

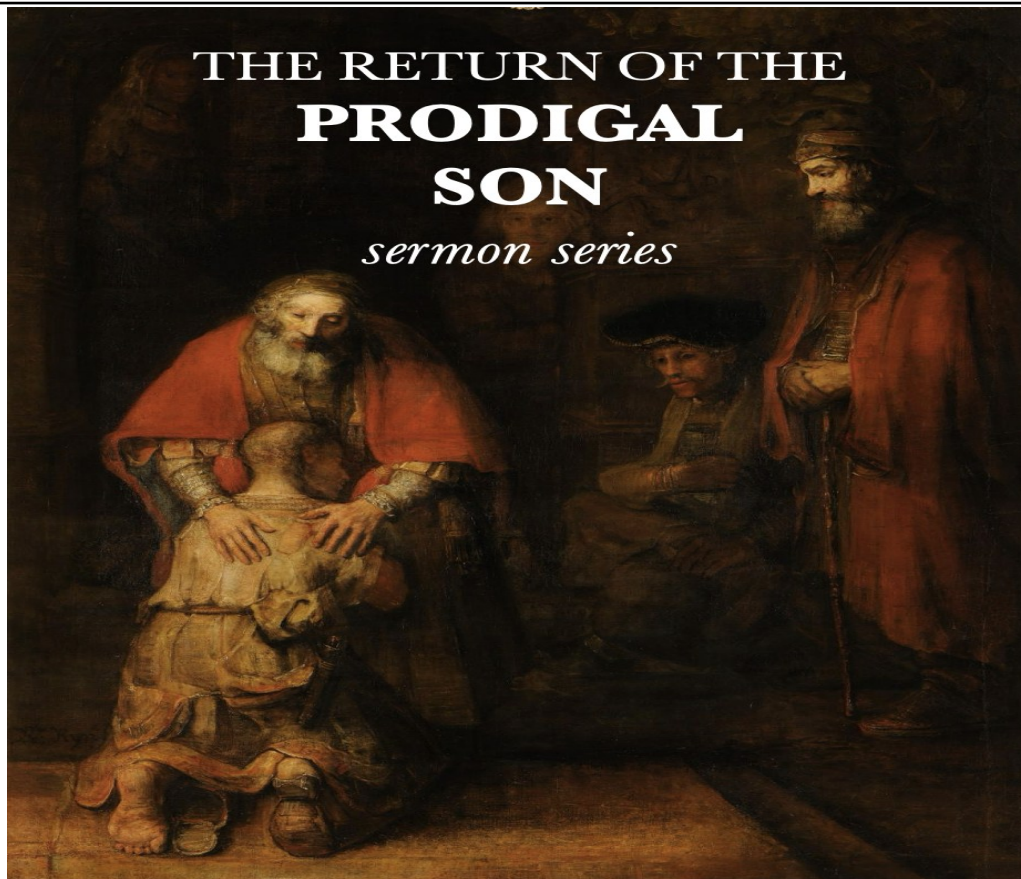


# **West Grove United Methodist Church**

**Our Vision :**

**ENCOUNTER, EMPOWER AND ENGAGE**

***Our community to be followers of Christ.***



## **THE RETURN OF THE PRODIGAL SON**

*sermon series*

**The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming  
“The Elder Son Returns”**

Preaching today: Pastor DJ Choi  
300 North Guernsey Road, West Grove, PA 19390  
[www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org), ([office@wgumc.org](mailto:office@wgumc.org)) 610-869-9334

***August 31, 2025***

SUNDAY, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 9:27 AM. WORSHIP SERVICE

<u>PRELUDE</u>		Betsy Smith
<u>WELCOME</u>		Pastor DJ
<u>ENGAGE MINISTRY</u>		Pastor DJ
<u>HYMN SING</u>		Pastor DJ
<u>PEACE</u>		
<u>PASTORAL PRAYER</u>	The Lord’s Prayer	Pastor Jim
<u>INVITATION TO OFFERING</u>		Pastor Jim
<u>OFFERTORY</u>		Betsy Smith
<u>PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING</u>		Pastor Jim
	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	UMH No. 95
<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>	(Pg. 3) Luke 15:28, 31-32	Valerie Kapp-Benner
<u>MESSAGE</u>	The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming “The Elder Son Returns”	Pastor DJ
<u>*PRAISE</u>	“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”	UMH #140
<u>*MISSION</u>		Pastor DJ
<u>*POSTLUDE</u>		Betsy Smith

**Xtra Mile Giving featured on September 14<sup>th</sup>** will be for Orphan Grain Train.  
Since 1992, Orphan Grain Train’s 27 regional locations have delivered more than 60.3 million fortified-rice meals and 5,066 shipments of humanitarian aid to needy people in several states and 73 countries on 5 continents.

