

# Connect

Volume 1, Issue 3

March 31, 2017



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

"sharing the living Christ through life-changing service and love"

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Palm Sunday April 9, 2017  
10:00AM



Last Supper Tableau April 12, 2017  
7:00PM  
First United Methodist Church



Maundy Thursday April 13, 2017  
7:00PM  
A Service of Prayer and Holy Communion



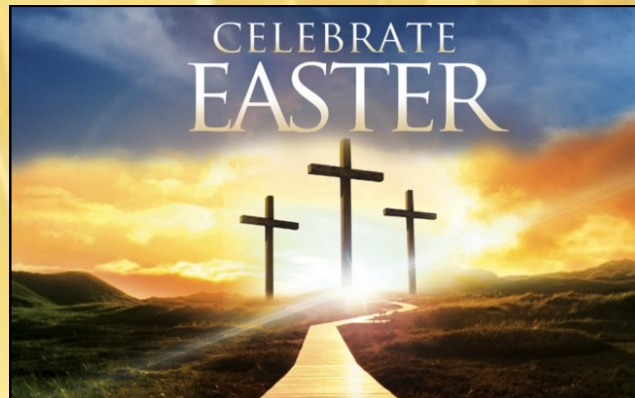
Good Friday April 14, 2017  
7:00PM  
Reflections on the Cross



Holy Saturday April 15, 2017  
8:00PM

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## Easter Sunday

April 16, 2017

Community Sunrise Service

6:15 AM

Heritage Park

Offered by Aldersgate UMC  
and First UMC

Morning Worship at Aldersgate

Traditional Services are at

8:30 AM & 9:45 AM

Contemporary Service is at

11:00 AM



## Lent, Three Days and Easter

This has got to be one of the strangest Lenten seasons that I have ever experienced.

I was reading an article by Errol Laborde the other day. Errol Laborde is the editor of the New Orleans magazine. In the article, he was lamenting a similar feeling. He attributed his feeling that "Lent had passed him by." It seems that it is all passing by too quickly: Epiphany and Mardi Gras; March Madness and SEC Baseball and Softball play; a "too early" DST change and not enough cold weather.

As I write this, I have to confess that I am stunned that we have sped through the first three months of this new year....and, Lent.

My favorite part of Lent is Holy Week. Holy Week, the most solemn and intense period of worship in the Christian faith, begins with Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday, the Sunday before Easter. In spite of the spiritual gravity of Holy Week, it begins with joy; for on this Sunday, the Church celebrates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem which foretells the victory of His Resurrection and His return to earth in glory; and with the first reading of the Passion in the liturgies of Holy Week, the Church begins her commemorative pilgrimage with her Lord on His way to Calvary.

The Triduum is the three-day celebration of the death and resurrection of Christ - Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil/Easter

Sunday. The Church meets at times during those three days to remember what it is that Jesus has done for us. Lent often overshadows the Triduum, but in truth, "Christ redeemed us all and gave perfect glory to God principally through his paschal mystery: dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life. Therefore the Easter Triduum of the passion and resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the entire liturgical year." (General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, # 18)

**Lent exists so that we can prepare ourselves for these three great days.** What is remembered during these three days is so spectacular and miraculous that it takes the Church fifty days to celebrate it. From the close of Easter Sunday until Pentecost we celebrate with great joy that which Jesus has done for us.

Regardless of how crazy the rest of the season has been, I am preparing to stop and live Holy Week. This time begins with Palm Sunday and the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem for the Passover. The jubilation quickly turns to darkness as the events of the week unfold in the life of Jesus. The same crowd that cries "Hosanna!" too soon cries, "Crucify Him!" I will, as best as I can, journey and walk with Christ to Calvary...and, I will be so thankful, as we gather for the Sunrise Service and celebrate the Risen Christ.

May it be also true for you.

