

# Aldersgate Hinge

Live a Life of Faith — December 2022 & January 2023

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## From the Pastor

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### **Advent...Christmas...New Year**

As we draw close to the end of year, I want to thank you all. A year full of wonderful and exciting ministries, none of which we could have done without your prayer, support and participation – in person or remotely. Thank you and thank you! May God richly bless you for your faithful dedication, service and commitment.

Now we are in the season of Advent. *Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.* (Isaiah 7:14)

This is the message of promise from God for us as we are journeying in the season of Advent. God is sending His Son for us as our Savior. How exciting it is! Advent is an exciting journey of waiting in anticipation of God coming to us in the birth of Jesus, the Son of God, who is called Immanuel, which means God is with us.

In this season, many of us are busy preparing for Christmas – sending cards, preparing for gifts and dinner, and baking cookies.

Are you taking time for Jesus, to prepare for His coming? The best way to prepare for His coming is to attend Sunday services in the Advent season. I would like to let you know about the special services:

**November 27 (First Sunday in Advent)** – A Service of the Hanging of the Greens at the contemporary service (9:30 AM) with carols, Christmas story and decorating the tree. At the traditional service (11:00 AM), we will have a brief moment of the decoration and lighting of the Christmas tree.

**Blue Christmas Service** – December 10, 11:00 AM

**December 18 (One service at 10:00 AM)** – Christmas Cantata! The Chancel Choir will sing a Christmas cantata, “Mary, Did You Know?”

**December 24 – Christmas Eve Services:** Contemporary Service with Children’s Christmas play (5:00 PM) and Traditional Service (7:30 PM)

**December 25** – One service at 10:00 AM

**Continued on Page 2**

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**Aldersgate United Methodist Church**

*Transforming Lives and Serving Christ with Joy*

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# Our Ministry of Concern

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## 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, Dick Caupp, Jane Coonan, Nathan Dunn, Wendy Dunn, Joyce Farrokh, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Robin Fox, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Betty Hild, Rich Keegan, Ray LaFlair, Sylvia Lynch, Mas Okita, Kathy Peck, Cindy Purzycki, Ron Rozinski, Larry Scrivens, Debbie Simm, Michael & Betty Smith, David Stanley, Carla Starr, Alice Styles, Colleen Tyler, Hal Wagner, Jan Winter, Jeanette Zeh, and the care-givers of all those with ongoing health concerns

### Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

**Concerns:** Nancy Anderson & family; Denise, James, Paul, Maddie, Selina (Gloria Baker); Selena, Casey, Evan, Tisha & Damian (Sharon Bartter); Christine Salonen (Kathy Bernardi); Bill Burdick (Natasha Carstens); Daughter (Rose Cavicchioli); My sister, my boss, Shay (Jennifer Crandall); Ted Way, Hans VanZundert, Quinn Aldridge, Eileen Harloff, Janice Wilson, Joann Dunn (Wendy & Mike Dunn); Cathy (Roger Forbes); Johnny Cook (Patricia Forbes); Larry (Katie Furioso); Pip Hall, Sue Homsy (Doug & Becky Hess); Diana Jason; Diane D., Mike, Sam Ruzick (Rev. David Jones); Noel, Bev Palandro (Nancy Jones); Rick (Debbie Lenau); Barbie Anzalone, Sarita Crandall, Shaylee Crandall, Larry Gilson (The Lindenaus); Bonnie Bush, Philip Mead, Nicole Mohrmann (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann); Tatiana (Matt Pedelty); my family (Wendy Peeck); Dad-In-law Kevin, Jim Allocco (Erin Pfund); Ester Peprah; Ann Collins, Buddy Good, Anne Bratko (Cindy Purzycki); Greg Kelly, Ellie Wagner, Butch Riemer (Karen Rice); Glen Campbell, Sandi (David Rogenmoser); Mike McCord (brother of Cindy Roza); Christian Ruell (Brenda Ruell); Telma Pinto (Juan Ruiz); Bev, Tom (Debbie Simm); Debbie Glinski, Fred (Mary Sims); Aubrie Robinson (Sara Smarcz); Nancy Miller (Michael Smith); Son-in-law (Carla Starr); Abby (Louretta Teasdale); Mom (Bob Thayer); Michael, Bill Weber, Mom (Annette Thompson); Dennis Pankey; Kaylle VanAllen, Cindy Andrews, Michael Appleton, Bobbi Jo (Laurie VanAllen); David Whitt (Deborah Whitt); Daughter Lori (Jerry Wolter); Anna Sullivan, Penny Baart (Terry & Nancy Young); Bercehe (Steve & Jeanette Zeh); Dennis (Steven Zeh); Madison (Sue Zorn)

