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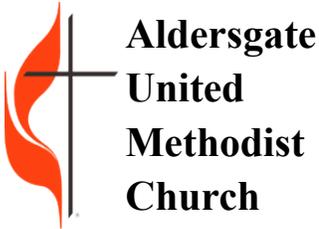
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**Aldersgate
United
Methodist
Church**

MICHAEL'S MINUTE

Jesus Is Lord!

The creed "Jesus Is Lord" is the oldest Christian confession and is the cornerstone of our faith commitment. It is so simple that it clarifies our deepest allegiances, yet so profound that we can spend our lives learning what it means.



erful, has full right to do as He wills, and we will obey Him without questioning. For many modern people, who love autonomy and revere individuality, the thought of submitting to Jesus is uncomfortable. Spurgeon put it

this way, "There is no doctrine more hated by worldlings as the Great, Stupendous, but yet most certain doctrine of the sovereignty of the most infinite Jehovah. Men will allow God to be everything except upon His throne."

The Old Testament often refers to God as *Adonay*, a term that has its roots in the Hebrew word, *adon*, which means lord in the sense of owner, master and superior. Ann Spangler writes, "*Adonay*... always refers to God as Lord or Master." When the people of God called upon God using the name *Adonay*, they were calling upon the sovereign God to whom they are completely submissive and obedient. For the Hebrews, obedience to *Adonay* was not contingent on good fortune, health, personal preference or majority vote. In fact, obedience to *Adonay* is not contingent on self-preservation at all.

Jesus made this point clear when in the gospel of Luke he said to a group of followers, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God" (9:62). When we say, Jesus is Lord, we are declaring complete obedience to Jesus, even if it means dying in a blazing furnace (Daniel 3:18). Our daily unquestioned obedience becomes our participatory answer to the Lord's prayer which says "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth just as it is in heaven."

The New Testament is consistent with this teaching by revealing that Jesus is Lord. The Greek counterpart to the Hebrew term is *Kurios* which means having authority, having legal power, and empowered. In this respect, when we proclaim "Jesus is Lord" we are saying that Jesus is all pow-

Because We Are Called,

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Special points of interest:

- Summer Study Class

You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty.

—Mahatma Gandhi

MUSINGS OF THE EDITOR

Summer is here at last or at least we consider it summer after Memorial Day. Our garden is growing quickly and the spring flowers are blooming. The leaves on the trees are coming out. The flowering trees and bushes are either in full bloom or are already past peak. Isn't God's world wonderful? I am in awe of every thing He does to make this world around us wonderful.

With summer comes a slowing down of church activities and yet there are still many. VBS is at the end of June and you will find information on this elsewhere in this newsletter. Also, the Youth are off on their mission trip to Long Island in June. The Vital Church Initiative passed at the church conference so there will be much activity to get that program moving forward this summer. This is start-



ing with the listening sessions on how our worship should be structured.

The pastor is taking some well deserved vacation time in July and two of our lay members have agreed to preach at the service during his absence. In addition he is joining the youth on their mission trip and we will have Lyn Frazier subbing for him in June.

Last, various members of the church are working on our gardens and construction of the pavilion will occur during the summer. Did I say things are slowing down? It sure doesn't sound like it. The Hinge staff is taking one month off so the next Hinge will be the end of July. Enjoy the summer.

Jack

WORSHIP SCHEDULE



Growing Closer

Do you want to build healthy, long-term relationships? The truth is that relationships can often be challenging. Even minor conflict with family and friends can create deep rifts in

our relationships. However, there's good news. You have the power to control the issues affecting your relationships. Join Pastor Michael for a message series that will help you build stronger connections, and live a happier and more productive life as we Grow Closer to God and Others.

May 28	Ephesians 3:14-4:6 Building Healthy Relationships
June 4	Acts 2:1-13 Growing Closer To God
June 11	Luke 15:11-32 Loving The Far Off
June 18	Guest Preacher – Lynn Fraser



God's Best

If asked, everyone would tell you that they want God's blessing for themselves, their families and our country. However, one must position ourselves to receive God's blessings by living with God's best as our motivation. Join Pastor Michael as he explains how you can live God's

best for your life and thereby experience God's blessings for a life of peace and fulfillment at home, at work, and throughout our nation.

June 25	Matthew 5:6 How to Stay Spiritually Hungry
July 2	Matthew 5:3 Declaration of Dependence
July 9	Matthew 6:33 How to be a Kingdom Builder
July 16	Guest Speaker – Kendall Root
July 23	Guest Speaker – Warren Weingartz
July 30	Psalm 23 Summertime – Rest For Your Soul

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Come join us for *Rome: Paul and the Underground Church* June 26th – 29th from 5:45 – 8:30 pm.

Thank you to those who have stepped forward to serve during this amazing week in “Rome.”

Prayerfully consider who God is asking you to invite. Our calendars can get full...so don't miss out in allowing God to work through you.

This year we will explore a crowded Roman marketplace, tiptoe past the ever present and watchful Roman guards as we make our way to a hidden cave – where first-century Christians eagerly await our arrival! And visit the Apostle Paul for daily discoveries about God's love. During our time together we will see that God's love is a gift, it changes us, is always with us, saves us and is worth sharing with others.

