



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

4115 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, New York 14616-1216

(585) 663-3665

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

September 2011

From Your Pastor

Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,

in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;

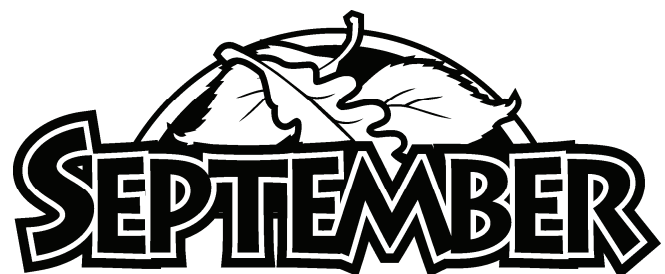
the Lord is gracious and merciful. Psalm 111:1-4 (NRSV)

I'm giving thanks for the many ways we saw God's great works while we were on the mission trip in Cincinnati. God was already at work there and we were privileged to join God and others to make a difference. If you were in church on July 31, you had the opportunity to hear about many of the ways God is working. One of the ministries where we served is New Life Furniture. It was founded by two people who wanted to help one family with nothing get settled into an apartment. Step by step God has grown the ministry so that they now are serving several families each week providing them with quality used furniture. The day I served in that ministry picking up and delivering furniture, we saw God's wonderful work first hand. First, we went to one home to pick up a dining room table. When we arrived, the next door neighbor came over and asked if we had time to pick up some furniture he wanted to donate. He gave us several items including a rocking chair and a children's table and chairs. The daily plan is to pick up the items from one family and deliver them to the family in need the same day to minimize handling. When we attempted to make our second delivery of the day, the people weren't home. After several phone calls, the director was able to reschedule a delivery that was originally scheduled for later in the week. The family that was expecting delivery on Friday would now receive furniture on Wednesday. It turned out that what we picked up from the neighbor that was not on the original plan was just what the people who had their delivery moved up needed. God knew the need and pro-

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Our Ministry of Concern

People are added and deleted to our ongoing prayer list on request.

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

If you have a prayer request, please call Barbara Robinson at 227-7845.

Hospitalized: Tom Marsh — Strong Memorial

In rehab: Milt Ashley — St Ann's; Al Antczak — Hamilton Manor

Recovering at home: Pauline Ashley, Jane Coonan, Roger Forbes, Judy Hare, Ruth Loomis, Sylvia Lynch, Jose Nazario, George Preston, Jerry Sisson

Those with ongoing health concerns: : Hayden Armendinger (father of Debbie Kennedy), Denise Bayer, Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis and Malcolm), Kathy Brandt (sister-in-law of Robin Fox), Ted Coburn, Ursalee Crepinsek (cousin of Myrle/Beverly Johnson), Sarah Crough (niece of Doug & Nancy Jones), Diane Czebatol (daughter of Janet Pelcher), Logan Desmone (child of friend of Lisa

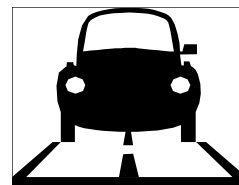
Deutsch), Carol Finch (friend of the DeVincentis Family), Roger Forbes, Jack Geier (brother of Ed Geier), Jay Glowinski (friend of Denise Sayre), Joyce Heimbürger (friend of Jerry Sisson), Greg Heizyk, Becky Hess, Gary & Cindy Hogan, Vi Hutchins (friend of Chris Palmer), John Jelto, Earl Kelley (father of Cindy Groves), Bonnie Kennedy (former member), Anna Kneisel (mother of Anne Palmer), Madeline Larabee (great granddaughter of Nancy Wayne), Larocca family (friend of Debbie Pankey), Lynn Linder (sister-in-law of Tammy Ruiz), Ruth Loomis, Steven Lynch (son of Sylvia Lynch), Natalie & Jamie Manfredi, Tom Marsh, Charlotte & Patrick McCabe (daughter & son-in-law of Betty Baybutt), Richard Meinhold (father of Colleen Tyler), Craig Michaloski, Bill Miller, Charles Peyser (father of Bobbi Mohrmann), Mark Payton, Kathy Peck, Kamran Pickering (grandson of Donna Colangelo), Norman Poisson (friend of Annette Thompson), Barbara Robinson, Marilyn Rogenmoser (mother of David Rogenmoser), Steven Savage, Marie Sims, John Sobus, Jr., Michele Stamp (friend of Susan DeVincentis), David Stanley, Bill Teasdale, Hal Wagner, Mark Williams (son-in-law of Bob Wiederhold), Debbie Wolfe, Pat Wolfrom (friend of

Candy Metzger), Clair Yeamans (step-father of David Kaszubowski).

Our home-bound: Jean Frey, John Sobus, Leonora Tyler

Nursing Homes/Living Centers: Jeanne Barr — Hilton East; Malcolm Beers — Canandaigua; Phoebe Brown, Edna Tina Wilson Living Center; Rosetta Knapp, Jean Smith, Marion Voglesong — Crimson Ridge; Maxine Pollock — Blossom View Nursing Home in Sodus, NY; John Hayashi, Len Mack, Martha Thomson — Woodlands

Christian sympathy is extended to Walt and Gege Dunn and family on the death of Carl Dunn; Len Mack and family on the death of his wife, Grace Mack; and Rodger Burkhart and family on the death of his wife, Sharon.



