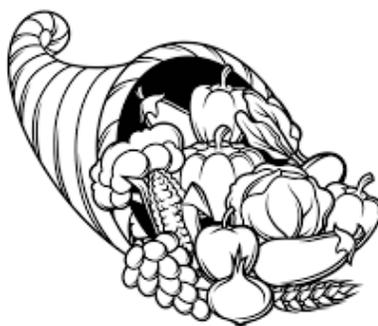
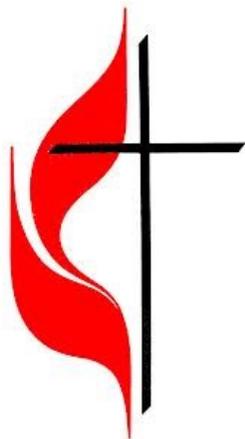


# Aldersgate Hinge

Live a Life of Faith — November 2023

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## From the Pastor

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Have you ever heard or sung this song? The lyrics go:

*"Mountains are all aglow with autumn colors so bright; rivers are filled with water, giving life to our days. Golden fields wave their praise to God's bountiful harvest; gratefully, rising skyward, we sing our joyous songs of praise! (Refrain) Reaching as far as the eye can see, reaching as far as humble hands can toil, every harvest is from our Lord, every blessing is from our God. Praise for the harvest, thanks to our God. Praise for the harvest, give praise to God."*

This is the first verse from #86 "Mountains Are All Aglow" in the United Methodist Hymnal. Interestingly, this hymn was penned by Ok In Lim (words) and Jae Hoon Park (music) in 1967 and was translated by Rev. Hae Jong Kim.

I sang this hymn many times when I was in Korea. It is often sung during the autumn season to thank God for the harvest.

If you've had a chance to hear this hymn before (you can now find it on YouTube), you might notice its tune is somewhat different from traditional Western hymns. That's because it's based on a popular Korean folk song. The message of this hymn is to praise God and offer thanks for the beauty of nature and the abundance of the harvest season. I like this hymn and love singing it during the Thanksgiving season.

November is both the season of Thanksgiving and the month of Stewardship.

We often find ourselves swamped in our fast-paced world, always on the move. Amid this busyness, it's important to pause, slow down, and reflect on God's blessings. Let's appreciate the small wonders, like the flowers on the ground or the changing colors of nature.

Furthermore, during this special season of Thanksgiving, why not remember our role as God's stewards? How can we serve God and love our neighbors with the talents and gifts we've received from Him?

Pastor Yohang

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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](http://www.aumcgreece.org)

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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 new or ongoing health concerns:

Rick Baker, Paul Brown, Dick Caupp, Mark DeVincentis, Nathan Dunn, Wendy Dunn, Betty Edgett, Joyce Farrokh, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Robin Fox, Anton Gilson, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Betty Hild, Mary Lou Jones Rich Keegan, Ray LaFlair, Sylvia Lynch, Harry Muthersbough, Kathy Peck, Cindy Purzycki, Roger Ridley, Ron Rozinski, Larry Scrivens, Anna Simm, Michael & Betty Smith, David Stanley, Carla Starr, Colleen Tyler, Hal & Laura Wagner, Jan Winter, Jeanette Zeh, and the caregivers of all those with ongoing health concerns

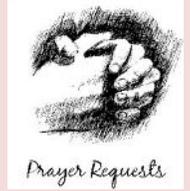
### Friends & Relatives of AUMC People with Health

**Concerns:** Nancy Anderson & family; Jami Bader; Denise, James, Maddie, Selina (Gloria Baker); Selena, Casey, Evan, Tisha & Damian (Sharon Bartter); Sister Diana, Son Mark and friends, Christine Salonen (Kathy Bernardi); Daughter (Rose Cavicchioli); My sister, my boss, Shay (Jennifer Crandall); Ruth, 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); Steven Galligan, Reed & Lois Galligan (Sue Galligan & Karen Sladden); Pip Hall, Sue Homsy (Doug & Becky Hess); Diane D., Mike, Sam Ruzick (Rev. David Jones); sister Helen Fantauzzo, 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 Peparah; Ann Collins, Buddy Good, Anne Bratko (Cindy Purzycki); Greg Kelly, Ellie Wagner, Butch Riemer (Karen Rice); Daughter Lynn (Roger & Charlotte Ridley); Diane Nary, 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); Michael, Bill Weber, Mom (Annette Thompson); Dennis Pankey; Kaylle VanAllen, Cindy Andrews, Michael Appleton, Bobbi Jo (Laurie VanAllen); David Whitt (Deborah Whitt); Sullivan, Penny Baart (Terry & Nancy Young); Bercehe (Steve & Jeanette Zeh); Dennis (Steve Zeh)

