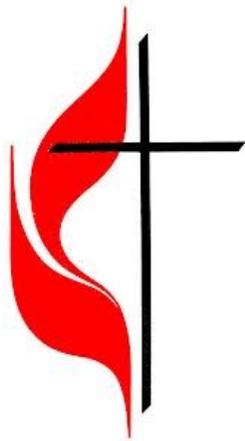


Aldersgate Hinge

March 2021



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From the Pastor

It's Been a Year!

On March 7, 2020, a state of emergency for COVID-19 was declared in the State of New York.

March 11, 2020 – It was the day the first case of COVID-19 was reported in Monroe County.

On March 17, 2020, the first death from COVID-19 occurred in Monroe County. We were not prepared for the coronavirus pandemic. So, we cancelled the service on March 15. Instead, a brief message was sent to the church members by email.

On the following Sunday, March 22, we had the first online worship service. Again, we were not prepared. Our church didn't have the system for video-recording worship services. So, the recording was done in the study of the parsonage, using my cell phone. But our online worship service had grown quickly with the excellent and passionate effort from the church staff and volunteers from various people for special music, prayers and preaching, virtual choir, children/youth participation, "Duck" the frog.

Another day we must remember is August 2, 2020 when we had the first in-person worship service since the coronavirus outbreak. On this day, the service was live streamed for the first time.

It has been an amazing journey. We have experienced extravagant blessings from God through the faithful commitment and support of church members,



the generous investment for God's vision for Aldersgate Church, the participation of church members in various ministries with passion and courage. God has provided. Jehovah-Jireh! Praise God!

"From the Pastor"
Continued on page 3

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, Bernice Bird, Joyce DeBell, Nathan Dunn, Bobbie Eckert, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Carolyn Gilson, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Richard Keegan, Tim Kephart, Bob & Garnet Kovac, Ray LaFlair, Mas Okita, Dorothy Pearson, Joe & Michelle Piper, Cindy Purzycki, Charlotte Ridley, Paula Rolfe, Debbie Simm, Michael & Betty Smith, David Stanley, Alice Styles, Michael Thompson, Doug Unell, Hal Wagner, Scott Wiley, Bob Winter, Helen Wolter, Jeanette Zeh, and the Caregivers of all those with ongoing health concerns.

Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

Concerns: Janice Hamilton, Gary & Lolly Beikirch (Nancy Bailey); Dani, Rick, James (Gloria Baker); Uncle Richard (Sharon Bartter); Christine Salonen, Phil McCloud; Katrina; Mark (Kathy Bernardi); Carol Meek (John & Karen Best); Neighbor (Bernice Bird); Jody's Grandfather (Jerbrel Bowens); The Bowens, Daughter (Ted & Natasha Carstens); Delores Carter, My sister, my boss, Shay (Jennifer Crandall); Mike Devlin (Lorraine Christie); John Fox; Danny; Michael Ling, Brantley, Angela Magallozzi, Emily, Millie (Lisa Deutsch); Norma (Mark DeVincentis); Hans VanZundert, Jim Mazza, Quinn Aldridge, Carol Price-Barden, Eileen Harloff, Stacey Miller, Ted Way, Mark Frey (Wendy & Mike Dunn); Mary; Zahra (Joyce Farokh); Aaron (Becky Fisher); Cathy (Roger Forbes); Roger & me (Patricia Forbes); Jessica; my brother (Robin Fox); Michelle's dad; Gabriella Weis (Susan Galligan); Mike (Dan Hollowell); Friend (Doug & Becky Hess); Sam Ruzick (Rev. David Jones); Noel (Nancy Jones); Brother-in-law & Eileen, Lee & Richard Hartman (Nan Keller); Michael Gilson, Barbie Anzalone, Schneider Family (The Lindenaus); Marlene Benson (Sabrina McLeod); Rich & Barb (Candy Metzger); Bonnie Bush, Phillip Mead, Nicole Mohrmann, Susan Tuck Rooksby, Ricki Schaefer (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann); Paul Brown (Sandi Norris); Dorothy Pearson (Kathy Pearson); Mom (Matt Pedelty); My family (Wendy Peeck); Lynda Pfund (Erin Pfund); Joe Piper (Michelle Piper); Grandma (Shawna Poling); Buddy Good, Anne Bratko (Cindy Purzycki); Ellie Wagner, Butch Riemer (Karen Rice); Lynn (Charlotte Ridley); Sandi; Matt Nary's Dad (David Rogenmoser); Madison Jesmer (Sue Rozinski);

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 Ruell (Brenda Ruell); Telma Pinto (Juan Ruiz); Brother (Gretta Schaefer); Tom (Debbie Simm); Jeana's daughter, brother and mother (Mary Sims); Lorie & Sarah (Marilyn Sobus); Larry Hayes (Carla Starr); Abby (Louretta Teasdale); Lynn Sabo Guzik (Annette Thompson); Dennis Pankey; Kaylle VanAllen (Larry VanAllen); David Whitt (Deborah Whitt); Son and his wife; Barbara (Jeanette Zeh)

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

Our Christian Sympathies go out to:

Roger Burkhardt's family — he passed away Jan. 26th.