Please call the church office, if you need a ride for a doctor's appointment at 663-3665.

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 and the lay visitation ministers 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 requests 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



ALL items for the October *Hinge* are due September 15.

From the Pastor of Visitation and Membership Care

Dear Aldersgate Family

As I pen these lines in mid-August, I realize that summer and picnics and vacations will soon be over! Then, it is back to our regular routines.

During the summer, our Grief Share (grief support group) has been going out for lunch once a month. (The regular sessions each Saturday at 11:00 AM resume on September 10.) During one of the lunches, the owner stopped and was chatting with me. She commented, "These people are laughing and visiting and having such a good time. Are you sure they are grieving?"

Yes, there is healing for grief! This reminded me of an article which appeared in *The Joyful Noiseletter*, entitled:

How do you maintain joy in the face of sorrow?

(For 30 years, Rev. Elmer [Bud] Frimoth of Portland, OR, a Presbyterian minister disguised as "Doolotz" — a tramp clown, brought smiles and a message of good cheer and hope to patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and to the homeless.)

By Bud Frimouth

I've been reading The Return of the Prodigal Son by Henri Nouwen, a delightful book with such positive insights in the struggle to maintain joy when faced with so much sorrow and darkness in the world. Nouwen was a Dutch Catholic priest whose books, like The Wounded Healer and Clowning in Rome, have been popular among both Protestants and Catholics. Nouwen shared the last years of his life with mentally handicapped people at l'Arche Community of Datbreak in Toronto. Here are some of Nouwen's observations from The Return of the Prodigal Son:

"Somehow I have become accustomed to living with sadness and so have lost the eye to see the joy and the ears to hear the gladness that belongs to God and which is to be found in the hidden corners of the world. I have a friend who is so deeply connected with God that he can see joy where I expect only sadness."

"Joy never denies sadness, but transforms it

to a fertile soil for more joy."

"(God's joy) is the joy of belonging to the household of God whose love is stronger than death and who empowers us to be in the world while already belonging to the kingdom of joy."

People who have come to know the joy of God do not deny the darkness, but they choose not to live in it. They claim that the light that shines in the darkness can be trusted more than the darkness itself and that a little bit of light can dispel darkness."

"Every moment of each day I have the chance to choose between cynicism and joy. Every thought I have can be cynical or joyful."

"Here on earth, joy means the absence of sorrow and sorrow the absence of joy. But such distinctions do not exist in God. Jesus, the Son of God, is the man of sorrows, but also the man of complete joy. We catch a glimpse of this when we realize that in the midst of his greatest suffering Jesus is never separated from his Father."

"His union with God is never broken even when he 'feels' abandoned by God. The joy of God belongs to his sonship and this joy of Jesus and his Father is offered to me... 'I have loved you, just as my Father has loved me', Jesus says. 'I have told you this, so that my own joy may be in you and your joy complete.'"

*From Joyful Noiseletter
Reprinted with permission*

I don't know what kind of challenge you are facing or my have to face soon — but God is greater than any of our needs!

God bless you,

Jerry Wolter
Visitation Pastor

VBS was "Shorely" awesome this year!

We had a great time at SonSurf Beach Bash and learned a lot about Jesus, too. 38 children (WOW!) participated in this spirit-filled week of story-telling, singing, crafting, energizing games and creative beach snacks. A special thank you to our very cool staff and helpers consisting of: Gloria Montgomery, Gretchen Hughes, Holly Deutsch, Michael Smith, Shane Jackson, Mike Streb, Lorraine Christie, Shirley Grierson, Chitie Edgett, Dick Edgett, Scott Wagner, Steve Tyler, Mike Simonelli, Derek Hansen, Cori Louden, Tracy Maggio, Sarah West, Kathy Peck, Candy Metzger and the girls from Emmanuel United Methodist Church. We are truly grateful for your time, help and energy in making this VBS such a huge success! We want to thank the people of Aldersgate for your support and service to our young people of the church and community. Dude, It's all about Jesus! Rhonda and Colleen

Rally Day

Sunday, September 11 brings the start of the 2011-2012 Christian Education Calendar. We will mark this day with several festivities: third graders will receive their Bibles, backpacks will be blessed, prayer journals will be made, and we will be decorating cookies between the services. There are classes for all ages at both services. A Christian Education newsletter will be sent home to families soon about our upcoming fall curriculum, schedule, and upcoming events.



Heifer International READ to FEED: Our children changing the world! A special reminder to parents and students... Please turn in your "Read to Feed" form(s) and money to your child's Sunday school teacher or Rhonda/Colleen by the end of this month. We are so excited to see kids reading and helping Heifer International provide livestock for struggling families. Our total amount of money raised will be listed in the bulletin and next month's Hinge.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS:

Bring your backpacks to church on September 11, 2011 to receive a blessing during the Children's Moment at each service. We mark the milestone of a new school year by sending our children off with a blessing on their studies, growth and maturing in age and grace, from the worshipping community of which they are a part. We are looking forward to such an exciting new year!



