



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

4115 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, New York 14616-1216 (585) 663-3665

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

Volume 8, Issue 67

April 2008

PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Transforming lives and serving Christ with joy

There are several things I want to share with you this month.

- 1) Last week we had several wonderful opportunities to gather for worship from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday. Each service was unique and meaningful. I want to thank each and everyone who helped in any way—the Altar Committee, the Actor's Guild, the musicians and vocalists, the Sunday School teachers and students, the people that support worship by greeting, ushering, acolyting, reading, putting together power point, operating the A/V system, providing refreshments for and setting up coffee hour, preparing communion and bulletins, the Aldersgate staff, and those who stepped in at the last minute to help with teaching and child care. Each of you played a vital role as you shared your gifts with God and the people of God!
- 2) The church leaders met on March 1 to continue putting together a strategic plan for Aldersgate UMC. We talked about what a transformed life looks like and began to think about how we might nurture a culture of transformation. One of our first actions will be to develop an intentional discipleship program for all ages. We also talked about outreach

and what it should look like. The third thing we focused on was relationship. The foundation of our faith is a relationship with Jesus Christ and then relationship with others in love and service. We still have a lot more work to do and will be meeting again on **April 26 from 9 to noon**. All leaders and those feeling called to leadership are encouraged to come. Please continue to keep this important process in your prayers.

- 3) Thank you for supporting our recent trip to New Orleans for Hurricane Katrina relief work. Two and a half years after the hurricane approximately 12,000 homes are still uninhabitable. Of these about 5000 will be rehabilitated and the remaining 7000 will be demolished. The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) is the primary agency entrusted by the government with the continuation of this recovery process. If the current rate of volunteers continues it will take at least eight more years to complete the process. The people in New Orleans are aware of the efforts of the United Methodist Church so it is a wonderful witness to Christ and his love.

Our team worked on a townhouse owned by Kimberly, a single woman who had some harrowing tales to tell of how

she survived the storm. We spent the week putting up dry wall and doing the first "mudding". We accomplished a lot but a few more teams would be needed to continue the work before she will be able to move back in. I know our being there made a difference to her both physically and spiritually. It was a very inspirational week for all involved. The Rush UMC is planning others trips, one in October and one in February 2009. If you are interested in participating, let me know.

- 4) In the last couple of months I have seen many signs of new life at Aldersgate. It's exciting to see new faces, new programs, and sense a renewed energy. I look forward to God continuing to grow and stretch us as individuals and as a community of faith in this Easter season, the season of new life. Christ is risen! Alleluia!

In Christ's Love,

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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.

Hospitalized: Dave Stanley—Strong Memorial, Carline Wiley—Rochester General

At Journey Home Hospice: Jim DeBell

Recovering at home: Carl Dunn, Don Heinz, Betty Hild, Lynn Hoyt, Gloria Montgomery, Jim Schaber, Scott Toombs, Cheryse Tufano

Those with ongoing health concerns:

Amy (grandniece of Sylvia & Jack Lynch), Joyce Anderson (sister of Wanda Strauss), Noel Anderson, Al Antczak, 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), Phoebe Brown, Michele Cairns, Ted Coburn, Mary Colclough, 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, Cleida Galligan (mother of Karen Sladden), Ed Geier, Mary Good (mother of Cindy Purzycki), Les Hanson (friend of Sue Perkins), Judy Hare, Dave Haring, Kira Harpole, Jerry Hertweck (Barry & Nancy Massing's friend), Becky Hess, Gary & Cindy Hogan, Glenn Ide, 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), Cody Mas-tradenato (neighbor of O'Connor's), Charlotte McCabe (Betty Baybutt's daughter), Denise Montgomery (daughter of Gloria Montgomery), Marion Murray (friend of Joyce & Jim DeBell), Gayle Penders, Kathy Perkins (sister-in-law of Sue Perkins), Carrie Reinhardt (friend of Tom O'Connor), Polly Roberts (friend of Bette Edgett), Steven Savage, Tom Simons, Nora Spindler, John Sobus, Jr., Sebastian Sofia (friend of Don Heinz), Theresa (friend of the Geiers), Martha Thomson, Heather Tidwell (granddaughter of Ross & Nancy Wayne), 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, Orville Loomis,

Jim Manfredi, Sr., Ethel Martin, Leota Matthews, Maxine Pollock, John Sobus, Betty Shoemaker, Marion Voglesong.