## E-Mail Prayer Chain

PLEASE help us keep the weekly prayer concerns list updated. During office hours, send prayer chain requests to Diana Jason in the church office at [office@aumcgreece.org](mailto:office@aumcgreece.org). If your request should need posting after office hours, contact Chitie Edgett at [cge1935@gmail.com](mailto:cge1935@gmail.com).

Confidential prayer requests should be sent directly to Pastor Yohang Chun at [PastorYohang@aumcgreece.org](mailto:PastorYohang@aumcgreece.org).



**Nursing Homes/Living Centers:** Al Holmes – Latta Road Nursing Home; Dick Keegan — Cobbs Hill Manor; Donna Rice – Wegman’s Family Cottages

**Christian Sympathy** is extended to the family of Donald Wright who passed away on October 3. He is survived by Carol, his wife of 73 years, daughters Lynn Spiotti and Jan Lanswager, and grandchildren.

Christian sympathy also to Larry and Mary Scrivens after the unexpected death of their son, Michael, on October 13.

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## Bring Your “First Fruits!”

On November 19th, our altar will be adorned with fresh fruits and vegetables of the season, which will be donated to the Open Door Mission after worship. The altar committee is seeking donations of squashes, apples, beets, broccoli, cauliflower, kale and other greens, etc. between November 12 and 18. No pumpkins, please.

Monetary donations are also welcome! Anytime between now and mid-November, you can put a check or cash in an envelope marked “Altar-Harvest” into the offering plate, or mail a check to the church. You can also call Jan Winter with your credit card number.

Help is also needed on the morning of November 18th at 11:00 AM to adorn the altar with all the wonderful “fruits” (and veggies) of your generosity!

Thank You,  
Sharon Bartter, Altar Committee

# Church Events & Opportunities

## November Sermon Schedule

- Nov. 5th – **My Saint**  
Genesis 25:21-23 / Matthew 25:14-23
- Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> – **More Than Enough**  
Exodus 36:2-7
- Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> – **Effective or Wasteful?**  
Matthew 7: 21-23 / John 12:1-8
- Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> – **Fellowship is a Part of Sanctification**  
Leviticus 3:1-5

## Weekly Prayer Gathering Kicks Off Nov. 4

If you desire to deepen your understanding of prayer, both biblically and theologically, and practice prayer intentionally, we are excited to announce the start of a new Weekly Prayer Gathering. Beginning Nov. 4, join Pastor Yohang and other prayer warriors on Saturdays in the sanctuary from 8:30 to 9:30 AM for a wonderful opportunity to connect with one another, share experiences, and build stronger relationships within our community. A fellowship time with coffee and snacks will follow the gathering.

## Do You Enjoy Singing?

Now is a great time to join the choir and help enhance our weekly services with music while having a good time. Rehearsals are Wednesday evening at 7 PM in the Sanctuary, and we sing at the 11 AM service on Sunday mornings. Contact David Rogenmoser with any questions at [David.rogenmoser@gmail.com](mailto:David.rogenmoser@gmail.com) or 585-704-5628. Hope to see you there!



## Monday, November 20

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

800 Greece Ridge Center Drive, Greece, NY 14626

We earn 20% of sales if you mention Aldersgate when you place your order. Enter promo code "FUND4U" if ordering online, using the Panera App, or at the in-store kiosk, to have a portion of your proceeds donated.

## Attend or Volunteer for Nov. 11 Crafting Workshop

Join fellow crafters and work on your favorite projects while raising funds for the church. OR volunteer to help set up the room, provide some food for a meal, or help serve and clean up. This popular event goes from 9:00 AM—9:00 PM on Saturday, November 11.