Puppet Ministry/Worship Dancing:

Our friends from Emmanuel United Methodist Church have invited us to share in their bilingual puppet ministry and worship dancing. The instructor is Maria Rivera, a Rochester city school teacher. All interested students ages 10 and up are welcome to come and experience this creative and cultural ministry. A sign-up sheet is posted on the main bulletin board. Stay tuned in for more information and dates to follow.

If you are interested please contact Rhonda or Colleen for more information or come join us on Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM in Fellowship Hall.

Aldersgate Youth Fellowship News

[NOT] Aldersgate

not about us.

“NOT Aldersgate” started as a joke within our group at Kingdom Bound this summer. While our collective behavior at Darien Lake left much to be desired, we observed other youth groups with t-shirts and banners proudly identifying themselves. We agreed that if we wore t-shirts they should say “We’re NOT Aldersgate UMC”. Admittedly, that would only draw *more* attention to us; but now that little joke reminds us that our youth ministry is about so much more than us and even our church.

One of the things that can happen in a church is that the youth ministry becomes separated from what’s going on in the “real” congregation - the adults. The adults do ministry and the youth prepare to do ministry. The actual congregation meets in the sanctuary and the youth meet in the basement. The congregation goes by the name of the church, but the youth get a catchy name like “Faith Factor”. In effect, the youth are minor league disciples preparing for the Big League.

But as baptized members of the community of faith, our youth – like us – are called by God to participate in the full life of the church. And just as God calls this congregation outside of itself and into our community and world, so God calls our young people. It’s not about us or the youth group or the church; it’s about becoming the kind of disciples God wants us to be.

It’s still important for our youth to fellowship with one another, but let’s not forget to involve them in all aspects of our ministry here at Aldersgate. We’ll still meet in the basement, but we’re losing the Faith Factor name in favor of no name (we’ll use Aldersgate Youth Fellowship when we have to).

As the theme for this year’s youth ministry kick-off, “NOT Aldersgate” reminds us that our people – young and old – are more than the name of a church or a youth group; we are who God says we are: beloved children of God and disciples of Jesus Christ.

As a church family, let us commit ourselves to a ministry that empowers our young people to do ministry with, for and maybe even *to* us.

In Christ,
Derek Hansen
Youth Director

What’s going on in September?

11 – Middle School Youth Fellowship, 5-7pm (YR); High School Youth Fellowship, 6-8pm (YR)

16 – AYF Live!, 7-9pm (Ide)

18 – Middle School Youth Fellowship, 5-7pm (YR); High School Youth Fellowship, 6-8pm (YR)

23 – AYF Live!, 7-9pm (Ide)

25 – Middle School Youth Fellowship, 5-7pm (YR); High School Youth Fellowship, 6-8pm (YR)

30 – Dinner @ Derek and Becky’s, sardines & campfire, 6-10pm



Needed: prayers and volunteers

In order to take our youth ministry to the next level here at Aldersgate we need two kinds of people: prayers and volunteers.

Do you have the gift of intercession? Then commit to praying regularly for the youth of our church, the young people in our community and our ministry with them. Let Derek know if you’re willing to participate in this important ministry.

Do you have a heart for working with teenagers? Is God calling you to minister to youth? We need small group leaders, mentors, drivers, chaperones...Let Derek know if you’re willing to volunteer your time and gifts in our youth ministry.



Birthdays and Anniversaries in September

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

John Grizzanti	September 1	Shirley Geier	September 11	Benjamin Norris	September 24
Melissa Eckles	September 3	Michael Streb	September 11	Ellie Cook	September 25
Paul Wagner	September 3	Jim Carpenter	September 12	Brianna Ruggles	September 26
Vincent Acciaio	September 5	Wendy Dunn	September 14	Becky Hess	September 27
Rich Mohrmann	September 7	Pauline Ashley	September 18	Chris Louden	September 27
David Roza	September 8	Carey Hughes	September 18	Kevin Brown	September 28
Bob Wiederhold	September 8	Glenn VanPutte	September 19	Renee Jerva	September 28
Lorraine Christie	September 9	Nan Keller	September 20	Jenna VanKouwenburg	September 29
Al Holmes	September 11	Debbie Williams	September 21		
		Louretta Teasdale	September 22		

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Tom and Anne O'Connor	September 3
Daniel & Kathy Savage	September 6
Jim & Diane Haschmann	September 10
John & Candy Metzger	September 14
Mike & Wendy Dunn	September 15
Kwame Edusel & Millicent Essilfie-Edusel	September 25
Dale & Carol DeCann	September 26
Gordon & Sue Spicer	September 30



Aldersgate United Methodist Women

ASSEMBLY OF UMCOR KITS OPEN TO ALL

Come one; come all! Help put together all the School, Health, and Layette Kits on **Thursday, September 22**, at our UMW General Meeting. Our goal is to complete at least 150 each of the School and Health Kits and 40-50 Layettes. We have tasks for those who need to sit as well as those who prefer to actively work the assembly line. Men, youth, and children are as welcome as the women who usually attend. Children as young as six have helped in the past.

Greg Forrester, the conference coordinator for **Volunteers in Mission**, will be with us that evening as a special guest. He will talk briefly about the VIM program and about the destinations and uses of these kits. He will be taking the kits with him back to the Cortland, NY Hub of Mission Central.

