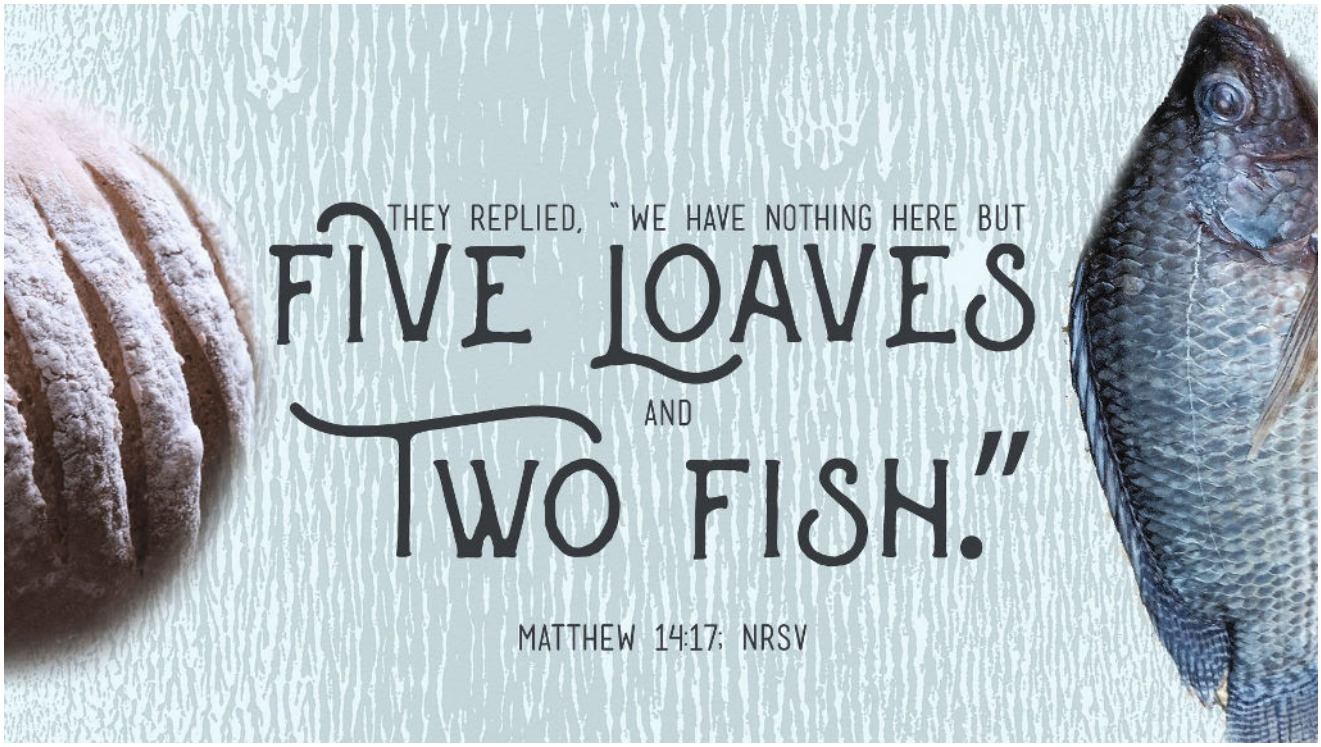
Aldersgate
United Methodist Church



11:00 AM
Usher/Greeter: Carol Clymer
Lector: Jim Miller

August 30, 2026
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ministers: All of Aldersgate's Members
Pastor: Matt Borland
Director of Music: Julie Clopper-Smith
Organist: Mandy West
Live Stream Technician : Dylan Lapointe
Administrative Assistant: Stacey Lienemann
Child Care Attendant: Katie Softley
Custodian: Scott Hoyt
Digital Media Specialist: Nancy Taylor
Accounting Consultant: Jennifer Hunter

Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
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Lincoln, NE 68506-6540
www.aldersgatelinc.org
402-489-1510 (church office)
aldersgatelinc@gmail.com

Matt Borland, Pastor
402-499-8839
mborland@GreatPlainsUMC.org

Worshippers are welcomed to use their own terminology for God.
If you are considering membership, please contact our pastor, 402-489-1510.

