



Aldersgate United Methodist Church

4115 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, New York 14616-1216

(585) 663-3665

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

April 2012

From Your Pastor

It's March 19 and it seems like May. I'm enjoying the warm weather and all the signs of new life. I can't help but think that winter isn't really over, that one morning we'll wake up and there will be snow covering my daffodils. It's just too early for spring in Rochester. I'm sure we'll still need to go through some cold days before it's here for good.

It's also almost Easter, but there are some "cold" days we need to go through before we get there. There's a couple more weeks in Lent culminated by what we know as Holy Week. Holy Week begins on April 1st (no fooling) with Palm/Passion Sunday. That day we will celebrate with a palm-parade and then hear the story of Jesus' suffering and death read from the Gospel according to Mark. On Tuesday, the women are invited to participate in a Meal in the Upper Room at 6:30 PM. On Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday (April 5) at 7:00 PM, we will come together to remember our Lord's last supper. We will have the opportunity to have our feet washed (Those who choose to participate in this optional part of the service may want to not wear stockings that evening.) We will also share together the Lord's Supper. On Good Friday (April 6), there will be a prayer vigil in the Chapel from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. You can sign up ahead of time or you can just stop in. Joyce Farrokh has again prepared a guided meditation for those who chose to use them. At 7:00 PM, we will have a Good Friday worship service. The week culminates, of course, with the glorious celebration of Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday (April 8).

I encourage you to participate in all these opportunities to grow in faith through focusing on Jesus suffering, death, and resurrection. Going through the "dark, cold" days make us better able to appreciate the warmth and light of Easter. As we walk with Christ through his suffering and death, we come to know more fully the great depth of his love—love that can transform our lives and bring new life and joy as we proclaim, "Christ is risen!"

Blessings and prayers,

Anne

Inside this issue:

From Your Pastor	1
Our Ministry of Concern	2
From the Pastor of Visitation & Membership Care	3
Aldersgate Youth Fellowship News	4
Christian Education	5
Birthdays & Anniversaries	6
United Methodist Women	7
Mission News	8 & 11
Church Events & Opportunities	9 & 10
Sally Stewardship	12
Serving in Our Worship Services	13



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.

In rehab: Pauline Ashley—St Ann's

Recovering at home: Mavis Beers, Frances Crabtree, Valerie Eckels, Chitie Edgett, Shirley Grierson, Tom Marsh, Chanda Mulenga, Jan Rothfuss, Tom Simons, Nancy Young

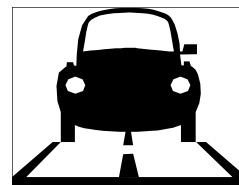
Those with ongoing health concerns: Vonnie Ackerman, Hayden Armendinger (father of Debbie Kennedy), Denise Bayer, Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis and Malcolm), Kathy Brandt (sister-in-law of Robin Fox), Ursalee

Crepinsek (cousin of Myrle/Beverly Johnson), Sarah Crough (niece of Doug & Nancy Jones), Logan Desmone (child of friend of Lisa Deutsch), Brenda Donovan, Carol Finch (friend of the DeVincentis Family), Stella Gagliano, Glowinski (friend of Denise Sayre), Greg Hezyk, Becky Hess, David Hogestyn (son of Dean & Jackie Hogestyn), Vi Hutchins (friend of Chris Palmer), Vince Jowett (friend of Hal Wagner family), Bonnie Kennedy (former member), Madeline Larabee (great granddaughter of Nancy Wayne), Lynn Linder (sister-in-law of Tammy Ruiz), Ruth Loomis, Steven Lynch (son of Sylvia Lynch), Natalie & Jamie Manfredi, Gary Martin (brother of Carole Jermyn), Tom Marsh, Charlotte & Patrick McCabe (daughter & son-in-law of Betty Baybutt), Lea McQuown, Bill Miller, Denise Montgomery, Charles Peyser (father of Bobbi Mohrmann), Kathy Peck, Kamran Pickering (grandson of Donna Colangelo), Barbara

Robinson, Bill Shirk (friend of Evelyn Welker), John Sobus, Jr., David Stanley, Bill Teasdale, Hal Wagner, Mark Williams (son-in-law of Bob Wiederhold), Allan Wiley, Debbie Wolfe

