



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

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Aldersgate UMC Web Site
<http://www.aumcgreece.org/>

Volume 8, Issue 79

June 2009

FROM YOUR PASTOR...

This month's article is a lot longer than I like, but it's important so I pray that you will take time to read it.

Many years ago, God planted in the hearts of the people of Aldersgate a vision to expand our existing church facility to be better equipped to serve God in our community. With God's help, that vision was realized when we moved into our new space in November 2006. It has been an incredible journey and we have had many opportunities to see God work miracles to accomplish His purpose.

- God blessed us with a hugely successful first capital campaign.
- God blessed us with a significantly lower bid than we anticipated.
- God blessed us with an incredibly mild winter during the construction phase.
- God blessed us with a large financial gift at just the right time.

It is clear in the way that God worked things out that we were working according to God's plan.

Two years ago, we held our second 3-year capital campaign. Over the past two years, people have been faithful in paying their pledges. Many have given sacrificially and have been blessed by God for their efforts. I am grateful for whatever you have contributed to this effort. We continue to pay our mortgage payment each month; however, lately funds have been tighter. This is not unexpected because pledges to our second campaign were about \$100,000 short of our minimum goal to cover three years of mortgage payments. In fact, God has already blessed us with additional gifts that have reduced the shortfall to about \$70,000 more needed between now and the time we begin giving to our third capital campaign in June 2010.

With all God had done in the past, I wondered why God might be putting us through this. In prayerfully considering it, I have come to understand there are a couple reasons. I remembered God's provision of manna for the Israelites in the wilderness. God told the Israelites to gather only enough for one day. When they saw the food that first morning many wanted to take more than they needed for a day to be sure they had

Continued on page 11

Inside this issue:

Our Ministry of Concern	2
From the Pastor of Visitation & Membership Care	3
Faith Factor Youth Ministry	4
Christian Education	5
Birthdays & Anniversaries	6
Church Events and Opportunities	7
United Methodist Women	8
Confirmation Class Overnight	9
Dear Sally Stewardship...	10
Mission News	10
Church Council Notes	11
Serving in our Worship Service	12



OUR MINISTRY OF CONCERN

People are added to our ongoing prayer list on request. If you know of someone whose name and/or concern should be added, please verify that the person desires to be on a published list before requesting the addition. Names are added and can be removed from the prayer list by request. If you have a prayer request, please call Barbara Robinson at 227-7845. Reports regarding prayer results are made also.

Please call the church office if you have other names that need to be added or reinstated to the list or removed from the list.

Due to privacy restrictions at our hospitals They will no longer release patient information over the phone. In the event that you are hospitalized, please let us know. If you are unable to notify us, please have a family member or close friend call the church office, Pastor Anne or Pastor Jerry.

In hospice care: Stella Elich – Hildebrandt Hospice Center, Orville Loomis – Unity Living Center, Ethel Martin – St. John’s

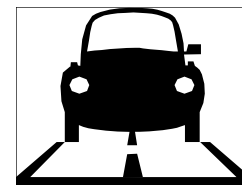
Recovering at home: Jane Guitson, Alma Harmer

Those with ongoing health concerns: Vonnie Ackerman (sister of Gloria Montgomery), Joyce Anderson (sister of Wanda Strauss), Al Antczak, Mavis & Malcolm Beers, Hayden Armendinger (father of Debbie Kennedy), Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis and Malcolm), Mike Blair (son of Kathy Peck), Phoebe Brown, Ted Coburn, Diane Czebatol (daughter of Janet Pelcher), Albina DeBell, Logan Desmone (child of friend of Lisa Deutsch), Carl Dunn, Carol Finch (friend of the DeVincentis Family), Patricia Forbes, Ed Geier, Shirley Geier, David Grierson (son of Shirley Grierson), Jay Glowinski (friend of Denise Sayre), Alma Harmer, Dave Haring, Becky Hess, Gary & Cindy Hogan, Earl Kelley (Cindy Groves’ father), Bonnie Kennedy (former member), Anna Kneisel (mother of Anne Palmer), Warren Lenau (father of Debbie Lenau), Lynn Linder (sister-in-law of Tammy Ruiz), Ruth Loomis, Steven Lynch (son of Sylvia & Jack Lynch), Cody Mastradenato (neighbor of O’Connor’s), Charlotte McCabe (Betty Baybutt’s daughter), Lea McQuown, Denise Montgomery (daughter of Gloria Montgomery), Marion Murray (friend of Joyce DeBell), Margaret Patterson (sister of Joyce DeBell), Kamran Pickering (grandson of Donna Colangelo), Norman Poisson (friend of An-

