

Aldersgate Hinge

June 2020



From the Pastor

Reopening...

New York's statewide stay-at-home order went into effect 8 p.m. Sunday, March 22 to curb the spread of COVID-19, the disease caused by the coronavirus. It changed our lives.

The photo was taken on Latta Road in the morning of March 19. It was supposed to be busy with traffic. But on that morning, it looked like a ghost town. It was eerie. The Coronavirus has changed the world.

Two months have passed since then. We are still very vulnerable to the Coronavirus. The situation has not changed much. But now I am surprised at what has happened to me for the past two months. Now I don't have the weird feeling that I had two months ago while driving. I have adjusted somewhat to this new normal. Yes, I don't still feel safe from the Coronavirus in public setting.

What I want to say is, reopening has begun outside and inside of me as well. Life is moving forward, neither stagnant nor backward. The church is moving forward, too, to return to in-person worship. But I want to make it clear that our utmost priority is that we return with safety and ease of transition. It cannot be done by pastor only or several church leaders. It is the work of all the people of Aldersgate Church.

I hope you agree with me that we can't all rush back to church and pick up where we left off. It's not going to happen. Or at least it *shouldn't* happen. We need to think and plan carefully. However, we are people of faith. Let us live by faith and not operate in fear, but let's also be proactive towards all, especially those who are most vulnerable to COVID-19.

There are things that we must think about before we reopen the church:

- We need to have a master plan for reopening in phases for worship, small groups, children's and youth ministry, and outreach ministry.
- We need a plan for sanitizing the church building.
- We also need instructions and guidelines for worship services – ushers, bulletin, offering plate, hymn singing, choir, communion, coffee hour, etc.

Communication is also very important. So, we will continue to share any update with you.

Let us join together in praying for reopening with excitement, hope and trust in God. I will continue to pray that God may keep you safe and well.

Pastor Sung Ho



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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

Our Ministry of Concern

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, Dick Edgett, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Carolyn Gilson, Judy Hare, Becky Hess, Dick Keegan, Tim Kephart, Ray LaFlair, Ruth Loomis, Mas Okita, Dorothy Pearson, Joe Piper, Cindy Purzycki, Sue Rozinski, Larry Scrivens, Betty Smith, David Stanley, Michael Thompson, Doug Unell, Hal Wagner, Terry Young, Zeh family

Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

Concerns: John Adamski, Patti (Betty Judd), Quinn Aldridge (Wendy & Mike Dunn), Mother (Jackie Akins), Barb (Nancy Bailey), Marie Kellerson, Anthony Terry, Eleanor & Jim (Gloria Baker), Carol Price Barden (Wendy & Mike Dunn), Christine, Claudia, Mark (Kathy Bernardi), Denise, Maria, Son-in-law's father (Bernice Bird), Bonnie Bush (Bobbi Mohrmann), Casey, Kris, Bob (Kathy Peck), Andrew (Lisa Deutsch), Doug (Sandi Norris), Logan, Norma (Mark DeVincentis), Mom (Carol DeCann), Ethan, Zorine, Michelle (Bobbie Eckert), Mercedes (Chitie Edgett), Emma, Elias (Jim & Nancy Bailey), Norm, Joanne (Bette Edgett), Sam & Karen Freedman (Jan Winter), Cathy (Roger Forbes), Gretchen (Nancy Brehm), Sister (Alma Harmer), Eileen Harloff (Wendy Dunn), Richard Hartman (Nan Keller), Katie & Jake (Doug Hess), Nathan & family, Jordan, Declan (Deb Hamel-Russo), daughter and grandson (Nancy Jones), Helen & Bob (Nancy Jones), Kevin, Lily (Gloria & Rick Baker), Marita Jones & family (Nancy Jones), Brother-in-law & Eileen (Nan Keller), Kaelin (MaryAnn Lyons), Phillip Mead (Bobbi Mohrmann), Stacey Miller (Wendy & Mike Dunn), Nicole Mohrmann (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann), David (Cindy Purzycki), Shannon Luce, Daughter, Ray Burgess (the Riddleys), Butch Riemer (Karen Rice), Carole, Maureen Weber (Dave Rogenmoser), Christian Ruell (Laurie Ruell), Paula & Tim Rolfe, Elora, Rick (Mike & Deb Russo), Brittany Sauers (Gloria Baker), Susan Tuck Rooksby, Ricki Schaefer (Bobbi Mohrmann), Chris Sherry (Eric & Kimberly Lindenau), Eleanor & Don (Marilyn Sobus), MaryLea (Maria Stanley), Abby (Louretta Teasdale), Kathy (Gloria Baker), Ted & Barb Way (Wendy & Mike Dunn), Shirley Webber (Annette Thompson), Dad & Uncle (Kaori Winter),