Our home-bound: John Sobus, Leonora Tyler

Nursing Homes/Living Centers: Al Antczak – Episcopal Church Home; Jeanne Barr – Hilton East; Mavis Beers, Ted Coburn – Villages; Malcolm Beers, Phoebe Brown - Edna Tina Wilson Living Center; Rosetta Knapp, Jean Smith, Marion Voglesong – Crimson Ridge Meadows; Maxine Pollock – Blossom View Nursing Home in Sodus, NY; John Hayashi, Len Mack, Martha Thomson – Woodlands; Evie Souve – LeRoy Village Green



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 May Hinge are due April 15

From the Pastor of Visitation and Membership Care

Dear Aldersgate Family and Friends,

As we have been moving through the weeks of Lent, I hope you have had many enriching experiences. To add a touch of humor to your life, I'd like to share an article (used by permission) from the *Joyful Noiseletter*, entitled:

Lenten Reflections for the Very Zealous

Question: What is a church history "low – carb: way of eating during Lent? Answer: the Diet of Worms

~Rev. Dr. F. Christopher Anderson, York, PA

You know it's time to diet for Lent when...

- * You go to the zoo and the elephants throw you peanuts.*
- * Your driver's license says, "Picture continued on other side."*
- * You run away and your picture takes up four sides of the milk carton.*

"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst, for they are sticking with their diet."

~Author unknown

A Lutheran pastor received a phone call from a member of a neighboring Episcopal church inquiring

about Ash Wednesday services and asking if his Lutheran church "has a deposition of ashes."

The Lutheran pastor was tempted to respond, "Yes, we put you in a little room with a lawyer and you'd better tell your story straight, because both the lawyer and God are listening."

But he resisted the temptation, and replied, "Yes, our Ash Wednesday services is at 7:30 PM and includes the imposition of ashes."

*~Rev. Barbara Bartholomew
Dayton (OH) Presbyterian Church*

In a Catholic News Service column, Father Peter Daly announced that he's on what he called a "news fast" for lent, fasting from newspapers, television and radio news programs.

Describing himself as "a former news junkie," Rev. Daly said, "The world is a lot better place than you see on TV."

During this year of "politicking" — that last quote is well to remember and practice.

God bless you as we prepare for another GLORIOUS EASTER!

Jerry Wolter
Visitation Pastor

THANK YOU

The family of Larry Kilmer would like to thank Derek Hansen for a beautiful memorial service, Pastor Anne for her many visits to the I.C.U. and Pastor Jerry for his continuous encouragement from Florida. We would also like to thank David Rogenmoser and Tammy Ruiz for their beautiful gift of music during the service and Marilyn Sobus for preparing such a wonderful lunch for everyone. Most of all, thanks to all of our friends at Aldersgate for sending cards that have brought us so much comfort during this difficult time.

God bless you all,
Jane Kilmer
Tim Kilmer

What's going on in April?

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

9-13 – Flower City Work Camp

13 – AYF LIVE!, 7-9pm (Ide)

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

20-22 – Up!Word '12 (Syracuse)

27 – AYF LIVE!, 7-9pm (Ide)



Flower City Work Camp

Flower City Work Camp 2012 is April 9-13. Three students from Aldersgate will be participating – Amanda Farrell, Derek Smith, and Renee Tibbles.

We still need you to be in prayer for this ministry. Maybe offer a word of encouragement or support to one our students or send them a note before camp.

Our students are also still looking for financial sponsors. We've raised some of the cost but not all yet. If you would like to make a donation for FCWC you can make your check out to Aldersgate UMC Youth Account.

Thank you for your support!

Up!Word '12

We're going to Syracuse again for Up!Word – the Spring Youth Gathering of the Upper New York Conference. 7-12 graders may attend. Please talk to Derek by April 1 if you want to go.



Kingdom Bound 2012

Before long we'll be back at Darien Lake for Kingdom Bound 2012. A group of us are going from Aldersgate this August 5-8.

We will be looking for help with food donations, meal prep, camping gear and setup and takedown. See Derek if you want to help in any way.

