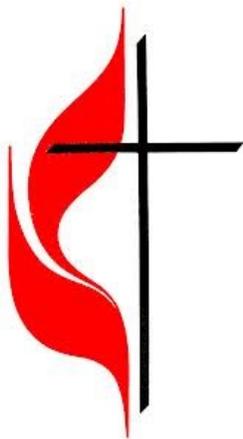


Aldersgate Hinge

September 2020



From the Pastor

On August 2, we had in-person worship for the first time since we closed the church on March 15th. Thanks be to God! The worship service was also live streamed and recorded so that people may join in worship any time. 49 people joined in worship in person and 435 people viewed and joined in worship online. On August 9th, 62 people joined in worship in-person and 268 people joined in worship online.

The first Communion was celebrated on August 16. And the first Community Dinner will be held on August 29 with drive-through only. We will continue to expand our ministry. However, don't forget that safety is our top priority. I truly believe God will lead and guide us as we continue to expand our ministry.

However, we need to think about the direction and vision for both our personal lives and the church in the current situation. Let me share with you some data to show our reality.

The numbers of daily average new COVID-19 cases and deaths in Monroe County:

Month	New Cases/Day	Deaths/Day
March	18	0.5
April	37	3.5
May	47	3.4
June	24	1.7
July	29	0.4
August	28	0.3

As you see in the table, COVID-19 was most active and reached the peak in April and May. The number of deaths has significantly decreased in July and August. However, the number of new cases has continued to be steady for the past three months around 24-29. I really hope it decreases, but it may not as fall and winter approach. It could be a new normal at least for now. So, what should our strategic plan be for our personal lives and for the church?

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Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Transforming Lives and Serving Christ with Joy

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From the Pastor, Continued from Page 1

I want to share what God said to Isaiah:

The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God. Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you." (Isaiah 35:1-4)

That's what God will do for us. Be strong and do not fear. Be ready for His coming. Let us be prepared. I believe God has already started His work of recovery. Let us join Him in His new movement of growing and expanding. However, don't forget the importance of safety.

Pastor Sung Ho



These are pictures from Pastor Jothan who is a pastor at Redeemed Nakivale Church in that Ugandan Refugee Camp. Redeemed Church is the congregation that Pastor Renzha started. Aldersgate supplied funds for food to the starving families we have been supporting through Ebenezer Hope Ministries. The refugees are showing their thanks with pictures of them receiving some of the food they purchased. Thanks to everyone who participated in the Food for Ebenezer Refugees in Nakivale fundraising.

Blessings, Rich

Whichever Way This Goes

As I'm writing this, it's early August. I just celebrated my wedding anniversary. But that date marks another "anniversary" as well, the anniversary of the passing of a good friend from cancer, 6 years this month. I remember, during his final week, his family members were there a lot more, which is expected but left me trying to find comforting words. Finally, God gave me these words:

"If there's one thing I know about your brother, he's walking with The Lord. Whichever way this goes...If God calls him Home tonight, he'll be walking with The Lord. If he lingers like this (basically unconscious by this point) for a few days or even weeks longer, he'll be walking with The Lord. Or if God somehow bodily heals him and he leaves that bed and this hospital, he'll be walking with The Lord!"

While most of us are not handling anything quite that dire, many of us have concerns about "which way things are going to go," with a medical test, a legal matter or the reopening of school or work in the midst of this pandemic. However, if we're walking with The Lord, we can rest assured that "whichever way this goes," **"God will work all things together for our Good."** (Romans 8:28)

So, keep walking with The Lord and, in the midst of whatever comes, you can keep stepping forward in Faith!

Blessings, Sharon Bartter



Church Events & Opportunities



Reminder to All Persons Entering the Church for Business or Weekly Worship

Face masks must be worn at all times in the church. A face mask is made of at least 2-ply material (either homemade or purchased) and must firmly cover the nose and mouth. The blue/yellow ones used by healthcare professionals and in doctor/dentist offices are also acceptable. Bandanas and neck gaiters are not acceptable as a mask as they don't fit firmly around the mouth, and the masks with the one-way exhalation valves are also not effective protection and do not meet our current standards. The **plastic face shields**, either full or partial, require social distancing of 12-16 feet in ALL directions. At Aldersgate, only the Pastor or those singing will be allowed to wear face shields, and only during the times that they are in front and at least 12-16 feet from anyone else. All other times they are required to wear masks. Scripture readers will be required to wear their mask during the reading since they are less than 6' from the Pastor and share the lectern space with him. We take the health and safety of all persons in our church seriously and so, respectfully, ask that everyone entering our building follow this guideline. Face masks are available at the church and can also be provided by the Greeters on Sunday morning.

