



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

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

Aldersgate UMC Web Site
<http://www.aumcgreece.org/>

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PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Inside this issue:

We have completed our five week study of the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* by Bishop Robert Schnase. We've been reminded about the importance of radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and service, and extravagant generosity. We need to be vigilant in practicing these five things as individuals and as a congregation. The "Discover Your Spiritual Path" brochure is intended to help each one of us be more intentional about our faith development. I pray you have taken the time to use it and are actively taking the next step(s) you identified. I have and am. If you don't have one, the brochures are available in the gathering area or by calling the church office.

On October 26, we began another church wide study called *Living Beyond Myself*. It focuses our attention on the practice of risk-taking mission and service and how we can live more fully for Christ who will transform our lives and teach us how to make them really count for something. This four-week series has a small group component that you won't want to miss. If you are not currently in a small group, any of the existing small groups would be happy for you to join them for this

study. I also will be starting a new group on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM beginning October 28. If you'd like to be a part of this new group, give me a call (663-3665).

I'm also very excited about a new opportunity we have this coming Christmas season to make a difference for Christ. In addition to our continued participation in the White Gift program to bring God's love to people in the Rochester area, we will be offering the opportunity to share God's love with people throughout the world. In August, at the Willowcreek Leadership Summit we heard from Gary Haugen. Gary is a lawyer who quit his regular law practice to start an organization called International Justice Ministries. This is a ministry that works to secure justice for victims of slavery, sexual exploitation and other forms of violent oppression. They are making a real difference. When people have been freed they receive counseling and are helped to reenter society. They need jobs. This is where Trade As One and Better Way Imports come in. These are two organizations that market products made by these people and others that live in extreme poverty. The youth will be doing a fund raiser selling handbags from

Better Way Imports. This is a great opportunity for us to support the youth and help others who really need our help. As a church, we will be involved in project H.O.P.E. through Trade As One. The H.O.P.E. project will enable us to purchase Christmas gifts for our friends and family that they will enjoy and use from the products marketed by Trade As One. It's a win-win opportunity to make our Christmas purchases make a double difference—bringing joy to our family and friends and joy to some of the poorest of the poor by helping them to have meaningful jobs. You'll be hearing more about this in the near future. If you'd like to join the team putting it together, please contact me soon. Together we can help bring justice to some of the least and the last. This is, after all, part of our mandate from God. "God has shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)



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Blessings,

Anne

Anne

OUR MINISTRY OF CONCERN

People are added to our on-going 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.

Please call the church office if you have other names that need to be added or reinstated 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.

Recovering at home:

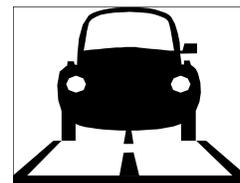
Vonnie Ackerman, sister of Gloria Montgomery, Lynn Hoyt, Lois LaFlair, Joan Michlin, Fran Okita, Scott Wiley.

Those with ongoing health concerns: Joyce Anderson (sister of Wanda Strauss), Al Antczak, Albina DeBell, Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis and Malcolm), Don Bueg (friend of the Carstens), Phoebe Brown, Ted Coburn, Carl Dunn, Carol Finch (friend of the DeVincents Family), Patricia Forbes, Jean Frey, Cleida Galligan (mother of Karen Sladden), Ed Geier, Shirley Geier, Dave Haring, Kira Harpole, Becky Hess, Gary & Cindy Hogan, Glenn Ide, Earl Kelley (Cindy Groves' father), Anna Kneisel (mother of Anne Palmer), Kim Latragna (daughter of Evelyn Welker), Eric Linder (nephew of Tammy Ruiz), Lynn Linder (sister-in-law of Tammy Ruiz), Ruth Loomis, Jack Lynch, Steven Lynch (son of Sylvia & Jack Lynch), Cody Mastradenato (neighbor of O'Connor's), Charlotte McCabe (Betty Baybutt's daughter), Lea McQuown, Denise Montgomery (daughter of Gloria Montgomery), Marion Murray (friend of Joyce DeBell), Kamran Pickering (autism – grandson of Donna Colangelo), Polly Roberts (friend of Bette Edgett), Tammy Ruiz, Steven Savage, Betty Shoemaker, Gail Snyder, Nora Spindler, John Sobus, Jr., Sebastian Sofia (friend of

Don Heinz), David Stanley, Martha Thomson, Heather Tidwell (granddaughter of Ross & Nancy Wayne), Alene VanPutte, Hal Wagner, Mark Williams (son-in-law of Bob Wiederhold), Clair Yeamans (step-father of David Kaszubowski),

Our home-bound:

Jeanne Barr, Malcolm Beers, John Haldane, Myrtle Koch, Orville Loomis, Jim Manfredi, Sr., Ethel Martin, Leota Matthews, Maxine Pollock, Robert Royer, Juanita Scrivens (mother of Larry Scrivens), John Sobus, Betty Shoemaker, Marion Voglesong.