Supplies for these kits for the United Methodist Committee on Relief are coming in nicely. Lists are on the Mission Counter in the Gathering Space. Check the bulletin each week to see what supplies are still needed. Additional supplies may still be brought that evening. Any "leftovers" will be sent along to fill kits assembled at Mission Central.

The evening will begin with a light soup, salad, and dessert supper at **6:15 PM**, although work will start as soon as people arrive. Before the close of the evening, there will be a brief business meeting primarily to approve our Pledge to Mission for 2012.

The **cost of the supper** continues to be just **\$3.00 per person** payable at the door. Please do **sign up** on the bulletin board in advance, however, so that we know how many places to set at the table.

READING CIRCLE MEETS SEPTEMBER 1

The Hiding Place will be the first book of the 2011-2012 program year. This true story of Corrie ten Boom and her Dutch family who were jailed in Nazi concentration camps for trying to hide Jewish families is a Christian classic. Francis Crabtree will be leading the discussion. Copies of the book are available in the Church Library.

The Reading Circle meets in the church library the first Thursday of each month throughout the year, starting at 1:00 PM. A hostess each month prepares light refreshments. Visitors and new members are always welcome. See or call Frances Crabtree (392-0772) or Helen Wolter (621-1904) for more information.

CRAFTS & COLLECTIBLES SHOW SET FOR OCTOBER 14 & 15

Looking for an outlet for your handcrafts? Do you sell a line of fine quality gift items? Do you perhaps sell antiques or collectibles? Don't overlook the chance to be part of our Crafts & Collectibles Show & Sale set for Friday & Saturday, October 14 & 15, in the Ide Family Life Center. The area will be open for vendors to set up on Thursday evening from 6-9 PM, and the sale will be open to the public from 9 AM-4 PM each day. If you are interested, pick up a flyer from the Missions Counter in the Gathering Space or talk to Joyce Farrokh (865-5135) or Candy Metzger (227-3138).

You can help make this event successful in a number of ways. You may donate handmade crafts for the church craft booth, bring baked goods for that booth, or help staff the sale and lunch counter. Sign-up sheets will be on the Opportunities Board later this month. And, of course, we also need customers. This is a great opportunity to pick up unique early Christmas gifts and to support local vendors at the same time.



The money raised by this event helps the Missions Committee to fund our commitments to Ganta Hospital in Liberia and to Mission Share. The UMW uses their portion to fund White Gifts and to make contributions to church and area ministries.

RUMMAGE SALE PROCEEDS UPDATE

Half the proceeds from the Rummage Sale in June were used by the United Methodist Women for their **Pledge to Mission** and for **other mission projects** such as the recent Red Bird Craft Show, but the other half is used to meet needs here at Aldersgate. **Six new tables** were ordered that will be used to replace more of the old tables that we have brought out only on occasions when we needed every table in the church—such as for the Rummage Sale itself, large dinners, and the craft shows. The remainder of the \$2550 allocated to the church—a little over \$1500--was put in the **Building Fund**.

Aldersgate United Methodist Women

SEW 'N SEW'S

Would you like to use your skills to start or support a ministry? Sew 'n Sew's is the place for you. This group meets on the second Monday of each month at 1:00 PM in Room 1 (lower level). We have sewing machines available for those who want to work on school bags or baby quilts. Other members knit, crochet, or work on crossed stitch projects. We have patterns for prayer shawls, "Warm Up America" afghan patches, preemie caps and many others. Feel free to join the group at any time. If you have any questions, call Betty Hild at 663-5032.

RED BIRD MISSION CRAFT SALE

A great big thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's Appalachian Craft Sale such an outstanding success. **Terri Moyer** and **Linda Yetter**, who brought the crafts to us, send their greetings and want everyone to know that the **sales total was \$3857.80**, one of the best they've had in the last couple of years. To help cover the **cost of their transportation** (and repair of the van) we were able to send them **\$1171.70**. That figure includes \$500.00 from the UMW budget to support this event, \$288.70 from the sale of lunches and baked goods, and \$383.00 from an outstanding love offering from the congregation on Sunday.

Keep on saving those **Campbell's Soup Labels for Education** for Red Bird Mission. We were told that they hoped to have enough labels soon to purchase a **replacement van** for the one that broke down on the way here. (Labels go in the Red Bird box on the Mission Counter.)

In other news, we learned that **Craig Dial**, who brought the crafts to us the last time, is undergoing chemotherapy to battle cancer. Please keep him in your daily prayers. He has been very important to the craft ministry at Red Bird.

MORNING CIRCLE BEGINS PROGRAM YEAR WITH A LUNCHEON

The first meeting of Morning Circle after the summer will be a luncheon on **Tuesday, September 20**, in the Ide Family Life Center. We will gather at our usual time—11:00 AM--and eat shortly thereafter. Watch the bulletin and the Opportunities Board for more details.

Morning Circle meets the third Tuesday of each month from September through May at 11:00 AM. Members bring a light lunch, and volunteer hostesses prepare beverages and dessert. The programs generally include speakers on topics such as health and wellness, local missions and ministries, and social issues. Most meetings are held in the Church Parlor.