Thank you.
Reopening Task Force

October Hinge Deadline

ALL items for the **October Hinge** are due by **September 15**.

Please send to: karensladen@hotmail.com

In-Person Sunday Worship Services Have Resumed

Aldersgate is now holding Sunday service at 10 am and an African service at 1 pm. Sunday worship is being live streamed for folks who are unable to attend in person. The link to the live stream is available at the church website and Facebook page. The recording of worship is also available for watching any time after service.

Live-Stream Project Needs Helpers

Sunday worship services are now being live-streamed. We need people to operate the controls of the three cameras and switch the live views during the worship time. If you have any questions or are interested in helping, please contact Rich Mohrmann at 225-1526 or RMohrmann@aumcgreece.org

Sunday Volunteers Needed

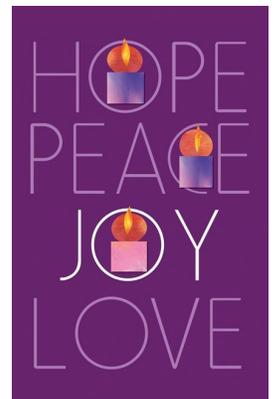
If you would be willing to help during Sunday services, please send an email to davidrogenmoser@gmail.com. Please leave your name and contact information.

Wanted – Advent Devotion Writers!

For this holiday season, when we prepare our hearts to celebrate the advent of our Lord in the flesh and look ahead to His return, we would like to invite you — individuals, families, youth, small groups, etc.—to submit a short, Spirit-filled holiday Christmas devotion.

We are hoping for 25 devotions (one for each day of Advent) that are easy to read and understand and appeal to a broad age span and people's Christian walk. Our goal is to once again create our very own AUMC Advent Devotional book to provide a shared experience for our congregation—to encourage one another to take time between Sundays to remember the meaning of Christ's birth.

Submissions are due **Sunday, October 25** (sent electronically, if possible), preferably 300 words or less. For more information and writing tips, please contact Rhonda Simonelli or Brian Winter. We look forward to reading your Christmas story!



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, Joyce DeBell, Lisa Deutsch, Nathan Dunn, Lorrie Durbin, Chitie Edgett, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Carolyn Gilson, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Richard Keegan, Tim Kephart, Ray LaFlair, Mas Okita, Dorothy Pearson, Joe & Michelle Piper, Cindy Purzycki, Paula & Tim Rolfe, Larry Scrivens, Michael and Betty Smith, David Stanley, Alice Styles, Michael Thompson, Doug Unell, Hal Wagner, Scott Wiley, Helen Wolter, Zeh family, and the Caregivers of all those with ongoing health concerns.

Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

Concerns: Eleanor McNeil (Nancy Bailey); Kevin, Lily, Rick & Denise (Gloria Baker); Brad (Sharon Bartter); Ginny Petrillo (Paul Brown); John Fox; Danny; Michael Ling (Lisa Deutsch); Norma (Mark DeVincentis); Quinn Aldridge, Eileen Harloff, Stacey Miller, Ted Way, Mark Frey, Nathan (Wendy & Mike Dunn); Aunt Electra (Lorrie Durbin); Stephanie Sirhal (Bobbie Eckert); Carolyn Rickman (Chitie Edgett); Cathy (Roger Forbes); Jessica (Robin Fox); Briody and Ryan families, Katie & Jake (Doug Hess); Megan (Betty Judd); Brother-in-law & Eileen, Richard Hartman (Nan Keller); Michael Gilson, Nancy Ruggeri (Kimberly and Eric Lindenau); Cousin Karen (Sylvia Lynch); Rich & Barb (Candy Metzger); Bonnie Bush, Phillip Mead, Nicole Mohrmann, Susan Tuck Rooksby, Ricki Schaefer (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann); Grandson Christian Ruell (Brenda Ruell); Lorie & Sarah (Marilyn Sobus); Abby (Louretta Teasdale)

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; Dick Keegan – Cobbs Hill Manor; Donna Rice – Mill Landing; Elaine Sampson – Hilton East; Martha Thomson – Hamilton Manor

Ellie Cook moved to Grandeville Senior Living Community, 555 Maiden Lane, Rochester 14616.

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.



Christian Sympathies to:

Our Sympathy goes out to Betty Judd; her son-in-law John Adamski passed away peacefully on July 11th. She thanks you for your supportive prayers during his cancer battle.

Our Sympathy goes out to Lorrie Durbin; Ron passed away Friday, July 17th, with loving people at his side. In lieu of flowers, Lorrie would like donations in memory of Ron to go to the A/V upgrade for worship services.

