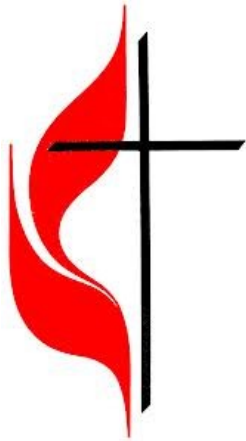


Aldersgate Hinge

November 2020



From the Pastor

It's November! What comes to your mind as we are entering the month of November? Thanksgiving? Family gathering? Family Thanksgiving dinner?

In the United States, November is the month that hosts Thanksgiving, a day to reap the harvest and celebrate the community's or family's collective bounty.

What does Thanksgiving mean to you this year with the Coronavirus pandemic? Can you still be thankful? Can you not be thankful as much as you have been in the years because of what we have suffered from the pandemic?

I am very thankful to God, more than I have been over the past years. It surprises me because this year has been more challenging than other years. As I look back, what we have gone through, all the hardships were much more challenging than other years. But I am still thankful. I am even more thankful than other years. My heart is filled with the grace and love of God.

Actually, the pandemic opened my spiritual eyes to see the blessings that I had not seen before. God has blessed me with many things. One of them is good health. However, I had taken it for granted before the pandemic. But facing the challenges from Coronavirus day in and day out, I came to realize what a wonderful gift life is. Every day when I wake up and when I go to bed, I am deeply thankful to God for being alive which means every moment is a gift and blessing from God.

I am not saying that the Coronavirus pandemic is a blessing. We all have suffered a lot from it. But in spite of all of that, we find blessings, even more deeply than before the pandemic. And we can rejoice over all the blessings from God even in times of trials such as the Coronavirus pandemic. Paul is so right when he said, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice." (Philippians 4:4, NRSV)

In the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic, we will gather at the Thanksgiving table. For many families it might not be like the usual gathering, missing some family members. But I am sure we will be able to count many blessings and rejoice in our good Lord.

Continued on page 2

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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:

Rick Baker, Sharon Bartter, Bernice Bird, Paul Brown, Ellie Cook, Joyce DeBell, Nathan Dunn, Lorrie Durbin, Zachary Farrell, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Carolyn Gilson, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Doug Jones, Richard Keegan, Tim Kephart, Garnet & Bob Kovac, Ray LaFlair, Bobbi Mohrmann, Mas Okita, Dorothy Pearson, Joe & Michelle Piper, Cindy Purzycki, Paula & Tim Rolfe, Larry Scrivens, Debbie Simm, Michael & Betty Smith, David Stanley, Alice Styles, Michael Thompson, Evelyn Troiano, Doug Unell, Hal Wagner, Scott Wiley, Helen Wolter, Zeh family, and caregivers of all those with ongoing health concerns.

Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

Concerns: Harper, Kevin, Lily, Denise, Rita, Nikki, Dick, Mary Beth Clarke, Andy (Gloria Baker); Brad; Noah & Kevin; Evan, Tisha and baby Damian; Louie (Sharon Bartter); Katrina, Phil McCloud (Kathy Bernardi); Carol Meek (John & Karen Best); The Bowens, Daughter (Ted & Natasha Carstens); John Fox; my Sister (Jennifer Crandall); Danny; Michael Ling, Brantley, Angela Magallozzi, Emily, Millie (Lisa Deutsch); Norma (Mark DeVincentis); Jim Mazza, Quinn Aldridge, Carol Price-Barden, 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); Roger & me; mom (Patricia Forbes), Jessica; my brother (Robin Fox); Sam Ruzick (Rev. David Jones); Brother-in-law & Eileen, Richard Hartman (Nan Keller); Michael Gilson; Ruggeri family (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); Buddy Good, Anne Bratko (Cindy Purzycki); Jerry Smith; Son and daughter-in-law, Jessie Smith (Karen Rice); Christian Ruell (Brenda Ruell); Telma Pinto (Juan Ruiz); Brother (Gretta Schafer); Lorie & Sarah (Marilyn Sobus); Larry Hayes (Carla Starr); Abby (Louretta Teasdale); David Whitt (Deborah Whitt); Barbara (Jeanette Zeh)

Nursing Homes/Living Centers: Barb Condon – Cherry Ridge; Jane Coonan – Mill Landing; Al Holmes – Latta

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.