To Wendy Peeck and family — her mother, Betty McCracken, passed away Jan. 26th

Tim and Paula Rolfe — Paula's aunt, Kaye Ackey, passed away at the end of January

To the family of Gail Snyder — she passed away unexpectedly February 7th at the age of 67

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 5 PM on Saturday. Your prayer request will be shared with the congregation during worship unless you want Pastor Lee to keep it confidential.



What is Lent?

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word lencten, meaning “lengthen” and refers to the lengthening days of spring. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts and then became a time of penance by all Christians. Today, Christians focus on relationship with God, growing as disciples and extending ourselves, often choosing to give up something or to volunteer and give of ourselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a “mini-Easter.” This is why you will see the designation “Sunday in Lent” rather than “Sunday of Lent” in the naming of these Sundays. On each Lord’s Day in Lent, while Lenten fasts continue, the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

Sermon Series for Lent 2021 – Encounters with Jesus

In this Lenten season, let us be healed, empowered and transformed by encountering with Jesus who empowered, healed and changed in the stories in the Bible.

February 21 (Lent 1)

Jesus and the man born blind - John 9:1-12
The blind man is not only healed with 20/20 vision but also becomes a new person.

February 28 (Lent 2)

Jesus and Mary and Martha - Luke 10:38-42
Action driven by passion in the heart has the power to transform.

Church Events & Opportunities

March 7 (Lent 3)

Jesus and Nicodemus – John 3:1-21
Jesus said, “You must be born again,” which means extreme makeover by the love of God.

March 14 (Lent 4)

Jesus and the woman at the well – John 4:1-26
By the unconditional love of Jesus, the woman’s life is transformed.

March 21 (Lent 5)

Jesus and James and John – Matthew 20:20-28
If one of you wants to be first, you must be the slave of the others.

Lenten/Small Groups via Zoom

- Lenten Sunday Night Small Group – Walk Humbly – led by Sue Zorn and Bobbi Mohrmann
Sundays Feb. 21 - Mar. 28, 6:30-7:30 PM, please let them know if you are attending.
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85864621925?pwd=dGJwZG4xZ1M2T0JZWGp0eTN2NlI3Zz09>

Continued on page 4

“From the Pastor” Continued from Pg 1

Now we are on the journey of Lent. What do you do during a pandemic in Lent? I am asking this question using Jim Cobia’s question that he posted on Facebook with a picture: What do you do during a pandemic in February? Jim is growing plants. Yes, it’s only February!

The Aldersgate Church slogan for 2021 is “Grow and Thrive.” Let us grow and thrive. Let us grow our church to make it thrive. Yes, even during a pandemic and in spite of a pandemic.

The climax of the Lenten journey is found in the last three days of the Lenten season – Good Friday to Easter Sunday! From the cross to the empty tomb! From death to resurrection! Our God is the God of resurrection and new life. God has planted us in His soil to grow us and to make us thrive. Let us grow and thrive!

Pastor Sung Ho



United Methodist UMCOR Sunday — March 14

United Methodist UMCOR Sunday is one of six church-wide Special Sunday offerings of The United Methodist Church. This special offering underwrites UMCOR's administrative costs so that all designated gifts will go to the project specified. Your gifts ensure UMCOR's response in times of crisis so that 100% of gifts to UMCOR help those who need it most. This fund is administered by the General Board of Global Ministries. Your giving to UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing) is what allows UMCOR to act as the arms and legs of Christ's church, moving toward the most vulnerable in their darkest days. Convinced that all people have God-given worth and dignity—without regard to race, religion or gender—together we are assisting those impacted by crisis or chronic need.

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 March being sure to include a notation for "UMCOR Sunday."

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

Lenten/Small Groups via Zoom, Continued

- Starting Feb. 23rd, Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:15PM – sharing reflection on the Lenten devotional, "Walk Humbly" led by Pastor Lee
Tuesday Lent group Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81612839226>
- Starting Feb. 24th, Wednesdays, 11:00 - 11:45AM – sharing reflection on the Lenten devotional, "Walk Humbly" led by Pastor Lee
Wednesday Lent group Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85329310232>

Everyone is welcome to sign up for the Tuesday and Wednesday groups by email at ebills@aumcgreece.org or call at 585-663-3665. Registration is encouraged, but not required. You may join in any session. Lenten devotionals, "Walk Humbly" can be picked up at church (located on a table in the Gathering Space and in the bin outside of the main door) or downloaded online from: <https://endhunger.org/lent/>.

