

Aldersgate Hinge

October 2020



From the Pastor

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If you were asked to think of one word that describes how you feel about living in the Coronavirus Pandemic? I think many people would say, "Stressed." That's what I hear a lot when I called Aldersgate people – "I am OK. Stressed. Hanging in there."

Recently Dr. Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease doctor, sounded an alarm. He said, "We're all still in danger of catching COVID-19. I just think we need to hunker down and get through this fall and winter, because it's not going to be easy."

Hunker down. That's what we must do to protect us from Coronavirus. But when you hunker down, you are like a spring that is compressed or squeezed. You will get stressed. Dr. Fauci is saying your life will be like a compressed spring through this fall and winter. We must relieve stress, otherwise, we will suffer from the heavy pressure of the chronic stress.

What do you do to relieve stress? Let me tell you what I do. I have morning devotions every day. That's helpful for me to focus on faith, which helps me find purpose and strength with hope. I also run 2-3 miles in the afternoon 3-4 times a week. Physical exercise is a very good way to relieve stress.

So I encourage you to do both spiritual exercise and physical exercise daily. You may want to use daily devotionals such as the Upper Room, which you can pick up at the church.

I also encourage you to join in worship either in-person or online regularly. If neither of them works for you, please read the sermon which is emailed and also mailed to those who don't do emails. The act of worship with praise songs, prayers and hearing the word of God invites you to engage actively in fellowship with God and with each other so that you can lift up your stress to God and receive new strength and fresh spirit of life.

We also need a long-term plan in addition to daily and weekly routines as we need to hunker down through this fall and winter. We need hope for this winter. Otherwise, it is going to be a really long winter. Here is the good news! I am already excited. Jesus is coming! Jesus will bring love, peace, joy and hope. Christmas is always special. But this year it will be more special. I am already in the Advent spirit. I am stress-free as my heart is filled with the excitement, joy and hope of Christmas.

Pastor Sung Ho

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, Joyce DeBell, Lisa Deutsch, Nathan Dunn, Lorrie Durbin, Roger, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Carolyn Gilson, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Doug Jones, 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: Rita, Nikki, Dick, Mary Beth Clarke, Kevin, Lily, Denise (Gloria Baker); Daughter, Brad; Noah & Kevin; Evan, Tisha and baby Damian (Sharon Bartter); Phil McCloud (Kathy Bernardi), Daughter (Ted & Natasha Carstens); Brantley, Angela Magallozzi, Emily, Millie (Lisa Deutsch); Norma (Mark DeVincentis); Quinn Aldridge, Eileen Harloff, Stacey Miller, Ted Way, Mark Frey (Wendy & Mike Dunn); Aunt Electra (Lorrie Durbin); Stephanie Sirhal; Karyn and Kent Smith (Bobbie Eckert); Mary (Joyce Farokh); Cathy (Roger Forbes); Jessica; my brother (Robin Fox); Sam Ruzick (Rev. David Jones); Brother-in-law & Eileen, Richard Hartman (Nan Keller); Garnet Kovac; Michael Gilson; Nancy Ruggeri (Kimberly & Eric Lindenau); Cousin Karen (Sylvia Lynch); Rich & Barb (Candy Metzger); Bonnie Bush, Phillip Mead, Nicole Mohrmann, Susan Tuck Rooksby, Ricki Schaefer (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann); Buddy Good (Cindy Purzycki); Jerry Smith; Son and daughter-in-law (Karen Rice); Pam Summers, Stefanie Nary, Matthew Nary (Dave Rogenmoser); Dawn Boyce (Sue Rozinski); Christian Ruell (Brenda Ruell); Brother (Gretta Schafer); Lorie & Sarah (Marilyn Sobus); Larry Hayes (Carla Starr); Abby (Louretta Teasdale); David Whitt (Deborah Whitt)

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 –

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.



Mill Landing; Elaine Sampson – Hilton East; Martha Thomson – Hamilton Manor

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

Christian Sympathies to:

Our Sympathy for Ginny Enrich and the family of Fred Enrich. Fred passed away unexpectedly.

Our sympathy to Nancy & Jim Bailey and family, as Nancy's Mother "Ellie" passed away August 29th.

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 or call him at 315-794-3485 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

Church Events & Opportunities

October Sermon Series – Heritage of Faith

October 4

Faith of the Early Christians – Adventure of Faith into New Territories

Matthew 28:19-20

October 11

Faith of the Reformation – Sola Fide (Only by Faith)

Faith of Martin Luther and other Reformers

Romans 1:17

October 18

Faith of John Wesley: Methodism – Holiness of Heart and Life. The most significant experience that John Wesley had took place at Aldersgate. He felt his heart strangely warmed.

Luke 24:28-32

October 25

My Faith Manifesto – We all must have our own personal faith about the relationship with God, salvation, justification and call to living as disciples of Christ.

Luke 1:1-4

World Communion Sunday is October 4

World Communion Sunday is one of six church-wide Special Sunday offerings of The United Methodist Church. Around the globe, countless gifted and qualified people face financial obstacles that hinder them from preparing for the vocation God has given them, especially youth and young adults. For ethnic students who will be the first generation in their families to attend college, or for those people of color who haven't historically had access to resources that make higher education possible, the road toward education has often been unwieldy.