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 VISITATIONS

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.



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 re-

quests 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

NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Jeanne Barr	November 4	Rachel Carstens	November 25
Amanda Farrell	November 4	Eric Rex	November 25
John Simm	November 7	Jill Michaloski	November 26
Sandi Norris	November 8	Trey Keller	November 26
Carolyn Gilson	November 9	Shirley Tschorke	November 27
Michelle Peck	November 11	Scott Rice	November 28
Natalie Bock	November 11	Christopher Michaels	November 30
Fred Hild	November 13	Laura Wagner	November 30
Seth Zachariah	November 14		
Bill Burdick	November 18		
Betty Hild	November 18		
John Cook	November 18		
Suzanne Cook Spicer	November 18		
Richard Caupp	November 19		
Lindsay DeBellis	November 19		
Jan Winter	November 21		



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Ray & Lois LaFlair	November 18
Kurt & Robin Lindeman	November 21
Rodger & Sharon Burkhart	November 22



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NOVEMBER:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Matthew 5:1-12 | 12. Matthew 24:29-35 |
| 2. Matthew 32:1-12 | 13. Revelation 16:1-7 |
| 3. Thessalonians 2:13-20 | 14. Revelation 16:8-21 |
| 4. Acts 13:1-12 | 15. Matthew 12:43-45 |
| 5. Matthew 15:1-9 | 16. Matthew 25:14-30 |
| 6. Revelation 8:6-9:12 | 17. Romans 2:1-5 |
| 7. Revelation 9:13-21 | 18. Romans 2:6-11 |
| 8. Matthew 24:1-14 | 19. Matthew 21:45-51 |
| 9. Matthew 25:1-13 | 20. Revelation 14:1-11 |
| 10. 1 Corinthians 14:20-25 | 21. Revelation 22:1-9 |
| 11. 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13 | 22. Matthew 12:46-50 |
| | 23. Matthew 25:31-46 |
| | 24. 2 Timothy 2:8-13 |
| | 25. Revelation 19:1-9 |
| | 26. John 5:19-40 |
| | 27. Luke 17:11-19 |
| | 28. 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18 |
| | 29. Matthew 24:15-31 |
| | 30. Mark 12:24-37 |
| | 31. Revelation 15:1-8 |



FROM THE PASTOR OF VISITATION AND MEMBERSHIP CARE

Dear Friends:

Is it possible that November is here — the month the elections will be over, then we observe Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving. Besides these, our church calendar is full — see the details in this [Hinge](#).

As we come to Veterans' Day, I would like to share with you an important story.

The Story of TAPS

If any of you have ever been to a military funeral in which taps were played; this brings out a new meaning of it. Here is something Every American should know. Until I read this, I didn't know, but I checked it out and it's true:

We in the United States have all heard the jaunting song, "Taps." It's the song that gives us that lump in our throats and usually tears in our eyes. But, do you know the story behind the song? If not, I think you will be interested to find out about its humble beginnings.

Reportedly, it all began in 1862 during the Civil War, when Union Army Captain Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land. During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the Captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, the Captain

reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the Captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead. The Captain lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heart-broken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The Captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. The wish was granted.

The haunting melody, we now know as "Taps" used at military funerals was born.

The words are:

*Day is done.
Gone the sun.
From the lakes.
From the hills.
From the sky.
All is well.
Safely rest.
God is nigh.*

*Fading light.
Dims the sight.
And a star.
Gems the sky.
Gleaming bright.
From afar.
Drawing nigh.
Falls the night.*

*Thanks and praise.
For our days.
Neath the sun.
Neath the stars.
Neath the sky.
As we go.
This we know.
God is nigh.*

I too have felt the chills while listening to "Taps" but I have never seen all the words to the song until now. I didn't even know there was more than one verse. I also never knew the story behind the song and I didn't know if you had either so I thought I'd pass it along. I now have an even deeper respect for the song than I did before. Remember Those Lost and Harmed While Serving Their Country. Also Remember Those Who Have Served And Returned; and for those presently serving in the Armed Forces.