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

Christian Sympathies to:

The family of Martha Thomson, who passed away on Sept. 26 at 100 years old. A memorial service and interment will be scheduled at a later date.

Prayer Request at In-person Worship

At this time, we will not pass mics around during Sunday worship. 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.

From the Pastor continued...

I also invite and encourage you to join in giving thanks to God with Thank offering on November 22. You can also send it by mail if you join in worship from home.

November is also the month of Pledge/Commitment campaign. I thank you so much for your support and commitment to the ministries of Aldersgate Church for 2020 in spite of many challenges and difficulties. In 2021, we probably continue to face many challenges from the Coronavirus pandemic, but it also opens the doors to many opportunities. Let us respond to God's invitation to new ministry opportunities by making faithful commitment for the growth of our church and ministries.

Pastor Sung Ho



Church Events & Opportunities

Online Worshippers!

Technology is a wonderful gift from God. It blesses us to gather in cyberspace for worship. When I see the messages left by worshippers, I feel like I see you in person. It brings me joy. I think other people feel like that, too. So I encourage you to leave a message. It doesn't have to be long. You can leave a short message such as, good morning, hi, etc. Thank you! — Pastor Sung Ho

Holiday Bell Choir Ringers Wanted

Looking for people to play in the bell choir, anyone who would like to learn. It's fun! We would like to play Silent Night at Christmas service. Practice will not start immediately. Will let people know when practice will start. Contact Mary Sims by email at Sims.mcs@gmail.com

All Saints Sunday Service – November 1

Our church members and family members who have passed away over the past year will be remembered.

Daylight Saving Time Ends November 1

Turn the clock back one hour when you go to bed Saturday night.

2020 Charge Conference

Charge Conference will be held on Thursday, November 19 at 7PM via Zoom. Members of the Church Council are expected to attend.

United Methodist Student Day is Nov. 29

United Methodist Student Day is one of six church-wide Special Sunday offerings of The United Methodist Church. The purpose of UM Student Day is to call upon the denomination to support United Methodist students as they prepare for life by adding knowledge to their faith. The funds received from the offering go into the United Methodist Student Loan Fund to underwrite scholarships for United Methodist students. The fund is administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

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 November being sure to include a notation for "UM Student Sunday."

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

Contemporary A/V Team Support Needed

In preparation for that time when we can return to a full Contemporary Sunday Worship at Aldersgate: The Contemporary A/V Team needs one or two additional members to fully support the in-house sound and PowerPoint displays. (This is NOT for the video streaming support.) Your help will allow us to provide an energetic faith worship experience during the Sunday Contemporary Worship time.

If you only wish to learn and support the PowerPoint display that would be also be OK and Very Helpful. If you are interested you will be shown how to operate the PowerPoint display and also the Sound Board. Please contact Rich Mohrmann at RMohrmann@aumcgreece.org or 225-1526 if you are interested or have questions. Thank you for considering this service opportunity to support the worship time.

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 email the number).

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

December Hinge Deadline

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

Please send to: karensladen@hotmail.com

Youth activities



Summer Fun...in October!

It was about 40 degrees last year around this time on the night of Reverb. We had chosen to go to Altitude Trampoline Park and Clubhouse Fun Center. I had jokingly told everyone not to wear shorts...and not everyone had followed that instruction. One of the highlights was the go-karts and the golf course at Clubhouse. The golf course was cold and we all froze doing the go-karts. It took my hands about a day to thaw out. Well, it felt that way at least.

We all have fun and laugh reminiscing about it. While we had a good time, it was just too cold. Yesterday, however, was perfect. 75 and sunny in the middle of October—what a blessing! The perfect day for a do-over!

I had almost swept the day. I came in first at Golf and took an early lead until almost the last lap in the go-kart race. The whole time I had looked back and knew Luke was right behind me trying to overtake me. On the last lap I slowed for a corner because I was about to lap another driver. Suddenly around the bend Luke followed by Steven zipped around and left me in the dust. Well played.

We had a great time with everyone. We arrived early, beat the crowd and had the whole course to ourselves. At the end of the day we had cookie cake (thank you Deepa!) to celebrate Ella and Steven's birthdays. We swear also that Cyril had grown about a foot since we last saw him. We didn't even recognize his voice. God blesses us in many ways. An unexpectedly warm day at the end of October was one of them.



Aldersgate Greece Youth Group



Thank You!

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



Children's Ministry



A Special Advent Worship Service To Begin this Holy Season!

