

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

With the development of Marion Aldersgate's Communications Team, we are thrilled to present our January Newsletter! Marion Aldersgate Church will have a newsletter available on the 1st of each month. You will be able to find this on our website at [agatamarion.org/newsletter](http://agatamarion.org/newsletter) or, if you're needing a printed copy, it will be available on the Welcome Table in the church lobby.

## Newsletter Submissions:

Submissions to the next newsletter must be emailed to [assistant@marionaldersgate.org](mailto:assistant@marionaldersgate.org) no later than the 15th of each month and must be approved by the Pastor and meet Communications Team Newsletter section/policy requirements. To submit your new event or program, use the *Event Application Form* (see below).



**Thank You  
Reverends Bob  
& Christy Phillips**

As we experience the "changing of the guard" here at Marion Aldersgate Church, Jesus is still on the Throne and we will continue to praise Him! Leadership may be changing, but the word of God remains and for that we are so thankful.

God provided for us well in the transition season. Interim Pastor, Reverend Bob Phillips, successfully saw us through transition. Pastor Bob has led us to discover who we are and who we want to be moving forward. Pastor Bob helped us realize our strengths and challenged us to be open to areas of improvement. We are a healthier body of Christ because of the service offered by Reverends Bob & Christy Phillips. Marion Aldersgate Church is thankful for your service to us and to the Kingdom of God.

As Pastor Bob Phillips transitions out of the role of interim, we welcome our long term pastors, Sarah and Gabe Wanck. Reverend Dr. Sarah (Mayfield) Wanck will lead us forward with vision and help us grow the Kingdom of God. Rev. Gabe Wanck will set before us a plan for spiritual growth and discipleship. Together, they will walk with us every step of the way as Marion Aldersgate Church becomes the church God is calling us to be. A church that worships passionately, loves extravagantly, and witnesses boldly.

## WEEKLY WORSHIP & LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE:

**Wednesday Night Worship:**  
6:30PM - Worship Service

**Sunday Morning Worship:**  
8:30AM - Traditional Worship  
10:30AM - Contemporary Worship



## Event Application Form:

Interested in starting a new event, program, or study? All new events and programs must first complete the *Event Application Form* available on our website resources page, or by scanning this QR code. You will be notified when your request is approved.

**Marion Aldersgate Church**  
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[facebook.com/marionaldersgatechurch](https://facebook.com/marionaldersgatechurch)

# ALDERSGATE NEWS



**OUR MISSION** is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.



## A word from Pastor Sarah Wanck



### Marion Aldersgate Family,

As you read this, Gabe, Hudson, and I are likely unpacking boxes and settling into our new home on East Patton Drive; and still in joyful disbelief that we can call Marion and Aldersgate home. When you enter into ministry in the Methodist Church and agree to itineracy (being moved from church to church), one of the painful decisions involved is knowing that a “yes” to the call of ministry likely means moving away from home. From the moments Gabe and I said yes to ministry, we’ve lived in three different states, served in ten different churches, and lived in eight different homes (this one makes nine). But all of that transition and trust is deeply worth the reward of knowing Christ more deeply and joining Him in His work to redeem the world.

After a lifetime of walking with Christ, you would think that I would learn that God often interjects with gifts of surprise and grace. While answering the call to ministry has taken us further and further from home, this time, the Lord surprised us in a way that invited us to trust him, and, at the same time, invited us to return home. I’m sure we’ll share more in the months and years to come, about the memories I have, and my spiritual formation that was deeply molded by Aldersgate years ago. You helped begin our family’s story of ministry - and now we’re returning to help serve with you in ministry.

God’s story is often one of redemption and return - and our arrival on East Patton Drive is one of those stories. We’re so excited to begin a new chapter of ministry with you and lean into the ways God wants to grow Marion Aldersgate as a place of hope and redemption for others.

In the weeks ahead, we look forward to meeting you, hearing your stories of life and ministry at Aldersgate, and listening for the dreams and possibilities you hope for its future.