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.

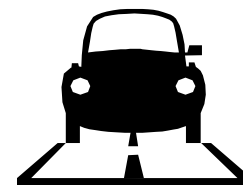
Due to privacy restrictions at our hospitals They will no longer release patient information over the phone. In the event that you are hospitalized, please let us know. If you are unable to notify us, please have a family member or close friend call the church office, Pastor Anne or Pastor Jerry.



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.

Wendy Peeck	April 1
Nancy Rex	April 3
Thomas Rankin, Jr.	April 3
Natasha Burdick-Carsten	April 4
Glen Ide	April 6
Judy Hare	April 6
Karin Van Putte	April 6
Doug Unell	April 7
Jimmie Condon	April 8
Jack Lynch	April 8
James Christie	April 11
Martha Thomson	April 14
Carol Witzel	April 15
Sue Burdick	April 18
Hal Wagner, Jr.	April 19
Kevin Roza	April 23
Helen Wolter	April 24
Lois LaFlair	April 24
Kathy Peck	April 24
Julia Kennedy	April 25
David Hogestyn	April 28
Dennis Simm	April 28

APRIL BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

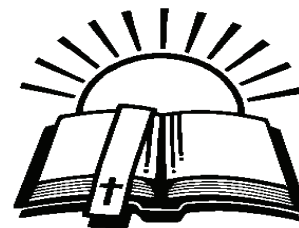
ANNIVERSARIES

Gordon & Martha Thomson	April 8
Malcolm & Mavis Beers	April 14
Paul & Phoebe Brown	April 15
George & Jane Shukitis	April 21
Roger & Patricia Forbes	April 30



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR APRIL

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. 1 Corinthians 15:19-28 | 15. Hebrew 13:20-21 | 29. Ephesians 2:1-10 |
| 2. Matthew 12:38-42 | 16. Matthew 20:17-28 | 30. Matthew 22:23-33 |
| 3. 1 Peter 1:8-12 | 17. Acts 6:8-15 | |
| 4. 1 Peter 1:13-16 | 18. Acts 7:1-16 | |
| 5. Luke 14:12-14 | 19. John 8:48-59 | |
| 6. Luke 24:13-35 | 20. John 14:1-14 | |
| 7. 1 Peter 1:23-25 | 21. Acts 7:17-40 | |
| 8. 1 Peter 2:1-3 | 22. Acts 7:44-56 | |
| 9. John 21:1-14 | 23. John 8:31-38 | |
| 10. 1 Peter 2:9-12 | 24. Revelation 10:1-11 | |
| 11. 1 Peter 2:13-17 | 25. Revelation 11:15-19 | |
| 12. Luke 15:1-7 | 26. Luke 24:44-53 | |
| 13. John 10:1-10 | 27. John 14:15-21 | |
| 14. 1 Peter 5:1-5 | 28. Acts 20:7-12 | |





EDUCATION

Lent

Our Special "It's a Miracle"

Lenten program was a wonderful experience for all our young people.

We have grass growing in our Lenten garden and it needs to be cut. We made a world out of play dough, and we were in a boat on a stormy sea. We fed five thousand, made sand crosses and an eatable Easter scene.

Each week we put something in an egg (dirt, money, rope, bread, thorn, cross, and a nail) to tell the story of Jesus.

Summer Camp

Register your child for Christian Camp

Attending summer camp is a great



experience. There are so many wonderful things taking place. Camp Asbury and Camp Findley each has a reputation for helping campers experience the time of their lives while at camp.

One of the greatest things about camp is the friendships that develop. Spending a whole week or a few days (for young campers) together in close living conditions help establish friendships that last a life time. For more information and registration call Jane Guitson 544-7787.

Vacation Bible School

July 21~25

"Power Lab"
9 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

Discovering Jesus"

Miraculous Power is bubbling over at Power Lab!

What did the baby light bulb say to his mommy?

"I wuv you watts and watts!"

Get ready to see amazing things happen at this science-themed VBS with engaging experiences kids will love.