Will you give generously on World Communion Sunday to make education and vocational impact possible for more students? Will you equip gifted and qualified students from around the globe to become the world-changers God created them to be?

Hopefully you can join us at our in-person worship service that day. Or 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 October being sure to include a notation for "World Communion Sunday."

Thank you in advance for your generous support.
Jan Rothfuss, AUMC Benevolence Treasurer

All Saints Sunday – November 1

If you would like to honor a family member who has passed away since Nov. 2019, please email the office ebills@aumcgreece.org or call the office 663-3665, with name, dates of birth/death and a photo if you'd like by **Oct 22nd**.

Pledge Payments and Donations

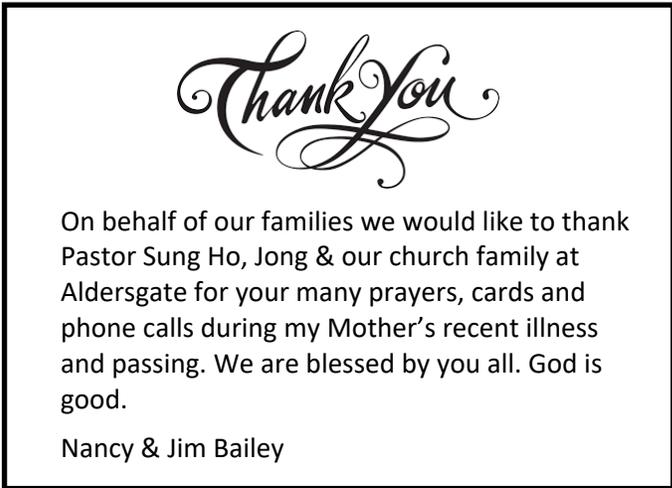
Several options continue for anyone unable to attend in-person worship services who wish to send money to the church:

- 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).

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.

If you are interested in helping with our new live-streaming during services, people are also needed 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



Thank You

On behalf of our families we would like to thank Pastor Sung Ho, Jong & our church family at Aldersgate for your many prayers, cards and phone calls during my Mother's recent illness and passing. We are blessed by you all. God is good.

Nancy & Jim Bailey

Youth activities

Live Meeting!

After being stuffed in little Zoom boxes since the beginning of the Pandemic, we finally ventured out of isolation into the real world. Well, this is probably a bit of an exaggeration. Most of us had been out and about to some extent, but for the first time in a long time we were able to visit with the youth as a group and have a good time meeting, eating, and catching up at Bill Gray's for lunch on the 20th. It was nice not feeling like a talking head.

We prayed, talked about a lot of things, had some laughs and good food. The youth have all returned to school, and it was good to hear that they can still do some of the things they love, and that they are hopeful for things that right now seem uncertain. We also talked about some of the things we can do together as a group over the coming weeks, and what changes might be nice for the youth room.

Things are still far from normal, and we are praying for all of them that the Lord's will be done in this time. When we look at the scriptures, there are many examples of individuals of faith who were shaped by the unexpected, by hardship, by disappointment. God uses times like these to raise up and strengthen people of faith to meet the challenges of the time. And we know also, that the Kingdom will always prevail! So, may God bless all our youth, keep them in this time, and bring forth His perfect will in their lives during this new school year and beyond.



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



Save the Date for Outdoor Fall Fun!

For: Aldersgate families and friends only

When: Saturday, October 31

Where: Parking lot at Aldersgate UMC

Time: 2pm-3pm

Please RSVP to Rhonda Simonelli @ rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org if you plan on attending. We also need people to decorate their cars/trunks with a familiar Bible theme or Fall Fun theme.



Congratulations

There are milestones in our children's lives that are pivotal and make a difference in their future. Receiving a Third Grade Bible is one of these milestones. Anderson Donovan & Evelyn Troiano will be receiving Bibles this year.

4th - 7th Grade Youth Connections

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



Welcome to Fall! It's hard to believe that we have not all been together since March. The Trustees have continued to meet monthly and several of our more "handy" Trustees have been in the church taking care of our beautiful building. The Reopening Task Force is busy to ensure our space is as safe as possible regarding the requirements of New York State. We want to THANK EVERYONE who has taken an active role in our Church!

Fall Clean Up —October 17, 9 am - noon. We need all hands on deck! We will have a list of items but most importantly is cleaning up the yards. Please bring rakes and any needed tools, gloves, your water bottle. We will work with appropriate distance. There are projects that need to be done at the rental property as well as the parsonage. Interested in taking on a small task outside of the Fall Clean up? Reach out to Adam Pfund.

Have you heard?!? Aldersgate United Methodist Church has been awarded a grant from the Wilmott Foundation. Thank You to the Stewardship Committee for working through the lengthy process! This is great news for our Church! We will be able to do repairs that we have been holding on due to their expense. More details as we develop them!