Ordinary Time

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Green

August 30, 2026

Welcome and Church Life Opportunities (*Jim*)

Music for Centering Prayer "Goodness of God" — Jenn Johnson

Call to Worship (*Jim*)

LEADER: Welcome to worship! Are you as curious as I am?
ALL: **We are, for each day is laced with possibilities!**
LEADER: Our eyes, our hearts, our souls are open,
ALL: **anticipating the mystery who is God.**
LEADER: With trust and courage, we wonder:
ALL: **How will God surprise us today?**

Hymn #384 (black) **"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"**

Opening Prayer

PASTOR: Let us pray with one heart.
ALL: **O God our Provider, even when we complain, you provide enough and more than enough. When we start to give up, remind us that with you there is always more to come. As we thank you for your many gifts, give us the curiosity we need to take our next step forward on our journey with you. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Hymn #145 (red) **"Morning Has Broken"**

Scripture Lesson (*Jim*) Exodus 6:1-5

PASTOR: The word of God for the people of God.
ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn #159 (red, refrain) **"Lift High the Cross"**
Gospel Scripture (*Jim*) Matthew 14:13-21

LEADER: The word of God for the people of God.
ALL: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn #159 (red, refrain) **"Lift High the Cross"**

Sermon "Masterclass for a Stuck Church"

Prayers of the Faithful

PASTOR: Our prayer is to you, O Lord. At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer us. Psalm 69:13
Gracious God, accept all these prayers offered in Jesus' name, and give us now the strength to wait patiently for your answer, and to live faithfully in response to your call. God of grace,
ALL: **hear our prayer.**
PASTOR: Bless our congregation. Heal those who are ill; comfort those who are grieving; reassure those who feel troubled and frightened by what the future may hold. God of grace,
ALL: **hear our prayer.**
PASTOR: O God, whom we cannot love unless we love our neighbors, remove hate and prejudice from us and from all people, so that your children may be reconciled with those we fear, resent, or threaten, and may we live together in your peace. God of grace,
ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Ever-present God, we thank you for your love and grace. We ask for words to speak and ears to listen. Strengthen all your people so they feel loved and welcomed in worship and community, without expectations of appearance, to come as we are into your presence. God of grace,

ALL: **hear our prayer.**

PASTOR: Let your soul receive this rest: the God of joy takes compassion on your inner doom and fills you with a peace that surpasses understanding. Let the divine guide you to laugh, joke, rest, dance, remember, dream, all steadied by a belief that you are worthy of goodness even when goodness does not immediately make herself known to you. Forgive yourself your despair and relax in the arms of the divine.

ALL: **Amen.**

Offering & Offertory Prayer "God Cares" medley — Sandy Wilkinson

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

Movement Moment and Lord's Prayer #895 (red)

PASTOR: This only works when it moves. Play reminds us that faith moves too. It's meant to stretch and return, to stay flexible in the Spirit. We invite every to stand and join a simple rhythm: two claps and one stomp together.

ALL: **As we move together, may we feel the spirit's rhythm of grace, stretching, releasing, and drawing us forward.**

PASTOR: Now join us in the way that Jesus taught us to pray together by saying:

ALL: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

Hymn (to the tune of #577 red) **"God, in Christ You Give Salvation"**

God, in Christ you give salvation, and in him, the old has gone.
We are made a new creation; now we sing: the new has come!
Side by side, we serve together, telling news of what you've done,
Telling news of what you've done!

2. Called by Christ, we live as brothers, strong and faithful, bound to you.
May we reach to lift up others so that they will know Christ, too.
Side by side, we serve together, salt and light in all we do,
Salt and light in all we do!

3. Sent by Christ, we go with courage, feed the hungry, help the poor,
Strengthen families, live your message, work for justice, heal, restore.
Side by side, we serve together: may we daily serve you more,
May we daily serve you more!

MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907
WORDS: © 2008 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

The Curiosity Blessing

PASTOR: God gives bread for today.
ALL: **Enough for this moment.**
PASTOR: God multiplies what we bring.
ALL: **We will move together in wonder.**
PASTOR: Go as a curious community — open to surprise, ready to follow.
ALL: **Amen** (clap in unison).

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

Postlude "Postlude of Praise" — Thomas R. Berdos

THE ALDERSGATE MISSION:
To transform lives and prepare disciples through the compassionate love of God.