The cost to attend is \$40 before November 1 (\$45 after that day). You will get an 8' table to yourself for the entire time. There will be two make & take projects. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Register online or contact hosts Karen Sladden (585-455-2920) or Susan Galligan (585-317-3138) to sign up or if you have any questions.

## Wanted – Written Advent Devotions!

*For this holiday season, when we prepare our hearts to celebrate the advent of our Lord in the flesh and look ahead to His return, we would like to invite you — individuals, families, youth, small groups, etc. — to submit a short, Spirit-filled holiday Christmas devotion.*

This year's theme is "Heaven and Nature Sing." We need 29 devotions (one for each day of Advent) that are easy to read and understand and appeal to a broad age span and people's Christian walk. Our goal is to once again create our very own AUMC Advent Devotional book to provide a shared experience for our congregation — to encourage one another to take time between Sundays to remember the meaning of Christ's birth.

Submissions are due by **November 17** (sent electronically, if possible, with "Advent Devotion" in the subject line), preferably 300 words or less. For more information, please contact Brian Winter ([bwinter@aumcgreece.org](mailto:bwinter@aumcgreece.org)). We look forward to reading your Christmas story!

## Dec. 2023/Jan. 2024 Hinge Deadline

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

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



# United Women in Faith

## Join us at the UWF Reading Circle to talk about our November Book of the Month

All are Welcome!

Pick up a copy of our monthly read and join us in the upstairs library at Aldersgate to meet some new people and chat about the book. If you would like to read the book on your laptop, phone or tablet, there is a free digital alternative, *Hoopla*. To sign up go to the Greece Public Library's website: [www.greecepubliclibrary.org](http://www.greecepubliclibrary.org). Click on **Search eBooks** on the top right of the screen; Click on **hoopla** on the left side of screen; Click on **get started** and follow the prompts. All that is needed is a valid Monroe County Library System card and a valid email address.

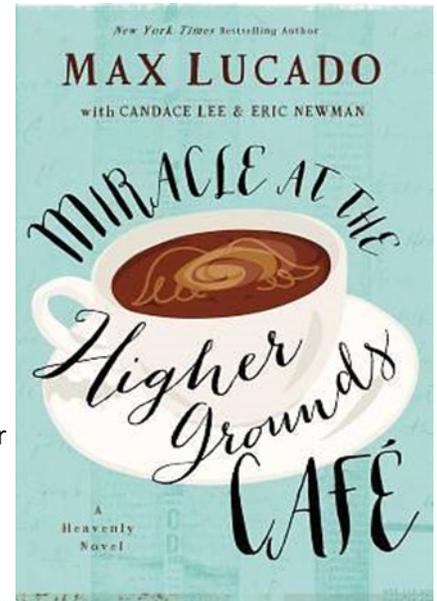
**Reading Circle is on Thursday, November 9 at 1:30 in the library.** *The Keurig Coffee Cart will be there!*

**What if you could ask God anything? What would you ask, and how would He answer?**

Chelsea Chambers is on her own. After a public split from her NFL superstar husband, Chelsea takes a bold step out of the limelight and behind the counter of the Higher Grounds Café, an old-fashioned coffee shop in dire need of reinvention. But when her courage, expert planning, and out-of-this-world cupcakes fail to pay the bills, this newly single mom finds herself desperate for help. Better yet, a miracle.

Then a curious stranger lands on Chelsea's doorstep, and with him, an even more curious string of events. Soon, customers are flocking to the Higher Grounds Café, and not just for the cupcakes and cappuccino. They've come for the internet connection to the divine. Now the café has become the go-to place for people in search of answers to life's biggest questions.

When a catastrophe strikes and her ex comes calling, Chelsea begins to wonder if the whole universe is conspiring against her quest to make it on her own. After a shocking discovery opens her eyes to the unseen world around her, Chelsea finds the courage to ask God a question of her own--and heaven answers in a most unexpected way. **(Cokesbury)**



## POINSETTIA SALE!!!

**\$8.50 EACH for a 6" PLANT**

**Payment Due NO LATER THAN Sun. 11/12/23**

**\*\*No orders made without advance payment!\*\***

\_\_\_ # of Red    \_\_\_ # of White    \_\_\_ # of Pink

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor/Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pay By:** Cash or check in the Offering Plate (mark check: Poinsettias; include form), check in the mail (mark memo line: Poinsettias; include form) or credit card through Jan Winter (585-943-7353) and then send to, or drop form at, church.