Newcomers and visitors are always welcome. For more information, talk to Gege Dunn (663-9235) or Bobbie Eckert (225-9582).

DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING AT RUSH

The Genesee Valley District United Methodist Women will hold their Annual Meeting this year at **Rush United Methodist Church, 6200 Rush-Lima Rd., Rush, NY 14543**, on **Saturday, September 24**, from **9:00 AM to 2:30 PM**.

"**Human Trafficking**" will be the topic presented by **Carmen Vianese**, who is a Women's Division Director. The \$7.50 cost for the day includes lunch. Reservations are transferable but not refundable. Please sign up on the Opportunities Board by September 11, and give your money to our **Treasurer, Betty Hild**. Please indicate, also, whether or not you want to carpool.

UPCOMING DATES

Saturday, October 22 - Conference Annual Meeting at Clifton Springs UMC at 9:30 AM

Saturday, November 19 - General Meeting with Robin Blair of Common Good Radio

Mission News

STICKY LIPS BBQ IS BACK

The Sticky Lips Barbecue fundraiser held in May was so successful (raised over \$1500) that the **Greece Habitat** for Humanity Team decided to do it again on **Thursday, September 22**. The drive thru pick-up will be from 3:30 – 7:00 PM, again at Hope Church, 1301 Vintage Lane. The dinner will include a quarter charcoal cooked, basted chicken; smoked St. Louis cut rib (2-3 bones); fresh cornbread; and two home-made sides for just \$12.00.

Tickets will be available in the Gathering Space after services starting on September 4. The goal is to build a new house in 2012.



MISSION SHARE UPDATE

Requests for food and clothing have been especially heavy since June. In July, for instance, there were 153 visits from families representing 464 individuals served. At the Friday, August 19, Advisory Team meeting, team members saw **nearly empty food and personal hygiene shelves**. Foodlink will meet the food needs—although additional peanut butter and jelly from churches would be helpful. Personal supplies like **soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet tissue and feminine hygiene products** are all collected in the partner churches and are always in short supply. Your travel-size soaps, shampoos, etc. are always welcome. Put your donations for Mission Share in the blue box behind the Welcome Table.



For the **school backpacks** we were able to provide 19 single subject spiral-bound notebooks, 99 two-pocket folders, 49 bottles of school glue, 65 glue sticks, and 386 pencil-cap style erasers. Volunteers from Aldersgate participated in the nights for filling backpacks and for distributing them.

The **Literacy Light Project** has already begun intake interviews for potential learners. The program will help adults reach about a sixth grade reading and writing level, enough for basic literacy tasks. Those who wish to go further will be referred to Literacy Volunteers of Rochester or Mercy Bridges. Volunteers are needed to serve as tutors. A series of training classes will be held in the fall at Mission Share, starting with a introductory class on Saturday, Sep-

tember 17. Potential tutors may attend that class without committing to take a learner. Volunteer forms with more information are available in the church office.

Remodeling of the space to be used by **Crossroads Pregnancy Center** is well underway thanks to the auction in June that raised over \$7000. The opening is planned for October 17. Training for volunteer counselors will be provided over two nights and a Saturday on October 4-8. If you are interested, those application forms are also available in the church office.

Aldersgate is committed to at least \$100 per month of support for the work of Mission Share. If you would like to help us meet the need for this increasingly important community outreach, you may do so by putting your check payable to *Aldersgate UMC* and marked "**Mission Share Support**" in the Sunday offering.

CHANGES COMING TO ANGEL FOOD

You will continue to be able to order and pick up your Angel Food boxes here at Aldersgate as you have in the past. However, our Angel Food Ministry Team learned recently that Hope Church, with whom they have partnered since they started will be closing out its Angel Food Ministry sometime this fall. After checking around with other churches in the area, they have made arrangements to partner with the Spencerport Assembly of God

Your September order may be placed on Saturday, September 10, from 12:00-2:00 PM, or on Sunday, September 11, between services. Pick up will be on Saturday, September 24, in the Ide Center. Payment must be by cash or money order at the time you place the order.

You may also order on line. Directions and the menu for the month are available on the flyers in the envelope on the Opportunities Board. In addition to the standard box, there are specialty boxes, including prepared dinners you only need to reheat that are especially designed for seniors.

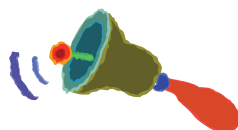
Spread the word to neighbors and friends. If you need more information or are interested in helping with this ministry, see or call Mary Sims (865-7668).

Church Events and Opportunities

BELL CHOIR

will start practicing on Saturday, September 17th at 11:00 AM.

If you are interested in the Bell Choir come and join us on Saturday the 17th.



**DINE WITH US AT
APPLEBEE'S**

**Yes, we'll be there even on
Labor Day!
Come to Aldersgate Night
at
APPLEBEE'S
Monday, September 5
4:00-9:00 PM**

SAINTS ALIVE! LIVING GENEROUSLY

The theme of our Fall Finance Campaign this year is based on I Corinthians 16:1-4. Watch for a special announcement on September 18.

GAME NIGHT

Will be starting up again on Saturday, September 17th at 6:00 PM.

Come join us in the Ide Family Life Center for Euchre, board games or other card games. Table Tennis is also available.