From opening to closing we will be transported back to Rome. We will gather for supper at 5:45 pm. An adult



class will be led by Pastor Michael. This VBS will offer opportunities from toddler-5th grade & adults. Volunteer opportunities still exist for youth – adult. Please look for the VBS Servant Roster Sign-up in the narthex (lobby).

If you have a smile and a willingness to show Christ's love to children of all ages, we have a place for you. Please contact me at 708-1758 or akdmax67@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to serve in some capacity.

Serving Together,

Addie

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

JESUS. SCRIPTURE. TRANSFORMATION...

The Men & Women's Summer Bible Study that will take place Mondays, July 10 – August 21 from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. We will make every effort to have childcare

for families. It would be helpful to hear from those who might desire this for their children. Please contact Addie Maxwell at 708-1758 or akdmax67@gmail.com. by June 10th. Thank you. See the sign-up sheet for this study on the “What's Up” board outside of fellowship hall. For planning purposes please sign-up by June 18th if possible. This gives us time to order the books and distribute them ahead of first meeting.

This summer's in-depth study is *Entrusted: A Study of 2 Timothy* by Beth Moore. The men and women will view Beth's teaching together via this DVD driven study and do break-out discussion separately. There is a Bible study book that includes daily scripture readings & questions. As we study 2 Timothy (the Apostle Paul's letter to Timothy) we will see Paul reminding Timothy of the qualities needed to be a faithful minister of Jesus Christ. Paul also stresses with Timothy to use his gifts, hold tightly to the truth, prepare others to follow him in ministry, be disciplined and ready to suffer hardship and keep his eyes & mind focused on Christ. This is the same call that Jesus has for all who believe and follow Him.



As you prayerfully consider your decision to come and be a part of this study...ask God to enable you to take one step beyond what you think you can do with your time and level of participation.

Consider this from Beth Moore *“No matter who you are, where you've been, or what list of demands vies for your time, do whatever you have to do get with Jesus and study the Scriptures. Because the words of Christ are spirit and life. Because God sends forth His Word with accomplishing power. Because the Holy Spirit can bring the Scriptures to life in any life. Because those who let Scriptures sink into their bones are transformed. Because nothing renews our minds like the Spirit of Christ working through the Word of God. Because He's got a plan for you that you don't want to miss and because you matter.”*

All our welcome! Come and take one more step closer to the One who knows you, loves you and longs that you would draw closer to Him.

Grace be with you,

Addie

“I am not ashamed, because I know the One I have believed in and am persuaded that He is able to guard what has been entrusted to me until that day. 2 Timothy 1:12

PRAYER NEEDS

Get Well Wishes & Prayers:

Hospitalizations:

Ira Garnsey – infection – 5/2

Jack Lehman – foot surgery – 5/5

Hannah Short – back surgery – 5/8

Jerry Geyer—5/15

May the God who “heals all our diseases,” grant healing to these friends.



Deaths:

The family of Dale Kelly who passed away April 24, 2017.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our emptiness and make us spiritually whole.

SEEN AROUND CHURCH

- Did you see Fran and Charlie on the front page of the *Midland Daily News*? What a love story! And the article occurred because of a presentation at 55 and 3 F's in April!
- Congratulations to all our graduates whose names will appear in the June 4 Bulletin.
- Don't forget, one service this summer at 9:30
- John Telfer playing the piano for the choir.
- 55 and 3 F's last meeting for the summer with guest from the Midland County Fair.
- Carol Alver leading a group learning what to say or do when someone has suffered a loss or sick themselves.
- Listening groups talking about Sunday Morning worship schedule at Aldersgate.
- VCI vote at Church charge conference. It was overwhelmingly approved.
- I hope you all saw the beautiful pots of flowers at the entrance to the Narthex. Thanks Mary Lou and Dan Myers for the donations.



ADDRESS CHANGE

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SUMMER FLOWERS

Behold the flowers of June!
How fair and bright their buds appear,
as, opening to the summer air,
our eyes and hearts they cheer!
Who would have thought there could abound
such beauty and delight
beneath the cold and wintry ground
that hid those flowers from sight?
That power which made and governs all —
the mighty power of God —
alone could life and beauty call
out of the lifeless sod.
And he, who from the winter's gloom
can summer thus disclose,
shall one day make the desert bloom,
and blossom as the rose.

—Anonymous

YOU'LL NEVER MISS IT

Frustrated that income never covered expenses, a longtime church treasurer resigned. Another member, who owned the town's grain elevator, volunteered to take over with one stipulation: He wouldn't submit a report for the first year.

The puzzled board members agreed because they knew he was an honest man. After all, they trusted him to process their grain. By year's end, the new treasurer gave a glowing report. The church's building debt had been erased. Staff salaries had increased 15 percent. And the budget showed a healthy balance. When the shocked but delighted congregation asked for an explanation, the treasurer said, "Most of you bring your grain to my elevator. When I paid you, I simply withheld 10 percent on your behalf and gave it to the church in your name. You never missed it!"

Imagine what we could do for God if we willingly returned the first tenth of his gifts back to him.
