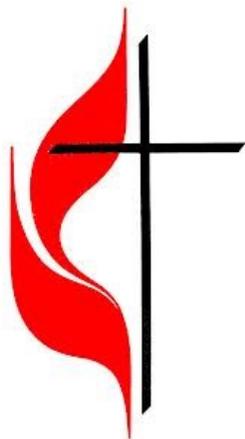


Aldersgate Hinge

Live a Life of Faith — May 2024



From the Pastor



Inside This Issue

- Pg. 2 Our Ministry of Concern
- Pg. 3-4 Events & Opportunities
- Pg. 4 Birthdays & Anniversaries
- Pg. 5 Stewardship Corner
- Pg. 6 Christian Education
- Pg. 7 Youth Activities
- Pg. 8 United Women in Faith
- Pg. 9 Our Church Staff
Serving This Month
- Pg. 10-11 Church Family Photos

There is an important day in May; that day is Mother's Day. In light of this special day, I find myself pondering a question: "As a mother, how do you want to be remembered by your children?" My mother passed away in 2003 while I was studying at Drew Seminary in New Jersey. It has already been 21 years, yet my memories of her are clear and vivid. I miss her immensely, especially when I have good news and joyful things to share.

I used to call my father weekly and talk with him over the phone before he passed away in 2023. However, our conversations rarely lasted longer than five minutes. Meanwhile, when my wife, Joyce, talks with her mother, their calls can last over an hour, sometimes even two. If I were able to call my mother, I imagine our conversations would last at least half an hour.

Whenever I think of my mother, an image of her praying comes to mind. I saw her in prayer for many years, and her devotion profoundly influenced me. My mother emphasized the importance of prayer when I was in college and seminary. "Hey, son, you must pray a lot if you want to be a good pastor," she would say. Frankly speaking, at that time, I didn't take her advice seriously. I replied, "Mom, I understand what you're saying, but I have a lot of things to do—studying, working... I'll pray a lot later, just not right now."

Even after graduating from seminary and starting my ministry in a local church, I failed to grasp the importance of prayer. I merely tried to apply what I had learned in seminary to my ministry. However, it wasn't effective. Over time, I began to realize that ministry required more than knowledge, experience, or information. I understood the importance of prayer and its power. My mother's advice, "Pray, pray, and pray," began to resonate deeply with me. I understood why my mother prayed so fervently and so often. I now grasp her message and advice for my ministry. My mother showed me how to pray and served as an excellent role model, for which I am thankful to God.

In May, and particularly on Mother's Day, I am especially grateful for my mother, her prayers, and her devout life. "Mom, I miss you."

Pastor Yohang

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 new or ongoing health concerns:

Rick Baker, Kathy Bernardi, Paul Brown, Dick Caupp, Shaylee Crandall, Mike Dunn, Nathan Dunn, Wendy Dunn, Betty Edgett, Joyce Farrok, Patti & Shannon Forbes, Anton Gilson, Judy Hare, Doug & Becky Hess, Betty Hild, Betty Judd, Rich Keegan, Sylvia Lynch, Michelle Mendola, Harry Muthersbough, Kathy Peck, Cindy Purzycki, Roger Ridley, Jan Rothfuss, Ron Rozinski, John Simm, Mary Sims, Michael Smith, David Stanley, Carla Starr, 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: Kristie (Jim & Nancy Bailey); Nancy Anderson & family; Denise, James, Maddie, Selina, Nikkie, Mike Sullivan, Kirk Kimberly, Bob Coyne (Gloria Baker); Carol, Selena, Casey, Evan, Tisha & Damian (Sharon Bartter); Sister Diana, Christine Salonen (Kathy Bernardi); Son Ed (Natasha Carstens); 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 & Marianne Galligan, Reed & Lois Galligan (Sue Galligan & Karen Sladden); Diane D., Mike (Rev. David Jones); sister Helen Fantauzzo, Noel, Bev Palandro (Nancy Jones); Lee Hartman, Rich Hartman (Nan & Rich Keller); Rick (Debbie Lenau); Barbie Anzalone (Kim & Eric Lindenau); Bonnie Bush, Nicole Mohrmann (Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann); Norm & Laurie Moulton (Pastor Jerry Wolter's daughter and family) and their son, Stephen; my family (Wendy Peeck); Ester Pephrah; Ann Collins, Buddy Good, Anne Bratko (Cindy Purzycki); Greg Kelly, Ellie Wagner, Butch Riemer (Karen Rice); Roger's sister Pearl, daughter Lynn (Roger & Charlotte Ridley); Diane Nary, Glen Campbell, Sandi (David Rogenmoser); Telma Pinto (Juan Ruiz); Bev, Tom, Bruce (Debbie Simm); Debbie Glinki, Fred (Mary Sims); Patsy Sladden (Karen Sladden); Aubrie Robinson (Sara Smarcz); Nancy Miller (Michael Smith); Son-in-law (Carla Starr); Abby (Louretta Teasdale); Michael, Bill Weber, Mom, Matthew (Annette Thompson); Dennis Pankey; Kaylle VanAllen, Cindy Andrews, Michael Appleton, Bobbi Jo (Laurie VanAllen); David

