



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

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OUR CHURCH STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE

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Robin Fox Nursery Attendant



Aldersgate UMC Web Site –
<http://www.gbgn-umc.org/aldersgate-greece-ny/>

OUR MINISTRY OF CONCERN

People are added to our ongoing prayer list on request. If you know of someone whose name and/or concern should be added, please verify that the person desires to be on a published list before requesting the addition. Names are added and can be removed from the prayer list by request. If you have a prayer request, please call Barbara Robinson at 227-7845. Reports regarding prayer results are made also.

Recovering at Highlands at Brighton: Lynn Hoyt

Recovering at home: Carl Dunn, Bette Edgett, Don Heinz, Al and Myrt Holmes, Lynn Hoyt, Ted Peck, Susan Perkins, Jim Schaber, Scott Toombs, Paul Wagner, Carline Wiley

Those with ongoing health concerns: Amy (grandniece of Sylvia & Jack Lynch), Joyce Anderson (sister of Wanda Strauss), Noel Anderson, Pauline Ashley, Bill Barton (friend of Tom O'Connor), Albina DeBell (mother of Jim DeBell), Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis and Malcolm), Don Bueg (friend of the Carstens), Wynne Brandenburg (mother to Jerry Sisson), Phoebe Brown, Michele Cairns, Ted Coburn, Jim DeBell, Sue Ellen Doyle (daughter of the Coburns), Carl Dunn, Bishop Violet Fisher, Carol Flowers (niece of Bob Wiederhold), Tina Fogg (sister to Michele Cairns), Jean Frey, Kathy Galligan (aunt of Karen Sladden), Ed Geier, Mary Good (mother of Cindy Purzycki), Judy Hare, Dave Haring, Kira Harpole, Jerry Hertweck (Barry & Nancy Massing's friend), Becky Hess, Gary & Cindy Hogan, Glenn Ide, Kim Latragna, Sybil Kelley (Barry Massing's cousin), Anna Kneisel (mother of Anne Palmer), Lynn Linder (sister-in-law of Tammy Linder), Ruth Loomis, Jack Lynch, Mary Lynch (daughter-in-law to Jack & Sylvia Lynch), Steven Lynch (son of Sylvia & Jack Lynch), Grace Mack, Cody Mastradenato (neighbor of O'Connor's), Charlotte McCabe (Betty Baybutt's daughter), Denise Montgomery (daughter of Gloria Montgomery), Marion Murray (friend of Joyce & Jim DeBell), Jane O'Toole (friend of Kim Latragna), Gayle Penders, Carrie Reinhardt (friend of Tom O'Connor), Polly Roberts (friend of Bette Edgett), Steven Savage, Nora Spindler, John Sobus, Jr., Theresa (friend of the Geiers), Martha Thomson, Heather Tidwell (granddaughter of Ross & Nancy Wayne), Nora Tripp, Alene VanPutte, Hal Wagner, Dorothy Wind (daughter of Larry Scrivens), Clair Yeamans (step-father of David Kaszubowski), Adele Wozniak (sister of John Sobus)

Our home-bound: Jeanne Barr, Malcolm Beers, Ethel Couchman, John Haldane, Myrtle Koch, Ann Lintz, Orville Loomis, Jim Manfredi, Sr., Ethel Martin, Leota Matthews, Maxine Pollock, John Sobus, Betty Shoemaker, Gayle Smith, Marion Voglesong.

Christian sympathy is extended to the family of Joyce Matties who died on January 22nd.

Please call the church office if you have other names that need to be added or re-instated to the list or removed from the list.

Prayer Chain Coordinator: Barbara Robinson (227-7845). We update our prayer list weekly. Please provide enough information so that we can offer meaningful prayer. There are two prayer chains at Aldersgate. One chain is active during the daytime hours and the other occurs during the evening.