Station Leaders Needed

Sonic Sing & Play
Wacky Works Crafts
Tub Tube Treats
Bible Blast
Cinema Science
Faith Fusion Finale
Squeaky Beakers Preschool

Call Jane Guitson 544-7787

HELP NEEDED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL & JUNIOR CHURCH

The Spring quarter is here and the young ladies from Elim Bible Institute will be leaving April 13^h. If you can help in any way, please call the church office or Jane Guitson at 544-7787.

FROM THE PASTOR OF VISITATION AND MEMBERSHIP CARE

Dear Aldersgate Friends:

As I write these words for the *Hinge*, Helen and I are recuperating from a “flu bug” that just wiped us out the whole Easter weekend. I really hated to miss the Easter services—for the first time in my 58 years as a pastor.

But in spite of not being present with you on Easter Sunday, it is good that we can experience the real meaning of Easter all year long. This is illustrated in the little story entitled,

Easter Symbols

A little boy born with Down syndrome attended his third-grade Sunday School class faithfully each week. As you can expect, the other children did not readily accept the boy because he seemed different.

The Sunday after Easter, their teacher

brought in small boxes, one for each child. The children were told to go outside, find some symbols of new life, and put them in their containers. So the children ran wildly throughout the property looking for something to fill their boxes.

Once they returned to the classroom, they began to share their discoveries with the class. One by one they opened their boxes to show flowers, butterflies, leaves, and more. Each time the class would “ooh” and “ahh.”

Then the child with Down syndrome opened his box to reveal nothing inside. The children exclaimed, “That’s stupid! It’s not fair! He didn’t do the assignment right!”

The little boy exclaimed, “I did so do it! It’s empty...because the tomb where Jesus laid was found empty!”

If Jesus had not risen from the dead, our faith would be foolish and fake. But He did rise from death, confirming His life and message. The resurrection of Jesus is the basis for our hope of life eternal beyond the grave.

Don’t ever forget to include the resurrection of Christ from the dead when speaking of His death on the cross. For because He conquered sin on the cross and death through His resurrection, we can have unmistakable hope in Him for eternity.

Sincerely,

Jerry Wolter
Visitation Pastor



COMMUNION

There is no higher act of Christian worship than the holy meal we call The Lord’s Supper, Holy Communion, and the Eucharist. At Aldersgate we celebrate it on the first Sunday of every month. Many United Methodist Churches are recapturing the tradition of the earliest Methodist churches of weekly communion. John Wesley, the father of the Methodist movement, referred to Communion as a means of grace and believed that it is used by God to convey his love in a real and powerful way. Because the table is not ours but the Lord’s, United Methodists place no restrictions on who may come to the table. The table is a witness to the inclusiveness of God’s kingdom. Young and old, saints and sinners are all included because the bread and cup are a gift and God uses them to draw people to him. In reality none are good enough or wise enough, but all are welcome. The meal is so much richer than any can fully understand.

We come forward to receive communion as a concrete act of giving ourselves to God for the first time or once again. Those who are unable to come forward may receive the elements in seats from the ushers. God understands what is in your heart. We come humbly recognizing our own shortcomings, setting aside our pride, seeking forgiveness, and focusing only on Christ and the love he offers in his body and blood. We leave the table rejoicing, forgiven, renewed, and strengthened to live with and for the Risen Lord every day. Be sure to join us for our next communion celebration on April 6.

FAITH FACTOR YOUTH MINISTRY AT ALDRSGATE UMC

Summer Youth Mission Trip

We are utilizing Student Life again this year. Once again, national recording artist Todd Agnew will be our worship leader each day. Accommodations will be 2 person dorm rooms on-campus at Liberty University in

Virginia, with meals served in the college cafeteria.

Dr. Robert Smith will be the Camp Pastor/ Preacher.

Date: July 14th-18th.

Cost per person: \$299.00, includes meals. Financial Aid is

available. Space is limited. Please see Philip Vitullo ASAP for forms and registration.

**Registration dead-
line is May 15th.**

**\$50 deposit
required.**

Mission Trip Fundraiser

The annual youth mission trip fundraiser, "Dinner and a Movie Night," will take place on Tuesday, April 22nd starting at 6:00PM. Dinner will include salad, garlic bread, spaghetti and meatballs, dessert and beverage. Two movie selections will be given. One movie will be shown on the twin screens in the large sanctuary, and another mini-theatre will be setup

in the chapel. Movie titles TBD (see forthcoming flyer for further details). Cost: \$10.00 donation per person. A sign-up sheet will be posted so that we know how much food to make. We look forward to your continued support of the youth in mission.