I hope we'll all pause and think about this on November 11th.

Sincerely,

Jerry Wolter
Visitation Pastor



FAITH FACTOR YOUTH MINISTRY

Election Day Dinner! Mark your calendars now because the youth will be holding our first fundraiser for the mission trip this summer! We will be holding a spaghetti dinner on Tuesday, November 4 from 5:00-7:00. Prices are \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children under 12, and children under 3 eat for free. Dinner includes spaghetti, green salad, rolls, drinks, and dessert. Come vote and then enjoy some spaghetti and fellowship and support our youth. If anyone wants to help out, please let Kim know.



Attention all Adults!!! We need YOU!!!

Have you ever considered working with our youth? Do you think that you are too old, too young? Come join us and minister to youth. Please take some time to prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to youth ministry. Youth ministry is a wonderful calling; youth are an important part of our church, and your ministry is really needed. Plus, it's a lot of fun! If you have any questions, please speak to Kim at church. The youth thank you as you consider working with us.

Our Calendar...

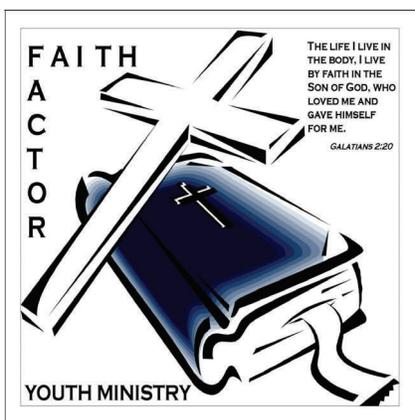
Senior High

November 4 – Spaghetti Dinner
 November 11 – Service Project
 November 18 – Bible Study
 November 25 – Laser Quest/Bowling

Junior High

November 7 – God believes in me
 November 21 – School stuff

Lock In! We had a great time at the Lock-In! We played games, watched movies, had a concert, relaxed with new and old friends, and many of us stayed up all night! If you missed it, you missed out! Come join us next time.



We have some exciting plans, but we won't be complete without YOU!!

See you in youth group!

Kim

CHURCH EVENTS, MINISTRIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

DINE WITH US AT

APPLEBEE'S

Monday, November 3,
from 4:00-9:00 PM

10% of Food Receipts Benefits our

BUILDING FUND



2nd Annual Aldersgate Chili Cook-Off Come join us again for a wonderful evening of fun, fellowship, and of course... Chili! The Friday Night Parents Group will be

hosting the event and will be seeking Chili Cooks right after the holidays! Why not ask for a new and larger crockpot for Christmas?! We're looking for the Spiciest and the Best Overall! Will we have the same winners or new contenders this year? More details will be coming soon, as well as sign up sheets. Be sure to **SAVE the DATE!** January 24th from 5-7 pm.

Women's Mini-Retreat has been RESCHEDULED for January.

Plan now to attend the Mini-Retreat set for Saturday, January 10th, from 8:45 AM to 2:30 PM. The day will be a time to focus on your own spiritual growth and will include worship, meditation, and journaling. There is no charge for the day. More information will be available closer to the retreat date.

Game Night starting up again!

When: Saturday Nov 8

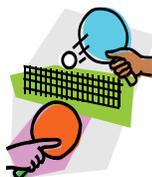
Time: 6-8PM

Where: Ide Center

Cost: Free

Calling all Euchre players, you have

been waiting for this... it's here. As we are starting up a new year, it's probably a good idea to review the format. This activity is open to any Aldersgate member or friend. If you want to learn the game or are just a little rusty, this is the place for you. We also have a good number of experienced players to keep it challenging. It is not necessary to come with a partner. If you don't have one, we will provide a partner. People seemed to like snacking while playing, so we will once again ask everyone to bring a simple snack to share if possible. Outside of that, all you do is show up. Table Tennis players, we will



also have the tables set up so you can ping and pong to your hearts content. Paddles and balls provided So you can plan accordingly for the future, Game Night is scheduled to be held the 2nd Saturday of every month. If you have any questions, contact Rich Keller.