## E-Mail Prayer Chain

PLEASE help us keep the weekly prayer concerns list updated. Send prayer requests to Chitie Egett at [cge1935@gmail.com](mailto:cge1935@gmail.com) or the church office at [office@aumcgreece.org](mailto:office@aumcgreece.org). Confidential prayers requests should be sent directly to Pastor Sung Ho Lee at [PastorSungHo@aumcgreece.org](mailto:PastorSungHo@aumcgreece.org).



**Nursing Homes/Living Centers:** Jane Coonan – Wegman's Family Cottages; Al Holmes – Latta Road Nursing Home; Beverly Johnson – Maplewood Nursing Home; Dick Keegan – Cobbs Hill Manor; Donna Rice – Wegman's Family Cottages; Elaine Sampson – Hilton East; Alice Styles – Legacy at Grand Vie

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## Sunday Worship Prayer Requests

Send your prayer requests to Pastor Lee at [pastor-sungho@aumcgreece.org](mailto:pastor-sungho@aumcgreece.org) by 5 PM on Saturday or fill out a prayer request card in the Gathering Space before you enter the sanctuary. Your prayer request will be shared with the congregation during worship unless you want Pastor Lee to keep it confidential.

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## Pastor's Note Continued from Page 1

In the season of Christmas, God is coming to us with love, joy, peace and hope.

Christ is born again in our hearts! He brings a new hope in our hearts. Let us celebrate the birth of Christ and let us move forward with hope for the future as another year is dawning.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Pastor Sung Ho*

# Church Events & Opportunities

## Sermons for Advent/December Sundays

In this Advent season, the lessons from Adam Hamilton's "Incarnation" will be shared. In this book, Adam Hamilton examines the names of Christ used by the gospel writers.

**November 27** — Jesus the King

**December 4** — Jesus the Savior

**December 11** — Jesus is Emmanuel in the Midst of a Pandemic!

**December 18** — Jesus is the Light of the World

**December 25** — Jesus is My Life

## Dementia Caregivers Support Meeting, Dec. 3, 11:00 AM—12:30 PM

Please consider joining us in the Parlor if you are caring for a family member with dementia and you wonder what anyone can do to help you spiritually, emotionally, or physically. If interested in joining us, please contact Pastor Doug Hess at [dough96@aol.com](mailto:dough96@aol.com).

## All is Calm, All is Bright

Thank you to all our contributors for this year's Advent Devotional, *All is Calm, All is Bright*. Each year we look forward to reading the new devotions and are even more excited to share them with the rest of the congregation.

As Christmastime approaches there will be new stories and new memories. And as we prepare for Christmas the many sights and sounds, and the time we spend with others, will also lead us to reminisce of Christmases past. For those who might feel inspired to write during this season, we would like to open the invitation for early submissions to the 2023 Devotional between now and the end of January 2023 (we will open up submissions again in October 2023).

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!



## Upcoming GriefShare Schedule for 2022/2023

12/10 — Blue Christmas worship service  
(Chapel, 11:00-12:00)

1/7/23 — Loss of a Spouse Seminar (Parlor, 11:00-12:30)

1/14-4/8/23 — GriefShare 13-session series  
(Parlor, 11:00-12:30)

If interested, register online at [GriefShare.org](https://www.griefshare.org).

Direct questions to Pastor Doug Hess.

## Save the Dates! Details to Follow Soon...

- **Winter Fest** (Narnia) and **Chili Cook-Off** on Sunday, February 5 in the Ide Center. All are welcome!
- **Anti-Racism Workshop** on February 11 (Guests welcome!)

