



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Epiphany Sunday

Sunday, January 4, 2026

Rev. Jennifer Kerby

2313 Concord Pike, Wilmington, DE 19803
Phone: (302) 478-2575 Fax: (302) 478-1828
www.aldersgatede.org



Aldersgate is a significant place where disciples are made!

*With God's help and through prayer we GATHER as God's people,
GROW in faith and love, and GO into the world as Jesus' disciples.*

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship

*GATHERING SONG	<i>Here I Am to Worship</i>	Journey Band
*WORSHIP SONG	<i>Light of the World</i>	Journey Band
*SCRIPTURE LESSON	Isaiah 60:1-6 NSRVue	Ryan Anderson
CHILDREN'S TIME		Laura Honisch

Junior Choir Dismissal - All Children 2nd grade-5th grade welcome

MESSAGE	<i>Light in the Darkness</i>	Rev. Jennifer Kerby
COMMUNION AND OFFERING		
COMMUNION SONG	<i>Come to the Table</i>	Journey Band
THE LORD'S PRAYER		
*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST		
*CLOSING SONG	<i>My Lighthouse</i>	Journey Band
*BENEDICTION		Rev. Jennifer Kerby

GIVING - TEXT **the word GIVE TO** (302)500-4533 or SCAN QR Code



PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Altar Duty: Carolyn Reis and Bobbie Burtch

AV Tech: Ryan McKeever

Director of Music: Anastasiia Sidorova

Children's Time: Laura Honisch

Communion Servers: Pam Downey, Susan Schranck, Kathy Harding, and Stacie DiGiacoma

Greeters: Cheryl Beeson and Linsey Anderson

Head Usher: Steve Davis

Liturgist: Ryan Anderson

11:00 AM Traditional Worship

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Mark Sobol

SUNG CALL TO WORSHIP, 376

Dona Nobis Pacem

DONA NOBIS PACEM

***WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

Anne Murray

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

People: And the Word became flesh and lived among us; and we have seen his glory, full of God's grace and truth.

All: Let us praise God above for the wonders of his love in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

***OPENING HYMN, 188**

Christ is the World's Light

CHRISTE SANCTORUM

OPENING PRAYER

Anne Murray

God of all light, we need your illuminating power in these days. Shine the light of your love into the corners of our lives where fear and anxiety hide. Enlighten us this day with your words of grace that we might love you more dearly. Grant us your courage to follow you more nearly. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE LIVING WORD

***SCRIPTURE READING**

Ephesians 3:1-12 NSRVue

Anne Murray

***GOSPEL READING**

John 1:1-18 NSRVue

Anne Murray

SERMON

The Mystery of God

Rev. Jennifer Kerby

RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE & CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN OF PREPARATION, 626

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION (UMH, P. 12)

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

OFFERING

GIVING - TEXT the word GIVE TO (302)500-4533 or SCAN QR Code



THE HOLY CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CLOSING HYMN, 2173**

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Anne Murray

SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Jennifer Kerby

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Altar Duty: Carolyn Reis and Bobbie Burtch

