

Aldersgate Hinge

Live a Life of Faith — May 2023

From the Pastor



We are Easter people. Let us be Eastering.

One of the great Easter hymns which we sang on Easter morning is still ringing in my ears:

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

I feel the glory, excitement and joy that filled the sanctuary when we sang the hymn. I feel the uplifting power of the trumpet sound. Am I stuck in the past? Are you saying, "Get real. Easter is over. Leave it behind and move on?" Move on to what? Is Easter a one-time event for one day just like the 4th of July?

Easter is not a one-time event like the 4th of July. Easter is not a noun just like celebration. Easter is a verb. So we should be Eastering. What I want to say is, we should live with the spirit and power of Easter day after day. We should live the Easter life.

That's what I see when I read the Gospels about what Jesus did after He rose from the grave. After he rose from the dead, He didn't go to heaven immediately. He stayed on earth for 40 days. During that time, He appeared to His disciples and others again and again.

If the resurrection is only about eternal life, He could have gone into heaven immediately after showing Himself to the disciples. But Jesus wanted His disciples to live the Easter life which is transformation from broken to remade, dead to alive, lost to reinstated, infected to healed, wounded to restored, natural to spiritual. And Jesus who rose from the grave will lead us into the life of transformation.

I hope you have not forgotten that God created the universe. God created life. Would it be hard for Him to recreate? God is master of the new and renewed. Our God is the God of Eastering.

One of the passages in the Bible that I really love is "Fear not." What a powerful message! I hope you hear the risen Christ say, "Fear not! I have overcome the power of death."

We are Easter people. With the risen Christ in us, let us be Eastering.

Pastor Sung Ho

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Aldersgate United Methodist Church

Transforming Lives and Serving Christ with Joy

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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:

Nancy Bailey, Rick Baker, Bernice Bird, Nancy Brehm, Paul Brown, Dick Caupp, Jane Coonan, Mark DeVincentis, Nathan Dunn, Wendy Dunn, Joyce Farrokh, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Robin Fox, Anton Gilson, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Betty Hild, Rich Keegan, Ray LaFlair, Sylvia Lynch, Kathy Peck, Cindy Purzycki, Roger Ridley, 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 caregivers 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); Son Mark and friends, Christine Salonen (Kathy Bernardi); Bill Burdick (Natasha Carstens); Daughter (Rose Cavicchioli); My sister, my boss, Shay (Jennifer Crandall); Rick Briggs (Lisa Deutsh); Ted Way, Quinn Aldridge, Eileen Harloff, Joann Dunn, Sally & John Miller (Wendy & Mike Dunn); Cathy (Roger Forbes); Johnny Cook (Patricia Forbes); Fran Grillo, Reed & Lois Galligan (Sue Galligan & Karen Sladden); 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, Shaylee Crandall (The Lindenaus); Bonnie Bush, Phillip Mead, Nicole Mohrmann (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann); my family (Wendy Peeck); Ester Peprah; Ann Collins, Buddy Good, Anne Bratko (Cindy Purzycki); Greg Kelly, Ellie Wagner, Butch Riemer (Karen Rice); Daughter Lynn (Roger & Charlotte Ridley); Glen Campbell, Sandi (David Rogenmoser); 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); Berchehe (Steve & Jeanette Zeh); Dennis (Steven Zeh)

E-Mail Prayer Chain

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



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

Congratulations to Newly Baptized!

With great joy, two children were baptized on April 23 during the 11:00 service. Congratulations to Adriana Marie Marrero (daughter of Michelle Mendola) and Brandon Franklin Mendola (son of Brandon Mendola and Jacklyn Legno) as they are immersed fully by the Holy Spirit into Christ and into the family of God.



Easter Sunday Joy!

Church Events & Opportunities

Sermons for May

May 7 – God’s Calling for My Life; 1 Samuel 3:3-10

May 14, Mother’s Day – The Power of Love — Loving Deeply; Exodus 2:1-10

May 21 – From Pride to Humility; 1 Peter 5:6-7

May 28, Pentecost Sunday (Single Service at 10:00) – Pentecost...Again!; Acts 2:1-13

June 4 — Retirement Celebration Service & Picnic Lunch

Plan on joining in the fun to celebrate Sung Ho’s Retirement at a single service on June 4 at 10:00 AM! There will be an all-church picnic lunch following the service. Watch for more details to come.