nette Thompson), Polly Roberts (friend of Bette Edgett), Tammy Ruiz, Steven Savage, Mary Sims, Gail Snyder, John Sobus, Jr., Sebastian Sofia (friend of Don Heinz), David Stanley, Heather Tidwell (granddaughter of Ross & Nancy Wayne), Ashley VanKouwenberg, Alene VanPutte, Hal Wagner, Ross Wayne, Mark Williams (son-in-law of Bob Wiederhold), Clair Yeamans (step-father of David Kaszubowski).

Our home-bound: Malcolm Beers, Olive Chapman (mother of Barbara Marsh), Jean Frey, John Haldane, Glenn Ide, Myrtle Koch, Maxine Pollock, John Sobus, Martha Thomson, Marion Voglesong.

Nursing Homes/Living Centers: Jack Lynch, Betty Shoemaker – Shore Winds; Carolyn Fisher – St. Ann’s; Robert Royer – St. John’s; Leota Matthews – Monroe Community Hospital; Jeanne Barr – Hilton East



ALDRSGATE EMERGENCY VOLUNTEER SERVICE

The church provides emergency services such as transportation and babysitting. If you can provide services, or need help, call the church office.

PARISH VISITATIONS

Please advise the church office when someone enters the hospital (or is discharged). This will help in providing better pastoral care and help avoid unnecessary trips. If you, or someone of whom you are aware, desire a pastoral call, please advise the church office. Arrangements for the Sacrament of Holy Communion are encouraged. Both pastors visit regularly and would be happy to include others in the visitation schedule.

There are two prayer chains at Aldersgate. Each is coordinated by Barbara Robinson. One is for daytime calling. The other is for calling in the evening. Each member of the prayer chain has only one person to call and everyone will lift up the prayer re-

quests in his or her own way. This can be a very rewarding experience, especially when concerns turn into joy. We invite you to be part of this care team. Call me at 227-7845.

~Barbara Robinson



FROM THE PASTOR OF VISITATION AND MEMBERSHIP CARE

Dear Aldersgate Family

The month of June is filled with many happy occasions, including Annual Conference, picnics, parties, weddings and graduations—and tucked in between all these things Father's Day!

This year I'd like to have us focus on our Dad's and remember all their love and sacrifices. I think that a little story I received recently illustrates my point. It is called:

THE PICKLE JAR

The pickle jar as far back as I can remember sat on the floor beside the dresser in my parents' bedroom. When he got ready for bed, Dad would empty his pockets and toss his coins into the jar. As a small boy I was always fascinated at the sounds the coins made as they were dropped into the jar. They landed with a merry jingle when the jar was almost empty. Then the tones gradually muted to a dull thud as the jar was filled. I used to squat on the floor in front of the jar and admire the copper and silver circles that glinted like a pirate's treasure when the sun poured through the bedroom window.

When the jar was filled, Dad would sit at the kitchen table and roll the coins before taking them to the bank. Taking the coins to the bank was always a big production. Stacked neatly in a small cardboard box, the coins were placed between Dad and me on the seat of his old truck. Each and every time, as we drove to the bank, Dad would look at me hopefully. "Those coins are going to keep you out of the textile mill, son. You're going to

do better than me. This old mill town's not going to hold you back." Also, each and every time, as he slid the box of rolled coins across the counter at the bank toward the cashier, he would grin proudly. "These are for my son's college fund. He'll never work at the mill all his life like me."

