



# Aldersgate United Methodist Church

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Aldersgate UMC Web Site

<http://www.aumcgreece.org/>

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April 2009

## FROM YOUR PASTOR...

Holy Week is the most important week in the Christian year. It begins (this

year on April 5) with the celebration of Palm/Passion Sunday.

We will celebrate with a Palm

Parade and a drama called "Trilogy" to help us

experience the power of Jesus suffering and death.

Tuesday, the United Methodist Women

will celebrate "A Meal in the Upper Room" at 6:30 PM.

On Maundy Thursday evening at 7 PM

(April 9) we will spend time with Jesus in the Upper Room as he shares

the Last Supper with his disciples and join together in the Holy Communion.

Our chancel choir and bell choir will have a part in leading us

in worship that night. On April 10, Good Friday, the Chapel will be open from

9 AM to 6 PM. Please stop in for some quiet time with Jesus in the

garden for prayer. Good Friday worship will be held in the sanctuary at 7 PM.

The week will culminate with the joyful celebration of Easter during our two morning worship services. You won't want to miss these special services!



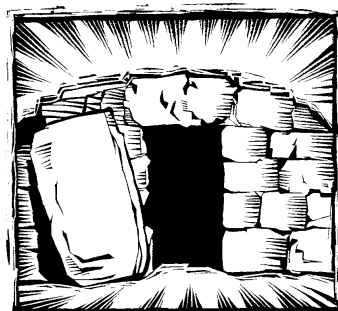
Why do I say Holy Week is the most important week in the Christian year? It's because during this week we focus on the most central beliefs of the Christian faith. At the heart of our faith is the knowledge that "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8, TNIV) What incredible love God has for each of us that God would come to us in Jesus Christ and suffer and die so that we might be forgiven and reconciled with God. Yet, that's not the end of it. Sunday comes after Friday. "For if we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been rec-

onciled, shall we be saved through his life!" (Rom. 5:10) On the third day, Jesus rose from death making it possible for us to live anew in him! Jesus' death and resurrection make all the difference to those, who by the power of the Holy Spirit, simply believe it's true. May God bless you with faith in the power of the cross and new life in the Risen Christ!

Easter Blessings,

Anne

Anne



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## 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.

**In Rehab:** Elizabeth Jones - Unity

**Recovering at home:** Ted Coburn, Stella Elich, Robert French, Jane Guitson, Alma Harmer, Olivia Marsh, Eleanor McNeil (mother of Nancy Wayne), Bill Miller (husband of Nora Spindler Miller, Fran Okita

### Those with ongoing health concerns:

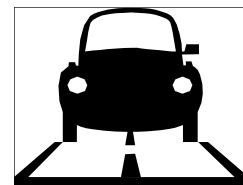
Vonnie Ackerman (sister of Gloria Montgomery), Joyce Anderson (sister of Wanda Strauss), Al Antczak, Albina DeBell, Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis and Malcolm), Mike Blair (son of Kathy Peck), Phoebe Brown, Ted Coburn, Diane Czebatol (daughter of Janet Pelcher), Carl Dunn, Carol Finch (friend of the DeVincentis Family), Patricia Forbes, Ed Geier, Shirley Geier, David Grierson (son of Shirley Grierson), Jay Glowinski (friend of Denise Sayre), Alma Harmer, Dave Haring, Becky Hess, Gary & Cindy Hogan, Frank Ireland (brother of Jackie Hogestyn), Earl Kelley (Cindy Groves' father), Bonnie Kennedy (former member), Anna Kneisel (mother of Anne Palmer), Lynn Linder (sister-in-law of Tammy Ruiz), Ruth Loomis, 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 (grandson of Donna Colangelo), Polly Roberts (friend of Bette Edgett), Tammy Ruiz, Steven Savage, Mary

Sims, Gail Snyder, John Sobus, Jr., Sebastian Sofia (friend of Don Heinz), David Stanley, Justin (grandson of Jean Stevens), Heather Tidwell (granddaughter of Ross & Nancy Wayne), Ashley & Peyton VanKouwenberg, Alene VanPutte, Hal Wagner, Ross Wayne, Mark Williams (son-in-law of Bob Wiederhold), Clair Yeamans (step-father of David Kaszubowski).