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.



Jeannette, Daughter, Harmonni, Barbara (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 Home; Beverly Johnson - Maplewood Nursing Home; Donna Rice – Mill Landing; Elaine Sampson – Hilton East, Martha Thomson – Hamilton Manor

Beverly Johnson was moved to Maplewood Nursing Home 100 Daniel Dr, Webster, NY 14580

Christian Sympathies to:

LEN MACK's Family — Len passed away on Friday, May 1st. His Memorial Service will be held when permitted by pandemic restrictions. Daughter Rebecca Leucsh, 221 Hedgegarth Dr., Rochester, NY 14617.

Sharon Bartter, her cousin, Tim Grady, went Home to Glory May 22.

Pastoral Care

Erin Bills at the church office and I are reaching out to church members by phone or email to check in on them and find out if there is anything that we can help with. Our Visitation Team members also continue to keep in touch remotely. I would like to encourage you to call me. I would be glad to hear from you. Aldersgate friends, I also encourage you to call each other and greet one another with the love of Jesus. Be safe and well.

– Pastor Sung Ho

Thank you to everyone for your prayers, notes and lovely cards following our mom's death in April and then our oldest cousin's death 8 days later.

Karen Sladden & Susan Galligan

July/August Hinge Deadline

ALL items for the **July/August Hinge** are due by **June 15**. Please send to: karensadden@hotmail.com

Church Events & Opportunities

Peace with Justice Sunday, June 7

Peace with Justice Sunday is one of six church-wide Special Sunday offerings of The United Methodist Church. Half of your money will stay within our Upper New York Conference with the rest supporting global denominational work around the world. As we give to this Peace with Justice offering, may the spirit of truth move through our congregation, pouring out love as we support ministries that build up peace and justice.

As you consider sending in your remote donations to Aldersgate UMC, please include a donation for this special offering. Feel free to make your donation any time in June being sure to include a notation for "Peace with Justice Sunday." Thank you in advance for your generous support.

Jan Rothfuss, AUMC Benevolence Treasurer

Thank you to Cary/Jennifer Hughes and Pastor Doug/Becky Hess

Cary Hughes with his wife Jennifer and their children made a gift to the church of \$5,000 in memory of his parents, Gretchen and Floyd Hughes, for our AV system improvement project.

Pastor Doug and Becky Hess also made a gift up to \$5,000 for the AV system project.

Their gifts will be used to improve our AV system, bring it to current code, and purchase some equipment.

We thank them for their generous gifts which will help us tremendously improve both in-person worship and make possible streaming worship online.

FACING THE STRANGE CHANGES

Pardon me, but I am going to begin this Devotional as I began the last, talking about my new Grandbaby! In just 2 months, as I'm writing this, he's already changed so much! He's gained 3 pounds and grown 4 inches. He's holding his head up well, reaching for and grabbing things, and learning to sit up. There have been some hardships, mostly for his Mom, going through a hard labor, dealing with nursing issues and trying to get him on a sleep schedule. I tried to "warn her" about some of that, but those are "strange changes" (unique, not really explainable), that each new Mom has to adjust to and work through. But she is adjusting, and he is thriving!