# Stewardship Corner

## Come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Food-Friend-Z Auction!

Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 – 9:00 PM



The Second Annual Food Friend-Z Auction is now right around the corner!. It will be an evening filled with fun, trivia, fellowship and of course . . . food.

The evening will start off with a spaghetti dinner and some table trivia. Then Auctioneer and Trivia Master Jan Winter will auction off a delightful array

of homemade desserts and gift certificates as well as lead us in games of trivia.

To make the evening successful, we need YOU to provide the treats and certificates to auction off. Make and bring your favorite confection – or a certificate to your favorite area restaurant or business.

Proceeds from this event will be split between payments toward our Ministry Shares and to our Mortgage fund.



Sign-up sheets to come to the Auction (important for our cooks to know how many dinners to plan for) and to help before and during the Auction (many hands make light work!) are on the Opportunity Board. Forms for making your donation(s) to the event are available on the table next to the Opportunity Board or use the shortened form on this page.

### Food-Friend-Z Donation Form

**YES!** I want to donate a **Homemade Food item** to the Auction. My donation will be (please describe):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**YES!** I want to donate a **Gift Certificate** to the auction. My donation will be (please describe):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Estimated value** of donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to specify a **minimum bid**, please indicate the amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(The item will not be sold if no one bids that minimum amount.)*

**YES!** I wish to make a donation, but **I need help** in developing an idea. Please give me a call.

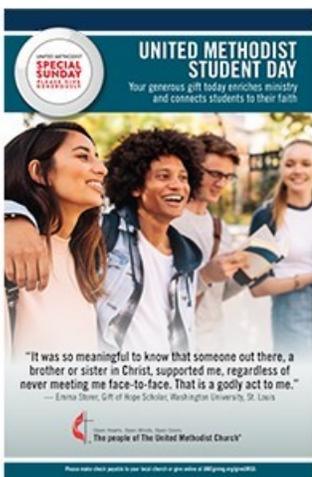
NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions?** Sue Zorn (585) 225-3370 or email:

[szorn001@gmail.com](mailto:szorn001@gmail.com)

Mail form to, or drop it off at, church.



## United Methodist Student Day Offering - November 26

On November 26<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate United Methodist Student Day Sunday special offering.

The United Methodist Student Day celebration is a time when we celebrate our United Methodist students and receive an offering to provide scholarships for their college education. When you give to the United Methodist Student Day offering, your gifts support the Gift of Hope Scholarship program. Gift of Hope scholarships are awarded to deserving United Methodist students annually.

Hopefully you can join us at our in-person worship service that day when special offering envelopes will be provided. Give online using our site: [give.aumcgreece.org](http://give.aumcgreece.org). 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 Day Offering."

Thank you in advance for your generous support.

Jan Rothfuss, AUMC Benevolence Treasurer Methodist Student Day.

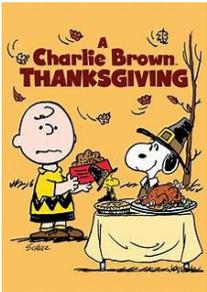
# Christian Education

## Children's Sunday School Lessons

Theme: Living a Life of Faith

**November 5:** Advent Drawings and Pictures of Christmas Traditions for this year's Advent Devotional

**November 12:** *Abraham's Visitors*, Genesis 18:1-14, One Worship Service time at 10:00 AM



**November 19:** Watch "Charlie Brown Thanksgiving" and make a Thanksgiving Centerpiece to take home for your family's table

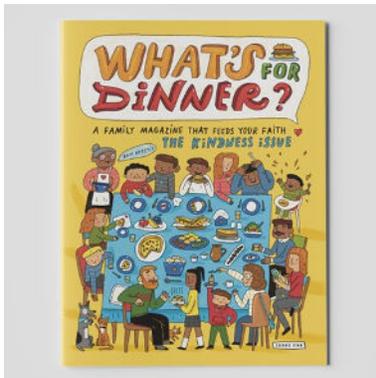


**November 26:** Practice *Hanging of the Greens* scripts for following week's worship service

## What's for Dinner? The Kindness Issue

Each Sunday School Child (1 per family) will receive this magazine the first Sunday in November to take home and enjoy!

