

The Advance

September 2015 edition

*A church of all ages,
building true community through caring relationships
and Christian outreach,
focused on youth and the creative arts.*

Hello Beloved!

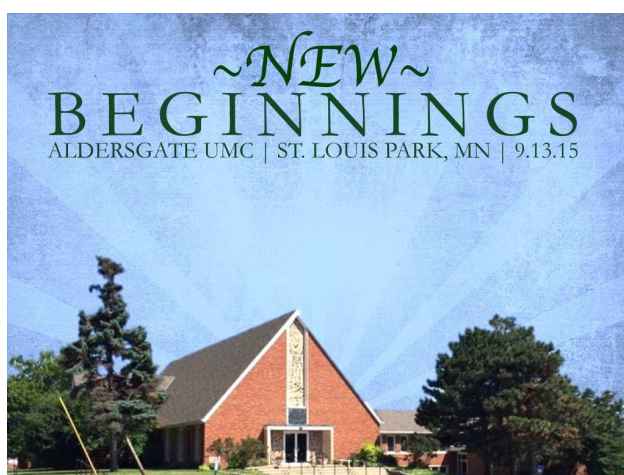
A season of New Beginnings is upon us! What a wild summer it has been. I have thoroughly enjoyed being your pastor, getting to know you and stepping into the life of Aldersgate UMC. You don't need me to tell you that we are in a season of great change, and it is exciting. But also a little scary. But also a lot of fun. But also a little uncertain. But also quite fulfilling. Change can feel like many things all at once, but if there is one thing I know for certain, it is that in it all, God is at work here. This community is awake and ready to step into the big, wide, scary, invigorating, faith-filled call that God has on us. As Fall creeps its weary way in and lulls the Summer days to their slumber, we are just waking up!

I believe there a great many things which God has for us, and this year there will be a big focus on maintaining and growing a healthy spirituality among us. We won't stop reaching out into the community, to be sure, but a lot of attention will be placed on clarifying who we are, how we connect spiritually and relationally, and how to position ourselves to get the biggest bang for our buck in being the bearers of good news to our community and our world.

Sunday, September 13th, will be a big day for us: We will kick off this season of New Beginnings in worship at 10:00am where we will look at the crucial question that Jesus asked his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" What a great question with which to kick off the program year! Along with that, in worship we will also dedicate our new gathering space by prayerfully giving it over to the hands of God to be used just as God would have it used. Finally, in worship we will be welcoming our new Director of Children's and Youth Ministries, Erin Evans. She and I look forward to partnering together in clarifying, designing, and implementing a streamlined discipleship process across the generations that will hopefully lead to renewed missional fervor and vital spirituality for all of us.

After worship the Faith Formation Team is coordinating a time of celebration by preparing a light lunch, providing a variety of fun and games for children and youth (rumor has it that a bouncy-house and bungee-pull may be stopping by), and evidently a dunk-tank ordered especially for me (occupational hazard). It should be a joyous, fun, and uplifting Sunday and we hope you can all make it. If you someone know is looking for a place to connect spiritually and relationally, consider inviting them to come with you! It's sure to be a great a Sunday and a great season. Thank you all for welcoming me and my family into this community. God is at work here, and it is a blessing to be here. Peace, friends!

-Pastor Paul



WORSHIP SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER:

Sunday, September 6

Communion Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship

Guest Preacher Rev. Karen Bruins

Sunday, September 13

Kickoff/New Spirit Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship

"New Beginnings"

Mark 8:27-38

Rev. Paul Baudhuin

Sunday, September 20

10:00 a.m. Worship

"First Will Be Last"

Mark 9:30-37

Rev. Paul Baudhuin

Sunday, September 27

New Spirit Sunday

10:00 a.m. Worship

"Fruitful Living"

Mark 9:38-50

Rev. Paul Baudhuin

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER:

Sept. 6: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125 or Psalm 124; James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

