



December 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 — **9:45 a.m.**

Trinity— 10:45 a.m.

Grace— 8:45 a.m.

Office Hours

Pastor Mindy Petrovic

mpetrovic@susumc.org

AUMC: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tue., Wed.

Trinity: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday

Secretary— Heidi Brubaker

aumcmiffintown@gmail.com

9 a.m.-4 p.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 a warm, dry November comes to a close and December begins, we find ourselves in one of the most beautiful and meaningful seasons of the year, Advent and Christmas. This is a time when the story of God's profound love comes alive in the miracle of Christ's birth. It's a season filled with hope, peace, joy, and love, but also a time to reflect on what it means to have "God with us."

The world around us is bustling with decorations, shopping lists, and plans for holiday gatherings. While these are wonderful traditions, I encourage us all to pause and reflect on the deeper meaning of this season. Advent reminds us to prepare our hearts for the arrival of Jesus not just as a baby in a manger but as the Savior who brings light to a dark world and hope to weary souls.

When we read the story of that first Christmas in Luke 2, we see how God chose to come into the world in the most unexpected way through a humble birth in a stable, witnessed by shepherds and celebrated by angels. This reminds us that God often works in ways we don't expect. He brings His glory into the ordinary, turning simple moments into miracles of grace.

This Advent and Christmas season, let's commit to making room for Jesus in our lives. In the busyness of the season, let's carve out time to pause in Worship and attend our Advent and Christmas services with a heart ready to encounter God. Give generously and reflect Christ's love by reaching out to those in need. Whether it's through a kind word, a helping hand, or a gift for someone less fortunate, let's be the hands and feet of Jesus. Rejoice together and celebrate with family and friends, cherishing the relationships God has blessed us with.

One of my favorite verses for this season is John 1:14: "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." The heart of Christmas is the God of the universe stepping into our world, bringing His glory, grace, and truth. As we journey through this season, may our hearts be filled with the wonder of His presence. Let's embrace the hope that came into the world on that holy night in Bethlehem and carry it into the new year ahead.

"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)

With a heart full of the wonder of His presence, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year,

Pastor Mindy

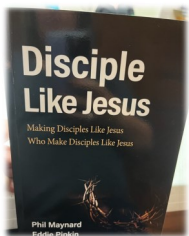
Upcoming Advent & Christmas Dates:

- 12/1/2024 Hanging of the Greens Service; Adorn the church at 2 PM
- 12/07/2024 Christmas Parade, Port Royal.
- 12/15/2024 Christian Life Assembly Play, 3 PM
- 12/18/2024 Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service 7 PM at Trinity.
- 12/21/2024 Longest Night Service 7 PM at Aldersgate.
- 12/22/2024 Christmas Caroling 6 PM at Aldersgate.
- 12/24/2024 Christmas Eve Cookie and Hot Chocolate Social 6 PM at Aldersgate
- 12/24/2024 Christmas Eve Services, 7 PM at Aldersgate and 8 PM at Trinity.



Christmas Angels Gifts

Please remove all price tags and do not add any bows/ribbon. We need all wrapped gifts by **Sunday, Dec. 8th**. If you are unable to wrap your gifts, please bring them to the church by **Sunday, Dec. 1st**. We will be distributing the gifts on Dec. 13th and 14th. Thank you for your generosity and love toward our neighbors.



We will be starting a new class, *Disciple Like Jesus*. Please sign up in the back if you are interested and would like a book.



Trinity UMC is having a pumpkin roll sale. Large is \$12 & small is \$6. Please make checks payable to TUMC by Dec. 15th. Pick up will be Fri, Dec. 20 from 3-7 p.m.

The deadline for the January Messenger is December 24th.



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



We are taking orders for sauerkraut!

1 lb is \$4

2 lb is \$8

Pick up will be in December.

Sign up sheet is located on the back table.

* **We need help bagging sauerkraut on December 8 at 2 p.m. at Donnie & Barb Lyter's garage.**

Pastor Mindy has begun worship services at 3 churches. Worship at Grace UMC is 8:45 a.m., **Aldersgate UMC 9:45 a.m.** and Trinity UMC at 10:45 a.m.

Her office hours at **Aldersgate** are Tue. & Wed. from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. The office will still be open Thursday 9 a.m.– 3 p.m.

Pastor's office hours at **Trinity** is Thur. 9 a.m.-2 p.m.



- ◆ Thank you for the meals, cards, prayers, phone calls and visits.

Rich Burkholder

- ◆ Thank you for all the lovely cards and gifts given to me for my birthday. It was all appreciated. It is so nice to know such kind and loving people in this church!

Heidi Brubaker (secretary)

- ◆ Thank you so much for all the holiday goodies. They are much appreciated!

Cade Brubaker



CPR and AED training will be offered at AUMC. Cost will be \$35 per person. A sign up sheet is located on the back table to determine when it will take place.



Linda Ernest

204 Jam House Rd.

Mifflin, PA 17058

Email: legolf99@gmail.com

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 **Fridays**. She will still be available if there's an emergency.



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

Mark your calendars

John Henry of JPH Enterprises, LLC is providing a trailer again this year for our float.

Nelson King of King Bros Logistics Inc is providing the square bales for seating on the float.

We need your help in decorating, singing, and throwing candy!





December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:45 a.m. Communion; Decorate for Christmas, 2 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Mission Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Budget Meeting, 4 p.m. Trustee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Bible Study, 6 p.m. at the church</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Decorate for parade, 11 a.m. Port Royal parade, 5:30 p.m.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:45 a.m. Bag sauerkraut , 2 p.m. at Lyter's garage</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Kitchen Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Bagged Lunch Bible Study, noon at the church & on Zoom</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Bible Study, 6 p.m. at the church</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Angel gifts pick up, 6-8 p.m.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Angel gifts pick up, 9-11:30 a.m.</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:45 a.m. Christian Life Assembly play, 3 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Church Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Bagged Lunch Bible Study, noon at the church & on Zoom</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Bible Study, 6 p.m. at the church</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Longest Night Service, 7 p.m. at the church</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:45 a.m. Christmas Caroling, 6 p.m. at AUMC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Nurturing Congregational Care Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the church & on Zoom</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Cookie & hot chocolate social, 6 p.m. at the church Christmas Eve service, 7 p.m. at AUMC Service at Trinity, 8 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> 	<p>26</p> <p>Bible Study, 6 p.m. at the church</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Sunday school, 9 a.m. Worship service at AUMC & Zoom, 9:45 a.m.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Watch Night (Owlah) Service, TBA</p>	<p>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</p>			