Poinsettia Time! Sooner than we realize, Advent will be here, when we traditionally decorate our Chancel with red and pink Poinsettias; each one memorializing our paying honor to a loved one. If you would like to order a plant, we will have the price and order forms available in our Sunday bulletins beginning November 16th.

The deadline for ordering will be November 30th. Please call Barb Condon at 865-0871 if you have any questions.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING SCOUTS

The following scouts received their **God and Me** award on October 19, 2008.



Chase Tyler

Garrett Tidwell

Caleb Thompson

Ryan Lindeman

Kameron Watts



Items for the **DECEMBER/JANUARY Hinge** are due **November 12th.**

CHURCH EVENTS, MINISTRIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Save the Date! We are making plans for another mission trip to New Orleans, **February 14 – 22**. We will be partnering with several other churches in the Rochester area. We hope to have several from Aldersgate go. Youth, age 14 and up are welcome to join their parents. Many of us will be working on rehabilitating homes, but there is something for everyone to do including meal preparation and office help. Prayerfully consider joining our team. More information will be coming soon.

The Aldersgate Investment Club meeting on November 18 will feature a guest speaker from the firm of Morgan Stanley for a discussion on investments for individuals in the 2009 financial world.

The session will be held in the sanctuary at 7:30 PM and is open to all at no charge. Light refreshments will be served. Registration is requested by calling the church office 663-3665 or 227-4353

GIVE GOD PRAISE WITH YOUR SPECIAL THANK OFFERING

On Thanksgiving Sunday, November 23, we will once again have the opportunity to show our gratitude to the Lord for His many blessings by bringing to the church our special Thank Offerings. A letter with an envelope and card for a thank offering will be mailed the first week in November so that you can be prepared.

What better day than Thanksgiving



ANNUAL AUCTION BENEFITS ALDERSGATE & LAKE UMC

On **Friday, November 14**, **Carol Ritter Wright** will join us once again as auctioneer for the Annual Church Auction in the Ide Family Life Center. We will begin with a spaghetti & meatball supper at 6:00 PM and the auction will start promptly at 7:00 PM. Dinner costs just \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children 5-10 years old, with a maximum of \$15.00 for a family living in the same household. Children under five are free. Childcare will be available for pre-schoolers. Tentative plans are being made for an activ-

ity for primary-age children as well.

Donations have started to come in, but we need 90-100 items and many eager bidders for a successful auction. Desirable quality items you have seldom or never used, services you may be able to provide, and gift certificates from your favorite businesses are all possibilities. On the Missions Counter are copies of a letter you may use if you approach a business about a donation. Sign the letter as an auction committee member (We're all on that committee!) and make a note on the letter of the item received and the date.



Lake United Methodist Church will be joining us again this year after a two-year absence.

Proceeds from their donations will benefit their church. Proceeds from your donations will be used for three important projects: One third will go toward the purchase of the lift the Trustees need for changing light bulbs and cleaning in the sanctuary and Ide Center; one third will support our second Katrina Mission Trip in February; and one-third to support Meri Whitaker and the Cookson Hills Mission in the effort to raise funds to build a reception center for their social services program.

We have such a good time at this auction you won't want to

NEWS FROM ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

GATEWAY-LONGVIEW SPEAKER AT UMW GENERAL MEETING

At the **Monday, November 17**, General Meeting of Aldersgate United Methodist Women, **Karen Swenson**, Director of Development at Gateway-Longview, will talk to us and answer our questions about the work of this long-standing family services agency. For many years Aldersgate has designated half of its special Christmas offering to the support of Gateway-Longview. Many newcomers to our congregation may well wonder what Gateway-Longview is and why we support it.

More than 100 years old, Gateway was originally the Buffalo Deaconess Home of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Longview Niagara was the Protestant Home for Unprotected Children. In 1996 the two agencies joined together to become Gateway-Longview. Although based in Buffalo, the agency offers extensive residential, educational, and community services to children and their families throughout Western New York.

Everyone interested is welcome. All UMW meetings are open. **Join us** in the Ide Family Life Center **for a soup, salad, and dessert supper at 6:15 PM** that costs just **\$3.00** payable at the door. We do ask that you sign up in advance so that we can be prepared for you.

The program will follow supper. Our business meetings are always held after the program so that our speaker and visitors can make a graceful exit if they do not wish to stay. At that meeting our members will be making decisions about our end-of-year contributions to mission and outreach programs we regularly

support. We will also be taking up our annual Thank Offering for missions.

