



“Future Legacy” – Ann Reinhard - October 30, 2016

My name is Ann Reinhard. My family and I have been attending Aldersgate for the past four years.

I'd like to speak about **the legacy I hope to leave.**

Maybe it's because I am both a teacher and a mother, but as I think about our church and legacy, I instantly think of our children. Not just my two, but ALL of our children here at Aldersgate, because I truly feel that the ones running through the fellowship hall after the service every Sunday belong to all of us. What does the future look like for them?

In ten years, these children, who in my house are currently 5 and 2, will be teenagers and pre-teens. (Ahhhh!) I hope that we are showing them as a church that they are important and that they have a place here. I hope they feel connected enough that they still **want** to be in worship and service with this church community – and not just forced to be here.

In 20 years, these children will be starting careers and deciding what all this church stuff meant to them. I hope they have had spiritual experiences growing up that instilled something that will draw them to a church community. I hope that Aldersgate and other church communities will exist that are relevant to these 20-somethings.

In 30 years, our children might have families of their own. And they may be deciding if they want to raise their family as part of a church community and maybe even at Aldersgate. I honestly hope that our legacy here is that our children's children continue to know that no matter who they are, who they love, what they look like or where they live, God loves them. And they should show that love to every single person in this world every day. That should be our legacy.

Our Legacy of Generosity, expressed through prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness enables Aldersgate to continue to move forward, making possible ministries that touch lives and make a difference in our church and community. But more important, our generosity is one of the ways we can express our love for God.