the pink insert for more details about Welcome Home Sunday.

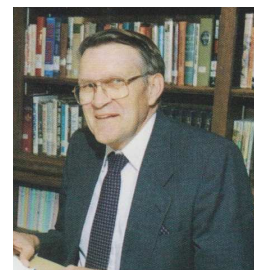
## PRAYER CONCERNS

**Prayer does wonders...for our friends who are facing health issues and other challenges:**

Gunnar Hansen is recovering from heart surgery.

Joyce Woolsey has had pace maker surgery.

**IN MEMORY** Our deepest sympathy is extended to Carol Kvale, her family and friends on the death of her husband, Rev. William Kvale, age 79, who passed away this summer on Tuesday, June 29 at the Virginia Regional Medical Center. Bill was the pastor at Aldersgate for eleven years from 1982 until his retirement in 1993. Bill was born Oct. 10, 1930 in Minneapolis, the son of Oliver and Lucile (Crouse) Kvale. He graduated from Duluth Central High School, UMD and Drew University in Madison, NJ. He married Carol Snyder on August 19, 1953. Bill was a pastor of three churches in New Jersey and New York while attending seminary. Following graduation Bill served churches in Highwood, Montana, Duluth, MN, Virginia, MN and Mankato, MN before coming to Aldersgate. Upon retirement he remained Pastor Emeritus of Aldersgate and did pulpit supply for Aldersgate and other churches. Bill enjoyed hunting, fishing, stamp collecting, and playing golf, especially with his grandchildren. Bill was a tremendous asset to many people, but especially our congregation, he and will be sorely missed.



## THANKS ARE IN ORDER...

**SILENT AUCTION** Going...going...GONE! A special thank you to the folks that donated items to the silent auction and to those that participated and bid on the "goods." Who won the week at the Aastuen cabin? Who is going boating with the Chirpichs or the Tschidas? Who will enjoy the Eyre's homemade pies and soups? What babies will snuggle up in Donna Hovland's baby blankets? Which happy bidder walked away with the prized extendible fork? (Ask a mission committee member or talk amongst yourselves!) Proceeds from the auction (\$1,056.75) go into the mission budget and is then used for seed money for mission projects and direct benevolences. Earlier this year, the food shelf, the youth mission trip and other mission projects were primary recipients of the funds. The Mission Committee

**SPECIAL MUSIC** Thank you to the following individuals and groups for sharing their gifts of music with us this summer: Holy Tollers and Chapel Chimers, Alec, Ben and Nathan Aastuen, Marjie Brodersen, Jean Edin, Phoebe McKinney, Mike McKinney, Kelly Sams, Bill Sams, The Nokomis Woodwind Quintet, Carrie Haslerud, Kent Kristensen, Becky Kristiansen, the summer choir, Holly Aastuen and Kerrie Smith.

**NURSING NOTES** Fall is rapidly upon us and this just comes as a reminder to look at the routine medical health care that you may need.

If you are off to grade school have your parents check on your immunizations and any prescriptions that the school nurse may have to administer. If you are off to middle school or high school make sure that you have a new sports physical on file and that all your immunizations are up to date.

If you are off to college make sure that you know where the college health service is located; make sure you have all your medications with you and know when to take them; make sure you have the phone number with you of your family doctor in case you need their help; and make sure you sleep and eat regularly once you arrive at school.

The rest of you need to make sure you are current on your physicals, on your immunizations, on your mammograms, on your colonoscopies and have a living will.

If you have any doubt what health care is needed for your age group just give me a call. If you do not have affordable health care and have not been seeing a care provider let me know and I will work with you to find care. If you cannot physically get to a health care provider let me know and I can help you find the appropriate transportation.

Flu shots are already available and ready for you to have at many sights. There will be a flu shot clinic at Union Congregational in October just as it has been the past few years. Make sure you have this very important shot.

If you haven't been intentionally walking on a daily basis start, if you haven't been working on a healthy diet start and if you haven't been getting adequate sleep find a way to correct this.

I suppose that is enough shoulds for one little news letter. Call me if you have health concerns or know of someone in the congregation who can use my help. Think well, June

**MISSION MINUTE: Simpson Housing Services** Simpson Housing Services provides a full continuum of supportive housing services to end chronic homelessness. Not only do they provide emergency shelters for both men and women, they also provide permanent, subsidized, supportive rental housing for single men and women who have been homeless long-term, with a unique focus on the needs of single women. In addition, they provide subsidized, supportive rental housing for families with children. Every night Simpson Shelters, located at Simpson United Methodist Church in Minneapolis, offer a bed, a warm meal, a hot shower, and the dignity of being addressed by name to 60 people experiencing homelessness. In the past 12 months shelter advocates have placed over 100 people into permanent housing. The other 2 programs, Transitional Housing and Simpson Adult Rental Assistance (SARA) Program work to secure long-term housing for families and single adults. The newly developed Women's Housing Partnership is positioned to find housing for guests specifically from our women's shelter. It is the first program specifically of its kind in the US.