In those same 2 months, almost to the day, our nation, began to go through some REALLY strange changes. (Our whole world, really, but other countries shut down before we did.) The day my grandson went home from the hospital was the last time I "hugged" my Pastor. The following week was the last time we stepped foot in our beautiful Sanctuary! Even if there were people old enough to remember the Spanish Flu of 100 years ago that this is being compared to, these are indeed "strange" changes, unique to each person, not really explainable. And we've found ways of coping that weren't available 100, or even 30, years ago! While I do truly feel horrible for the HUGE numbers of lost lives, and their families, many of us, at least that I've heard from, are not among those and, while there have been some struggles, we're adjusting.

And do you know why we're adjusting; why life is going on even amidst so much death? It's because we have one "constant" that NEVER changes: The Love, Mercy and Wisdom of God! No matter who dies, or how many, no matter who we can't be around for a while; God Never dies and He is Always around, if we just look for Him. Now God is always moving, always evolving, always creating. That's why we have so much they didn't have 100 years ago. That's why our Pastor and church leaders had the inspiration and know-how to keep us worshipping together and tithing remotely. (And THANK YOU to all of them for making it possible!) But the most important aspects of God, His Love, Mercy and Wisdom, will NEVER change!

I pray we will be together, in person, soon! Until then; I leave you with 2 fitting verses that help carry me through tough times: ***"God makes ALL things work together for Good for those who love Him and are called by His Name." (Romans 8:28) & "I know the Plans I have for you, says The Lord. Plans to Prosper and not harm you. Plans for Hope and a Future." (Jeremiah 29:11)*** If you will turn to God, He will "Turn to face the strange changes" with you and carry you through them.

God be with you till we meet again,

Sharon Bartter

Youth activities



4th – 7th Grade
Youth
CONNECTIONS

2nd and 4th Sundays, 7:00pm-8:30pm

Online

Now that the shutdown has lasted far longer than originally expected, many of us are still working with new ways to stay in touch and keep as much of our normal routine running.

We've been very happy to see everyone online and talk to everyone about how they've been doing and how they feel about what is happening, and how it is affecting them, and what we all plan to do what this is all over—go out, see friends, go on vacation, get back to normal routines.

We are thankful that modern technology has a way for us all to keep in touch in ways that were not possible even just a couple of decades ago. Even if it is less than ideal, or presents us with new challenges and hurdles that seem hard to overcome, and can be discouraging, there is a lot we can be thankful for, even though things during this time are not ideal. We are also thankful to Steven and Cyril who performed *10,000 Reasons* for the service, to be a blessing for all of us.

We are all looking forward to things returning to normal. Lately I've been reminded of the scripture:

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Amen! God bless you all.



Thank You!

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



Aldersgate Greece Youth Group



For Children and Teens!

Make Fish Kites/Windsocks

Koinobori, carp windsocks, carp streamers or carp banners, decorate the landscape of Japan during spring. In Japanese culture, the carp symbolizes courage and strength because of its ability to swim up a waterfall. Please e-mail Rhonda Simonelli @ Rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org if you would like a take-home kit with supplies. We will have them ready for you by the main doors.

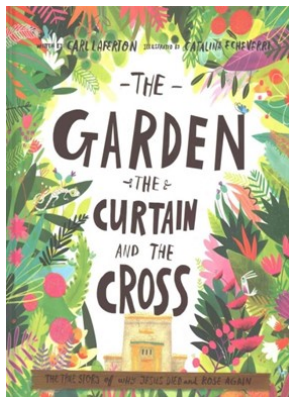


Plant a Pizza Garden/Patch for Dad this Father's Day!

Grow your own oregano, parsley, basil and tomatoes this summer! Email Rhonda Simonelli @ Rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org for more information. Plants will be available starting in early June! Pick up is at church.

Watch illustrator Catalina Echeverri read the book during Zoom on Sundays in June!

Jesus died and rose again and that's the best news ever! This beautifully illustrated book takes children on a journey from the Garden of Eden to God's perfect new creation. Families are able to pick up one coloring/activity book that is a perfect companion to have and do at home.



