

# Aldersgate Stories

A Transformative Journey with Jarred Egnew



My time at Aldersgate has been one of transformation. I started going when I was about six years old. Camp was just a fun thing to do when I was that young. I loved the swimming and the campfires. I wasn't a great swimmer in my first year, so I had to stay in the shallow end. That pushed me to get better at swimming so I could get into the next section. Sure enough, I moved up a section the following summer.

When I was around 9 or 10, I remember doing Campelodeon. I remember the cold slime pouring over my head. I remember eating ice cream for breakfast. Camp is where I met new people from all over. People that are different from the diversity of Northern New York. This diversity that camp has given me has helped me grow into a well-rounded human.

When I was around 11 at camp, I had one night that would change my life. I had been to Sunday School and had heard the Bible stories but never understood the power that came with those stories. Around the fire pit in section A, two counselors told their testimonies. The Lord used their life stories of faith to open my heart and accept Christ into my life. That night on the porch of A4, I asked my counselor Ben, now director of Camp Aldersgate, to help me accept Jesus as my savior. Camp is where my Christian journey began.

I had the most fun at camp between 13-16. Fishing Camp; Night Owls; Planes, Trains, and Automobiles - these are the years that I made lifelong friends. Night hikes, star gazing, worship, bible study. My faith grew stronger every summer. Ten years at Camp Aldersgate as a camper, and the Lord still pulled me back for more. I worked on kitchen staff for one year when I was 17 and as a counselor for the next two years.

Those summers were spent making memories with friends and family. I say family because when you come to Camp Aldersgate, you become a part of the Aldersgate family. That family reaches over generation, national, and spiritual lines every year and grows yearly. To prove that, I've got one last memory to share: my marriage.



**ALDERSGATE**

I've loved Aldersgate forever, but my wife had never been. We had been looking for a place to get married for a while. I suggested Camp Aldersgate, and she said we could take a look. One day I showed her the site, and her eyes saw the white church in the pines. She fell in love with the church and the feel of Aldersgate.

So, in 2020, we got married in that little white church. I made my vows to my wife at a place where Christ started a good work in me. I got ready in the cabin that I accepted Christ in. Aldersgate is where I return to feel grounded in my faith. So come and rock on the front porch with a coffee and family.



**ALDERSGATE**