



# 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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## FROM YOUR PASTOR...

November is a time of taking stock. On All Saint's Day, we remember those who have gone before us and give thanks for their part in making it possible for us to be a part of the Aldersgate Church today.

On November 8, we'll reflect on our service to Christ. There will be a mission fair and potluck meal following the 11 AM worship service. We will be kicking off the "90 in 90" challenge. Everyone in the congregation will be encouraged to give 90 minutes in joyful service in our community over the next 90 days (that's 1 ½ hours over three months). We all should be able to do that. Be sure to tell me about your experience.

Later in the month, we'll take time to count our blessings and give thanks to God for the multitude of blessings we have received. This year several churches are gathering for a Thanksgiving service that will be held on Monday, Nov. 23 at 7 PM at Bethany Presbyterian Church, on Dewey Avenue near Maiden Lane. I hope you'll join us for this special time of worship and giving thanks.

November 29 marks the beginning of the Christian year and Advent. Advent means "coming." As Christians we prepare for the celebration of the coming of Christ to a stable in Bethlehem, the coming of Christ in our lives today, and the coming of Christ in final victory at the end of time.

In our society, much of the preparation is not so much about the coming of Christ as it is for a day of self-indulgence. I've already (in mid-October) been in stores where the Christmas decorations have been brought out. People have already started buying gifts or will do so soon. So I'd like to offer some thoughts on gift giving.

There is nothing wrong with giving gifts to our family and friends at Christmas as long as we do so in the spirit of Christ and don't go overboard. Michael Slaughter writes, "I often say that Christmas is not our birthday; it is Jesus' birthday. We should stop acting as if it's our birthday. We should do what honors Jesus on Jesus' birthday. Yet most Christians tend to miss the real meaning of Christmas and continue its celebration through self-focused practices that fulfill the materialistic desires of friends and family." We need to focus on the real meaning for Christmas.

Never go into debt or further into debt to pay for Christmas gifts. Consider giving things of lasting value--maybe something you've made, or a promise of future service. My dad has pretty much everything he needs, so for the last several years our Christmas gift to him has been a donation in his honor to a charity that he values.

Consider purchasing gifts from a "Fair Trade" organization. Trade As One says, "One billion people live on less than one dollar a day. If every churchgoer in America purchased just one Fair Trade gift this Christmas, one million families would be lifted out of poverty for one whole year. Our gift giving can literally be life giving for someone living in extreme poverty. These gifts can be purchased at several web sites. A couple of these are [www.tradeasone.com](http://www.tradeasone.com); and [www.betterwayimports.com](http://www.betterwayimports.com). They import goods from third world countries. There is also [www.crafts.rbmision.org](http://www.crafts.rbmision.org) which is the Red Bird Mission site that markets products made by Appalachian crafters.

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November 1st

## OUR MINISTRY OF CONCERN

People are added and deleted to our ongoing prayer list on request.

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.

If you have a prayer request, please call Barbara Robinson at 227-7845.

**In hospice care:** Orville Loomis – Unity

**Recovering at home:** Donna Colangelo, John Cook, Pat Holmes, Pat Jermyn, Kathy Savage, Bill Tschorke, Carline Wiley

**Those with ongoing health concerns:** Vonnie Ackerman (sister of Gloria Montgomery), Joyce Anderson (sister of Wanda Strauss), Al Antczak, Hayden Armendinger (father of Debbie Kennedy), Denise Bayer, Mavis Beers, Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis and Malcolm), Phoebe Brown, Jessica Christie, Ted Coburn, Sarah Crough (niece of Doug & Nancy Jones), Diane Czebatol (daughter of Janet Pelcher), Albina DeBell, Logan Desmone (child of friend of Lisa Deutsch), Carl Dunn, Carol Finch (friend of the DeVin-

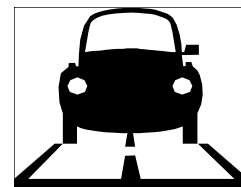
centis Family), Patricia Forbes, Gerry Giehl (friend of Candy Metzger), Jay Glowinski (friend of Denise Sayre), Lois Hall (mother of Becky Hess), Dave Haring, Becky Hess, Gary & Cindy Hogan, Linda Johnson (daughter of Bev & Myrle Johnson), Myrle Johnson, Earl Kelley (father of Cindy Groves), Bonnie Kennedy (former member), Anna Kneisel (mother of Anne Palmer), Joyce Leblanc (sister of Nancy Bader), Warren Lenau (father of Debbie Lenau), Lynn Linder (sister-in-law of Tammy Ruiz), Ruth Loomis, Steven Lynch (son of Sylvia Lynch), Stephen Lyons, Charlotte McCabe (Betty Baybutt's daughter), Lea McQuown, Denise Montgomery (daughter of Gloria Montgomery), Marion Murray (friend of Joyce DeBell), Mark Nobb (friend of the Geiers), Margaret Patterson (sister of Joyce DeBell), Kamran Pickering (grandson of Donna Colangelo), Norman Poisson (friend of Annette Thompson), Polly Roberts (friend of Bette Edgett), Tammy Ruiz, Steven Savage, Mary Sims, Melody Simmons (friend of Karen Rice), Gail Snyder, John Sobus, Jr., David Stanley, Heather Tidwell

(granddaughter of Ross & Nancy Wayne), 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, Don Bliss, Olive Chapman (mother of Barbara Marsh), Jean Frey, John Haldane, Glenn Ide, Myrtle Koch, Muriel McKenna, Myra Needler, Maxine Pollock, John Sobus, Martha Thomson, Marion Voglesong.