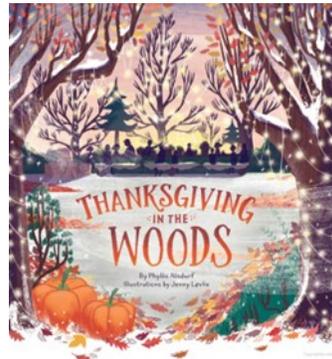
Transform ordinary moments into major servings of Scripture-based family connection! With the magazine *What's for Dinner? The Kindness Issue*, you can deepen your relationships with your children and strengthen their faith



while enjoying fun activities that fit perfectly into a regular family mealtime. The Bible lessons, life lessons, games, riddles, and activities are designed to make it easy to grow closer to Christ as a family within your usual routine. Use *What's for Dinner?* at breakfast or dinner, keep it in the car for your to- and from-school runs, or complete an activity as a family before bedtime. The 60 pages of fun will keep small hands busy, spark meaningful conversations, and encourage kindness that children will carry into the world with them.

*Our Oct. 15 bake sale raised almost \$300 for our Children's Ministry programs. Thank you for your donations and purchases!*

## Miss Rhonda's November Book of the Month



By Phyllis Alsdurf (Author), Jenny Lovlie (Illustrator)

A true holiday classic, this cozy autumn story invites readers to join in an outdoor Thanksgiving feast, full of cheer and generosity of spirit

Every year a family and their friends gather in the woods to celebrate Thanksgiving among the trees. Everyone brings something to share and the day becomes a long celebration of family, faith, and friendship. Told in a gentle, lyrical style, this picture book includes warm illustrations of people gathered around bonfires and long tables adorned with candles and food, singing songs and sharing laughter.

Thanksgiving in the Woods is based on the true story of a family in Upstate New York who has hosted an outdoor Thanksgiving feast in the woods on their farm for over twenty years.

Full of warmth and nostalgia, the Countryside Holiday series celebrates family, community, simplicity, and generosity. [AMAZON](#)



# Youth activities

## The Importance of Thanksgiving

Life is full of events, both good and bad, which shape us all throughout our lives. It's easy to dwell on the hard times and struggles, about how things didn't turn out the way we expected. But if we dwell too much on these things, the result will be bitterness and disappointment. We'll lose sight of how we've been blessed and won't see past our troubles. But being thankful, knowing that God is working something in our lives, leads us to a greater sense of happiness. It reminds us how we have been blessed. The more we are thankful, the more positive our outlook is on life, the more we appreciate the little things, and the more equipped we are to deal with adversity.

In his first epistle to the Thessalonians, Paul writes, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thess. 5:16-18). Paul's experiences in life as a Christian would have left so many of us feel bitter and defeated. Three times beaten with rods, stoned once, shipwrecked three times, imperiled on his journeys by land and sea, suffering weariness, sleeplessness, hunger, thirst, and exposure to the elements (2 Cor. 11:25-28), and ultimately martyred for the cause of Christ. His thankfulness to God for his providence and mercy helped him keep his eye on the prize and put the past behind him (Philippians 3:13, 14). Each day had something new to accomplish, and something to be thankful for.

This Thanksgiving, let us all meditate upon all the great things God has done for us, yesterday and today, and for all the blessings he will bestow upon us in the future. Amen.



### 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



Preparations are underway for Flower City Work Camp, Spring Break 2024. For more information, please contact me by email ([bwinter@aumcgreece.org](mailto:bwinter@aumcgreece.org))

### Thanks to...

Thank you to Cyril for helping during the rummage sale and manning the coffee hour, and to all the kids, youth, and adults who helped out with our bake sale.