Students in 8-12 grade should see Derek ASAP if they want to go and haven't signed up and made a deposit yet.



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 youth group or church.

THANK YOU

We flipped out with all the pancakes that were made and eaten on Shrove Tuesday! Thank you for coming out on Tuesday evening and showing your support for our Sunday school and the Flower City Work Programs. A special thank you to our crew of skilled pancake makers, prep workers, and servers: Ken & Nancy Rex, Mike Simonelli, Mike Smith, Derek Smith, Gordon Spicer, Nick Spicer, Chris Withey, Amanda Farrell, Nancy Bader, and Bobbi Mohrmann.

Sunday School News:

A BIG thank you to the all the people who donated little gifts and treats for the Easter baskets made for the visitation team. 32 baskets were made during Sunday school. The children enjoyed making cards and creating baskets full of Easter cheer and blessings.

“It’s going to be a cool, cool summer....learning about Jesus.”

Our **CAMPING catalogs** have arrived for spring and summer! A poster is hanging up on the main bulletin board. Scholarships are available for any child wanting to attend one of the many summer Christian camps. There are also many retreats and family weekends listed in these catalogs as well. Check it out! See Rhonda or Colleen for more information on this exciting opportunity for children!



Point your kids to Jesus this summer! My God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.— Philippians 4:19, NIV

2012 SON RISE National Park VBS here at Aldersgate UMC from August 6-10 from 9am-12pm Pre-k-6th grade.

Get ready for exciting wilderness thrills as you head out to beautiful Son Rise National Park! Kids will be awestruck by snow-capped mountains, thundering waterfalls, wildflower meadows bursting with color and amazing animals like soaring eagles, friendly huskies and herds of caribou. As kids explore Son Rise National Park, they’ll learn the most important survival skill of all: they can always depend on Jesus and His promises of true peace, true riches, true power, true love and true hope! More information coming your way soon! Let us know if you would like to help out on this wonderful spiritual adventure for our children of our church and neighborhood!

Park Rangers Rhonda and Colleen



On Easter Sunday, the children will be making and eating “Resurrection Rolls” and watching the Veggie Tales movie, “Twas the Night before Easter” during both Worship services. In late April through May we will be learning (or reviewing for some of the children) about the “Fruit of the Spirit” (Galatians 5:22). While studying about these very important traits, we will be making a delicious healthy fruit snack to eat and share.

Birthdays and Anniversaries in April

Wendy Peeck	April 1	Hal Wagner, Jr.	April 19
Nancy Rex	April 3	Aaron Rothfuss	April 20
Emma West	April 3	Charlotte Ridley	April 21
Natasha Burdick-Carsten	April 4	Kevin Roza	April 23
Judy Hare	April 6	Helen Wolter	April 24
Karin VanPutte	April 6	Kathy Peck	April 24
Doug Unell	April 7	Julia Kennedy	April 25
Jimmie Condon	April 8	Dennis Simm	April 28
James Christie	April 11	Rachelle Vitullo	April 30
Martha Thomson	April 14	Bobbi Mohrmann	April 30
Sue Burdick	April 18		



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Malcolm & Mavis Beers
April 14
Paul & Phoebe Brown
April 15
George & Jane Shukitis
April 21

CHURCH OFFICERS & LEADERS BEGIN SERVING ON APRIL 1

April 1 is the day new church officers and leaders officially begin serving. We want to thank all those who have faithfully served in various leadership rolls and are now moving into other areas of service. We also want to thank those who continue to serve at Aldersgate on our various committees, teams, and ministries and welcome those who will be starting in new roles.

God bless you all for the work you do. (If you want to know who is leading and serving in the various ministries see the posting on the bulletin board. If you would like a copy of the officers and leaders list, please contact Candy Metzger.) If you have an interest in serving in any area, be sure to let Pastor Anne know.

THANK YOU

Thank you for all the prayers, cards,
and visits.

Tom & Zuni Simons

“MEAL IN THE UPPER ROOM” SET FOR APRIL 3

All women of the church are invited to participate again this year in an especially meaningful **Lenten service** known as “The Meal in the Upper Room.” Those attending will gather at **6:30 PM** in the sanctuary for the Preparation Service then move silently into the Ide Family Life Center for the meal of foods chosen for their significance to the occasion.