Plan now to attend to learn more about the ways the United Methodist Church supports children and families through this most important work.

READING CIRCLE



What role did early Methodists play in the abolition of slavery? Join the Reading Circle this month as they read *Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery* by Eric Metaxas. The number of copies of the book is more limited than usual. Please pick one up, read it, and return it as soon as you can so that everyone interested has a chance to read it.

The Reading Circle will meet on **Thursday, November 6**, at 1:00 PM in the Church Library. Members take turns serving refreshments each month. New members and visitors are always welcome at Reading Circle. For more information, contact **Helen Wolter** (621-1904) or **Frances Crabtree** (392-0772).

WORK OF WOMEN'S CARE CENTER FEATURED AT MORNING CIRCLE

Theresa Claybaugh, Director of the Women's Care Center, Inc., will speak at the Morning Circle meeting on **November 18** in the Church Parlor. The agency, located not far from us at 3252 Lake Avenue, provides services for women who need help during and after pregnancies. She will explain the services they

offer and tell us about ways we can help either by volunteering or by providing material aid.

Among the items most needed right now are **crib sheets, crib toys, hooded towels, and boys' or girls' outfits** in the 0-3 month or 3-6 month sizes. If you are able to help, please bring these items with you to the meeting. We would like to send our speaker home with a good supply.

Our meetings begin at 11:00 AM and are open to anyone interested in the topic. Bring a light lunch. Beverages and dessert are prepared by our hostesses of the month. For more information, call Gege Dunn (663-9235) or Bobbie Eckert (225-9582).

CRAFTS & COLLECTIBLES SALE A BIG SUCCESS

Our first Indoor Crafts & Collectibles Show & Sale exceeded expectations by bringing in a total of **\$1550.85**. After deducting the expenses from advertising and food, the money will be divided between Aldersgate United Methodist Women and the General Benevolence Fund of the church for use in their respective missions projects.

SCHOOL & HEALTH KITS SENT

We delivered 152 school kits, 100 health kits, and supplies for Flood Buckets to Asbury First on September 28 to be taken to Mission Central. We thank everyone who helped with this project.

UPCOMING DATES:

November 10 – Sew 'n Sew's meet at 1:00 PM in Room 1.

MISSIONS NEWS

YOUR BAKING SKILLS NEEDED FOR ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE

A plentiful supply of baked goods will be needed at our upcoming Election Day Bake Sale. With **two election districts** voting in our gathering space and an unusually **large turnout** expected, we certainly don't want to run out of baked goods early! In the morning people look for cookies, brownies, coffee cakes, and breads to take to work. Pies sell well all day. We have holding this sale long enough that we now have some "regular" customers.

Don't forget to stop by yourself to pick up some goodies, even if you vote elsewhere.

This sale is a project of the Missions Committee. The funds are used to complete our commitment to the Global Missions Partner Fund if needed and to rebuild the General Benevolence Fund, which is used to support other outreach throughout

the year.

Please sign up on the Opportunities Board to bring baked goods and/or to staff the sale.

PIES! PIES! PIES!

Pies made by **Kelly's Farm Market** will once again be sold to benefit the **Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity project**. The 10-inch pies come in four varieties: **apple crumb, apple-raspberry, pumpkin, and apple cranberry**. They weigh 4.5 lbs. and cost just \$14.00 each. They will be available for **pickup on Tuesday, November 25, from 4-7 PM** in the church entryway.

Orders must be pre-paid. Sign up by Sunday, **November 16** on the Opportunities Board for the pie(s) of your choice and mail your check payable to *Aldersgate* and designated for "**Habitat Pies**" to the church office or put it in the offering plate no later than that Sunday.

BROWN BAG SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9

Paper Wegman's bags will be distributed after each worship service on November 2 to encourage you to fill them with non-perishable food items and return them the following Sunday. The need for supplies continues to be strong at the Greece Food Shelf. Let's do our best to help our neighbors as we ourselves prepare for one of our biggest "eating" days of the year.

We do support the Greece Food Shelf the year round, but the special emphasis on Brown Bag Sundays assists in restocking the shelves at high need times. You may also make a donation by cash or check (payable to *Aldersgate UMC*) designated for the "**Greece Food Shelf**" so that they can purchase milk, fresh meat, and other perishables.

God will bless both those who give and those who receive.