**Nursing Homes/Living Centers:** Jeanne Barr – Hilton East; Betty Shoemaker – Shore Winds; Leota Matthews – Monroe Community Hospital; Irv Robinson – Crimson Ridge Gardens; Robert Royer – St. John's

**Christian sympathy** to Orville and Ruth Loomis on the death of Orville's sister, Ellie Ayers. Christian Sympathy is also extended to Gail Snyder on the death of her father, Nick Diana, to Sylvia Lynch on the death of her husband, Jack Lynch and to Ray LaFlair on the death of his wife, Lois LaFlair.



Please call the church office, if you need a ride for a doctor's appointment at 663-3665.

## 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 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



Items for the December January *Hinge* are due

**November 15**

**No exceptions!!**

(People sending attachments this means you also.)

## FROM THE PASTOR OF VISITATION AND MEMBERSHIP CARE

Dear Aldersgate Family,

Can it be November already? The month to celebrate Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving? The year 2009 is almost history. What can I share with you that would be appropriate? I think that a story I received recently reflects both our appreciation of our servicemen and servicewomen, as well as our need to express thanksgiving. It is titled:

### *The Sack Lunches*

*I put my carry-on in the luggage compartment and sat down in my assigned seat. It was going to be a long flight. "I'm glad that I have a good book to read. Perhaps I will get a short nap," I thought. Just before take-off, a line of soldiers came down the aisle and filled all the vacant seats, totally surrounding me. I decided to start a conversation. "Where are you headed?" I asked the soldier seated nearest to me. "Petawawa. We'll be there for two weeks for special training, and then we're being deployed to Afghanistan."*

*After flying for about an hour, an announcement was made that sack lunches were available for five dollars. It would be several hours before we reached the east, and I quickly decided a lunch would help pass the time. As I reached for my wallet, I overheard a soldier ask his buddy if he planned to buy lunch. "No, that seems like a lot of money for just a sack lunch. Probably wouldn't be worth five bucks. I'll wait till we get to base". His friend agreed. I looked around at the other soldiers. None were buying lunch. I walked to the back of the plane and handed the flight attendant a fifty dollar bill. "Take a lunch to all those soldiers." She*

*grabbed my arms and squeezed tightly. Her eyes wet with tears, she thanked me. "My son was a soldier in Iraq; it's almost like you are doing it for him."*

*Picking up ten sacks, she headed up the aisle to where the soldiers were seated. She stopped at my seat and asked, "Which do you like best, beef or chicken?" "Chicken" I replied, wondering why she asked. She turned and went to the front of the plane, returning a minute later with a dinner plate from first class. "This is your thanks." After we finished eating, I went again to the back of the plane, heading for the rest room. A man stopped me. "I saw what you did. I want to be part of it. Here, take this." He handed me twenty-five dollars.*

*Soon after I returned to my seat, I saw the Flight Captain coming down the aisle, looking at the aisle numbers as he walked, I hoped he was not looking for me, but noticed he was looking at the numbers only on my side of the plane. When he got to my row he stopped, smiled, held out his hand, and said, "I want to shake your hand."*

*Quickly unfastening my seatbelt I stood and took the Captain's hand. With a booming voice, he said, "I was a soldier and I was a military pilot. Once, someone bought me a lunch. It was an act of kindness I never forgot." I was embarrassed when applause was heard from all of the passengers.*

*Later I walked to the front of the plane so I could stretch my legs. A man who was seated about six rows in front of me reached out his hand, wanting to shake mine. He left another twenty-five dollars in my palm.*

*When we landed I gathered my*

*belongings and started to deplane. Waiting just inside the airplane door was a man who stopped me, put something in my shirt pocket, turned, and walked away without saying a word. Another twenty-five dollars!*

*Upon entering the terminal, I saw the soldiers gathering for their trip to the base. I walked over to them and handed them seventy-five dollars. "It will take you some time to reach the base. It will be about time for a sandwich. God Bless You."*

*Ten young men left that flight feeling the love and respect of their fellow travelers. As I walked briskly to my car, I whispered a prayer for their safe return.*

*These soldiers were giving their all for our country. I could only give them a couple of meals.*

*It seemed so little...A veteran is someone who, at one point in his life, wrote a blank check made payable to the United State of America for an amount of up to and including my life. That is Honor, and there are way too many people in this country who no longer understand it.*

*May God give you the strength and courage to say "thank you" to all who have made a significant contribution to your life, especially to those who serve in the military.*

With sincere thanks,



Visitation Pastor

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## HOME DEVOTIONS FOR ADVENT

Beginning November 29, the season of Advent invites us to take time away from the hustle and bustle of our daily lives. As is the tradition at Aldersgate, we will again provide booklets of home devotions which will offer you the opportunity to spend some time reflecting on and preparing for Christ's coming among us.