Sept. 13: Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

Sept. 20: Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8; Mark 9:30-37

Sept. 27: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

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

John Amriott who is facing health challenges

Marge Borrmann who is recovering from a fall

Jard DeVille who suffers from chronic knee pain

Evie Kraemer who is recovering from a fall

Becky & Dee Van Blaricon who are facing numerous health challenges



HERE AT ALDERSGATE

MISSION MINUTE:

St Louis Park High School Bird Feeder

Several years ago, students at the high school learned that some of their classmates had limited food availability on weekends. During the week, these classmates were on the free or reduced lunch program but, they didn't have much food on the weekend. A group of caring high school students started organizing food drives at the school to collect items that could be placed in a backpack for those students needing food for the weekend. They call the program The Bird Feeder. Those needing supplemented food for a weekend stop at a designated location at school and pick up a backpack with the items they need. During September we will be collecting food items and money for this unique program. Items needed include canned fruits and vegetables, canned meats, rice and pasta dishes, cereal, and food bars. There will be a complete list in your Sunday Bulletin. If you prefer to make a donation you can either put money in an offering envelope labeled "BIRD FEEDER" or write a check to Aldersgate and put "BIRD FEEDER" in the memo section. Thank you so much for supporting the youth in our community.

MUSIC

CHANGES or NEW BEGINNINGS? There have been many changes here at Aldersgate in the past 6 months, many are readily apparent such as the newly remolded gathering space. Others, such as the resignation of organist Becky Kristensen, are not as visible, but all are opportunities for new beginnings. At this time the plan is to not hire an organist. Choir at Aldersgate may look different as we move into the fall. Ideas and feedback have been solicited and discussed. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Serena Steffenhagen, Director of Music, at 952-929-6725 or music@aldersgatemn.com.

BELLS Change has also come to the bell program. The bell room has been relocated and rehearsal times have changed. **Holy Tollers**, the bell choir for youth in grades 5 – 8 will now rehearse on Sundays at 12:15 after their faith formation time. **Chapel Chimers**, the bell choir for youth grades 9 – 12, will continue to rehearse on Sunday mornings at 11:15 a.m. **Jubilee!** an adult bell choir for anyone interested in ringing, no prior experience necessary will continue to rehearse on Wednesday evenings but at the new time of 6:45. 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.

SUPPORT GROUPS

CARING FRIENDS Caring Friends is a support group for those who've lost loved ones, are caring for a loved one or who are dealing with health care issues in general. The group meets monthly to express feelings, discuss coping strategies and lend support to one another. Caring Friends will meet Thursday, September 17, at 10:00 a.m. in the community room.

HEALTH EQUIPMENT Keep in mind that our HEALTH EQUIPMENT CLOSET is as near as the stage off Fellowship Hall. We have more things to lend than we can list here, things to help with poor vision, a variety of incontinence products, bath benches, walkers, wheel chairs, canes and crutches, something to help you put on a sock when it is too hard to move and much more.

FAITH FORMATION

BIBLE STUDY You are invited to come to a weekly Bible Study addressing the scripture for the coming week. This group has been having some lively discussions! We gather at 12:30 on Thursday at Parkshore Senior Center. About half of those who have been attending are from outside the Parkshore community. Please consider yourself invited!

TUESDAY FAITH DEVELOPMENT The Tuesday Faith Development group will meet at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, September 15, to discuss programming for the fall. This group explores various faith development avenues and curriculum. Please know you are invited and welcome at any time.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB read *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr in preparation of the September 10 meeting. See the SCOOP for more information.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (ACE) Adult Christian Education meets after worship on Sundays in the Community Room (formerly known as the Parlor). See the Faith Formation SCOOP for more details.

ALDERSGATE YOUTH GROUP Open to all youth in grades 9 – 12, the youth group meets on Sunday at 12:15 for lunch, faith development and fun! See the Faith Formation SCOOP for more details.

GRAPPLE – *v. to seize or grasp firmly, as in wrestling.* Youth in grades 6 – 8 meet during Faith Formation time on Sunday mornings in the Youth Room for a time of fellowship, fun and grappling with what Faith looks like in our everyday lives. See the Faith Formation SCOOP for more details.

