

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



With the development of Marion Aldersgate's Communications Team, we are thrilled to present our December 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).



## Greetings From Pastor Bob!

Greetings Church!

It has been my high honor to serve as your interim pastor from June through December. I am delighted in the prayerful selection of Sarah and Gabe Wanck to lead you into a bright future. Their deep faith in Christ, spiritual gifts, leadership skills, loving spirits and focused work ethic will serve you very well.

As I plan transition back to my retirement couch and supply of marshmallows, I offer these closing thoughts:

1. There is no such thing as an 'interim pastor emeritus.' You will remain in my prayers, but new leadership will, and should, fully take the wheel.
2. The foundation is firm. This church has a deep core health in the basics of the gospel, which is great news.
3. "If you want things to stay the same, things will have to change." Seek, welcome and embrace wise change, and not just in incidentals.
4. "Every organization is perfectly aligned to the results it gets." If you wish to reach younger adults (ages 20-50), create ministries and meaningful connections to set the stage...which can be done without throwing ages 55+ under or off the bus.
5. What must you do and become to be fully a "Global Methodist Church?" Aldersgate is not another plain vanilla wrapped, generic church. Live into the Wesleyan way and distinctives that this area and people need to see and hear.

Hold firm to the question, "What would God have me to do?" You have chosen NOT to seek leadership to protect a gently declining status quo but two pastors passionate about growth, in all the right ways and for all the right reasons. You have chosen to have a vibrant future and Christ will guide you there.

Jesus is Lord.  
Pastor Bob Phillips

## WEEKLY WORSHIP & LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE:

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

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

## Christmas Eve Sunday!

**Unified Family Worship Service:**  
10:00AM

**Christmas Eve Evening Services:**  
4:00PM | 7:00PM | 11:00PM



## 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

1201 N. Fair Street  
Marion, IL, 62959



[www.marionaldersgate.org](http://www.marionaldersgate.org)



(618) 997-6065



@marionaldersgate



[facebook.com/marionaldersgatechurch](https://www.facebook.com/marionaldersgatechurch)

# ALDERSGATE NEWS



Marion  
Aldersgate

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



## Meet Our New Pastors!

### Marion Aldersgate Family,

It is with great excitement that we announce that Reverend Dr. Sarah (Mayfield) Wanck has accepted the call as our Lead Pastor. Pastor Sarah's doctoral study was focused on Church Renewal and Evangelism. She has a passion to share Jesus with Marion Aldersgate Church, our community, and the world. Pastor Sarah serves on staff with World Methodist Evangelism. She will bring vision to our church and lead us to grow the Kingdom of God.

Rev. Gabe Wanck has accepted a call as Associate Pastor. Pastor Gabe will focus on discipleship and administration. Pastor Gabe has served as both a Lead Pastor and Associate Pastor. His most recent appointments have had a focus on discipleship, administration, and care ministries. Pastor Gabe will lead our committees and teams to develop a strong discipleship plan for all ages, and make sure administrative needs are met.

Pastors Sarah and Gabe Wanck have been married for 20 years and are parents to Hudson Wanck who will be entering seventh grade at Marion Junior High School. Hudson plays baseball, runs cross country, and loves video games. Their family will be a great addition to our family here at Marion Aldersgate Church.

Please be praying for Pastor Sarah, Pastor Gabe, and Hudson as they prepare to move over the Christmas break. Also, pray for the congregations of Marion Aldersgate Church and Christ Church Quad Cities during this time of transition. Last, but certainly not least, pray for Hudson as he moves into a new school mid-year.

Thank you for your consistent prayers through this season of discernment. We, the SPRC, are grateful to the congregation, Pastor Bob Phillips, and Presiding Elder Andy Adams as all have supported us in this pastoral search. We look forward to many years of ministry with Pastors Sarah and Gabe Wanck.

Sincerely,  
SPRC

Marion  
Aldersgate



**GLOBAL**  
METHODIST CHURCH



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



**CHRISTMAS  
EVE MORNING  
ONE FAMILY  
WORSHIP SERVICE  
10:00AM**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
at  
  
**Three Services:**  
**4:00PM | 7:00PM | 11:00PM**  
Sunday Morning, December 24th:  
10AM Family Worship Service




**SCAN TO SEE  
THE MARION  
ALDERSGATE  
STUDENT  
MINISTRY  
CALENDAR**

**TRIM A TREE**  
*Hosted by Thrive*  
**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD**  
We will have a light lunch with  
crafts for the kids to decorate the  
tree by the east entrance.  
All are *Welcome*  
Please **RSVP in the Sunday Bulletin**  
or call the church office.




**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**  
**December 17th • 4PM**  
We will meet in the ALC and divide into teams.  
Teams will visit those in the church who are  
homebound and deliver care packages to  
them. This is a ministry opportunity for all  
ages! Come one and all with your jingle bells  
and your Christmas attire! After caroling, we  
will return to the church for a light supper.  
We are looking for volunteers to make soup  
and help serve and clean-up.