## OPEN GATE SOCIAL CLUB

We welcome adults of ALL AGES from Aldersgate and the community.  
We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at 12 noon in Fellowship Hall.

FULL lunch followed by great entertainment. All for ONLY \$5.00...reservations required.

**Friday, September 17, at Noon – Mark your calendar!**

We have great entertainment and need you and your friends for a bigger audience to enjoy it!

September Program: **The Glitzy Chics**

Watch for future meeting notices in the bulletin and Advance.

For reservations (non-members): call the church office at 952-929-6725

*If already a member of Open Gate, you will be notified.*

**THE UPPER ROOM** Don't forget to stop by the church office to pick up your free copy of *The Upper Room*. These daily devotional guides are printed bimonthly. The September/October 2010 edition is now available and at no cost to you. We also have large print editions available. Pick up a copy soon!

## HERE AT ALDERSGATE

### MUSIC

**SANCTUARY CHOIR** Here at Aldersgate we have an open invitation to anyone interested in singing in the choir regardless of skill level. There are no auditions involved; we do a variety of music styles, and sing 2-3 times per month and for special services. Simply let me know of your interest and we'll take it from there, Serena Steffenhagen, Director of Music, 952-929-6725. The first rehearsal for Sanctuary Choir will be on Wednesday, September 8 at 7:30 p.m.



**BELLS** There are three bell choirs at Aldersgate, none of which require an audition. **Holy Tollers** is the bell choir for youth in grades 5 – 8. Holy Tollers rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 beginning September 15. Older youth in grades 9 – 12 are in the **Chapel Chimers**. This choir rehearses on Sunday mornings and their first rehearsal will be Sunday, September 26, at 11:00 a.m. **Jubilee!** is an adult bell choir for anyone interested in ringing, no prior experience necessary. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 beginning September 8. If you have any questions please feel free to call Sandy Stoneking, director of bells, at 952-929-6725 or email at [bells@aldersgatemn.com](mailto:bells@aldersgatemn.com).

### SUPPORT GROUPS

**CARING FRIENDS** Mark your calendar and plan to attend the next meeting of CARING FRIENDS the third Thursday of the month (Sept.16), 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor. No reservations are necessary. We'll be talking with our friends about whatever is bothering us...changes needed because of aging, loneliness, grief, tec. You'll find listening ears and feel better by the time you leave

Our **HEALTH EQUIPMENT CLOSET** is right here in the church for your convenience. Call Ardy Brower, 952-924-0320, to ask about what you might need or could use to make life easier.

### STUDY GROUPS

**WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB** The Women's Book Club will kick off the year with our first meeting on Thursday, September 9, at 7:00pm in the Parlor. We will be discussing the book *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett:

Limited and persecuted by racial divides in 1962 Jackson, Mississippi, three women, including an African-American maid, her sassy and chronically unemployed friend, and a recently graduated white woman, team up for a clandestine project.

Even if you haven't had a chance to read this selection, come and join us for fellowship and fun. Bring a friend and bring your suggestions for other books you would like to have us read and discuss for the rest of the year. Treats will be provided.

## EDUCATION

ACE

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (ACE)** We will kick off the year with a 4-week study titled *The Literature of Prayer*. This study will begin on Sunday, September 26 and will be led by Dorothy Williams. Please join us in the parlor after worship!

**CHURCH HOUSE ROCK**— *A Rotation Model Sunday School* – Children from age 4 through grade 5 experience fun and learning in Church House Rock on Sunday mornings after worship. Workshops are offered for a specific unit of study during a month and rotate each week. Units of study may include workshops in Games, Cooking, Science, Storytelling, Music and Movement, Theater, Art, or Movies. Sunday School will begin after worship on Sunday, September 26. See the Education SCOOP for more details.

**GRAPPLE** – *v. to seize or grasp firmly, as in wrestling.*

Grades 6 -8 at 11:15am on Sunday mornings in the Youth Room - A time of fellowship, fun and grappling with what Faith looks like in our everyday lives.

**CONFIRMATION** Aldersgate's Confirmation program is for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and meets at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesday evenings during the school year. We discuss issues that teens face today – how to make and keep friends, how to make healthy choices, how to follow God in today's world. The curriculum uses drama, music, art, games, small group discussions, service opportunities and more to help students understand the material and grow in relationship with Christ. Contact the Church office for more information.