Blessings,

**Sunday Mornings**

**Traditional Worship**

**8:30am**  **Sanctuary**

**Contemporary Worship**

**11:00am**  **Sanctuary**

**Adult Sunday School 9:45 am-10:45 am** → Cokesbury Building, Chapel, Asbury

**Sunday School for Youth 9:45 am-10:45 am**

Confirmation Sunday School Class (6-7 grade) meet in JWC

Youth Sunday School Class (8-12 grade) meet in the Genesis

**Children's Sunday School Plus 9:45 am-10:57 am** → Susanna Wesley, JWC  
(pickup for ALL in John Wesley Center)



**What a joy it was to welcome the youth choir from Downers Grove, IL. We celebrate with thanksgiving their message and gift of music. Also, a big thank you to all who helped host these students, our youth group who welcomed them to campus, and all who came to their concert to support them on their musical mission trip!**

### **Worship Notes for April**

**April 9th** - Palm Sunday ONE Service, 10 am

Children’s Choir and Children’s Palm Procession , Reflections Youth Bell Choir, Festival Choir Lenten Cantata

**April 16th Easter Sunday!** Community Sunrise Service—6:15am Heritage Park

Traditional Worship Services 8:30, 9:45 am with Wesleyan Choir & Celebration Bells

Contemporary Worship service : 11:00 am featuring CrossWalk Praise Band

**April 30th** - Celebration of Confirmation 8:30am with C.O.O.L Bells



### **Ushers for April**



**8:30** Tom Williams, David Snyder, Mike Zweifel, Al Hughey

**11:00** Lou and Cheryl Thomas, David Hamblin, Jim Fatic

We are always in need of additional ushers to fill our rosters. Please consider giving us a few weeks of Sundays to serve in worship! Email Scott or call the church office if you have questions or are interested.

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

**Kids  
Crafts**



**Lawn  
Games**

**Children's Ministry**

# **2017 Family Picnic & Egg Hunt**

## **Sunday April 9th, 2017**

### **10am Worship**

### **11:15am Picnic Begins**

### **12:30pm Easter Egg Hunt**

**Please bring your chairs,  
picnic blankets, and picnic lunch.  
(Lunch, Snacks, and Drinks also available for purchase)**

**Food available by:  
Old School Eats Food Truck  
Kona Ice Snowballs  
AUMC Men's Club**



**Please Join us for this Day of Fellowship and Family Fun!**



Thursday, May 4 through Sunday, May 7

**An Encounter with Christ**

As your faith is challenged in a pluralistic world, ask yourself...How do you want to live your faith in your daily life?

Do you desire a Christian Community with which to share your faith journey? Do you wish to enrich your relationship with God? Do you want to be more confident in sharing your faith with our secular world?

If you answered "Yes" to these questions, Cursillo will help you develop, live and share your spirituality in today's society.

A three-day weekend program, Cursillo offers a way to be motivated in your spiritual life. Discussions are led by Methodist lay people and spiritual advisors and emphasis the meaning of grace and the Sacraments as well as the need for prayer and ways of living life in union with God.

The next Louisiana Cursillo weekend is scheduled for May 4-7 at the Wesley Center (Methodist Conference Center) in Woodworth. The application deadline is fast approaching. To participate, you must have a sponsor who is active in Cursillo.

For more information about the Cursillo experience, contact **Clint Crosier at 985-641-9350 or by email at [clintcrosier@bellsouth.net](mailto:clintcrosier@bellsouth.net); Joann Lightfoot at 985-290-3071; or Rick Lightfoot 985-649-5736.**

**Grown Ups—A Fellowship for Seniors, 55 years +**

*2x the Adventure in April*

*Take Me Out to the Ball Game April 26*



We will be heading to the ballpark to enjoy a Biloxi Shuckers vs Jackson Generals game on Wednesday, April 26. We will leave the church campus at 9 a.m. and ride the church bus together to Biloxi. Game time is 10:35 a.m. Tickets are \$12 and call the church office to reserve/purchase your seat. Lunch will be at the ballpark so bring cash for hot dogs and popcorn.

**Coffee & Conversation with...  
Thursday, April 27  
10 am • Genesis Hall**

Our monthly program will offer insights into "My Darling: A World War II Scrapbook" a book by former Aldersgate UMC pastor Rev. Carole Cotton-Winn.