THE ALDERSGATE VISION:
To welcome everyone to a faith journey in a vibrant world.

Church Life Opportunities

Today, August 30
9:30 a.m. Fellowship and coffee — Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online https://www.youtube.com/@aldersgateunitedmethodistc8463 or at your convenience at www.aldersgatelinc.org. You may also search YouTube for Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Lincoln, Nebraska

Tuesday, September 1
9:00 a.m. Artisans
11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th
5:30 p.m. Young Adult Bowling — Parkway Lanes, 2555 S. 48th St.

Wednesday, September 2
1:30 p.m. Book Club *No Two Persons* by Erica Bauermeister — Room 4
7:00 p.m. Back to Choir Practice — Worship Center

Thursday, September 3
12:30 p.m. Worship — Theater, Legacy Estates, 7200 Van Dorn

Friday, September 4
8:45 a.m. Take Off Pounds Sensibly — Room 4

Next Sunday, September 6
9:30 a.m. Fellowship and coffee — Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Worship — Worship Center and online

Next Monday, September 7 Labor Day
Office is closed.

Tuesday, September 8
6:30 p.m. Taco 'bout Jesus — Super Taco, 5501 Holdrege St.

3 p.m. Friday, September 11 – 1 p.m. Saturday, September 12
Conference United Women in Faith Annual Meeting — First U.M. Church, North Platte

Friday, September 11 Patriot Day
6:30 p.m. Friday Fling Game Night with Swedish meatballs — Fellowship Hall

Monday, September 14
1:30 p.m. United Women in Faith "Aldersgate Gardens" with Steve Schafer — Room 4

Tuesday, September 15
7:00 p.m. Book Club *Culpability* by Bruce Holsinger — Room 4. This is one of the three finalists for the 2026 One Book / One Lincoln.

Wednesday, September 16
1:30 p.m. Stitcheroos — Room 4

Thursday, September 17
2:30 p.m. Care Ministry — Zoom

Saturday, September 19
9:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast — Room 4

Monday, September 21
9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Using A.I. Tools in the Church — St. Mark's, 8550 Pioneers. $25. Please register by Monday, August 31

Tuesday, September 22 First Day of Autumn
9 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Both/And Hospitality — St. Mark's, 8550 Pioneers. $25. Please register by Monday, August 31
1:30 p.m. Lincoln Caregivers Education Group "What Caregivers Need to Know about Dementia Behaviors" — Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Earth Steward Ministry — Fellowship Hall

Saturday, September 26
9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Southeast Nebraska District Fall Meeting "Abundant Life" — St. Paul U.M. Church, 1144 M St. $15 for chicken catered by Hy-Vee.

Sunday, September 27
4:00 p.m. Fall Community Celebration — Malcolm U.M. Church, 520 Malcolm Rd. Worship service, fellowship activities and a community meal.

Tuesday, October 6
11:30 a.m. Grand Generation — Stauffer's Café, 5600 S. 48th St.

Wednesday, October 7
1:30 p.m. Book Club *Culpability* by Bruce Holsinger — Room 4. This is one of the three finalists for the 2026 One Book / One Lincoln.

Friday, October 9
6:30 p.m. Friday Fling — Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 11 Children's Sabbath
12:15 p.m. Oh, the Places God Will Lead Us Together brunch — Sunshine Room

Prayer List

Anniversaries and Birthdays This Week

31	Alane Wahlstrom	
1	Emily Janak	Dan Steward (60)
3	Don Stone	
5	Lola Jambor	

Bob Boyce, Keller Hustad, Dallas Huston
Laura Marshall, Lynda Nordyke, Loyal Park
Linda Pearson, Zach Steward, Maggie Struble
Jody Anderson, Hayley Jambor's mother who has a brain tumor
Mike Matthews, Kendra Hartwig's cousin with a tumor growing near his ear
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
Tim Murphy, a veteran with memory issues
Kevin Murray, Kitty's brother who had colon cancer surgery 6/16/26
Richard Rockenbach in Las Vegas
Cammie Schuerman, Chuck Schuerman's daughter
Ross Teske and his missionary work in Talavera de la Reina, Spain
People in Ukraine, Israel, Iran and Palestine