Thank you to all of the children (and parents who take pictures/videos and send!) who created beautiful Earth day pictures, used their talents singing and spoke loving Mother's Day wishes last month! We enjoy watching all the

ways you participate in our online Worship service!

Children's Ministry



Deep Blue on Zoom Sunday School!
Communities Live Together!

Children and Youth Ministry with Rhonda Simonelli & Brian Winter

Aldersgate Sunday School on Zoom!

When? Sunday at 11 AM

Meeting ID: 289 446 940 **Password: 546737**



We have a group of dedicated and faithful people who gather and nurture our children, youth and adults each Sunday during the school year. They faithfully prepare lessons and crafts, and they seek to engage in conversation about life, God, and faith. Thank you for serving!

Nursery Care:

Robin Fox

9:30 Worship Service

Rhonda Simonelli (K-6th grade)

11:00 Worship Service

Nancy Brehm (1-5th grade)

Chitie Edgett (1-5th grade)

Dennis Simm (Junior High & High School)

John Simm (Junior High & High School)

Bobbi Mohrmann (Adult)

Substitute Teachers: Erin Pfund & Brian Winter

ZOOM Teachers this Spring: Brian Winter & Rhonda Simonelli



ZOOM VBS Meeting on Monday, June 8th at 7:00-8:00pm. Information will follow in an email to all those who expressed interest in serving at this summer's VBS. We will be sending out some questions to think about before we have our ZOOM meeting.

The Trustees' Corner

The Trustees hope that you all are healthy and well. We look forward to the day we can all be in our beautiful Church!

BIG THANK YOU to all who helped at the May 16th Work Day! Many things were done, trimming, raking, weeding! Trees were also cut down because the foundation of church is becoming compromised due to the roots! What an added benefit to see some faces we have all missed over the past months!

Meet and Get to know Your Trustees! This month, we will introduce you to the Trustees. There are 9 Trustee spots and AUMC currently has 8 people serving in this role. You will learn about 4 of them this month and 4 in

July. So many Church members have served in years past as Trustee, knowing the important role they played — Thank You for your service! If you are interested in becoming a Trustee — please see Pastor Lee!

New Trustee President — Adam Pfund

Adam primarily attends the 9:30 service with his wife, Erin, and children Samuel and Libby. Their dog (Eddy), cat (Zoe) and turtle (Wexler) wait for them at home. Adam has been attending AUMC for about 20 years and two years ago became a member! When not helping the church, Adam is an adjunct professor at MCC and a stay-at-home parent. Adam says, "The thing I find most important in the trustee role is the trust the church has put in me to get stuff done. There is a special sense of accomplishment when I can check a project off for the church."

New Trustee Vice President and new to the Board this year — David Roza

David attends the 9:30 service with his wife of 46 years, Cindy. David also has two adult children — Kevin and Sarah. You may recognize David from being in the Contemporary Worship Team for a number of years. He has been attending AUMC for over 26 years when he moved here from California. David is retired from the Rochester Regional Health system. He feels the Trustee role is important and he likes to help out where he can.

Trustee Secretary — Colleen Tyler

Colleen has been attending AUMC for about 18 years with her husband, Stephen, and three sons — Chase (19), Elijah (18), Max (16). They have 4 cats: Leonidas, Bowie, Reese and Gracie, waiting for them at home. When not helping the church and Trustees, Colleen is an educator. She feels the Trustee role is important in "Keeping the building and grounds safe and accessible to all."

Trustee Treasurer — Gretta Schaefer

Gretta has been attending the 9:30 service at AUMC for the past 6 years with wife, Sabrina. Waiting at home for them are two dogs, Seegee (14yr) and Charlie (16 months). When not issuing check requests, Gretta works as the Director of Residential Services at East House, an organization that helps people in recovery from mental illness and addiction. The Trustee role is important to her because "Along with the people, our facilities are our greatest assets to do the mission of the church. Our Church community needs to take care of it and Trustees can help guide that."

Please stay safe and thank you for doing your part in caring for our church.