LIVING BEYOND OURSELVES

"Believers are channels, not containers. God's love and grace are to flow through us, not be held in us. As stewards, our compelling desire must be to constantly give from the river of God's blessings coursing through our lives. We are simply passing on what God has passed to us."

"Imagine how the disciples felt when Jesus took those five loaves of bread and two fish and turned them into a feast for thousands. Think of the hilarious joy they experienced in handing out food to the hungry, seeing God multiply it as long as they kept sharing. What a wonderful picture of what it's like for us

when we give from the endless resources he entrusts to our care"

So wrote Kirk Nowery in his book *Revolutionary Generosity*. The question is, "Will you be experiencing this year and next the joy that God promises?" Note that the joy came not from the magnanimous gift of a wealthy man but from a small boy who offered up his lunch. The message is that our giving is to be in proportion to what we have to offer. Large income or small, we all can give and can experience that joy. While the focus during a finance campaign is, of course, on giving of our financial resources, the same principle applies to the use of our time and talents for the Lord's service. Clearly if all God's people were

living as channels rather than as leaky containers, His work would be fully supported.

Now is the time to declare your support for His work at Aldersgate. Last Sunday was Commitment Sunday, but we still need your pledge for 2009 if you have not already returned it. We do rely heavily on the sum of those commitments when we make our plans for ministry in the coming year.

Will you become a channel through which His blessings will flow? Will you try to "Live Beyond Yourself" in this coming year?

Notes from friends and neighbors

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Dear Aldersgate Family,

I want to thank all of you who prayed, sent cards, called, visited, sent flowers and brought me food when I was recuperating from my hip surgery. It gave me a warm feeling to know how much you all care. It is so nice to be a part of this wonderful Aldersgate Family. God bless you all.

In Christ's Love, ~Candy Metzger

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Becky and I have been "away" from you for over two years now in our journey to serve the Lord, and yet you continue to remember us in your support. We thank you for remembering us in your prayers and also for your continued financial assistance. We recently received a check from you that we used toward my books for this fall semester at Colgate Divinity School. Thank you very much!

School is going great. I'm enjoying my studies. I'm taking Biblical Greek among other things this semester and am getting pretty good at translating verses from the New Testament into English. In addition to school, I'm pasturing a wonderful congregation in Churchville as well as serving as a part time chaplain at St. John's Nursing Home. Truly, we are blessed.

We continue to pray for all of you and are thrilled to see new names all the time in The Hinge. Aldersgate appears to be growing. Praise God! Thanks again for your support,

Yours in Christ, ~Pastor Doug (PD) and Becky Hess

Dear Aldersgate Family,

Many, many thanks for the delicious loaf of bread I received last week. We shared it with friends to lend a special moment to an activity we enjoyed with others. Many thanks to all, ~John Haldane

Dear Aldersgate Family and Kathy,

I would like to thank you and your group for sending the delicious bread. I very much appreciated it.

Many thanks again, ~Jean Frey

Dear Aldersgate Family and Marisue and Richard,

Thank you so much for thinking of us. The church and its people have grown so much not only in size but in its spiritual journey. The sharing of bread as Jesus did is just as meaningful today as it was then.

Thank you and God Bless, ~Lily and Lloyd Snyder

Dear Aldersgate Family, and Shirley and Ed,

Your recent visit was indeed a surprise! This brings my warmest thanks to you and those who baked the delicious nut bread. It is a favorite of mine and a real treat which I've been enjoying.

Cordially, Marion Vogelsong

WONDERFUL RECORD

Dear Aldersgate Family,

We have a wonderful record of sustained giving to our Capital Campaign fund. Our payment to Trust Management Incorporated, the company from which we bought church bonds is \$17,000 monthly. Our sustained and faithful giving of our pledges is needed to meet our monthly payments. Let us all keep on fulfilling our pledges!

Blessings!

Your Follow Up Team

Dear Sally Stewardship,

How does this “bailout” thing we keep hearing about on the news affect our bond issue?

Concerned Bond Holder

Dear Concerned,

The simple answer is that it doesn't. Of course, the simple answer assumes that we at Aldersgate continue to make our monthly payments on time and that you hold your bonds until they are due. That's the beauty of borrowing from ourselves and other churchgoers around the country who have faith in God's provision and in our determination to pay the money back.