## Winter Crafting Workshop, February 10 & 11

Another fundraiser crafting weekend is being held at church from 12:30—9:00 PM on the 10th and from 9:00 AM—9:00 PM on the 11th. The cost is \$55 for both days or \$35 for a single day. Details and registration are available on our web site. Volunteers are welcome to help set up on the 9th, help with serving a meal or cleaning up, or by providing part of a meal. Call Karen Sladden (585-455-2920) or Susan Galligan (585-317-3138) for more information.



## Help Raise Money for Our Church

**Monday, December 12**

**Monday, January 30**

4:00 - 8:00 PM In Person (All day online!)

800 Greece Ridge Center Drive

Greece, NY 14626

Dine in, carry out, or order delivery at the Greece Panera and help raise money for the church! We earn 20% of sales during the specified times if you mention Aldersgate when you place your order.

Enter promo code "FUND4U" if ordering online ([panerabread.com](https://panerabread.com)), using the Panera App, or at the in-store kiosk, to have a portion of your proceeds donated.

## February 2023 Hinge Deadline

All items for the next newsletter are due by **Jan. 15**.

Please send to: [karensadden@hotmail.com](mailto:karensadden@hotmail.com)

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# Christian Education

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## Christmas Eve Play Opportunity for Children and Youth

We are looking for actors for this year's Christmas Eve play held at the 5:00p.m. Family service. The title for this year's play is **"Christmas is Here,"** written by Sabrina McLeod and directed by Rhonda Simonelli & Brian Winter. There will be 4 practices total starting on Sunday, December 11 during Sunday School hours. The final practice will be a dress rehearsal on Friday, December 23 Time TBD. Please let Rhonda Simonelli and/or Brian Winter know if your child/youth would be interested in being a part of this year's Christmas Eve service. You must be able to make the practice sessions. There are also scriptures to be read, candlelighters, and ushers needed.

## Christmas Eve Dance for Children

Anna Simm will be leading the joyful Children's dance for the Christmas Eve Family service, "The Light of Christmas" by Owl City and Toby Mac. Practices will start on December 11 during Sunday School.

## Christmas Eve Play and Worship Dance practice for Family Christmas — Practice Schedule:

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>: 9:30am-12:00pm (During Sunday School Hours)

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 10:00-11:00 (Christmas Cantata/One service)

Dress Rehearsal #1: December 18<sup>th</sup>, 11:15-12:15 in

Sanctuary after the Cantata service

Dress Rehearsal #2: December 23<sup>rd</sup>, TBD in Sanctuary

## Sunday School Updates

We are hosting a gingerbread house-making party during Sunday School on Sunday, December 4 during both Worship services. Each family unit will decorate a gingerbread house and watching the movie, "The Very First Noel." This event is for children and Youth.



There is no Sunday School for Children and Youth on Sunday, December 25 and Sunday, January 1.

**Celebrating the Epiphany on Sunday, January 8 during Sunday School. Look at that Star! Stars guide the way... God's word guides our way.** We will learn more about the Wise Men while creating a silhouette painting of the wise men.

## Something New for 2023!

Read with Miss Rhonda during the month of January. This month's selection is:



Don't miss one of America's top 100 most-loved novels, selected by PBS's "The Great American Read." Four adventurous siblings—Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy Pevensie—step through a wardrobe door and into the land of Narnia, a land frozen in eternal winter and enslaved by the power of the White Witch. But when almost all hope is lost, the return of the Great Lion, Aslan, signals a great change... and a great sacrifice. (Amazon)

A small prize from the Treasure Box will be given to each child who reads this book or a version of this classic novel.

We will study C.S. Lewis and this book in Sunday School in January, with various projects. In the allegory of The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, Aslan represents Christ. Aslan's death to save Edmund's life and his resurrection are clear references to the life of Christ.



**Thankful, Grateful, Blessed!** We had so much fun at this year's Trunk or Treat event held October 29 at our church. A warm Thank You to all who came, decorated their vehicle, and handed out wonderful treats or favors. A special thank you to Steven Samuel and family for purchasing all of the pizza and fruit juices and to Kathy Pearson for donating all the apples and pumpkins from her farm, West Wind Fruit Farm on Manitou Road. A gift card donated from Wegman's was awarded to Tim Rolfe for his creative and mysterious talking pumpkin. Congratulations Tim!