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. If your request needs posting after office hours, contact Chitie Edgett at cge1935@gmail.com.

Confidential prayer requests should be sent directly to Pastor Yohang Chun at PastorYohang@aumcgreece.org.



Whitt (Deborah Whitt); Sullivan, Penny Baart (Terry & Nancy Young); Bercehe (Steve & Jeanette Zeh); Dennis (Steve Zeh)

Nursing Homes/Living Centers: Al Holmes – Latta Road Nursing Home; Dick Keegan — Cobbs Hill Manor

Condolences to Tammy Kephart and family following the death of her mom, Ann Gilzow, on April 22.



Altar Flower Sign-up

There are several Sundays available during the rest of 2024 to purchase flowers for the church altar. Sign up on the calendar posted in the Gathering Space. The cost is \$35, and you may take home or donate the flowers after the service.

Church Events & Opportunities

May Sermon Schedule

May 5th – **You See Bones, I See an Army**

Ezekiel 37:1-10

May 12th – **Three Women for Moses**

Exodus 2:1-10

May 19th – **Pentecost Combined Service at 10:00 AM**

Sermon by District Superintendent Suzanne Block

Romans 10:14-15 and Acts 2:1-21

May 26th – **Pearls, Diamonds and Wines**

Exodus 3:1-8

Combined Service on Pentecost Sunday

Please join us at 10am on Sunday, May 19th, as we celebrate Pentecost! On that morning, we will welcome our District Superintendent, Reverend Suzanne Block, who will lead our entire Aldersgate congregation in worship. There will be special music from our Contemporary Worship Team, Chancel Choir and African Choir. We will also recognize and celebrate our Unwillingly Absent church members during the service.

Following our combined worship, all are invited to participate in a Fellowship and Snack Time in our gathering space. And we hope you'll help by bringing a finger food snack to share with others! There is a sign-up sheet on the Opportunity Bulletin Board at church!



Monday, May 20

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

800 Greece Ridge Center Drive, Greece, NY 14626

We **now earn 25%** of net 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.

June 2024 Hinge Deadline

All items for the next newsletter are due by **May 20**

Please send to: karensladen@hotmail.com

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Greece
CROP HUNGER WALK

MAY 05, 2024

GREECE, NEW YORK

We Believe in Ending Hunger!

The Greece CROP Hunger Walk begins and ends at Aldersgate UMC on **Sunday, May 5**, with registration at 1:00 pm, followed by a blessing and group picture. Then the walk begins. Choose either the 0.5-mile or 2.5-mile route. Pizza and T-shirts for walkers. There is a fun new scavenger hunt this year to complete during the walk. Receive a small prize for completing the scavenger hunt.

It's not too late to join us! Sign up online at [2024 CROP Hunger Walk - Aldersgate United Methodist Church](#). Paper Packets are also available. Contact Rhonda Simo-nelli (Team Captain) for more information. Thanks!



Attention All Graduates

Graduation Sunday 2024 will be on Sunday, June 23. We would like to share a short video clip or a couple photo slides of each graduate telling their name, what school they are graduating from, what degree if applicable, and what their plans are next (college, work, etc.).

Please direct all questions and submissions to Brian Winter (bwinter@aumcgreece.org) with "Graduation" in the subject line and include the full name of the graduate in the email. All submissions must be received by **Tuesday, June 18** at the latest to be included. Thank you!

Need Help for May 11 Craft Workshop

Our periodic fundraising Craft Workshops offer people the chance to “rent” table space so they can work on whatever projects they would like, in the company of fellow crafters. Our next event is May 11 from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM. There will also be a 2-day workshop on August 9 (12:30-9:00 PM) and August 10 (9:00 AM—9:00 PM).