We would always celebrate each deposit by stopping for an ice cream cone. I always got chocolate. Dad always got vanilla. When the clerk at the ice cream parlor handed Dad his change, he would show me the few coins nestled in his palm.

"When we get home, we'll start filling the jar again." He always let me drop the first coins into the empty jar. As they rattled around with a brief, happy jingle, we grinned at each other. "You'll get to college on pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters," he said. "But you'll get there. I'll see to that."

The years passed, and I finished college and took a job in another town. Once, while visiting my parents, I used the phone in their bedroom and noticed that the pickle jar was gone. It had served its purpose and had been removed. A lump rose in my throat as I stared at the spot by the dresser where the jar had always stood. My Dad was a man of few words, and never lectured me on the values of determination, perseverance, and faith. The pickle jar had taught me all of these virtues far more eloquently than the most flowery of words could have done.

When I married, I told my wife, Susan, about the significant part the lowly pickle jar had played in my life as a boy. In my mind, it defined, more than anything else, how much my Dad had loved me. No matter how rough things got at home, Dad

continued to doggedly drop his coins into the jar. Even the summer when Dad got laid off from the mill, and Mama had to serve dried beans several times a week, not a single dime was taken from the jar. To the contrary, as Dad looked across the table at me, pouring catsup over my beans to make them more palatable, he became more determined than ever to make a way out for me.

"When you finish college, son," he told me, his eyes glistening, "You'll never have to eat beans again...unless you want to."

The first Christmas after our daughter Jessica was born, we spent the holiday with my parents. After dinner, Mom and Dad sat next to each other on the sofa, taking turns cuddling their first grandchild. Jessica began to whimper softly, and Susan took her from Dad's arms. "She probably needs to be changed," she said, carrying the baby into my parents' bedroom to diaper her. When Susan came back into the living room, there was a strange mist in her eyes. She handed Jessica back to Dad before taking my hand and leading me into the room. "Look," she said softly, her eyes directing me to a spot on the floor beside the dresser. To my amazement, there, as if it had never been removed, stood this old pickle jar, the bottom already covered with coins. I walked over to the pickle jar, dug down into my pocket, and pulled out a fistful of coins. With a gamut of emotions choking me, I dropped the coins into the jar. I looked up and saw that Dad, carrying Jessica, had slipped quietly into the room. Our eyes locked, and I knew he was feeling the same

(Continued on page 10)

FAITH FACTOR YOUTH MINISTRY

The youth mission trip is coming! Please begin to keep our Senior High youth in prayer as they serve the people of Chicago next month. We are still short of our fund raising goal. Please pray about your financial support to our youth in mission. Any gift would be deeply appreciated. Thank you for your support!

Hey Youth! We have been asked to read the Scripture during the Sunday services in the month of July. This is a great opportunity and one that shouldn't be missed! There are plenty of dates available, so please share your speaking talents with the congregation. Speak to Kim to sign up.



Congratulations to all of our graduates! May God bless you as you begin the next adventure in your life. Please keep coming to youth group this summer. We'd love to have you!



June 30

The Senior High Youth Group will be playing laser tag at Laser Quest. Any Middle School students who would like to come are welcome to attend. The cost for 2 games is \$15. Permission slips will be available on Sunday mornings and at youth group. See Kim if you need financial assistance. Attention Parents or other adults: Drivers are needed.

Our Calendar...

Senior High

- June 2: NO YOUTH GROUP
- June 9: Nooma video Bible Study
- June 16: Guest Speaker: Cori Loudon
- June 23: Service Activity
- June 30: Laser Quest!