**Our home-bound:** Malcolm Beers, Olive Chapman (mother of Barbara Marsh), Stella Elich, Jean Frey, John Haldane, Glenn Ide, Myrtle Koch, Maxine Pollock, Martha Thomson, Marion Voglesong.

**Nursing Homes/Living Centers:** Orville Loomis - Unity Living Center; Jack Lynch, Betty Shoemaker, - Shore Winds; Carolyn Fisher - St. Ann's; Ethel Martin, Robert Royer - St. John's; Leota Matthews - Monroe Community Hospital; Jeanne Barr - Hilton East

**Christian sympathy** is extended to Larry Scrivens and family on the death of his mother, Juanita Scrivens.



### ALDERSGATE EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER SERVICE

The church provides emergency services such as transportation and babysitting. If you can provide services, or need help, call the church office.

### 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

## FROM THE PASTOR OF VISITATION AND MEMBERSHIP CARE

Dear Aldersgate Friends:

As you receive this copy of the *Hinge* we'll be about ready to observe Holy Week and celebrate again the glorious Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. I hope the Lenten days have been enriching to each of you.

As we come to celebrate Easter again, I want to share with an interesting article that Zuni Simons sent me. It is entitled"

### Why Did Jesus Fold the Napkin?

*Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth after His resurrection? The gospel of John (20:7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes. The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed at the head of that stony coffin.*

*Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!" Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see.*

*The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in. Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrapping lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side.*

*Is that important? Absolutely! It is really significant? Yes! In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition.*

*When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it. The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.*



*Now if the master were done eating, he would rise from table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the*

*table. The servant would then know to clear the table. For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, "I'm done". But, if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because....*

*The folded napkin meant, "I'm coming back!" He did come back to life that first Easter and he is Coming Back Again!*

Let's rejoice in this great truth again this Easter! We hope you and yours will join us in the Easter worship services.

A blessed Easter,

Jerry Wolter  
Visitation Pastor

## FAITH FACTOR YOUTH MINISTRY



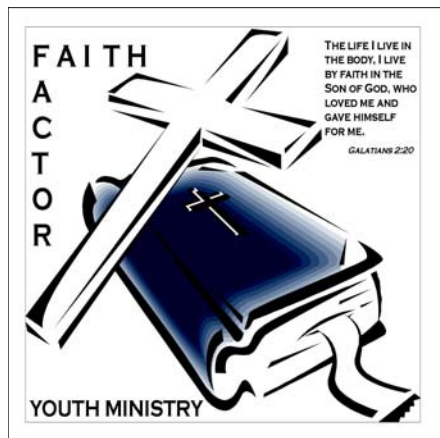
**Summer Camp:** Do you need summer plans? Why not consider camp. There are a variety of camps that will appeal to everyone's interests. More information can be found at [www.wnyumc.org](http://www.wnyumc.org). Click on the campfire on the left hand

side of the screen. See Kim for more information or questions.

### 4Word '09: April 24-26:

The Middle School Youth Group will be attending 4 Word '09, a United Methodist youth gathering at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool, NY. The theme is "When the World says 'This Way', we say 'Yahweh'". Hundreds of youth will join together to play games, listen to youth speakers, sing songs, watch skits, attend smaller group programs, and plenty of other activities. The cost is \$100 and the deadline to register is **Friday, April 3**. We will also need adult chaperones to attend, and we would greatly appreciate donations of food, as it is not provided at the event.

*Do you have a teen that is graduating from high school? Congratulations! If you have a youth who will be graduating from high school this year, please let us know. We want to celebrate with you.*



### Our Calendar...

#### Senior High

- April 7 – Bible Study
- April 14 – Stations of Hope
- April 21 – Spaghetti Dinner
- April 28 – Night at Horizon Fun F/X

#### Junior High

- April 3 – Our Leadership
- April 17 – Our Example
- April 21-24 – 4Word '09 Spring Youth Gathering

**HEY YOUTH!** We want to know what you are doing! We are interested in supporting you. Please share with Kim your sport schedules, performance times or other extra curricular activities. Thanks!