*"God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister."* (Hebrews 6:10 NKJV)

### IMPORTANT DATES THIS MONTH

Sat., Nov. 4	8:30-9:30 AM Weekly Prayer Gathering Kickoff
Sun., Nov. 5	All Saints Day service
Thurs., Nov. 9	1:30 PM—Reading Circle
Sat., Nov. 11	9:00 AM-9:00 PM—Crafting Workshop
Sun., Nov 12	10:00 SINGLE SERVICE: Commitment Sunday Altar Poinsettia order Deadline
Fri., Nov. 17	Advent Devotion Submission deadline 6:00-9:00 PM—Food Friend-Z Auction
Sat., Nov. 18	11:00 AM—Arrange First Fruits altar
Mon., Nov. 20	4:00-8:00 PM— Panera Fundraiser
Sun., Nov. 26	UM Student Day Offering

## **Aldersgate Narrative Budget for 2024**

We are the Body of Christ called to ministry in the Rochester community and beyond. From weekly worship services, children's ministry to community service, Aldersgate United Methodist Church continues in its mission of partnering with God to transform the world with help, hope and healing as disciples of Jesus Christ. We look forward to the challenge of growing ministry for generations to come.

Please be in prayer as to your commitment and participation in providing resources for growing mission and moving forward in faith. Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> we will be making our collective commitment, pledging support for the ministries of Aldersgate in 2024.

**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.”** Matthew 22:37

*The worship experience continually shapes our lives through hearing God's story and sharing our own stories. Our worship is enriched by the musical talents of our staff and members alike. We want to grow our membership in 2024 and bring more people to Christ.*

**34%** - 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
- Organ and other music during worship services
- Contemporary worship leadership
- Online Worship experience via Facebook and YouTube



**Outreach Ministry –SERVING OTHERS – “You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters...serve each other through love.”** Galatians 5:13

*Everyone can serve in some way within our outreach ministries. 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. This is an area we have struggled for the last 4 years as we have only been able to pay less than 50% of what we are asked to. This we do in addition to other thriving initiatives – Community Dinner, Ebenezer Hope Nakivale, and White Gifts to name just a few.*

**21%** - This includes a percentage of our pastors' compensation, administrative and facilities budgets, Ministry Shares (Apportionment) to UMC, and the African Ministry.

- African Ministry (Pastor Salary, Music Leader salary and various programs)
- Faith sharing and Evangelism
- Ministry Shares to UMC

**Faith Formation – 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 5:1

*Our ministry is blessed by opportunities for the formation and growth of faith for children, teens and adults.*

**33%** - 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.

- Children's Ministry
- Youth Group Ministry
- Confirmation
- Vacation Bible School
- Adult Sunday School
- New Member Classes
- Baptism

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**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.*

**12%** — 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 and Funerals
- Rummage Sale
- Visitation and Caring Ministry

***“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 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 an act of adventure and faith—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.



***“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous in every occasion and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.”*** (2 Corinthians 9:11)

***(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 3 years.)***

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!

Ultimately, we give not because we must, but because we want to express gratitude for the abundance and blessings in our lives.

# African Ministry



Good News: The African Community at Aldersgate UMC is growing. Families arriving from refugee camps who are settling in the Rochester area are becoming members at Aldersgate and worshipping with us on Sundays. As of the end of September there were 85 members. The African Worship Service is scheduled in the Chapel for 12:00 Noon Sundays. We are expecting more new members soon, and will likely need to move this worship service into the larger Sanctuary.

We offer our sincerest thank you for allowing needful members of the African Community to receive donations from the Rummage Sale held in early October. Blessings, Pastor Enoch Renzha



## Intravenous Fluids vs. “A Drink of Water”

*“Sir, Give me this water, so I won't get thirsty.”  
(John 4:15)*

As many of you know (Thank You for your prayers, emails and visits), I was recently hospitalized and spent the first part of my time there, in the ER “awaiting” surgery. Well, when you are “close” to surgery time- and of course they didn't know when the surgery would happen, so the entire 20 hours between knowing I needed it and having it, to them was “close”— they don't allow food or even water. I even got “scientific” with the nurse, saying: “a body needs water to live!” Her response to that was: “That's why we're giving you intravenous fluids.” My response back was: “But I'm still so THIRSTY!”