For families, we have chosen *Wait for the Light*. As we Christians wait not only for Christmas but for the coming of the Lord, we gain much from the examples of biblical and even some contemporary figures. Author Anne Neuberger tells stories in a way that children and adults can both appreciate. Her suggestions for discussion also offer families an opportunity to explore their own reactions and ideas to stories of faith, courage and hope in difficult times. Each devotion ends with a prayer and a familiar seasonal song.

For older youth and adults *A Grand Miracle: Advent Devotions based on the thoughts of C. S. Lewis* has been chosen. Let C. S. Lewis, one of the greatest Christian apologists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, lead you through Advent. C. S. Lewis scholar Dr. Joel Heck's thoughtful daily devotions based on C. S. Lewis quotations explore the "Grand Miracle" – God's coming in human flesh. The themes each week are the Incarnation, Immanuel (God-with-us), the Christ-Figure in Narnia, and Jesus' mission to make us his "new creation." Each devotion concludes with a prayer and a Scripture verse tied intimately to the day's thought.

These booklets will be available later in November on the Mission's table in the Gathering Space. Be sure to pick one up!



### DID YOU KNOW?

Special bulletins are available on the usher's table, packed with a variety of age appropriate activities for children ages 3 to 6 and youth ages 7 to 12. Just ask the usher, or look for the colored sheets on the table. Also available for the younger children are bags chock full of a variety of activities, including a small stuffed animal.

### A WORD ON STAFFING

Pray. Please pray for our children, their growth in Christ, their learning and their following in the footsteps of faith as guided by Aldersgate. Also pray for the raising up from among our worshipping community those who will bring their energy, enthusiasm and hearts to help with this task. We still need loving, caring individuals to volunteer as assistants and teachers. Speak with Nancy Woodworth-Hill ([nwoodworth@aumcgreece.org](mailto:nwoodworth@aumcgreece.org) or 436-6848).

## THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

To all of the teachers and helpers who have staffed our education programs, a hearty thank you for a job well done! You are helping to shape our children into followers of Jesus. {Deb Wolfe, Colleen Tyler, Nan Keller, Jim & Lorraine Christie, John Simm, Kevin Brown, Nancy Brehm, Chitie Edgett, Mary Sims, Zuni Simons, Candy Metzger, Gary & Cindy Groves, Dick Edgett, and Mark & Susan DeVincentis}

Thanks are also due to individuals who assisted with the Gather Event at the end of September, staffing activities which explored the baptismal promises of the United Methodist Church: Prayer (journal-making), Witness (story-telling), Service (painting a chair for the Habitat Home), Gifts (gathered into a collage) and Presence (an ice cream social). {Jane Shukitis, Cori Loudon, Candy Metzger, Tammy Kephart Deb Lenau, Sandi Norris, and Marilyn Sobus}

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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



### NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

	Kurt & Robin Lindeman	November 21
	Rodger & Sharon Burkhart	November 22

*(Continued from page 1)*

Get involved with the White Gifts program and help purchase gifts and food for those in need. This is a long running important ministry at Aldersgate.

Pray about giving a special financial gift to missions. Five years ago, Michael Slaughter (who reminded us that it's Jesus' birthday not ours) challenged the Ginghamberg United Methodist Church congregation, to make a miracle offering for missions on Christmas. He suggested that each family bring as an offering an amount to equal to what they spent on their family and friends. Many did that and have continued to do so each year. They have raised several million dollars and built an amazing ministry in Darfur in the Sudan. They have built over 160 schools that, in addition to teaching both boys and girls, provide children with one meal a day all year. For half the year that's likely to be the only meal they receive. This mission has built wells in the communities so children don't have to travel miles in unsafe areas to draw water for their families. They have helped thousands of farmers build new lives for themselves and their families by a sustainable agriculture program. It's truly amazing what one congregation can do when they devote themselves to serving Christ.

We are blessed to be a blessing. Let's bless others with our time and our gifts this year.

Many blessings,

*Anne*



## ALDRSGATE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

### “DECLUTTERING” IS TOPIC OF SATURDAY GENERAL MEETING

We talk about getting rid of the clutter on our desks, in our storage areas & even in our living areas. Having too much “stuff” takes both time and space away from us. It’s hard to find the things we want; it’s hard to put everything away neatly. It makes life more complicated than necessary. Too often we postpone doing anything to change the situation because we don’t know where to start.

Get help from an expert--Joanie Hardy—who will be the speaker at our next General Meeting on Saturday, November 21, in the Ide Center. We will gather at 8:45 AM and start the program at 9:00. A light breakfast of pastries, fruit, juice, coffee, and tea will be available with a basket for your donation. Please note that this is a change from our regular pattern of meeting on Thursdays.

Everyone interested is welcome to attend. Please sign up on the Opportunities Board so that we have a place ready for you. This year, when you bring out all your Christmas decorations, you will be prepared to put back in storage only those you really want to keep and can put aside the rest for the Rummage Sale!

### SUCCESSFUL CRAFT SHOW

Thanks to all of you who helped, our 2009 Crafts & Collectibles Show & Sale was successful in many ways. After expenses for supplies and advertising, our **net proceeds were \$1,554.67**. Half of this money will be used by the Missions Committee to complete our Global Missions Partners commitment to support of Meri Whitaker, our missionary in Oklahoma, and of the doctor at Ganta Hospital in Liberia. The other half will be used by the UMW for their end-of-year missions giving, which usually includes substantial gifts for programs like the White Gifts Program, the Greece Food Shelf, and Cameron Community Ministries.

We increased the number of vendors this year, filling the Ide Center both days and adding eight spaces on Saturday in the Gathering Space. While not all the vendors did well in sales, they were happy with our arrangements and nearly all indicated a desire to return. Most felt that the current economic climate was largely responsible for the reduced sales.

We appreciated that more of you came to view the displays. It is very important to the vendors that our own church members come to support this effort. (They actually can tell.)

We have already set the date for **next year**: Friday and Saturday, **October 15 & 16, 2010**. Mark this on your calendar now and plan to participate in some way with this project.

### UMCOR KITS DELIVERED

A record number of kits for the United Methodist Com-

mittee on Relief were assembled at the September 24 UMW meeting and delivered to Mission Central in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, by Floyd & Gretchen Hughes the following week. With the supplies gathered over the summer, **161 School Bags were filled and 156 Health Kits** were put together (half again as many as we have been able to do in prior years.) In addition, **the UMW sent a check for \$500 to Mission Central** to help defray the costs of adding toothpaste to the Health Kits and of transporting the kits to the locations where they will ultimately be distributed.



We never know just where “our” kits go. The warehouse at Mission Central responds primarily to disasters in the Northeastern United States, including Puerto Rico, but it ships containers of supplies all over the world. Recently they sent a full container to Nicaragua.

On one Monday morning in mid-August, Eric DeWalt, the Executive Director, checked his voice mail from the weekend to learn that a major flood had hit Gowanda and Silver Creek in Western New York. A few minutes later he had a phone call from Rev. Carl Chamberlain, our conference coordinator for disaster relief, saying that a large truck would arrive around 10 AM to pick up 900 flood buckets and as many health kits as they could get in the truck. Eric is the only full-time employee at Mission Central and the two half-time employees were not due in. However, volunteers that were supposed to come on Thursday got their dates mixed up and came that Monday, bringing fifteen people rather than the six expected. The truck got there on time, and they were able to fill it up and send it on its way back by 10:45. That’s just one of the “miracle” stories Eric has to tell.

School supplies are often sent to United Methodist missions overseas, but they are also given out after disasters to children who have lost their homes and all their belongings—as after Katrina and other hurricanes in the south, or used by inner-city or rural ministries in the U. S. in their work with children.

While we focus on this effort primarily in the summer, Mission Central is a year-round ministry to people in need. Please keep it in your prayers and feel free to visit if you get near the area. You will find it a rewarding use of your time.

### “THREE CUPS OF TEA” IS THE SELECTION FOR READING CIRCLE

When the Reading Circle meets on November 5, the talk will be about adventure—the true story of Greg Mortenson, an emergency room nurse and mountain climber, whose rescue led to his promise to build a school in the very remote area of



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Pakistan that is in the news today as the center of the fight against the Taliban and al-Qaeda. Join us for what is sure to be a very stimulating discussion. Books are available in the church library.

The Reading Circle meets in the church library at 1:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month throughout the year. A hostess each month prepares light refreshments. See or call Helen Wolter (621-1904) or Frances Crabtree (392-0772) for more information.

## MORNING CIRCLE

If you were not able to attend the evening meeting when a speaker from **St. John's Living Center** talked about the **new directions that nursing home care** is taking, come to Morning Circle on **Tuesday, November 17**, in the parlor at 11:00 AM.

Bring a light lunch, and volunteer hostesses will have prepared beverages and dessert. If you have questions, call Gege Dunn ((663-9235) or Bobbie Eckert (225-9582).

## ALDERSGATE UMW RECOGNIZED



At the Genesee Valley District UMW Annual Meeting, the Aldersgate Unit was announced as both a **Five-Star Unit** and a **Silver Mission Today Unit**. Five-Star Units are those who have paid their Pledge to Mission in full; have taken a Thank Offering; and have given Mission Recognition pins, Gift in Mission cards and Gift in Memory cards. Silver Mission Today Units have completed at least 14 of 19 criteria to carry out the purposes of the organization.

In addition, five members received certificates for completing the Reading Plan this year: Frances Crabtree, Joyce Farrokh, Gretchen Hughes, Gloria Montgomery, and Helen Wolter.

## TANYA'S GIFT—UPDATE

It was reported last month that Tanya Whitaker had asked us to use the freewill offering taken at her workshop on September 12 for ourselves. The Executive Committee of the UMW voted to purchase a set of altar cloths from Cookson Hills Center with the money that includes a covering for the communion table, an altar cloth, a bookmark, and a stole. We ordered a second stole since we have two pastors. These special cloths have an Indian symbol embroidered on them and the stoles include both that symbol and the cross and flame symbol of the United Methodist Church. The cloths are appropriate for use for both Thanksgiving and for American Indian Awareness Sunday in May. By ordering this set, we are purchasing something that can be used here at Aldersgate and supporting one of the cottage industries at Cookson Hills Center.

## MISSION NEWS

### POTLUCK DINNER & MISSION FAIR ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Join the Missions Committee for fellowship over a potluck dinner and an opportunity to learn more about our mission connections through our church and community. Representatives of local agencies that we have been supporting will be there with displays to talk with you about the work they do—agencies such as the Greece Food Shelf, Mission Share, and Cameron Community Ministries. Others displays will include the Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity projects, Cookson Hills Center, and the White Gifts program. It will be a chance to learn about how you have helped and how you can help with their very important work.

The Dinner and Mission Fair will take place in the Ide Family Life Center right after the second service. There is a sign-up sheet on the Opportunities Board where you can indicate how many are coming from your family and whether you are bringing a main dish, salad, or dessert.

### SALE OF KELLY'S FARM PIES TO BENEFIT GREECE CHURCHES HABITAT PROJECT



We will begin taking orders for our annual Thanksgiving Habitat Pie sale on **Sunday, November 1**. The 10-inch pies from Kelly's Farm in Hilton come in four varieties: **apple crumb, apple-raspberry, pumpkin, and apple cranberry**. They weigh 4.5 lbs. and cost just \$14.00 each. A **two-pound dish of apple crisp** will also be offered for sale for \$11.00. You can sign up for the pies and/or dish of Apple Crisp on the Opportunities Board. Please put your check for your order in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Orders must be paid for in advance.

**Pick up** for the pies will be at the church on **Tuesday, November 24, from 4:00-7:00 PM** so that you can pick them up on your way home from work or on your way to a meeting. Pies not picked up will be left in the kitchen with your name on them.

### CHICKEN & RIB BARBECUE UPDATE

Thank you to all who served and those who bought barbecued chicken and rib dinners on October 3. From Aldersgate \$472 was raised toward the children's ministries at Emmanuel. Cooperative activities like this help to build our connectional relationships with other United Methodist Churches.

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## MISSION NEWS (Cont.)

(Continued from page 7)

### DON'T MISS OUT ON ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE!

Aldersgate bake sales are popular for good reason: the food is good! After you vote on November 3, be sure to stop by the church to see what is available. You may even want to come in more than once because new pies and cookies have a way of appearing throughout the day. Christmas crafts will also be available for sale. The sale will open with the polls in the morning and continue until all is sold or it's 6:30 PM.

The funds raised will be used to complete our Global Missions Partner commitment to the support of a physician at Ganta Hospital in Liberia, Africa. Any remaining money will go to our General Benevolence Fund, upon which the Missions Committee draws to support other mission projects.

Sign-up sheets are posted for you to indicate your



willingness to contribute both the product of your baking skills and your service in staffing the sale.

### NOVEMBER 22 IS BROWN BAG SUNDAY

The people at Aldersgate are known for their generosity; so, just before one of our biggest "eating" days of the year, let's share our resources with those around us who are in need. While we support the Greece Food Shelf the year round, we make a special effort with a "Brown Bag Sunday" just before Thanksgiving.

On November 15, you will receive a grocery bag to remind you to shop that week for non-perishable packaged food and household supplies. Bring your donations with you on **Sunday, November 22**. 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. We know the need is great.

## WHITE GIFTS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Helping Needy Families for 39 Years

***Help Make a Difference!***

The Aldersgate tradition of providing Christmas dinner and gifts for needy families will continue this year. We intend to provide help to at least 16 families. Listed below are some of the ways that you can help make this a special Christmas for those families.

How can you help?

### MONETARY DONATIONS

**ADOPT-A-FAMILY** - Money will be provided from the White Gifts general funds. You have the rewarding assignment of personally shopping and delivering to your "family." Suggested guidelines will be provided for you.

**SPONSOR-A-FAMILY** - (Full responsibility for a needy family).

Just like the "Adopt-A-Family" option except that you fully sponsor the cost of the food and gifts. Expect to spend between \$300-\$400 for food and gifts for an average size recipient family. *You may want to share this project with other Aldersgate families, co-workers, neighbors, or friends and split the expense.*

**PURCHASE GROCERIES FOR A FAMILY** – Money can be provided from the White Gifts general funds

**PURCHASE CLOTHING OR TOYS** – Money can be provided from the White Gifts general funds

**DELIVER GROCERIES AND GIFTS** – The groceries and gifts will be provided for you to deliver to a needy family.

### Plan Now!

Speak to Jan or Tracy Winter at church or contact them by phone at 225-4927 for more information and to volunteer in this very rewarding venture as soon as possible. You may also e-mail Jan at [jwinter@frontiernet.net](mailto:jwinter@frontiernet.net).