*My Darling*  
**A WORLD WAR II  
SCRAPBOOK**



The book offers a personal account of WWII as experienced by Cotton-Winn's father, William Davis Cotton during his time in the European Theatre. Her father wrote to her mother often, as well as writing a letter to his baby daughter on the 13th of each month to denote her birthday. This program is free and open to the public. We look forward to sharing a cup of coffee and conversation with you .

Contact the church office at **641-5829** or email us at [suzie@aldersgate-slidell.org](mailto:suzie@aldersgate-slidell.org) for more information .



Now... **EVERY SUNDAY** is **FOOD DRIVE SUNDAY.**

The need is great in our community for non-perishables. Alersgate UMC has a goal of collecting 1,000 lbs of food for the Community Christian Concern food panty this year. Baskets will be at the front door each Sunday for your donations.

**CCC Pantry Food Drive**  
**Year to Date Total Weight is**  
**110 Pounds**  
**% of 1,000 lbs Goal— 10.1%**



**Let's Get to Steppin!**



**Cajun Dance Lessons are Back!**

Our initial turn around the dance floor on March 14th with Paulette and Edmond Burras was a huge success and a lot of fun! More than 30 people took part and more evenings of dancing the Cajun two-step were requested.

So put on your dancing shoes and pass a good time on Tuesday nights starting April 4. The music begins at 7 p.m. Individuals and couples are welcome.

Although the lessons are free, a donation of \$5 per person would be appreciated, however, it is not required.

The John Wesley Center makes a fun dance hall so come join us as we enjoy Aldersgate's version of a Fais Do Do!

**Blood DRIVE**

**Sunday, April 30**

**7:30 am - 1 pm in Genesis Hall**

At our last blood drive we had a total of 25 people who were able to donate blood!

**Let's see if we can beat that on April 30th.**

Don't forget to bring your ID and eat a good meal before donating!

***Something's Brewing this Spring and Summer...***

The ladies of Something's Brewing can look forward to a fulfilling Spring and Summer schedule of great books and lively discussion.



We learn so much from each other, as well as the texts we share. Women of all ages are welcome to join us at any point in the study schedule. We meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday mornings. A nursery is available with a reservation.

Here's what's coming up.....

**April 4**— All women are invited to join us for a potluck brunch and fellowship as we look over the books we will be reading in the coming months. Please bring your favorite dish to share, as well as a serving utensil. Drinks will be provided.

**April 11 and 18**—Something's Brewing will be on vacation.

**April 25**—We will begin our study of Max Lucado's "Miracle at the Higher Grounds Café". This light novel features a cast of interesting characters, an old fashioned coffee shop and an internet connection to the divine. Books are available from the church office for \$10 (Kindle-\$6). Please call 641-5829 to reserve your copy.

In May and June, we will move on to "A Thousand Gifts" by Ann Voskamp and "The Good and Beautiful God: Falling in Love with The God Jesus Knows" by James Bryan Smith.

A special thanks to Cindy Kemp and Cheryl Smith for agreeing to lead us on Tuesdays in the coming weeks.



Thank you to all those who came out on the Day of Caring, and those who made monetary donations to help make this day possible. Many hands made light work and the day went by quickly. But there is always more to do! Stay tuned to see when Day of Caring *take II* is scheduled. We would love to finish up some of the projects that were not fully completed! Again, Thank You!



## 2017 Easter Lily Dedications

*The altar will be decorated once again with beautiful Easter Lilies this year. You have the opportunity to dedicate honorariums and memorials to special people in your life. The amount for each dedication will be \$15.00. Forms will be made available to you in the Sanctuary and the Church office.*



### In-House Photo Directory 2017



Matching backgrounds will be setup at locations around campus. Photos will be taken before, between and immediately after Sunday Services and prior to large events taking place on campus. While taking photos, we will also verify/update your church membership information. Suzie Hunt is looking for volunteers to help with this project. Please contact her at the church office at 985-641-5829 or at [suzie@aldersgate-slidell.org](mailto:suzie@aldersgate-slidell.org).