Mother’s Day Specials, May 14

Carnation Sale: The Sunday school children will sell colorful carnations for \$2.50 each before and after the Worship services. Proceeds will go towards our summer VBS events.



Pink Drinks: The Youth and Children will also serve Copycat Starbucks Pink Drinks on Mother’s Day after each Worship service. Donations will go towards our summer VBS events.

Spring Clean-Up, Sat. May 20

Please come help from 9 AM—1 PM on May 20th to get the church lawn spruced up for the summer season. Light yard work will include picking up twigs, raking, weeding, etc. Bring your own gloves, favorite tools and water bottle. If you can’t make it that day, consider an “on-your-own” service time that works for your schedule. The trustees welcome help of all kinds and can let you know what projects need to be done inside and outside the building.



United Women in Faith

Reading Circle Re-boot: Interested in reading? For more information, please sign the sheet on the bulletin board or call the church office (663-3665).

Rummage Sale: Mark your calendars for October 5, 6, & 7

Start saving your items now for the Rummage Sale. We will start collecting them on Sunday, September 24, after the 11:00 service.

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Greece CROP HUNGER WALK

MAY 7, 2023

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

Join the Walking Team on May 7

The Greece CROP Hunger Walk begins and ends at Aldersgate UMC on May 7 with registration at 1pm, a group picture at 1:30pm, and then the walk begins. There is a 0.5-mile route and a 2.5-mile route. Pizza and T-shirts for walkers. We are adding a fun new scavenger hunt this year to complete during the walk.

It’s not too late to join the Aldersgate team. Sign up today! Contact Rhonda Simonelli (Team Captain) for more information. Thanks! <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/event/rochesterny>

We believe in ending hunger!



Help Raise Money for Our Church

Monday, May 22

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), using the Panera App, or at the in-store kiosk, to have a portion of your proceeds donated.

June 2023 Hinge Deadline

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

Please send to: karensladen@hotmail.com

Christian Education

Children's Sunday School in May

May 7: Bee the Change! Watch video about the Crop Hunger Walk. Scavenger Hunt. Wear your CROP Hunger Walk T-shirt to church on Sunday!

May 14: Happy Mother's Day! Children and Youth can craft a special tea towel on Mother's Day during Sunday School. Carnation Sale/Pink Drinks/Sing, "You are my Sunshine."

May 21: Special project for Pastor Sung Ho and practice song for Pentecost Sunday.

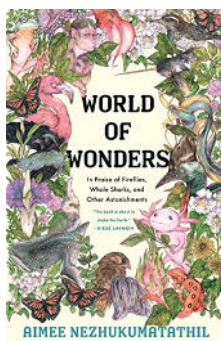
May 28: Pentecost Sunday! One Service at 10:00am. Wear the color red to church today!

June 4: One Service at 10:00 am. Pastor Sung Ho's Retirement Celebration. There will be no Sunday school classes, but children will be a part of the worship service.

Miss Rhonda's Book of the Month for May

WORLD OF WONDERS: IN PRAISE OF FIREFLIES, WHALE SHARKS, AND OTHER ASTONISHMENTS by AIMEE NEZHUKUMATATHIL, Milkweed Editions (2020)

From award-winning poet Aimee Nezhukumatathil comes a debut work of nonfiction—a collection of essays about the natural world and the way its inhabitants can teach, support, and inspire us. As a child, Nezhukumatathil called many places home. But no matter where she was transplanted—no matter how awkward the fit or forbidding the landscape—she was able to turn to our world's fierce and funny creatures for guidance. The axolotl teaches us to smile, even in the face of unkindness; the touch-me-not plant shows us how to shake off unwanted advances; the narwhal demonstrates how to survive in hostile environments. Even in the strange and the unlovely, she finds beauty and kinship. Suitable for children. United Women of Faith: Nurturing for Community



Thank You EVERY-BUNNY

Thanks for donating such wonderful treats for this year's Easter baskets that we made for the Visitation Team. The children enjoyed making cards and putting together 20 Easter baskets for this special ministry. It has become a tradition and highlight of our year!



Jelly Bean Guessing Contest Winners!



2023 Winners: Julia Troiano (Adult), Erin Galligan (Youth), and Anderson Donovan (Child). There were 353 jellybeans in the jar! Thank you all for participating!



SAVE THE DATE!