Respectfully, The Trustees

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Gretta Schaefer	June 1
Ken Rex	June 6
Carol DeCann	June 7
Rebecca Lindeman	June 8
Michael Simonelli	June 10
Betty Baybutt	June 12
Mark DeVincentis	June 12
Rick Donovan	June 12
Charlotte Haschmann	June 13
Sarah Haschmann	June 13
Eric McHugh	June 15
Julia Trioano	June 16
Betty Judd	June 17
Brandon Gilzow	June 19
Jan Rothfuss	June 19
Eric Bock	June 20
Joyce DeBell	June 23
Candy Metzger	June 24
Marie Sims	June 25
Jennifer Hughes	June 26
Edward Carstens	June 29
Sara McHugh	June 30

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Rich & Bobbi Mohrann	June 6
Chitie & Dick Edgett	June 7
John & Sue Zorn	June 11
Bob & Jan Winter	June 15
Sue & Bill Burdick	June 18
Doug & Suzanne Unell	June 20
Joyce & Frank Pombert	June 26
Sung Ho & Jung Lee	June 28
Steve & Colleen Tyler	June 28
David & Cindy Roza	June 29
Roger & Charlotte Ridley	June 29

Anniversaries & Birthdays

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

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info@aumcgreece.org
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United Methodist Women



Morning Circle & Sew n Sew's have been cancelled until September.

ARTS & CRAFT SHOW: Our Arts & Craft Show will be on **September 18 & 19, 2020**. We will no longer have collectibles at this sale. Brochure/ Applications have gone out. If you did not receive an Application and would like one, contact Candy Metzger at cmetzger5336@gmail.com or 227-3138.

GENERAL MEETING: At our UMW General Meeting on **September 24, 2020** we will be putting together the School & Health kits. Start looking for items now and keep them at your house until we can bring them to church.

School Kit Items

- Blunt scissors (Round tips only. No plastic scissors.)
- Box of 24 crayons (Only 24-count boxes are accepted.)
- One-subject notebooks (No marble composition books. No 3 or 5-subject notebooks.)
- Pack of loose-leaf paper (100-200 page packets are acceptable. Wide or college rule accepted.)
- Hand-held pencil sharpeners (1-inch or longer)
- Rulers (12 inches long)
- Unsharpened pencils
- Eraser - Two inches or larger
- Two-gallon re-sealable plastic bags

Hygiene Kit Items

- Hand towels (15 x 25 – 17 x 27 inches) (No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels)
- Washcloths
- Combs (Must be sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth. No pocket combs or picks or Rattail.)
- Toenail or fingernail clippers (No emery boards or metal nail files.)
- Bath-size soaps (3 oz. bar or larger) (No Ivory or Jergen's)
- Adult toothbrushes (Do not remove from packaging. Personal advertising not acceptable.)
- Adhesive bandages (¾ by 3 inches)
- One-gallon size re-sealable bags

RUMMAGE SALE: We will be having our Rummage Sale on October 8-10 (3 days this year and longer open hours). It will run from 10 AM – 7 PM on Oct. 8 & 9 and 10 AM – 4 PM on Oct. 10, with a bag sale from 1 – 4 PM. **We will collect items from September 18 – October 6 in the Ide Center.**

We can't wait until we can all be together again. But in the meantime, please collect for our School & Hygiene Kits and Rummage Sale items.

KEEP THE FAITH!!

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

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Reopening Church

Though a firm timetable for when churches will be permitted to reopen is not currently available, recent statements by the New York Governor's Office indicate churches fall in phase 4, the last category of institutions allowed to reopen. It remains the best practice to consult the county department of health for specific guidelines.

We will update you in a timely manner of any new development and specific plans for reopening.

Stewardship

Thanks to everyone who has donated by mail, EFTs or credit card! The response has been really good and very much appreciated. During this time, expenses at the church continue. If you would like to help out by keeping your pledge up to date, there are some options you can consider:

- Write a check and mail it to the church (or for now, 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 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