



December 2023

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

November's coming to a quiet end and as December begins I pray that the thanks and praise we've offered carries on and joins in with the expectant hope that the season of Advent and Christmas offers, leading us to our most merry Christmas ever. Proverbs 15:13 says, "A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken". Merry is defined as a cheerful disposition, laughing happily; and as Christ's followers, we are supposed to be merry and full of joy because of the King in the manger throne.

I've often wondered why God chose to send His Son in such a humble and meek way. The lyrics to my new favorite Christmas song say, "You could have stepped into creation with fire for all to see, brought every tribe and nation to their knees, arriving with the host of heaven in royal robe and crown, the rulers of the earth all bowing down. But You chose meekness over majesty, wrapped Your power in humanity"... only the Creator of everything could have worked out the Savior of the world's coming in such a marvelous way that opened the door for all to come and bow at the manger throne. God knew that we would need to meet the manger King so that we would be open to accept the King of the cross.

During this time of year when so many people are consumed and overwhelmed by the world's definition of Christmas or whose spirit's are broken by sorrow of the heart, may we take the time to introduce them to the King on the manger throne so that someday they will choose to accept the King of the cross. Brothers and Sisters, remember that Jesus is the only gift we truly need as we prepare our hearts and our homes this Advent season and that without Christ, there is no Christmas.

"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)

Preparing my heart to rejoice over the King in the manger throne,
Pastor Mindy



- ◆ We would like to thank everyone who supported the sauerkraut fundraiser, from helping to cut up the cabbage, bagging it up or buying it. We did over 239 lbs and when everything is collected we should make \$955.00. God is good!

Barb & Donnie Lyter

- ◆ Thank you to the Nurturing Care Committee for the Thanksgiving basket and to Karen Evans for delivering the basket and visiting with me. I loved the card & appreciate the kids making it for me.

Sonn Woodling

- ◆ Thank you very much for the beautiful flowers. I had a great birthday.

Floe Hackenberger

- ◆ Thank you so much for the birthday wishes & cards.

Greg Watkins

- ◆ Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Thank you all for your agape gifts of love that you showered upon me for Pastor Appreciation Day. I was blessed with a delicious fellowship meal, the most thoughtful cards and well wishes, beautiful flowers, and an abundance of funds that has blessed me beyond measure.

May God bless and keep you all this day and always,
Pastor Mindy

- ◆ Thank you so much for the cards, gifts and birthday wishes for my birthday! I love you all and know that I'm so blessed to be a part of this church family.

Heidi Brubaker



Aldersgate will be holding a Longest Night service on Dec. 21st at 7 p.m. at the church.

The deadline for the January Messenger is December 26th.



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

- 2– Kristina Dressler
- 7– Betty Stimely
- 8– Ken Saunders
- 10– Audi Whitsel
- 21– Pat Evans
- 24– Clara Whistler



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

- 30– Den & Darlene DeLancey

Bob Billy continues to G-R-O-W!!

If you would like to paint a rock to help Bob Billy grow, they are available on the back table.



Let's see how long Bob Billy can grow!



We purchased a chair lift!

The chair lift has been installed! The cost was \$13,977 so there's a fundraising campaign to pay for this. There are envelopes labeled Chair Lift Fund on the back table if you would like to donate or you can write chair lift in the memo line of your check. So far we have raised \$8,431.25.



UPCOMING Christmas events:

12/2- Aldersgate will be having a float in the Port Royal Parade. If you would like to participate or purchase candy or needed supplies contact Ashley Bennett.

12/3- Unwrapped Christmas Angel gifts are due to the church

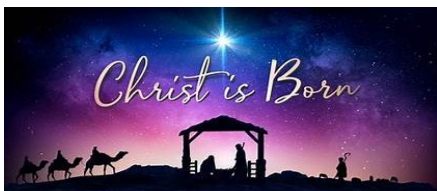
12/10- Wrapped Christmas Angel gifts are due to the church

12/17- Christmas Caroling around the block. Meet at the church at 5:45 p.m. If the weather is not suitable for strolling up & down the block, we'll carol in the church.

12/24- Christmas Eve cookie & hot chocolate/coffee social at 6 p.m. at the church followed by the Christmas Eve Service at 7 p.m. at the church & on Zoom.



Aldersgate UMC is looking for a Treasurer. If you are interested, please contact the church office, Barb Dysinger or Pastor Mindy.



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.



If you have any changes to the church directory, please let the church office know.


The Twelve Days of Christmas

1 	A Partridge in a Pear Tree = Jesus Christ, Son of God	7 	Swans A-Swimming = Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit - the Seven Sacraments
2 	Turtle Doves = Old and New Testaments	8 	Maids A-Milking = Eight Beatitudes
3 	French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity - the Theological Virtues	9 	Ladies Dancing = Nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
4 	Calling Birds = Four Gospels and Four Evangelists	10 	Lords A-Leaping = Ten Commandments
5 	Golden Rings = First Five Books of the Old Testament - "Pentateuch"	11 	Pipers Piping = Eleven Faithful Apostles
6 	Geese A-Laying = Six Days of Creation	12 	Drummers Drumming = Twelve Articles of the Apostle's Creed

www.PsalmsandthePilgrimDaughter.com www.TheBestCatholic.com



December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>When Pastor Mindy is out of the office, please feel free to call the parsonage at 717-436-2237 or 717-513-7194</p> <p>For Congregational Care needs, please call Pastor Mindy at 717-513-7194</p>				1	2 Port Royal Parade, 5:30 p.m. (Aldersgate is having a float in the parade)
3 Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:55 a.m. Communion *Unwrapped Angel gifts due	4 Mission Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	5 Bagged lunch Bible study, noon at the church & on Zoom Trustee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Heidi- off	6 Finance Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church Heidi- off	7 Bible study, 6 p.m. at the church & on Zoom Heidi- off	8	9
10 Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:55 a.m. New Beginning's Trip after service *Wrapped Angel gifts due	11 Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	12 Bagged lunch Bible study, noon at the church & on Zoom	13	14 Bible study, 6 p.m. at the church & on Zoom SPRC Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church	15 Hand out Angel gifts, 6-9 p.m.	16 Hand out Angel gifts, 9-11 a.m.
17 Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:55 a.m. Christmas Cantata, 2 p.m. at Messiah Lutheran Christmas Caroling, 5:45 p.m. at the church	18 Kitchen Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	19 Bagged lunch Bible study, noon at the church & on Zoom	20 Ministerium Blue Christmas service, 7 p.m. at the East Salem Community Church	21 Longest Night Service, 7 p.m. at the church	22	23
24/31 Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:55 a.m. 24th – Christmas Eve service, 7 p.m. at the church; Cookies & Coffee at 6 p.m. 31st – New Year's Eve Gathering, 6 p.m. at the church	25 	26 Bagged lunch Bible study, noon at the church & on Zoom Last day for Newsletter submission	27	28 Bible study, 6 p.m. at the church & on Zoom	29	30