



# Connect

Volume XIV, Issue 5

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

May 1, 2024

*"Sharing the living Christ through life-changing service and love"*

*Sunday May 5th*

# COMBINED WORSHIP

**10 AM - THE SANCTUARY**



**ALDERSGATE**  
*United Methodist Church*



**MAY 5TH - 10AM - COMBINED SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY**

**MAY 12TH - 9AM - SANCTUARY & 11AM - JWC**

**MAY 19TH - 9AM - SANCTUARY & 11AM - JWC**

**\*NOTE\***

**STARTING MAY 26TH THROUGH AUGUST 11TH COMBINED  
SERVICES WILL BE AT 10AM IN THE SANCTUARY  
SEPERATE SERVICES WILL RESUME ON AUGUST 18TH**

**AUGUST 18TH - 9AM - SANCTUARY & 11AM - JWC**

**CLOUDS COME FLOATING INTO MY LIFE FROM OTHER DAYS NO LONGER TO  
SHED RAIN OR USHER STORM BUT TO ADD COLOR TO MY SUNSET SKY**

## *Fundraisers and Fiduciary Responsibility*

Fiduciary Responsibility sounds like such a weighty term, but it's what the church does with our money every day. Fiduciary means trust. We receive and spend your money with the trust you place in church leaders. As trustworthy people, the elected members of our Governance Board apply the church's resources as necessary. Church financial records are always open and available to church members.

Church members have a fiduciary role as well, to faithfully give as the church needs to support our ministries. The church members hold the trust of seeing that the church has the funds necessary for the stewardship of the church itself. This money can go to the church through the fulfillment of annual pledges, through independent donations, and your support of specific fundraisers. This month, we have three fundraisers scheduled. In May, our Backpack Blessings ministry is hosting a Bunco night to raise money. In addition, the Men's Club is smoking pork butts and chicken as a youth fundraiser. Last but not least is Van Geaux which raises money for general church missions and ministries. A part of Van Geaux is a Silent Auction which also raises funds for the youth and Backpack Blessings.

As your pastor, I know this is a lot for one month. I also want you to know that our church is financially sound, and we are meeting our expenses as needed. Yet, as so often is the case, repairs, and general church costs take up so much of our spending that we need to ask for extra to help our specific ministries. As a church, and as church leaders, we would rather not have to hold extra fundraisers to meet our ministry needs. This is why regular stewardship and giving are so important to maintain how our church makes disciples for Jesus Christ. As I always say, what you give is between you and God. What the church spends is based on our fiduciary responsibility to meet the needs and costs of the church facilities as well as ministries. Together we do the work of Jesus Christ in our community. With trust, love, and financial support, we will continue to serve God well into the future.

*Love and Peace, Rev Mollie*

# GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

Governance Board Meeting Minutes  
April 15, 2024

**Co-Chair:** Ron Davis      **Co-Chair:** Stan Laskos      **Secretary:** Cylinda Barron  
**Ex-officio Members:**      **Pastor:** Rev. Mollie McGee X      **Lay Leader:** Lewis Smith X  
**Delegate to Annual Conference:** Stan Laskos

2024	2025	2026
Denise Liuzza X	Kevin Hanken X	Stan Laskos X
Stacey Lovitt X	Cylinda Barron X	Jacalyn Epperson
Ron Davis X	Dede Ricard X	Gary Grant X

## Leading Beyond – Mollie McGee

Finding Our Focus: Values - Intentions/Identity

Making Disciples: Our 3 Intentions

Mission and Outreach — Volunteers and Leadership — Worship

We continued our work toward developing a new vision statement. We looked at the list of values we developed at the last meeting and narrowed those down to the top 5 values we see for our church. We then discussed those and whether they are an accurate representation and whether we need to adjust those top 5 values.

## Business:

Finance Report

We went over the financial reports and were happy to report that the income was higher than expected for this first quarter. Stan is going to start giving us a report on the finances and teaching us how to better read and understand those reports.