May God Richly Bless You,
Philip Vitullo



ATTENTION PARENTS SAVE THE DATE

There will be a Parent meeting on Saturday, April 12th, at 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary to discuss Faith Factor Youth Ministry. Also information and forms will be given out and signups taken for the summer youth mission trip. Lunch will be served afterwards. If you have any questions, contact Philip Vitullo.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

READING CIRCLE

These Is My Words by Nancy E. Turner is the selection for the **April 3** meeting of the Reading Circle, which meets at 1:00 PM in the church library on the first Thursday of each month throughout the year. Visitors and new members are always welcome. If copies of the book are not available in the church library, you should be able to get it from the public library.

For May 1 meeting, the group is planning a Book Review Luncheon with Charlotte Ridley as the featured speaker. Details will be forthcoming in the bulletins later this month.

For more information about the Reading Circle activities, call Frances Crabtree at 392-0772 or Helen Wolter at 621-1904.



TREASURES SALE DATES SET

Keeping in mind that "one man's (or woman's) trash is another man's treasure," start setting aside for the Treasures Sale all those things that someone else may need or want more than you. This year's sale will be held in the Ide

Family Life Center on **June 5, 6, and 7**. You may begin bringing your donations to the church on May 26. Together we can make this the biggest sale yet!

MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET PLANNED

Women of the church should mark their calendars to attend the annual Mother-Daughter Banquet on **Saturday, May 10**. We will gather for the event at 5:30 PM with dinner served promptly at 6:00 PM.

This evening is set aside to celebrate our being women. We are all daughters; so we are all "eligible" to attend. Many who have no immediate female relatives in the area find this a good opportunity to bring a friend. It might also be a chance to "adopt" a daughter or grandmother who might not otherwise plan to attend. Some of us come comfortably as singles because we are all sisters in Christ.

There will be more information in the bulletins this month and in the May *Hinge*. The sign-up sheet will be posted by April 20, and reservations will be due no later than Tuesday, May 6. Don't miss this delightful evening.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United will be having a meeting here at Aldersgate on Friday, **April 4th** from 9:30 AM until Noon. The program will be *Jesus, Children and Beyond the 3 R's*. This is the first in a three-part series. We will be exploring various ways to motivate children to excel in school and in life. All women are welcome. If you have any questions, please see Joyce Farrok.

Church Women United is part of a national movement bringing women together for spiritual enrichment and faith-based advocacy and community service.

OTHER UPCOMING DATES:

April 14 – Sew 'n Sew's at 1:00 PM in Lower Level Room 1.

April 15 – Morning Circle at 11:00 AM in the Parlor

April 19 – Prayer Partner Morning Tea, 9:00 AM

July 24-26 – School of Christian Mission, Daemen College, Amherst

October 17-18 – Return of the Craft Show!

TEA PARTY SECRET SISTERS PRAYER PARTNER

All women of the church are invited to attend the Ladies' Tea Party on Saturday, April 19th at 9:00 am. We will have a lovely time of fellowship over a light breakfast. Please bring your favorite tea cup or coffee cup to enjoy your beverage in. Barb Draft and Rachelle Vitullo will offer a devotional about prayer, and those who desire can participate in the selection of their SECRET SISTERS

PRAYER PARTNER for the remainder of the year (guidelines to be discussed at event). We anticipate this will be a program we will enjoy year after year, and we look forward to seeing you at this very first Prayer Tea. The sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space. There is no fee to join the Secret Sisters Prayer Partner.



OUR CHURCH STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE

Anne O'Connor, Pastor 621-4799
..... (e-mail: annehoconnor@aol.com)
..... (Church e-mail: aldersgate@frontiernet.net)
..... Fax 865-8442
Gerald A. Wolter 621-1904
..... Pastor of Visitation & Membership Care
..... (e-mail: hgwolter@frontiernet.net)
..... (Church e-mail: aldersgatejerry@frontiernet.net)
Jane Guitson 544-7787
..... Christian Education Coordinator
..... (e-mail: jguitson@rochester.rr.com)
Tamara Ruiz Organist
Evelyn Welker Housekeeper
Lea McQuown Custodian
Candy Metzger Office Phone: 663-3665
..... Administrative Assistant
..... (e-mail: aldersgatecandy@frontiernet.net)
David Rogenmoser Choir Director