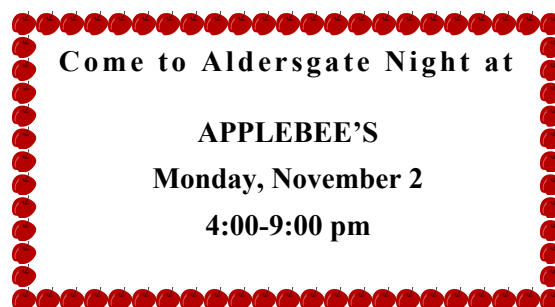


## CHURCH EVENTS, MINISTRIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

### GIVE GOD PRAISE WITH YOUR SPECIAL THANK OFFERING

**On Sunday, November 22**, Thanksgiving Sunday, 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 early in November so that you can be prepared.

What better day than Thanksgiving Sunday to remember God's goodness to us throughout the year!



### GOOD SENSE BUDGET COURSE OFFERED

The Good Sense Budget Course that was offered by satellite a few years ago is offered again with two options. If you are interested, you may sign up for four Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM, starting October 28, or for an all-day Saturday program on November 7 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

### UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY NOVEMBER 29

Thanks to gifts on United Methodist Student Day, students attending United Methodist-related and other accredited colleges and universities can receive scholarships and loans. Our gifts add up to make a world of difference for young people preparing for a life of service. Please be generous.

For more information about United Methodist scholarships and loans, ask in the church office.



### INK JET AND LASER PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Bring in your empty ink jet and laser printer cartridges to church. This is ecologically good for the environment and will help to raise funds for special projects. A container for you to deposit your cartridges is in the Gathering Space.

### OPPORTUNITIES AT ALDERSGATE FOR EDUCATION SUPPORT

The **S.O.L.O. Scholarship Program** (Singles in Opportunities for Learning with Others) at Aldersgate was initiated a number of years ago to support adult singles active in our congregation who are enrolled in accredited degree programs and who need additional financial assistance. Since the program was established, we have given three scholarships. Because the goal is for the fund to become self-sufficient, half of each contribution is retained to become part of an endowment and half is earmarked for a new award.

The Church Council added the **Ministry Education Support Fund** to our programs in February 2006 to give our congregation an opportunity to support those from our church studying for ordained ministry. The funds can be used toward tuition, books, and other required supplies.

Your gifts to help these funds grow will pay dividends for God's kingdom.

## CHURCH EVENTS, MINISTRIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES (CONT.)

### 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL AUCTION—CAROL WILL BE BACK!

**Carol Ritter Wright**, former D & C columnist, will return this year as auctioneer for our 22nd Annual Auction on **Friday, November 13**. From the **spaghetti and meatball dinner at 6:00 PM** on, enjoy good fellowship and a fun-filled evening. **The auction will begin promptly at 7:00 PM**. You never know what unexpected item you can't live without might turn up for sale! The sign-up sheets for the dinner are on the bulletin board now.

Please think also about your contribution. We are looking for **good quality items, gift certificates, baked goods (or the promise thereof), services—**anything you think someone else might want. We need 80-100 items for a successful auction. Donation forms are available each week in the bulletin, or call **Gretchen Hughes (865-2822)** to let her know what you plan to bring.

**Please bring the items you are contributing to the church that Friday afternoon after 1:00 PM.** The earlier in the afternoon we have them; the easier it will be to get them set out for display.

Half the proceeds from the Auction will go toward the current Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity project at 356 Campbell Street. The other half will be go toward the Cookson Hills Center capital campaign to build a Reception Center to house their food shelf, clothing closet, and intake services. A display showing some of their current facilities will be set up at the Mission Fair on November 8 and at the auction. We have been so happy with our own building that it is appropriate that we help others build.

Sign up now for the auction. Don't miss this good time!

### GAME NIGHT SCHEDULED

**for November 14**

**at 6:00 PM in Ide Family Life Center.**

**Come join the fun — card games and table tennis.**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

### LOOKING AHEAD TO 2010

Commitment Sunday was October 25; but, if you have not already returned your pledge card with its estimate of your giving to support the ministries at Aldersgate in 2010, it is not too late to do so.

Your doing so is important to our ability to plan our ministries for this coming year. When you return a completed pledge card, you are taking a step of faith with us. None of us know just what the new year will bring, but it is important as a church and as individuals to plan and to make commitments for the upcoming year. We are called to bless others as God has blessed us. Count your blessings and make your blessings count!



*If you would like to receive the Hinge by e-mail, please call the Church Office at 663-3665 or E-mail Candy at [cmetzger@aumcgreece.org](mailto:cmetzger@aumcgreece.org).*

## Thank You

Dear Friends,

Your cards, visits, phone calls, and prayers are getting me through this ordeal. Thank you so much for all of them. I am done with radiation and back on chemotherapy. Radiation took a lot out of me. I have even found that I like milkshakes to help me gain weight.

Thank you again for all you have done for me. I'm sure all of your prayers, etc. are going to help me beat this cancer.

I hope to see you at the auction.

Peace, Love and Joy,

Pat Jermyn

I thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy. It is deeply appreciated.

Sylvia Lynch and family

## Poinsettia Legend

The Poinsettia has long been an annual tradition and true sign of the holiday season! Legend tells us that the plant came into being when a poor Mexican girl had no gift for the Christ child. Deeply saddened, she gathered twigs from along the roadside and placed them at the altar. They miraculously turned into a magnificent "Flor de Noche Buena", glower of the Holy night. The star of the leaf is said to represent the star over the Christ child.

Our own traditional display of these beautiful plants in memory or in honor of our loved ones will be on display Sunday, December 20th, Christmas Eve, and Sunday, December 27th, when they may be taken home after the 11:00 AM service.

Beginning Thanksgiving Sunday, November 22nd, there will be order blanks in the church bulletins with cost and instructions. The deadline for ordering will be December 6th. Please call Barb Condon at 865-0871, if you have questions.



## DEAR SALLY STEWARDSHIP

Dear Sally Stewardship,

Every once in a while someone at church says something about “apportionments.” What does that mean? I found “apportion” in the dictionary, but not apportionments.”

I Don't Know If This Is Really Important

Dear I Don't Know,

Oh, it's important all right; and this is a good time to ask since we are close to preparing the budget for our church ministries for the coming year. My dictionary says that “apportion” means “to divide and assign proportionally; allot.”

“Apportionments” is a Methodist term. (Apparently there aren't quite enough of us for the word to make it into the dictionary.) The United Methodist Church is a connectional organization. Unlike the many independent churches, when we join a local UM church, we are also joining a larger group. To quote from a short article in United Methodist giving in—of all places—the official church program calendar, “The United Methodist Church believes in joining hands across our connected congregations to help all of God's children wherever and whenever we can. . . . Our ministries are numerous and varied; and because we are a connectional church, we can do more together than any one congregation can do alone. Our money accomplishes great things, all in the name of Jesus Christ—feeding the hungry, welcoming the stranger, clothing the poor, caring for the sick, visiting the prisoner and more.”

Each year our representatives at Annual Conference—our clergy and lay members—decide on the conference program and its budget. Our share of funding that budget based on our financial strength is our apportionment. (The formula for determining financial strength is complicated, but every attempt is made to be fair. For instance, our need to pay for building new facilities is taken into account.) The Western New York Conference has tried to keep that allocation to 15% or less of the local church budget.

In recent years a clearer term like “shared ministries” has been used rather than the unusual “apportionments” to describe these funds. Among those shared ministries are the World Service Fund, which is the funding lifeline for a long list of Christian missions and ministries throughout the world. (Although we have covenant relationships with individuals, our missionaries do not have to visit churches to gather financial support before they can go to the field.) The Africa University Fund supports the young men and women who come from 22 countries in Africa for post-secondary study in many fields, developing Christian leaders on that continent. The Ministerial Education Fund helps to defray the costs of a seminary education and continuing education for our pastors. The Black College Fund supports the 11 historically Black United Methodist-related colleges whose programs have produced many of our country's leaders. The salaries, office expenses, travel, pensions, and health benefits of our 50 bishops and 19 Central Conference bishops are covered by the Episcopal Fund. Finally, we have a voice in a number of world-

wide ecumenical and interreligious organizations because of the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund.

What is our share? For 2009 it is close to \$36,000. Now before you get any ideas about how we could use that money locally, keep in mind that one of our long-standing values here at Aldersgate is doing our share. We have paid our apportionments in full every year since—I think—1972. Even then we fell short by what in today's terms was only a small amount of money. One of the reasons we are able to meet our commitment each year is that we send the money as we go, forwarding to the conference each month approximately one-twelfth of the total, rather than waiting until the end of the year and hoping there'll be enough. It's very important for us as a church to model the faithfulness we expect of the members of our congregation.

How about a short, easy question sometime?

Always happy to hear from you,  
Sally Stewardship

## SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

### SCRIPTURE READERS

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
11/1	Confirmation Class	
11/8	Gloria Montgomery	
11/15	Jan Rothfuss	
11/22	Sandi Norris	
11/29	Glenn VanPutte	

### ACOLYTES

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
11/1	Sammy Hanko	Amanda Farrell Chase Tyler
11/8	Usher	Rebecca Lindeman Ryan Lindeman
11/15	Brianna Kephart	Nick Spicer Marie Sims
11/22	Allison McHugh	Renee Tibbles Caleb Thompson

### USHER SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
11/1	Al & Myrt Holmes, Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Tom & Zuni Simons, Terry & Nancy Young
11/8	Al & Myrt Holmes, Hal & Scott Wagner	Nancy Bader, Walt Dunn, John & Karen Best
11/15	Al & Myrt Holmes, Joan Michlin, Larry VanAllen	Dean & Jackie Hogestyn, Gary & Denise Hogestyn
11/22	Al & Myrt Holmes, Hal & Scott Wagner	Eric Bock, Colleen Tyler, Evelyn Welker, Linda Uebvelacker
11/29	Al & Myrt Holmes, Susan DeVincentis, Evelyn Welker	Vince & Laura Acciaio, Nancy Bader, John Cochran



Aldersgate  
United Methodist Church  
4115 Dewey Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14616

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**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