Due to privacy restrictions at our hospitals they will no longer release patient information over the phone. In the event that you are hospitalized, please let us know. If you are unable to notify us, please have a family member or close friend call the church office, Pastor Anne or Pastor Jerry.



There are two prayer chains at Aldersgate. Each is coordinated by Barbara Robinson. One is for daytime calling. The other is for calling in the evening. Each member of the prayer chain has only one person to call and everyone will lift up the prayer requests in his or her own way. This can be a very rewarding experience, especially when concerns turn into joy. We invite you to be part of this care team. Call me at 227-7845.

Barbara Robinson

ALDERSGATE EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER SERVICE

The church provides emergency services such as transportation and babysitting. If you can provide services, or need help, call Lyn Soeffing at 392-8988.

PARISH VISITATION

Please advise the church office when someone enters the hospital (or is discharged). This will help in providing better pastoral care and help avoid unnecessary trips. If you, or someone of whom you are aware, desire a pastoral call, please advise the church office. Arrangements for the Sacrament of Holy Communion are encouraged. Both pastors visit regularly and would be happy to include others in the visitation schedule.



FEBRUARY 2008 BIBLE READINGS

1. Deuteronomy 24:17-25:4
2. Micah 3:1-4
3. Exodus 24:12-18
4. Ruth 1:1-18
5. Ruth 2:1-16
6. Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
7. Deuteronomy 4:1-14
8. Isaiah 29:1-12
9. Isaiah 29:13-16
10. Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
11. 2 Kings 22:3-20
12. 2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25
13. Proverbs 6:6-23
14. Genesis 26:1-5
15. Leviticus 26:34-46
16. Deuteronomy 30:1-9a
17. Genesis 12:1-4a
18. Exodus 20:1-21
19. Deuteronomy 23:31-24:4, 10-15
20. Proverbs 2:1-15
21. Exodus 22:21-27
22. Leviticus 6:1-7
23. Proverbs 25:11-22
24. Exodus 17:1-7
25. Proverbs 25:11-22
26. Genesis 31:1-3, 17-50
27. Proverbs 3:27-35
28. Proverbs 12:22-28
29. Isaiah 26:1-6



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jackie Hogestyn	February 1
Joan Michlin	February 1
George Shukitis	February 2
Dominic De Bell	February 2
Todd Farrell	February 5
Ed Geier	February 5
Vince Acciaio	February 9
Ryan Kennedy	February 10
Ray LaFlair	February 11
Steve Schneider	February 11
Scott Wiley	February 11
Barry Massing	February 12
Doug Jones III	February 13
Sue Schneider	February 13
Ethel Couchman	February 14
Grace Mack	February 14
Mike Dunn	February 15
Ken Sisson	February 17
Gretchen Hughes	February 17
Ethan Cary	February 18
Jean Frey	February 20
Harry Muthersbaugh	February 24
Cooper Brehm	February 25
Gretchen Brehm	February 26
Jessica Christie	February 26
Grace Watts	February 27
Elijah Tyler	February 27

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Dean & Jackie Hogestyn	February 13
Len & Grace Mack	February 14

*If your birthday or anniversary
is not listed,
please call the church office.*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**Pretzel Sunday**

February 10th is **Pretzel Sunday**, 9:45 to 10:45 A.M. This is a fun day for our Sunday school, with lots of activities for our young people.

The children will meet in the gathering area outside Ide Hall to hear the story of the Pretzel. The children will then move through Ide Hall to different interest centers, where they will color eggs, plant seeds, do crafts and make pretzels.

There will be Jr. Church at the 11 A.M. service.

Calendar Time

All Church Picnic
June 8th
Braddocks Bay Park

Vacation Bible School
July 21~25
Power Lab

Discovering Jesus'
Miraculous Power

Power Lab where kids discover Jesus'
miraculous power!

Get ready to see amazing things happen at this science-themed VBS with engaging experience kids will love. Power Lab surges with memorable Bible points-

Jesus gives us power...
to be thankful.
to help others.
to be brave.
to live forever
to tell others about God.