AV Tech: Ryan McKeever

Chancel Choir

Director of Music: Anastasiia Sidorova

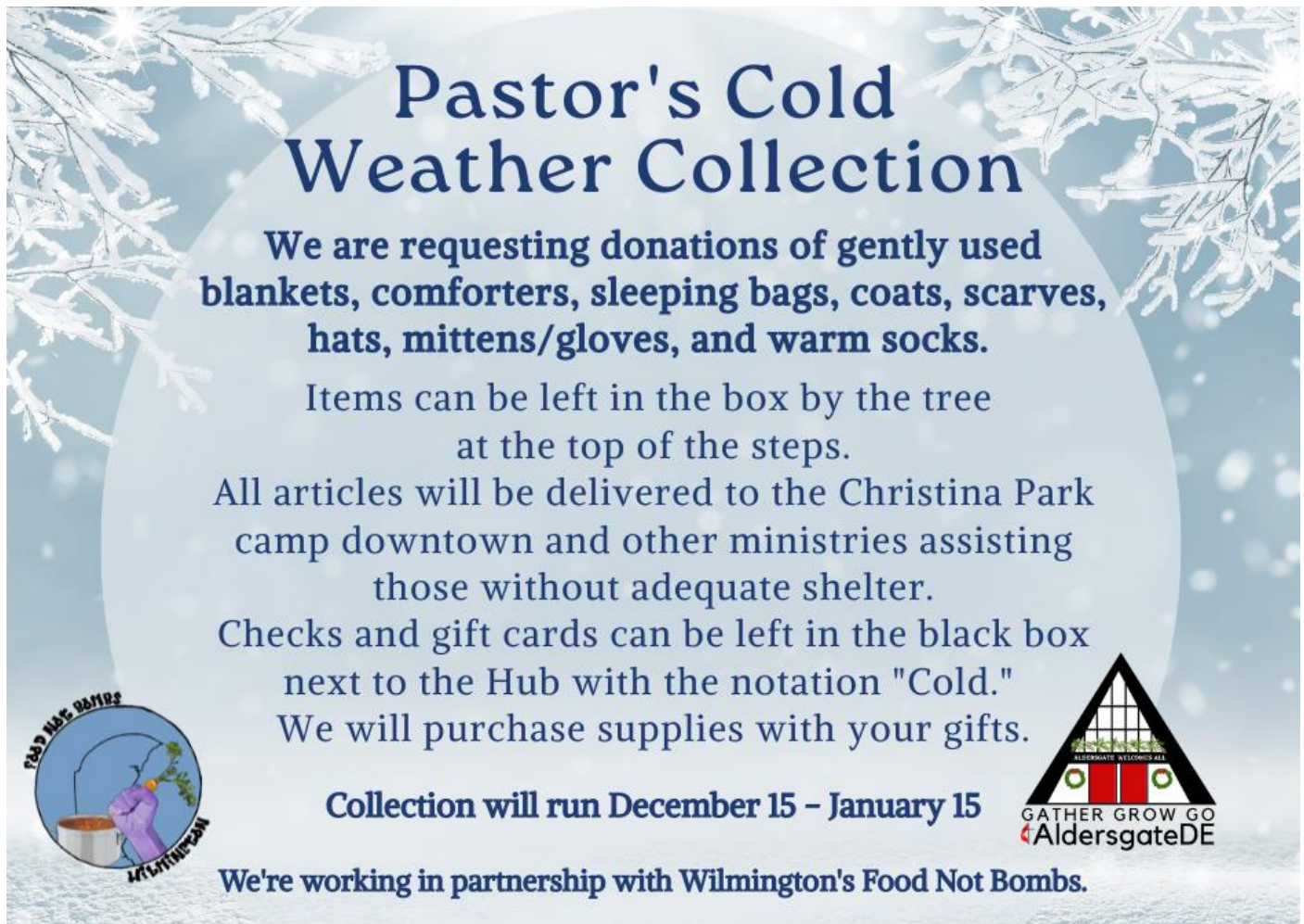
Communion Servers: Jack Smith, Melva Smith, and Sandy Anderson

Greeters: Gail Lodge and Martin Wagner

Liturgist: Anne Murray

Head Usher: Steve Davis

Organist: Mark Sobol



Pastor's Cold Weather Collection

We are requesting donations of gently used blankets, comforters, sleeping bags, coats, scarves, hats, mittens/gloves, and warm socks.

Items can be left in the box by the tree at the top of the steps.



All articles will be delivered to the Christina Park camp downtown and other ministries assisting those without adequate shelter.

Checks and gift cards can be left in the black box next to the Hub with the notation "Cold."

We will purchase supplies with your gifts.

Collection will run December 15 – January 15

We're working in partnership with Wilmington's Food Not Bombs.



REMINDERS...

- Nursery and Childcare is available in Rooms 132 & 137.
- Altar Flowers: contact Beverly Barker at (302) 584-4509 or email at macbhal@aol.com; checks for contributions may be put in the Treasurer's mailbox in The HUB. Please include envelope number.
- Bulletin Announcements are due Tuesdays by 5:00 PM. Email to kyle.smith@aldersgatede.org
- Messenger Articles & Photos are due by the 15 of each month email: messenger@aldersgatede.org.
- Email request for prayers, visitation and encouragement: prayerlist@aldersgatede.org
- Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 AM-4 PM and Fridays 9 AM-12 PM.
- Rev. Kerby's Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday-Thursday 9 AM-2 PM and Friday 9 AM-12 PM.
- The Hughes Chapel is open Monday-Friday during office hours.

OUR CARING MINISTRY

**And this is the boldness we have in Him,
that if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us. (1 John 5:14)**

The Peace Candle on the altar reminds us to pray for those serving our country: Weston Stigler (grandson to Martha and Willis Weldin); Benjamin Lovett (Julia Shay's brother); Jacob Flenner (grandson of Janet Flenner), Dallas Apotheker (son of Pastor Jennifer and Brent Apotheker), Mike May (Betty Lu & Gary Ireland's nephew), Eric Emerson (son in-law of Rick & Kathleen Brady), Evan DeMaio. *If there is a military service member in your family for whom you would like the church to pray, submit their name with your name to kyle.smith@aldersgatede.org.*

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God.

Retirement/Nursing Home Worship Leader for Forwood Manor is Kitty Lugar.

Our Weekly Prayer List

This week, with the World Council of Churches, we pray for God's blessings on the nations of the Middle East.