"Hanging of the Greens"

Sunday, November 29

10:00 am Worship Service

Children's Sunday School (all in one room school) hopes to move inside to Fellowship hall November 1st. Windows will be open, fans circulating the area, the children will be sitting at tables socially distanced, and wearing masks. Rhonda Simonelli and Brian Winter will be co-teaching this group of children.

Student Volunteers Needed

We are planning a special worship service **"HANGING OF THE GREENS"** on November 29th. This is also the first Sunday of Advent. We are looking for children and youth to lead the service who are interested in reading lines. This will be a somewhat modified version of what we have done in the past. We will be following safety protocols and guidelines for worship service. Please contact Rhonda Simonelli or Brian Winter if your child is interested in participating.



Successful 2020 CROP WALK

This year our preliminary total (area churches participating) amount donated is \$8,918 in a PANDEMIC year with many fewer walkers. Last year, we raised \$8,178. The total amount we raised at Aldersgate UMC has not been finalized yet. Thank you all for your support!



WHITE GIFTS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Helping Needy Families for 56 Years

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.

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."

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.*



Provide assistance in purchasing requested items.

Plan Now!

Speak to Jan or Tracy Winter at church or contact them by calling Jan at 943-7353 for more information and to volunteer in this very rewarding venture as soon as possible. You may also e-mail Jan at winterjanets@gmail.com.

Our Narrative Budget

Four principles of biblical stewardship should be held in our hearts and minds:

The principle of ownership. “The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” (Psa. 24)

All Christians are but God’s stewards. Everything we have is on loan from the Lord, entrusted to us for a while to use in serving Him.

The principle of responsibility. The Bible constantly asks, What about your responsibilities? Owners have rights; stewards have responsibilities. (Bill Peel)

The principle of accountability. Like the servants in the Parable of the Talents, we will be called to give an account of how we have administered everything we have been given, including our time, money, abilities, information, wisdom, relationships, and authority. (Bill Peel)

Our time, talents are treasure are on loan to us from God. Give them away with unlimited generosity.

The principle of reward. “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” (Col. 3: 23-4)

“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!” (Matt 25:21)

2020 has been an unusual year hasn’t it? We have been challenged in ways we could not have imagined a year ago. As a congregation we have pulled together – from afar! We continue to thrive as a congregation. No one has a crystal ball, but we are planning on more and more areas of our church life to return to in-person as 2021 progresses. In the meantime, our staff continues to work creatively to provide ministry to us all, our Trustees and our Custodian are working on maintaining our building and keeping it clean, and church leadership continues to meet regularly to monitor our finances and other issues, and to make decisions on how to continue to safely reopen.

Following are the estimated Income and Expenses for 2021, and how those expenses are spent toward the various ministries of the church.

2021 Budget Income:

\$ 212,000	Pledged Offerings
\$ 60,000	Plate/Gifts
\$ 2,600	Fundraisers
\$ 10,000	Room Rental
<u>\$ 70,000</u>	Increased giving need for 2021
\$ 354,600	TOTAL



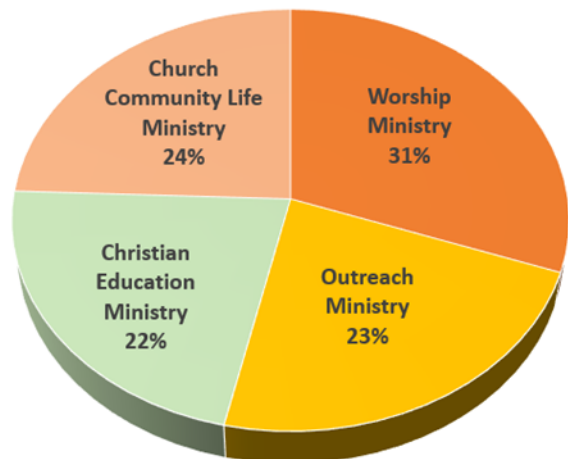
2021 Budget Expenses:

\$ 210,600	Salaries and benefits
\$ 102,000	Admin and Maintenance
<u>\$ 42,000</u>	Ministry Shares to UMC
\$ 354,600	TOTAL

SPENDING in MINISTRY AREAS:

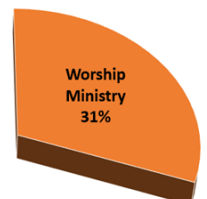
31%	Worship Ministry
23%	Outreach Ministry
22%	Christian Education Ministry
24%	Church Community Life Ministry

Spending in Ministry Areas



Worship Ministry - Loving God. “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” Matt 22:37

The worship experience continually shapes our lives through hearing God’s story and sharing our own stories. The liturgical arts and music enhance our expression of God’s grace.

