



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

4115 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, New York 14616-1216

(585) 663-3665

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

December 2012 & January 2013

From Your Pastor

After some fun in church talking about Christians using the word "Christmas" as opposed to the word "holiday," someone reminded me that the word holiday comes from the notion of "Holy Day," a special religious day. Certainly Christmas is that. That got me to thinking that when someone wishes me a happy holiday, a good response might be, "You have a blessed Holy Day too!"

Christmas is a Holy Day! It's a special time of celebrating the incarnation, the coming of God to us in the flesh in Jesus Christ. This is Good News!

[Jesus Christ] who, being in very nature God,
 did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
 rather, he made himself nothing
 by taking the very nature of a servant,
 being made in human likeness.
 And being found in appearance as a human being,
 he humbled himself
 by becoming obedient to death—
 even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
 and gave him the name that is above every name,
 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:6-11

As a church we will celebrate this Holy Day with several special events leading up to Christmas and on Christmas Eve with three special candlelight services. The 5 PM service is geared toward children and will be led by the contemporary team. The 7:30 PM service is our traditional service with the choir. The 11 PM service will include communion and be led by people from all three of our Sunday services. I encourage you to make attending worship with your family and friends a priority over all the other expectations that are put on us at Christmas. Gatherings with family and friends are an important part of the season, but worshipping Christ is what it is all about. As Mike Slaughter says, "It's not your birthday!" (Okay, there are some who are born on December 25, but that's not the point.) Putting Christ first in all of our Christmas activities, gatherings, and preparations and worshipping on Christmas Eve will help us have a truly blessed Holy Day.

Tom and I pray that you will have a blessed Holy Day and that Christ will be born anew in you and yours this Christmas!

In Christ's love,

Anne

Inside this issue:

From Your Pastor	1
Our Ministry of Concern	2
From the Pastor of Visitation & Membership Care	3
Birthdays & Anniversaries	4
Christian Education	5
Church Events & Opportunities	6
Mission News	7 & 9
United Methodist Women	8 & 11
Sally Stewardship	9
White Gifts	10
Serving in Our Worship Services	11



ADVENT

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 Chitie Edgett or the church office.

Hospitalized: Brandon Gray—Strong

In rehab: Bob Fisher—Unity

Recovering at home: Pauline Ashley, Joan Michlin. Harry Muthersbaugh

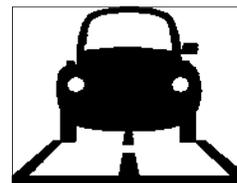
Those with ongoing health concerns: Vonnie Ackerman, Hayden Armendinger (father of Debbie Kennedy), Denise Bayer, Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis and Malcolm), Bill Butler (brother of Evelyn Welker), Lura Carstens (mother of Ted Carstens), Jimmie Condon, Ursalee Crepinsek (cousin of Myrle/Beverly Johnson), Sarah Crough (niece of Doug & Nancy

Jones), Logan Desmone (child of friend of Lisa Deutsch), Bill Easton (friend of Candy Metzger from NJ), William Donahue, Valerie Eckels, Chitie Edgett, Carol Finch (friend of the DeVincentis Family), Robert Fisher, Stella Gagliano, Steven Gray (brother of David Gray), Shirley Grierson, Becky Hess, Fred Hild, Vi Hutchins (friend of Chris Palmer), Vince Jowett (friend of Hal Wagner family), Bonnie Kennedy (former member), Madeline Larabee (great granddaughter of Nancy Wayne), Kim Latragna, Lynn Linder (sister-in-law of Tammy Ruiz), Ruth Loomis, Steven Lynch (son of Sylvia Lynch), Natalie & Jamie Manfredi, Gary Martin (brother of Carole Jermyn), Len Mack, Tom Marsh, Charlotte & Patrick McCabe (daughter & son-in-law of Betty Baybutt), Lea McQuown, Bill Miller, Denise Montgomery, Karly Pellman (granddaughter of Seward & June Griffen), Kamran Pickering

