

# Aldersgate United Methodist Church

## Children's Sabbath



**September 29, 2024**  
Hymn Sing

**8:30 a.m.**

With Pastor John Goldrich serving  
Newman U.M. Church  
Videographer: Nancy Taylor  
Song Leaders: Dan and Kara Steward  
Greeter/Usher: Katrena Anton

**11:00 a.m. Service**

Greeter/Usher: Stacey Lienemann  
Lector: Jim Miller

Ministers: All of Aldersgate's Members  
Pastor: Joseph Rafique  
Director of Music: Julie Clopper-Smith  
Keyboardist: Deanna Steward  
Organist: Jan Malone  
Digital Media Specialist: Nancy Taylor  
Administrative Assistant: Stacey Lienemann  
Child Care Attendant: Katie Softley  
Custodian: Scott Hoyt

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United Methodist Church**  
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**Joseph Rafique, Pastor**  
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*Worshippers are welcomed to use their own terminology for God.  
If you are considering membership, please contact our pastor, 402-489-1510.*



September 29, 2024

**Greeting and Announcements** (8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*)

**Opening Truth** (twice 8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*) (Psalm 127:1-3)

LEADER: Without the help of the Lord it is useless to build a home or to guard a city. . . .  
God takes care of his own. . . .

ALL: **Children are a blessing and a gift from the Lord.**

**Music for Centering Prayer** (8:30)  
(11)

“Children’s Medley” — arr. Mark Hayes  
“Medley of Children’s Songs”

**Call to Worship** (8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*) (based on Psalm 95:1-2)

ALL: **Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord, let us shout aloud to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before God with thanksgiving and extol God with music and song as we celebrate the joy of children.**

**Hymn #89** (red, vs. 1-2)

“**Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**” (*Quinn’s favorite*)

**Opening Prayer** (8:30 *John*, 11 *Jim*)

(Adapted from Compassion and from The Prayer Warrior)

LEADER: Lord, we praise you that you are fully in control of all things. We pray that you would protect our children. Keep them healthy and help them to thrive. We thank you that you know every hair on their heads. You know exactly when they rise and when they fall. Watch over our children in every area of their lives and keep them safe.

ALL: **Thank you, Jesus, that you lived here as one of us. You know what it’s like to be a child, and to feel everything that children feel. Thank you that we have everything we need to encourage, nurture and provide for children. We pray for children around the world that you would be in their lives and they would grow up knowing they are loved.**

PASTOR: Thank you for the gift of guardian angels. May their divine presence keep children safe from harm, both seen and unseen. May they intervene in times of danger or fear and lead them away from harm.

ALL: **In your precious name we pray. Amen.**

**Hymns #277** (red, vs. 1-3)

“**Tell Me the Stories of Jesus**” (*Samavi’s favorite*)

**#191** (red, vs. 1-3)

“**Jesus Loves Me! This I Know**”

**Prayer of Confession and Words of Affirmation** (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: Audra Lorde says: Our children cannot dream unless they live, they cannot live unless they are nourished, and who else will feed them the real food without which their dreams will be no different from ours?

ALL: **“If you want us to change the world someday, we at least have to live long enough to grow up!” shouts the child.**

PASTOR: Let us confess our sins against children.

ALL: **Many children around the world, even in America, are hungry, homeless, abused, bullied, hurting, sick, separated from parents, confused. Forgive us when we have neither included children in our plans nor made provision for them, when we have neither included children in our plans nor made provision for them, when we have been apathetic toward their plight, when we have refused to advocate for them or represent them. Forgive us and help us do better because they are your children too, and they are our future. Amen.**

PASTOR: Whitney Huston has a song which includes these words: I believe the children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way. Show them all the beauty they possess inside. Give them a sense of pride to make it easier. Let the children's laughter remind us how we used to be.

**Special Music**

Quiet Reflection

“God Weeps” — *Julie Clopper-Smith*

PASTOR: If we confess our sins, God is faithful to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymns #445** (red, vs. 1-4)

**“Happy the Home When God Is There”  
“Jesus Loves the Little Children”**

**Word of God Proclaimed** (*Joseph*)

Psalm 127:3

Children are a blessing and a gift from the Lord.

**Reflections** (*Jim*)

Kaitlin Curtice, a Native American, says: All of our children belong to all of us, because that's what kinship does. It's a reminder of that dust we came from and of the dust we will return to. It's a reminder that while we are here, we make room for the next generation to spring up from the soil and create a new landscape.

“The New Christians”

Bob Hooks says: Children are born into a world surrounded by the possibility of communities.

“The Medalist”

May Angelou says: Each child belongs to all of us and they will bring us the possibility of communities.