### April 21, 5:00 PM-7:00 PM

The Sr. High Youth Group will be having a Spaghetti Supper to raise funds for our mission trip to IL. Please join us for fellowship, great-tasting spaghetti, and hear about our plans for this summer! Sign up on the Bulletin Board. Thank you for your continued support.



See you in Youth Group,  
Kim

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dear Aldersgate Family,

I am very happy and excited to be serving with you as the interim director of Christian Education. So many great things have happened over the years for our children under the direction of Jane Guitson, and because of your efforts to provide our kids with a warm atmosphere to grow in their love and knowledge of Christ. Thank you for what you have already done, and for what you will continue to do!

That being said, we also anticipate making a few changes to the programming and “image” in the Christian Education Department. Some of the more immediate tweaks you will see include:

- A new logo for the Children’s Ministry department, and for the programs within the department.
- Upgraded website page which will feature exciting new additions for kids, parents, families, and folks looking for more information about our church. You’ll see downloadable forms, projects, and photos!



**Kids In Service Together (K.I.S.T.) is a new program through which the kids in our church have a chance to serve others in our church and in our community. Joyce Farrokh led the kids in a project of designing and painting squares to be made into quilts for those in need. Upcoming projects include making cards for our home-bound friends, and a mini-fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity. Got ideas for how the kids can help? Don’t keep them to yourself! Talk to Rachelle to get it started!**

**Parents:** How can we get you the Children’s Ministry information you need more efficiently? Is email the way for you? I would like to begin a regular e-update, but want to be sure that this would be an effective way to communicate with you. Contact Rachelle Vitullo at [rachellec@hotmail.com](mailto:rachellec@hotmail.com) to express your interest in this form for communication!



Become involved in the Children’s Ministry at AUMC!!! The following are just a few ideas of how YOU can be a part of this vital ministry:



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**      *Sunday School Teacher*      Do-  
nate Snacks      *Keep Quiet Bags organized and change frequently*      Jr.  
Church (4th Sunday of the month teacher needed)      **K.I.S.T.**      *Pray*  
*Pretzel Sunday*      Nursery      Send cards or notes      Cre-  
ate your own ministry... new ideas are wel-

## MARCH CELEBRATIONS

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Wendy Peeck	April 1	Carol Witzel	April 15
Nancy Rex	April 3	Sue Burdick	April 18
Thomas Rankin, Jr.	April 3	Hal Wagner, Jr.	April 19
Natasha Burdick-Carsten	April 4	Kevin Roza	April 23
Glen Ide	April 6	Helen Wolter	April 24
Judy Hare	April 6	Lois LaFlair	April 24
Karin Van Putte	April 6	Kathy Peck	April 24
Doug Unell	April 7	Julia Kennedy	April 25
Jimmie Condon	April 8	David Hogestyn	April 28
Jack Lynch	April 8	Dennis Simm	April 28
James Christie	April 11	Rachelle Vitullo	April 30
Martha Thomson	April 14		



### APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

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



## Thank You

*We thank you for your prayers, concerns, and get well cards during Ted's illness and returning to full health. We sensed the peace and healing of the prayers and are greatly appreciative. Thank you!*

*Ted and Edith Coburn*



Items for the MAY *Hinge*  
are due  
**April 12**

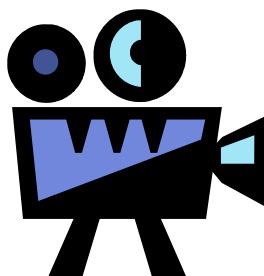


## CHURCH EVENTS, MINISTRIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

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

Monday, **April 6**,  
from 4:00-9:00 PM  
*10% of Food Receipts Benefits our  
BUILDING FUND*

Make this your night out  
with your friends!



### **LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!**

The "Talent Box" is out on the Missions Counter ready to receive your submission forms that describe the talent you are willing to share with us at the **Evening of Entertainment on Friday, May 15, at 7:00 PM.**

We are looking for a varied program of music, dance, skits, recitations, and other performance skills as well as art for display in the Ide Center. We also need lots of other help to make the evening successful, including donations of refreshments, help with publicity and ticket sales, ushering, etc.

Tickets will go on sale in late April. They will be \$8.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children and youth ages 6-17. Preschoolers accompanied by an adult are free. Childcare will also be available. Proceeds will go toward improving the sound system in the sanctuary.