We still have some financial challenges upcoming: we do need to replace the hot water heater in JWC and will need to replace the roof on Asbury which suffered more damage after the recent tornado. The sanctuary roof did lose some shingles which will need to be addressed. Great work by Jacob and other volunteers who helped get the tree that fell in the driveway cleared away before Sunday.

The conference is working on a group insurance option for churches in the state for wind and hail.

We are also going to adjust the payment of our apportionments over 9 months which will help with our end-of-year budgeting.

Wi-Fi Issues: there are issues with connecting to the Wi-Fi in JWC and Sanctuary.

Steve Baham is looking into this issue. Off-site server access: Steve Baham is looking into setting up a VPN so staff can access the server when they are working off-site.

Internship Agreement — We reviewed an internship agreement between our church and Brody Hauck. He will be working with Jacob this summer.

Employee Handbook, Update — Denise and Gary reviewed the policy related to office hours and employee hours. Office hours are 9-3; staff working hours are 8-4.

Annual Conference, Lay Delegate June 11-14 -Stan Laskos will be serving as our Lay delegate for the annual conference.

Summer Worship Schedule

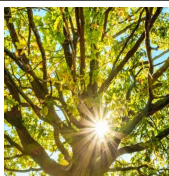
We will start summer combined services on Memorial Day, May 26 through the end of the summer. We will have summer services in the sanctuary at 10am.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE



St. Tammany™  
HEALTH SYSTEM

## Hospice Grief Support Group



Attention Men & Women

Join us on the **FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH from 10 am - 11am in**

**Cokesbury.** The group is free-of-charge and open to the public. Please help us spread the word to those needing support. For more information contact Stephanie @ 985-871-5976.

## SOMETHING'S BREWING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP HERE AT AUMC

**SOMETHING'S BREWING IS PART BOOK CLUB AND PART BIBLE STUDY. WE MEET ON TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 9 A.M. IN GENESIS HALL**

**WE WOULD LOVE FOR YOU TO JOIN US. COME AND SEE!**



## W.S.C.S. (Widows Social Club of Slidell)

Saturday, May 25, 2024 @ 10:00 am with Guest Speaker

**Courtney Murphy & Kylee Elkins**

*La. United Methodist Children & Family Services*



All widows are welcome to this group, whose purpose is to allow widows to meet other ladies who've experienced the loss of a spouse & have **FUN!** It's strictly a **SOCIAL GROUP** with 9 subgroups: Travel, Dining Out, Movies/Theater, Arts & Crafts, Gardening, Crochet/Knitting, Book Club, Cards & Games, & Walking.

We're always looking for new/fun stuff to do.

For more information about W.S.C.S. please contact  
Cindy Alberts at 985-707-7676 or [cbej@bellsouth.net](mailto:cbej@bellsouth.net)



## Slidell Synch

is a synchronized lawn chair brigade & they want **YOU** to join in the fun this Mardi Gras Season!

**CALLING ALL WOMEN!**

Join in the fun each **Tuesday** evening, at **6 pm**, in AUMC's **John Wesley Center**. We provide the chair and there is **NO** chair coordination necessary. Just a fun attitude.

Come give Synch a try. If you have any questions, please contact **Suzie Hunt @ [suzie@suzie-hunt.com](mailto:suzie@suzie-hunt.com)**.

We are an award-winning synchronized lawn chair brigade. Our motto is ...

**'Having Fun & Making People Smile'**

"We perform intricate routines spinning vintage aluminum, webbed chairs and laugh a lot. Membership is open to any woman with a sense of humor."