## UMC Clergy Appointments

In the United Methodist Church (UMC), clergy are sent (appointed), not called or hired. Itineracy is the commitment by pastors to go and serve wherever their Bishops send them. Appointments are reviewed annually.

The Book of Discipline gives responsibility for appointment-making to Bishops and District Superintendents (DS) of the Annual Conference. Most appointments are made Jan. to May. The Cabinet of the Upper N.Y. Annual Conference begins the appointment process with an intensive 3-day retreat in December. Consultation for Aldersgate occurs among our DS, Pastor Ted Anderson, SPRC (Staff Parish Relations Committee) and Pastors. Information is shared through church and clergy profiles (reviewed and updated annually) as well as ongoing conversations with our DS. When the Bishop and the Cabinet (District Superintendents) have determined the new appointment through their prayerful discernment process, the DS introduces the new Pastor to SPRC and then the new appointment is announced to the congregation. Our DS, Ted Anderson, said appointments for full-time pastors are usually made starting in early Feb. This may differ this year as Bishop Webb is retiring in Dec. and no appointments will be made until the "new" Bishop assumes that position on 1/1/2023. New appointments are effective July 1.

For further information, there are copies of 2 articles: 1. How do clergy appointments get made? And 2. FAQ on clergy changes, in the Gathering Space, on the table near the elevator. If you have further questions, please contact Pastor Sung Ho or a member of SPRC.



*Sam and Libby Pfund holding their Thanksgiving "Thankful Tree" made during Sunday School class.*

## Thank You!

It is with a grateful heart that I give thanks for your calls, cards and prayers during my surgery.

Larry Scrivens

## Let's Celebrate!!



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Karen Sladden	December 8
Zuni Garcia-Simons	December 10
Maria Stanley	December 10
Kimberly Lindenau	December 13
Carol Cobia	December 14
Shannon Forbes	December 16
Cindy Roza	December 24
Carol Pearson	December 25
Fran VanKouwenberg	December 27
Iris Simonelli	December 30
Bobbie Eckert	December 31

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

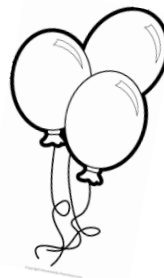
Brenda & Rick Donovan	December 3
Terry & Nancy Young	December 13
Harry & Roxanna Muttersbaugh	December 22
Ed & Shirley Geier	December 26

### JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Brenda Donovan	January 1
Brian Jones	January 1
Jack Simm	January 3
Bob Thayer	January 3
Sabrina McLeod	January 7
John Zorn	January 10
Jan Rothfuss	January 19
Rich Keller	January 19
Holly Deutsch	January 20
Danny Fox	January 26
Roger Forbes	January 27
Nancy Jones	January 31
Kathy Bernardi	January 31

### JANUARY ANNIVERSARY

Bill & Wendy Peeck	January 3
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# Youth activities

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Advent is a period of reflection and anticipation of the celebration of Christ's birth and a time of preparation for the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus.

For so long the prophets had seen brief glimpses of Jesus' Coming. While they did not see everything clearly, still these glimpses into God's promise gave them great hope. They held on to them with excitement and wonder, until the day came when the promise was fulfilled: our Savior was born as a baby in a little town called Bethlehem. From that moment, every path He traveled took Him one step closer to the cross. Isaiah (53) describes Him as a man of sorrows, acquainted with grief, despised and rejected by men, who would bear our griefs and carry our sorrows—one whose life would be made an atonement for sin. The greatness of this gift is not merely that He took away our sins, but that He also partook of the human experience, and is sympathetic to what we go through (Heb. 4:15). And, as surely as Christ has died and Christ is risen, we have this promise—this blessed hope—that Christ will come again.

Therefore, let us remember the sureness of this promise. Let the glimpses of God's promise bring us great hope and anticipation of His return!

Amen

*Thank you so much to all the youth who stepped up this year to share their talents in services, to help out at the community dinners, to participate in the Trunk or Treat, to help set up and tear down tables and chairs, to help out at Sunday School, to run the coffee hour, to be a blessing to us, and so much more! Remember, your labor for the Lord will never be in vain! May each and every one of you be blessed this Christmas and in the New Year to come!*

Merry  
Christmas  
and Happy New Year!