Children are welcome, but they must be old enough to sit without talking or getting up for at least an hour. Please feel free to invite friends who may be interested as well. We do need to know the exact number attending; so please sign up no later than Sunday, April 1. (If you find at the last minute that you can’t attend, please call Gege Dunn at 663-9235.

DR. HESSNEY RETURNS TO MORNING CIRCLE

Dr. Joanne Hessney, cardiologist at Unity Hospital, will speak on women’s health issues at Morning Circle on **Tuesday, April 17**. She will bring up-to-date information and answers questions about maintaining good health. Join us at 11:00 AM in the parlor and bring a light lunch. Our hostesses will provide beverages and dessert. Call Gege Dunn (663-9235) or Bobbie Eckert (225-9582) if you have any questions.

ANNUAL BOOK REVIEW LUNCHEON

Everyone interested is welcome to join the members of the Reading Circle at their annual luncheon on **Thursday, May 3, at noon** in the Ide Family Life Center. We encourage you to invite friends and neighbors to come with you. Charlotte Ridley will again present one of her delightful reviews of a book you will no doubt enjoy. Watch the bulletins for more information. The sign-up sheet will be posted on the Opportunities Board.

The luncheon costs \$8.00 per adult payable at the door. Proceeds beyond the cost of the lunch will be used for our Church Library.

READING CIRCLE

Want to put your problems in perspective? Read the book chosen by the Reading Circle for the next meeting. The research of New York Times reporter **Nichoas Kristof** and his wife **Sheryl WuDunn** led to the best-selling *Half the Sky*, a compelling book about oppression faced by women around the world. In spite of the nature of the topic, the book is a page-turner because, with each issue addressed, they focused on the story of one of the women they met in their travels. The book concludes with suggestions of what the reader can do to help. This book is also on the UMW Reading List for 2011.

Pick up a copy of the book in advance from the Church Library. The group will meet there on **Thursday, April 5, at 1:00 PM**. New members and visitors are always welcome at Reading Circle. For more information, contact Helen Wolter (621-1904) or Frances Crabtree (392-0772).

Since the Book Review Luncheon replaces the May meeting, the next meeting of Reading Circle will be on June 2. The June book selection is *Unlocked* by Karen Kingsbury.

START PLANNING NOW FOR OUR ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Drop-off for the annual Rummage Sale will begin on **Memorial Day, May 28**, for the sale which will be held on **Thursday – Saturday, June 7-9**. Clear out those “too good to throw away” items that you no longer use and make them available for others to purchase. Pack up clothes that don’t fit or that you’ve grown tired of and let others get some benefit from them. You can “declutter” and “recycle” and help to fund our missions projects at the same time.

OTHER UPCOMING DATES:

April 9 – Sew ‘n Sew’s at 1:00 PM in Room 1.

May 5 – **District Spring Event** at North Chili with hands-on projects for mission

May 12 – Mothers, Daughters, & Friends Banquet, gathering at 5:30 PM in the Ide Center, dinner at 6:00 PM.

July 26-28 – **School of Christian Mission** at Camp Asbury

NEWS FROM MERI WHITAKER

What is happening at Cookson Hills Center? Here are some excerpts from a recent letter from our covenant missionary in Oklahoma.

“Life here at Cookson continues to roll and we hope we are rolling in directions that God chooses for us. Many of you know Colleen. On New Year’s Eve, she was riding her motorcycle on Hwy. 82, when she swerved and left the road. She was in a drug-induced coma for six days while her head injuries healed and she shattered the upper part of her femur. She is still recovering and will be for a very long time. Because of the importance of her position, we called a couple of our favorite volunteers, Jim and Jenny Gast, and they are planning on arriving sometime in March to assume her job as coordinator of volunteers and VIM’s [Volunteers in Mission]. They will stay until Colleen is back full force. . . .

“The Cookson Hills Center has partnered with Canterbury Chapel to open a sober living house for women who are coming out of treatment or prison and need a place to be until they can get their lives back on track. It is open and we are receiving women.

