

# Aldersgate Hinge

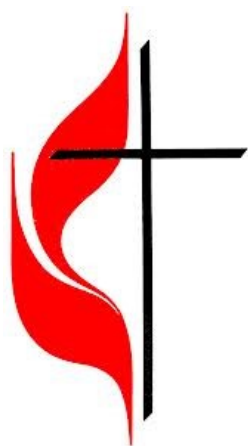
Live a Life of Faith — December 2024

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## From the Pastor

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Serving This Month

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

As we enter this season of Thanksgiving and Christmas, I want to share a joyful memory from my family. Joyce and I always loved preparing Christmas gifts for our children, Melissa and Joshua. Before Christmas Day, we carefully chose the gifts, hid them in the basement, and after the Christmas Eve service — when they were asleep, waiting for Santa Claus — we wrapped the gifts with excitement and love.

On Christmas morning, their happy faces when they found the gifts under the Christmas tree and their big smiles when they opened them brought so much joy to us. I believe many of you as parents or grandparents know this same happiness. Watching our children or grandchildren's excitement during Christmas is truly one of the best blessings of this season.

Through this, I remember a very important truth: "Giving is more joyful than receiving." This is what God showed us first. God gave us His greatest gift, His Son, Jesus Christ, because He loves us so much. Through Jesus, we receive hope, love, peace, and salvation.

As we prepare for Christmas, let us think about how we can give to others. It does not need to be a big gift. Sometimes giving our time, love, or kindness can make a big difference for someone who is lonely or in need. May this season be full of God's joy and peace for you and your family.

Blessings in Christ,  
*Pastor Yohang Chun*



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**Aldersgate United Methodist Church**

*Transforming Lives and Serving Christ with Joy*

4115 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, New York 14616-1216 • (585) 663-3665 • [www.aumcgreece.org](http://www.aumcgreece.org)

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# Our Ministry of Concern

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## Prayer Concerns

People are added and removed from our ongoing prayer list upon request. *Please call the church office to ADD, REINSTATE, or REMOVE names.*

### Aldersgate people with new or ongoing health concerns:

Rick Baker, Kathy Bernardi, Paul Brown, Dick Caupp, Mike Dunn, Nathan Dunn, Wendy Dunn, Betty Edgett, Joyce Farrokh, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Anton Gilson, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Betty Hild, Mary Lou Jones, Rich Keegan, Sylvia Lynch, Harry & Roxana Muthersbaugh, Kathy Peck, Laura Piccarreto-Kimmel, Cindy Purzycki, Joe Quirk, Roger Ridley, Ron Rozinski, John Simm, Michael Smith, David Stanley, Louie VanKouwenberg, Laura Wagner, Jan Winter and the caregivers of all those with ongoing health concerns

### Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

**Concerns:** Kristie (Jim & Nancy Bailey); Nancy Anderson & family; Denise, James, Maddie, Selina, sister Nikki, Mike Sullivan, Kirk Kimberly, Bob Coyne (Gloria Baker); Carol, Selena, Casey, Evan, Tisha & Damian (Sharon Bartter); Sister Diana Ross, Christine Salonen (Kathy Bernardi); Lisa Robinson (Karen Best); son Ed (Natasha Carstens); daughter (Rose Cavicchioli); Ruth, Rick Briggs (Lisa Deutsch); Quinn Aldridge, Eileen Harloff, Joann Dunn, Sally & John Miller (Wendy & Mike Dunn); Cathy (Roger Forbes); Johnny Cook (Patricia Forbes); Marianne Galligan, Lois Galligan (Sue Galligan & Karen Sladden); Noel, Bev Palandro (Nancy Jones); Lee Hartman, Rich Hartman (Nan & Rich Keller); Rick (Debbie Lenau); Barbie Anzalone (Kim & Eric Lindenau); Barbara Marsh; sister Susan Kiesel (Sabrina McLeod); Bonnie Bush, Nicole Mohrmann, Jeanne Sutton family (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann); my family (Wendy Peeck); Ester Peprah; Ann Collins, Buddy Good, Anne Bratko (Cindy Purzycki); Greg Kelly, Ellie Wagner, Butch Riemer (Karen Rice); Roger's sister Pearl, daughter Lynn (Roger & Charlotte Ridley); Glen Campbell, Sandi, Bev Palandro (David Rogenmoser); Lonnie Ruffino; Ali Musleh, Hilde DiNatale (Anna Simm); Lewis family, Bev, Bruce (Debbie Simm); Debbie Glinski, Fred (Mary Sims); Aubrie Robinson (Sara Smarcz); Nancy Miller (Michael Smith); Abby (Louretta Teasdale); Michael, Bill Weber, Mom, Matthew (Annette Thompson); Dennis Pankey; Kaylle VanAllen, Cindy Andrews, Michael Appleton, Bobbi Jo (Laurie VanAllen); brother Phil (Louie VanKouwenberg); Ruth Walter; David Whitt (Deborah Whitt); sister Megumi, Cindy (Kaori Winter); Sullivan,

## E-Mail Prayer Chain

PLEASE help us keep the weekly prayer concerns list updated. During office hours, send prayer chain requests to Diana Jason in the church office at [office@aumcgreece.org](mailto:office@aumcgreece.org). If your request needs posting after office hours, contact Chitie Edgett at [cge1935@gmail.com](mailto:cge1935@gmail.com).

Confidential prayer requests should be sent directly to Pastor Yohang Chun at [PastorYohang@aumcgreece.org](mailto:PastorYohang@aumcgreece.org).

### When Sharing Your Prayer Requests...

Prayer changes everything, and our church has a vibrant prayer ministry. When contacting the church office or our Prayer Chain Coordinator, Chitie Edgett, please let them know if you want your prayer request to be shared with only the Prayer Chain and Pastor, or if you want your prayer request shared with the Prayer Chain and our church congregation at Sunday worship.

As we continue to Live Streaming and use email communication, we want to respect those who wish their prayer request to remain confidential.



Penny Baart (Terry & Nancy Young); Bercehe (Steve & Jeanette Zeh); Dennis (Steve Zeh)

**Nursing Homes/Living Centers:** Dick Keegan — Cobbs Hill Manor

**Christian Sympathy** is extended to the family of long-time member Al Holmes, who passed away on November 3. Sympathy is extended to Juan & Tammy Ruiz following the death of Juan's mother, Telma Pinto Sanchez, on November 9.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of former member Helen Allen, who passed away in Michigan on November 14.



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# Church Events & Opportunities

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## December Preaching Schedule

- Dec. 1 — **Hanging of the Greens —  
Waiting is Faith (1)**
- Dec. 8 — **Rahab Waited with Faith**  
Joshua 2:8-11
- Dec. 15 — **Naomi and Her Waiting**  
Ruth 1:15-18, 2:1, 8-12
- Dec. 22 — **Waiting is Faith (2)**  
Genesis 12:1-3, 18:12-14
- Dec. 29 — Sharon Bartter Preaches



## Hanging of the Greens

A Special Advent  
Worship Service to Begin  
this Holy Season!

**On Sunday, December 1**  
**One Combined Worship Service**  
**at 10:00 a.m.**

Join us on this special day at Aldersgate UMC  
for a service led by our children and youth.  
Festive holiday refreshments will be served  
after the worship service.



Follow His Star to Bethlehem!



## 2024 AUMC Advent Devotional Available

We are excited to present this year's Advent Devotional, *Follow His Star*, thoughtfully written by members of our congregation. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time, reflections, and prayers to make this special project possible!

Printed copies are available in the church gathering space. While they are free, a suggested donation of \$3 or more is appreciated to help offset printing costs.

For those unable to pick up a physical copy, digital versions are also available. Please contact the church office, and we will ensure you receive a copy.

May this devotional be a source of inspiration and blessing as we journey through the Advent season together!

## Reading Circle Christmas Luncheon

The Reading Circle is hosting its annual Christmas luncheon on **Thursday, December 12 at 1:00 p.m.** in the library. Everyone is invited; you don't have to be a member of the reading group to attend. There is a sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board in the Gathering Place, where you can also indicate which food you would like to bring. Our reading selection for the month is "The Twelve Days of Christmas Stories," a collection of twelve short stories new and familiar by authors including Pearl S. Buck, Fulton Oursler, Walter Cronkite, Clement Clark Moore ("A Visit From St. Nicholas"), Henry Van Dyke ("The Other Wise Man") as well as Luke's Gospel. Contact Maureen Whalen at [whalenmt.7976@gmail.com](mailto:whalenmt.7976@gmail.com) for a digital or paper copy.

## More Events & Opportunities



### Special Christmas Concert

**Sunday, December 8, 6:00 p.m.**

We are thrilled to invite you to a spectacular musical event this Christmas season — the Christmas Special Orchestra Concert! Bring your family and friends to this wonderful event on **Sunday, December 8, at 6:00 p.m.** in our church sanctuary for an evening of enchanting melodies and festive cheer.

#### Featuring:

#### Youth Orchestra of Korean Mission United Methodist

**Church of Rochester:** This talented youth orchestra will showcase their skills, bringing to life the joyous spirit of Christmas through their performance.

**Accompanied by Professional Musicians:** Adding to the splendor, several professional musicians will show their seasoned expertise.

This concert is a unique opportunity to celebrate the season of joy and togetherness. A free-will offering will be taken that night.



### NEW ISSUE!

#### Januray 2025 Hinge Deadline

All items for the next newsletter are due by **Dec. 15.**

Please send to:

[karensladen@hotmail.com](mailto:karensladen@hotmail.com)



## Let's Celebrate!!

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Zuni Garcia-Simons	December 10
Maria Stanley	December 10
Kimberly Lindenau	December 13
Carol Cobia	December 14
Shannon Forbes	December 16
Cassandra Blanchette	December 21
Cindy Roza	December 24
Carol Pearson	December 25
Fran VanKouwenberg	December 27
Iris Simonelli	December 30
Bobbie Eckert	December 31

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Brenda & Rick Donovan	December 3
Terry & Nancy Young	December 13
Harry & Roxanna Muthersbaugh	December 22
Ed & Shirley Geier	December 26

JOY  
LOVE  
PEACE  
BELIEVE  
CHRISTMAS

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## PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THIS YEAR'S "WHITE GIFTS" CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Helping Needy Families for 60 Years!

You may help in the following ways:

- **Monetary Donations**
- **Adopt-A-Family** — Money will be provided from the White Gifts general funds. You have the rewarding assignment of personally shopping and delivering to your "family."
- **Sponsor-A-Family** (*Full responsibility for a needy family*)  
Just like the "Adopt-A-Family" option except that you fully sponsor the cost of the food and gifts. Expect to spend between \$300-\$400 for food and gifts for an average-size recipient family. *You can give gift cards for food – normally from their choice of Walmart, Wegmans, Aldis or Tops.*
- **PURCHASE GIFTS** — A list of items will be provided – funds also can be provided
- **Shop, Wrap Packages, Deliver Gifts** — All help is welcome! Please contact us to see what is needed this year and when we need it.

### PLAN NOW!

Speak to Jan or Tracy Winter at church or contact them by phone at 943-7353 for more information and to volunteer in this very rewarding venture as soon as possible. You may also e-mail Jan at [winterjanets@gmail.com](mailto:winterjanets@gmail.com).

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### With Grateful Hearts...

We had so much fun at this year's Trunk or Treat event! It was a beautiful afternoon to spend time with our family and friends, and neighbors from Aldersgate. A BIG "Thank You" to all who came, decorated their vehicle, and handed out candy. A special thank you to Wegmans' Grocery Store and Mark's Pizzeria for their donations. Also, to Kathy Pearson for donating pumpkins and gourds from her West Wind Fruit Farm. This year's winners for best decorated "trunks" went to Sandi Norris and Debbie Lenau and Maureen Whalen.



Also, many thanks to Doug and Becky Hess for the generous donation of our Christmas Tree this year! It brings great holiday spirit to our sanctuary. Thank you to Mark DeVincentis for his helping hands in picking up and delivering our tree.



### Read with Miss Rhonda for December

A reassuring, timeless story, ***Grace and the Christmas Angel*** is the first picture book from the beloved author of the Seven Sisters series by Lucinda Riley, written with her son Harry Whittaker and illustrated by the award-winning Jane Ray.

*Because somewhere, an angel is listening . . .*

It's Christmas Eve. The tree is decorated, the presents are wrapped and it's a big day for Grace. She is singing a song in the nativity show, and her fisherman daddy has promised to be back in time to watch her. But when a storm blows up at sea, Grace walks out on stage to find Daddy is not there. She's very worried. But luckily, Grace has someone watching over her. Will Hope, the Christmas Angel, be able to help Daddy get home safely for Christmas morning? (Cokesbury)

# Christian Education



## Preschool Class at 11:00 AM in the Nursery

For Toddlers and Preschoolers

Songs, Bible Stories, Crafts & Play

Teacher: Nan Keller with an assistant

For the month of December, the children will be listening to Christmas stories from the Bible, playing with the Nativity Set, and singing Christmas carols. A special Christmas craft will be made this month to put under the Christmas tree at home.



## Children's Sunday School (K-7<sup>th</sup> Grade)

**Dec. 1:** Hanging of the Greens Worship Service,  
One service at 10:00 a.m.

**Dec. 8:** Gingerbread Matinee during both Worship  
Services. Hand out scripts for Christmas Eve Play.

**Dec. 15:** Make Homemade Soap &  
Wash Cloth Angels, with  
Mrs. Wendy Peeck, to give to a  
special someone for Christmas.  
Practice for Christmas Eve Play  
and Dance during both Worship  
Services.



**Dec. 22:** Play & Dance Practice from 9:30 a.m.-12:00  
p.m., eat pizza lunch, and then practice in the  
sanctuary at 12:15-1:00 p.m.

**Dec. 29:** *The Legend of the Candy Cane*, making  
Grandma's candy cane cookies.



## Christmas Eve Dance Opportunity for Children

Anna Simm will be leading the joyful  
children's dance for the Christmas Eve  
Family Service, "The Light of Christmas"  
by Owl City and Toby Mac and  
"Christmas is Here" by JJ Heller.

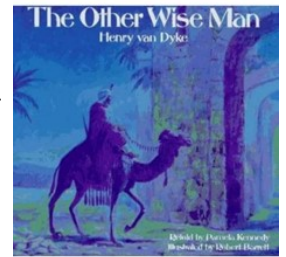
Practices will start on December 8 between Worship  
Services, 10:30-11:00 a.m.



## Christmas Eve Play for Family Service

*The Fourth Wise Man* play written by Brian Winter  
based on the book, *The Other Wise Man* by  
Henry van Dyke

The story follows a character  
named Artaban, a fourth wise  
man who set out to visit the new-  
born Jesus but got delayed help-  
ing others along the way. It is a  
play about kindness, selflessness,  
and the true meaning of Christ-  
mas. Artaban sells his valuable  
gifts meant for Jesus to aid those in need, illustrating  
that true greatness is found in the service of others.



Directed by: Brian Winter and Rhonda Simonelli

## Christmas Eve Play Practice Schedule

**Scripts given out on December 8 during Sunday  
School Class**

Play Practice on December 22: 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.  
During Sunday School Hours and then after the second  
worship service in the sanctuary. 12:15-1:00 p.m.  
Pizza Lunch included at noon

Dress Rehearsal on Monday, December 23:  
Exact time TBD, mostly like at 5:00 p.m.



## December 8 During Sunday School

We are hosting a gingerbread house-making party  
during Sunday School on December 8 during both Wor-  
ship services. Each child or family unit will decorate a  
gingerbread house and watch the movie, "The Star!"

# Youth corner



## Welcoming the Advent Season

Advent is a season of anticipation, often overshadowed by the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season. Yet, at its heart, Advent calls us to something deeper: a journey of repentance and celebration, bridging the gap between our humanity and the divine promise of hope.

The first part of Advent beckons us to a time of reflection, of looking inward with hearts open to repentance. As John the Baptist cried out in the wilderness, so too are we called to “prepare the way of the Lord.” This preparation is not about decorations or gift lists but about clearing away spiritual clutter. It is a time to acknowledge our need for grace, seek forgiveness, and align our hearts with God’s will. Without repentance, the joy of salvation can never be fully embraced.

As we draw closer to Christmas, the somber tone of repentance gives way to celebration and jubilation. We are reminded of the angels’ proclamation: “Glory to God in the highest! And on earth, peace, goodwill to men.” The love of God was manifested through the birth of his Son, the fulfillment of ancient promises.

Advent is not merely a countdown to Christmas Day. It is a sacred reminder of the full scope of Christ’s mission: his birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and Second Coming. As we light the candles each week, may our hearts be filled with the hopeful expectation of his Coming.

Let us prepare not only for the celebration of his birth, but also for the day when God shall wipe away every tear from our eyes, and his Kingdom will come in its fullness. Amen.



Aldersgate Greece  
Youth Group

## Much Thanks!

Thank you to Cyril (and Iris) for stepping up and serving as a “Vanna” at this year’s Food Friend-Z Auction; it was a great time of fellowship for the church. Thank you also to Shaylee and Adriana, who did a wonderful job as bell ringers during the All Saints Day Service, and to Ella for her flute solo, “I Need Thee Every Hour”! Finally, thank you to Ella, Jack, Emma, Evelyn and Iris for submitting devotionals for this year’s Advent Devotional book. We are excited to share them with the congregation!

## Put it on Your Radar! We’ve got some exciting events coming up in 2025!

- **Confirmation:** Confirmation begins on Sunday, January 5 at 10:30 a.m.
- **Snowtubing:** We’re aiming for a fun-filled day in January or February. Start thinking about who you’ll bring along for the snowy adventure!
- **Horizon Fun FX:** Plan for a great time in March or April with games, activities, and fellowship at Horizon Fun FX.
- **Kingdom Bound 2025:** Mark your calendar now for Monday, July 28!

*I’ll be sharing updates and specific dates through WhatsApp as we get closer, so stay tuned and don’t miss out! For any questions, feel free to email me at [bwinter@aumcgreece.org](mailto:bwinter@aumcgreece.org)*



## Thank You!

*Thank you to all who have supported the youth group’s bottle and can drive! Donations can be placed in the marked barrels in the Gathering Space. Please keep them coming!*

## Our Church Staff

### **Yohang Chun**

*Pastor*

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### **Brian Winter**

*Children's Ministry Co-Director*

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### **Brandon Kelley**

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[youtube.com/c/AUMCgreece](https://youtube.com/c/AUMCgreece)

## Serving in Worship This Month

### Ushers

#### 10:00 AM Combined Service

12/1 — Nancy & Terry Young

#### 9:30 AM

12/8 — Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann

12/15 — Sandi Norris & Debbie Lenau

12/22 — Susan DeVincentis

12/29 — Susan DeVincentis

#### 11:00 AM

12/8 — Nancy & Terry Young

12/15 — Denise & Gary Hogestyn

12/22 — Maria Stanley & Eric Lindenau

12/29 — Nancy & Terry Young

#### 5:00 PM Christmas Eve

12/24 — Sandi Norris & Debbie Lenau

#### 7:15 PM Christmas Eve

12/24 — Nancy & Terry Young

### Live Streaming

12/1 — **Combined @ 10:00 AM**

Dave Roza & Britta Muoio

12/8 — **Contemporary @ 9:30 AM**

Mary Sims & Rich Keller

12/15 — **Traditional @ 11:00 AM**

Juan & Tammy Ruiz

12/22 — **Contemporary @ 9:30**

Mary Sims & Britta Muoio

12/24 — **Christmas Eve @ 5:00 PM**

Dave Roza

12/24 — **Christmas Eve @ 7:15 PM**

NO LIVE STREAMING

12/29 — **Traditional @ 11:00 AM**

Rich Keller & Dave Roza

### Scripture Readers

#### 10:00 AM Combined Service

12/1 — Nancy Young

#### 9:30 AM

12/8 — Debbie Simm

12/15 — Sharon Bartter

12/22 — Debbie Simm

12/29 — Carol DeCann

#### 11:00 AM

12/8 — Sue Zorn

12/15 — Karen Sladden

12/22 — Brian Winter

12/29 — Nancy Young

### Nursery Workers

#### 10:00 AM Combined Service

12/1 — Joyce Chun

#### 9:30 AM

12/8 — Julia Troiano

12/15 — Debbie Simm

12/22 — Open

12/29 — Bobbi Mohrmann

#### 11:00 AM

12/8 — Joyce Chun

12/15 — Joyce Chun

12/22 — Joyce Chun

12/29 — Open