Save the Date

to

Renew Your Christmas Spirit

December 2 and 3

for Aldersgate Actors

Christmas Theater!

THANK YOU

To Our Church Family

Thank you all so much for being there for us during a very difficult time. Your special prayers, inspiring cards, delicious food, and much needed love and support truly comforted us.

May the Lord bless all of you for your compassion.

Gege, Walt, Laurie and family

Dear Church Family

Thanks to all of you for the prayers, visits, and cards during my recent illness. It means so much to me that I have such a loving church family.

I want to especially thank Pastors Anne and Jerry.

God bless you all.

Ruth

Kingdom Bound 2011

Our trip to Kingdom Bound was a success, thanks to:

- **Gordon and Sue Spicer and Ann and Ed Withey who let us borrow tons of awesome camping gear, helped us set up and take down camp and prepared two meals for us. We couldn't have done it without you!**
- **Annette Thompson who prepared and brought dinner for us on Monday evening**
- **Debbi Hill who brought us dinner on Tuesday evening**
- **And all of the other families who donated food, tents, and other supplies! Thank you!**

Until next year...



Fall Youth Gathering

Mark your calendars now: The Fall Youth Gathering is back in Rochester, November 18-19. 7-12 graders only. More information to come.



Aldersgate Youth Fellowship activities and events are open to all youth, grades 6-12, in the church and community. Please contact Derek Hansen if you know of any students who would benefit from a ride to and from

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

“Being an Asian-American in this culture, a lot of times I’ve questioned who I was and where I belonged,” said Paul Nielsen, an active United Methodist and World Communion Sunday Ethnic Minority Scholarship recipient. Paul attends Spring Arbor University in Michigan.

Born in South Korea but adopted and raised in the United States, Paul recalls times that he felt that he did not belong in either the majority or the minority culture. “But knowing I can always find my identity in Christ. . . that’s given me comfort every single time,” he added.

Relating to others in his church, on mission trips and in college has helped Paul mature in his faith and his commitment to help others. Paul works as a peer advisor to new students at Spring Arbor. “It’s not so much a job to me as it is a privilege. I get to serve students and work with people because that’s my overall passion,” said Paul. He is working on his Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology with a minor in business administration. Concerned about the decline in healthy marriages, he wants to become a marriage and family therapist.

Your gifts to the World Communion Sunday offering provide scholarships for racial ethnic students in the United States and for International students to transform the church and their communities.

--from umcgiving.org

Church Council News

Worship Committee

I am Chairman of the Worship Committee. We meet quarterly in January, April, July and October. At each meeting we discuss all issues, good or bad, in regards to our Sunday morning experiences in the following areas: Acolytes; Actor's Guild; Altar; Bell Choir; Coffee Hour; Communion; Contemporary Worship Team; Greeters; Memorials; Music (Second Service); Scripture Readers; Special Music; Sound System and Ushers. We welcome input from the entire congregation. Please feel free to let me know at anytime if you have a concern about something or if we are doing something that you really like. I am available by phone or email and I will make sure your issue is discussed.

David Roza

621-8162

droza@rochester.rr.com

(Continued from page 1)

vided for it in a way that was not planned. God's plan is always greater than our plans!

We have many plans this fall. We trust that God will bless those plans and do more that we can imagine. I pray you'll be a part of it all.

In September, we will be doing a church-wide 360 as part of our work toward becoming a "missional church." The term "missional church" means a church that is out in their neighborhood, looking for places where God is at work and joining God in it. It's about becoming more of a force for good and for God in our community. The 360 involves a survey that each of you will be asked to complete. It is designed to show us where our strengths lie and where we may need to improve so that we can become more "missional." You'll hear more about this in coming weeks.

Also this fall, we are excited to begin a bilingual ministry with our Hispanic/Latino neighbors. Hector and Maria Rivera will be coming to us from the Emmanuel UMC to lead this ministry. They will begin on September 23 with a weekly Bible study on Fridays at 7 PM. A concert is being planned for October 29 to help expand

the ministry. On December 10, we'll have a special children's program. We trust that God is leading us step by step in this new initiative.

Additionally, Derek Hansen, our youth pastor, will be doing his supervised ministry here this year. That means he'll be around more and doing more things. The Bishop will be appointing him part time to Aldersgate as of October 1, so he will be able to provide the sacraments, do weddings, and memorial services at Aldersgate.

Please join me in keeping our church and these plans in your prayers. In fact, some of us plan to gather each Sunday at 8 AM in the parlor for a time of prayer. We'd love for you to join us as we unite in prayer. May God use us all in new and exciting ways as we minister together.

In Christ's love,



Pastor Anne

Mission News (Cont.)

DR. CHRIS HENA TO BE REASSIGNED

Dr. Hena, whose ministry and adventures we have followed from Russia to Kazakhstan, is back in Atlanta, Georgia, awaiting a new assignment. Kazakhstan is now only giving visas for 120 days, after which mission workers have to leave the country and reapply. Because that practice severely disrupts ongoing projects, the General Board of Global Ministries plans to assign Dr. Hena somewhere in Africa soon. Although she is Liberian, she may not be assigned to that country. Please pray for discernment as GBGM makes the decision about Dr. Hena's next placement.