In Christ Alone,  
Pastor Sarah



Use the QR code to read the Global Methodist Church’s latest updates and newsletter articles.  
[globalmethodist.org/articles/](https://globalmethodist.org/articles/)



# COMING SOON



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**  
THE 2024 MISSIONS CONFERENCE IS FEBRUARY 7TH-11TH!



## Welcome Reception for Pastors Sarah & Gabe Wanck!

January 7, 2024

All are Welcome!

We would like the church to fill a recipe box for Sarah & Gabe. Please bring your favorite family recipe to welcome their family to our Marion Aldersgate Family.



SCAN TO SEE THE MARION ALDERSGATE STUDENT MINISTRY CALENDAR



## Bible Study

EXPLORER'S BIBLE STUDY  
NON-DENOMINATIONAL  
FOR MEN & WOMEN

STARTING JANUARY 8TH  
10AM BEREANS CLASSROOM

A DEEP LOOK INTO THE WORD OF GOD. WE WILL BE STUDYING GENESIS. LOOKING CLOSELY AT THE LIFE OF ABRAHAM THROUGH JOSEPH.

PLEASE CALL JODI REINHARD (618) 694-3573 TO REGISTER.

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE.

## The 40 day Sugar Fast

Starting January 2nd, 2024

For Teens and Adults of All Ages

Based on the book By Wendy Speake, a daily devotional, The Forty Day Sugar Fast. A forty day adventure in the discipline of fasting whether sugar, social media or you name it! Register at 40daysugarfast.com to join Facebook support group and receive valuable free resources.

Meeting in the Bereans room from January 2nd to February 13th  
6:30PM-7:30PM

Please contact Sharon Johnson or Bridget Douglas to register for your book.



## Holy Habits

Wednesday Night Study


Length: 4 Weeks  
Starting: January 3, 2024  
Time: 6:30PM  
Location: Good Shepherd's Classroom

Video study led by: DERWIN GRAY  
Group discussion to follow.

When God calls us to himself, he sets us apart—he makes us holy. But what does it mean to be holy? What habits define God's people, no matter where they are on earth or which denomination they are a part of? In this four-session series, pastor Derwin Gray explores four foundational behaviors of Christians. God calls us to a new way of living, one formed by rhythms of holiness.

All are welcome!

Contact Liz Haas with questions.



## MISSIONS CONFERENCE 02/07/24 - 02/11/24

### Connecting with Our Missionaries

Bringing missionaries to minister to the congregation in order to focus and revive the congregation's awareness of, obedience to, and commitment to Christ's command to be His Holy Spirit empowered witnesses in the world. ("In Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the end of the earth" Acts 2:8; of. Luke 24:46-49).

Activities will include, hearing from missionaries during normal services, home groups, youth activities, children's actives, men breakfast and women's brunch and an international dinner.

## Wednesday Night Meal Ministry:

We are needing two cooks and three servers to help with providing our Wednesday Night Meals. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Kim Brave or Sally Dodge.

# MONTHLY AT MAC



## Connection Points

**Nursery:**

Infants to 4 year olds during Sunday School and Services on Sunday mornings.

**Children's Church:**

Located in the ALC (gym) for ages 3 1/2 (if potty trained) to 5th grade during 8:30 Service, Sunday School and 10:30 Service on Sunday mornings.