**J
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**S
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Contemporary Worship Coordinator
(e-mail: jseiger@tmail.com)
Philip Vitullo 663-3665
Cell Phone: 880-6261
Youth Director
(e-mail: aldersgateyouth@frontiernet.net)
Robin Fox Nursery Attendant

MISSION NEWS

FRED FARROKH TO SPEAK ABOUT MINIS- TRIES AMONG MUSLIMS

The Missions Committee invites you to attend a **potluck dinner on Thursday, April 24**, to hear **Fred Farrokh** speak about his work among Muslims and Muslim background Christians in the New Jersey-New York City area. Fred is the son of Joyce and Dr. Ali Farrokh. Members of our church have been providing support for the mission work in which Fred is engaged, and this will be a good opportunity for an update.

Dinner will begin at **6:30 PM** with the program to follow. There will be a freewill offering to support the work of Jesus for Muslims, the organization with which Fred works. Please sign up on the bulletin board in advance so that we can have a place at the table ready for you.

APRIL 6 IS NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY

United Methodists remember our Native American Ministries each year with a special offering. The Western New York Conference retains half the offering to support those ministries in our area since we are home to several reservations. The rest provides scholarships for Native Americans attending United Methodist and other approved schools. Your gift makes a world of difference to those who are studying to become pastors as well as to those they serve. Please put your generous contribution in the envelope provided in the bulletin that Sunday, or mark "*Native American Ministries*" on your check.

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL CROP WALK ON MAY 4

The annual Crop Walk to raise money to fight hunger around the world will start once again at Bethany Presbyterian Church and follow a one- or six-mile route around Greece. A portion of the funds will be retained in our community to support the Greece Food Shelf.

Joyce Farrokh will have the sign-up sheets for those who plan to walk. Please help either by walking or by supporting those who do walk with your generous gifts.

ALDERSGATE NIGHT AT APPLEBEE'S

***DINE WITH US AT
APPLEBEE'S***

on

**Monday, April 7th,
from 4:00-9:00 PM**

***10% of Food Receipts
Benefits our
BUILDING FUND***



DEAR SALLY STEWARDSHIP:

March 22nd was World Water Day and Earth Day is coming up. I'm wondering what I should be doing as a Christian to be a better steward of God's world?

I Want To Be Responsible

Dear Responsible,

Even though good stewardship of our environment gets extra attention in the spring, yours is a good question any time of the year. Christians increasingly (along with everyone else) are recognizing that we all have a responsibility to take care of the world God created for us.

We can all do our part to speak up about the need to take care of our environment whether it is becoming active in environmental groups or writing letters to the newspapers and our political leaders to address the issues. Not all of us, however,

are comfortable about becoming involved in the politics of the issues. (Even though God does challenge us occasionally to do things with which we are not comfortable, I'll give you a little "out" here.)

Fortunately, there are ways we can help as individuals. The Response Magazine (the magazine for United Methodist Women) focused on this topic last September. (See I told you it wasn't just a "spring" question.) Calling it a "Green Mission," the writers suggested the following action list:

"Carpool;
Compost;
Decrease water use;
Plant native species;
Stop using Styrofoam;
Buy locally-grown food;
Buy fair-trade products;

Buy and garden organically;
Use processed chlorine-free (PCF) paper;
Switch to compact fluorescent light bulbs;
Attend environmental education classes;
Wash dishes instead of buying paper products;
Use alternative energy sources such as solar and wind; and
Formulate creation-care goals for your church, family, and community."

Happy Earth Day!

Loving God's creation,
Sally Stewardship



*Well done thou good and faithful servants.
Matthew 25:21*

Thank You to all the volunteers who help out with the Worship Services each week.

Also thank you to the women who put the *Hinge* together each month and to Tom Simons who takes it to the Jefferson Post Office.

A Special "Thank You" to Muriel McKenna who folds the bulletins each week.

**You are all truly appreciated.
God Bless You!**



So much love from my Aldersgate family have I received during my recent illness--and I started thinking about the scripture. And I found it. In 1 John 4--

"Dear friends, let us love one another for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God."..."God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. . . . God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God and God in him."