Junior High

- June 14: Trusting God
- June 28: Youth Group Mini Golf at Adventure Landing

June 28

The Middle School Youth Group will be playing Mini Golf at Adventure Landing during our regular youth group time. We will meet at church at 2:30 and carpool to have fun for the afternoon, returning to church by 4:00. The cost is \$5. Please bring extra money if you want snacks. Tell Kim if you plan to attend so she can arrange for transportation. See Kim for permission slips.

See you in Youth Group,
Kim

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dear Congregation and Friends,

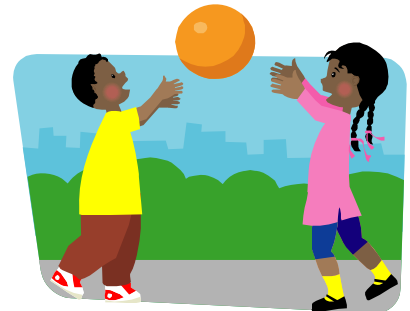
This certainly has been an interesting Spring, hasn't it? We've experienced variable temperatures, and gusty winds. The economy is still at the forefront of everyone's minds. Local High Schools experienced tragedies no one could have imagined. Such a variety of topics which somehow are all connected to our lives despite the incredible differences in the issues!

These all relate back to the church, don't they? We as a church need to be the place people think of first in times of great joy and in times of great distress. My goal in overseeing the Christian Education Ministry is to provide a place for our children to be welcomed and nurtured. It is my desire to have our kids grow in their knowledge of the Bible and in their faith, and to grow into adults who love the Lord and love to serve His Church.

Won't you consider how you can be a part of this ministry? As we move into the summer, we still need folks to volunteer for teaching and helping positions. Join us in celebrating the family and friends we have together at Aldersgate and be a part of this important ministry.

It is a joy to serve with you,
~Rachelle Vitullo

Who doesn't love a good relay race?!? How about indoor football? Is Horseshoes more your speed? Well, we need you to volunteer for the recreation time on Sunday Mornings! We're glad that Sandi Norris and Debbie Lenau have ministered to our children in this area over the past year. If you would like to fill this position for the summer and/or into next year, please contact Rachelle Vitullo. Ideas are provided to you from the current Sunday School curriculum.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ~ THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!!!

So many good folks have already volunteered to assist with Vacation Bible School this year! Thank you!

Scheduling Conflict? Can't Attend? WE STILL NEED YOU! Take time now to pray for our VBS ministry this year. Ask God to bless our time together, that it may be a time of learning, growth, and healthy fellowship for all the children and adults involved. Thank you for prayers!



Under Construction is a Christian Education resource which uses a construction metaphor to help children learn about community. Mark your calendars now for EVENING Vacation Bible School scheduled for the week of August 10-14!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Ken Rex June 6
 Bob Judd June 8
 Rebecca Lindeman June 8
 Tom O'Connor June 9
 Keannu Cloete June 9
 Jamie Perkins June 9
 Walt Dunn June 10
 John Sobus, Jr. June 11
 Charles Witzel June 11
 Mark DeVincentis June 12

Julia Simm June 16
 Betty Judd June 17
 Myrtle Holmes June 18
 Tom Simons June 18
 Brandon Gilzow June 19
 Eric Bock June 20
 Carl Dunn June 20
 Candy Metzger June 24
 Jennifer Hughes June 26
 Edward Carstens June 29



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Al & Nona Antczak June 2
 Pat & Carole Jerymn June 8
 Bob & Jan Winter June 15
 Al & Myrtle Holmes June 15
 Sue & Bill Burdick June 18
 Doug & Suzanne Unell June 20
 Sylvia & Jack Lynch June 25
 Steve & Colleen Tyler June 28

**INK JET AND LASER
 PRINTER
 CARTRIDGES**

Bring in your empty ink jet and laser printer cartridges to church. This is ecologically good for the environment and will help to raise funds for special projects. A container for you to deposit your cartridges is in the Gathering Space.