### Sunday School Classes

**Bereans**

A class for retirees  
Room 8

**Disciples**

50+ using Wesley Bible Curriculum  
Room 21

**Seekers**

A class for any age that is interested in the true meaning of the scriptures.  
Room 28

**Good Shepherds**

A Class open to all ages with an emphasis on scriptural integrity.  
Teacher - Sharon Atchison  
Room 7

**Jr. High**

Teacher - D.O. Carlson  
Room 25

**High School**

Teacher - John Fletcher  
Room 26

**Homebuilders**

Oldest class in existence at Aldersgate, Studying from the Wesley Bible Curriculum  
Teacher - Wally Dodge  
Teacher - Jim Turner  
(Prayer Room behind the Sanctuary)

**Sisters & Friends**

A place for women of any age to connect and share a love of God's Word.  
Teacher - Sharon Johnson  
Room 24

**Thrive**

Adults 30-50  
Thriving through Adulthood  
Teacher - Beth Dailey  
Room 27

**Young Adults**

H.S. Grad. - 29ish  
Teacher - Morgan Brave  
Room 23

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 03 Carol Scroggins
- 05 Connie Clark  
Dorothy Edmondson
- 06 Larry Henry  
Jean Ness
- 07 Addie McAlpin
- 08 Morgan Brave
- 09 Gibson Cox
- 10 Linda Duncan
- 11 Matt Dunning  
Noah Gryzmala
- 12 Becky Mays  
Laura Stein
- 14 Barrett Benesh
- 15 Denny Donaldson  
Alice Kearney  
Sheila Lautenbacher
- 17 Vicki Anderson  
Tom Simpson
- 18 Tom Anderson
- 19 Shelly Ohms  
Elliott O'Keefe
- 21 Riley Swinford
- 22 Pam McReynolds  
Abigail Montgomery  
Jeff Ray
- 25 Sharon Disney  
Kendall Johnson  
Michele Malone
- 28 Peyton Dunning  
Charlie Smoot  
Syl Vanek
- 29 Susan Atkisson

## QUILTERS GONNA QUILT QUILTING B'S AND WANNA B'S JANUARY 9TH - 11:30AM-3PM (LUNCH PROVIDED)



**Event Application Form:**

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### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES:

- 01 David and Linda Walker
- 03 Gary and Cara Cox
- 07 Gary and Susan Fowler
- 26 Travis and Anne Emery
- 31 Charlie and Carol Kahle

## SOUP KITCHEN DATES JANUARY 22-26, 2024

LET'S SERVE TOGETHER!



# MISSIONS & HIGHLIGHTS



### Christmas Caroling | December 17th:

Marion Aldersgate had the wonderful opportunity to spread Christmas cheer through the gift of music! Carolers visited Aldersgate shut-ins and sang at various care facilities, "making spirits bright" as they celebrated and reminded others of the Reason for the season!

### Wrapping Paper Fashion Show | December 13th:

And that's a "wrap"! Marion Aldersgate students having some Christmas themed FUN during our final Wednesday night student ministries for the year!

# MISSIONS

If you would like to give to one of our missionaries individually, you can now use the QR codes on the missions board in the church hallway.

## Missions Moment

## JOHN AND LISA HAMILTON



John and Lisa Hamilton serve with One Mission Society since 1993. They pastored in Colombia for 10 years, helping to establish two strong churches by pioneering youth, parenting and small group ministry among relatively unreached populations in North Bogota and South Medellin. The Hamiltons relocated to Montevideo, Uruguay in 2003 with an international missionary team. Since 2005, they pastor Christ Church which has unexpectedly grown to become a dynamic, bilingual, multicultural church, absolutely unique in the entire south side of the city. John is the Latino Emotionally Healthy Discipleship Coach. He and Lisa have served on local and Regional leadership teams for Alpha, Community Bible Study, Godly Play and SIM UY. John has taught on discipleship in Seminaries in the region, including to Latino missionaries in Pakistan. He and Lisa connect frequently with Latino pastors and leaders on issues of personal discipleship.



John & Lisa Hamilton

### December Giving:

\$3,000 to Missionaries  
\$200 to Lincoln School PTO for Project Gum Drops

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SAVE THE DATES!

MARION ALDERSGATE MISSION TRIPS FOR 2024!

JUNE 1-8, 2024

SOUTH DAKOTA FAMILY MISSION TRIP

SEPTEMBER 21-28, 2024

SAGER BROWN UMCOR MISSION TRIP BALDWIN, LOUISIANA