Come, meet **Fizz, Sparki, Dewd, Max, Electra, Squeaky, and Chadder** as he arrives at Wonkenstein Castle for a museum tour...and quickly becomes lost when he drops his M@M. Knocking his head on a secret switch, Chadder, falls into the hidden lab of Professor Wonkenstein.

POWER LAB STATION LEADERS
NEEDED

- Sonic Sing & Play
- Wacky Works Crafts
- Hyperspeed Games
- Test Tube Treats
- Bible Blast
- Cinema Science
- Faith Fusion Finale
- Spotlight Drama
- Squeaky Beaker's Preschool

Call Jane Guitson 544-7787

Why did the germ cross the microscope?
To get to the other slide

Ink Jet and Printer Cartridges

Bring in your ink jet and laser cartridges to church. This is ecologically good for our environment and will help raise funds for special events. A container for you to deposit your cartridges is in the Narthex by the stairs. We look forward for your continued help. Any questions call Jane Guitson, at 544-7787.



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Transforming lives and serving Christ with joy

On Saturday, January 12, 2008 thirty-four Aldersgate leaders met at Wesley UMC for a day of learning and looking forward. It was a great day, led by the Rev. Dr. Ron Isaman, the WNY Conference Coordinator of Leadership and Congregational Development.

We looked at Aldersgate past and present, and dreamed about the future. As we considered where God is leading us, three themes emerged: transformation, outreach/service, and relationships. The slogan, "transforming lives and serving Christ with joy," is one that we think captures the heart of the mission and vision of Aldersgate as we move into the future.

Our next step will be to do some strategic planning around the three themes and develop a plan that focuses Aldersgate ministry in these areas. This has been scheduled for **Saturday, March 1 from 9 AM until 12:30 PM** at Aldersgate. Those currently in a church leadership role and those sensing a call to lead, should plan to attend.

Expect to hear more as God continues to lead us into the future God has planned.

In Christ's love,



We wish to thank everyone who sent us cards, prayed for us, called us, brought us food and other acts of kindness when we had our accident.

Aldersgate is truly a warm-hearted church led by our pastors.

Thank you GOD for sending your healing. Amen.

Myrtle and Al Holmes

DID YOU KNOW????

Did you know that the poinsettia display ladders one each side of the cross were designed and built by Milt Ashley? Milt went right to work on this project immediately after the Altar Committee asked him, if such an apparatus could be built!

Many thanks to Milt and his wife Pauline for the donation of these two unique pieces to be used for abundant floral displays.

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

The Good Samaritan Fund is getting low. This fund is used to help people in our congregation and neighborhood when they need temporary assistance.

If you would like to give to this fund, please make your checks payable to AUMC with Good Samaritan Fund on the memo line.

FAITH FACTOR YOUTH MINISTRY

High School Youth Group (Tuesday 6-8PM)

What does the Bible say about dating? That's the question we have been discussing as we wrap up our four part session on dating this month. The Bible doesn't tell us how to ask someone out and Scripture doesn't say what the perfect date would look like. But God gives clear guidance on how we should treat our bodies and how we should treat others. In this video series by authors Michael and Haley DiMarco, using practical and Biblical guidelines, we focused on understanding the purpose of dating and how to respect ourselves and each other, under four topical headings: Boundaries; The Role of Dating; Issues for Guys; Issues for Girls.

Our next video series beginning this month is Teenagers vs. Parents. The myth of a perfect family can lead to disappointment, frustration and anger. There is no perfect family. But many teenagers struggle with expectations and authority from their parents. In these four sessions we will use practical and Biblical instruction to help teens and parents repair and build healthy relationships with each other.

This month we will be having the annual High School Overnight Blowout on Monday, February 18th. This event will run from 7pm-8am the next morning, and will include The Wheel of Shame or Glory competitive challenge, The All Night Double Screen Theatre, Human Bowling, and many other games, activities, pizza and snacks. Needed: ADULT VOLUNTEERS. Even if you can only join us for a few hours, we'd love to have your help.