**Special Music** (11)

“Let There Be Music” — *Aldersgate Choir*

**Offertory**

(8:30)

“Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam” — E.O. Excell

(11)

“Children of the Heavenly Father” — Swedish

**Doxology** (to the tune of #75, red)

**“Praise God”**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

MUSIC: attr. Louis Bourgeois, 1551

**Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self** (*John*)

ALL: **For the blessings of children, and for all you have given us, we thank you, gracious God. Accept not just our money but our lives freely offered in gratitude for all you have done for us. Amen.**

**Hymns #400** (red, vs. 1 & 3)

**“Come Thou Fount of Many Blessings”** (*Evie &*

**#451** (red, vs. 1-3)

**“Be Thou My Vision”** *Keller's favorites)*

**Celebrating Aldersgate**

*MaryAnne Loos*

**Hymn #2130** (black, vs. 1, 2, 4)

**“The Summons”** (*Abisha's favorite*)

**Commissioning and Blessing** (*Joseph*)

PASTOR: Go forth following Jesus' admonition to “let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

ALL: **May God bless us as we do so. Amen.**

(Thank you to those who have participated in today's worship.  
You are invited to stay and listen to the Postlude or leave as you wish.)

**Postlude (8:30)**  
(11)

“The Bible Tells Me So” — Dale Evans  
“Music for Children” — arr. T. Cornell

# Announcements

## Today, September 29

### Children's Sabbath

- 8:30 a.m. Hymn Sing — Worship Center and online <https://www.youtube.com@aldersgateunitedmethodistc8463> or at your convenience at [www.aldersgatelinc.org](http://www.aldersgatelinc.org). You may also search YouTube for Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4
- 9:45 a.m. Middle School/High School Youth Sunday School — Room 1. Taught by Tom Haggar
- 9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School — Room 2. Taught by Char Haggar
- 10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Hymn Sing — Worship Center

## Monday, September 30

### National Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools

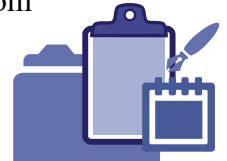
- 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Living and Worship Planning Team — Room 4

## Tuesday, October 1

- 9:00 a.m. Artisans
- 11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St.

## Wednesday, October 2

- 1:30 p.m. Book Club *Yellowface* by R.F. Kuang — Room 4
- 5:30 p.m. One Board Discernment with District Superintendent, Nancy Tomlinson — zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3267768816?pwd=bE91cFhndExNVDkzNkZFUEdnSFFyQT09&omn=89946291202>.
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice — Worship Center



## Thursday, October 3

- 12:30 p.m. Worship — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn

## Friday, October 4

- 8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4

## Next Sunday, October 6

### World Communion Sunday

- Estimate of Giving cards due
- 8:30 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online
- 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour — Fellowship Hall
- 9:45 a.m. *The Chosen* — Room 4
- 9:45 a.m. Middle School/High School Youth Sunday School — Room 1. Team taught by Tom Haggar and Harry Kellenbarger
- 9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School — Room 2. Taught by Sheila Kellenbarger
- 10:40 a.m. Choir Warm-up — Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center
- 1:00 p.m. Lincoln Ostomy Group — Sunshine Room

## Friday, October 11

- 6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall

## Sunday, October 13

### Safe Quarters to benefit the Friendship Home

- 1:00 p.m. CROP Walk — Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1200 S. 40th
- 4:13 p.m. Family Ministry Carving Pumpkins, Hay Rack Ride, and Fire Pit — Nielsen, 18900 Pioneers Blvd. Please RSVP by Thursday, October 3.

## Tuesday, October 15

7:00 p.m. Book Club *Yellowface* by R.F. Kuang — Room 4

## Wednesday, October 16

1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

## Thursday, October 17

10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Trees, People & Towns — Aldersgate Gardens and Worship Center

2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — Zoom

## Saturday, October 19

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast — Room 4

9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Blue River District United Women in Faith Annual Meeting “Connected Women Transform the World” with Rev. Stephanie Ahlschwede — Elmwood U.M. Church. \$15 per person due to Stacey by Saturday, October 12. Offering for Della Lamb in Kansas City.

## Tuesday, October 22

1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregiver Education “Planning for the Journey Ahead” — Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Room 4

## Sunday, October 27 Reformation Sunday

12:15 p.m. Potluck — Sunshine Room

1:00 p.m. All Church Meeting and Celebration of Aldersgate Gardens as arboretum — Worship Center

## Tuesday, November 5

8 a.m. – 8 p.m. Election — Fellowship Hall

11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St.

## Prayer List

### Birthdays This Week

**1** Julie Pearson

**4** Amanda Vlasnik

Konpal Rafique (25)

Timothy Liem

Nadyne Bauer

Dick Easley

Shirley Hanley

David Huston

Robyn Rocklein

Roxie & Richard Swyers

Skip, Katrena Anton's friend with colon cancer

Mary Coffey has fallen and hurt her shoulder. She's in the hospital in Holdrege.

Hayley Jambor's mother who has a brain tumor

Iva Maxey, Reba Wysocki's sister, who is undergoing dialysis treatments

Ava Miles, Phyllis Nelson's niece, was diagnosed with gastroparesis.

Jennifer Miles, Phyllis Nelson's niece

Isaiah Pierce, Karen Pierce's grandson who was born 12/13/22 with heart issues

Alex Ronne, Pat Ruth's cousin, a 7-year-old girl living in Colorado diagnosed with MLD, a rare, incurable, genetic disease.

Ross Teske and his missionary work in Talavera de la Reina, Spain

David and his family, Joe Gore's prior co-worker who are experiencing some extremely hard times and need prayers for strength and guidance.

Larry Walsh, Sandy Gores' dad

People in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine

