

# Aldersgate Hinge

April 2020



*From the Pastor*



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**Grace to you and Peace from God and our Lord Jesus Christ.**

I hold you in my prayers everyday as we all are affected by the Coronavirus pandemic and suffer from it in our daily life. May God bring you comfort and fill your hearts with strength and hope in this difficult and challenging time. Let us continue to pray for one another. Let us keep our relationship remembering each other in our prayers and sharing love through phone calls, emails, cards and other ways of communication. Let us pray for our communities, our country and the entire world.

Coronavirus has changed our lives. What has been normal is no longer normal. Of course, it has changed the church life, too – worship service, fellowship, children/youth ministry, pastoral care, meetings, Bible study/faith growth small groups.

I am working with church leaders in efforts to continue our ministry in this new situation that we have never been in. My goal and hope is not just to hunker down and survive. Yes, it is very important to stay healthy and safe. Safety has the priority. However, I believe God will continue to bless us in new ways as we are displaced beyond our comfort zones. I believe God wants us not just to survive but to thrive. We all remember that God blessed the Israelites with manna (bread from heaven) and quail when they were wandering in the wilderness for forty years. I believe God will feed us with manna and quail too in this difficult time.

So, we should continue to live with positive spirit moving forward. However, with all uncertainties, our plans are all temporary and we must adapt to changes continually. We just do our best in the given situation. We have online worship service now instead of worshiping in the sanctuary. For those who can't join in the online worship, sermon copies are emailed and also mailed. I really hope we can have worship service back in the sanctuary for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. So, I am preparing for that, but I am preparing for online service as well because we don't know how the future unfolds at this point.

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**Aldersgate United Methodist Church**

*Transforming Lives and Serving Christ with Joy*

4115 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, New York 14616-1216 • (585) 663-3665 • [www.aumcgreece.org](http://www.aumcgreece.org)



### **From the Pastor, Continued from page 1**

We are planning to offer Bible studies online. We bring Sunday school to our children's homes by sending lesson material to parents so that parents can teach their children, which creates an opportunity for unique relationships between children and parents. Youth group is planning to meet in the virtual church through video conference meetings. We offer pastoral care through phone calls, emails and cards. As we continue our ministry, we can't do our ministry without financial support. We must be faithful to our commitment and pledges.

Yes, we are challenged by Coronavirus. But when we respond with our faith and from a new perspective of faith, we can see new ways of living that God will reveal to us. And when we do something new with the spirit of creativity, it brings excitement and joy which is more powerful than the power of Coronavirus.

Aldersgate's theme for year 2020 is "Move Beyond Our Comfort Zones." We have already been displaced beyond our Comfort Zones. Of course, we did not plan this. As we are already in unfamiliar territory, let us remember that God is always doing new things only when people move beyond their comfort zone. Let us move forward and upward with hope, courage and faith to see what God is doing for us until the Coronavirus pandemic passes away.

Jesus won victory over the power of death! When Jesus is present in our hearts, his victory is ours as well. I really hope we can all gather together in the sanctuary on Easter morning to praise God and celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

Whether we celebrate Easter in the sanctuary or at our homes, Christ is risen! Alleluia!

In Christ, Our Lord and Savior,

*Pastor Sung Ho*

### **Keeping Your Pledge Up-to-Date Remotely**

This is a challenging time for all of us. Everything seems to be halted. Services and other events at Aldersgate have been cancelled. Businesses are closed and we've been asked to stay home as much as possible.

In the meantime, expenses at the church continue. If you would like to help out by keeping your pledge up-to-date, there are options you can consider: Write a check and mail it to the church. (Or mail to Jan Winter at 176 Kinmont Dr., Rochester 14612 – make sure check is written to Aldersgate.)

- Direct your bank to send a check to the church using a feature like autopay.
- Request an ongoing or temporary EFT from your bank account to the church. Jan can help you do that.
- Pay by credit card. Call Jan at 585-943-7353 with your credit card number (do not send the number via email).

We look forward to a time when we can all be together again. In the meantime, this will help us stay current with our expenses.

Prayerfully, Your Stewardship Team:

*Sue Zorn  
Sabrina McLeod  
Dick Edgett  
Bobbi Mohrmann  
Jan Winter  
Sung Ho Lee*

### **You Can Still Donate to UMCOR**

UMCOR Sunday is one of six church-wide Special Sunday offerings of The United Methodist Church. Through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), we can make a difference in the lives of communities and individuals whose lives have been upended by storms, wars, climate change, and displacement. We can do so much more together than we ever could do on our own – and through our connection, UMCOR has been doing this for 80 years.

This special Sunday would have been celebrated on March 22nd. You can still make a donation to this worthy cause by mailing a check to the church that includes a notation for "UMCOR Sunday" or by following one of the other methods described in the article above.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Jan Rothfuss  
AUMC Benevolence Treasurer



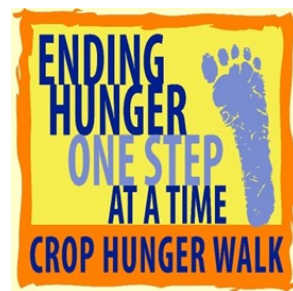
## Online Sunday Worship Services!

While we are not able to join together in person in our sanctuary, you can still enjoy a Sunday worship service experience thanks to modern technology.

On Sunday mornings, a new Sunday worship video will be posted on the church Facebook page. The video includes children's time at the beginning of the service which will be followed by a prayer, Scripture, sermon and benediction. I encourage you to invite your children to join in the children's time.

The video will be posted no later than 9:00AM on Sundays. The link for the worship video will be emailed when the video is posted on Sunday morning.

Pastor Sung Ho



## CROP Walk Tentatively Scheduled - May 3

Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world today, but it doesn't have to be...you can feed our neighbors here and around the world! **JOIN OUR ALDERSGATE UMC GREECE CROP WALK TEAM!**

**SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** at 1:00 pm begins Registration and **Pizza for lunch**, 1:50 Group Picture and 2:00 pm begins the walk at Aldersgate UMC this year! You can walk all six miles, or shorter versions, like the three or one-mile walk ...even laps in our gym. More information to follow soon! Please see Rhonda Simonelli for more information.



**Please notify the office if you would like to receive your newsletter electronically instead of a printed copy in the mail.**

Anyone can also sign up from the website (<https://www.aumcgreece.org/hinge-signup/>) to receive the Hinge emailed directly to them when it is available. Just enter the information and press "Submit;" the person will receive an email to confirm their signup. They just need to follow the link in the email to confirm.



ALL items for the **May Hinge** are due by **April 15.**

Please send to:

[karenladden@hotmail.com](mailto:karenladden@hotmail.com)

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## Our Ministry of Concern

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### Prayer Concerns

People are added and removed from our ongoing prayer list upon request. Please call the church office to ADD, REINSTATE, or REMOVE names.

#### Aldersgate people with ongoing health concerns:

Bernice Bird, Ellie Cook, Jennifer & Shaylee Crandall, Joyce DeBell, Nathan Dunn, Ron Durbin, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Carolyn Gilson, Becky Hess, Dick Keegan, Tim Kephart, Ray LaFlair, Ruth Loomis, Mas Okita, Dorothy Pearson, Joe & Michelle Piper, Cindy Purzycki, Charlotte Ridley, Larry Scrivens, Michael & Betty Smith, David Stanley, Michael Thompson, Doug Unell, Hal Wagner, Scott Wiley, Zeh family

#### Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

**Concerns:** Al & Maria Alvarez (Casandra Blanchette), Dan Barnhard (Kimberly Lindenau), Terri Brown, Amy & Halo (Laura Kimmel), John Adamski (Betty Judd), Quinn Aldridge (Wendy & Mike Dunn), Carol Price Barden (Wendy & Mike Dunn), Eleanor Barry (Natasha Cartens), Dawn Bayce (Sue & Ron Rozinski), (Christine, Claudia, Mark (Kathy Bernardi), Gretchen (Nancy Brehm), Terri Brown (Annette Thompson), Bonnie Bush (Bobbi Mohrmann), Mother (Mike Campanelli), Amy Carey (Sabrina McLeod & Gretta Schaefer), Tosh Carstens (Annette Thompson), Casey, Kris (Kathy Peck), Lou DeVelder, Andrew (Lisa Deutsch), Norma (Mark DeVincentis), Mom (Carol DeCann), Ethan, Zorine (Bobbie Eckert), Norm (Bette Edgett), Cathy (Roger Forbes), Jennifer Gleber (Sue & Ron Rozinski), Eileen Harloff (Wendy Dunn), Rich & Eileen Hartman (Nan Keller), Katie & Jake (Doug Hess), Nathan & family, Jordan (Deb Hamel-Russo), Helen (Doug Hess), David Herrmann (Sue Rozinski), Lois Hickey (Annette Thompson), Jessie (Adam Pfund), daughter and grandson (Nancy Jones), Helen & Bob (Nancy Jones), Kathy Kalwicki (Melody Zielinski), Kevin, Lily (Gloria & Rick Baker), Cleida Galligan (Sue Galligan & Karen Sladden), Jennifer Larsen, Liz, Joanne (Gretta Schaefer & Sabrina McLeod), Frank Gallagher (Kimberly Lindenau), Marita Jones & family (Nancy Jones), Brother-in-law & Eileen (Nan Keller), Lonnie, Trina, Fonda (Deborah Whitt), Deb Lindenau (Eric Lindenau), Stephen (Sylvia Lynch), April Lusk, Kristen (Laurie Ruell), Bert Manecio, Mark (Brenda Donovan), Joe Martorella (AnnaMarie Simm), Maxine (Sharon Bartter), Matt & Judy (Candy Metzger), Sheila McLeod, Mom & Dad (Sabrina McLeod), Phillip Mead (Bobbi Mohrmann), Michelle (Bobbie Eckert),

### E-Mail Prayer Chain

PLEASE help us keep the weekly printed church bulletin prayer concerns list UPDATED.

Call the Church Office (663-3665) if you have a prayer request during the week.



Stacey Miller (Wendy & Mike Dunn), Nancy (Lisa Deutsch), Nicole Mohrmann (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann), Kelly Naylor (Debbie & John Simm), Norah (Jan Rothfuss), Patty (Sue Galligan), Randy Patzwald (Debbie & John Simm), Laurie Peacock (Sue Spicer), Cooper Petrone (Sabrina McLeod), Phoebe (Deborah Whitt), Maria (Shawna Poling), Jeanee Poling (Shawna Poling), David (Cindy Purzycki), Daughter (The Ridleys), Butch Riemer (Karen Rice), Carol Ritter (Sue Zorn), Polly Roberts (Bette Edgett), Nico (Dennis & Anna Simm), Rhonda's husband (Mary Sims), Kim, Ray (Dave Rogenmoser), Christian Ruell (Laurie Ruell), Kathy & Scott (Sue Rozinski), Paula (Tim Rolfe), Elora (Mike & Deb Russo), Brittany Sauers (Gloria Baker), Martha Simmons (Deborah Whitt), Monica & Brook (Mary Sims), Susan Tuck Rooksby, Sam Ruzick (Dave Jones), Ricki Schaefer (Bobbi Mohrmann), Judy Smith (Carla Starr), Sylvania (Maria Stanley), Adam (Anna Simm), Wally (Kathy Start), Strothmann family (Karen Sladden & Sue Galligan), Abby (Louretta Teasdale), Marcie (Laurie VanAllen), Marilyn Thomas (Deborah Whitt), Sue VanderTang (Nancy Jones), Wilma, Lonnie, David (Deborah Whitt), Tom (Alma Harmer), Kathy (Gloria Baker), Ted & Barb Way (Wendy & Mike Dunn), Wally (Kathy Start), Mom (Annette Thompson), Herb, Roger (Colleen Tyler), Vickie (Doug Unell), Shirley Webber (Annette Thompson), Dad (Kaori Winter), Tom Yager (Sue Galligan), Jeannette, Daughter, Harmonni (Steve Zeh), Alicia (Sue Zorn)

**Nursing Homes/Living Centers:** Barb Condon – Cherry Ridge; Jane Coonan – Mill Landing; Al Holmes – Latta Road Nursing Home; Pat Holmes – Legacy Cranberry Landing; Len Mack – Hurlbut Nursing Home; Donna Rice – Mill Landing; Elaine Sampson – Hilton East; Martha Thomson – Hamilton Manor

**Christian Sympathy:** Candy Metzger's Mother passed away peacefully on March 23. There will be a memorial service after the coronavirus is over.

**Celebrate:** Martha Thomson will turn 100 on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Cards and well wishes can be sent to her at Hamilton Nursing Home, #17, 1172 Long Pond Rd.



# Birthdays & Anniversaries

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Wendy Peeck	April 1
Nancy Rex	April 3
Natasha Burdick-Carsten	April 4
Judy Hare	April 6
Bud Kress	April 6
Karin VanPutte	April 6
Doug Unell	April 7
Shawna Poling	April 7
James Christie	April 11
Martha Thomson	April 14
Sue Burdick	April 18
Hal Wagner, Jr.	April 19
Aaron Rothfuss	April 20
Charlotte Ridley	April 21
Kevin Roza	April 23
Helen Wolter	April 24
Kathy Peck	April 24
Julia Kennedy	April 25
Dennis Simm	April 28
Bobbi Mohrmann	April 30

## APRIL ANNIVERSARY

George & Jane Shukitis	April 21
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Happy  
Easter

## The Trustees' Corner

April Showers bring May Flowers! We love having our church grounds be beautiful and inviting! Trustees are planning a spring clean-up date, but consider taking an hour or so to help on your own. Need ideas of what to do? We will be creating a list and posting it on the bulletin board once we can get back into the building — just let us know if you did something so we can say Thank You!

A God Sighting and Huge Thank You to Bud Kress and the special donors who made the Power door a reality! This has been a project that has been on the Trustee list a long time. It takes special people to make a project come to life! Thank you to the anonymous donor (s) and to Bud for his time, talent and service to our community. We look forward to a special day in the future when we can recognize its addition to the church.

**Urgent Need** - Volunteers to check the church in the evening. See Colleen Tyler if you are interested or have questions about volunteering!

Thank you to Jan Winter and Sue Zorn for submitting a \$25,000 grant application to a local foundation. Please pray that we are awarded at least \$17,000 to cover the cost of new thermostats to have better management of the heat in our facility.

**Save the dates!!** (*Tentative, pending when we can return to being back in the church*)

April 14th: Monthly Organizing Day! 5:30 pm-8:30 pm

May 16th: Spring Clean Up! 9 am-2 pm

Coming in next month's Hinge — Get to know your Trustees! Do you know who they are?

Thank you for doing your part in caring for our facilities.

Respectfully - The Trustees



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# Youth activities

## Activities!

*"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17 NKJV)*

Over the last month or so we had the wonderful opportunity and blessing of making it to several of the youths' activities: soccer, basketball, etc. We have really enjoyed watching everyone use the talents God has given them and seeing them passionate about the things they are doing. We even had a chance to go head-to-head in basketball at the Ide Center during Youth Group.

We know the cancellation of many events due to the current outbreak has come as a disappointment to our youth and many others. For us, Church has been cancelled for only a short time and already we miss everyone. While there's much we could look at and be discouraged, during this time also we have an opportunity to reflect on the many blessings God has given us and be thankful (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

We look forward to seeing everyone again. In the meantime, be safe and healthy!



## Thank You!

Thank you to all who have supported the youth group's bottle and can drive! Please keep them coming!



Facebook: Aldersgate  
Greece Youth Group



2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, 7:00pm-8:30pm



## Children's Ministry



## SAVE THE DATE!

Climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway! On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs.

This summer's VBS is **ROCKY RAILWAY** (Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through) on August 10-14<sup>th</sup>.

**Please let Rhonda Simonelli or Brian Winter know if you are interested in joining our crew this summer.**

## ***Our Church Staff***

### **Sung Ho Lee**

*Pastor*

663-3665

PastorSungHo@aumcgreece.org

### **Gerald A. Wolter**

*Pastor Emeritus*

621-1904

hgwolter1@gmail.com

### **Hector & Maria Rivera**

*Pastor of Hispanic Ministries &*

*Hispanic Ministry Leader*

hrivera@aumcgreece.org

msrivera@aumcgreece.org

### **Enoch Renzha**

*Pastor of African Ministries*

erenzha@aumcgreece.org

### **Erin Bills**

*Administrative Assistant*

663-3665

ebills@aumcgreece.org

### **Rhonda Simonelli**

*Children's Ministry Co-Director*

663-6663

rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org

### **Brian Winter**

*Children's Ministry Co-Director*

*& Youth Director*

641-0649

bwinter@aumcgreece.org

### **Orlando Diaz**

*Contemporary Worship Team Leader*

odiaz@aumcgreece.org

### **Mathew Pedelty**

*Choir Director*

mpedelty@aumcgreece.org

### **Kaori Winter**

*Organist*

kwinter@aumcgreece.org

### **Jean Paul Kimararungu, Custodian**

### **Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant**

4115 Dewey Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14616  
Phone: (585) 663-3665  
Fax: (585) 865-8442  
info@aumcgreece.org  
www.aumcgreece.org

## **The Joyous Circle of Life**

As I am writing this; I, just this morning, witnessed the first cries of my grandson, as nurses cleaned up, swaddled him and laid him in his Mother's arms, minutes after he took his first 'earthly' breath. I am quite mindful, though that tomorrow marks two years to the day that, in another part of that same hospital, I witnessed nurses taking out the tube that marked the failed attempt to resuscitate, an hour after my Father had breathed his last earthly breath.

They seem like polar opposites, beginning and ending, life and death. And yet funerals are known as Celebrations of Life! That's because as Christians, leaning on our Faith, we know that these events are not real opposites at all! So we try, hard as it may be, to be as Joyful about the going out as we are about the coming in!

And while it will always be hard, we can approach that same Joy because we know, through our Faith, that this 'earthly' life is NOT all there is! My Grandson was conceived in the Mind and Heart of God long before he was conceived in his Mother's womb! And after my Father breathed his last earthly breath, he went back to that same God, and the Perfection of Heaven! God's Constant, Caring Presence, makes both events, and every day in-between, a cause for Joy and Celebration!

Ironically, or maybe not so ironically, the same "gifts" are given — at least those brought to the Maternity Ward or the Funeral Home — to mark both events: flowers, balloons and cards. The cards for one have words of Joy while for the other have words of Comfort. But I seem to recall that in a song written to commemorate another Very Special Baby Boy's birth (and life, death and resurrection) linked Comfort and Joy together as gifts we will receive if we, even in the dark times, lean on Him!

The Apostle Paul tells us to find Joy in ALL circumstances! That's not easy to do sometimes. But if certain things were 'easy,' or human nature, they wouldn't need to be 'commands,' now would they?! Like finding red or blue wild flowers in a sea of green grasses, though, with God's help, it's possible, and worth the effort!

Some of you are going through dark times. My advice: Keep Going! Keep searching for the Joy! It is there! Just as sure as in almost every field of green grasses there are beautiful wild flowers! And as we enter the homestretch of the somewhat 'dark' season of Lent; repenting of our sinfulness, 'giving up' some of our favorite things, I say again; Keep Going! Easter's coming, and the Prize of a deeper relationship with God through Christ is both possible and SO worth it!

**Blessed, Happy Easter,  
Sharon Bartter**

Aldersgate United Methodist Church  
www.aumcgreece.org  
4115 Dewey Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14616

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## The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Chocolate bunnies, Easter Egg Hunts, colored baskets, coloring eggs.. there must be more to the **EASTER** holiday.



Just 2 days after ordering the crucifixion of Jesus, Pilate ponders a deeper meaning to recent events.