Middle School Youth Group (Every Other Friday 6:30-8PM)

This month in our "Unfiltered" series we are focusing on how to cope with life's "raw deals" by learning to rely on God.

We will have our monthly outing on February 22 to Laserquest. Cost is \$12 per person. We will meet at Aldersgate at 6:30 and travel to and from Laserquest as a group. Parent chaperones are welcome.

Faith Factor Sunday School (Grades 7-12 who are not in Confirmation)

We meet each Sunday morning at 9:45-10:30 in the Youth Room downstairs. This month we are covering The Beatitudes, Jesus' teaching on being salt and light, Jesus' encounter with Nicodemus, and Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan Woman.

Service Projects

During the holiday season, the teens brought in their spare change to raise money for those in need around the world. Especially for the holiday season, the youth raised money for Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization headed by Franklin Graham. The youth chose to designate the funds to helping children suffering from abuse and bondage. As a continuing service project, the youth have also adopted a child through Compassion International. If you would like to see the photo of and information about the child we are supporting, come on down to the youth room!

I wish everyone a happy and blessed New Year, and thank you for your continued time, prayers, and support.

Your Brother in Christ,
Philip Vitullo

FROM THE PASTOR OF VISITATION AND MEMBERSHIP CARE

Dear Aldersgate Family:

As I pen these lines, Rochester is just recovering from another windstorm and the utilities are finally back on. Before another month we will be in the season of LENT – that 40-day period of preparation for the celebration of Easter.

This reminds me of a story that seems to just fit in for this issue of the *Hinge*. It is titled:

Can You Sleep When the Wind Blows?

Years ago, a farmer owned land along the Atlantic seacoast. He constantly advertised for hired hands. Most people were reluctant to work on farms along the Atlantic. They dreaded the awful storms that raged across the Atlantic, wreaking havoc on the buildings and crops. As the farmer interviewed applicants for the job, he received a steady stream of refusals.

Finally, a short, thin man, well past middle age, approached the farmer. "Are you a good farm hand?" the farmer asked him. "Well, I can sleep when the wind blows," answered the little man. Although puzzled by this answer, the farmer, desperate for help, hired him. The little man worked well around the farm, busy from dawn to dusk, and the farmer felt satisfied with the man's work. Then one night the wind howled loudly in from offshore. Jumping out of bed, the farmer grabbed a lantern and rushed next door to the hired hand's sleeping quarters. He shook the little man and yelled, "Get up! A storm is coming! Tie things down before they blow away!" The little man rolled over in bed and said firmly, "No sir. I told you, I can sleep when the wind blows.

Enraged by the response, the farmer was tempted to fire him on the spot. Instead, he hurried outside to prepare for the storm. To his amazement, he discovered that all of the haystacks had been covered with tarpaulins. The cows were in the barn, the chickens were in the coops, and the doors were barred. The shutters were tightly secured. Everything was tied down. Nothing could blow away. The farmer then understood what his hired hand meant, so he returned to his bed to also sleep while the wind blew.

When you're prepared, spiritually, mentally, and physically, you have nothing to fear. Can you sleep when the wind blows through your life?

The hired hand in the story was able to sleep because he had secured the farm against the storm.

We secure ourselves against the storms of life by grounding ourselves in the Word of God.

We don't need to understand, we just need to hold His hand to have peace in the middle of storms.

May Lent 2008 be a great time of preparation so you can "sleep when the wind blows".

God bless you,

Jerry Wolter
Visitation Pastor



ALTAR UPDATE

The 2008 altar Flower Chart is on the bulletin board by the Gathering Space entrance. If you have a specific Sunday you would like to donate a flower arrangement designed by Rockcastle Florist for the altar table, just sign your name and telephone number. As the time approaches the Altar Committee will call you for confirmation of your order and information you would like to have in that Sunday's bulletin. Each arrangement will be \$30. It may be taken home or taken to a shut-in after the 11:00 service.