“As you know, we were given 6 kilns from 5 locations some 18 months ago. We wondered what God would have us to do with them and someone suggested that we make communion chalices with an Indian flair. We began making some of the most beautiful chalices that I have seen but we recently lost the woman who was making them. God always moves one step ahead of us. The very first woman to move into the sober living house had worked in a pottery and ceramics shop while she was in prison. God is good! She is now happily at work with the chalices.

“The day care is full and there is always activity and noise coming from behind those doors except from 11-30-2:00 while they are all taking a nap. The children are fun and they look at each new day with hope and trust and anticipation. The senior citizens continue to bring a smile to our faces and joy to our hearts. We have buried a few this year and some went on into assisted living or nursing homes. We sure do miss them.

“I have been working diligently trying to get some grass planted around my place. There are millions of rocks that must be moved. I put up a sign with my name on it that the staff gave me for Christmas. I was given a couple of really nice, new tools for Christmas and I am anxious to try them out and play with them but I must get the pastures ready for spring and get the garden fence back up from last years flood first. There is a never-ending list of things to be accomplished but every day brings a new challenge and new tasks. I love my life and I am so grateful that God saw fit to put me here some 25 years ago the first of March.

“We are still trying to raise money for a new ministry center and now the building committee is following a lead that may open some doors for us. More will be revealed very soon! No matter what, we need to replace this old post WWII building and that is going to take money. . .

“Take care and keep in touch.”

CROP WALK

Sunday, May 6th, starting at Messiah Lutheran Church at the corner of English Road and Mt. Read Blvd. with registration at 1:00, the walk is scheduled to start at 2:00 with a choice of a 10 K walk or the Golden Mile. 25% of the funds raised will benefit the Greece Food Shelf and is an important source of income. Aldersgate walkers have consistently raised close to \$1000 annually through the walk and will again serve as a rest stop on the route. Sponsor envelopes are available from Joyce Farrokh. A Sign Up Sheet has been posted on the main bulletin board to help us plan and you may sign up to walk or help at the refreshment stop. Funds raised for CROP WALK also count towards our calculation of the number of people fed in the Hands4NY program to feed a million people in one year. Using our totals for last year including our food drives, cash donations and amount spent for food through White Gifts, Aldersgate fed 2383.67 people in 2011. Thanks for all your help!



DINE WITH US AT APPLEBEE'S

Monday, **April 2**, from 4:00-9:00 PM

10% of Food Receipts Benefits our

BUILDING FUND

Make this your night out with your friends!

GAME NIGHT

Saturday, April 21,

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.



All Church Picnic

Mark your calendars for our church family picnic on **Sunday, June 10, 2012** (following the 11:00 a.m. worship service) at Braddock's Bay. Please see or e-mail Colleen or Rhonda if you would like to help out at this fun and relaxing day on the shores of our mighty Lake Ontario. There is a playground, trails to wonder and explore, games to play, and a lot to eat! There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board next month.

A NEW COURTYARD MEMORIAL ON THE HORIZON!

The Memorial Committee, with the approval of the Trustees, has moved forward with their plan to contract VanPutte Landscape to install a stone paver pathway in our courtyard. The pathway will be financed by Memorial Funds in memory of Milton Ashley, Carl Dunn, Muriel McKenna, and Betty Shoemaker, approved by their families.

The stone pathway will provide easier maintenance, as well as attractiveness to the courtyard for all to enjoy as it continues to be respected as a Memorial space.

Most sincerely,
The Memorials Committee

**Save the Date!
Volunteer!**

The Evangelism and Membership Care Team is again sponsoring a "Gathering of Friends" event. On May 5, 2012, all Aldersgate UMC folks who are unable to attend church regularly will be invited to join us for food, fun and fellowship.

The 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM event will include a program and time for worship along with a great lunch. We are looking for some volunteers to help us make it a special day. Can you provide some entertainment? Can you help with transportation? Can you help serve and/or cleanup?

To volunteer, please contact Jan Rothfuss (347-6020) or Candy in the office. Thank you in advance for your help in making this event a success.