Sympathy

Family & Friends of Bill Bareford

Family & Friends of Mary Louisa Gorsuch

Family & Friends of Casey Gryszkiewicz (Nancy Eder's nephew)

Family & Friends of Lois Schafer

Members & Friends

Aldersgate Lay Leadership & Staff Members

Kent, Karen, and Connor Allaway

Ralph & Emily Bankert

Don Blythe

Chris Harvey

Betty Lu & Gary Ireland

Mike Luternau

Megan S. (Friend of Martha Weldin)

Jerry Stein (Sam Stein's father)

Shirley Rollins

Catherine & Abigail Frey (Granddaughters of Ann Roberts)

Betty Aldrich & Family

Rev. Anthony Arrington

Bill & Jenny Berg

Avery Cheromiah

Karin Ingman

Owen Lugar

Anna Maansson

Doris Springer

Judy Vacca (Christine Lassiter's mother)

Prayer Points

- 1) For those who this is the most difficult time of year.
- 2) Safety for those who have to brave the extreme weather.
- 3) May we truly appreciate the gift of Jesus.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Good Samaritan Fund provides urgent/temporary assistance to individuals/families for help with rent or utility bills. Referral phone calls from people who urgently need assistance are received in the office and are referred to Friendship House where the applicants are screened. There is a tremendous need right now. We will be collecting TODAY.

United Women in Faith invites you to join us for the annual Epiphany Meeting and Program Sunday January 11th at 12:15 pm in the auditorium. Music will be provided by Dane Suarez, tenor vocalist. Lunch provided. All are welcome! Sign up after the service or online:

<https://eeumw.wufoo.com/forms/uwf-epiphany-lunch-and-program/>

The New Year is coming- now is a good time for all group and activity leaders to check your 2026 room reservations with Kevin Botbyl and make sure they are on the calendar! Send Kevin Botbyl an email, kevin.botbyl@aldersgatede.org.

Altar Guild Flowers- It's a new year and that means new opportunities to sponsor our Sunday worship floral arrangements on the altar in the sanctuary. Beverly Barker is working on 2026 dates and has availability if you would like to sponsor a Sunday and dedicate the arrangement to a family member or friend. Contact Beverly at macbhal@aol.com for sponsorship.

Do you live in New Castle County and need critical home repairs to safely age in place? You may qualify for the FHLB Pittsburgh-funded Aging in Place Critical Repairs Program through Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County if you meet at least one eligibility criterion (including age 62+, disability, veterans, recovery from domestic abuse or substance use, HIV/AIDS, recent reentry, or youth aging out of foster care), own and occupy your home, and live in an eligible census tract. Don't wonder—call 302-420-0392 or email Repairs@habitatncc.org or Rdyer@habitatncc.org to find out if you qualify. <https://www.habitatncc.org/our-programs/critical-repairs/>

Thank You for Supporting the Reverse Calendar Food Drive! Thank you to everyone who participated in the Reverse Calendar Food Drive. Because of your generosity, we were able to keep the Free Little Pantry fully stocked throughout December. We also shared donations with Neighborhood House and added extra food items to the December HOPP food bag distribution. None of this would have been possible without your support. Hunger doesn't end after the holidays, and food donations are welcome year-round. Items may be placed in the red shopping carts outside the main office. For more information, please contact Stacie DiGiacoma at, staciedigiacoma@msn.com.

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 4, 2026

9:00a Contemporary Journey Service, Aud.
10:00 Sunday School for all ages
11:00 Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:00p Handbell Rehearsal, Handbell Room

Monday, January 5, 2026

6:30p Boy Scouts Troop #67
6:00 Trustees, 237
7:00p Communications, Zoom

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

9:30a Crazy Ladies, 237/zoom

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

10:00a Altar Guild Undecorating
12:00p Staff Meeting, 237

Wednesday, January 7, 2026 cont.

6:00 Impact, SMC
6:00 Journey Band Rehearsal, Auditorium
7:00 Chancel Choir, Choir Room
7:00 Cub Scouts Pack #67, Aud., RR, FH

Thursday, January 8, 2026

10:00a Journey Bible Study, 237
11:00 Worship Planning Meeting, 236
6:00p Girl Scouts Troop #129
7:00 Aldersgate Brass, Music Center

Friday, January 9, 2026

Saturday, January 10, 2026



CHILI & CHOCOLATE & SALAD COOK-OFF SOCIAL



Saturday, January 31, 5 PM

Join us for our incredibly delicious and wildly fun Aldersgate Chili & Chocolate Cook-off Social! Make chili, a chocolate dessert or salad and YOU could get a chance to wear a Sombrero of Glory (TM) and perhaps even take home a trophy.

Sign up after Church on
Sunday or call the Office.



Aldersgate UMC
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Soup-er Bowl

February 8, 2026

Aldersgate vs. Hunger Game Plan

Help us Tackle Hunger in Wilmington by donating cans of soup or Monetary Donations (\$1 = 1 can of Soup)!

Collection boxes will be located by the glass doors and in the Narthex. Monetary donations can be made online (there is a Soup-er Bowl line item on Aldersgate's website) or make checks payable to Aldersgate UMC.

Please write "Soup-er Bowl" in the memo line

The cans of soup collected will be distributed between our February HOPP Bag giveaway and our Aldersgate Free Little Pantry.

The money collected will be distributed between Neighborhood House, Jewish Family Services, and Ezion-Mount Carmel UMC.

Sponsored by
Aldersgate UMC Go Team

www.aldersgatede.org