We are most appreciative of your on-going support in supplying flowers for special occasions and in recognition of loved ones.

NEWS FROM ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

MORNING CIRCLE

Immigration is a hot topic this election season. At the next meeting of the Morning Circle on February 19, we will look at the topic from a Biblical perspective.

Each meeting is held in the parlor at 11:00 AM on the third Tuesday of the month. Bring a sandwich or a light lunch. Our hostesses of the month will provide dessert and beverages. If you have questions or will need to have childcare available, call Gege Dunn (663-9235) or Bobbi Eckert (225-9582).



READING CIRCLE

Barefoot Heart, a memoir of a migrant childhood by Elva Trevino Hart, is the selection for the **February 7** meeting of the Reading Circle at 1:00 PM in the church library. This inspiring story is on the UMW Reading List. Books are available in the church library or the public

library.

Newcomers and visitors are always welcome.

Members of the group serve light refreshments each month. If you have any questions, please feel to call Helen Wolter at 621-1904.

UPCOMING DATES

- February 2** – **Chocolate Boutique**, a spiritual retreat for women of the church and their friends
- February 11** – Sew ‘n Sew’s at 1:00 PM in Rm. 1
- February 24** – UMW Sunday
- March 15** – Communion Breakfast
- March 27** – General Meeting at 6:15 PM

MISSIONS

CHRISTMAS OFFERING REPORT

Thanks to your great generosity, a total of \$1201 was given for the support of Gateway-Longview in Buffalo and the chaplain at Wesley Community in Rochester. Gateway-Longview is a United Methodist-related agency that serves children and families throughout Western New York. Wesley Community provides services for the elderly.

KATRINA RELIEF MISSION FUND

As of the middle of January, the Katrina Relief Mission Fund totals \$2331. This is money that will be sent with the mission team led by Pastor Anne and Tom O’Connor when they go to New Orleans in February. It will be available for tools and supplies needed for their work there.

If you wish to make an additional contribution, make your check payable to *Aldersgate UMC* and mark it “*Katrina Relief Fund.*”

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: MULTIPLY HOPE!

Your gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering on **Sunday, March 2**, are essential to the **United Methodist Committee on Relief**. UMCOR is our church’s agency for specialized, global ministries—responding in disaster, fighting hunger, alleviating poverty, providing relief supplies, and offering hospitality to immigrants and refugees—assisting the most vulnerable people whose need is greatest. UMCOR does provide immediate help after a disaster, but its chief focus is on long-term relief—rebuilding and addressing the root causes of suffering, poverty and disease.

Gifts to this special offering underwrite UMCOR’s costs of “doing business.” That means that 100 percent of every additional gift you make to a specific UMCOR project (for example, Tsunami or Katrina Relief) can be spent on that project, not on home-office administrative costs. UMCOR receives no other World Service or other apportioned funds. Your gifts mean that we are right there with people affected by storm, war, disaster, or distress.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (cont.)

“The One Great Hour of Sharing offering on **March 2, 2008**, provides for those basic needs that make the rest of UMCOR’s work possible,” says the Rev. Sam W. Dixon, Deputy General Secretary of UMCOR. “Without this offering so much of what UMCOR does to bring hope and healing to the world could not happen.

Your gift can work three ways: It supports the cost of running UMCOR, assists UMCOR programs that have not been fully funded through designated Advance gifts, and is often the springboard for additional funding from other sources.

As Christians we are called to offer the hands, the heart, and the hope of the church wherever people are suffering. Your gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing channeled through UMCOR enable the church to answer that call.

--from *United Methodist Communications*

With Thanks

The White Gifts program was a special success this year – the support we received through donations and all the volunteers exceeded anything in recent years. We owe a great deal of thanks to all of you who participated in any way in this program. The people whose lives were touched had a chance to have a happy Christmas – and we had the opportunity to share God’s love with them.