**REMINDER!** No Sunday School for summer, beginning May 25.  
Last date of Faith Friends is May 22.



**MAY 15TH 11:30 AM**  
**COUNTER CULTURE FROZEN YOGURT**  
**154 E HALL DRIVE**

**GROWN-UPS WILL BE RETURNING IN FALL!**



Courtney Murphy from the Louisiana United Methodist Children's Home spoke to our Grown-up's recently. We have ALL new stock of Salsa and Pepper Jelly. Our newest flavors are Hooton Hot Pepper Jelly, Peach Pepper Jelly, Peach Salsa as well as Party Time Pepper Jelly, Tad Warm Salsa, Mild and Corn & Beans Salsa. Each jar is \$9 & it will be in the New Room as well as in the office. Contact Cecilia for purchasing some of this delicious pepper jelly & salsa. Remember, all the proceeds go to the Owl Center, sponsored by the LUMCH.

ALDERSGATE IN ACTION



# BACKPACK BLESSINGS

## Feeding Kids for the In Between Times

The Mission is to provide supplemental nourishment to children who are at risk due to a variety of circumstances.

ANY GROUP ON CAMPUS *or* ANY INDIVIDUAL (this means you) is wanted and welcome to help with this much needed feeding ministry that is caring for our littlest ones in the surrounding community.

*Do you have questions, or would like more information?*

Please contact Cylinda Barron or the Church Office for help with questions. 985-641-5829.



CHECK OUT OUR NEW FACEBOOK PAGE! LIKE & SHARE

**You now have several options to Sponsor a child. Please scan the QR code provided to learn more.**

*You can also sponsor a child in Memory or Honor of someone. We will send a card to those who are Honored so they know a donation was made in their name!*

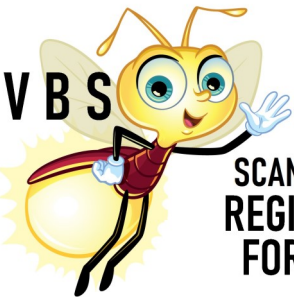
# VBS 2024 Register Now!



*"Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you"*

June 3 – 7, 2024  
9 am – Noon


Potty-trained 3 yr olds  
to exiting 5<sup>th</sup> Grade



**VBS**

**REGISTER NOW!**

SCAN THE QR CODE  
REGISTER TODAY  
FOR VBS 2024




We need emptied out  
Water bottles for our VBS  
project! Please drop off  
to the church office!

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT FOR MULTIPLE KIDS IS BEGINNING FRIDAY MAY 12TH!  
\$20/CHILD; \$75/FAMILY (SIBLINGS ONLY) AFTER MAY 12TH, \$25/ CHILD



**VBS**

amazon  
**wishlist**

SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO HELP PURCHASE  
SNACKS & SUPPLIES




**VBS**

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO SIGN UP NOW!



VBS is right around corner, June 3-7. We need Volunteers as well as lots of kiddos to come to Camp Firelight. Speaking of camping, if you have ANY camping equipment we could use for props, please reach out to us. Don't forget your empty water bottles as well!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

ALDERSGATE UMC  
360 ROBERT BLVD

# Smoked Meat

<b>PULLED PORK</b>	<b>CHICKEN</b>
\$12 PER POUND	\$8 PER HALF
\$60 PER BUTT	\$15 PER WHOLE

May 19 -  
12 - 2 pm

Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

ORDER HERE




*it's  
Bunco!  
time*

**MAY 10TH**

**Benefits Backpack Blessings**

Genesis Hall – Doors open 6:30 pm  
Game starts at 7 pm \$25 to play

*Van Geaux XIV*

**NEW DATE**

**SATURDAY MAY 11TH  
6-8 PM**



NEW DATE!  
SCAN QR CODE  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

Scan QR code above to place  
your order!