(grandson of Donna Colangelo), Gordon Preston, Barbara Robinson, Bill Shirk (friend of Evelyn Welker), Tom Simons, Wilma Jean Smith, John Sobus, Jr., David Stanley, Helen Sullivan (mother of Karen Newberry), Bill Teasdale, Hal Wagner, Mark Williams (son-in-law of Bob Wiederhold), Allan Wiley

Our home-bound: John Sobus, Leonora Tyler

Nursing Homes/Living Centers: Jeanne Barr, Maurice & Evelyn Deuel – Hilton East; Ted Coburn – Villages; Mavis Beers, Phoebe Brown, Phyllis Keegan - Edna Tina Wilson Living Center; Rosetta Knapp – Crimson Ridge Gardens; Jean Smith, Marion Voglesong – Crimson Ridge Meadows; Maxine Pollock – Blossom View Nursing Home in Sodus, NY; Len Mack, Martha Thomson – Woodlands; Evie Souve – LeRoy Village Green



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 and the lay visitation ministers visit regularly and would be happy to include others in the visitation schedule.



There are two prayer chains at Aldersgate. Each is coordinated by Chitie Edgett. 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.

If you need to be put on the prayer chain, please call the church office at 663-3665.



ALL items for the February Hinge are due January15!

From the Pastor of Visitation and Membership Care

Dear Aldersgate Friends & Family:

As we come to another Advent/Christmas season, it is so easy to get caught up in the busy activities of the season. However, as Christians, we need to pause and reflect on the real meaning of Christmas. In so doing, we can find real joy! The author of the book, *The Jesus Tribe*, Ronnie McBrayer shares his thoughts in the [The Joyful Noiseletter](#) (used by permission). Enjoy his words in an article titled:

God Calls Us to Share Discovery of Genuine Joy

C. S. Lewis observed that something of genuine beauty produces in us joy, joy born from two reactions. First, we stop. If it is a work of art, a striking human being or a sunset on the beach, a thing of beauty stops us in our tracks to look and observe, the rest of the world falling away.

Second, we must share what we have experienced with others; we simply cannot contain ourselves. "Listen to what I am hearing! Come see what I see!" Stop and share, Lewis said, are the products of complete joy.

For those of us who are parents, we know this sensation well. We cannot forget holding our newly born children for the first time. The world around us disappeared. We were stunned motionless by a holy silence, a silence broken only by the sharing of joyful phone calls to waiting friends and family.

If you have ever been in love — passionate, blissful, fanatical love — then you know what it is like for life to stop. New love is more than butterflies in the belly. It is absorption in another person, so much so that nothing else matters — except for telling others about the one you love.

This is exactly Lewis' point. We find joy in what we see, hear or experience and then we must share it with others. I wonder if this is what the shepherds experienced on that first Christmas. It was a night that began just like so many other nights.

The shepherds huddled together, shivering beneath the twinkling stars, as the frost fell heavy on the ground and on the topsides of the sheep they were guarding.

It was just another night of low-class, no-class work, scraping out a living while dreaming of warm food and a

warm bed. The only things that kept them awake were the worries on their minds: lurking predators in the night, lurking bill collectors on their doorsteps, a sick child back at home, an empty pot over the family fire. There was so much with which to be troubled.

Then, it happened. An angelic chorus erupted from the sky or from heaven, from somewhere, and sang of the Christ-Child born in Bethlehem. The Shepherds quaked and shook with fear, stunned with a silence as still as death. But it was silence that might as well have been shouting when compared to the holiness of kneeling in the barn where the beautiful newborn baby lay.

As they tiptoed away from the manger, they could no longer contain their joy. "They spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed." And they returned to the low-class, no-class work of guarding sheep under the cold stars.

They still had their troubles. They were still poor, hungry and tired. They still had four-and two-legged predators with which to deal, but joy had found a place in their hearts, joy unspeakable and full of God's glory. They couldn't be quiet about it, and neither can we.

In all our Christmas observance, may we find the genuine joy of sharing the GOOD NEWS that Christ has come!

Sincerely,

Jerry Wolter, Visitation Pastor

P.S. Helen & I wish to extend to each of you a Blessed Christmas. Our Special Greeting to all our church family will be on the Bulletin Board.

BIRTHDAYS

Rodger Burkhart	December 1
Carol Wright	December 6
Jerry Jones	December 9
Zuni Garcia-Simons	December 10
Maria Stanley	December 10
Samantha Christie	December 11
Linda Uebelacker	December 13
Shannon Forbes	December 16
Nora Spindler-Miller	December 18
Katie O'Connor	December 20
Stephanie Bock	December 22
John Sobus	December 24
Cindy Roza	December 24
Noel Anderson	December 25
Carol Pearson	December 25
Kathy Savage	December 25
Andy Deutsch	December 27
Fran VanKouwenberg	December 27
Daniel Savage	December 28
Leslie Edgcomb	December 30
Bobbie Eckert	December 31

Brenda Donovan	January 1
Brian Jones	January 1
Christine Rice	January 3
Barb Draft	January 4
Kelley Groves	January 7
Carole Jermyn	January 8
John Grizzanti	January 9
Wilma Shaughnessy	January 11
Joseph Michaloski	January 19
Jan Rothfuss	January 19
Rich Keller	January 19
Len Mack	January 20
Holly Deutsch	January 20
Sara VanKouwenberg	January 23
Roger Forbes	January 27
Nancy Jones	January 31
Kim Latragna	January 31



ANNIVERSARIES

Brenda & Rick Donovan	December 3
Chris & Cori Loudon	December 8
Terry & Nancy Young	December 13
Harry & Roxanna Muthersbaugh	December 22
Ed & Shirley Geier	December 26
Nancy & Ken Rex	December 28
Eric & Clair Rex	December 28
Bill & Wendy Peeck	January 3
Don & Nichole Ruggles	January 30

GROW, PROCLAIM, SERVE!

During the months of December and January, the children's Sunday school classes will be learning about **God's Peaceable Kingdom and Living in the Kingdom.**

- December 2: Isaiah: Advent coloring wheel
- December 9: Elizabeth and Zechariah: Making Mulling Spices
- December 16: Mary and Joseph : Make Joy Cookies
- December 23: Birth/Shepherds: Manger Ornament/Pass-the-Peace Card
- December 30: The Wise Men: Cinnamon-Scented Star Candle Holder
- January 6: STARRY STARRY NIGHT: The Epiphany: Read aloud , The Third Gift _by Linda Sue Park and create a constellation viewer to take home.
- January 13: John Baptizes Jesus/Watercolor Dove or Origami Dove
- January 20: The Lord's Prayer/Bookmark
- January 27: Bird of the Air/BirdFeeder

ADVENT DEVOTIONS

Please pick up one of the many thought-provoking Advent daily devotional books that are located on a table in the Gathering space. We have great titles to choose from to read and reflect upon as we get ready to celebrate the Christmas season. The children will be receiving a copy of "*Have you heard the story of Jesus and his Love?*" Advent devotion, Rhymes and Seek-and-Find pictures in Sunday school.

The new family "Spark" magazine is in for the Christmas season. Please pick one up for your family today!

Let the Earthly Angels Sing!

We would like the children to sing "Away in the Manger" at the 5:00PM Family Christmas Eve Service. Please let Rhonda or Colleen know, if your child would like to participate.

**ALL CHURCH EVENT!
AN INTERGENERATIONAL ADVENT
CELEBRATION**

On Sunday, December 2, 2012 from 12:00-2:30 PM we will celebrate this joyous season with a Potluck Dinner and holiday entertainment following the second Worship Service around 12:15 PM. Each family can craft an original Advent calendar to take home and use each day. Other crafts include: making an orange/clove pomander ball, holiday wrapping paper, and scented Christmas tree ornaments. We will have recreational games for children and youth as well as an old-fashioned Christmas carol sing-along in the sanctuary. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Hope you can attend this exciting and festive all church event .

**“BLUE CHRISTMAS” SERVICE
DECEMBER 15**

Blue? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in “I am feeling blue.” Not everyone is up and cheery for Christmas. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people.

There is a growing attentiveness to the needs of people who are blue at Christmas. Increasing numbers of churches are creating sacred space for people living through dark times. Such services are reflective, accepting where we really are, and holding out healing and hope.

Here at Aldersgate, we will have such a service of healing and hope Saturday, **December 15 at 11:00 AM** in the Chapel. If you are “hurting” or know of others who would find such a service helpful – come. All are welcome!