Also our Sympathy goes out to Kaori Winter; her uncle, Tsuneaki, has passed away in Japan after a long struggle with cancer.

Prayer Request at In-person Worship

At this time, during Sunday worship services, we will not pass mics around to decrease the chance of spreading infection by passed mics and increased interaction of people. Instead, you can fill out a prayer request card in the gathering space before you enter the sanctuary. However, we strongly recommend you send your prayer requests to Pastor Lee at pastorsungho@aumcgreece.org no later than 5pm on Saturday. Your prayer request will be shared with the congregation during worship unless you want Pastor Lee to keep it confidential.

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 for Generous Gifts for the Expansion of the Audio-Video System

Aldersgate Church started livestreaming worship service when we reopened our church on August 2. It was possible because generous contributions for purchasing video equipment including cameras and new microphones, installation, and expansion of the AV booth. I started praying for the expansion of the AV system when we began the online worship service. One day Pastor Doug shared his vision about online worship service and his willingness to support it. God was working through us for Aldersgate Church. And God has indeed grown our vision and blessed it with many others joining in supporting this vision with generous gifts. Thank you all for your generous gifts.

Pastor Sung Ho

Thank You for Air Conditioning Installation

Air Conditioning was installed in the parsonage in July. The Memorials Committee graciously offered to use its funds for this project. We love it. We truly appreciate the caring and loving spirit of Aldersgate Church.

Jung and Sung Ho

Donor	In Memory of	In Honor of
Doug and Becky Hess	Edward and Theresa Hess James and Lois Hall	
Cary and Jennifer Hughes	Floyd and Gretchen Hughes	
Karen and Tim Sladden	William and Cleida Galligan	
Roger and Charlotte Ridley		Our Church Friends
Debbie Lenau, Sandi Norris	Warren Lenau, Phoebe Brown	
Rich and Bobbi Mohrmann	Jerry and Charlie Peyser Violet and Otto Mohrmann	Loved Ones
Mark and Susan DeVincentis	Robert and Dorothy Gabel	
Michelle and Joe Piper	Joe and Dorothy Sherr	Ralph and Jean Piper
Jan Rothfuss	Daniel Rothfuss (husband)	Aaron Rothfuss & family
Sanjay Samuel Family	Hemalata Yesudas (Sanjay's Aunt)	
Katie Beer-Furioso	Jean Beer - mother	
Eleanore Patterson	Ron Durbin	
Sabrina McCleod, Gretta Schaeffer	Ron Durbin	
Sharon Bartter	Ron Durbin	
Joyce Farrokh	Ron Durbin	
Dave and Cindy Roza	Ron Durbin	
Brenda and Laurie Ruell		
Jim and Nancy Bailey		
Terry and Nancy Young		
Karen Rice		
John and Sue Zorn		



Get Powered Up With Jesus!

Blessing of Backpacks & Devices on Sunday, September 13 during Worship service time. Children & Youth will receive a special gift and blessing to start the new school year. More information will follow in an email to parents and in the weekly church update.



We're Better Together!

Our Summer Fun Outdoor Children's Event was held on Tues, Aug. 18th at Aldersgate UMC. We had 16 kind & respectful children/youth participate along with 15 enthusiastic adult helpers. The children tie-dyed t-shirts, painted frog & turtle pottery, colored beautiful pictures, raced in an obstacle course, played with water balloons, went on the playground and enjoyed eating pizza! We socially distanced, sanitized, and wore masks! We are really proud of our children and youth!



Youth activities



Summer Fun

It has been a unique summer for everyone. We are excited to be able to see everyone again now that the church has reopened. Hard to believe it has been five months, and so much has changed.

We are so grateful to all the youth who contributed to the online service with their talents. We are also grateful for their help during the Summer Fun Day at Aldersgate—setting up and cleaning up, plotting out and helping with the obstacle course, helping the kids and joining in the fun. It really felt like we were closing out the summer on a high point, and the water balloon war was a blast. It was such a joy to see everyone together in person, laughing together and having fun. It was truly a blessing. Molly, Ella, Steven, Cyril, and Luke: thank you!

We pray for everyone going back to school, that the Lord will bless you in everything you do, that new friends will be made and old friendships will be strengthened. It is hard to know how long the normal of life will be disrupted, but we know and can be sure that God will work everything out for good. In every trial there is something God is using to shape us and change us in ways we never could imagine, for the accomplishing of His purpose in our lives. "Greater is He who is in you, than he who is in the world." (1 John 4:4).