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

# THE ASBURY BUILDING

SUNDAY

MORNINGS 10-11  
NIGHTS 5:30 - 7:30

WEDNESDAY

NIGHTS 6 - 7:30

CONTACT

JACOB@ALDERSGATE-SLIDELL.ORG



# Congratulations

CLASS OF 2024

MIA MASSEL, AUBREY LABOURDETTE, GRACE MALCHOW  
EMMA POSEY, PRESTON PAULK, ELI STRAIN,  
KELLY CAMP, GEOFFREY NOEL, ADAM NOEL, ELISE NOEL

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

**HEY KIDDOS** come see us during the Sunday School Hour:

10-10:45am. *Nursery is available:*

PreK-3 through grade 2 in Susanna Wesley (Apple Tree) Bldgs.

Grade 3-6: John Wesley Center Room  
(classrooms behind the stage)



## Wednesday Night Groups

Faith Friends: (2nd and 4th Wednesdays from  
6-7pm) Grades 4 through 6

Contact: Jacalyn Epperson: [jacalyn.epperson@gmail.com](mailto:jacalyn.epperson@gmail.com)



CONNECT WITH US ANYTIME ON FACEBOOK!

Aldersgate UMC Children's Ministry AND Aldersgate  
Children's Ministry Parent Group

# TITHES & PRAYERS



	FEBRUARY 2024	YEAR TO DATE
Income	\$ 50,411.11	\$ 134,800.43
Expense	\$ 48,399.66	\$ 152,589.98
Surplus <Deficit>	\$ 2,011.15	<\$ 17,789.55>



SCAN THE QR CODE NOW TO MAKE A DIRECT DONATION TO ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



## GIVING TO THE CHURCH ELECTRONICALLY



### SHELBY NEXT GIVING APP

You can download the ShelbyNext app to your phone and give anytime from your mobile device.



### AUMC WEBSITE

Visit our website: [www.aldersgate-slidell.org](http://www.aldersgate-slidell.org) and click on the "Online Giving" option at the top/right of your screen. You have the option of giving a one time gift or you can select the "Make this Gift Recurring" and never have to worry about missing a tithe or offering again.



### AUTOMATED


Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) is a convenient way to give. Simply specify your amount and frequency and provide account information to our Financial Secretary, Jon Nelson, at [jon@aldersgate-slidell.org](mailto:jon@aldersgate-slidell.org). This will ensure your gifts are received regularly without having to worry each month. NO credit card processing fees.

**MAIL** The USPS is still delivering mail. Your gift/tithe can still be mailed to:

**Aldersgate UMC**  
**360 Robert Blvd.**  
**Slidell, LA. 70458**

**EXTERNAL DEPOSIT**

If you are out and want to save a stamp, you can drop your offering off at church through our "Church Drop Box" slot located in the alcove by the side door. This drop box leads straight into the Financial Secretary's locked office.



Send Prayer Concerns to [Prayer@aldersgate-slidell.org](mailto:Prayer@aldersgate-slidell.org)

## Prayers Requested

- |                       |                    |                             |  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Bil Aya               | Darlene Olson      | Mary Gilmore                | AUMC & Staff   |
| Corley Trawick        | Christen Blyth     | Natalya & Family in Ukraine | The People of Ukraine & Russia & War-torn areas of the Middle East |
| Milton & Kit Lizana   | Louis McGee        | Taryn Blanchard             | Our Country, Our Military, City Officials,                         |
| Wanda McIlvain        | Anna Fox           | The Blanchard Family        | President Joe Biden, the Unchurched,                               |
| Buck Kilbert & Family | Keydee Cooper      | Kristen VanLeusden          | Our Homebound Members  |
| Kaitlin Hanken        | Susan & Gary Grant | Wil                         | Rev. Mollie McGee  |
| Laura Parris          | Jack Lynch         | Tammy Corbin                |  |
| Wendy & Jeff Grascel  | Bella Smith        | Jan Stein                   |  |
| Julie Yates           | Les Baham          | Julie Yates                 |  |

AT AUMC, WE UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF PRAYER. WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE AN IMPACT, ANSWER URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS & JOIN OTHERS IN PRAYER? YOU CAN BY JOINING OUR PRAYER TEAM! CONTACT US IF INTERESTED.