Holy Week Worship Services

(All services both in-person and live streaming)

- Palm Sunday – Sunday, March 28 at 10:00AM
- Maundy Thursday Communion Service – Thursday, April 1 at 7:00PM
- Good Friday Service – Friday, April 2 at 7:00PM
- Easter Sunday Service – Sunday, April at 10:00AM

Upper Room

The **March/April** issue is now available. It is in a bin outside the front doors of the church, the table inside and in the rack on the wall in the gathering space.

Hold the Date: Charge Conference, March 18

Aldersgate UMC's Charge Conference will be held on March 18th at 7 PM via zoom. This is the time where we elect the church leaders for the coming service year.

April 2021 Hinge Deadline

All items for the **April Hinge** are due by **March 15**.
Please send to: karenladden@hotmail.com

Trivia Night Live on Zoom

Saturday, March 6 at 7:00 pm

Sponsored by the Stewardship Committee

Topics include Miscellaneous Trivia from the 40s to Today, This time - Featuring Commercials

\$5 per person to benefit the Aldersgate Shared Ministries Fund

Questions? Email Jan Winter or call her at 943-7353

Sign up by way of email to winterjanets@gmail.com You will then receive the Zoom link for the Event

You may mail in a check, cash or pay by credit card



Guessing Game

Starting on March 7th for Children & Youth: Can you guess how many Jelly Beans are in the Jar? On Easter Sunday, we will reward the two who are closest to the number with a special gift card.



March Sunday School Events

March 7

Sent out by Two (Mark 6: 7-13) — Making Winter Lanterns

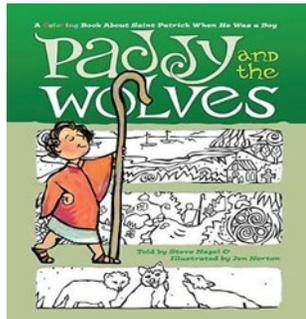


March 14



McDonald's Shamrock Shake Sunday to Celebrate St. Patrick's Day! We will learn about the meaning of St. Patrick's Day and read *Paddy and the Wolves: A Story about Saint Patrick*

When He Was a Boy. It includes black-and-white line art so that children can color the story of Paddy's adventures. Each child will receive a coloring book and box of crayons to color in class and finish at home.



March 21

We will be making special Easter Cards and assembling Easter baskets for our congregants who are homebound or in assisted living facilities and hospitals.

March 28



We will celebrate Palm Sunday with a joyful parade during the first part of the Worship Service. Any child or youth who would like to participate during the Worship service (musical talents or special readings), please contact Rhonda Simonelli or Brian Winter. We will continue the celebration with a prayer-filled palm and press-out scene. This prayerful press-out palm is a fabulous way for children to

celebrate Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. A Palm Sunday Bible reading is printed on one side of the paper palm branch as well as a responsive prayer.

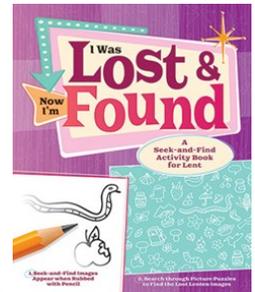


Easter Basket Donations Needed

We are starting to **collect small items**, (i.e., individualized wrapped candy, teas, pretzels, soap, notepaper, puzzles, pens, hand sanitizer, lotions, etc.) **to make Easter baskets** for congregation members that are home-bound or in hospitals and nursing homes. Your child may bring these items to church during the next few weeks. There will also be a large tote in front of the nursery and an outside tote for donated items. We are hoping to make 25 baskets on March 21. Thanks so much for your continued support.

Lenten Devotional for Children

Children can search the pages of this out-of-sight Lenten activity book to see the hidden pictures, puzzles and objects that tell the story of Jesus. Simply rub the pages with the side of a pencil to uncover the items that were once missing. Children will receive a copy during Sunday School or one can be placed in the tote outside for your child to pick up.



Upcoming Events for Christian Education

- Outdoor Easter Egg Hunt at 11 AM on Easter Sunday, April 4
- For the *Beauty of the Earth* day fun on Sunday, April 25th for Children & Youth

Youth activities

Looking Back a Year Later...

It has been almost a year since the pandemic has started, and Kaori and I have been blessed to hear all that the youth have been doing over the past year. Though it seems like a quiet, snowed-in kind of time for many of us, the youth have continued to be busy and, in many ways, have been able to continue doing what they love, using their gifts, and even learning new things.

Erin has continued to compete swimming. Emma has been keeping up with soccer, and recently made honor roll. Over the past few months, Molly received a guitar and has been teaching herself to play (we're hoping to convince her to share that new talent some day). She has also made honor roll.

Luke recently made the Varsity basketball team. He's still getting taller and it doesn't seem to stop. Ella now plays on the JV basketball team. She was just recently inducted into National Junior Honor Society.

