

Offering Our Gifts

Our vision is **Connecting, Knowing, Loving, and Growing** as disciples of Jesus and his Church to bless Durham and beyond, and you are key to making it happen! Every gift, large or small, directly supports the foundational ministries and daily operations of Aldersgate. Join us in this vital work—your offering helps us bring this vision to life.

A few ways to give:

- **In-person:** Place your offering in the plate during service.
- **Online:**
Visit www.aldersgate.org/give



GIVE



FOLLOW

Follow us on Social Media:

@aldersgatedurham

Friendly Faces of Aldersgate

Rev. Steve Murphy Pastor, Preacher, Teacher

Henry Branson Director of Music

Lydia Cauley Director of Family Ministries

Jonathan Hudson Communications and Office Director

John Hall & Barbara Atkinson Certified Lay Ministers

Jeff Whicker Church Organist



Aldersgate

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Connecting . Knowing . Loving . Growing



8:30am and 11:00am

September 20, 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost

1320 Umstead Rd, Durham, NC 27712



info@aldersgate.org



919-477-0509



aldersgate.org

Welcome to Aldersgate UMC

Thank you for joining us for worship.

If this is your first time we invite you to fill out a Connection Card. Scan the QR code on the connection card in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate.

Assistance: Please see any usher or friendly face.

Worship: Stand as you are able for starred (*) moments. We use the UMH and TFWS hymnals (in your pew) and the NRSV bible translation.

Congregational Care: For congregational care needs, including hospitalizations or home-bound needs, contact Barbara Atkinson (919-638-5711) or the church office (churchoffice@aldersgate.org or 919-477-0509).

Fall Kickoff Today

Our Fall Kickoff is today! Join us for Children’s Sunday School, Adult Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. (Featuring two new classes), great music from our choir, and more great opportunities coming this fall!

Connect:

Scan the QR code to fill out our Digital Connection Card.



Weekly Newsletter:

Sign up for the weekly email newsletter to stay connected to Aldersgate news.



Churchcenter App:

Scan the QR code for the church directory and more.



Did you know?

We have had a Fall Festival for 20 years? We even had a drive-thru trunk or treat during 2020. Aldersgate UMC Fall Festival has become a staple in our community. Neighbors come from all over and especially our surrounding neighborhoods. Even Covid didn’t stop us, we adhered to safety protocols and had drive-thru trunk or treat. Families drove through our parking lot, kids dressed up in the back seat, our cars all decorated, and we handed out candy and smiles (even through out masks) to each car that came through our parking lot.



Prayer Requests

To add your own request to the prayer list: email churchoffice@aldersgate.org, fill out a paper prayer card in the pew pocket, or call us at 919.477.0509 any time.

Church Members

Family of Paula James
Family of Dennis Shipman
Carol Lowans
Roxanne Parker
John and Alice Hagaman
Bob and Phyllis Carter
Joanne and Frank Wootton
Cynthia Gentry
Jackie Roberts
Hugh and Beth Osteen
Dave and Carol Brese
Judy Schlegel
Dana Staats
Rose Smith
Jenna Barton
David Leonard
Scott Thomas
Mark Mullins
Rudy Dunbar
Carl Allen
Carol Newman
Carol Chelette
Gary James

Family and Friends

Jim B. (Brother of Dave Brese)
Jennifer (Friend of Mary Taylor)
Cate (Friend of Ellen Venable)
Allyson (Daughter of Susan and Johnny Branch)
Lynda C. (Friend of Mary Tom and Alan Roberts)
Joe C. (Friend of Judy Alford)
Duane (Friend of Patti and Ron Bradshaw)
Cathy (Friend of Carl Allen)
Denita B. (Friend of Marie Padley and Lisa Pendergraph)
John (Brother of Sam Austin)
Cohen and his family
David L.
Bobby B. (Friend of Ron and Patti Bradshaw)
Dorothy W. (Mother of Cheryl Blake)
Matt P. (Friend of Voorhees Family)
Erve B. (Brother of Dave Brese)
Dale R. (Brother of Glenn Reynolds)
Rev. Jim G. (Friend of Lee King)
Ruth C. (Mother of Carol Newman)
Cheryl and Pat (Friends of Cathy Cozart)
Amanda (Neice of Cathy Cozart)
Scott B. (Friend of Stacey McCorison)
Mick S. (Brother in Law of Linda Morris)

Connection Spotlights

Agape Fall/Winter Consignment Sale

Today is the last day to shop our consignment sale in the FLC from noon - 2PM. Can't wait to see you there!

Consecration Sunday (Sunday, September 27th)

Consecration Sunday is next Sunday, September 27th. We will have **one service at 10:45 a.m in the FLC**, followed by a celebratory luncheon. This lunch requires an RSVP. If you have yet to make a reservation card, please let us know that you will be present by calling or emailing the chairperson Cynthia Bell at 919-616-6461 or cynthiawbell@gmail.com. We hope to see everyone here on Consecration Sunday!