## THANK YOU CHRIS BARRON!



If you have not had a chance to take a walk to the Susanna Wesley building, there have been some new additions. The flower beds near Susana Wesley have been newly landscaped and two garden beds for the Apple Tree Day School have been built, both as a result of the Eagle Scout project done by Chris Barron. His project was meant to beautify the flower beds near Susana Wesley along with providing better site lines for the Apple Tree students and the teachers as they do activities on the covered outside areas. In addition, Chris built the garden beds to be used by apple tree as they encourage the students to learn about eating and growing fresh vegetables. The project would have been impossible to complete had it not been for the generous donations received from church members and family and friends along with the manual labor provided by friends, Aldersgate youth and the scouts from troop 348. Many businesses also helped by making donations or giving discounts on the materials used in the project. These include Liberty Soil which donated three cubic yards of soil, Mizel's Camellia Hill Nursery where Chris purchased the camellias, and Lowes who gave him a 15% discount on his purchases for the garden beds. Chris also had a teaching session with the children at Apple Tree on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, where they planted a fall garden for the students and flowers in the new flower beds. This project will provide a continuous place for out member and visitors to enjoy for years to come. Come check it out!







**Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**

→ 10:30 am-1 pm

**Silent Auction &  
Bar-B-Q!** in JWC



The Annual Youth Silent Auction and BBQ will be held April 30th in JWC, so be sure to mark your calendar.

Currently the Youth are in need of Auction Items in order to have a successful fundraiser. To give you an idea of items the Youth need, here is a list of items from past actions; restaurant gift cards, jewelry, homemade crafts, crochet blankets, baked goods or pies, gift items, games, haircut certificates, spacewalk rental, dog grooming, spa products, baby items, toys, sports tickets, Saints & Hornets items, ... and the list goes on & on!!

If you have an item you would like to donate you may bring it to the church office during the week.

This fundraiser will support the Youth mission trip to the Rio Bravo, Mexico, Manos Juntas Mission.

This trip is such an incredible learning experience for our young people at Aldersgate and your support makes trips like these possible.

For trip information please contact Adam Moore, Director of Youth Ministries, & Christian Education [adam@aldersgate-slidell.org](mailto:adam@aldersgate-slidell.org). For auction information please contact Kathryn McKenney [kmckenney@charter.net](mailto:kmckenney@charter.net)



**April & May Dates for Youth!**

**April 2nd**

5:30pm Big Group! (snack supper: Lovitts)

**April 9th**

No Youth activities after 10am service and Family Picnic

**April 16th**

No Youth activities - Easter Sunday

**April 23rd**

5:30pm Big Group! (snack supper: Fords)

**April 30th**

No Youth Activities - this is our BBQ Lunch/Silent Auction fundraiser day!

**May 7th**

**\*\*MANDATORY\*\***

**MISSION TRIP MEETING 5:30pm**

## **YOUTH Worship** **Leaders Needed!**

Would you like to  
**Read Scripture** or  
**Serve Communion**  
in Worship?

Can you help with first service  
**Children's Moments?**

Contact Scott or Adam for more information,  
[scott@aldersgate-slidell.org](mailto:scott@aldersgate-slidell.org),  
[adam@aldersgate-slidell.org](mailto:adam@aldersgate-slidell.org)



Order your  
**PORK BUTTS** today!

The Men's Club will once again smoke whole pork butts for \$40 each, to help raise funds for the Youth.



## VBS 2017

**June 12—June 16**  
**9am—12pm**

**Registration/ Volunteer  
Forms are available in the  
office and on the website!**



## Camp SONshine

A 6 week faith based summer program!

**NOW REGISTERING**

For Ages 3 years—exiting 1st graders

**June 19 - July 28**

**3 options available**

**M/W/F 9-12**

**M/W/F 9-3**

**M-F 7:30-4:30**

For additional info contact

Stacey: 641-5829 or

stacey@aldersgate-slidell.org



## NEWS FROM THE TREE!

### Apple Tree Preschool & “Little Lambs” MDO

Apple Tree Preschool & AUMC Children’s Ministries will be participating in the Annual Camellia City Kids Fest held in Heritage Park on Saturday, April 29th 10am-6pm. There will be fun, games, food, and lots of FUN! For more information on the Fest, please visit their Facebook page, Camellia City Kids Fun Fest. We hope to see you there!



