

**Introduction to “Reflecting God’s Generosity”**

**Generosity** is the worship theme for three Sundays, October 22 and 29 and November 5. Not surprisingly, this coincides with Aldersgate’s fall stewardship campaign, **“Reflecting God’s Generosity.”**

We **give out of gratitude** for what God has given us; our wish is to “pay it forward” so that others may experience God’s love and peace. Our generosity during this financial campaign allows Aldersgate to be generous in our mission and ministry to the community, the nation and, indeed, the world.

**October 22**

Feature Announcement – Sandy Eisele

Scripture – Romans 12:9-21 (Common English Bible)

Love should be shown without pretending. Hate evil, and hold on to what is good. Love each other like the members of your family. Be the best at showing honor to each other. Don’t hesitate to be enthusiastic—be on fire in the Spirit as you serve the Lord! Be happy in your hope, stand your ground when you’re in trouble, and devote yourselves to prayer. Contribute to the needs of God’s people, and welcome strangers into your home. Bless people who harass you—bless and don’t curse them. Be happy with those who are happy, and cry with those who are crying. Consider everyone as equal, and don’t think that you’re better than anyone else. Instead, associate with people who have no status. Don’t pay back anyone for their evil actions with evil actions, but show respect for what everyone else believes is good.

If possible, to the best of your ability, live at peace with all people. Don’t try to get revenge for yourselves, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath. It is written, “Revenge belongs to me; I will pay it back, says the Lord.” Instead, “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him a drink. By doing this, you will pile burning coals of fire upon his head.” Don’t be defeated by evil, but defeat evil with good.

Generosity: A Reflection – Mary Rutledge

Message – “Generosity is…Love in Action” – Rev. Jim Hodge

**October 29**

Feature Announcement – Linda Myers

Scripture – John 14:8-9 (Common English Bible)

 Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father; that will be enough for us.”

Jesus replied, “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been with you all this time? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

Generosity: A Reflection – Arline Parker

Message – “Generosity is…Notice God” – Rev. Jim Hodge

**November 5**

Scripture – Ephesians 5:1-2 (Common English Bible)

Therefore, imitate God like dearly loved children. Live your life with love, following the example of Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us. He was a sacrificial offering that smelled sweet to God.

Generosity: A Reflection – Lyn Jameyson

Message – “Generosity is…Becoming Christlike” – Rev. Jim Hodge

Reflecting God’s Generosity “estimate of giving/commitment” cards (sent the week of October 30 and available at church November 5) will be received with the offering. The estimate of giving is a statement of your intention to contribute to funding Aldersgate’s ministry for 2018. It is not legally binding. The estimate of giving is extremely helpful in planning for ministry in the coming year.