The Rex family delivered to one of the families and shared their experience:

"Our first contact with the family was an emotional one. It was as though we were angels coming to the rescue. The look of relief on their faces was amazing and certainly sincere. Their first act was to give US something from their hearts. This small/crowded and cold house suddenly became a warm and God-filled home. Their gift to us was a hand-written card. Not any hand-written card! The words seemed to drip off the edge of the paper as if tears were flowing from this simple message of thanks and appreciation.

They told us of their hardships, sorrows and grief. This home was grasping at hope as if it were reachable simply by having us there. There to listen! There to pray with! There to make the suffering bearable. This was their Christmas miracle! The emotions were heartfelt as they wept when we prayed.

The Rex's got a first-hand look at real hurt. It was a night that we will never forget. It was a night that God wanted us to have. Thanks to so many fine people we were able to help bring Christ into a home that so desperately needed Him."

There were many other heartwarming stories, too . . . each one touched many people.

One Sunday there was an envelope in the offering with a child's writing that said Brandon and then White Gifts. Then, we found out "the rest of the story . . ." The money was donated by the Coburn's grandson. His school teacher gave every student in her class \$10 to donate to some worthwhile cause and then write a report about where the money was given and why. Brandon decided immediately that the money should go to church - and then asked a lot of questions about what it could be used for. He selected the White Gifts because he wanted to help a needy child. What a beautiful lesson for the children in that classroom.

And, there were more . . . too many to tell.

Through all this help we were able to provide food, clothing and gifts to 18 families.

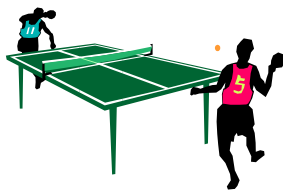
Again – thanks to all!
Tracy and Jan Winter

COME JOIN US FOR THE NEXT GAME NIGHT

Date: Saturday Feb 2
 Time: 6-8:00PM
 Location: Ide Center

Euchre will once again be the featured card game. The competition has been very evenly matched so far. There have been no repeat winners since we started this so come on out and give it a try.

What else is going on you may ask? Table Tennis will be set up and various board games will also be available.



Do I need to bring anything? At the last Game Night, the card players brought a simple snack and that seemed to work well. Therefore, if you can bring a treat, that would be appreciated but its purely optional.

Come with your partner, a friend, a group of people or by yourself. Everybody plays! If you have any questions about this event or Game Night suggestions in general, feel free to contact Rich Keller or Ken Sisson.

EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT IS BACK!

Get your tickets now for the **Friday, February 8, 2008**, Evening of Entertainment at **7:00 PM**. Aldersgate's very own variety show is back. Our thanks go to Kathy Savage again for organizing this very special event that includes art, music, skits, and recitations. Refreshments will also be served.

Tickets are \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for teens (13-17), and \$3.00 for children (6-12). Preschoolers accompanied by an adult are free. Childcare will also be available.

Don't get left out of the conversation on Sunday morning. Be there and discover for yourself the many talents of the people at Aldersgate.

RECREATIONAL BASKETBALL

February 4th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM

We are trying to gauge interest i.e. full /half court games, age, gender grouping, etc. so come and participate and bring the family and a friend for a night of exercise and fun.

SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL MINISTRY

We are exploring the possibility of an Upward Bound basketball program for children up through the 6th grade. This is a national program with more than 1800 partnering churches and is designed for community outreach as well as spiritual growth of our Aldersgate youth. Its purpose is to promote character and self esteem while building a relationship with Christ, all through the sport of basketball. If you have a calling to help in establishing this program or want more info please contact Ken Sisson(227-4353). This will be a major commitment as organizing and administrating this program will be labor intensive but with extensive rewards.