CHURCH HOUSE ROCK Children from age 4 through grade 5 experience fun and learning in Church House Rock on Sunday mornings during Faith Formation time. See the Faith Formation SCOOP for more details.

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:

9/4 – Kaitlyn Steffenhagen

9/6 – Julie Bonhan and
Stephen Young

9/7 – Bob Beyerl

9/10 – David French and
Amy Schulz

9/12 – Caroline Christenson and
Andrew Sams

9/13 – Delores Cordes and
Madison Vignes

9/19 – John Steffenhagen and
Brad Stoneking

9/20 – Don Eyres

9/23 – Thomas Rainey

9/24 – Jard Deville

9/26 – Evie Kraemer

9/30 – Bea Voss

COMMITTEE MEETINGS COMING UP

MISSIONS will not meet in September

FAITH FORMATION will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 8**, at 7:00 p.m.

SPRC will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 8**, at 7:00 p.m. in the library

MEMBER CARE will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 15**, at 7:00 p.m.

TRUSTEES will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 15**, at 7:00 p.m.

FINANCE will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 22**, at 6:30 p.m.

AD COUNCIL will meet **Tuesday, Sept. 22**, at 7:30 p.m.

LEADERSHIP
LEADERSHIP

AT ALDERSGATE SEPTEMBER 2015

*FH – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, September 1

9:30 a.m. Staff meeting

7:00 p.m. Ad Council – Community Room

Wednesday, September 2

Thursday, September 3

12:30 p.m. Bible Study - Parkshore

Friday, September 4 – office closed

Saturday, September 5

Sunday, September 6 *Communion Sunday*

9:45 a.m. Hymn Sing – Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary

followed by coffee in fellowship hall

hosted by Faith Formation committee

11:15 a.m. Chapel Chimers – Sanctuary

Monday, September 7 ~ Office Closed

Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8

7:00 p.m. Faith Formation Committee

7:00 p.m. SPRC

Wednesday, September 9

6:30 p.m. Faith Alive – Sanctuary

6:45 p.m. Jubilee! – Bell room

Thursday, September 10

12:30 p.m. Bible Study – Parkshore

4:00 p.m. Ding Dong Dollies – Bell Room

7:00 p.m. Women's Book Club

Friday, September 11 – office closed

Saturday, September 12

Sunday, September 13 *Kickoff/New Spirit Sunday*

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary

followed by *New Beginnings* celebration

Monday, September 14

11:15 a.m. Bible Study – TowerLight

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts

Tuesday, September 15

10:30 a.m. Tuesday Testaments

7:00 p.m. Trustees committee

7:00 p.m. Member Care

Wednesday, September 16 *Advance deadline*

6:45 p.m. Jubilee! – Bell room

7:30 p.m. Choir – Sanctuary

Thursday, September 17

10:00 a.m. Caring Friends – Community Room

12:30 p.m. Bible Study – Parkshore

4:00 p.m. Ding Dong Dollies – Bell Room

7:00 p.m. Sharers Circle

Friday, September 18 – office closed

Saturday, September 19

Sunday, September 20

9:15 a.m. Choir – Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary

followed by coffee and light lunch in

fellowship hall hosted by Missions committee

11:15 a.m. Chapel Chimers – Bell room

11:15 a.m. Faith Formation

12:15 p.m. Holy Trollers – Bell Room

12:15 p.m. Youth Group – FH

Monday, September 21

11:15 a.m. Bible Study – TowerLight

6:15 p.m. Men's Softball – Aquila #1

7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts – FH

Tuesday, September 22

10:30 a.m. Tuesday Testaments

6:30 p.m. Finance committee – Library

7:30 p.m. Ad Council – Community Room

Wednesday, September 23

6:30 p.m. Faith Alive – Sanctuary
6:45 p.m. Jubilee! – Bell room

Thursday, September 24

12:30 p.m. Bible Study – Parkshore
4:00 p.m. Ding Dong Dollies – Bell Room

Friday, September 25 – office closed

Saturday, September 26

5:00 p.m. Boy Scout Crossover Dinner – FH

Sunday, September 27 *New Spirit Sunday*

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
followed by coffee in fellowship hall
hosted by SPRC