LETTER FROM MERI WHITAKER

The latest letter from our covenant missionary, Meri Whitaker was sent June 27, too late for our last issue of the [Hinge](#).

Dear Friends,

"For everything there is a season" and what a season of seasons we have had in 2011. We had record cold in the winter, record cold in spring combined with tornadoes and floods. My ranch was flooded and I lost several pieces of equipment and a bunch of barbed wire fence. It stayed cold all through May. Then it turned hot and dry, record heat. It is 102' today with an index of 110'. I love the heat but even I am saying, "This is hot!"

Things here in Cookson are moving along at a very steady pace. The new cottage industries that we have here are blooming. The jewelry group is doing outstanding work and they have formed a bond with each other that is great. I sit in my office and listen as they laugh and tease with each other. We were able to introduce our communion chalices at annual conference this year and we came home with forty orders! The embroidery department is requesting the addition of one new machine and one more worker because of the volume of work they are doing and the silk screeners have been busy for months.

Our children's program started on June 15 and we have had over forty children attend each day. It keeps the staff and volunteers very busy planning and implementing these activities. Our youth will be traveling to Clinton, OK to teach VBS later on this month at the Clinton Childcare's Mission. They are very excited.

I was able to travel to Austin, Texas, to speak to the District UMW and preach in the lake Travis UMC and then to Nebraska, where I also spoke at a District UMW meeting and preached in three churches. I continue to make my way around the state preaching and meeting people who are interested in the ministry here. This year I have added several revivals to my speaking engagements and it has been really good for me to go back to the grass roots and preach.

The church is doing well and continues to see changes in people's lives. Two weeks ago we held the first funeral of a church member in the church. It was very sad. She had worked hard to escape from alcohol but she was simply unable to turn it over and it took her life. It is a grim reminder of the seriousness of this disease. The church has responded beautifully to the family offering their support, providing meals, cards and phone calls.

We were also privileged to marry two people who have come to us straight out of prison. They have been in recovery for two years and had their lives restored. They had a beautiful wedding and we all wish them well.

It is rodeo season and I have gone to two already this year. I love the rodeo and it is such a blessing to sit outside at night under the stars and watch the events that take place.

The seasons change and they change quickly. It will be fall before we know it and we will be moving into all the programs and activities that are a part of fall. It seems that we just get into one season and we are moving into another. It is so anchoring to know that while our lives and our seasons change, God never does. He remains faithful to this ministry and its purpose and we can run back to Him for guidance and stability anytime we need to. God lifts us up on Eagle's wings and it is our hope and prayer that it is God who is pleased with our efforts each and every day.

I want to thank all of you who have sent in covenant dollars to the GBGM [General Board of Global Ministries]. It is wonderful to receive those reports and take a moment to pray for you and think about each one of you and to know that you were thinking about me when you sent in your support. Thank you!

Keep us in your thoughts and prayers.

*In Christ,
Meri*

Sally Stewardship

Dear Sally Stewardship,

I haven't heard anything recently about how our last capital campaign is doing. Are members paying their pledges? Are we able to meet our monthly mortgage payments? How about an update!

Interested & Concerned

Dear Interested & Concerned,

Oops! Sorry about that! We've given Church Council regular updates on our accounts and the amount received for the Building Fund is reported in the bulletin each week. But, unless you are tediously tracking those figures each week or month like the Financial Secretary, you have no context, no way of knowing if there is *enough*. It's good to know that you are not only curious, you also care enough to be concerned.

For starters, no news is really good news. If there were a drastic problem, you'd have heard about it. Of course, if we had received a major legacy that paid a lot off, we'd have announced that, too.

The last capital campaign produced \$588,331 in pledges. To date we have received \$262,314 in pledges and gifts—pretty much on track. One of the “gifts” would be the \$3110 received from Applebee's so far in this campaign period. In addition, about \$9000 in bonds has been surrendered to the fund. Every month that \$17,461 payment has been met.

Has it been tight? Yes. We were anticipating a shortfall one month recently. It was mentioned briefly in a couple of meetings and some who heard advanced their planned payments and the problem was resolved. There is a little over \$6000 in a Vanguard account in reserve that could be used if needed. It would be nice to have a full payment in reserve, but that's not the way the

Lord seems to be working. Like manna, He makes sure we have *enough*.

What does the future hold? We know that the pledge total was about \$40,000 short of what would be needed over three years. That's actually why it's a little tight every month. You may have noticed that we have been encouraging putting more fundraising money into the Building Fund. We've been able to do it without cutting off other needed church or mission projects.

It's never too late to begin making regular contributions to the Building Fund. You may not have felt able to make a pledge when we held the campaign and your circumstances have changed. You may be relatively new to the church and not have realized the need. Please don't just move your regular contribution from the “budget” line to the Building Fund. Our ongoing ministries need your support, too.

By the way, you may ask, “Who's “we?”” We are the Stewardship Development Team and the Finance Committee. Both report to Church Council. Almost all of us are in church every Sunday; so feel free to let us know what questions (or suggestions) you may have. If we don't have the current information, we can get it for you or refer you to the person who does have the answers.