THANK YOU

Our family wishes to offer our thanks to all of the congregation for their concern and thoughts during this difficult time.

The many cards and flowers were a light in a moment of darkness. We wish to also express our gratitude for your many thoughts and prayers.

God Bless,
 Jerry Jones and Family



Items for the July/August Hinge are due **June 15**

CHURCH EVENTS, MINISTRIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

BBQ CHICKEN & RIBS DATES SET

Once again this year Aldersgate and Emmanuel United Methodist Churches will be getting together to prepare & sell those great chicken & rib dinners we enjoyed last fall. Two dates have been set: **July 11 and October 10.**

On July 11 we will be working together to raise money for the Greece Churches Habitat project and for four conference projects in North Katanga in the Congo. The latter includes air transportation for the people who need to get to and from isolated areas quickly, the Kamina project to encourage local entrepreneurs, the Lupandilo Nursing School and Animal Livestock Development. The funds from the October 10 date will be used to fund Emmanuel's children's ministries as we did last year.

Please mark those dates on your calendar, watch for more information, and be ready to sign up to help. Lives of families here and in the Congo are helped by our participation in projects like these.

THANK YOU TO THE COBURNS

On Sunday May 17, after two years of preparation, Bryan Anable, Sarah Anable, Holly Deutsch, and Michael Streb were confirmed. We celebrate with them and pray God will bless them as they continue their journey of faith. This was the eighth group of confirmands taught by Ted and Edith Coburn.

The Coburns will be continuing to work behind the scenes, but have decided to step out of the primary role and leave that to Jim and Lorraine Christie. We thank God for the ministry of the Coburns over the past 15 years and their work with about 100 youth and the major role they have played in bringing many of these young people to Christ. We thank them for their faithfulness to this ministry and pray God will bless them as they continue in other areas of ministry.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST TO HONOR FATHERS

Watch for more information on a pancake breakfast in the Ide Center on **Saturday, June 20.** Families will be invited to come at their convenience **between 8:00 and 10:00 AM** to enjoy a hot pancake breakfast and to honor their fathers. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board and a small cost payable at the door.

BE PART OF THE MUSIC LEGACY

Ken Rex plans soon to produce a new recording on compact disc of favorite Aldersgate songs and hymns with performers David Rogenmoser, Kathy Savage, and Tammy Ruiz. You have a role in selecting those favorites.

Throughout the month of June you will find a survey in your Sunday worship bulletin asking you to identify two favorites. Fill it out once. (Please don't stuff the ballot box!) By putting it in every Sunday, our goal is to give everyone a chance to fill it out. The new CD will include the top ten picks of the congregation and a few of the performers' favorites.

Don't miss this chance to play a role in recording the Aldersgate legacy of fine church music.

DINE WITH US AT APPLEBEE'S

Monday, June 1st,
from 4:00-9:00 PM
10% of Food Receipts Benefits our

BUILDING FUND

Make this your night out with your friends!

GAME NIGHT

 Game Night will be June 13, Saturday, at 6:00 PM.

 Come join the fun at either Table Tennis, Euchre, or Golf (card game). If you don't know how to play Euchre or Golf we will be glad to show you.

 All are welcome.

ALDRSGATE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

“RECYCLING” THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Why do we hold a Rummage Sale every year?

- It’s the largest, single fundraiser the UMW holds each year.
- It funds the remainder of our annual Pledge to Mission which helps to change the lives of women and children around the world.
- We can help with a church project. This year we plan to buy more short (six-foot) tables for use in the Ide Center as a more flexible alternative to round tables for smaller events.
- It subsidizes some of our “free” events like the Meal in the Upper Room and retreats as well as keeps the cost down at others.
- It brings members of the community into our church. Those who are unchurched are more likely to come back to a church with which they are familiar when they feel the need for a church.
- It provides a low-cost source of clothing, furniture and small household appliances.
- It reminds us not to become too attached to possessions that we really don’t need.
- It encourages us to clear away items that may be useful but that are not being used.
- It saves many of us the trouble of holding garage sales.
- We have fun working together. It’s a great “first serve” opportunity.