“All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.” J.R.R. Tolkien

We would like to thank all the ladies for attending the Ladies’ Night “Make Each Day Count” event at the church. What a fun-filled, meaningful and relaxing night we had. We are looking forward to the next one! A special thank you to the Aldersgate Library Ladies, Kathy Peck, Tracy Hanko, Margaret Ruehle and the UMW for their support.

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 Pastor	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
Hector & Maria Rivera, Hispanic Ministries	hrivera@aumcgreece.org mrivera@aumcgreece.org
Lea McQuown, Custodian	
Evelyn Welker, Housekeeper	
Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant	

**Aldersgate General Email: info@aumcgreece.org
Church Fax – 865-8442**

SECRET SISTERS PRAYER BREAKFAST

It’s time to see who has been praying for you. Join us on Saturday, April 14, at 9:00 AM in Rooms 3 & 4 for our Tea and Prayer Partner Breakfast.

Bring a card. Don’t forget you can sign it. If you would like you may include something else to share with your sister.

Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board.

If you can’t attend, let Barb Draft know. Barb will be collecting your cards/ gifts for whoever cannot attend.

We will be taking some time off from Secret Sisters. Please give Barb some input on this.

THANKS

Many thanks to my Aldersgate friends for your prayers during my recovery from a spinal procedure. The cards with words of encouragement and the prayers were wonderful medicine.

Frances Crabtree

More Mission News

GREECE HABITAT REMINDER

Please remember to return your Greece Churches Habitat for Humanity coin boxes (preferably filled) to church on the **Sunday after Easter, April 15**. Individually the money in the coin boxes will not seem like much—and we're not likely to miss it—yet the total can make a significant dent in the coalition goal of raising \$65,000 for this new building project scheduled to start in August.

YOUR SPECIAL GIFT AT EASTER SUPPORTS MISSIONARY MERI WHITAKER

Meri Whitaker is Director of the Cookson Hills Center, a United Methodist ministry to the people in one of the poorest counties in the country. Most of the people living there are Cherokee Indians. She works to develop local businesses to help people to support themselves, and she pastors a Twelve-Step Church. You can learn much more about her work by reading *My Sister the Father*, her delightful collection of stories about her experiences, available in our church library.

The Easter Offering is one of the primary sources for meeting our annual commitment of \$2,500 to support our covenant relationship with her. Please be generous both with your prayers and with your money for this most important relationship. Put your special gift in the Easter Offering envelopes provided with your packet of church envelopes, or mark "**Easter Offering**" on your check or pew envelope.

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY IS APRIL 22

Did you know that your special gift for ministries among Native Americans supports work here in Western New York, as well as seminary scholarships for United Methodist Native Americans? About 119,000 members and 225 United Methodist churches in the U. S. identify themselves as Native American. Because Upper New York Annual Conference has substantial work among Native Americans, half our offering stays in our own annual conference. Your gift helps both those who are studying to become pastors as well as those they serve. Please put your generous contribution in the envelope provided in the bulletin that Sunday, or mark "**Native American Ministries**" on your check or pew envelope.

AFRICA UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Africa University opened in March 1992 with 40 students from six African countries with course offerings in two fields—agriculture/natural resources and theology. Twenty years later there are 1,634 students from 23 countries with course offerings in six fields. Over 4,000 students have graduated. Many regard this outreach of the United Methodist Church as the best thing Methodists have done for Africa.

In June 2011 Upper New York Annual Conference committed to raise one million dollars to endow scholarships for Africa University. This year for Lent Bishop Matthews challenged us to giving \$1 a day--\$40—toward that goal. On **Sunday, April 1**, there will be special offering envelopes in your bulletins for your gifts. Please write checks payable to *Al-dersgate UMC* and marked for "**Africa University**" or put cash offerings in the envelope provided. Your generosity will help individual students who help change the destiny of their continent.

Dear Sally Stewardship,

I've been feeling more and more strongly that I should be tithing. I know others have asked, but I need to know whether I should be tithing based on my gross income or my net income?