Thank you for your love through your wonderful cards of get well and birthday greetings, prayers, through your calls and visits, through the wonderful flowers and casseroles and english muffins!

I have felt so loved and blessed. How could I not get better? And I send my love back to you!

Gloria Montgomery

2007 ENDOWMENT EARNINGS

The Endowment Committee is pleased to announce total Endowment fund earnings for 2007 of \$2121.83, which consisted of \$925.79 in interest and \$1196.04 in dividends. As of December 31, 2007, the total value of the Endowment fund was \$29,294.57.

Have you ever considered making a donation to the Endowment fund? It's a

gift which keeps on giving yet is never spent! Gifts of any dollar amount will benefit Aldersgate Church forever!!

For more information, please contact a member of the committee: Ken Sisson (chair), Myrle Johnson, Kathy Pearson and Nancy Rex.

GAME NIGHT

What: Game Night (Featuring Euchre and Table Tennis)

When: Saturday April 12

Time: 6:00 - 8:00PM

Where: Ide Center

Last months Euchre competition held true to form in that there was another first-time winner. Some new people showed up and the snacks people bring keep improving. Just because you haven't participated yet does not mean you can't join in now. Partners are provided. This event is open to all.





GENERAL CONFERENCE 2008 — *A Future of Hope*

General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church. It meets once every four years. Church law provides for a maximum of 1,000 delegates - half clergy, half lay. The conference revises *The Book of Discipline* (book of church law) and Social Principles and adopts resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. This year there are over 1,500 pieces of proposed legislation to be considered (over 1,600 pages of reading material!). It also approves plans and budgets for church wide programs for the next four years.

I am proud to say that I, a member of Aldersgate, am participating, representing the laity of our Western New York Conference. The session is being held from April 23 - May 2, 2008 in Fort Worth, Texas. The theme is "A Future of Hope". The proceedings will be available through GC2008.umc.org and also through the church's Web site at umc.org. Worship, special addresses, celebrations and other selected sessions will be available on live video streaming.

I ask that you support all of the delegates by your prayers from now and through the dates of the Conference. Feel free to ask me any questions regarding the event or my preparations. I will do my best to represent Aldersgate well!

Jan Rothfuss

MARCH MADNESS

When: Saturday April 5

Time: 6:00 PM

Where: Meet in the Parlor

March Madness Basketball Gathering

The Aldersgate Men's group in conjunction with the Ide Committee will once again be hosting the annual March Madness "Foodfest" where we gather to watch the semi-finals of the NCAA basketball tourney, play some games and snack like a true sports fan. This event is open to anyone in our church family or their friends.



SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES IN APRIL

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/6	Sammy Hanco	Amanda Farrell & Rene Tibbles
4/13	Ed Carstens	Rebecca & Ryan Lindeman
4/20	Usher	Mike/Nick Spicer
4/27	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.

USHER SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/6	Al & Myrt Holmes Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Terry & Nancy Young Tom and Zuni Simons
4/13	Al & Myrt Holmes, Glenn & Alene VanPutte	Nancy Bader, Walt Dunn, John Cochran, Evelyn Welker
4/20	Al & Myrt Holmes Joan Michlin Larry VanAllen	Gary Hogestyn, Denise Furey, Dean and Jackie Hogestyn
4/27	Al & Myrt Holmes, Mark & Susan DeVincentis	Scott & Carline Wiley Vince & Laura Acciaio

SCRIPTURE READERS

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/6	George Shukitis	Nancy Young
4/13	Jan Rothfuss	Shirley Geier
4/20	Susan DeVincentis	Shirley Grierson
4/27	Scott Hanco	Dick Stacy

Aldersgate
United Methodist Church

4115 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, NY 14616

Phone: 585-663-3665

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What Must Heaven Be?

How beautiful to look upon mountains topped with snow or see a tinkling brook on the valley floor below.

The cattle on a thousand hills look up into the night and get to see heaven glow with twinkling stars of light.

I gaze in awe at a jet stream made by a plane in flight and watch that stream fade in the sky lost in swirling clouds of white.

What wonder does the eye behold on the path in a forest glade? The mighty oak and the red-wood tree, no earthly hand has made.

Mountain, valley, hill, or dale; each has a glory all its own. You love one place more than another, that's why you call it home.

Anywhere on earth you go, God's handwork you see. If God made this side so beautiful, What must Heaven be?