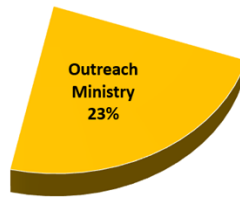


31% — This includes a percentage of our pastors' compensation, administrative and facilities budgets, and our Music Director's, Organist's, and Contemporary Worship Team Leader's compensation.

- Weekly Worship services
- Choir direction and accompanist (Once it is safe for choral singing again – we hope in 2021)
- Organ and other music during worship services
- Contemporary worship leadership (We are hoping to have a new CWL before the end of 2020)

Outreach Ministry - Serving Others. *You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters...serve each other through love.* Galatians 5:13

Young people, men, women – everyone can serve in some way within our outreach ministries. The circles of influence of our outreach include local efforts which not only serve area needs but also sustain our other larger global missions. God has called us to take up the cross and address the great needs in Uganda. We support the ministry and mission of The United Methodist Church by giving the apportioned ministry share to The United Methodist Church (we have not been able to fully contribute our full apportionment for the last two years). This we do in addition to other thriving initiatives – Community Dinner, Mission trips, English Village reading program, White Gifts to name a few.



(23%) — This includes a percentage of our pastors' compensation, administrative and facilities budgets, Ministry Shares (Apportionment) to UMC, a portion of the Communication budget.

- Supporting ministries across the country and around the world
- Community Dinner (currently take out only, but hope to be able to do in-person some time in 2021)
- AA meetings (we hope to be able to allow these group back into the building some time in 2021)
- Girl Scouts
- Mission Share
- RAIHN
- White Gifts
- Health Kits & School supplies
- Church Website & Facebook page
- Craft Workshops
- Mission trips
- African Student Scholarships
- Uganda water & land projects

- English Village reading program
- Faith sharing & Evangelism

Christian Education Ministry - Changing Lives. *"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"*

2 Corinthians 5:17

Our ministry is blessed by offering weekly Bible studies and opportunities of formation and growth of faith for children, teens and adults.

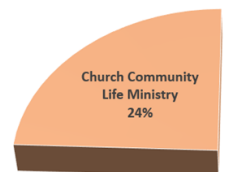


22% — This includes a percentage of our pastors' compensation, administrative and facilities budgets, Youth Director and Christian Ed Directors salaries, and Youth and Christian Ed budgets.

- Christian Education
- Children's Ministry
- Youth Group Ministry
- Confirmation
- Vacation Bible School
- Adult Sunday School
- New Membership classes
- Baptisms

Church Community Life Ministry (Fostering Connections. *"For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others."* (Romans 12:4-5)

We intentionally work to learn and share the stories of our members, deepening the community and relationships we cherish. Our church family includes people of diverse backgrounds, beliefs, understandings, attitudes and geography. Everyone is welcome to this church home.



24% — This includes a percentage of our pastors' compensation, administrative and facilities budgets, Stewardship budget, Communications budgets including:

- Small Groups
- Stewardship
- Church Council
- Church Website & Facebook page
- Video in main gathering space
- Weddings
- Funerals
- Rummage Sale
- Visitation & Caring Ministry

(Continued on next page)

Source	2021 Goal
Estimate of Pledges and Gifts	\$268,138
Other Giving	\$ 82,600
Total	\$354,600

“I want you to have all the time you need to make this offering in your own way...God loves it when the giver delights in the giving.” From 2 Corinthians 9, *The Message*

A budget is first and foremost a faith statement – it reflects our beliefs, values, and priorities. We share these numbers to understand what kind of commitment it takes to realize our hopes and dreams for ministry.

Each one of us can give at different levels and in a variety of ways. Giving is a subversive act – striking a balance between your personal needs and sharing your gifts with the world. You might ask yourself – does my giving reflect

my values? Look at the total you give to the church and other organizations and compare it to other expenditures in your life.

(Note: Our Building Fund is separate from our Annual Budget. All gifts to the Building Fund are used to cover the current monthly mortgage. This is a commitment for approximately another 9 years.)