4th – 7th Grade
Youth
CONNECTIONS

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

Grades 8-12 *Sunday*
~~Friday~~ Night
YOUTH GROUP
7pm-9pm



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

Serving in Worship This Month

Scripture Readers

- 9/6 — Nancy Young
- 9/13 — Annette Thompson
- 9/20 — Kathy Bernardi
- 9/27 — Carol DeCann



Birthdays & Anniversaries

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

John Grizzanti	September 1
Paul Wagner	September 3
Kaori Winter	September 4
Jim Cobia	September 5
Rick Baker	September 6
Rich Mohrmann	September 7
Matthew Thompson	September 7
David Roza	September 8
Bob Wiederhold	September 8
Lorraine Christie	September 9
Al Holmes	September 11
Shirley Geier	September 11
Michael Streb	September 11
Wendy Dunn	September 14
Glenn VanPutte	September 19
Nan Keller	September 20
Louretta Teasdale	September 22
Jessica Fox	September 24
Becky Hess	September 27
Chris Loudon	September 27
Jenna VanKouwenburg	September 29

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Daniel & Kathy Savage	September 6
Rick & Gloria Baker	September 9
Jim & Diane Haschmann	September 10
John & Candy Metzger	September 14
Mike & Wendy Dunn	September 15
Annette & Michael Thompson	September 19
Kwame Edusel & Millicent Essilfie-Edusel	September 25
Dale & Carol DeCann	September 26
Gordon & Sue Spicer	September 30

Thank You

We had great support for special music for the online services by youth, their parents and adults. Special thanks to the performers: Juan and Tammy Ruiz, Dave Rogenmoser, Molly Donovan, Sue Zorn, Matt Pedelty, Steven and Cyril Samuel, Larry Scrivens, Orlando Diaz, Janet Winter, Jim Cobia, Mike Dydra, Tommy Borrelli, Jane Shukitis, Sylvia Lynch, and Luke and Ella Simonelli. There were 18 various special musics and a narration by performers who spent an extra time practicing and recording audios and videos before church opened. Thank you for investing in the work of Jesus Christ. God is praised, honored and glorified with your talents, gifts and abilities in this peculiar time!

In Christ, Brian and Kaori Winter

Kaori's uncle Tsuneaki Oi, the middle of three brothers, passed away on July 19th after a long battle with cancer. Kaori has been calling his family and the oldest uncle who has now lost two brothers within 2 months. Kaori's sister was able to attend his funeral service which went well. Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, texts, emails and phone calls for our family.

Sincerely, Brian and Kaori Winter

All I can say is THANK YOU to everyone who has helped make our first 3 in-person services a success. To the many volunteers who willingly came forward and gave their all to make this happen. ALSO to the Task Force, who all helped in one way or another. I think we have had great success with following all of the regulations, and safety of our folks.

David Rogenmoser

Our Church Staff

Sung Ho Lee

Pastor

663-3665

PastorSungHo@aumcgreece.org

Gerald A. Wolter

Pastor Emeritus

621-1904

hgwolter1@gmail.com

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

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

United Methodist Women



We will not be having any UMW meetings until further notice. This includes: Morning Circle, UMW General Meetings, Sew n' Sew's and Reading Circle.

However, we are still collecting for the School & Health kits. Bins will be at the door to the Chapel where you can place your items. **Below is the only date and time block that you can drop off your items.**

DROP OFF DATE: SEPTEMBER 17TH

TIME: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

We will deliver these items to the UMCOR Syracuse Hub later in September so they can put the kits together.

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

We can't wait until we can all be together again.

KEEP THE FAITH!!

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

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Join Our Team Now!

CROP Hunger Walk has been rescheduled for Sunday, September 27th here at Aldersgate UMC. The start times will be staggered and follow recommendations of social distance. You can register online now: Greece CROP Hunger Walk. Find our Aldersgate United Methodist Church Team. If you don't feel comfortable walking outside at that time, you can still sign up and take a "virtual" walk around your house or neighborhood. The first 60 people registered will receive a free mask. If you need help signing up, please contact Rhonda Simonelli at rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org. Thank you!

Stewardship

Expenses continue every day at the church, whether we are there or not. A huge "Thank You" to everyone who has made pledge payments and other donations during the past five months.

Several options will continue for anyone unable to attend in-person services and who wishes to send money to the church at this time:

- Write a check to Aldersgate UMC and mail it to the church.
- Direct your bank to send a check to the church using a feature like Bill Pay.
- Request an ongoing or temporary EFT from your bank account to the church.
- Pay by credit card. Call Jan Winter at 943-7353 with your credit card number (do not send the number via email).

Thanks for helping us stay current with our bills.