Rocky Railway VBS for children (Pre-K-6th grade)

Monday, July 31st - Thurs. Aug. 3, from 9:00-11:30am

Online registration will begin the end of May.

We need adult and youth volunteers to help this week. Please see Rhonda Simonelli or Brian Winter for more information. We also wonder if anyone has model trains at home that could be set up for kids to look at.

We will need help with the following:

- Welcome Table (attendance sheets, name tags, T-shirts)
- Photographer
- Snacks
- Bible Story
- Arts & Crafts
- Imagination Station (STEM/ Science, Technology Engineering, Math)

Youth activities

Pentecost

Pentecost comes from a Greek word meaning “fiftieth” because it falls on the fiftieth day after the second day of Passover. We know it as the day in which the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples. Pentecost or *shavout*, “the feast of weeks,” was when the first fruit offerings of the summer wheat were brought into the Temple—and these were the pledge of the greater harvest.

The Passover is a holy day of rest, and marks the beginning of a grain harvest in Israel. This is important symbolically in our faith. Jesus likens the kingdom of heaven to the sowing of seeds and the reaping of the harvest. The seed represents the spreading of the word of God, which takes root in people’s hearts. The wheat harvest represents the result of the spreading of the word: the salvation of many.

Jesus said to his disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” (Matthew 9:37, 38). The disciples at Pentecost represented the first fruits of a greater harvest. Being filled with the Spirit, they were then sent out as laborers in the harvest. Because they were faithful so many centuries ago, in due time we also heard the gospel, and believed.

All of us who believe and are saved are filled with the Spirit. The gift of the Holy Spirit empowers us to live a life of holiness and is there to strengthen us in times of weakness, comfort us in times of trouble, nudge us in times of

indecision and uncertainty, and so much more. The Spirit brings to remembrance the teachings of Jesus when we need them. There are also gifts that the Spirit has given us. When we put those gifts to use, and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, God will grow us in many wonderful and unexpected ways. Praise God for the gift of the Holy Spirit!

Thank you to all the youth who shared their musical talents during March and April—Steven, Cyril, Ella, and Molly. It’s a blessing to many, and we all are truly blessed also to see how all of your abilities have grown over the years. Thank you Steven and Cyril for helping with the coffee hour. Thank you also Luke and Ella for helping hide the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt.



SAVE THE DATE: JULY 24-26, 2023 | SIX FLAGS DARIEN LAKE. Contact Brian Winter (bwinter@aumcgreece.org) for more details.

Youth Lunch Fellowship – Sunday, May 21 after church (tentative), around 12:45.

Youth Group (Grades 8-12) – Fridays, May 12th and 26th at 7pm.



Having fun on Easter Sunday!



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

Special Thanks to Everyone who has Made the Music Worship Special so Far in 2023!

Recent Aldersgate Chancel Choir members:

Sue Galligan, Sue Zorn, Mary Lou Jones, Deepa Samuel, Lisa Deutsch, Katie Furioso, Karen Sladden, Jung Lee, Nancy Bailey, Lynn Spiotti, Charlotte Ridley, Shirley Geier, Jim Bailey, David Jones, Larry Scrivens, Brandon Kelley, Dave Rogenmoser, Roger Ridley, Ed Geier

Aldersgate Contemporary Worship Team:

Chitie Edgett - Piano
Rick Baker - Bass Guitar
Jeannette Zeh - Vocal
Jim Cobia - Acoustic Guitar, Vocal
Dave Roza - Conga and Drum Set

Bobbie Eckert, Candy Metzger, Mary Sims - Handbell Choir

Jim Bailey, David Jones, Brandon Kelley, Larry Scrivens - Men's Vocal Ensemble

Karen Sladden - Alto Solo

Sue Zorn - Soprano Solos

Zuni Garcia-Simons - Soprano Solo

Dick Stacy - Clarinet

Dave Rogenmoser, Juan Ruiz, Larry Scrivens - Trumpet

Brandon Kelley - Trombone, Flute, Saxophone, Acoustic Guitar

Tammy Ruiz, Kaori Winter - Organ & Piano Duet

Kaori Winter - Piano Solos

Also, special thanks to:

Christine Field - Acoustic Guitar, Vocal

Brian Field - Acoustic Guitar, Vocal

Chris Castellon, Brian Pendar - Trumpet

Daniel Atkinson - Trombone



Peace with Justice Sunday - June 4



On June 4th we will celebrate United Methodist Peace with Justice special offering. United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that

the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them.