**Counter Culture Day**  
**Wednesday, April 5th**  
**10am-6pm**



**Texas Roadhouse Night**  
**Tuesday, April 25th**  
**4-8pm**  
**Dine in or Take Out**

For More Information Contact Cheryl Mann, Director, [appletreeslidell@gmail.com](mailto:appletreeslidell@gmail.com)  
or Marsha Hubbard, Administrative Assistant, [appletree@charter.net](mailto:appletree@charter.net)

**985-641-0184**



**April 2017**

- April 2 Healing Worship Service, anointing with oil
- April 4 Cajun Dance Lessons in John Wesley Center (every Tuesday)
- April 9 10am Worship Service on Palm Sunday with Palm Processional  
Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Family Picnic at 11:30pm, John Wesley Center  
(Old School Eats Foodtruck will be on campus this day)
- April 12 Last Supper Tableau-Wednesday at 7pm at First United Methodist Church
- April 13 Maundy Thursday-A Service of Prayer and Holy Communion 7pm, Sanctuary
- April 14 *Church Office closed on Good Friday*  
Good Friday Reflections on the Cross 7pm, Sanctuary
- April 15 Easter Vigil Service - Watch Night 8pm, Sanctuary
- April 16 Easter Sunday  
Easter Sunrise Service 6:15am at Heritage Park  
8:30am Worship Service  
9:45am Worship Service  
11:00am Worship Service
- April 17 *Church Office closed for Easter Break*
- April 27 Grown Ups Coffee & Conversation 10am, Genesis Hall
- April 30 Blood Drive 7:30am-1pm, Genesis Hall  
Confirmation Sunday at 8:30 service only  
Youth Silent Auction, John Wesley Center

**May 2017**

- May 2 Cajun Dance Lessons in John Wesley Center (every Tuesday)
- May 4 National Day of Prayer
- May 7 Youth Mandatory Mission Trip Meeting
- May 12 Apple Tree Graduation Ceremony
- May 14 2017 Senior Sunday  
Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast
- May 21-28 Family Promise staying on campus this week
- May 27 Grown Ups Coffee & Conversation 10am, Genesis Hall
- May 29 *Church Office closed for Memorial Day*



	February 2017	2017 Year to Date
Income	\$ 50,012.01	\$101,959.11
Expense	\$ 56,627.94	\$114,853.04
Net Income	\$ (6,615.93)	\$(12,893.93)

Communion Rail Offering and “Something Bigger” Offering for March  
 Dos Amigos Communion Rail \$157      Camp Istrouma “Something Bigger” \$2,442

Did you know that the average AUMC utility bill is \$5,320.00 every month? That’s roughly \$63,840 annually to keep the lights on, electricity flowing, and garbage being picked up weekly.

## Flowering the Easter Cross

Please feel free to bring fresh cut flowers on Easter morning, April 16th, to flower the cross in front of the Sanctuary.

PRAYING WITHOUT CEASING

Our church family is our best source for names of those persons in need of care. Please contact the pastor at (641-5829) or a Care Team member when you know of a need. You can also email your prayer request to [prayer@aldersgate-slidell.org](mailto:prayer@aldersgate-slidell.org) Our Care Team coordinators are: Rhea Snyder, 643-3945; and Charlotte Clifford, 847-0966.

**Christian Condolences:** Mark and Lisa Selzer and Fuller family and friends in the death of Barbara Fuller. Mina Iennusa, Chris and Stacey Iennusa and family in the death of Lenny Iennusa. LeaRae Webb, family and friends in the death of Melanie Bowman. Doris Lutz, family and friends in the death of Doris Lutz’s son.

**Joys:** Very successful Day of Caring. Inspiring Prayer Service of Healing and Anointing. Enjoyable concert by the Downers Grove, IL FUMC Chapel Choir.