11:15 a.m. Chapel Chimers – Bell room
11:15 a.m. Faith Formation
12:15 p.m. Holy Trollers – Bell Room
12:15 p.m. Youth Group – FH

Monday, September 28

11:15 a.m. Bible Study – TowerLight
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts – FH
7:15 p.m. Men’s Softball – Aquila #1

Tuesday, September 29

10:30 a.m. Tuesday Testaments

Wednesday, September 30

6:45 p.m. Jubilee! – Bell room
7:30 p.m. Choir – Sanctuary

Thursday, October 1

12:30 p.m. Bible Study – Parkshore
4:00 p.m. Ding Dong Dollies – Bell Room

Friday, October 2

Saturday, October 3

Sunday, October 4 *World Communion Sunday*

8:45 a.m. Missions Committee

10:00 a.m. Worship Service – Sanctuary
followed by coffee in fellowship hall
hosted by SPRC

11:15 a.m. Chapel Chimers – Bell room
11:15 a.m. Faith Formation
12:15 p.m. Holy Trollers – Bell Room
12:15 p.m. Youth Group – FH

PLANNING AHEAD

OCTOBER 4 – WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

Music Therapy Intern Looking For Lodging

Hello!

My name is Natalie, and I am a 22 year old recent college grad. I will be moving to your area this fall for a six-month Music Therapy Internship at Park Nicollet Health Services. I am in search of a place to live during that time, from around October 17 through April 15. I found your church online and wondered if there happened to be anyone in your congregation with a room available for me to rent.

Being from western Pennsylvania, I will be totally new to the area! I am very involved in my Methodist church at home, and would love to get connected with a church family once I move to MN. I would really appreciate any help you can offer.

In Christ,
Natalie Young

DRIVERS needed for Dinner At Your Door. If you have any questions or can help, please call Gene Cordes at 952-546-1772.

NEW NURSERY TOY DRIVE

The Faith Formation committee is excited to reveal a new Sunday school classroom and our new church nursery on Kick Off Sunday, September 13. We want the nursery to be welcoming and inviting to children age 0-5 with the main focus on 2 and 3 year olds. We have very specific needs so if you would like to shop, help, or donate, please see the list of ways to help below. We are asking for new or gently used toys from the lists below. Any help in the next few weeks is very much appreciated as we set up an inviting nursery for our youngest members and visitors. If you purchase any of the items off of our wish lists, please drop them off in the church office and mark them TOY DRIVE.

Amazon "School List"

For an online listing of toys we could use in the nursery, follow this link:

<http://amzn.com/sl/3IDWTO22PWJC8>

Lakeshore Learning Center

Lakeshore has great toys that are made to last. The store is located near West End - 5699 W 16th St, St Louis Park. You can also shop online at www.LakeshoreLearning.com

They do not have a registry so here is a shopping list:

Toddler Manipulatives – Anything that looks fun!

Feels Real Baby Dolls – Complete Set

Clothes For 14" Baby Dolls

Community Play Carpet

Toddler Safe Food Basket

Pizza Party Playset

Fruit & Vegetable Cut Ups

Jumbo Cardboard Blocks

Soft & Squeezy Animals

Giant Magnetic Letters & Numbers



Sewing Help

If you would like to help sew, please contact Angie Peery at apeery@rhinestonesunlimited.com

We would like to have the following items sewn:

14" Baby Doll Clothes

Doll Blankets

Play Crib Mattress

Cushions for two rocking chairs

Aprons for Dress Up

Monetary Donation

Donations can be dropped in the offering plate or in the church office. Please note that it is a donation for the TOY DRIVE.

Aldersgate UMC Staff

Pastor: Pastor Paul Baudhuin

Dir. of Children's & Youth Ministries: Erin Evans

Office Administrator: Serena Steffenhagen

Financial Secretary: Judy Chirpich

Music Director: Serena Steffenhagen

Hand Bell Choir Director: Sandy Stoneking

Custodians: Anne & Maxwell Kebasso

Contact Information:

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