

**Aldersgate Methodist Church**  
**1050 North Parkway**  
**Jackson, TN 38305**  
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### **Position Description/Vision Summary**

Aldersgate Methodist Church seeks a full-time pastor/leader who is in passionate relationship with the Lord, who is a student of God's Word, and who has a heart for teaching and leading our congregation into greater service to our Savior, Jesus Christ, and whose own life exemplifies Christ's teachings. We seek a pastor who joins with our congregation in standing on scripture as God's perfect and unchanging instruction for our lives today and on the Apostles' Creed as our key statement of belief.

Our church desires an energetic pastor who is both scripturally and doctrinally learned and highly skilled in preaching and teaching God's Word to a congregation hungry to grow closer to God. Our pastor should be enthusiastic in partnering with church leadership in developing and executing our vision for evangelism, outreach, and missions to the community outside our church walls. We see our pastor as the faith leader of our church who will be expected to provide dynamic and visionary leadership in developing our atmosphere of holy worship as well as to provide administrative oversight of church staff in partnership with the Staff/Parish Team.

Our pastor must be intentional about meeting, greeting, and reaching out personally to visitors to our church on a weekly basis. Our pastor must maintain a clear perspective weekly of the sick and homebound and must visit them on a consistent basis.

### **Church Profile**

Aldersgate is centrally located in the western portion of Tennessee, approximately 80 miles from Memphis. The Metro area consists of around 120,000 people in diverse communities and is a regional hub for retail, commercial, and medical services. The area is experiencing significant growth in industrial and retail services. As such, the church is eager for evangelism and growth opportunities this growth will present.

The church traces its roots to its formation in 1868 as Hays Avenue Methodist Church. The current church facility consists of 17,500 ft. of worship, classroom, and fellowship space. Our annual budget is \$325K with a membership of 200 congregants. Aldersgate is in strong financial position with limited debt exposure.

Aldersgate is a congregation of faithful and devoted followers of Christ that desire to fulfill Christ's Great Commission. As of June 1, 2023, the church will leave the United Methodist affiliation. Our church is deeply rooted in Methodism and Wesleyan tradition/beliefs and

expects to seek new affiliation with a connectional Methodist denomination. We currently are in the discernment process as we consider whether we will be an independent church or potentially affiliate with the Global Methodist Church (GMC). If we decide to choose the latter path, our pastor will need to be affiliated with the GMC or have a willingness to do so upon selection as our pastor.

Aldersgate's Strengths and Focus have been in the following key areas:

- Worship of our Father is at our core, and the church remains hungry for leaning into the word of God. The church seeks new avenues of worship/education and desires leadership in these areas.
- Missions/Outreach is essential to our witness to the community. We take an active role in local ministries and support other connectional opportunities to the broader world.
- Service to Special Needs Community is of paramount importance. The church maintains an active ministry with Sunday School Classes and Fellowship to serve this population within our church and community.
- Strong Lay Leadership/Involvement has always been a strength of Aldersgate.

Aldersgate's Key Opportunities:

- Growth of prayer ministry for the church and community
- Intentional evangelism to reach those who need a relationship with Jesus Christ and a church home to grow their faith
- Young Adult/Youth Ministry as a means to strengthen individual and family bonds to our church and provide opportunities for our youth to grow in faith.

Key Position Requirements/Responsibilities:

- Hold ordination from an accredited seminary (Previous pastoral experience is preferred.)
- Maintain a theological perspective aligned with biblical standards in the Wesleyan/Methodist tradition
- Plan and lead meaningful worship opportunities in partnership with the Worship Team
- Ensure pulpit is supplied with qualified clergy/lay speaker if unavailable
- Provide proactive leadership in developing future vision and objectives for our congregation in partnership with the Church Council
- Provide ministerial services through the traditional sacraments of the church
- Actively engage in young adult and youth ministries in line with our church strategy
- Be active in developing relationships with our homebound and hospitalized congregants
- Be active in the effective use of social media as a means for ministry and outreach both within and outside the congregation
- Provide biblically based counseling and spiritual guidance to the congregation
- Actively lead Bible study and prayer opportunities for the congregation
- Encourage and support local, national, and international missions

- Serve as primary administrative officer for the church in cooperation with the SPPRC
- Grow Aldersgate's recognition and presence in the broader community through existing clergy networks and community services organizations as appropriate.