Nancy Woodworth-Hill, Christian Education Coordinator

436-6848  
nwoodworth@aumcgreece.org

Rachelle Vitullo, Interim Youth Director

943-9994

Candy Metzger, Administrative Assistant

663-3665  
cmetzger@aumcgreece.org

Tamara Ruiz, Organist

truiz@aumcgreece.org

David Rogenmoser, Choir Director & Contemporary Music Director

drogenmoser@aumcgreece.org

Debbie Simm, ACWT Administrative Leader

dsimm@aumcgreece.org

Lea McQuown, Custodian

Evelyn Welker, Housekeeper

Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant

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

Aldersgate General Email: [info@aumcgreece.org](mailto:info@aumcgreece.org)

Church Fax – 865-8442

# November 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Jr. Church (Ages 6-9 (4) 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 12:30 PM Experiencing God (P)	<b>2</b> 4:00 – 9:00 PM Applebee's 700 PM ACWT (S)	<b>6</b> Election Day Bake Sale 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzy's 1:00 PM Small Group (Coburn) (P) 6:00 PM Sr. High FFYG (Bowling) 6:30 PM SPRC (8)	<b>4</b> 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Brown) (P) 7:00 PM Good Sense Budget (3/4)	<b>5</b> 1:00 PM Reading Circle (L) 7:00 PM Trustees (4) 7:30 PM Stewardship (L) 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)	<b>6</b> 5:30 PM Christmas Theater Rehearsal 1,2,3 (S) 6:00 PM Middle School FFYG (Bowling) 6:30 PM Small Group (Parents) (P)	<b>7</b> 9:00 AM Good Sense budget (3/4) 10:30 AM Bell Choir (S) 11:00 AM Grief Share (P) 4:30 PM Confirmation Class (3/4)
<b>8</b> 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Jr. Church (Ages 6-9 (4) 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 12:30 PM Experiencing God (P)	<b>9</b> 1:00 PM Sew N Sew's (1) 6:30 PM Northgate Neighbors Bd. (O) 700 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Volleyball (Ide)	<b>10</b> 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Small Group (Caupp) (P) 1:00 PM Small Group (Coburn) (P) 5:30 PM Theater Rehearsal 1,2,3 (S) 6:30 PM Sr. High FFYM (YR, Ide) 7:00 PM Small Group (O'Connor) (P)	<b>11</b> 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Brown) (P) 7:00 PM Good Sense Budget (3/4) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (2, 8, FH)	<b>12</b> 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P) 7:30 PM Finance (4)	<b>13</b> 5:30 PM Christmas Theater Rehearsal 1,2,3 (S) 6:00 PM Spaghetti Supper (Ide) 7:00 PM Auction (Ide) 6:30 PM Small Group (Parents) (P)	<b>14</b> 10:30 AM Bell Choir (S) 11:00 AM Grief Share (P) 6:00 PM Game Night (Ide)
<b>15</b> 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Jr. Church (Ages 6-9 (4) 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 12:30 PM Experiencing God (P)	<b>16</b> 700 PM ACWT (S)	<b>17</b> 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 11:00 AM Morning Circle (P) 1:00 PM Small Group (Coburn) (P) 5:30 PM Theater Rehearsal Blocking 4,5,6 (S) 6:30 PM Sr. High FFYM (YR, Ide) 7:30 PM Investment Club (3/4)	<b>18</b> 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzy's 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Brown) (P) 7:00 PM Good Sense Budget (3/4) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (FH)	<b>19</b> 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P) 7:30 PM Church Council (3/4)	<b>20</b> 5:30 PM Christmas Theater Rehearsal Entire Play (S) 6:30 PM Middle School FFYG (YR, Ide) 6:30 PM Small Group (Parents) (P)	<b>21</b> 9:00 AM UMW Meeting (Ide) 11:00 AM Grief Share (P) 6:30 PM United Marriage Encounter (Ide)
<b>22</b> 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Jr. Church (Ages 6-9 (4) 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 12:30 PM Experiencing God (P)	<b>23</b> 700 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Volleyball (Ide) 7:00 PM Cub Scouts (2)	<b>24</b> 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Small Group (Caupp) (P) 1:00 PM Small Group (Coburn) (P) 5:30 PM Theater Rehearsal Off Book—entire play (P) 6:30 PM Sr. High FFYM (YR, Ide) 7:00 PM Small Group (O'Connor)	<b>25</b> 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Brown) (P) 7:00 PM Good Sense Budget (3/4) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (2, 8, FH)	<b>26 Thanksgiving Day</b>	<b>27</b> 6:30 PM Small Group (Parents) (P)	<b>28</b> 11:00 AM Grief Share (P)
<b>29</b> 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Jr. Church (Ages 6-9 (4) 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 12:30 PM Experiencing God (P)	<b>30</b> 5:30 PM Play Rehearsal (S) 7:00 PM E & MC (4) 7:00 PM ACWT (S)			<b>AA MEETINGS (FH)</b> Daily (except Sun.) 7:30 AM Sunday 7:00 AM. Sunday 7:30 PM Monday 7:00 PM Wednesday 5:30 PM Thursday (Women) 7:30 PM	<b>ALANON</b> Monday 7:00 PM (8)  <b>GAM-ANON</b> Friday 7:00 PM (8)  <b>GAMBLER'S ANONYMOUS</b> Friday 7:00 PM (3/4)	