**Impending Tests/Surgery:** Linda Cloyd, Mary Lee George.

**Hospitalized:** Lloyd Grafton, Rae Williamson, Johnnie Lou Whitman, Matthew Peace, Perry Rucker, John Marr.

**Recovering at Home:** Kathryn McKenney, Patsy Bosarge, Sonny Alberts, Liz Krieger, Doris Merritt, Gina Puma, Dianne Hughey, Marilyn England, Stacey Iennusa and family.

**Prayers:** Belize Mission Trip, Kairos Outside, Mrs. Christy Romagosa’s friend and family, Lindsay Sonnerberg McDaniel, Ava Krantz, Al Baridel, GriefShare Ministry, Mollie William’s mom, Kendra Misner, Heloise Grant, Libby Long, Joan Holmes, Tom Foozer, Patrick LeBlanc, Our Country and Our Military, Our President, Homebound Members, The Unemployed, Aldersgate United Methodist Church.

**Continuing Concerns:** Jimmy Farmer, Jay and Judy Hunt II, Sandra Lindsay, Sherry Zeitler, Kay Felkins, Kristen Vanleusden, Barbara Walker, Joanne Parker, Edith Marquette, Clint Crosier, Pat Doyle, Jean Van Norden, Len Zullo, Zachary Cheek, Susan Grant, Rachel Cochrane, Stacey Lovitt, Sonny Neville, Rev. James Biedenharn, Bill Fink, Larry Hamm, Luke Smith, Lissa Jordan, Esther Stephens, Warren Benoit, Eugene Victor, Huey Gardner, Rick Saluga, Lesa Raia, Rick Duvieilh, Mary Gramlich, Rick and Maria Hodgson, Sara Delaha, Mary Sue Sisco, Faye Hammer and family, Nancy Wood, Bonnie Byrd, Lucian Grass, Bobbie Stephens, Linda Dick, Loretta Moore, Brycen Newman, Camille Callais, Dr. Bill Nelson, David Nezat, Derek and Lauren Whitty Webber.

AND NOW A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS...

In the  
Spotlight

## Lowry-Dunham, Case & Vivien

We were founded in 1901 when the Northshore was a healthful escape from the Big Easy. Since that time, the Northshore has grown and so have we, but our goal remains the same: to provide professional, sound insurance services to the hard working people of our community. With a staff of over 20 associates, and one of Louisiana's most highly automated insurance offices, we stay abreast of trends in our industry. Our associates and support staff strive to make your pursuit of reliable and affordable insurance coverage as easy as possible. We invest a great deal of time in getting to know you so we can devise an insurance program that will most effectively match your needs. Yes, in 1901 the bulk of our business centered on lumber, brickmaking and houses, but now we insure almost any exposure, almost anywhere.



Contact Lowry-Dunham, Case & Vivien Insurance Group at (985) 643-1234 for questions or information. Our visit their website at [www.ldcv.com](http://www.ldcv.com)

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### Staff Email:

Rev. Tracy L. MacKenzie:	<a href="mailto:Tracy@aldersgate-slidell.org">Tracy@aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
Director of Worship & Music Ministry:	<a href="mailto:Scott@aldersgate-slidell.org">Scott@aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
Director of Congregational Care & Missions:	<a href="mailto:Suzie@aldersgate-slidell.org">Suzie@aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministry:	<a href="mailto:Adam@aldersgate-slidell.org">Adam@aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
Youth Administrator:	<a href="mailto:Youth@aldersgate-slidell.org">Youth@aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
Director of Children's Ministry:	<a href="mailto:Stacey@aldersgate-slidell.org">Stacey@aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
Facilities Manager:	<a href="mailto:Gary@aldersgate-slidell.org">Gary@aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
Membership/Finance:	<a href="mailto:Karen@aldersgate-slidell.org">Karen@aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
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Director of Epworth:	<a href="mailto:Jim@epworthproject.com">Jim@epworthproject.com</a>
Louisiana Conference Website:	<a href="http://www.la-umc.org">www.la-umc.org</a>
Apple Tree Preschool Director:	<a href="mailto:appletreeslidell@gmail.com">appletreeslidell@gmail.com</a>
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Church Website:	<a href="http://www.aldersgate-slidell.org">www.aldersgate-slidell.org</a>
Church office:	985-641-5829