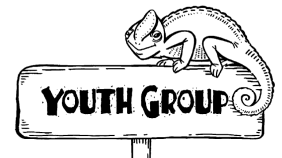


**ALDERSGATE YOUTH GROUP** Open to all youth in grades 7 – 12, the youth group meets on Sunday after the education hour for lunch, faith development and fun! As well as a weekly meeting, the youth also attend lock-ins, events with other church youth and participate in mission projects.

September 12 - We will kick off the year by having lunch together followed by water balloon games and *Big Fish – Little Fish!* Meet in Fellowship Hall at noon.

September 19 – Appetizer Lunch, planning meeting and out for ice cream.

September 24 – 25 - Fall Lock-In, invite a friend!



**PLEASE NOTE:** Transportation will be provided for ANY of the above mentioned programs. Call the church office at 952-929-6725 and arrangements will be made. **CHILDCARE** arrangements can also be made by calling the church office.

### HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:

9/1 – Ollie Holter  
9/4 – Kaitlyn Steffenhagen  
9/6 – Julie Bonhan and  
Stephen Young

9/7 – Bob Beyerl  
9/10 – David French,  
Helen Holter and  
Amy Schulz  
9/12 – Andrew Sams  
9/13 – Delores Cordes and  
Vivian Gay  
9/16 – Lisa Hansen  
9/19 – John Steffenhagen and  
Brad Stoneking

9/20 – Don Eyres  
9/21 – Dwane Billbe and  
Bud Kraemer  
9/23 – Thomas Rainey  
9/24 – Jard Deville and  
9/25 – Amy Knight  
9/26 – Evie Kraemer and  
Robert Price  
9/27 – Joseph Reimler  
9/30 – Irene Moen and  
Beatrice Voss



## OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

**BELGIAN WAFFLE DINNER** The annual Belgian Waffle Dinner, Craft and Bake Sale, a fund raiser for the St. Louis Park Senior Program, will be held on Friday, September 24, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at Lenox Community Center, 6715 Minnetonka Blvd. All are invited.

### WEST METRO GRIEF SUPPORT

#### **Tuesday Grief Support Group**

West Metro Grief Support Coalition invites all persons experiencing grief due to a death. Grief support groups offer hope and healing through education, listening, sharing, prayer and fellowship.

**TUESDAYS, July 6 – September 21, 2010 – 4:30 – 6:30 PM**

Church of the Good Shepherd  
145 Jersey Ave. S. Golden Valley MN 55426-1527  
763-544-0416, ext. 810 [www.goodshepherdgv.org](http://www.goodshepherdgv.org)  
Renee Hamilton ~ church secretary



<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Sept. 7	Susan Zimmerman	Rays of Hope, Part 2
Sept. 14	DVD, Journey of Loss...Discovery of Hope, <i>The Healing of Grief</i>	
Sept. 21	Host church	We remember our loved ones.

For more information, please call the coalition coordinator, Darcie Rodman 763-546-4404 or go to [www.westmetrogriefsupportcoalition.org](http://www.westmetrogriefsupportcoalition.org)

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS COMING UP

- MISSIONS** will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 7**, at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.
- WORSHIP** will meet **Monday, Sept. 13**, at 7:00 p.m. in the library.
- EDUCATION** will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 14**, at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.
- SPRC** will **Tuesday, Sept. 14**, at 7:00 p.m. in the library.
- MEMBER CARE** will **Tuesday, Sept. 21**, at 7:00 p.m. in the parlor.
- TRUSTEES** will **Tuesday, Sept. 21**, at 7:00 p.m. in the library.
- HOSPITALITY** will meet **Sunday, Sept. 26**, at 8:30 a.m. in the library.
- FINANCE** will meet on **Tuesday, Sept. 28**, at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor.
- AD COUNCIL** will meet on **Tuesday, Sept. 28**, at 7:30 p.m. in the parlor.



## AT ALDERSGATE SEPTEMBER 2010

- \*FH – Fellowship Hall
- \*EBS – Evidenced Based Specialist
- Wednesday, September 1**, *1<sup>st</sup> day of school, SLP*  
10:30 a.m. Staff meeting – Library
- Thursday, September 2**
- Friday, September 3** – *office closed*
- Saturday, September 4**
- Sunday, September 5**, *Communion Sunday*  
9:30 a.m. Lectionary Devotions – Parlor  
9:45 a.m. Hymn Sing – Sanctuary  
**10:00 a.m.** Worship Service – Sanctuary  
followed by coffee in Fellowship Hall  
hosted by SPRC
- Monday, September 6**, *Labor Day*