The United Methodist Church, with its historic commitment to peace and justice, can and should provide leadership to this social transformation. The General Board of Church and Society Church holds a non-governmental, consultative status with the United Nations. This status allows us to participate in UN meetings, consultations and conferences. We recognize and renew our call for social transformation, for the quest to open the doors of opportunity for all, to distribute resources more equitably, and to provide better care for persons in need.

Hopefully you can join us for in-person worship service that day when special offering envelopes will be provided. Give online at: give.aumcgreece.org. Or as you send in remote donations to Aldersgate UMC, please include a donation for this special offering. Feel free to donate any time in June, being sure to include a notation for "Peace with Justice Sunday."

Thank you in advance for your generous support.

Jan Rothfuss, AUMC Benevolence Treasurer

Let's Celebrate!!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Gloria Baker	May 1
Jerry Sisson	May 4
Tracy Maggio	May 8
Emily VanKouwenberg	May 8
Karen Best	May 9
Brandon Troiano	May 10
Suzanne Unell	May 10
Debbie Lenau	May 15
Brenda Ruell	May 18
Nancy Bailey	May 24
Chase Tyler	May 27
Evelyn Troiano	May 29
Donna Rice	May 31



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Debbie & John Simm	May 2
Mark & Susan DeVincentis	May 12
Roger & Patricia Forbes	May 30

If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed above, we would love for you to share the date of your special day so we can include it in future editions. Call the office or send an email with your information.

Our Church Staff

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Serving in Worship This Month

Ushers

9:30 AM

5/7 — Sandi Norris & Debbie
Lenau

5/14 — Susan DeVincentis

5/21 — Sandi Norris & Debbie
Lenau

5/28 — Susan DeVincentis

11:00 AM

5/7 — Nancy & Terry Young

5/14 — Denise & Gary Hogestyn

5/21 — Maria Stanley & Eric
Lindenau

5/28 — Nancy & Terry Young

Scripture Readers

9:30 AM

5/7 — Annette Thompson

5/14 — Jack Simm

5/21 — Bobbi Mohrmann

5/28 — Sharon Bartter

11:00 AM

5/7 — Nancy Young

5/14 — Sue Zorn

5/21 — Candy Metzger

5/28 — Brian Winter

AV

9:30 AM

5/7 — Ted Carstens

5/14 — Mark DeVincentis

5/21 — Mary Sims

11:00 AM

5/7 — Roger Hotchkiss

5/14 — Steve Zeh

5/21 — Roger Hotchkiss

10:00 AM

5/28 — Michael Bartter

Live Streaming

9:30 AM

5/7 —

5/21 —

11:00 AM

5/14 —

10:00 AM

5/28 —



Helpers and participants in this year's children and youth Easter Egg Hunt

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
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Rochester, NY 14616

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Racing Toward the Finish Line

Four years ago in May 2019, our mortgage balance was \$1,037,310.

Then in June 2019, remember how exciting it was when our Mortgage balance dropped below one million? That was such a relief as we were working our way down from a \$3.5 million-dollar construction project.

Today, we are down to \$374,859! That means we have paid off \$661,451 in the past 4 years thanks to very generous giving from the congregation.

We are getting closer and closer to paying off the mortgage. We'd love your support to reach the finish line!!

Successful Crafting Workshop Fundraisers

On April 22, we hosted 24 women for our most recent crafting workshop and raised \$945 for the church. The two-day event held back in February brought in the largest group we had ever hosted and raised \$2,570. We had 55 participants come to the church for over 20 hours of possible crafting time to work on their various projects, which included scrapbooking, card making, embroidery, diamond dots, sewing and knitting.

We have been hosting crafting workshops at Aldersgate since 2014 with help from Tammy Ruiz the first couple years. Since 2016, Sue and I have handled all the logistics and expenses for hosting these events — collecting registrations, tracking money, setting up and cleaning up the room, creating attendee gifts, shopping for food and supplies, making food, serving meals and cleaning up after them. We donate a lot of time and money to host these events, as 100% of all attendee registrations dollars are donated to Aldersgate. These donations have helped pay bills and fund many projects around the church.

For the past couple events, we have welcomed help setting up and having some food donated. If you are interested in getting involved please reach out to ask how you can help. Our next events will be on August 18 & 19 and November 24.

Karen Sladden & Susan Galligan, Crafting Workshop Hosts