**Church Conference
Following the 11:00 AM service
December 9**



DINE WITH US AT APPLEBEE’S

Monday, December 3 and January 7
4:00-9:00 PM

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

**COME TO GAME NIGHT
December 15 & January 19
at 6:00 PM
in Ide Family Life Center**



**SAVE THE DATE
Aldersgate’s Annual
Chili Cook Off**

Saturday, February 2, 2013

Sign Up in January.

More information to follow in the Sunday bulletins.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING DESIGNATED

The Christmas Offering has for many years been the one time we give financial support to **Gateway-Longview**, a United Methodist-related agency that has provided services to children and families since 1890. Although based in Buffalo, the agency provides services throughout the Western New York area. Gateway-Longview is the largest single non-governmental agency serving children and families in Western New York.

Their programs include Niagara Day Care; Therapeutic Preschool; an Elementary, Middle, & High School Day School Treatment Program; Foster Care & Adoption Services; Respite Services; Residential Treatment; Spiritual Life Development; Supervised & Transitional Independent Living and much more. We can be thankful that our United Methodist Church is able to respond to these needs in Western New York with skilled staff, well-equipped facilities and Christian love.

Half the offering will be sent to Gateway-Longview and the other half will be used toward **paying our apportionments**, that part of our annual budget that supports the **shared ministries** of the United Methodist Church. It from this money that basic support for our church mission work around the world is provided and the work of the district, conference, and denomination are funded. The portion we don't pay becomes a burden to other churches or results in a cutback in services.

Both in supporting Gateway-Longview and in supporting our shared ministries, we are changing lives through our dollars. Your check to Aldersgate marked "*Christmas Offering*" or placed in the Christmas Offering envelope of your weekly envelope set will go to support these two ministries of outreach.

ELECTION DAY BAKE SALE RESULTS

Once again we sold out of baked goods & packed up before the advertised close of the sale, having sold **\$366.25** in baked goods and crafts. We had a generous outpouring of excellent baked goods, but hosting four Election Districts really boosts the number of people passing through, especially in a presidential election year. The funds will be used by our church missions committee to meet its commitment to monthly support of Mission Share and to allow them to respond to other projects, such as classroom support for youngsters in school in Liberia. We thank everyone who supported this annual sale with baked goods, staffing, and purchases.

UMCOR HURRICANE 2012 RESPONSE

The first and foremost way we can all support the efforts of the United Methodist Committee on Relief after a disaster is to provide the dollars they need to help the victims of that disaster. In the first two Sundays after Hurricane Sandy struck the East Coast, Aldersgate responded with gifts totaling \$1231. (Interestingly, the gifts on the second of those two Sundays totaled \$911.00!) As you are able, please continue to give for this purpose. The work of UMCOR as you know goes on long past the immediate relief effort to include recovery.

We also help by preparing health kits each year to stock the shelves of Mission Central in Pennsylvania. The 209 health kits we sent in early October were a part of the 40,000 that Mission Central had ready to ship out for immediate distribution.

The Genesee Valley District E-News has a note asking people who want to be trained for an Emergency Response Team for future events to contact **William Tepper** (wtepper2@gmail.com) of Covenant United Methodist Church. If there are 20 or 30 interested people, UMCOR will schedule a training session in our area. UMCOR can carry out its response work so effectively and inexpensively because it can call on trained United Methodist volunteers all across the country.

In the meantime, already trained response volunteers are on the scene, including Don and Barbara Weaver who care for children while their parents are preoccupied with the challenges of meeting immediate needs. Calls will be going out for mission teams to help clean up and rebuild as the situation gets more under control. In the meantime, the message was sent to discourage free-lancers with good intentions who can often get in the way.

While we are focused on the response to the needs in our own backyard, let's not forget that the hurricane also did major damage and killed people in the Caribbean, where UMCOR is also working. Your generosity will continue to be significant in restoring all the areas affected. These are life-changing events.

MISSION SHARE THANKSGIVING DINNERS

Thank you very much for your generosity in helping our neighbors enjoy a good Thanksgiving dinner through Mission Share. A total of \$510 has been given, enough to brighten the day for **17** families.

READING CIRCLE:

For their Christmas selection this year the Reading Circle has chosen a children's book, Silver Packages by Cynthia Rylant. Frances Crabtree will lead the devotions and discussion at the Thursday, **December 6, meeting in the Church Library.**

The selection for **January 3** is Gone to Green by Judy Christie. The first in a new Christian Fiction series, the book introduces a young Ohio reporter who inherits a weekly newspaper in Green, Louisiana, and is presented with a whole new set of challenges, including trying to make it profitable and standing up to sometimes violent local opposition.

Books from the Public Library are available in advance in the church library each month. Please be sure to sign your name when you take one out and to cross it off when you return the book so that others can read it.

Reading Circle **meets at 1:00 PM** on the first Thursday of each month. Members take turns leading devotions and serving refreshments each month. New members and visitors are always welcome. For more information, contact Helen Wolter (621-1904) or Frances Crabtree (315-5077).

Plan to come to share in the fun and fellowship and enjoy the accomplishment of a good day's work on useful mission projects. For more information talk to Gege Dunn, Joyce Farrokh, Betty Hild, or Gretchen Hughes.

MORNING CIRCLE

On **December 11** Morning Circle will enjoy a Christmas program presented by our Spiritual Growth Coordinator, Barbara Draft. At the meeting on January 15, Gretchen Hughes will present a program on the current UMW Spiritual Growth Mission Study, Immigration and the Bible. At this meeting we will also hold a Pledge to Mission service. These pledges support mission work among women, children, and youth across the United States and around the world.

Morning Circle meets at 11:00 AM each month generally in the Church Parlor. Bring a light lunch. Hostesses each month bring dessert and beverages. For more information see Bobbie Eckert (225-9582) or Gege Dunn (663-9235).

SEW 'N SEW'S HOSTS PROJECT DAY FOR JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

Enjoy needlework but feel you don't have time? Think you might enjoy needlework but have never actually learned any particular needlework skills? Clear your calendar for our **Needlework Project Day** on Saturday, January 26, in the Ide Center. You will be welcome to come for all or whatever part of the day you are available.

We'll have breakfast beverages and coffee cake ready for your arrival at 9:00 in the morning. We will start with a short business meeting because we do have to approve a budget for 2013 and to make our Pledges to Mission for the year. Then we'll move directly to the projects: making pillowcase dresses, baby gowns, receiving blankets, or school bags; tying baby quilts; and making Warm-Up America afghans, baby sweaters, or prayer shawls. We can teach you skills from threading a needle to beginning crochet. There's a task for every skill and the completed projects all go to meet a need in our community or in the world.

At noon we will take a break for--surprise!--a soup and salad lunch then go back to work until 4:00 PM--or however long you can stay. The cost for the day is just \$5.00, which will cover the cost of food and help subsidize the cost of some of the materials we will be using.

END-OF-YEAR GIVING BY AUMW

After a delightful presentation on Saturday, November 10, by The Bread Man, Chet Fery, who reminded us of the importance of random acts of kindness, the members of UMW held a short business meeting, primarily to determine their end-of-year giving. United Methodist Women are required to "empty their treasuries" for mission at the end of each year, keeping only enough for expenses anticipated in the very near future.

From the Craft & Collectibles Show \$850 (half the net proceeds) was put in the General Benevolence Fund of the church to be used by the Missions Committee of the church for their projects as we do every year. Individual pledges to mission that have come in recently will be sent to the Genesee Valley District to help meet the District pledge of support for UMW missions around the world. The remaining \$1200 was distributed as follows: White Gifts - \$200, Greece Food Shelf - \$300, Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity - \$200, Crossroads Pregnancy Care at Mission Share - \$100, Two Doors Community Resource Center - \$100, Red Bird Mission - \$100, and UMCOR Hurricane 2012 Relief - \$100. We are most thankful for all those who give of their time and resources to support all these missions. Through our dollars we are truly transforming lives and serving Christ with joy.

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY JANUARY 20

Human Relations Day is an opportunity to celebrate our United Methodist connections. The special offering this Sunday supports Community Developers, UM Voluntary Service, and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.

Money from this offering for example is helping to build a new Empowerment Center for Better Community Development, Inc. in Little Rock, Arkansas, that will provide housing, supportive services, life-skills training, job preparation and more to the homeless and those recovering from drug and alcohol additions. The land was purchased 15 years ago, and the building will be the realization of a long-held dream.

Individually our impact may be limited, but through our United Methodist connections we can change lives! Please be generous.

CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY ON HABITAT HOUSE

Aldersgate has twice sent teams to work on the latest house sponsored by the Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity. This house is located at 83 Eddy Street. A new date is scheduled for January 5 from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. Sign up on the Opportunities Board. You don't have to wait for an Aldersgate date. By following the directions in the church bulletin, you can sign up and work in any open slot. In doing so, you will have a chance to get acquainted with people from the other churches who are actively interested in this project.

Your gifts to support this project are still needed. We thank you for your support of the Sticky Lips BBQ events and for ordering Habitat pies, but your additional gifts will help close the gap between the \$50,000+ that has been raised so far and the approximately \$65,000 needed to build a house. Your check payable to *Aldersgate UMC* and marked for "*Greece Habitat for Humanity*" will help to complete this project and change the lives of the family destined to live there.

Sally Stewardship

Dear Sally Stewardship,

I grew up in a tithing family. As soon as I started to make some money as a teenager (we didn't have "allowances" then), I automatically gave ten percent to the church. I don't understand why it's so hard for so many people. I just write my check to the church first and manage to live on the rest. I can't always pay my bills by return mail and have to plan ahead for big expenses, but I don't go hungry and I usually have enough to give for special things like White Gifts or Hurricane Relief. What's going on?

It's a Mystery

Dear Mystery,

You are fortunate to have grown up in a family that recognized the importance of responding to God's provision for us by putting Him first in their finances as well as the rest of their lives. Martin Luther commented that the last part of us to be converted was the pocketbook! Jesus talked about money so much because He understood that it was a difficult topic for most people. A lot of the problem is that we kid ourselves into believing our excuses.

I'm working my way through *The Stewardship Study Bible*. One of the articles I found recently lists the "reasons" people offer for not giving to the church:

- The Bible is about religious and moral issues, not about money or giving.
- Christians are under grace, not under law; the obligation to give doesn't apply to me.
- Giving reduces my ability to invest and save, which leads

to bad stewardship.

- My donation will encourage the poor to rely on handouts rather than earn a living themselves.
- I am up to my ears in debt. I can't give now.
- I've spent a lifetime securing my financial independence. I can't throw it all away.
- I'd like to give, but I'd have to work another job or cut back my standard of living.
- We'd give, but we're a young couple, and we need to save for a house/kids.
- We'd give, but we're paying for our kids to attend college; we're nearing retirement and we have little savings.
- Next year I'll be promoted. I'll give then.
- I'll leave money in my will, but I can't give now.
- I tithe 10 percent of my income; that's all God requires me to give.
- I don't give to my church because I give to another ministry.
- I give my time and talents by teaching Sunday school and hosting people in my home. That's my giving.
- I've already given more than enough in taxes.
- I don't give to any other ministry because I give to my church.

Do any of these excuses sound familiar? Please pray for us all that we might stop rationalizing and ask God for a spirit of true generosity.

Searching my heart, too,
Sally Stewardship

Helping Needy Families for 42 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 jjwinter@frontiernet.net.

OUR CHURCH STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE

Anne O’Connor, Pastor	621-4799 aconnor@aumcgreece.org
Gerald A. Wolter, Pastor of Visitation & Membership Care	621-1904 hgwolter@frontiernet.net
Derek Hansen, Youth Pastor	dhansen@aumcgreece.org 716-628-7319
Bob Jeffers, Associate Pastor of Visitation	pastorjeffers@hotmail.com 227-2371
Rhonda Simonelli, Christian Education Co-Director	663-6663 rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org
Colleen Tyler, Christian Education Co-Director	865-0094 ctyler@aumcgreece.org
Candy Metzger, Administrative Assistant	663-3665 cmetzger@aumcgreece.org
Tamara Ruiz, Organist	truiz@aumcgreece.org
David Rogenmoser, Choir Director	drogenmoser@aumcgreece.org
Vickie Souve, Contemporary Worship Leader	vsouve@msn.com
Hector & Maria Rivera, Hispanic Ministries	hrivera@aumcgreece.org mrivera@aumcgreece.org
Lea McQuown, Custodian	
Evelyn Welker, Housekeeper	
Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant	

**Aldersgate General Email: info@aumcgreece.org
Church Fax – 865-8442**

ACOLYTES

9:30 AM	11:00 AM
12/2 & Briana Kephart 1/6	Emma Byrnes Zachary Farrell Chase Tyler
12/9 & Allison McHugh 1/13	Michelle Maggio Ryan Lindeman
12/16 & Briana Kephart 1/20	Emma Bock Elijah Tyler Max Tyler
12/23 & Allison McHugh 1/27	Marie Sims Renee Tibbles
12/30 Usher	Caleb Thompson Matthew Thompson

SCRIPTURE READERS

9:30 AM	11:00 AM
12/2 Confirmation Class	Nancy Young
12/9 Carol DeCann	Sue Accapezzato
12/16 Shawna Bigler	Shirley Grierson
12/23 Ray Poling	Wilma Shaughnessy
12/30 Jan Rothfuss	Confirmation Class
1/6 Confirmation Class	Nancy Young
1/13 Nancy Bader	Melissa Powell
1/20 Gloria Montgomery	Mary Sims
1/27 Juli Payton	Confirmation Class

USHER SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
12/2	Al & Myrt Holmes Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Tom & Zuni Simons Nancy & Terry Young
12/9	Al & Myrt Holmes Susan DeVincentis Evelyn Welker	Nancy Bader Walt Dunn Scott Wiley
12/16	Al & Myrt Holmes Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Dean & Jackie Hogestyn Gary & Denise Hogestyn
12/23	Al & Myrt Holmes Hal & Scott Wagner	John & Karen Best Tom & Zuni Simons
12/24	5:00 PM Eric McHugh, Gordon, Sue, Michael, & Nicholas Spicer	
	7:30 PM John Cochran, Ray LaFlair, Linda Uebelacker, Larry VanAllen	
	11:00 PM Ushers still needed	
12/30	9:30 AM Al & Myrt Holmes Susan DeVincentis Evelyn Welker	11:00 AM John Cochran Ray LaFlair Scott Wiley
1/6	Al & Myrt Holmes Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Tom & Zuni Simons Terry & Nancy Young
1/13	Al & Myrt Holmes Susan DeVincentis Evelyn Welker	Nancy Bader, Walt Dunn John & Karen Best
1/20	Al & Myrt Holmes Linda Uebelacker Naomi Moss	Dean & Jackie Hogestyn Gary & Denise Hogestyn
1/27	Al & Myrt Holmes Hal & Scott Wagner	John Cochran Ray laFlair, Scott Wiley Candy Metzger

UMW (Cont.)

UPCOMING DATES:

Saturday, Jan. 12 - Genesee Valley District UMW Executive Committee, Rooms 3 & 4, 9:30 AM

Monday, Dec. 10 & Jan. 14 - Sew 'n Sew's in Room 1 at 1:00.PM

Saturday, March 23 - Communion Breakfast, Locations TBA

Tuesday, March 26 - Meal in the Upper Room in the Ide Center, 6:30 PM

Tuesday, April 9 - General Meeting in the Ide Center At 6:15 PM

Saturday, May 18 - Red Bird Mission Crafts Show, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the Ide Center

Aldersgate
United Methodist Church

4115 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, NY 14616

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Rochester, NY

Permit No. 1208

ADVENT

Now the twilight of the year
Comes, and Christmas draweth near.
See, across the Advent sky
How the clouds move quietly.
Earth is waiting, wrapt in sleep,
Waiting in a silence deep.
Birds are hid in bush and reed
Flowers are sleeping in their seed.

Through the woodland to and fro
Silent-footed creatures go.
Hedgehog curled in prickly ball
Burrows 'neath the leaves that fall.
Man and beast and bird and flower
Waiting for the midnight hour
Waiting for the Christ-child's birth
Christ who made the heaven and earth.