Monday, February 4, is the next date for Applebee's. Join us between 4-9 PM for good food and good fellowship. Your receipt left with your Aldersgate representatives at the front table continues to bring a donation from Applebee's to our Building Fund of 10% of the cost of the food purchased. We appreciate their continuing generosity, and they appreciate our business.

ALTAR S.O.S.!

We are looking for more Altar Committee members to share in the tasks required to provide an attractive inspirational setting in our Worship Center each Sunday. We find that we are working in pairs more and more with the additions of plant care and special needs for our growing church. We usually have 1 duty per month and only 3 meetings per year.

If you think that you have a flair for display art design or would like to learn, please consider serving on our committee. We always have a trainee working with someone else for whatever time it might take to feel comfortable. For specific information, please call Barb Condon at 865-0871 or contact anyone on our committee.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Laetitia Cloete | Kathy Pearson |
| Barb Condon (Chair.) | Sue Perkins |
| Shirley Geier | Colleen Tyler |
| Beverly Johnson (Treas.) | Grace Watts |
| Debbie Kennedy | |

Aldersgate Income

January - December 2007

Offering	2007
Gifts	31,332.33
Plate	3,345.70
Pledges	238,938.77
Room Rental	7,960.00
Total Offering toward Budget	281,576.80
 Building Fund Donations	 332,495.98
 Other Income	
Benevolence Extra Mile	21,562.18
Current Expense Extras	5,827.33
Pass Thru Income	40,559.23
 Total Income from All Sources	 682,021.52

PLAN NOW FOR THE NEXT UNITED MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND...

There will be a United Marriage Encounter Weekend April 11-13, 2008 at the Clarion Hotel in downtown Rochester. This is a wonderful, 48 hour experience for married couples to enrich their relationship with each other and with God. Dr. James Dobson says this about it: *“Shirley and I attended a Marriage Encounter and it proved to be one of the highlights of my life...I just wish every couple wanting to strengthen their relationship would now accept this advice: attend a Marriage Encounter Weekend at the earliest opportunity!”*

The registration fee is \$80. This is the only required expense for the Weekend. Brochures are available in the Narthex – including a wonderful DVD inside each brochure that explains all about this great weekend experience. For more information, or for assistance with registration, please contact George and Jane Shukitis at 352-3749.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Amount received through 1/6/07 for the 2nd
Capital Campaign – \$311,650.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recently there has been a lot of discussion about announcements because of the time they take during the morning worship services. While we do not want to eliminate verbal announcements because they do help increase awareness and participation in church activities, we want to spend less time on them. To that end we are asking those who have announcements to plan ahead. Please get your bulletin announcements to Candy by Wednesday. If you think you need a verbal announcement as well, please e-mail it to Pastor Anne (or write it out for her if you don't have e-mail) well in advance. She will be scheduling announcements to space them out so the sooner you notify her, the more likely your announcement will be made on the Sunday you request. One person will be giving all the announcements on a given Sunday. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation in this matter.

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES IN FEBRUARY

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

	<u>9:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
2/3	Sammy Hanko	Amanda Farrell & Rene Tibbles
2/10	Ed Carstens	Rebecca & Ryan Lindeman
2/17	Usher	Nick & Mike Spicer
2/24	Usher	Zander, Keannu, & Chanze Cloete

NURSERY WORKERS - Robin Fox
9:00 AM to 12:30 PM
 Nursery workers are needed (teens or adults)
 Contact Jane Guitson at 544-7787,
 if you are able to help.