For May 11, we are looking for volunteers to help with setup and dismantle and to serve meals that day. We could also use some breakfast treats (coffee cake or muffins), desserts or snacks. Contact Karen Sladden or Susan Galligan if you can help out. ([Register here](#) to craft along with us.)

Volunteer Opportunities Available

We are blessed to have many people who share their time, talents and gifts to support Worship at Aldersgate. Call the office to offer help or for more details on any of the following opportunities.

Sunday Worship Helpers

The Worship Committee is seeking people to help with several positions — A/V Coordinator, Coffee Hour Coordinator (plus coffee hour set-up and clean-up volunteers), Altar Guild members, Nursery Volunteers.

Spring Clean-Up Work Day (Date TBA)

Keep on the lookout for a date and time to be announced for the annual spring church work day. Help clean up the church yard or with inside projects, depending on what needs to be done that day.

Monthly Community Dinner

We are in need of people to help prepare and serve the monthly community dinners we provide on the last Saturday of each month. Contact Mary Sim to volunteer.

Security Checker for Saturday Evenings

Trustees are looking for a volunteer who could spend 15-20 minutes on Saturday evenings to walk through the church to make sure the doors are locked and lights turned off.

PowerPoint Slide Creator

We need one more person to help put together PowerPoint slides for our Sunday Services and other special services. If you are familiar with PowerPoint, we can train you to easily create the slides each week. If you are interested, please let Pastor Chun know.

Upper Room Devotionals

Help yourself to the current devotionals, which are available in the Gathering Space in regular or large type formats. Monetary donations welcome to help cover their cost.

Want to Watch a Past Service?

Check out prior services, events and groups at any time online at:

https://www.facebook.com/aumgreece/videos/?ref=page_internal

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

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

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

Imagine the Possibilities!

I will open up the windows of heaven for you and pour out a blessing so great you won't have room enough to take it in!
Malachi 3:10

What is this Debt Reduction campaign about?

We are asking for financial commitment to pay off the Mortgage. Good stewardship requires that we manage our debt. Paul admonishes "Pay all your debts except the



debt of love for others" (Romans 13:8). While we realize it's not exciting to pay a mortgage, just imagine what it will do for our church to be free of this burden of debt!

We can start and support new ministries, we can expand current ministries, we can focus on repairing and upgrading the church — Imagine the possibilities.

What is the financial goal? How much money do we need in this campaign?



In 2016 we refinanced \$1,450,000. By 2019 we had whittled down our debt to \$1,037,310 with a payoff date of 12/1/2028. In June of 2022, we owed principal of \$519,177 with a payoff date of 9/1/2027. Since that time, we have paid down an additional \$90,153 of the principal in addition to our monthly payments. On May 1st we will owe a principal balance of \$241,724 with a payoff date of 9/1/2026. Think of it, we are on track to pay off this entire mortgage in 10 years! We have a small reserve in the mortgage account, and so we need to raise \$201,269 over the next 28 months in order to pay the debt off.

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse so that there will be enough food in my Temple; if you do, I will open up the windows of heaven for you and pour out a blessing so great you won't have room enough to take it in!"
(Malachi 3:10)

Why isn't the Mortgage included in the General Operating Budget?

Originally the Building Fund was used as a Capital Campaign to raise the funds for the down payment. It was then understood to be the repayment of the Bonds sold to finance the remaining \$2,100,000 of the cost of the building. It has been kept separate since to keep focus on the debt and enable people to make directed contributions to pay down principal. This strategy has enabled us to save hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest over the life of this debt. **"Trust in the Lord with all your heart...; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight"** (Proverbs 3:5,6). We need all of us to trust God and to express our faith by

starting, continuing or increasing our commitment to pay this debt in order to make a difference in the life of the church and the community around us.

If I only have a certain amount to give, how do I choose between the general operational budget and the debt reduction campaign?

The bottom line is, that in order to operate, our church needs the financial support of every member. We do not want to take away from the amount already contributed to the general budget. We are praying for every member to contribute something. It could be large or small. Every gift matters. Together we can imagine a debt-free future and possibilities for our church ministries. **"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"** (Matthew 6:21).

* * * * *

Pledge Commitments will be received during the worship services on May 5, 2024. Pledges can also be mailed or emailed to the Office, or brought to church at any time. Thank you for supporting our church!

Christian Education

Sunday School for May

May 5th: **Bee the change!** Learn more about Church World Service and Global Hunger: Crop Hunger Walk starts at 1:00pm. Chalk the walk.

