



ALDERSGATE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

GATHER in Community-GROW Through Discipleship-GO Into The World

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

“Time Flies When You’re Having Fun” *January Edition*

Sunday Schedule

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship

Wow! Time flies when you are having fun! This last week of the year is a traditional time to reflect on what has happened this year and to begin to plan for 2022. 2021 was certainly and eventful year for me, for my family, and for Aldersgate UMC. It doesn’t seem possible that I arrived here six months ago.

In the last six months, we’ve begun to get to know each other. I’m so amazed by your personal stories. I’m so glad some of you shared notes before I arrived. I’m deeply appreciative for your kindness and care. You invested in changes at the parsonage and in my office. You showered me with a warm welcome. You blessed me during October with gifts and notes expressing your appreciation.

Office Details

Hours: 8:00-1:00

(Emails answered throughout the day)

Aldersgate@ftc-i.net

(803) 775-1602

211 Alice Drive

Sumter, SC 29150

Many of us met around tables with lemonade and talked about Aldersgate UMC’s identity and your hopes and dreams for our church. You’ve not left it at just talk. You’ve embraced changes to worship. You have had several big events – VBS, The Great Pumpkin Day, Trunk or Treat with a movie, a movie and tree lighting, a Longest Night Service, and 2 Christmas Eve services. Together, our efforts along with our community raised a record contribution to our local ministries.

I’m so impressed by your work, the grace that you have shown, your prayerfulness, and your love for your church. I’m delighted that we have expanded Brooke’s role to include more event and program responsibilities. I’m now looking forward to 2022.

Staff

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Laura Whitt

(Ext. 101)

Office Manager:

Brooke Staniec

(Ext. 100)

Custodian: Shpendi Dani

I’m deeply disappointed that we will miss worship in person on the first Sunday of 2022, but I’ll be online – watch for more information. I hope you will join me. I don’t take this step lightly. I’d much rather be present with you, but I’d rather us all get well. Please take care of yourselves – get your vaccines, wear your masks in public, and continue to keep physical distancing. In this time when we need to keep physical distance, it is more important than ever for us to hold one another close in prayer, in notes, and phone calls.

However, when we return on January 9, 2022, we install our leaders and pray for them as we enter the new year. They need our prayers not just on this Sunday but throughout the year. They also need for us to give help them with our time and talents. Think about what gifts you have to offer the church.

I am excited about what God is doing when we **gather**, how God is transforming us so that we **grow** as disciples, and where God is leading us to **go!**

Happy New Year!

Pastor Laura



During the Epiphany season Pastor Laura would like everyone to drop by the church and grab a star on the table located across from the sanctuary. This star will have a word that represents Epiphany and this word will guide your new year in meditation, thought, and prayer.



On Sunday January 9th in our service we will do installation of this year's church officer's. Please keep these individuals in your prayers as they help guide our church throughout this new year.

thank you

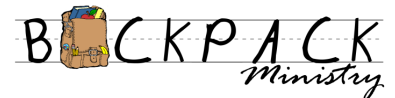
Our staff would like to sincerely thank you all for your gracious love offering during the Christmas season. Working at Aldersgate is such a blessing for us all, and the members are the largest part of that blessing. We can't wait to see what the next year has in store for all of us.

OUR PRAYERS:

- Lynn Boan
- Betty Hodges
- Mark Goldstein
- Ann Gerace
- Gene Hunter
- Larry & Garland Nettles
- Allen Prescott
- Everett Burroughs
- Ed Hudson
- Cornell Thomas
- Family of Liz Wild
- Dot Morgan
- Britton Family



Our next blood drive will be Thursday, January 27th from 2PM-7PM. Come out to donate if you are able or contact Dave Gohn if you'd like to volunteer in any way.



Backpack and serving Christian Charities are our two ongoing ministries. We are still working with these programs every week, food donations for both of these ministries can always be dropped off in the basket across the hall from the church office.



Our Pastor and our Health and Welfare Committee are continuously working together and following the most recent guidelines to keep us safe and informed. We will keep you informed as we continue to navigate through these times.



JANUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 UMM Work Day 9:00 AM
9	10	11	12 UMM 7:00 AM	13	14 Knitters 10:00 AM	15
16	17	18	19 UMM 7:00 AM	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 UMM 7:00 AM	27 Blood Drive 2PM -7PM	28 Knitters 10:00 AM	29
30	31					

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Mike Towery | 8 Bill Reither | 17 William Elliot |
| 2 Frankie Abbott | 11 Ann Gerace | 21 Debbie Brace |
| 3 Diane Labarte | 14 Betty Heacker | 22 Tudy Newsom |
| 3 Nellie Nettles | 14 Taylor McFaddin | 28 Connie Snow |
| 4 Zak Brady | 14 Mike Hodge | 29 Mavis Britton |
| 5 Vivian Kelley | 17 Carlo Gerace | 31 Stephen Heriot |