Bracing for a Challenge

Dear Bracing,

That's a good question. (Doesn't everyone start answers that way? It makes the questioner feel good and gives the responder a chance to think.) The usual, quick answer is, "Which amount do you want to be blessed on?" A better answer is the one given by Nelson Searcy in his little book *The Generosity Ladder*. He makes the point that tithing on your income after the government has taken its share is in effect putting the government ahead of God. We are told to put God first, giving of our first fruits. "Giving based on what the government leaves behind is not a tithe." (p. 59)

The first answer is not foolish, however. The verse that comes most quickly to mind is the comparison to farming in 2 Corinthians 9: 6: "Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop." In verse 8 we

are also told, "And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others." (NLT) We are sometimes reluctant to emphasize the blessings we receive from giving for fear of getting caught up in the "gospel of wealth." Yet nowhere does the Bible suggest that we will be poorer for giving. Malachi 3:10 even challenges us to put God to the test! It's clear that the blessings will be both spiritual and material.

As for "bracing" yourself, it is scary to start something new. That's why it's a challenge. Yet the testimony of those who tithe, giving ten percent of their income, is consistent: they would never go back. Putting God first in handling our finances brings blessings and peace.

This month is a good time to start. Filling out our tax returns gives us a much better idea of how much money really flows through our hands in the course of a year. You also have your church financial reports to show how much you have been giving. How much would an annual tithe be for you? How close is your current giving to a tithe?

Break both down into monthly or weekly amounts. Then you'll know just how big the challenge is. NOW is always the best time to start!

Ready to meet the challenge,
Sally Stewardship

Church Conference News from our March 15 meeting.

New Officers and Leaders for the 4/1/2012 – 3/31/2013 year are:

Staff-Parish Relations, Chair – Bobbi Mohrmann

Evangelism and Membership Care, Chair – Bob Jeffers

Stewardship – Co chairs: Susan Accapezzato and Gretchen Hughes

Board of Trustees/ Class of 2014 - John Best, Karen Best, Tim Kephart

The Nominations Committee is seeking to fulfill the Church Council, chair and Lay Leader positions.

Our 2012 Church Goals were adopted and they are:

Continued emphasis on getting out into the community. Initiate method to track and monitor.

Foster increased awareness, engagement and participation in all ministries of the church, evidenced by increased attendance in worship services, church sponsored programs, leadership roles, and special ministry events/programs.

Support and encourage ongoing spiritual growth of the congregation, evidenced by increased participation in Sunday school programs, small groups, and other faith-based educational programs.

Increase financial awareness and improve fiscal stability.

Also, it was mutually agreed to bring a small team together to brainstorm ideas/actions for increasing the worship attendance.

SCRIPTURE READERS

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/1	Debbie Simm	Nancy Young
4/8	Juli Payton	Sue Accapezzato
4/15	Ray Poling	Doug Unell
4/22	Rich Keller	Shirley Grierson
4/29	Gloria Montgomery	Melissa Powell

ACOLYTES

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/1	Briana Kephart	Emma Byrnes Zachary Farrell Chase Tyler
4/8	Allison McHugh	Michelle Maggio Ryan Lindeman
4/15	Briana Kephart	Emma Bock Elijah Tyler Max Tyler
4/11	Allison McHugh	Marie Sims Renee Tibbles
4/29	Usher	Caleb Thompson Matthew Thompson

USHER SCHEDULE

	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
4/1	Myrt & Al Holmes Hal & Scott Wagner	Nancy Bader Walt Dunn Nancy & Terry Young
4/5	Maunder Thursday—7:00 PM Al & Myrt Holmes	
4/6	Good Friday—7:00 PM Al & Myrt Holmes	
4/8	Al & Myrt Holmes Susan DeVincentis	John Cochran Ray LaFlair Scott Wiley
4/15	Myrt & Al Holmes Susan DeVincentis Evelyn Welker	Nancy Bader Candy Metzger Bill Teasdale Scott Wiley
4/22	Al & Myrt Holmes Hal & Scott Wagner	Dean & Jackie Hogestyn Gary & Denise Hogestyn
4/29	Al & Myrt Holmes Dan Rothfuss Evelyn Welker	Nancy Bader Candy Metzger John Cochran Bill Teasdale



E A S T E R

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday — April 1 at 9:30 & 11:00 AM