- Office closed*
- Tuesday, September 7**  
7:00 p.m. Missions committee – Parlor
- Wednesday, September 8**  
10:30 a.m. Staff meeting – Library  
12:00 p.m. Doer's Circle – Parlor  
6:15 p.m. Jubilee! – Bell room  
7:30 p.m. Choir – Sanctuary
- Thursday, September 9**  
4:00 p.m. Dollies – Bell room  
7:00 p.m. Women's Book Club – Parlor
- Friday, September 10** – *office closed*  
11:00 a.m. Dinner At Your Door
- Saturday, September 11**

**Sunday, September 12, *Welcome Home Sunday***

9:15 a.m. Choir warm up – Sanctuary  
**10:00 a.m.** Worship Service – Sanctuary  
followed by coffee in Fellowship Hall  
hosted by Education Committee  
11:15 a.m. Ice Cream Social – FH  
12:15 p.m. Youth Group lunch – FH

**Monday, September 13**

6:30 p.m. EBS – Library  
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts – FH  
7:00 p.m. Worship committee – Parlor

**Tuesday, September 14**

6:00 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday @ STEP  
7:00 p.m. SPRC – Library  
7:00 p.m. Education committee – Parlor

**Wednesday, September 15**

10:30 a.m. Staff meeting – Library  
6:15 p.m. Confirmation Parents & Guides only  
Parlor  
6:15 p.m. Jubilee! – Bell room  
7:30 p.m. Holy Tollers  
NO CHOIR

**Thursday, September 16**

10:00 a.m. Caring Friends – Parlor  
4:00 p.m. Dollies – Bell room  
7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts – Science

**Friday, September 17 – *office closed***

12:00 p.m. Open Gate – FH

**Saturday, September 18**

**Sunday, September 19**

9:15 a.m. Choir warm up – Sanctuary  
**10:00 a.m.** Worship Service – Sanctuary  
followed by coffee in Fellowship Hall  
hosted by Member Care  
11:15 a.m. ALL-CHURCH MEETING – FH  
12:15 p.m. Youth Group lunch – FH

**Monday, September 20**

6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts – FH  
6:30 p.m. EBS – Library  
7:00 p.m. Sharer's Circle – Parlor

**Tuesday, September 21**

7:00 p.m. Trustees committee – Library  
7:00 p.m. Member Care – Parlor

**Wednesday, September 22**

10:30 a.m. Staff meeting – Library  
6:15 p.m. Confirmation – Parlor

6:15 p.m. Jubilee! – Bell room  
7:30 p.m. Choir – Sanctuary  
7:30 p.m. Holy Tollers – Bell room

**Thursday, September 23, *Advance deadline***

4:00 p.m. Dollies – Bell room  
6:30 p.m. Faith Alive rehearsal – Sanctuary

**Friday, September 24 – *office closed***

6:00 p.m. Youth Group Lock-In

**Saturday, September 25**

**Sunday, September 26, *New Spirit Sunday***

8:30 a.m. Hospitality committee – Library  
**10:00 a.m.** Worship Service – Sanctuary  
followed by coffee in Fellowship Hall  
hosted by Doer's Circle

11:00 a.m. Chapel Chimers – Bell room  
11:00 a.m. Blood Pressure checks – FH  
11:15 a.m. Church House Rock – Chapel  
11:15 a.m. ACE – Parlor  
12:15 p.m. Youth Group lunch – FH

**Monday, September 27**

6:30 p.m. EBS – Library  
6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts – FH

**Tuesday, September 28, *Advance mail day***

10:00 a.m. Mary Hobart Gleaners Circle-Parlor  
4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Fare For All – Lenox  
6:30 p.m. Finance committee – Library  
7:30 p.m. Ad. Council – Parlor

**Wednesday, September 29**

10:30 a.m. Staff meeting – Library  
6:15 p.m. Confirmation – Parlor  
6:15 p.m. Jubilee! – Bell room  
7:30 p.m. Choir – Sanctuary  
7:30 p.m. Holy Tollers – Bell room

**Thursday, September 30, *early release, SLP***

4:00 p.m. Dollies – Bell room

**Friday, October 1 – *office closed***

**Saturday, October 2**

**Sunday, October 3, *World Communion Sunday***

9:15 a.m. Choir warm up – Sanctuary  
**10:00 a.m.** Worship Service – Sanctuary  
followed by coffee in Fellowship Hall  
hosted by Member Care  
11:00 a.m. Chapel Chimers – Bell room  
11:15 a.m. Church House Rock – Chapel  
11:15 a.m. ACE – Parlor  
12:15 p.m. Youth Group lunch – FH