## 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

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## Thank You!

The Trustees want to give a big THANK YOU to the volunteers who helped clean out our church's rental property at 4133 Dewey Ave! It was a huge effort and the cleaning out required two days of work. Two dumpsters (24 feet long, 8 feet wide and 4.5 feet in height) were filled to the brim!

Thank you to Dave & Cindy Roza, Mary Dow, David Jones, Sue Zorn, Susan & Mark DeVincentis, Bobbi Mohrmann, Pastor Lee, and Debbie Lenau & Sandi Norris for their hard work; and a special thank you to David & Mary Lou Jones who provided lunch for the group on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of work!



## *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*

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### **Diana Jason**

*Administrative Assistant*

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### **Rhonda Simonelli**

*Children's Ministry Co-Director*

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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

### **Erin Pfund**

*Contemporary Worship Leader*

eepfund1@gmail.com

### **Peter Mutunzi**

*Director of African Music Ministry*

ndakizepeter@yahoo.com

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## **Serving in Worship This Month**

### **Ushers**

#### **9:30 AM**

12/4 —

12/11 —

12/18 —

12/25 —

1/1 —

1/8 —

1/15 —

1/22 —

1/29 —

#### **11:00 AM**

12/4 — Nancy & Terry Young

12/11 — Denise & Gary Hogestyn

12/18 — Nancy & Terry Young

12/25 — Maria Stanley & Eric  
Lindenau

1/1 — Nancy & Terry Young

1/8 — Denise & Gary Hogestyn

1/15 — Nancy & Terry Young

1/22 — Maria Stanley & Eric  
Lindenau

1/29 — Nancy & Terry Young

### **Scripture Readers**

#### **9:30 AM**

12/4 — Sam Pfund

12/11 — Bobbi Mohrmann

12/18 — Rich Keller

12/25 — Sharon Bartter

1/1 — Sandi Norris

1/8 — Sharon Bartter

1/15 — Annette Thompson

1/22 — Bobbi Mohrmann

1/29 — Debbie Simm

#### **11:00 AM**

12/4 — Nancy Young

12/11 — Denise Hogestyn

12/18 — Brian Winter

12/25 — Sue Zorn

1/1 — Nancy Young

1/8 — Denise Hogestyn

1/15 — Candy Metzger

1/22 — Brian Winters

1/29 — Mary Lou Jones

### **AV**

**Thank you to our volunteers—  
schedule coming soon**

Mark DeVincentis

Cyril Samuel

Ella Simonelli & Erin Galligan

Steve Zeh

Ted Carstens

Roger Hotchkiss

Michael Bartter

Mary Sims

Erin Pfund

Roger Hotchkiss

*"Once in our  
world, a stable  
had something  
in it that was  
bigger than our  
whole world."*

—C.S. LEWIS



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

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## Christmas Services Schedule

**November 27 (First Sunday in Advent)** – A Service of the Hanging of the Greens at the contemporary service (9:30 AM) with carols, Christmas story and decorating the tree. At the traditional service (11:00 AM), we will have a brief moment of the decoration and lighting of the Christmas tree.

**Blue Christmas Service – Saturday, Dec. 10, 11:00 AM**

**December 18**

**(One service at 10:00 AM) –**

**Christmas Cantata!** The Chancel Choir will sing a Christmas cantata, “Mary, Did You Know?”

**December 24 – Christmas Eve Services;** Contemporary Service with Children’s Christmas play (5:00 PM) and Traditional Service (7:30 PM)

**December 25 – One service at 10:00 AM**



### Help Wanted: Contemporary Worship Team Leader (Praise Band Leader)

- Lead and direct Praise Band practice on a weeknight.
- Attend and lead Praise Band at Sunday morning service.
- Work with Pastor to plan meaningful worship experience including selecting music, playing instrument(s), words of songs and visuals to Audio/Visual ministry for slides.
- Complete job description available upon request.
- Please send cover letter and resume to Diana Jason at [office@aumcgreece.org](mailto:office@aumcgreece.org) or mail to Aldersgate UMC, 4115 Dewey Ave, Rochester, NY 14616
- Please indicate your experience with Christian Worship Music in your application.
- Job Type: Part-time
- Pay: \$125.00 - \$150.00