Maunder Thursday Service—April 5 at 7:00 PM

Good Friday Service—April 6 at 7:00 PM

Easter — April 8 at 9:30 & 11:00 AM

Aldersgate
United Methodist Church
4115 Dewey Avenue
Rochester, NY 14616

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Rochester, NY
Permit No. 1208

April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School (2, 3, 4) 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School (2, 3, 4, 7,8) 5:00-7:00 PM MSYF (Ide, YR) 6:00-8:00PM HSYF (Ide, YR) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p>5 4:00 - 9:00 PM Applebee's 7:00 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p>3 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzzy's 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (P) 6:30 PM Meal in the Upper Room Ladies Only (Ide, K)</p>	<p>4 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) 7:00 PM Basketball (Ide)</p>	<p>5 1:00 PM Reading Circle (L) 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service (S) 8:00 PM Trustees (4) 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM—6:00 PM Prayer Vigil (C) 1:00 PM Catch the Spirit (Ide) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P) 7:00 PM Good Friday Service (S)</p>	<p>7 9:00 AM Altar Committee (S) 11:00 AM Bell Choir (S) 11:00 AM Grief Share (P)</p>
<p>8 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School (2, 3, 4) 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School (2, 3, 4, 7,8) 5:00-7:00 PM MSYF (Ide, YR) 6:00-8:00PM HSYF (Ide, YR)</p>	<p>9 <i>Flower City—Youth</i> 1:00 PM Sew N Sew's (1) 6:30 PM Girl Scouts (3/4) 7:00 PM ACWT (S)</p>	<p>10 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Sm. Group (Caupp) (2) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (P) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p>11 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) 7:00 PM Dewey Corridor Neighbors (Ide) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (3/4)</p>	<p>12 7:30 PM Finance (4) 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)</p>	<p>13 1:00 PM Catch the Spirit (Ide) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P) 7:00 PM AYF Live (Ide) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)</p>	<p>14 11:00 AM Bell Choir (S)</p>
<p>15 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School (2, 3, 4) 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School (2, 3, 4, 7,8) 5:00-7:00 PM MSYF (Ide, YR) 6:00-8:00PM HSYF (Ide, YR) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p>16 7:00 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p>17 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 11:00 AM Morning Circle (P) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (P) 7:00 PM ALS Planning (8) 7:00 PM Worship (4)</p>	<p>18 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 4:15 PM Dewey Corridor Neighbors Bd. (4) 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) 7:00 PM Basketball (Ide) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (3/4)</p>	<p>19 7:00 PM Church Council (3/4) 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)</p>	<p>20 1:00 PM Catch the Spirit (Ide) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8) <i>Youth—UpWord (Syracuse)</i></p>	<p>21 11:00 AM Bell Choir (S) 6:00 PM Game Night (Ide) <i>Youth—UpWord (Syracuse)</i></p>
<p>22 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School (2, 3, 4) 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School (2, 3, 4, 7,8) 1:00-5:30 PM Simm (Ide, K) <i>Youth—UpWord (Syracuse)</i></p>	<p>23 6:30 PM Girl Scouts (3/4) 7:00 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM E&MC (4)</p>	<p>24 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Sm. Group (Caupp) (2) 12:00 PM Voting (G) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (P) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P) 7:30 PM Investment Club (O)</p>	<p>25 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) 7:00 PM Basketball (Ide) 7:00 PM Boy Scouts (FH)</p>	<p>26 9:00 AM Hinge (Ide, K) 7:30 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)</p>	<p>27 1:00 PM Catch the Spirit (Ide) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (Parents) (P) 7:00 PM AYF Live (Ide) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)</p>	<p>28 11:00 AM Bell Choir (S)</p>
<p>29 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Sunday School (2, 3, 4) 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School (2, 3, 4, 7,8) 5:00-7:00 PM MSYF (Ide, YR) 6:00-8:00PM HSYF (Ide, YR)</p>	<p>30 7:00 PM ACWT (S)</p>			<p>ALANON Monday 7:00 PM (8) GAM-ANON Friday 7:00 PM (2) GAMBLER'S ANONYMOUS Friday 7:00 PM (3/4)</p>	<p>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</p>	