Our thanks go to **Kathy Savage** who has agreed each year to take on the task of organizing this great event. She is the one to see, also, if you have any questions.

Don't miss this evening of fun and fellowship!

### **SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANNUAL CROP WALK ON MAY 3**

The annual Crop Walk to raise money to fight hunger around the world will start this year at Greece United Methodist Church at 1:30 PM and follow a one- or six-mile route around Greece. Twenty-five percent of the funds will be retained in our community to support the Greece Food Shelf. Last year Aldersgate raised \$1036 for this important effort.

Please sign up on the Opportunities Board and see Joyce Farrokh for the sponsor sheets. This is a chance to get some good exercise, make new friends, and support a very worthy cause. Please help either by walking or by supporting those who do walk with your generous gifts.



### *You are invited....*

*On Wednesday, April 29th,  
at 6:00 PM at  
Faith UMC - 174 Pinnacle  
Road in Henrietta,  
you are invited to a District  
laity gathering to have  
devotions and conversations  
with Bishop Marcus Matthews.*

# ALDRSGATE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

## “MEAL IN THE UPPER ROOM” SET FOR APRIL 7

All women of the church are invited to participate again this year in an especially meaningful **Lenten service** known as “The Meal in the Upper Room.” Those attending will gather at **6:30 PM** in the sanctuary for the Preparation Service then move silently into the Ide Family Life Center for the meal of foods chosen for their significance to the occasion.



Children are welcome, but they must be old enough to sit without talking or getting up for at least an hour. Please feel free to invite friends who may be interested as well. We do need to know the exact number attending; so please sign up no later than Sunday, April 5. (If you find at the last minute that you can't attend, please call Gege Dunn at 663-9235.)

## SECRET SISTERS REVEALED

It's hard to believe that almost a year has passed since we drew names for **Secret Sister Prayer Partners**. We hope that each and every one of you has felt supported by prayer throughout this last year. We know that some of you have stories to tell. Your opportunity will come on **Saturday, April 18**, at our “**Reveal Breakfast**” in the Ide Center.

We will gather at 9:00 AM for a light continental breakfast and plan to finish by 10:30 AM. **Bring a card** addressed to your Secret Sister. This time you should sign your name! You may also bring a small gift if you wish to do so. Please get your signed card to Barbara Draft—

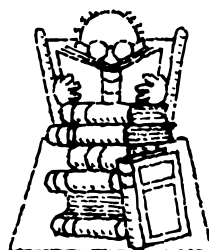
or leave it with Candy Metzger in the office—before the breakfast, if you are unable to attend so that your prayer partner is not left out of the festivities.

There will be time to pray, to eat, to celebrate and to share. Even better, we will be choosing new prayer partners for the coming year. Those of you who were unable to attend last year should plan to attend to become part of this supportive fellowship of women in our church.

The sign-up sheet is now on the Opportunities Board. There is no charge for this UMW-sponsored event, but please sign up in advance so that we can be sure to have a place at the table for you.

## “LITTLE HEATHENS” TOPIC OF BOOK REVIEW LUNCHEON

The title of the book **Charlotte Ridley** has selected for review at the Reading Circle Book Luncheon this year suggests that we are in for a very entertaining program: *Little Heathens: Hard Times and High Spirits on an Iowa Farm During the Great Depression*. Everyone interested is welcome to join the members of the Reading Circle at their annual luncheon on **Thursday, April 30, at 1:00 PM** in the Ide Family Life Center for the delightful stories of adventures and mishaps fondly remembered by author Mildred Armstrong Kalish. We encourage you to invite friends and neighbors to come with you.



**BOOK  
Reviews**

The luncheon costs \$8.00 per adult payable at the door. Please sign up on the bulletin board in advance, however, so that we are prepared for your attendance.

## READING CIRCLE

Join the Reading Circle this month to share the discussion of *An Untamed Land*, a novel by popular Christian author Lauraine Snelling. Pick up a copy of the book in advance from the Church Library. The group will meet there on **Thursday, April 2, at 1:00 PM**. New members and visitors are always welcome at Reading Circle. For more information, contact Helen Wolter (621-1904) or Frances Crabtree (392-0772).