If you watch the regular bond market or have money invested in the bonds of some company, you will see that the value of the bonds is not necessarily the face value that you paid for them. The value of the bonds depends on the credit-worthiness of the company you invested in and that may change over time. (Think about General Motors bonds, which strangely come to my mind right now.) If you need the money before the bond matures and try to sell it, what you will get also depends on the willingness of another person to give up their money and wait for the return. You may get less than you invested if there are few willing buyers; or you may get more, if the bond is near maturity and the investor can count on picking up a sizeable additional amount of interest in a relatively short time.

That's why Share Financial checked us out so carefully before agreeing to work with us on the bond sale. We were a relatively small church with a relatively small down payment for such a large project. You may not remember, but the president of the company flew in from Texas to meet with the Church Council to feel certain in his own mind that we had checked out all possibilities and that we knew what we were doing. Their reputation, not just ours, is at stake when they sell a bond issue. Their ability to get buyers for other church bonds is diminished if we mess up.

Now, if you need the money from your church bonds right now, you may not get full value. That would have been true even if there were no national financial credit crunch. That's why Share suggests we try first to sell the bonds within the church. The market for church bonds is limited. On the other hand, if you hold them to maturity, you'll get your money plus interest. (I'll get my money from my GM bonds, too, if I hold them until 2015 and GM is still around. Meanwhile they are paying *really* good interest.)

Plainly and simply, if we keep up our monthly payments, our bonds are fine. The people who invested in the shorter-term bonds are getting their checks in the mail right on time. Now the monthly payment is \$17,461—no small amount, but it is a fixed amount from here on in. To do that, we will need a third capital campaign and perhaps a fourth. (Sorry, folks, I have to bring that up—more work ahead.) Also, we have to begin to move that payment into our regular budget. If we were to double our giving for our on-going ministries, we could eliminate those campaigns! That's the amount of money coming in now—it's just in two separate categories.

The good news is that a lot of us right now are feeling pretty smart for having invested in our church bonds. In fact, we are wishing we had bought more!

Hope this info helps!

Sally Stewardship

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

SCRIPTURE READERS

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
11/2	Corey Louden	Nancy Young
11/9	Scott Wagner	Nancy Bader
11/16	Jan Rothfuss	Wilma Shaughnessy
11/23	Al Holmes	Gege Dunn
11/30	Cathy Carpenter	Karen Sladden

USHER SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
11/2	Myrt Holmes, Dan & Jan Rothfuss, Evelyn Welker	Tom & Zuni Simons, Terry & Nancy Young
11/9	Al & Myrt Holmes, Susan DeVincentis, Evelyn Welker	Nancy Bader, Walt Dunn, John Cochran, Candy Metzger
11/16	Al & Myrt Holmes, Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Scott Wiley, Colleen, Tyler, John Cochran
11/23	Al & Myrt Holmes, Joan Michlin, Larry VanAllen	Dean & Jackie Hogestyn, Gary Hogestyn, Denise Furey
11/30	Al & Myrt Holmes, Evelyn Welker	Vince & Laura Acciaio, Nancy Bader, Eric Bock

ACOLITE SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
11/2	Sammy Hanko	Amanda Farrell, Chase Tyler
11/9	Edward Carstens	Rebecca Lindeman, Ryan Lindeman
11/16	Brianna Kephart	Nick Spicer, Mike Spicer
11/23	Allison McHugh	Renee Tibbles, Caleb Thompson
11/30	Usher	Usher

OUR CHURCH STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE

Anne O'Connor, Pastor	621-4799 aoconnor@aumcgreece.org
Gerald A. Wolter, Pastor of Visitation & Membership Care	621-1904 hgwolter@frontiernet.net
Kim Hines, Youth Minister	352-4321 khines@aumcgreece.org
Jane Guitson, Christian Education Coordinator	544-7787 jguitson@rochester.rr.com
Candy Metzger, Administrative Assistant	663-3665 cmetzger@aumcgreece.org
Tamara Ruiz, Organist	truiz@aumcgreece.org
David Rogenmoser, Choir Director	drogenmoser@aumcgreece.org
Kevin Brown, ACWT Worship Leader	kbrown@aumcgreece.org
Debbie Simm, ACWT Administrative Leader	dsimm@aumcgreece.org
Lea McQuown, Custodian	
Evelyn Welker, Housekeeper	
Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant	

Aldersgate
United Methodist Church

4115 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, NY 14616

Phone: 585-663-3665

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*Sing to the Lord, and praise him!
Proclaim EVERY DAY the Good News that he has saved us.*

~Psalm 96:2