Current projects that are being worked on or completed:

- You may notice that 2 of the 3 trees are completely down. Thank you to the Tyler Family! One more to go once the leaves are gone.
- Mark Deventis is lead on a key project. We will be re-keying the entire church. We would like to start with a clean slate so we can monitor and review on a yearly basis who has keys to our facility.
- Colleen Tyler will take the lead in having Mr. Rooter do some work related to the foundation and water that comes in. You may notice some digging in the lawn along the classroom sides of the building.
- The parsonage has had extermination for bees.
- The new sound booth wood was sealed by Adam Pfund; carpet is on the list to be done as well.

Church Security — we continue to need volunteers to assist with the evening walk throughs. Might this be an opportunity for you to provide service to the Church community? Reach out to Colleen Tyler, if interested or have questions.

Respectfully, The Trustees

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes will be refreshed"

Proverbs 11:25

Not much about 2020 has been normal. And nowhere have we seen that more starkly than the church. In March we suspended in-person worship (and all activities) – an unimaginable event! But our generous staff and leaders got busy and, using their talents, figured out how to piece together an online worship service with everyone from home – and we didn't miss a Sunday. Their generosity allowed us to prosper!



We've used technology to connect to our children and youth, continued with church meetings and hold small groups. The Zoom technology was made possible with a 50/50 grant from our Conference. That generosity allowed us to refresh and be refreshed by each other. Faithful giving from all of you continued despite not coming together in person. Your generosity and commitment allowed the church to continue to pay our generous staff, buy new microphones, install new AV equipment, and purchase sanitizing equipment and supplies.

We believe that God saw our generosity and commitment and He moved the hearts of the Willmott Foundation to award us a grant of \$25,000 to be used by the Trustees for much needed work on the church facility. Amen!

We are working toward normalcy at church. Little by little we are extending our activities (like Drive Thru Community Dinner), and we are praying that next year will see a return of more and more in-person activities in the building.

On **November 15th**, we will do another normal activity in the life of the church. That day is **Commitment Sunday** for the Annual Budget of the church. You will be able to make your financial commitment to the church either in-person, by email or snail mail. Your commitment will help us to determine what our Ministry will be able to do in 2021. ***Let's be generous so we can prosper in His name, and offer refreshment to others so we can be refreshed in His spirit!***

Ebenezer Hope Ministries Nakivale Update

Here's a quick report about the projects your recent donations to Ebenezer Hope Ministries have supported. The Sunday August 16 donations of Carol DeCann's "Dahlias for Rainwater Collection System" recently collected \$448. That brings the total collected by the end of August to \$1,448. This will be used to build a rainwater collection system, supplied by the Ugandan Water Project Inc., on Redeemed Nakivale Church, the congregation that Pastor Renzha founded. That building's roof can support two systems, costing \$3,600 each.

In the last week of August we sent another wire transfer of \$1,309 to Pastor Jothan to buy food for the refugees. This donation along with the July donation brings the total support for food to \$2,589. Without your help these refugees would still be experiencing starvation due to the pandemic shut-down in Uganda.

The school system closure is part of Uganda's near total shut-down. So there has been no school since January 2020. The second and third term funds are held in banks pending reopening of schools.

Finally, regarding the farm land: Pastor Jothan and the widows not sewing were cultivating the land the last two weeks of August in preparation for the beginning of the rainy season. I learned the first week of September that the farm land was planted with Beans and Maize for the first crop cycle this year.

Thank you all again for your help to these refugees living in the difficult conditions in the camp.

Rich Mohrmann



Our Church Staff

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Serving in Worship This Month

Scripture Readers

10/4 — Nancy Young

10/11 — Sharon Bartter

10/18 — Sue Zorn

10/25 — Brian Winter



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Angie Benton	October 1
Sharon Bartter	October 2
Daniel Fox	October 3
Laure (VanPutte) Williams	October 5
Annette Thompson	October 5
Susan DeVincentis	October 7
Dale DeCann	October 12
Margaret Jones	October 13
Martha Sholl	October 13
Robin Lindeman	October 15
Zachary Farrell	October 16
Joyce Farrokh	October 17
Thomas Rankin Sr.	October 17
Briana Kephart	October 18
Ella Simonelli	October 19
Nancy Young	October 20
David Rogenmoser	October 23
Nicholas Spicer	October 23
Cindy Purzycki	October 24
Timothy Kephart	October 25
Bette Edgett	October 25
Kevin Ruell	October 27
Ted Carstens	October 30
Roy Baird	October 30

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Timothy & Tamara Kephart	October 6
Julia & Brandon Troiano	October 16
John & Karen Best	October 20

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November Hinge Deadline

All items for the **November Hinge** are due by **October 15**.

Please send to: karensladden@hotmail.com

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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!

Some helpful tips for writing:

1. Choose a theme or topic. Some examples may be themes of Hope, Joy, Love, Peace represented by the Advent candles; themes/ individuals from the Christmas narrative; the works Christ came to accomplish; personal experiences where God was at work; gifts for Christ (our hearts, souls, minds, and strength); etc.!
2. Advent devotionals have only one truly essential element: Scripture! Most also include written meditations, reflections, or short stories. You can also incorporate a special prayer; favorite songs, hymns, and carols; original illustrations as well as activities and/or games.
3. *Don’t forget to title your Advent devotion!*