Since the Book Review Luncheon on April replaces the May meeting, the next meeting of Reading Circle will be on June 4. The June book selection is *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver.

## MORNING CIRCLE

**Dr. Hessney**, cardiologist at Unity Hospital, returns to Morning Circle on **Tuesday, April 21**, to talk again about the latest information for women on maintaining good health. She will also answer your questions or direct you to people or sources where you may find those answers. Join us at 11:00 AM in the parlor, and bring a light lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Call Gege Dunn (663-9235) or Bobbie Eckert (225-9582) if you have questions.

(Continued on Page 9)



UNITED METHODIST  
WOMEN (CONT.)

## DEAR SALLY STEWARDSHIP

**OTHER UPCOMING DATES:**

**April 13** – Sew ‘n Sew’s at 1:00 PM in Room 1.

**May 2** – Genesee Valley District **UMW Day Apart** at North Chili UMC

**May 9** – **Mothers, Daughters, & Friends Banquet**, gathering at 5:30 PM in the Ide Center, dinner at 6:00 PM.

**June 5-6** – **Women of Faith Weekend** at Blue Cross Arena

**June 11-13** – **Annual Rummage Sale** – Begin collecting and sorting items for sale on Monday, June 1.

**August 16-17** – **Crafts & Collectibles Show**

Dear Sally Stewardship,

All this news about economic collapse has me near collapse! Right now I have a job but who knows how long that will last? My retirement savings are disappearing. What should I do?

Worried Sick

Dear Worried,

First a disclaimer—I’m not a financial expert and couldn’t begin to address your personal situation. However, as Christians we do have some resources. Now a reminder—God knows that we are going to encounter circumstances like these during our lives. That’s why Jesus preached in the Sermon on the Mount, “Do not store up riches for yourselves here on earth, where moths and rust destroy . . .” (Matt. 6:19) The point is not that we shouldn’t save and prepare for the future but that realistically we can’t count entirely on our own efforts to supply all our needs. Things do go wrong—often things outside our control. But a few words later, Jesus also reminded us to “Look at the birds: they do not plant seeds, gather a harvest and put it in barns; yet your Father in heaven takes care of them! Aren’t you worth much more than birds? Can any of you live a bit longer by worrying about it?” (Matt. 6:26-27)

We need to give up our worries to a God who cares for us and regards us as valuable and worthy of His care. Don’t beat yourself up too much if your response is, “Duh, I know that. I’m still worried.” Remember that one of the running themes in the whole Old Testament is the story of the Israelites forgetting how much God had done for them,

complaining, and looking to other Gods when they thought they didn’t get a quick enough response—or the response they wanted. Take action. Make your concerns a matter of serious prayer. Connect with God and be open to the possibility of a variety of answers. Rather than news of a major inheritance from a long-lost uncle, the response may be learning to trust His provision for you and to live with some level of ambiguity. In any case, if we are not consumed by anxiety, we are better able to work through the problems we may—or may not—encounter.

John Wesley also had some apt financial advice for us: Earn all you can, save all you can, and give all you can. His example may be a bit hard to follow, and we are clearly not all called to either his life or lifestyle. One of the reasons that we have so many of his thoughts in writing was that he published his sermons, journals, etc. and sold them as a source of income for his ministry. He wrote wherever he was, including on horseback. He established early in his career that he could live on just a little more than five pounds a year and set that as a limit for his expenses for the rest of his life. (His wife had an independent income.) He saved the remainder and gave it all to the many ministries he started. In spite of the fact that he never would have been considered a wealthy man, his giving over his lifetime made him one of the major philanthropists of his era.

*(Continued on Page 11)*

## MISSIONS NEWS

### YOUR SPECIAL GIFT AT EASTER SUPPORTS MISSION- ARY MERI WHITAKER

The ministry and related services are growing at **Cookson Hills Center** in Eastern Oklahoma, but the need is growing even faster. The new Daycare and Senior Center opened two years ago; a Health Resource Center opened last year; and now on the drawing boards is a plan for a new building to house their reception center, food shelf and clothing closet. None of the buildings are pretentious—just neat, attractive, and serviceable.