**NUTS, NUTS &  
MORE NUTS!!!**  
Sign up on order forms for delicious fresh  
pecan halves and pieces at \$12 a bag, and  
chocolate covered pecans, pecan clusters,  
glazed pecans or cinnamon glazed pecans  
at \$10 a bag.  
**WE HAVE MORE LEFT!**  
Call Frances Pierce or the church office  
for more information on how you can still  
purchase!  
Marion Aldersgate Church Women



**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.



**Serendipity**  
SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY  
*Expecting something good, finding something better*  
**DECEMBER 19 | 12:00PM**  
**CHRISTMAS CONCERT WITH PIANO  
AND CELLO FEATURING  
HANK OPLINGER AND KEN REPINI**  
Entree: Ham; Attendees  
bring: Potato dishes,  
vegetables, salads or  
desserts  
**Sign Up Sheet in back  
of Sanctuary**

**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.



# 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.

### 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 Adulting  
Teacher - Somer Slone  
Room 27

### Young Adults

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

## 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

### QUILTERS GONNA QUILT

## QUILTING B'S AND WANNA B'S

DECEMBER 12TH - 11:30AM-3PM  
(LUNCH PROVIDED)



### Event Application Form:

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.

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

- 12 Brent and Kathy Clark
- 29 Steve and Kim Brave

- 02 Linda Henry  
Bill Pierce
- 03 Jack Jenkins
- 04 Jake Hamlin
- 06 John Fletcher  
Aaron Gorzalski  
Bevan Stein
- 07 Bethany Montgomery
- 08 Ross Swinford
- 09 Carol Kahle
- 10 Kristen Bayer  
Braden Stanley
- 12 Amanda Segers
- 13 Elaine Jacobs  
Joe Pearce
- 14 Ivan Smedshammer
- 16 Jan Turner
- 18 Brad Segers  
Raizza Estoque
- 19 Molly Gorzalski  
Bill Hamer  
Wanda Brandon
- 20 Melanie Bradley  
Levi Hamlin
- 21 Jim Turner
- 22 Charles Pressley  
Amanda Stanley
- 23 Terry Hotze  
Nick Powell  
Eli Thompson
- 24 Bill Cooper
- 28 Jennifer Jeter  
Nathan Zeigler
- 29 Kelli Rabacchi  
Charles Kahle
- 31 Kathy Clark  
Debbie Ferguson  
David Walker  
John Shultz  
Theo Shue

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Marion Aldersgate Church Women

Tom Logan will present the program on his work with the Marion Medical Mission at our meeting December 7 at 1:00 in the Berean classroom.

CALLING ALL MOMS OF SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN

1ST & 3RD THURSDAYS 9AM-11AM

BRING A BRUNCH DISH TO SHARE





# MISSIONS & HIGHLIGHTS



### Third Thursday | November 16th:

Marion Aldersgate served delicious hot cocoa and sang Christmas carols at the Marion Connects Third Thursday event in downtown Marion! Thanks to all of our volunteers for a wonderful night of serving our community!

### Got You Covered Diaper Program:

Thank you Aldersgate and Thrive for your generous donations. We have donated 2006 diapers to Got You Covered Diaper Program.



### Very Merry Marion Holiday Parade | November 26th:

Marion Aldersgate participated in this year's Very Merry Marion Holiday Parade! Thank you to all of our volunteers! We had over 40 volunteers walking with our float handing out Christmas Eve invitations and glowsticks! And a huge thank you to Debbie and Deon Randoll, and JoAnne Swafford for creating our beautiful float!

### Evangelism Walks | November 18th:

We had several participate in our continuing Evangelism Walks! Our student group went to Morningside Subdivision in Marion and they handed out door knob hangers. And yes, Eli did walk the whole time playing the guitar!

### Thanksgiving at Aldersgate | November 12th:

We had an incredible turnout for this Marion Aldersgate tradition! Thanks to everyone who brought food and our wonderful volunteers for making this year's event incredible!

# MISSIONS

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

Connecting with Our Missionaries

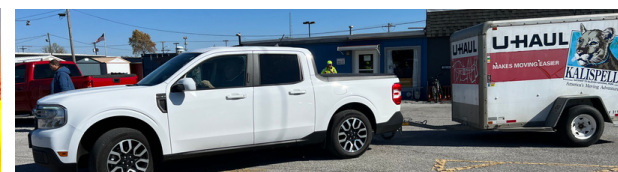
Bringing missionaries to minister to the congregation in order to focus and revive the congregation's awareness of, obedience to, and commitment to Christ's command to be His Holy Spirit empowered witnesses in the world. ("In Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the end of the earth" Acts 2:8; of Luke 24:46-49).

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



## Missions Moment: Roger and Carol Russell

Roger and Carol Russell (on behalf of Aldersgate Missions) make two trips to the Promise each month to deliver food. They get the the food from the Midwest Food Bank in Fairfield. This was from the first November donation.



### November Giving:

\$500 to the Promise to help refill their food pantry \$3,000 to missionaries.

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.

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