



January 2024

The Methodist Messenger

Aldersgate United Methodist Church

*Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!
Energizing Alders gate to connect Christ and the Community
by engaging, educating, empowering, and encouraging.*

Sunday Services

Sunday School livestreamed on
Zoom— 9 a.m.

Worship service @ AUMC &
livestreamed on Zoom — 9:55 a.m.

Office Hours

Pastor Mindy Petrovcic
mpetrovcic@susumc.org
9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Tue-Thurs.

Secretary— Heidi Brubaker
aumcmiffintown@gmail.com
9 a.m.-4p.m., Tue., Wed.
9 a.m.-3 p.m., Thursday

Contact Us

Phone: 717-436-6750
Web: www.aumcmiffintown.org
Find us on Facebook!

AUMC Address:

109 N. Third Street
Miffintown, PA 17059

Pavilion Address:

1145 Cedar Springs Rd.
Miffintown, PA 17059



From My Heart To All Of Yours

As December and its celebrations and festivities wind down and quietly slip away let us not forget the awe, the expectant hope or the holiness we felt as we prepared for and remembered the birth of Emmanuel, God with us. For many of us what comes next is a time of reflection, debriefing and maybe even a bit of regret that takes place in our minds safely hidden from view because of all the things we could have or should have done differently. Maybe we got caught up in the busyness of the season or the world crept in and the focus of our Christmas wasn't on Emmanuel even though we meant well and tried to do better this year.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ take heart because January always offers us the chance to begin again. The ending of one year gives way to the beginning of a New one. A fresh start comes to each of us. A chance to reset comes the eve of December 31 as the clock counts down on New Year's Eve. This year may each of us resolve in our hearts to begin as Christ would have us to instead of beginning as the rest of the world does. Popular New Year's resolutions are commitments to quit smoking, to stop drinking, to manage money more wisely, or to spend more time with family. The most common New Year's resolution is to lose weight, exercise more and eat healthier. These are all good goals to set. And yet, 1 Timothy 4:8 instructs us to keep all these things in perspective, "For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come." Most New Year's resolutions, even among Christians, are related to physical things. However this should not be.

Here are some suggestions on beginning the New Year as Christ would have us to: pray to the Lord for wisdom in deciding what resolutions He would have us make; pray for the wisdom needed to learn how to fulfill the goals He gives us rely on His strength to help us; find an accountability partner who will help us and encourage us; don't become discouraged with occasional failures, instead, allow them to motivate us further; and don't become proud or vain in our victories, give God the glory instead.

"May our magnificent Lord bless you and keep you, shine His marvelous face upon you, and be gracious to you; may He turn His face toward you and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26)

Beginning again as Christ would have me to,
Pastor Mindy



- ◆ I would like to thank the church for the care package I received. Thank you for thinking of us while at college.

Caleb Dowling

- ◆ Thank you to the Nurturing Congregational Care Committee for the bountiful Thanksgiving basket. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and Christian love.

Milt & Sue Page

- ◆ I want to thank my church family for the lovely Thanksgiving basket & the children for the card. May God bless!

Annabelle Bender

- ◆ Thank you for the many cards, calls & baskets throughout the year, and to Pastor Mindy, Joe Arbogast, & Betty Stimely for the visits & delivery. I really appreciate staying in touch with everyone at Aldersgate via newsletters & Zoom. I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season & best wishes for a very happy & healthy new year. In Christian Love,

Shirley H. Schlegel

- ◆ Thank you for all the prayers & cards for us. We love all the people of this church! Merry Christmas & great New Year!

Jim & Kathy Hockenberry

- ◆ Thank you for all the cards, gifts, ect. for Christmas and for the love that I'm shown at Aldersgate all year round! God Bless You All!

Heidi Brubaker

- ◆ Thank you all for the Birthday wishes.

Pat Evans

- ◆ Butch McCahren says to be sure to thank everyone for the nice Thanksgiving basket. He truly was overwhelmed and couldn't believe someone put the basket together just for him. Also, we need to thank everyone who prays for us, offers help and sends all the thoughtful cards. We truly have a very supportive church family, and we feel your love. Thank you for thinking of us.

Sharon McCahren

- ◆ Thank you so much for the cookies & goodies! They were all wonderful!

Cade Brubaker

The deadline for the February Messenger is January 23rd.



May God bless you on your special day and in the years to come.

19– Angie Whistler
24– Sally Bomgardner
30– Jennifer Heikes



Congratulations and our very best wishes for many more happy and blessed years together.

23– John & Denise Abram



- ◆ Our family would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You to the Aldersgate family for all of the agape gifts of love that you showered upon us this Christmas Season. Words will never be able to fully express how blessed we are. May God bless and keep you all and heap blessings upon your heads for the Christian love you pour out so willingly,
Pastor Mindy, Brian and Ben

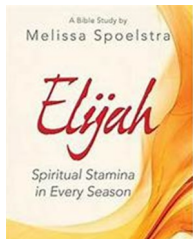


MEALS ON WHEELS

Working together to feed more

The list for supplying cakes once every two months for Meals On Wheels needs updated. We have lost several of those willing to bake cakes, and are asking for your help for this important mission. Cakes are due the first Friday of every other month to Cedar Grove Church and should be there by 8:00 a.m. or shortly after. Our new list of volunteers will start February, 2024. There is a sign-up sheet on the back table. Please mark if you are willing to make more than one cake per year or if you have a preferred month that you would like to bake a cake. Thank you.

Sharon McCahren



Evening Bible Study on Elijah: Spiritual Stamina in Every Season begins Thursday, Jan. 18, 2024 at the church (weather permitting) & on Zoom. Book sign-up is on the back table.

Bagged lunch Bible Study will continue on January 16, 2024 at noon at the church & on Zoom.



Aldersgate UMC follows Juniata County School District delays and closures. If you need to speak to Pastor Mindy, please call her cell phone during these times.



ZOOM INFORMATION-

To join Zoom Sunday worship, go to our website aumcmifflintown.org/zoom. You can also call toll free at 888-475-4499 Meeting ID 827 5363 0265

OR

Let us call you on the phone one Sunday or every week:

Call the church ahead of time at 717-436-6750 or email aumcmifflintown@gmail.com.



Pastor Mindy's Sabbath Day of rest is on **Mondays**. She will still be available if there's an emergency.



A church directory is placed on the back table to update any address or phone number. Also, if you are not added to our birthday or anniversary list and wish to be, please call or email the church office.




We are in need of Ushers & Greeters for Sunday Worship. Sign up sheets are located on the back table.



AUMC is partnering with Community Aid. If you have clothing to donate, just can drop them off at Community Aid and provide our partner #30108. AUMC will receive \$.06 per pound of clothing donated.



January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 Trustee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church	3	4	5	6
7 Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:55 a.m. Communion	8 Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	9	10	11	12	13 New Beginning's Gathering, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. at the church
14 Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:55 a.m.	15 Kitchen Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	16 Bagged lunch Bible study, noon at the church & on Zoom	17	18 Bible study, 6 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	19	20
21 Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:55 a.m.	22 Nurturing Congregational Care Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	23 Bagged lunch Bible study, noon at the church & on Zoom Last day for Newsletter submission	24	25 Bible study, 6 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	26	27
28 Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:55 a.m.	29	30 Bagged lunch Bible study, noon at the church & on Zoom	31		When Pastor Mindy is out of the office, please feel free to call the parsonage at 717-436-2237 or 717-513-7194 For Congregational Care needs, please call Pastor Mindy at 717-513-7194	