This United Methodist ministry to the people in one of the neediest counties in the country serves primarily Cherokee Indians. The Director of the mission is **Meri Whitaker, our covenant missionary**, who coordinates the services, works to develop local businesses to help people to support themselves, and pastors a Twelve-Step Church. Those of us who have heard her speak when she has visited our church continue to be impressed with her commitment to reaching out to meet the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of the people with whom she has been called to work.

The Easter Offering is one of the primary sources for meeting our annual commitment of \$2500 to support our covenant relationship with Rev. Whitaker. Please be generous both with your prayers and with your money for this most important relationship. Put your special gift in the Easter Offering envelopes provided with your packet of church envelopes, or mark ***"Easter Offering"*** on your check or pew envelope.

### GREECE HABITAT NEWS

Please remember to return your Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity coin boxes (preferably filled) to church on the **Sunday after Easter, April 19**. Individually the money in the coin boxes will not seem like much—and we're not even likely to miss it—yet the total can make a significant dent in our goal of raising \$6500 for this new building project scheduled to start this summer.

The Greece group is hoping to participate in an **Earth Day Recycling** program for outdated electronic appliances on **April 18** that is being planned and sponsored by Flower City Habitat for Humanity. Watch the bulletin for details on location and a list of items that can be recycled.

### MISSIONS COMMITTEE EXPLORES ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational food program dedicated to providing food assistance to families throughout the United States. Started in 1994 by a pastor and his wife in rural northeast Georgia to help their neighbors, the ministry has expanded into 35 states and helps nearly 500,000 families each month. Every month the agency creates a box of fresh and frozen foods valued at about \$60.00, which they can sell for \$30.00 because their buying power, low overhead and non-profit status. One box assists in feeding a family of four for about a week or a single person for almost a month. There is no limit on the number of boxes a family can purchase and no screening for financial need. Webster United Methodist Church has been participating in this

program for more than a year, and Hope Lutheran Church is the distributor closest to us.

Members of the Missions Committee have been meeting with a group at Our Lady of Mercy to consider setting up a host site in the Northgate community. Several also volunteered at Hope Lutheran on the March 21 distribution day there to find out how the program worked. We would have to begin by ordering through Hope Lutheran until we have established a pattern of enough orders to open our own center. More information will be shared with the congregation as our plans develop.

### APRIL 26 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.

## Dear Sally Stewardship (Cont.)

### Will You Be an Influence on Youth???

Are you an adult who enjoys playing ping pong, card games, etc. with middle school or high school students? We invite you to participate in our youth group as a Youth Group Advisor. Youth group advisors work together to build relationships with our youth. You can work with the middle school youth group or the senior high youth group. If you are a good listener, love teens, and hope to be a positive influence on young people, we need you! Please contact Kim at church or

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

We can't live on five pounds a year or even its modern equivalent, but we can examine the way we spend our money. Old guidelines for budgeting call for taking 10 % off the top to give to the church. We can't out give God, but we can put God first. The second 10% should go to savings—called “paying ourselves.” With the rest we should look for ways to maintain our lifestyle with less money (as a Jazz 90.1 DJ recently put it during a recent fund drive). Some of us may find that we have more to give; others will have to work toward those goals for tithing and saving. At no point does the Bible suggest that we are exempt from giving because we are feeling poor or that our giving should stop at 10%. We also should not turn our noses up at ways to earn more money. Even small amounts from short-term jobs can help to cover essentials or allow us to give more.

One last thought: Don't ever think of yourself as alone in these concerns. That's why we seek to live as a Christian community. Share your concerns and let others pray with you. Your openness can help others with the same worries.

You will be in my prayers.

Child of a Loving God,  
Sally Stewardship

## CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

*For February 12, 2009 Meeting*

This meeting featured a brief overview of year-end committee reports for 2008. Committee representatives highlighted top accomplishments or challenges they faced during the past year. Some offered a brief comment on the direction their committee work is heading in 2009. Written reports from each committee will be compiled into a complete document that will be available for reading by any church member.

Other agenda items were also addressed during the meeting. The first was a comment that the Nominations Committee is actively pursuing candidates to fill vacant leadership positions on various committees. More volunteers are needed.

The next topic discussed was a motion from the Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) regarding vacation time for some of the paid positions within the church. Two parts of the motion passed unanimously:

That the church Administrative Assistant receive forty-eight (48) hours of paid time off per year.

That the Christian Education Director receive six (6) paid vacation days per year, also forty-eight hours, of which not more than four (4) can be Sundays.

There was also discussion regarding clarification of the time off for the Choir Director and Organist positions, which needs further discussion. The goal is to add individual time off changes to each position's respective job description.

Finally, Gretchen Hughes introduced a motion requesting Council approve a fund raising goal of \$6,500 toward the Greece churches Habitat for Humanity project. There are currently six churches involved and they hope to get a few more to join their efforts. The amount represents 10% of the cost to build a new house on Whitney Street (off Jay Street). The motion was approved unanimously, and the first fundraiser is in the form of paper, house-shaped boxes in which to collect coins. The boxes were handed out at church and will be collected on Sunday, April 19.

## BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY

*Catch the Spirit* exercise and wellness program has been going strong for a year now. We have made some wonderful friends from our community during this time. We have met approximately 25-30 new people that would not have come into our church if not for this program. Your support for Aldersgate makes this possible!

So many people are sharing their success with us. We have people losing weight. We have people lowering blood pressure and reducing their blood glucose levels as well. This is all because of your generosity. Several people have reported to me that they were able to go on vacation and walk places and distances that previously were impossible. ***Glory to God for his hand in all this!***

We encourage you to try our program and give it a chance to work for you. There are more stories to tell but we'll save them for another day. It is so important for me to say thank you to all of ***you*** for supporting our expansion and our future. I would not be able to help anyone without your part in God's plan for Aldersgate.

Every dollar that comes through our program goes to the church. We have done some wonderful work with that income. The Jerry Lucas "Weekend to Remember" was sponsored by *Catch the Spirit*. We will be sponsoring more programs and projects in the future of our church life.

Your commitment has been at work in many lives at Aldersgate and our community. I hope you will take a moment to realize that there are many stories just like this one within the walls of Aldersgate. I believe that this was always part of God's plan.

Check our schedule on the bulletin board and take a chance on us. We think you will enjoy the fellowship, and the exercise.

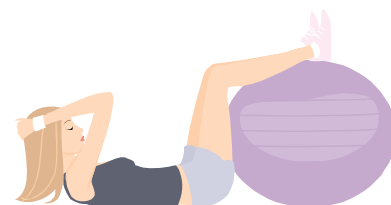
In gratitude,

Ken Rex

## A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE IN LEADERSHIP ROLES!

At the Aldersgate UMC officers and leaders serve from April 1 through March 31. Several have served faithfully and are stepping down to peruse other ministries. We want to say a special thank you to all of these. Thanks to Bob Winter who served as Staff-Parish Relations Chair and SPRC members Nancy Rex and George Sukitis. Thanks to Cori and Chris Loudon who served as co-chairs of Evangelism and Membership Care, Carl Dunn who was our Communications Chair, and Scott Hanko who served as Trustee Chair. Be sure to thank these folks when you see them.

We have posted the Officers and Leaders list for 4/1/09 to 3/31/10 on the board by the elevators. Please be sure to take a look at it and thank the many people who have been serving faithfully for years and those who have stepped up to serve. Each person and each ministry is important to the healthy functioning of the body of Christ. Thanks for all you do! By the power of the Holy Spirit, keep up the good work.



## New Orleans Mission Trip Highlights



Again, I want to thank all of you for your prayer and financial support of our mission trip to New Orleans in February 2009. Rich Keller, Candy and John Metzger, Laurie Ru-

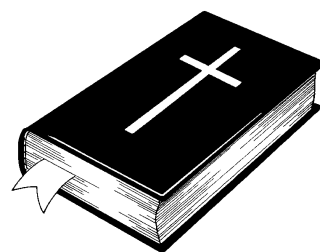
ell, Colleen Tyler, and I were privileged to work with others from our District to help three different homeowners left destitute by Hurricane Katrina. There is still much work to be done, so we are planning another trip for next February. Why not prayerfully start considering your participation and set aside the time now?

