

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

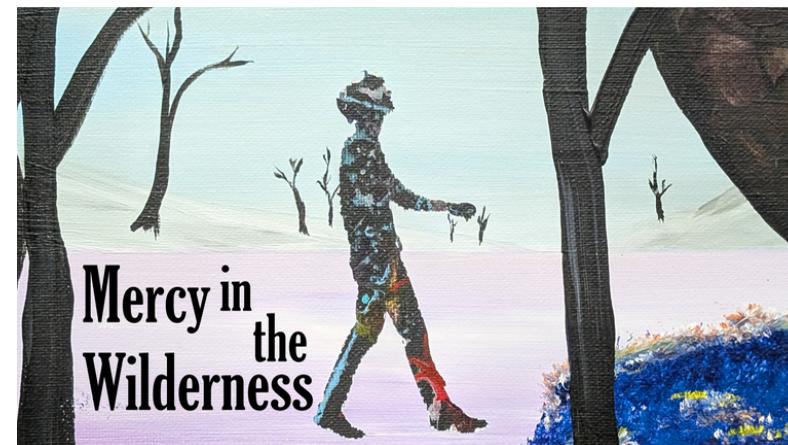
John Hall & Barbara Atkinson Certified Lay Ministers



Aldersgate

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Connecting . Knowing . Loving . Growing



8:30am and 11:00am

March 8, 2026

3rd Sunday of Lent

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. Either scan the QR code below or use the one in the pew pocket and place it in the offering plate.

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

Third Sunday in Lent Reflection Questions:

1. Share an experience of suffering from your own life, and how has that experience shaped you?
2. Describe how you experienced God's presence in the midst of suffering?
3. How does embracing the reality of God's grace revealed in this passage change how you relate to others or see yourself?

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?

The stained glass windows on each side of the altar came from the "old" church. The Women's Society of Christian Service (WSCS) raised funds to purchase them by making and selling Brunswick Stew. Pearl Turner and Lee King were sent to Raleigh Stained Glass Company to select them.



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

Clara Boykin
Darlene and Barry Marlow
Annie and Richard King
Tippy Sutton
Billie Staats
Carol Lowans
Roxanne Parker
John and Alice Hagaman
Bob and Phyllis Carter
Joanne and Frank Wootton
Cynthia Gentry
Jackie Roberts
Hugh and Beth Osteen
David and Linda Schaffer
Tim Hayes
Inna Nichols
Dave and Carol Brese
Judy Schlegel
David Leonard
Ron West
Rose Smith

Family and Friends

Michael (Brother of Patti Bradshaw)
Family of David Hart (Father of Susan Leonard)
Family of Destiny Lynn
Jim B. (Brother of Dave Brese)
Jerry (Father of Scott Thomas)
Jesse (Cousin of Jill Bosecker)
Jennifer (Friend of Mary Taylor)
Cate (Friend of Ellen Venable)
Dusty N. (Son-in-law of Richard & Annie King)
Allyson (Daughter of Susan and Johnny Branch)
Holly (Friend of Wanda Crutchfield)
Shulin (Grandson of Rose and Bill Smith)
Lynda (Friend of Mary Tom and Alan Roberts)
Bob
Diane

Connection Spotlights

Lenten Worship Series

Mercy in the Wilderness (Feb 18 - April 4)

From the childhood trauma of fleeing violence as a refugee family, to seasons of temptation, betrayals by friends, and an unjust crucifixion; Jesus' life was one of wilderness and mercy. During the season of lent we are invited to look deep into our lives and experience God's mercy in our wilderness.

Celebrating Stan Benton

Stan's retirement celebration has been rescheduled for March 15 in the FLC gym following the worship service. Please put this on your calendar and plan to attend. Rumors are that Stan will be playing some of your favorite tunes.

Spring Consignment Sale

The Agape Shop 4 Kids Spring Consignment Sale will take place on March 20th - 22nd. We welcome new consignors, shoppers, and volunteers!

Need a Helping Hand?

AUMC UMM may have just what you are looking for. You might have something that is broken, something that needs to be built, a project in the yard to tackle, an expertise that you just can't come up with. — We might have a solution.

Let us know and we will assess the situation and let you know if we have the skills to assist or at least can offer assistance in lining up someone else outside of our body.

Crop Walk for Hunger

The 52nd annual Durham Crop Walk is happening on Sunday, March 29th. Aldersgate has been an integral part of the walk and had a walking team for more than the past 30+ years, and we will field one this year as well. I have activated the church's Team entry on the walk website, and will start having a small card table in the narthex as of this coming Sunday, the 8th.

UMM Yard Sale

Join us in the FLC Gym on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. for community pickleball. Join in and play full games or volley back-and-forth with friends. Grab a paddle and come join us for a fun evening.

8:30 Worship

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME AND CENTERING WORD
"While we were"

John Sanders

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE
MOMENT OF SILENCE

*SONG OF PRAISE *Holy, Holy, Holy* UMH 64

*SCRIPTURE READING Judy Sanders
Romans 5: 1-11

SERMON Pastor Steve Murphy
Companion for the Journey

RESPONSE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERING RESPONSE Traditional
Amazing Grace
Dan Barbour, bass

COMMUNION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE John Sanders

PAVING THE PATH
Aldersgate Celebrating 70 Years with 70 Acts of Kindness

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES John Sanders

*SONG OF PRAISE *Just as I Am* UMH 357
(v. 1,2,5,6)

*BENEDICTION Pastor Steve Murphy

11:00 Worship

ACAPELLA WORSHIP

WELCOME
LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

John Hall

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Gracious God, at the right time, while we were unable to do this on our own, you showed love for us, made us righteous, and made peace with us through Jesus our Christ. We come today with our problems, afflictions, and struggles because we know that your love has been poured out and our hope will not turn to shame. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy

UMH 64

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION
LORD'S PRAYER

John Hall

PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

River in Judea

arr. John Leavitt

Often times I dream of music, of the river that freely flows.
And it sings a song sweeter than honey, one everybody knows.
Late at night, I hear it singing, then again when I wake at dawn.
And it fills me up with hope of good will, the will to go on.

Refrain

There is a river in Judea that I heard of long ago.
And it's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.

I believe it keeps on travelin' but it rests on the Sabbath day.
And the time when it pauses in stillness, I almost hear it pray.
When I'm weary and downhearted, how I long for the song it sings,
For the calm within its gentle blue, the peace that it brings.

Refrain

May the time not be too distant when we meet by the river shore.
'Til then, dream of that wonderful day as we sing once more:

Refrain

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Greg Fisher

Renew us in your mercy as we center our hearts and minds on the gift of your word spoken to us. May we be transformed and made new as we respond to your word and your grace. Amen.

*SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 5: 1-11

KIDS OWN WORSHIP

Lydia Cauley

SERMON

Pastor Steve Murphy
Companion for the Journey

PAVING THE PATH

Aldersgate Celebrating 70 Years with 70 Acts of Kindness

INVITATION TO OFFERING

John Hall

OFFERING

Amazing Grace
Dan Barbour, bass

Traditional

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

John Hall

*CLOSING HYMN

Just as I Am
(v. 1,2,5,6)

UMH 357

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Steve Murphy

Go, now, in the comfort and blessing of God's mercy, trusting that wherever you go, God's steadfast love surrounds you, sustains you, and supports you for the journey ahead. Amen.

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY