

# Aldersgate Hinge

Live a Life of Faith — May 2026

## From the Pastor

*Pentecost is approaching fast (May 24 this year). Pentecost is one of my favorite celebrations in the church. Opportunities abound for creative visuals and liturgy. It is typically the only Sunday in the liturgical calendar when red is used. Creativity and the Holy Spirit go nicely together. The church was created and given life through the giving of the Holy Spirit. We are reborn, recreated, through the work of the Holy Spirit. We even see the creative power of the Holy Spirit in Genesis as "God's Spirit was moving over the surface of the waters." In the creative spirit of Pentecost, I share the following stream of thoughts and wonderment as I reflect on the story:*

*Waiting...wondering...power from on high?*

*What kind of power?*

*How long of a wait?*

*He was dead...alive...raised...here...gone again...*

*Confusion...sadness...joy...uncertainty...what next?*

*And then the noise...from here...there...everywhere!*

*A wind...like creation but new...strange but familiar.*

*A storm that brings life not destruction...*

*A gale that brings strength not fear.*

*And the flames...not consuming but eternal...*

*A gift to all but a fire for each.*

*Out to the streets...this is new...*

*Boldness...power... voice!!!*

*This is how it starts...the church...*

*From one to another...larger and larger...*

*Jerusalem...Samaria...the world!!!!*

*Christ is gone...but here...here in the Spirit...*

*Here in us...alone and together...*

*The new body of Christ!*

*And the story continues...with every breath...*

*With every profession...in every act of mercy and grace.*

*Christ continues to live...in....through...among...each of us...*

*And together we are the church...for the good of all...*

*To the glory of God...that the whole world may know!*

*Come, Holy Spirit, Come! Come, Holy Spirit, Come!*

**Pastor Wilson**



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Editor: Sharon Bartter

**Aldersgate United Methodist Church**

*Transforming Lives and Serving Christ with Joy*

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# Our Ministry of Concern

## Prayer Concerns

People are added to this list from requests given to Chitie, Diana or on Sunday mornings in the previous month..  
*Please contact Chitie or Diana with new prayer concerns.*

## Aldersgate people with new or ongoing health concerns:

Rick & Gloria Baker, Natasha Carstens, Wendy Dunn, Dick & Chitie Edgett, Judy Hare, Nancy Jones, Pastor Wilson Jones, Tammy Kephart, Debbie Lenau, Kathy Peck

## Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

**Concerns:** Barb, Baby Amini (Gloria Baker), Laurie, Rachel (Pastor Jerry Wolter's daughter), Barb, Marilyn (Kim Lindenau), Wilson & Mary (Pastor Wilson's parents), Laurie (Karen Rice)

**Nursing Homes/Living Centers:** Shirley Geier (Friendly Home), Becky Hess (Monroe Community Hospital) Dick Keegan (Cobbs Hill Manor)

**Christian Sympathy to the Troiano family, as Brandon's father, Joe, passed away in late March.**

**Christian Sympathy to Terry Young, whose wife, Nancy passed away, suddenly, on April 20th.**

FILL THE BIN!!!!!!!

OUR NEXT "FOOD FOR FAMILIES"

FOOD DRIVE WILL BE HELD

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH

TO BENEFIT THE GREECE

ECCUMENICAL FOOD SHELF!!

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY!!

***"Give and it shall be given unto you,  
pressed down, shaken together and  
running over."***

**Luke 6:38**

## 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 Wilson at [PastorWilson@aumcgreece.org](mailto:PastorWilson@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 Live Stream and use email communication, we want to respect those who wish their prayer request to remain confidential.



## June 2026 Hinge Deadline

All items for the next newsletter are due by **May 20**.

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# Church Events & Opportunities

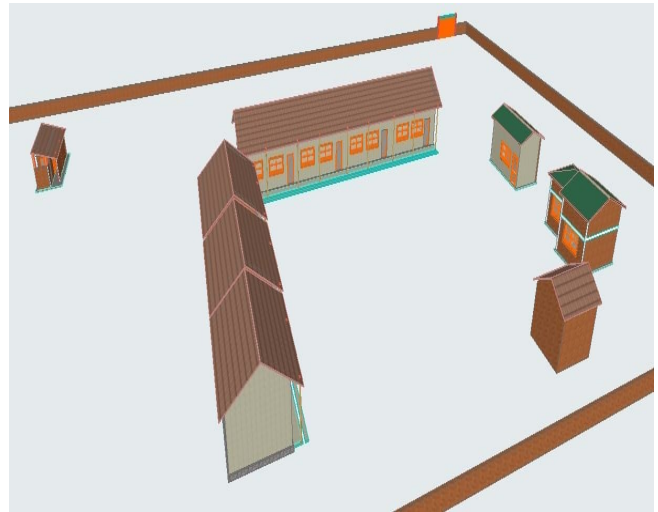
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## MISSION MOMENT: UPDATE

Thank you to all who have donated to the African School project in the Last month. This support has allowed us to supply the government required school uniforms to the students, and also allowed us to start construction of the school's Canteen building during the current construction season.

As always: Thank you all for all the support in creating this education opportunity for these Nakivale Refugee students.

**Rich Mohrmann**  
Missions Chair.



## Celebrate Mother's Day with Us!

**Sunday, May 10** Before and after each Worship service, the children will be selling bright, beautiful carnations for \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. Every purchase helps support our Summer VBS ministry.

To make the morning even sweeter, the kids will also be preparing Starbucks Copycat Pink Drinks and cozy hot lattes for everyone to enjoy after Worship.

During Sunday School, children will create a special Mother's Day gift by coloring pussy willows and arranging them in small take home vases. A sweet way to honor all who nurture with a Christlike heart.



Adobe Stock | #1872935367



### True North VBS coming this summer!

**August 10–13 • 9:00–11:30 AM at Aldersgate UMC**

Ages 4 (Preschool) – grade 6

This summer, children are invited to step into the breathtaking world of the Alaskan wilderness—towering mountains, sparkling glaciers, and wide-open skies—as they discover that Jesus is our True North, the Alaskan-wilderness-themed week as we point them to the hope and love of Jesus. One who guides us through every twist and turn of life.

To make this week truly special, I'm looking for helpers, station leaders, snack assistants, and extra hands to guide our kids through their Alaskan adventure. Whether you can serve all four days or just one morning, your presence helps steady the trail and makes a real difference.

**I'll be hosting an information meeting on Sunday, May 17th between Worship services in the main lobby for anyone interested in helping guide our kids through this**

If you're interested in serving or want to learn more, please email [rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org](mailto:rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org). On-Line Registration opens in June.

### MAY FUNDRAISER FOR ALDERSGATE CHRISTIAN ED!!!



Join us for dine in or curbside pick-up on

Monday, May 18, from 3pm to 10pm

for a FUNDRAISING NIGHT to support

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Texas Roadhouse® Greece will donate a percentage of your

total food purchases, dine in or takeout, to the fundraiser!

10% back guaranteed

15% for sales \$1,500-\$1,999

20% for sales greater than \$2,000

Support Aldersgate United Methodist Church

by presenting this invitation to your server at

Texas Roadhouse® Greece.

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# Christian Education

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## Sunday School for Little Ones

**Sundays at 9:30 AM, Location:** Room 7

**Teachers:** Anna Simm, Julia Troiano and more to come!

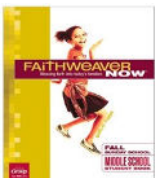


Designed for young children who thrive with extra support, where God's love shines through every lesson. Join us as we nurture faith, joy, and belonging in every child—celebrating the unique way God made each one.

## Faith Weavers – Middle School Sunday School

**Grades 6–8 | Sundays at 9:30 AM**

**Location:** Room 3/4, **Teacher:** Rhonda Simonelli



Middle schoolers are invited to dive deeper into their faith journey. Through engaging discussions, activities, and scripture, students will explore how faith weaves into every part of life—school, friendships, challenges, and growth.

## Preschool Sunday School

**Ages 3–5 | Sundays at 11:00 AM**

**Location:** Room 7, **Teachers:** Nan Keller & Assistant



Offers a joyful and nurturing environment where young children begin to discover God's love through songs, stories, play, and hands-on activities. This class helps little ones build a foundation of faith in a way that's fun and age appropriate.

## Big Faith – Elementary Sunday School

**Grades K–5 | Sundays at 11:00 AM**

**Location:** Room 3/4, **Teacher:** Rhonda Simonelli

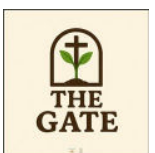


This dynamic and engaging Sunday School class is designed for elementary students! Through stories, activities, and meaningful lessons, kids will explore what it means to grow in faith and follow Jesus in everyday life.

## High School Sunday School

**Grades 9–12 | Sundays at 10:45 AM**

**Location:** Fellowship Hall, **Teacher:** John Simm



High school students are invited to a space where faith meets real life. Through thought-provoking movies and open discussions, this class sparks meaningful conversations about spirituality and everyday challenges.

## NURSERY CARE "SUSPENDED"

Nursery coverage will no longer be provided as of 3/1. Parents have the options of watching their own children in the nursery, (with a speaker to hear the message), in the Quiet Room at back of sanctuary (with speaker and "window") or bringing them into the sanctuary. The Worship Committee will monitor this and make changes as needed.

## 10am Pentecost Service for All!

Plans are underway for a special Pentecost service at 10am on Sunday, May 24

It's hoped all of our members will come together to celebrate this meaningful Christian holiday together. There will be music, scripture readings, communion and a special message. Hope to see everyone there!

## REMEMBER TO WEAR RED!!!

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### *Finding Direction* — 3-Part High School Series

Ever feel unsure about what's next or where you're headed? Join us for a series all about discovering purpose, hearing God's voice, and taking your next step with confidence. After the series, we'll hang out and watch *The Case for Christ* together — a powerful story about searching for truth and finding real answers.

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## “Keep touching the lane line”

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**“Don’t deviate a bit to the right or to the left. Turn your feet away from evil.” Proverbs 4:27**

I’ve joined the Y and started swimming again, after a long time away from the pool. While any time in the water is great, I would much prefer to be swimming laps than water walking, but that means obeying “rules.” The one that was hardest for me was staying in one lane.

There is only one lane line (a hard plastic barrier) for every 2 lanes, but each swimmer is only supposed to stay in one of those lanes to accommodate for other swimmers when it gets crowded.

I tried several times in the right-hand lane, which is closest to the ladder and the one I would prefer, but I kept veering over into the other side— usually without even knowing it— until I hit the left hand lane line, usually hitting it hard! Then, I tried starting in the left-hand side and, somehow, it worked! As long as I, gently, touch the line every couple of strokes I can stay on the left side and share the lane.

As I’m writing this, Easter has just passed, meaning that Good Friday is not far in the rear view. If you’re like me, the stories of even Jesus’ best friends denying, betraying and abandoning Him remind you of times you have done the same. And, while we’re grateful for His Mercy, there are ways that we “treat” our relationship with God, and with other people, that we want to improve upon.

My advice to you is, like with my swimming; First; don’t give up! Keep coming back to those goals to do better. God is merciful every time and a strong relationship, with Him and other people, is too important. Find ways that work for you; whether it’s scheduling Prayer and Bible study time, learning your triggers to angry outbursts and controlling them, or whatever your issues are. And then keep “checking” yourself. How close did you stay or how far did you stray; in other words, keep touching the lane line!”

***Blessings;***  
***Sharon Bartter***

## LET’S CELEBRATE!!!



### MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Gloria Baker	May 1
Jerry Sission	May 4
Tracy Maggio	May 8
Emily VanKouwenberg	May 8
Karen Best	May 9
Brandon Troiano	May 10
Suzanne Unell	May 10
Debbie Lenau	May 15
Pastor Wilson Jones	May 21
Nancy Bailey	May 24
Chase Tyler	May 27
Evelyn Troiano	May 29

John and Debbie Simm	May 2
Mark and Susan DeVincentis	May 12
Pastor and Alyson Wilson	May 19
Roger and Patricia Forbes	May 30

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## PRE-ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

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I will, as always, give a Conference report when I return from this year's Annual Conference meeting of the United Methodists of Upper New York, but I wanted to give you a brief view of what I, along with **Pastor Wilson** and **Jan Rothfuss** will experience in Syracuse on May 28-30.

This will be my 12th Annual Conference, since my first one 15 years ago. And the part that keeps me coming back is, actually, apart from what goes on. It's the gathering with nearly 1,000 people all together in that arena; all Christians, all United Methodists, all from Upstate New York. Just the thought of that gets me every time!

All of us, nearly 1,000 people, experience awesome Praise and Worship, inspiring guest speakers and we celebrate pastors being ordained, being transferred, retiring and we have a moving Memorial Service to honor those pastors (and pastor's spouses) who've gained the Ultimate Retirement to Heaven in the past year.

And then there's Plenary. The United Methodists of Upper New York is like a Gigantic local church, in that it has a Finance Committee and a Trustees Committee among others. The Annual Conference meeting is the Gigantic equivalent of our Ad Council meetings. We pass a budget— which affects our local church's Ministry Shares rate. We hear from the Trustees, and other committees, and elect new Trustees. Then we discuss "new business" resolutions everything from Social Justice issues to changes in church policy. These discussions can get tedious, and contentious, but they are why we're there! The rest is gravy, and everyone loves lots of gravy, but plenary is the meat and potatoes of it.

This year we are set to discuss, among others, everything from Immigration Justice and Controlling the Use of AI to what style of music to use at Upper New York United Methodist events!

What you may not know— about the Annual Conference meetings and our Ad Council meetings— is that anyone can come and listen in. Only those of us who serve as representatives can vote but anyone can experience the Worship Services, guest speakers— or even the Plenary, if that's your cup of tea!

So; that weekend, May 28-30, Please pray for our safe travels, sweet fellowship and peaceful/effective discussions. And consider joining us for any part of it. I can let you know when the Worship services, the guest speakers, and even the Plenary will take place.

*Blessings;*

*Sharon Bartter*

*Rep to Annual Conference*

**SAVE THE DATES!!!!!!**

**MAY 24TH ONE SERVICE @ 10**

**WEAR RED!!!!!!!**

**JUNE 19TH ONE SERVICE @ 10**

**MORTGAGE BURNING PARTY!!**

**OUR BISHOP, HECTOR BURGOS-NUÑES WILL PREACH AND LEAD COMMUNION.**

**POT LUCK LUNCH TO FOLLOW!  
BRING A DISH, STAY AND  
CELEBRATE THIS MAJOR EVENT  
& GREET OUR BISHOP!**

# Serving in Worship This Month

## Our Church Staff

### **Dr. Wilson Jones**

*Pastor*

663-3665

[pastorwilson@aumcgreece.org](mailto:pastorwilson@aumcgreece.org)

### **Enoch Renzha**

*Pastor of African Ministries*

[renzhaenoch@gmail.com](mailto:renzhaenoch@gmail.com)

### **Diana Jason**

*Administrative Assistant*

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[office@aumcgreece.org](mailto:office@aumcgreece.org)

### **Rhonda Simonelli**

*Children's Ministry Director*

663-6663

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### **Brandon Kelley**

*Contemporary Worship Music Leader*

[brandonkelley1@aol.com](mailto:brandonkelley1@aol.com)

### **Savannah Norton**

*Choir Director*

[savannah.rose.norton@gmail.com](mailto:savannah.rose.norton@gmail.com)

### **Kaori Winter**

*Organist*

[kwinter@aumcgreece.org](mailto:kwinter@aumcgreece.org)

### **Peter Mutunzi**

*Director of African Music Ministry*

[ndakizepeter@yahoo.com](mailto:ndakizepeter@yahoo.com)

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### **Ushers**

**9:30 AM**

**5/3 Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann**

**5/10 Susan DeVincentis**

**5/17 Kathy Bernardi**

**5/24 One Service 10am**

**5/31 Susan DeVincentis**

**11:00**

**5/3 John Zorn & Mike A./Jenn &**

**Shay Crandall**

**5/10 Denise & Gary Hogestyn**

**5/17 Maria Stanley & Eric Lindenau**

**5/24 10am Denise & Gary Hogestyn**

**5/31 Denise & Gary Hogestyn**

### **Live Streaming**

**3. Contemporary 9:30 Mary Sims & Rich Keller**

**10. Traditional 11:00 Juan & Tammy Ruiz**

**17 Contemporary 9:30 Juan Ruiz & Dave Roza**

**24. One Service 10:00 Juan & Tammy Ruiz**

**31 Contemporary 9:30 Dave Roza & Mary Sims**

### **AV/SOUND BOARD: 9:30**

**3. Ted Carstens**

**10. Michael Bartter**

**17. Mary Sims**

**24. One Service 10am Mark D.**

**31 Mark D.**

### **Scripture Readers**

9:30

**3. Jan Rothfuss**

**10. Debbie Simm**

**17. Kathy Bernardi**

**24. Debbie Simm**

**31 Sharon Bartter**

11:00

**3. Karen Sladden**

**10. Candy Metzger**

**17. Sue Zorn**

**24. Denise Hogestyn**

### **AV/SOUND BOARD 11:00**

**3. Steven Zeh**

**10. Roger Hotchkiss**

**17. Ted Carstens**

**24. One Service: Mark D.**

**31 Roger Hotchkiss**

May 2026							June 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
31							28	29	30				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Apr 26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am CWT Rehearsal (C) 10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 7:00pm AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 6:30pm BW Small Group (P) 7:00pm ALANON (2) 7:30pm Greece Group AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm Yarn & Dam (Basement) 7:00pm Trustees Meeting (Zoom)	7:30am AA (FH) 3:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 4:30pm CWT Rehearsal (S)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm Reading Circle (L) 7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm GA (8)	7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm GA (8) 7:00pm GA (8)	7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am Prayer Group (S & GS) 9:00am GA (8) 3:00pm African Ministry (C)
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am CWT Rehearsal (C) 10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 7:00pm AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 7:00pm CM Small Group (P) 7:00pm Finance Meeting (O) 7:00pm SD Small Group (P)	7:30am AA (FH) 3:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 4:30pm CWT Rehearsal (S)	7:30am AA (FH) 3:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 4:30pm CWT Rehearsal (S)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm Reading Circle (L) 7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm GA (8)	Office Manager Out of Office 7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm GA (8) 7:00pm GA (8)	7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am Prayer Group (S & GS) 9:00am GA (8) 3:00pm African Ministry (C)
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am CWT Rehearsal (C) 10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 7:00pm AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 7:00pm ALANON (2) 7:30pm Greece Group AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm CM Small Group (P) 5:00pm Finance Meeting (O) 7:00pm SD Small Group (P)	7:30am AA (FH) 3:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 4:30pm CWT Rehearsal (S)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm Reading Circle (L) 7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm GA (8)	7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm GA (8) 7:00pm GA (8)	7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am Prayer Group (S & GS) 9:00am GA (8) 3:00pm African Ministry (C)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am CWT Rehearsal (C) 10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 7:00pm AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 6:30pm BW Small Group (P) 7:00pm ALANON (2) 7:30pm Greece Group AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm SPRC Meeting (3/4)	7:30am AA (FH) 3:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 4:30pm CWT Rehearsal (S)	7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm Church Council (Hybrid Room)	7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm GA (8)	7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am Prayer Group (S & GS) 9:00am GA (8) 3:00pm African Ministry (C)
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am CWT Rehearsal (C) 10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 10:00am Pentecost - One Service (S) 7:00pm AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 7:00pm ALANON (2) 7:30pm Greece Group AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 1:00pm CM Small Group (P) 7:00pm SD Small Group (P)	7:30am AA (FH) 3:00pm SAIL Exercise Class (I) 4:30pm CWT Rehearsal (S)	7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm AA (FH)	7:30am AA (FH) 7:00pm GA (8)	7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am Prayer Group (S & GS) 9:00am GA (8) 11:00am Nancy Young Service 3:00pm African Ministry (C) 4:00pm Community Dinner (I)
31	Jun 1	2	3	4	5	6
7:30am AA (FH) 8:30am CWT Rehearsal (C) 10:00am Choir Rehearsal (C) 7:00pm AA (FH)						