

Opportunities to Serve

The Aldersgate UMC community has great leaders in key roles that keep the church running, keep the mission field central in our imaginations, and keep the word of God fresh on our minds, hearts, and lips. However, there are opportunities for new leaders of all ages, including youth, to come along side those who are currently serving, learn and grow in the roles, and be part of shaping the ministry of Aldersgate for the future. Christian Hampson and Rev. Laura Baumgartner are working together with the Core Leaders Team to help you discern where you are called to serve our church and our mission. This note is designed to give you a sense of what some of the opportunities are. You'll likely hear from Christian or Laura in the near future about whether any of these options is something you have gifts to help with or desire to learn. Christian and Laura would love to hear from you, too!

Safe Church Policy Point Person

Our church has a Safe Church Policy that helps us keep our children and each other safe when we are together. The Safe Church Policy provides guidelines about how many children of what ages can be with how many adults, in what settings. The policy also directs our background check procedures, deals with mission trips, and making sure that there is a safe place to address concerns that come up. Right now, Pastor Brad and Jen, our Director of Children and Family Ministries, are overseeing the policy and are doing a great job. However, it would be ideal to have a lay person who can also serve with them and provide another option for issues that need to be addressed/reported. This person may also be a member of the Staff Parish Team, but does not need to be. Meetings would be infrequent except in the case of an incident involving one of our children, youth, or a vulnerable adult.

Staff Parish Relations Team

This group is chaired by David Lutz and serves as the human relations committee for the church. Members of this team are assigned as liaison with one or two staff members and meet monthly to ensure that staff and laity are addressing questions and concerns, as well as celebrating successes together. Staff parish meetings are the only closed meetings in the life of the church so that staff have a safe place to discuss their concerns. Therefore, team members must be people who can keep confidence. This group is looking for new members immediately.

Trustees

This team is chaired by Rich Detering and manages all the property of the church, including both the church building and grounds, and the parsonage. The Trustees meet monthly to discuss ongoing maintenance issues and address needed repairs. The Trustees also are the official negotiators of all building use by groups other than the church. This group is looking to add new members as of January 2017.

Tech Team

The tech team works officially as part of the Trustees, but has responsibility for updating and keeping staff computers and printers running, making hardware and software recommendations as new equipment is needed for the office, worship, and programs, facilitating networking upgrades, and helping with website and social media design.

Finance Team

This team is chaired by Melinda Lilley and is responsible for paying the church's bills, balancing all accounts, and making deposits of income. They meet quarterly. This group is looking to add new members as of July 2018. Melinda is also looking to train a new chairperson and is looking for a candidate for that role.

Interim Financial Secretary

Linda Reichenbach is ready to retire from this position and is looking for a replacement to train. She is in contact with someone who may be able to take the position eventually but has some things to do first. This position works with other volunteers to count the offering each week and track patterns of giving to help the Finance Team do its work.

Slides and Sound (1st service worship)

Bill Ferguson is interested in working with a few more people to create and manage slides for First Service worship. He uses ProPresenter to do the work and there is lots of room for creativity and collaboration for a tech-savvy worship artist.

Office Help

Our Office Manager, Wendi needs some volunteer help on Monday and Tuesday mornings to help with responding to attendance registration forms, refilling children's clipboards and other tasks in the office. Scheduling on this is flexible. The work is light and fun.

EMBaRC Team

The Enquiring Minds-Becoming a Reconciling Congregation Team has recently formed under the guidance of the Core Leaders. Anyone wishing to help discern a way toward a congregational discussion, discernment, and decision about whether to become a Reconciling Congregation is welcome to serve on the team. The team will meet as needed, but at least monthly, starting in September. A wide variety of viewpoints on the inclusion of LGBTQIA persons in church life will make this team function more effectively. All church members will have a voice in the process. Membership on the team is for those who wish to help design the process that allows for all voices to be heard and all input to be considered.

Sunday School Teachers

Teachers are needed for all age levels to work with children and youth from 10:10-10:55 on Sunday mornings. Teams of adults who enjoy working together and/or who can trade-off working various weeks are welcome. Curriculum is provided and lots of support is available to make best use of the curriculum. Creativity is encouraged but not necessary. Sunday School teachers must have a background check before working with children or youth.

First Service Ushers

Ushers for the 9:00 am Sunday service make sure that the candles are replenished, greet people as they arrive, and collect the offering. The responsibility is rotating so typically ushers serve once every 4-6 weeks. They need to arrive about 15 minutes before worship begins and be available through the time of the offering.

Chair for Aldersgate's participation in the Crossroads Thanksgiving Dinner

Jane Lee and Linda Reichenbach have co-coordinated our work on this community event where we feed 200-300 people the Tues before Thanksgiving, but they are ready to welcome a new leader/s. They will help with making the transition and many of us will help with the event itself. It involves the coordination of getting approx 30 youth to help serve the food, adults to oversee the servers, getting consents from volunteers, having 12 turkeys cooked at 3 different long term care facilities, picking up the rest of the food and coordinating volunteers the night of the event with Crossroad's Community Center.

Green Team

The once-active, recently-resting Green Team is planning to start up again. The first meeting will be Thursday September 21 at 11:30 at Aldersgate but future meetings will be scheduled based on the schedules of those interested and the input of all is needed. This team will make sure our trash, recycling, and composting procedures are minimizing landfill additions, address other issues on our grounds, as well as work beyond our property on behalf of God's Creation and the "last, lost, and least" who are most affected by environmental issues.

Nominations Team

Christian and Laura would love to have your help working on finding ways to include more voices in the leadership of our church. They mostly work electronically with infrequent meetings. Their goals, beyond helping connect teams with those who are called to serve on them include leadership development and laity development.

Please take some time to pray about which of these opportunities might be right for you at this time in your faith life. Christian and Laura are available to answer your questions and/or find the answers to them. They are looking forward to talking with you.