Whatever your reason please help with this year’s Rummage Sale in any way you can: making donations, working on the preparations and the sale, providing baked goods, clean-up, or coming to shop.

You may start bringing in your donations on Monday, June 1. The sale itself is scheduled for **Thursday & Friday, June 11 & 12, from 9:00 AM to**

7:00 PM; and on Saturday, June 13, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The bag sale will be on Saturday. Sign-up sheets for working and bringing baked goods are on the Opportunities Board.

READING CIRCLE



The next meeting of Reading Circle will be on Thursday, June 4, at 1:00 PM in the Church Library. *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver is the June selection. At our July meeting we will be sharing favorite books. For more information, contact Helen Wolter (621-1904) or Frances Crabtree (392-0772).

OTHER UPCOMING DATES:

- July 23-25 - School of Christian Mission at Daemen College. Registrations & fees due June 30. Pick up brochure on the Mission Counter.
- October 16-17 – Crafts & Collectibles Show.

CONFIRMATION CLASS OVERNIGHT AT CAMP ASBURY

On April 17 and 18 the four members of the Confirmation Class went on their Camp Asbury overnight, which is just south of Perry, NY. It was led by Pastor Rick LaDue, our former Youth Minister. Support was given by Jim and Lorraine Christie, Edith and Ted Coburn and Pastor Anne. The following are the brief reflections from the overnight, as written by the youth themselves:

Bryan Anable

I enjoyed playing games and the fire where we burned our sins. Pastor Rick had great stories about people, some who made good decisions that turned out great and some whose poor decisions had unfortunate outcomes. I enjoyed building the cross and my long learning weekend.

Sarah Anable

I liked the overnight. It meant a lot to me. My favorite parts were when we burned up our sins we wanted God to forgive, and we built our own cross and signed it to make our own covenant. I also enjoyed spending free time with everyone and enjoying the beauty of Pastor Anne's cottage.

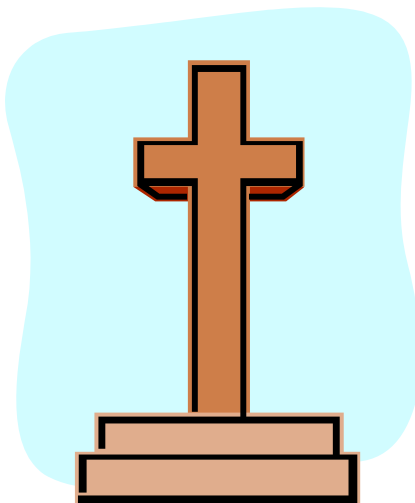
Holly Deutsch

I liked using the hammer to make the cross, even though I only got the nail halfway in. I took pictures that everybody thought were very good. I also thought the games we played were very good and the card games.

Mike Streb

Some of the most moving parts of the overnight were being able to talk about our faith and having fun doing it.

Rick described for us in detail Jesus' grievous suffering and death on the cross as God's part in His plan to forgive our sins. He also explained that our first step is to admit our sins. Then we need to truly believe that He is our Lord and Savior. Finally, we commit and covenant to obey Him to be in relationship with Him. Pastor Anne's communion was very meaningful. Last but not least, we want to thank all of you who prayed for the overnight.



Jim and Lorraine Christie and

MISSION NEWS

ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES

Are you having trouble stretching your food dollars? Do you know of neighbors who have perhaps lost jobs or are “underemployed” who are in financial difficulty? Angel Food Ministries can help by providing a \$60 box of food once a month for just \$30. Actually, while the program is focused on meeting the needs of people who don’t qualify for food shelf-type programs yet who very much need to make food dollars stretch, there is no financial eligibility requirement. As the program founders like to say, “You only need to like to eat.” In other words, we are all eligible to participate in this program.