May 12th: **Happy Mother's Day!** Sing a special song during the Worship service, Mother's Day Flower Sale, Special Craft for Moms

May 19th: **Pentecost Sunday** — Acts 2: 1-12 (One Sunday School class at 10:00 am) Wear the color Red! We will be singing a special song during the Worship Service. Make a Wind Chime to take home!

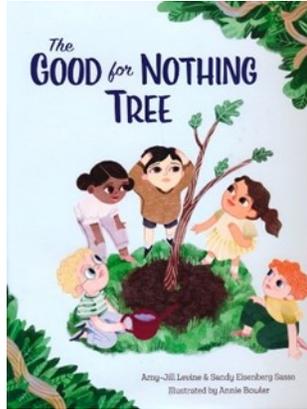
May 26th: **Peter and Tabitha** — *Love each other like the members of your family.* (Romans 12:10a) Tie Dye a t-shirt outside

Specials for Mother's Day on Sunday, May 12th

The Sunday school children will sell colorful carnations for \$2.00 each before and after each Worship service. Proceeds will go towards our summer VBS events.



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.



Miss Rhonda's Book of the Month for May

The Good for Nothing Tree by Amy-Jill Levine and Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, inspired by the parable of the Barren Fig Tree, reminds us that the sweetest figs, like so many other things are worth the wait. After waiting through all four seasons, and no figs for this tiny tree, it seems that this tiny fig tree is good for nothing! This story reminds us that with patience, care, and love, we can grow into something special! **United Women of Faith for Spiritual Growth**

We will start growing a fig tree this month, and maybe eat a Fig Newton or two while watching it grow.

Easter Thank You!

Thank you EVERYBUNNY for donating such wonderful treats for our Easter baskets this year that we made for our unwilling absent members. The children enjoyed making cards and putting together Easter baskets for this special ministry. It has become a tradition and highlight of our year!



Save the Date —

Stellar VBS is coming to Aldersgate UMC this summer!

August 12-15 (Monday-Thursday) from 9:00am-11:30am

Registration will begin in June.

If you would like to join our stellar space team, please contact Rhonda Simonelli at rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org or Brian Winter at bwinter@aumcgreece.org. We need you!



Youth activities

Pentecost

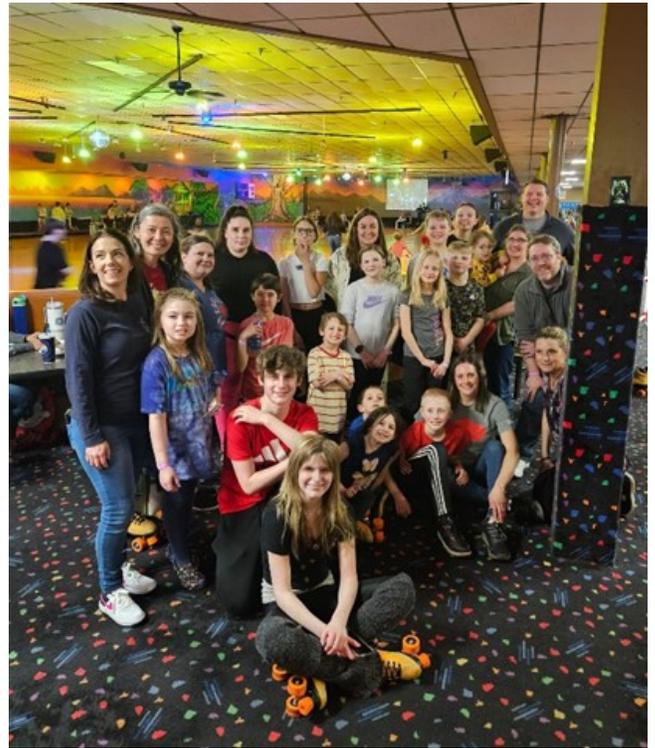
Pentecost falls on the fiftieth day after the second day of Passover. It is the day in which the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples. Pentacost or shavout, “the feast of weeks,” was when the firstfruit offerings of the summer wheat were brought into the Temple—and these were the pledge of the greater harvest.

The Passover is a holy day of rest and is the beginning of a grain harvest in Israel. 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 and the harvest represents the salvation of many.

The disciples at Pentecost represent the firstfruits of a greater harvest. The gift of the Holy Spirit empowers us to live a life of holiness and is there to strengthen us, comfort us, nudge us in times of indecision and uncertainty, and so much more. When we put the gifts and fruit of the Spirit, God will grow us in many wonderful and unexpected ways. Praise God for the gift of the Holy Spirit! *Thank you also Luke and Ella for helping hide the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt, and to Molly for sorting the candy for the Shut-In Easter Baskets.*

Youth Group

(Grades 8-12) – Friday, May 10th and 24th at 7pm.



