



Aldersgate

United Methodist Church

3600 75th Street
Urbandale, IA 50322
515-278-0466

[Visit our Website](#)

At Aldersgate we believe that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome each person into full participation in the life of this community and offer a safe and loving environment for everyone.

Your Latest Bulletin & Committee Minutes

[Bulletin for 1-07-2024](#)

[December Steering Committee Minutes](#)

[United Women of Faith December Meeting Minutes](#)

November Financial Statement results:

Revenue	\$27,822
Expenses	\$28,881
Shortfall for November	(\$1,059)
Beginning of Year Deficit	(\$21,397)
2023 shortfall	(\$30,052)
General Fund deficit as of 11/30/23	(\$51,449)
Average Monthly Deficit for 2023	(\$2,732)

Communion Sunday

We will be celebrating Communion during the worship



service on January 7th.

If you are planning on worshipping online on that week you may pick up prepared communion elements from the church office Mondays – Thursdays between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. If you don't live in the Des Moines metro area but are worshipping with us online, or if you are unable to stop by the church office, you are welcome to prepare ahead of time by having available some juice, wine or water and some bread or crackers when you watch the service.

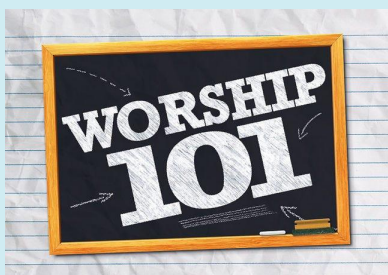
Whether you worship online or in-person may you be encouraged, comforted and challenged with the knowledge that we are all part of the Aldersgate Community and brought together in this shared meal.



Ariel Genheimer - Music Ministry Associate

We would like to take a moment to welcome to our ministry leadership team Ariel Genheimer. She is our new Music Ministry Associate and will officially start as a staff member on January 14th.

Welcome to our Team Ariel.



Worship 101

Beginning on January 7th, Eric will be leading a 5 week Sunday Morning Learning Opportunity class entitled Worship 101: Why We Do What We Do. Some of the topics explored will be the Basic Pattern of Worship, the Church Liturgical Year, the Communion and Baptism Services, and Symbolisms and Meanings of the pulpit, windows, and alter in the Aldersgate sanctuary. We will discuss questions like "Why do we (mostly) not sing Christmas hymns during Advent?", "What is the difference between Passing the Peace and greeting one another?", "Why did we use 26(!) different versions of the Lord's Prayer last year?", "What is the Lectionary of scripture suggestions and why do we use it each week?" and many more.

The class will meet in Room 226, at 10:30 a.m. following worship on January 7, 14, 21, 28 and February 4.



United Women in Faith Iowa Legislative Events in January

You are invited to a **ZOOM meeting on Saturday, January 13, 2024, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.** Please register at this link: [Register Here](#)

All Iowa United Methodists, United Women in Faith, and other interested persons are welcome to this Zoom event featuring Iowa UMC Bishop Kennetha J. Bigham-Tsai, State Senator Rev. Sarah Trone Garriott, and SCAN Advocate of the Year Cathy Meyer as special presenters.

After registering, a ZOOM confirmation will be sent to your email address. It is specific to your device and includes the link for the meeting on Jan. 13. To join the ZOOM, click the blue rectangle that says, "JOIN MEETING" in the confirmation email.

IN-PERSON AT THE CAPITOL:

On **Tuesday, January 16, 2024, and January 23, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.** meet Bobby Jo Paige, Iowa Conference United Women in Faith Social Action leader, at the Iowa Capitol Building to see our Legislators in action! Please email Bobby Jo at bjpdaisy@gmail.com to indicate the day or days you are planning to attend and to share your contact information.

The Iowa Capitol is located at 1007 E Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319. When coming to the Iowa Capitol Building, go through security screening to the middle area with multiple tables. Look for Bobby Jo Paige (she's tall) and she will be looking for you. For more information, contact Rita Carter at Aldersgate (515-979-0605) or event leader Bobby Jo Paige at (319) 429-0488 or email bjpdaisy@gmail.com.



Families Forward

Aldersgate UMC is excited to reaffirm our support of New Directions Shelter and Home Connection from Families Forward! Each month on Communion Sunday (the 1st Sunday of each month), we will take up a special offering of personal care items and cleaning supplies to support families trying to get back on their feet. The donation bin will be housed in the shelving unit next to the stairs in the narthex. Please contact Michelle Buckley with questions at mpbuck@iastate.edu.

Please consider donating something off of this list of urgently needed items

Laundry Pods, Baby Wipes, Paper Towels, Paper Plates, Bath Towels, Diapers (Size 5-7), 39 Gallon Trash Bags, Pillows, Craft Supplies

You can also donate using the following links:

Wish List - Nice to have items

Reorder List - We will always need these items

Shopping List - These items are specific to our current families staying with us



Mission and Outreach

“...whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me.” Matthew 25:40. Reach out to those in need this holiday season. Offerings marked for Christmas will go first to our mission commitments to the Urbandale Food Pantry, Missionaries John Nday and Florence Kaying, Women at the Well, and Simpson Youth Academy then secondly to other ministries supported by the Church, such as Families Forward (formally Bidwell Riverside and Hawthorn Hill).

Mission and Outreach Calendar of Events

January TBD - Meals from the Heartland

February 17th - Soul Hope

March - Laundry Love and NHN (Neighbors helping Neighbors)

April - Families Forward

May - Children and Families

Advent-Christmas-Epiphany at Aldersgate

The Advent Season this year begins on December 3rd . Advent is a 4 week season of preparation and anticipation. We don't just prepare for and anticipate the arrival of Christmas. We prepare, anticipate and long for the arrival – the advent – of God's promise to be with us. God's advent takes many forms and can arrive in many different ways. During this season we are to pay special attention to how God comes among us.

The Advent Season moves us along towards the Christmas and Epiphany Seasons. These are important – and busy- times in the church year. Along with our regularly scheduled events, here are a few of the special events currently planned for the Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany Seasons at Aldersgate. (Some of these events are described elsewhere in the newsletter, others will be described more fully as they draw nearer on the calendar. If you have questions or would like more information about any of these events, please contact the church office.)

January 7th – Epiphany Sunday

9:30 a.m. – Worship, Gathering Time and Refreshments afterward

10:30 a.m. – Learning Opportunities for Children and Adults

Ways to Give When We Can't be in Church

- Mail: 3600 75th Street, Urbandale IA 50322
- Mobile and Online: www.aldersgatedsm.org/give
- Automated reoccurring bank bill pay
- Drop off in the outside mail box next to the office door

GIVE NOW

Please submit articles for the Newsletter to
melody@aldersgatedsm.org
by Tuesday - 9am.

Please include a short description or explanation including date and times if applicable.

Building Hours

Aldersgate building hours:
M-TH, 8:30 AM –12:30 PM

If you need to be in the building at other times please contact the church office for access.

January Birthdays

Staff

Eric Guy Pastor eric@aldersgatedsm.org
Ian Taylor Faith Formation Coordinator ian@aldersgatedsm.org
Melody Fischbacher Office Manager melody@aldersgatedsm.org
Eve Copeland-Clark Music Ministries Coordinator eve@aldersgatedsm.org
Ariel Genheimer Music Ministries Associates ariel@aldersgatedsm.org
Jason Rutkowski Custodial Support

Aldersgate United Methodist Church | 3600 75th Street, Urbandale, IA 50322

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