If you are interested in helping to start this ministry at Aldesgate, please contact **Mary Sims** (865-7668), who has agreed to lead this project.

GREECE HABITAT NEWS

So far the receipts from the Coin Box project total \$1055.30. Amazing how small amounts add up! There are a few boxes yet to be counted, so that total will grow.

The date for starting the fourth Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity house has been moved to fall. While it would be easier to start building in the summer, a later date gives us more time to raise funds in advance of building.

GREECE CROP WALK

Thank you to all who participated in the Greece Crop Walk on May 3 and to those who sponsored them. Aldersgate brought in the second largest total of \$1170.00.

DEAR SALLY STEWARDSHIP

DEAR SALLY STEWARDSHIP

Dear Sally Stewardship,

I probably should know—but what is this “summer slump” I hear about?

Curious

Dear Curious,

Now that’s an easy one. You may have noticed that attendance at church is a tad lower in the summer. Sometimes it’s because we’re on vacation and sometimes we just decide we’ll “worship God through nature.” (I’m not sure how much “worshipping” is done, but it sounds good.)

That slump in attendance usually brings a slump in the offering, also. We forget that the ministries of the church (and the expenses) continue whether we’re there or not. In fact, it’s very important to maintain high quality programs and outreach during the summer since that’s most often the time when people move into the neighborhood and look for a church. People need spiritual uplift and Christian fellowship as much in the summer as at any other time of the year.

We can’t ask you not to take vacations. We do ask that you not take a vacation from God. When you are away from home, find a church wherever you are. If you are home, get up and come to church on Sunday morning. You’ll be glad you did. (Remember that God doesn’t take a vacation. He’s always there for

us.)

And plan ahead. If you know you are going to miss church, put your regular gifts in the offering in advance. It’s usually easier to meet your weekly or monthly pledge commitment in advance than it is to catch up.

Here’s to Avoiding the Summer Slump!

Sally Stewardship

FROM THE PASTOR OF VISITATION AND MEMBERSHIP CARE (Cont.)

emotions I felt. Neither one of us could speak.

This truly touched my heart...I know it has yours as well. Sometimes we are so busy adding up our troubles that we forget to count our blessings. Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, faith looks up.

God bless you all (especially the Dads)!

The Visitation Pastor,

From Your Pastor (Cont.)

enough for the next day. Those who did were sorely disappointed when the manna became worm infested. God was teaching the Israelites to trust in him to provide day by day. Since we don't have a lot in the bank, we need to trust God more and more.

The other thing I realized is that with a shortfall of some \$70,000 we have another opportunity to see God work in a big way again. God has done what we needed in the past and will do it again because God is faithful. Every time we experience God doing something we can't do on our own is an opportunity to grow in faith.

St. Teresa of Avila wrote, "Does it cost us anything to ask for a great deal, since we are asking One who is powerful?" Our plan to approach the shortfall begins with prayer. We are going to gather in small prayer teams of two to four people and ask God to meet our need. Each team will be asked to meet to pray at least three times during June. A prayer guide will be developed to help the teams focus their prayers. We will be giving thanks

for what God has done in the past and asking for help now. Part of what we will be asking God to do is to show each of us how we might respond to the need with our own 3rd mile giving (The 1st mile is our tithes and offerings, the second is our pledged giving to the capital campaign.) We believe God will inspire individuals and families to give additional gifts that will make up the rest of the shortfall. One possible way that might work out is if for example God inspires 25 to give an additional \$1000 (\$25,000), 30 to give an additional \$500 (\$15,000), 30 to give an additional \$250 or about \$5 per week (\$7,500), and 5 to give an additional \$5000 (\$25,000) over the next twelve months.