God used that to remind me of the story of the woman at the well with Jesus. If you read earlier in this chapter of John, of their whole conversation, the woman knows “about” God. She knows the stories about the “separations,” between Jews and Samaritans, and others. And she knew about Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. But the stories she heard made her feel separated and not worthy of God's Love, despite how much she was obviously “thirsting” for it! She hadn't heard about the New Covenant Jesus was bringing, of redemption. She had a “head knowledge,” but desperately wanted a heart knowledge. She had been given intravenous fluid but desperately wanted a DRINK! I can SO relate; that is until about 23 years ago when I truly got to KNOW God personally, and have His Word explained to me through Bible Studies and Small Groups.

Throughout the month of September, Pastor Yohang encouraged us to belong to a Small Group and to, in general, personally beyond that, to go deeper in our relationship with God/Jesus — to go beyond intravenous fluids to truly “drinking in” God's Presence in our lives! I truly hope that you have already either joined a new group or, if you've been a member, found or recommitted to new ways to go deeper with God. If not, though, November is actually a good time. Many groups are finishing the first study of the season and going into a new “Advent” study that you can start with them from the beginning. Take it from me, both physically and spiritually, while “intravenous fluids” are good, there's nothing like “drinking in” both a cool drink of water and, especially the Goodness of our God!”

***Have a Blessed, God-Centered, Thirst-Quenching Holiday Season!***

*Blessings,  
Sharon Bartter*

## Our Church Staff

### Yohang Chun

Pastor

663-3665

pastoryohang@aumcgreece.org

### Enoch Renzha

Pastor of African Ministries

renzhaenoch@gmail.com

### Diana Jason

Administrative Assistant

663-3665

office@aumcgreece.org

### Rhonda Simonelli

Children's Ministry Co-Director

663-6663

rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org

### Brian Winter

Children's Ministry Co-Director

& Youth Director

641-0649

bwinter@aumcgreece.org

### Brandon Kelley

Contemporary Worship Music Leader

brandonkelley1@aol.com

### Dave Rogenmoser

Choir Director

585-704-5628

david.rogenmoser@gmail.com

### Kaori Winter

Organist

kwinter@aumcgreece.org

### Peter Mutunzi

Director of African Music Ministry

ndakizepeter@yahoo.com

4115 Dewey Avenue

Rochester, NY 14616

Phone: (585) 663-3665

Fax: (585) 865-8442

Email: office@aumcgreece.org

www.aumcgreece.org

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## Serving in Worship This Month

### Ushers

#### 9:30 AM

11/5 —

11/12 —

11/19 —

11/26 —

#### 11:00 AM

11/5 — Nancy & Terry Young

11/12 — Denise & Gary Hogestyn

11/19 — Nancy & Terry Young

11/26 — Maria Stanley & Eric Lindenau

### Scripture Readers

#### 9:30 AM

11/5 — Jack Simm

11/12 — Jan Rothfuss

11/19 — Sharon Bartter

11/26 — Sharon Bartter

#### 11:00 AM

11/5 — Nancy Young

11/12 — Mary Lou Jones

11/19 — Jim Cobia

11/26 — Jim Cobia

### Live Streaming

11/5 — Traditional @ 10:55 AM —

11/12 — Contemporary @ 9:30 AM —

11/19 — Traditional @ 10:55 AM —

11/26 — Contemporary @ 9:30 AM —

## Let's Celebrate!!

### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Amanda Farrell	November 4
John Simm	November 7
Sandi Norris	November 8
Joclynn Fox	November 9
John Best	November 16
Betty Hild	November 18
Suzanne Spicer	November 18
Richard Caupp	November 19
Jan Winter	November 21
Tamara Gilzow-Kephart	November 24
Laura Wagner	November 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.*

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

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## **SUPPORT THE WHITE GIFTS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Helping Needy Families for 59 Years

The Aldersgate tradition of providing Christmas dinner and gifts for local needy families will continue this year. Here are the ways you can help make this a special Christmas for those families.

- **MONETARY DONATIONS — DUE BY DECEMBER 10**  
Leave in the offering plate, send to church, or call Jan Winter to make a credit card donation. Checks should note “White Gifts.”
- **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.**
- **Help wrap gifts and deliver them.**

### **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.