This is a Good News report. Think about it. As a church, have more than doubled our giving over what it was at the turn of the century. (I love saying “turn of the century.”) That's really quite remarkable. So celebrate! God is good.

Praising God All the Time,
Sally Stewardship

Serving in Our Worship Services in September

SCRIPTURE READERS

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
9/4	Al Holmes	Nancy Young
9/11	Scott Wagner	Gege Dunn
9/18	Allison McHugh	Karen Sladden
9/25	Naomi Moss	Joyce Farrokh

USHER SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
9/4	Al & Myrt Holmes Dan & Jan Rothfuss	Tom & Zuni Simons Terry & Nancy Young
9/11	Al & Myrt Holmes Susan DeVincentis Evelyn Welker	John & Karen Best Walt Dunn Nancy Bader
9/18	Al & Myrt Holmes Hal & Scott Wagner	John Cochran Ray LaFlair Scott Wiley Vince Acciaio
9/25	Eric McHugh Naomi Moss	Dean & Jackie Hogestyn Gary & Denise Hogestyn

ACOLYTES

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
9/4	Usher	Usher
9/11	Usher	Usher
9/18	Briana Kephart	Emma Bock Elijah Tyler Max Tyler
9/25	Allison McHugh	Marie Sims Renee Tibbles

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
Derek Hansen, Youth Director	dhansen@aumcgreece.org 716-628-7319
Rhonda Simonelli, Christian Education Co-Director	663-6663 rsimonelli@aumcgreece.org
Colleen Tyler, Christian Education Co-Director	865-0094 ctyler@aumcgreece.org
Candy Metzger, Administrative Assistant	663-3665 cmetzger@aumcgreece.org
Tamara Ruiz, Organist	truiz@aumcgreece.org
David Rogenmoser, Choir Director	drogenmoser@aumcgreece.org
Vickie Souve, Contemporary Worship Leader	vsouve@msn.com
Lea McQuown, Custodian	
Evelyn Welker, Housekeeper	
Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant	

Aldersgate Web Site: www.aumcgreece.org
 Aldersgate General Email: info@aumcgreece.org
 Church Fax – 865-8442

Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
4115 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, NY 14616

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September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ALANON Monday 7:00 PM (8) GAM-ANON Friday 7:00 PM (2) GAMBLER'S ANONYMOUS Friday 7:00 PM (3/4)	AA MEETINGS (FH) Daily (except Sun.) 7:30 AM Sunday 7:00 AM. Sunday 7:30 PM (3/4) Monday 7:00 PM Wednesday 5:30 PM Thursday (Women) 7:30 PM			1 1:00 PM Reading Circle (L) 7:00 PM Trustees (4) 7:30 PM Stewardship (L)	2 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P)	3
4 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Workshop (4) 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal (Ide) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Workshop (4)	5 Labor Day 4:00 – 9:00 PM Applebee's 7:00 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	6 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzy's 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (P)	7 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Brown) (P) 7:00 PM Emmanuel Dance & Puppet Practice (FH)	8 7:30 AM Dewey Ave. Round Table (3/4) 7:30 PM Finance (4) 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)	9 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P)	10 9:30 AM Altar Committee (L) 9:30 AM UMW Executive Committee (O) 11:00 AM Grief Share (P) 12:00—2:00 PM Angel Food Ordering (G)
11 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Workshop (4) 10:30—11:00 AM Angel Food Ordering (G) 10:30 AM Choir Rehearsal (Ide) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Workshop (4)	12 1:00 PM Sew N Sew's (1) 7:00 PM ACWT (S)	13 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Sm. Group (Caupp) (P) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (P) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	14 9:30 AM Memorials Meeting (P) 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Brown) (P) 7:00 PM Emmanuel Dance & Puppet Practice (FH)	15 7:00 PM Church Council (3/4) 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)	16 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P) 7:00 PM AYF Live (Ide)	17 11:00 AM Bell Choir (S) 11:00 AM Grief Share (P) 6:00 PM Game Night (Ide)
18 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Workshop (4) 5:00–7:00 PM Middle School Youth Fellowship (MSYF) (Ide, YR) 6:00—8:00PM High School Youth Fellowship (HSYF) (Ide, YR)	19 7:00 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	20 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 11:00 AM Morning Circle Luncheon (Ide) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (P) 6:30 PM SPRC (8)	21 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzy's 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Brown) (P) 7:00 PM Emmanuel Dance & Puppet Practice (FH)	22 9:00 Hinge (Ide) 6:15 PM UMW General Meeting (Ide) 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)	23 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P) 7:00 PM AYF (Ide)	24 10:30 AM—12:00 PM Angel Food Pick Up (Ide) 11:00 AM Bell Choir (S) 11:00 AM Grief Share (P)
25 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Workshop (4) 5:00–7:00 PM Middle School Youth Fellowship (MSYF) (Ide, YR) 6:00—8:00PM High School Youth Fellowship (HSYF) (Ide, YR) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	26 7:00 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P) 7:00 PM Volleyball (Ide)	27 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Sm. Group (Caupp) (P) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (P) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P) 7:30 PM Investment Club (O)	28 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Brown) (P) 7:00 PM Emmanuel Dance & Puppet Practice (FH)	29 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)	30 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P) 7:00 PM AYF Live (Hansen's House)	