I pray you'll give prayerful consideration to being a part of one of these prayer teams. Whether or not God inspires you to make a 3rd mile gift, I am confident that participating on one of the prayer teams will help you to grow more in love with God and with others. They are being designed in a way that will bring us together as a church and strengthen us in our ministry in the world. We hope to have more than 25 teams with over 100 people lifting our church and

community to God. If God inspires you to make an additional gift, God will help you to do it. The Apostle Paul reminds us, "God is able to give you more than you need, so that you will always have all you need for yourselves and more than enough for every good cause." (2 Cor. 9:8) I know it's true because I have experienced God doing just that in my life.

During worship on the last Sunday in June, we will have an opportunity to lay our 3rd mile gift intentions on the altar table or place them in the offering plate. No one will be looking at these commitments. The commitment is between you and God. This prayer campaign is about trusting God and that's what we'll be doing. We know God will provide as God has done in the past. And we get the joy of investing our resources to extend Aldersgate's witness to Christ's enduring love. What a wonderful opportunity!

May God bless you abundantly,

Anne

CHURCH COUNCIL NOTES

- Opened with Devotions and Prayer and Approval of last month's minutes
- Discussed current financial status of the various funds of the church. The tone was cautiously optimistic. In the face of the current difficulties in the economy in general, we are doing pretty well. An example of this is an Easter offering that exceeded \$1,000!
- Council spent time discussing possible future Nominations Committee members. This working group performs a vital service to the church during the early months of the calendar year.
- It was decided to focus more of future Council meeting on the most timely matters (rather than every committee reporting at every meeting).
- Reviewed and clarified our Employee Vacation Policy.
- Announced some upcoming visits by old church friends.

Discussed our involvement with community activities and prayer opportunities.

Adjourned til next month (May 21st)

Respectfully submitted, Mark D

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICES IN JUNE

SCRIPTURE READERS

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
6/7	Debbie Lenau	Nancy Young
6/14	Rodger Burkhardt	Nancy Brehm
6/21	Sandi Norris	Joyce Farrokh
6/28	Gloria Montgomery	Tom Simons

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
6/7	Sammy Hanko	Amanda Farrell, Chase Tyler
6/14	Edward Carstens	Rebecca Lindeman, Ryan Lindeman
6/21	Brianna Kephart	Nick Spicer, Mike Spicer
6/28	Allison McHugh	Renee Tibbles, Caleb Thompson

USHER SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
6/7	Al & Myrt Holmes, Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Nancy Bader, Walt Dunn Terry & Nancy Young
6/14	Al & Myrt Holmes, Susan DeVincentis, Evelyn Welker	Dean & Jackie Hogestyn Gary Hogestyn, Denise Furey
6/21	Al & Myrt Holmes, Evelyn Welker	Nancy Bader, Candy Metzger Elaine Sawyer, Linda Uebelacker
6/28	Al and Myrt Holmes, Hal & Scott Wagner	John Cochran, Eric Bock, Tom & Zuni Simons

OUR CHURCH STAFF IS HERE TO SERVE

Anne O'Connor, Pastor	621-4799 aoconnor@aumcgreece.org
Gerald A. Wolter, Pastor of Visitation & Membership Care	621-1904 hgwolter@frontiernet.net
Kim Hines, Youth Minister	352-4321 khines@aumcgreece.org
Jane Guitson, Christian Education Coordinator	544-7787 jguitson@rochester.rr.com
Candy Metzger, Administrative Assistant	663-3665 cmetzger@aumcgreece.org
Tamara Ruiz, Organist	truiz@aumcgreece.org
David Rogenmoser, Choir Director	drogenmoser@aumcgreece.org
Kevin Brown, ACWT Worship Leader	kbrown@aumcgreece.org
Debbie Simm, ACWT Administrative Leader	dsimm@aumcgreece.org
Lea McQuown, Custodian	
Evelyn Welker, Housekeeper	
Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant	

Aldersgate Web Site: www.aumcgreece.org

Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
4115 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, NY 14616

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Sunday, May 31 is Pentecost when
we celebrate the gift of the Holy
Spirit. If you have red, wear it to
church that day.