Horizon Fun FX

On Sunday, April 14, the youth, children, and parents gathered for a day of food, fun and fellowship—king of the hill, skating, games, and an intense, yet fun, round of laser tag—at Horizon Fun FX. It was a great time for everyone!

Thank You!

Thank you to all who have supported the youth group’s bottle and can drive! Donations can be placed in the marked barrels in the Gathering Space. Please keep them coming!



SAVE THE DATE: JULY 29-31, 2024. Contact Brian Winter (bwinter@aumcgreece.org) for more details.



Aldersgate Greece
Youth Group



United Women in Faith

Reading Circle – May 9 at 1:30 PM (2nd Thursday of the month)

Tracy Chevalier's *A Single Thread* is the book that we will discuss.



1932 — After the Great War took both her beloved brother and her fiancé, Violet Speedwell has become a “surplus woman,” one of a generation doomed to a life of spinsterhood after the war killed so many young men. Yet Violet cannot reconcile herself to a life spent caring for her grieving, embittered mother. After countless meals of boiled eggs and dry toast,

she saves enough to move out of her mother’s place and into the town of Winchester, home to one of England’s grandest cathedrals. There, Violet is drawn into a society of broderers — women who embroider kneelers for the Cathedral, carrying on a centuries-long tradition of bringing comfort to worshippers.

Violet finds support and community in the group, fulfillment in the work they create, and even a growing friendship with the vivacious Gilda. But when forces threaten her new independence and another war appears on the horizon, Violet must fight to put down roots in a place where women aren’t expected to grow. Told in Chevalier’s glorious prose, *A Single Thread* is a timeless story of friendship, love, and a woman crafting her own life.

Save the Dates for this Year’s Rummage Sale October 9, 10, 11 & 12

Start saving your items for the sale now.



Come join us and experience the fun of

TAI CHI for Arthritis and Balance

Wednesdays and Fridays in the Ide Center
1:30 – 2:15 PM

Starting May 10 to July 10, 2024
(no classes the week of July 4)

\$25.00 for 16 sessions.

(Pay at the first class. Checks payable to Lifespan.)

Sign up on the bulletin board.

Tai Chi combines slow moving with deep breathing. The benefits of Tai Chi are: increased strength, improved balance and posture, and helps prevent falls. If you have any questions, call Candy Metzger (355-9542).

Join the Yarn and Darn Group – May 7

If you like to knit and/or crochet (Yarn), bring your needles and yarn, or if you have a stitching project (Darn) you are working on, join us from 1:00-3:00 PM the 1st Tuesday of each month.

Our current project is making Prayer Shawls for those in need, if you would like to help with those. Come enjoy fellowship while doing God’s work. If you have any questions, contact Betty Judd.

Yarn and flannel donations are always welcome!

If you have extra yarn or fabric that you are not going to use, please bring it in and put it in the tote marked YARN.

This is located near the nursery. THANK YOU!



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Serving in Worship This Month

Ushers

9:30 AM

5/5 — Sandi Norris & Debbie Lenau

5/12 — Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann

5/26 — Susan DeVincentis

11:00 AM

5/5 — Nancy & Terry Young

5/12 — Denise & Gary Hogestyn

5/26 — Maria Stanley & Eric Lindenau

Scripture Readers

9:30 AM

5/5 — Jack Simm

5/12 — Carol DeCann

5/26 — Annette Thompson

11:00 AM

5/5 — Nancy Young

5/12 — Brian Winter

5/26 — Sue Zorn

May 19 Pentecost Service at 10:00 AM

Ushers — Sandi Norris, Debbie Lenau, and Nancy & Terry Young

Scripture Readers — Jim Cobia, Brian Winter, Kaori Winter, Juan Ruiz, Joyce Chun, Pastor Enoch Renzha, Pastor Doug Hess, and possibly Deepa Samuel

May Live Streaming

5/5 — Contemporary @ 9:30 AM —

5/12 — Traditional @ 11:00 AM —

5/19 — Combined, Pentecost @ 10:00 AM —

5/26 — Traditional @ 11:00 AM —



The Troiano family on Easter Sunday



This year's Easter Egg Hunt drew the largest crowd we've ever had hunting for egg around the church grounds!





**Family Fun at
Horizon FX on
April 14**

LEFT: King of the Hill

BELOW: Laser Tag