Ultimately, we give not because we must, but because we want to express gratitude for the abundance and blessings in our lives. When we recognize and acknowledge both our abundance and our blessings, we are freed from the narrative of scarcity that our culture perpetuates. Consider your giving a reflection of your Blessed Life!

Commitment Sunday is November 15! You can 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.

2020 Annual Conference Summary

As with so many events in this pandemic year, the 2020 Upper New York Annual Conference wasn't quite what it has been in the past. Two or three days of fellowship, worship and decision making, became a six-hour business meeting over Zoom. Nevertheless, the seven hundred plus people who watched were witness to the serious work that goes on behind the scenes of the Conference. Multiple committee reports were presented, amendments were made and voted on, and the 2021 budget was agreed to. Here are a few highlights:

- The Board of Pensions and Health Benefits Report. There were four recommendations dealing with pensions and benefits, and included the move starting in January 2021 from the Wespath traditional HealthFlex plan to Wespath's HealthFlex Exchange.
- The Equitable Compensation report recommended that base compensation rates stay the same as previous years. Raises for eligible employees should be greater than 1.3%.
- The Nominations Report went through all the people who will be filling positions throughout the conference, including many of the committees. A couple of names jumped out: Doug Hess was named to the Accessibility Committee, and Christine Mitchell was named to the Safe Sanctuaries Committee.
- The Trustees Report noted that the camp and retreat

centers, after being closed all summer, are now open for small groups. They pointed out that currently they are caring for 28 properties of churches that have closed and eleven legacy properties at a cost of \$575,000. They also discussed the impact of the Child Victims Act. The statute of limitations has been extended to August of 2021. There are eight cases that are impacting Upper New York, all of which date back to before 2010, before Upper New York as a conference existed. There is no insurance coverage. The conference has hired a law firm to represent churches that have been subpoenaed. Prayers were offered to the victims involved.

- The Conference Council of Finance and Administration report shared that, because of Covid, the 2020 Budget needed a slight adjustment, as well as the Budget offered for 2021. The expectation is that churches will continue to submit their ministry shares. The budget and report were supported.

Annual Conference for 2021 is scheduled for June 3-5 in Syracuse. General Conference is scheduled for August 29-September 7, 2021 in Minneapolis, MN.

Details, full articles and videos are available on the conference website: <https://www.unyumc.org/events/annual-conference>

Carol Kress, Lay Representative

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Serving in Worship This Month

Scripture Readers

11/1 — Nancy Young

11/8 — Jan Rothfuss

11/15 — Jim Jonas

11/22 — Carin Gantner

11/29 — Brian Winter



A/V Support

11/1 — Roger Hotchkiss

11/8 — Mark DeVincentis

11/15 — Mary Sims

11/22 — Ted Carstens

11/29 — Rich Mohrmann

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Amanda Farrell	November 4
Larry VanAllen	November 4
John Simm	November 7
Sandi Norris	November 8
Joclynn Fox	November 9
Carolyn Gilson	November 9
Tommy Maggio	November 9
John Best	November 16
Natalie Bock	November 16
Bill Burdick	November 18
Betty Hild	November 18
Suzanne Spicer	November 18
John Cook	November 18
Richard Caupp	November 19
Ann Christie	November 20
Andrea Peeck	November 20
Jan Winter	November 21
Tamara Gilzow-Kephart	November 24
Rachel Carstens	November 25
Eric Rex	November 25
Laura Wagner	November 30
Diane Haschmann	November 30

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Kurt & Robin Lindeman	November 21
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Anniversaries & Birthdays

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
www.aumcgreece.org
4115 Dewey Avenue
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United Methodist Women

A Big Thank You

Thank you to all who donated items for the School and Health kits. Even though we could not put the kits together, these items are still needed. Hurricanes, floods, and natural disasters do not wait. We will deliver these items to the UMCOR Syracuse Hub soon.

Below are the items that we received:

School Kit Items

Scissors – 71
Crayons – 124
Notebooks – 50
Packs of Loose-leaf Paper – 14
Pencil Sharpeners – 90
Rulers – 98
Pencils – 712
Erasers – 149
Two-Gallon Re-Sealable Bags – 30

Health Kit Items

Hand Towels – 28
Washcloths – 30
Combs – 99
Toenail/Fingernail Clippers – 41
Soap – 74
Adult Toothbrushes – 126
Adhesive Bandages – 510
One-Gallon Re-Sealable Bags - 205



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

KEEP THE FAITH!!