Steven and Cyril have been playing tennis, probably the penultimate game for social distancing. I have asked them if they've been dominating . . . they said they are working at it. Cyril's about a foot taller now and we are still adjusting to the new voice.

I've already challenged Luke, Steven, and Cyril for one-on-one games. However, because I will likely lose

in all cases, right now I am enjoying just talking a good game...

We recently received an update about Ashley in Florida. She's doing well, but we miss her.

There will be new challenges and opportunities in 2021. God uses unique times to shape his people in unique ways and for unique purposes. We are so thankful that the youth have been able to continue doing things they love, even though there have been many changes and, in some cases, shorter seasons. And we are proud of their achievements. Our prayer is that our youth will continue to grow and thrive in 2021, and that God's purpose will be fulfilled in all they do!

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."
– 1 Thessalonians 5:18, 19



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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Jeffrey Kimmel	March 1	Sue Rozinski	March 13	Patricia Forbes	March 28
Mary Sims	March 3	Bri Schmitt	March 16	Nathan VanKouwenberg	March 28
Roger Ridley	March 4	John Shukitis	March 17	Michael McHugh	March 28
Ken Bartter	March 6	Eric Lindenau	March 17	Derek Smith	March 28
Shaylee Crandall	March 6	Alene VanPutte	March 18	Kwame Edusel	March 29
Nolan Troiano	March 6	Joyce Pombert	March 18	Tim Rolfe	March 29
Scott Wagner	March 7	Sarah Roza	March 20	Paul Brown	March 30
Frank Pombert	March 7	Sylvia Lynch	March 22	Gordon Spicer	March 30
Steve Tyler	March 9	Andrea Rex	March 26		
Robert Winter	March 10	Cathy Carpenter	March 27		
Chitie Edgett	March 10	Bill Peeck	March 27		
Gerald Wolter	March 12	Connie Gomez	March 27		
				MARCH ANNIVERSARIES	
				James & Lorraine Christie	March 18
				Tom & Frances	
				VanKouwenberg	March 24

Our Church Staff

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Pastor

663-3665

PastorSungHo@aumcgreece.org

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Pastor Emeritus

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Choir Director

mpedelty@aumcgreece.org

Kaori Winter

Organist

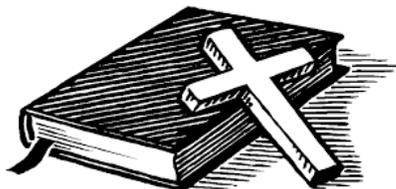
kwinter@aumcgreece.org

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

Serving in Worship This Month



Scripture Readers

3/7 — Nancy Young

3/14 — Carin Gantner

3/21 — Sharon Bartter

3/28 — Gary Hogystyn

AV Support

3/7 — Roger Hotchkiss

3/14 — Mark DeVincentis

3/21 — Rich Mohrmann

3/28 — Ted Carstens

Stewardship Corner

We are so thankful for the continued pledge payments and other generous donations that have been made since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. It has allowed operations to continue during this time with changes as needed, as well as some repairs to take place. None of this would be possible without the tremendous support from our congregation!

You can continue to mail in your pledges, call Jan Winter to make any donations via credit card, or bring them to the church if you come to in-person worship services.

Another option to consider for future donations may be to donate money directly from an IRA in lieu of taking a direct payment. This may lower your taxable income. Speak with your tax advisor to determine if this is a good option for you.

Moved Recently

Fran Setter, 3370 212th Ct SE, Sammamish, WA 98075



GROW and THRIVE

The Aldersgate Church theme for 2021 is "Grow and Thrive." Even in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, God wants us to grow and thrive and leads us throughout the year.

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

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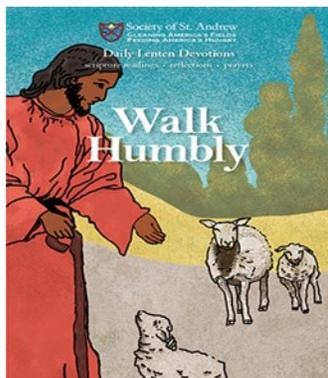
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Lenten Devotional

This year's Lenten Devotionals are available to pick up in the Gathering Space or in the tote outside of church. *Walk Humbly* this Lenten Season! Share in the reflections and prayers of a diverse group of writers, all contemplating Micah 6:8 from within the time of the Coronavirus pandemic. After a year of the pandemic, we are in need of a season of renewal. Please consider giving a \$1 or \$2 donation to the Society of St. Andrew for their free Lenten Devotional.

If you cannot get to church to pick up the Lenten booklet, you can download the entire book to your computer or have the daily item delivered to you by email.

Here is the site: <https://endhunger.org/lent/>



Holy Week Worship Services

(All services both in-person and live streaming)

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