Three of us (Candy, John, and Colleen) worked on Kate's house. Kate worked right along side the team all week. She was so grateful for the help that each day she brought goodies and loved showing off her city in the evenings when the work was done for the day. The primary work there was mudding, sanding, and priming drywall. Three of us (Laurie, Rich, and I) worked on another team. Four of the five days we all worked was on a home whose owner was staying in New Mexico, so we were unable to meet her. We also did some dry wall finishing and painting, laid tiles, and put up baseboards. This homeowner should be able to move back to

New Orleans very soon. One day some of us from the second team (including Rich and I) helped at Janice's home. There we did demolition work—removing drywall, ruined cabinets, and floor tile. She was thrilled that work was finally beginning.

We talked with many people and all of them had stories to tell. Janice's mother was buried the day before Katrina hit. She left town immediately and got out safely, but her daughter-in-law refused to leave with her two children. For a few days Janice had no idea what happened to her daughter-in-law and grandchildren. Then one day on CNN she saw her grandson being rescued off a roof by a helicopter. She knows that was God's way of letting her know her family was okay. At a Marti Gras parade, we talked with a policeman who had spent three weeks sleeping in his car after the disaster so he could be on duty. We talked with a man on the ferry who had been rescued from his roof by boat and then spent four days living on a bridge until he was rescued from there.

We know God used us in many ways to proclaim the Good News of his love during our five days there and on our four travel days. It is a wonderful feeling to know God has touched the homeowners, their neighbors, and others we talked with his love through our work and words. I hope you'll join us on our next mission adventure.



Pastor Anne

## *HE AROSE!*

By Lea McQuown

*We wonder why it had to be  
That Jesus died upon the tree,  
For He was sinless, but He came  
To save us all. Oh, praise His name!*

*The debt was ours. We could not pay.  
He gave His life. We are free today.  
For only God's beloved son  
Could pay the price for everyone.*

*As dawn was breaking that third day,  
God's angel rolled the stone away.  
The Son of God stepped forth in power  
And beauty, for this was His hour.  
The Lord of Life indeed was King,  
Master now of every thing.  
Oh, praise the Lord, we are forgiven.  
He opens wide the gates of heaven.*

*Because He is our light, our way,  
Death has no sting for us today.  
When Christ arose, somehow I know  
The earth rejoiced and was aglow,  
As we must be who love the Lord  
With expectation, looking toward  
The time when we His face shall see,  
And live with Him eternally.*

## SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES IN APRIL

### SCRIPTURE READERS

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/5	Kathy Pearson	Shirley Grierson
4/12	Al Holmes	Tom Simons
4/19	Gloria Montgomery	Karen Sladden
4/26	Jan Rothfuss	Shirley Geier

### USHER SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/5	Al & Myrt Holmes, Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Tom & Zuni Simons Terry & Nancy Young
	<b>7:00 PM Holy Thursday</b>	
4/9	Al & Myrt Holmes, Walt Dunn, Nancy Bader	
	<b>7:00 PM Good Friday</b>	
4/10	Al & Myrt Holmes	

### ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/5	Sammy Hanko	Amanda Farrell, Chase Tyler
4/12	Edward Carstens	Rebecca Lindeman, Ryan Lindeman
4/19	Brianna Kephart	Nick Spicer, Mike Spicer
4/26	Allison McHugh	Renee Tibbles, Caleb Thompson

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/12	Al & Myrt Holmes, Susan DeVincentis, Evelyn Welker	Walt Dunn, Nancy Bader, Scott Wiley, John Cochran
4/19	Al & Myrt Holmes, Joan Michlin, Larry VanAllen	Vince & Laura Acciaio Tom & Zuni Simons
4/26	Al and Myrt Holmes Hal & Scott Wagner	Dean & Jackie Hogestyn, Gary Hogestyn, Denise Furey

### OUR CHURCH STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE

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Lea McQuown, Custodian

Evelyn Welker, Housekeeper

Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant

Aldersgate Web Site: [www.aumcgreece.org](http://www.aumcgreece.org)



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United Methodist Church

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April 9th at 7:00 PM  
Holy Thursday Communion Service

*April 10th at 7:00 PM*  
*Good Friday Tenebrae Service*

*April 12th - Easter*  
*9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service*  
*11:00 AM Traditional Service with the Choir*