SCRIPTURE READERS

	<u>9:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
2/3	Cori Louden	Nancy Young
2/10	Glenn VanPutte	Gege Dunn
2/17	Alene VanPutte	Dick Stacy
2/24	Glenn VanPutte	Shirley Grierson

USHER SCHEDULE

	<u>9:30 AM</u>	<u>11:00 AM</u>
2/3	Al & Myrt Holmes Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Terry & Nancy Young Tom and Zuni Simons Sarah Anable
2/10	Al & Myrt Holmes, Mark & Susan DeVincentis	Nancy Bader, Walt Dunn, Eric Bock, Colleen Tyler
2/17	Al & Myrt Holmes Glenn & Alene VanPutte	Gary Hogestyn, Denise Furey, Dean and Jackie Hogestyn
2/24	United Methodist Women	

ACTORS GUILD THANK YOU

Due to the space limitations in the Hinge, please see the "Thank You" display on the Bulletin Board in the Gathering Space near the front doors.



To My Aldersgate Family,

When Mom died, very suddenly at the end of October, I was devastated. After Dad died in 2004, with no other family here in Rochester, she became my whole life. She was my Mom, a loving friend and companion, all rolled into one. We were inseparable. I didn't know how I could continue on without her even though I knew in my heart she is with our Lord. I am so grateful for all your wonderful prayers and expressions of sympathy. I still miss her so much.

And then I fell down those stupid stairs and broke my ankle and I'm pretty sure it was God's plan to get my attention. To somehow get me out of my self-pity and feeling I was all alone and open my eyes to the caring people who have been there all along.

I could feel His reassurance that He will always be with me and that He would send His angels to support me. And they came....

I received cards, letters and phone calls. I received home visits, food (cookies!!), offers of housework, transportation and running errands. Companionship was extended to me and I was also blessed to receive invitations to share a holiday meal with my angel friends.

I wish I could make a list of all of you but it would go on forever. Just open your new church directory and you will find the names of my angels on every page.

God, in His special way, has taught me a valuable lesson. I am not alone and to accept with grace the love and support shown to me by my Aldersgate family and in turn to "pay it forward" in God's ministry to those in need.

Thank you, Thank you, and Thank you

Blessings to All
Sue Perkins

DEAR SALLY STEWARDSHIP

So—how did we do financially this year? We have a lot going on. Can we really afford to do everything we're trying to do?

Concerned & A Bit Skeptical

Dear Concerned & Skeptical,

Yup! We do have a lot going on. Here we are asking for money for projects like mission trips when we have utility bills and a building to furnish and pay for! But it's a good time to ask your question because we now have year-end reports available.

*We're doing okay—even great! When God leads us into a great adventure, He doesn't let us down. The total giving toward our **budgeted expenses** for 2007 was **\$281,576.80**. In 2006 it was \$257,290.90. I'll save you the math. That's an **increase of \$24,285.90!** We were able to meet our expenses and pay apportionments in full once again.*

***Building Fund** donations for the year totaled **\$332,495.98**—that includes giving from the end of the first capital campaign as well as giving from the new campaign in 2007. Except for a very small amount of money (we're just waiting for a few more things to be fixed), the construction company has been paid in full—thanks in part to that \$30,000 loan from the WNY Conference--and we've been able to make the monthly payments on the mortgage.*

*The real surprise is that **Extra Mile Giving** reached a new record--**\$22,225**. You may remember that one of our concerns when we started this building project was that we not forget our call to reach out to others as well as to serve those within our congregation. We met our commitment of \$3500 to support of Meri Whitaker at Cookson Hills Center and the physician at Ganta Hospital in Liberia. We gave further support to our missionaries. The offering when Meri visited was \$800; when Jon Edwards visited, we gave \$719.20 for Peru Relief; and Red Bird Crafts received \$1057.60 to cover their expenses.*

Members of our church have also helped to support Fred Farrokh's work as director of JFM Ministries in Paterson, NJ; and through the Ministerial Education Support Fund have helped the two candidates for the ministry from our church. All the denominational Special Sundays offerings benefited from Aldersgate givers, and the United Methodist Committee on Relief was sent \$400 for disaster relief.

Those are just the highlights. If you want the whole scoop and all the nitty gritty, pick up a copy of the 2008 Annual Report as soon as it's available.

*Still praising the Lord,
Sally Stewardship*