AUMC Sunday School Classes

Last Sunday's kickoff was just the beginning, come join one of our Adult or Children's Sunday School classes! Our Children's SS classes are for our kiddos PreK - 6th grade. We also have five Adult Sunday School classes. The Gathering had a great first week playing Faith Themed Jeopardy and will be reading the book A New Playlist: Hearing Jesus in a Noisy World. Our Grace Moments class is exploring the book: When You're a Christian, the Whole World is from Missouri by James Moore. We invite everyone to join one of our Sunday School classes. Talk to a Sunday School leader about what they are doing and how you can join an impactful group, growing in fellowship.

Three more days to take your SHAPE+ Assessment

There are three more days to discover your God given SHAPE through out SHAPE+ Assessment.our Spiritual Gifts Assessment closes on Wednesday, September 23rd. This is a wonderful chance to learn your gifts. The assesment takes 25-30 minutes. Navigate to the link below or scan the QR Code.

Screens not your thing ask the front office for paper copies. Questions, Jonathan is happy to help! Thank you to all who have already taken the assesment. You've made our picture of this congregation much clearer. https://aldersgate84.servewireapp.com/survey/?id=3&srv=264596_199229_199232_199231_199230_264604&rnd=1788984838

AUMC Sacred Stitches Prayer Shawl Retreat

AUMC Sacred Stitches is hosting a prayer shawl retreat on **Saturday, October 3rd from 9AM-noon in the Family Life Center (FLC) gym**. This opportunity is geared toward those who knit or crochet or are interested in learning about prayer shawls and knitting or crocheting. All skill levels welcome. Email Susan Parham (parham.susan@gmail.com) to RSVP for this great retreat!



8:30 Worship

GATHERING MUSIC

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND CENTERING WORD
"Generous" Debbie Sykes

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE AND SILENCE

*SONG OF PRAISE *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* UMH 139
(v. 1-3,5)

*SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 20:1-16 Barbara Atkinson

SERMON Generous Pastor Steve Murphy

CONSECRATION SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENT Barbara Atkinson

INVITATION TO OFFERING
OFFERING RESPONSE *God of Justice* Tim Hughes

COMMUNION Pastor Steve Murphy

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Barbara Atkinson

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES Debbie Sykes

*SONG OF PRAISE *The Gift of Love* UMH 408

*BENEDICTION Pastor Steve Murphy

11:00 Worship

GATHERING MUSIC		
CHIMING OF THE TRINITY		
WELCOME		John Hall
PRELUDE	<i>Prelude No.2</i>	George Gershwin
LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH		John Hall
*CALL TO WORSHIP Come and worship, you who woke early and you who slept late; We have come to worship our generous God. you who come often, and you who don't. Whether we are first or last or somewhere in between, We have come to worship our generous God. there is room for all of us in God's kingdom, and more than enough grace to go around. Let's worship God together! We have come to worship our generous God.		
*OPENING HYMN	<i>Praise to the Lord, the Almighty</i> (v.1-3,5)	UMH 139
PRAYER OF INTERCESSION		John Hall
LORD'S PRAYER		
PASSING THE PEACE		
ANTHEM	<i>Come To Him</i>	Mark Kilstofte
Come to Him, a living stone, Though rejected by mortals Yet chosen and precious in God's sight, And like living stones, Let yourself be built into a spiritual house. -1 Peter 2:4-5		
PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION		Isabella Mitchell
Generous God, you are always more willing to give than we are to receive. As we hear your word today open us up by your Holy Spirit to all that you are, that we may become your partners experiencing the joy of generosity as we bless the world you love. Amen.		
*SCRIPTURE READING	Matthew 20:1-16	

KIDS OWN WORSHIP INVITATION		Lydia Cauley
SERMON	Generous	Pastor Steve Murphy
CONSECRATION SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENT	Barbara Atkinson	
INVITATION TO OFFERING	John Hall	
OFFERING	<i>Praise His Holy Name</i>	Keith Hampton
<i>Refrain</i> Sing till the power of the Lord come down. Shout hallelujah! Praise His Holy name! Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me; I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see. Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee! Shout hallelujah! Praise His Holy name!		
<i>Refrain</i> Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free? No, there's a cross for everyone and there's a cross for me. Jesus, Jesus, how I love Thee! Shout hallelujah! Praise His Holy name!		
<i>Refrain</i> Holy Jesus, praise His name, oh hallelujah, praise His Holy name!		
*DOXOLOGY	UMH 95	
*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING	John Hall	
*CLOSING HYMN	<i>The Gift of Love</i>	UMH 408
*BENEDICTION	Pastor Steve Murphy	
God, you who gives, not as the world give, but generous beyond measure. Send us out in your Spirit as part of your gift to the world from the first to the last. Amen.		
*CHORAL BENEDICTION	<i>Amen</i>	C.O. Beck
*POSTLUDE	Dan Barbour, bass	
*please stand as you are able		