\* \* \* \* \*

**STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE / BOLD PRINT = SAY IN UNISON.**

Please join us in the Lobby/Narthex for a time of fellowship.

## SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 15:28-31-32

<sup>28</sup> But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him... <sup>31</sup> And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup> It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"



# VICTORY SUNDAY

A Christian Sports Ministry for Kids

**80% GAMES. 20% BIBLE.  
100% FUN.**

Join us every other Sunday for a high-energy hour of games, teamwork, and faith-building! Each session is packed with exciting sports activities and a short Bible message to inspire and encourage young hearts.

**Meets again Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> 9:30—10:30 a.m.**

Next Meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup> at West Grove United Methodist Church  
(Ages 7-14) / Outdoor field

Bring a friend and.....Come ready to run, play, learn and grow in Christ! Contact: [Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org)

## **PASTOR JIM'S MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

**Beginning Monday, September 8th at 6:30 pm.,**

join Pastor Jim as he leads us in a study of 1 Corinthians—a powerful and practical letter from the Apostle Paul to a young church in a growing, immoral city. Though written nearly 2,000 years ago, its message speaks directly about the challenges we, as individuals, and the church, face today.





# MIDWEEK MINISTRY IS BACK!

**Thursdays | 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM**  
**September 4 – October 16, 2025**

**Ages 4–12 | West Grove United Methodist Church**

**Join us for 7 weeks of faith-filled fun, friendship, and growth!**



**Sing-Along Worship**



**Engaging Bible Lesson**



**Snack Time**



**Fun, Active Faith  
Activities**

**Weekly Dates:**

- September 4
- September 11
- September 18
- September 25
- October 2
- October 9
- October 16

**It's FREE – all are welcome!**

**Let your child explore God's love midweek in a joyful and active environment.**

## **We Need You!!!**

Summer is nearing an end but our flowers look wonderful thanks to those who volunteered to water them. Let's see how long we can keep them beautiful.

Sign up sheet to water the flowers is located in the narthex.

**Any questions, please contact Joan Leaman ([jmleaman@comcast.net](mailto:jmleaman@comcast.net)).**

## **Upcoming Dates to Remember**

- September 1<sup>st</sup> - **Labor Day-Office Closed**
- September 2<sup>nd</sup> - **CMO begins**
- September 4<sup>th</sup> - **Mid-Week Ministry begins, Memory Bells & Choir Rehearsals begin**
- September 7<sup>th</sup> - **Victory Sunday, Youth Program**
- September 8<sup>th</sup> - **Pastor Jim's Monday Night Bible Study**
- September 9<sup>th</sup> - **Fall Youth Group begins**
- September 12<sup>th</sup> - **RAP's first fall meeting.**
- September 14<sup>th</sup> - **Xtra Mile Giving-Orphan Grain Train**
- September 16<sup>th</sup> - **Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study**
- September 27<sup>th</sup> - **United Methodist Men's Breakfast**
- September 28<sup>th</sup> - **United Women of Faith**



## TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

Our Tuesday afternoon bible study will resume on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm. in the library. The topic for this session will be "Forgiveness".

Leading the study will be Carol McGinley, Jake and Debbie Schneider.

Please contact the church office at [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) with any questions.

Sign up sheet in the narthex.



### September's Food Pantry Item of the Month Flour and Corn Tortillas



**Any size package of tortillas is fine as they can be re-bagged, if necessary. They can be placed in the labeled bin in the church lobby.**

**Place in the designated bin in the Narthex**



### PASTOR DJ'S EPHESIANS BIBLE STUDY

Begins Thursday, October 2nd at 6:30 pm. and will meet in the library.

This is part one - a 8 week study on the book of Ephesians.

Part two of the study is 9 weeks and will begin on January 15th, at 6:30 pm.



### *Join the Chancel Choir!*

Rehearsals for the new fall season begin Thursday evening,

**September 4 at 6:45 pm.** in the Choir Room.

Contact Betsy Smith at [musicmomva@aol.com](mailto:musicmomva@aol.com)

*Come make a joyful noise with us!*

### MEMORY BELLS

Miss Lavenia would **LOVE** to have you join

her and the other ringers to make a beautiful noise unto the Lord.

Practices are on Thursday's, 4:30 to 6:00 pm. in the Sanctuary.

Contact Miss Lavenia with questions at:

[misslavenia@verizon.net](mailto:misslavenia@verizon.net) or 610-869-9088



# PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

## IN NEED OF PRAYER:

**The names of those in need of prayer  
can be found in the bulletin given out  
on Sunday mornings or by calling April Spencer  
whose contact information  
is listed below.**

## **DO YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEED PRAYER?**

**\*\*A member of the Prayer Ministry team will be available in the Prayer Room for  
anyone desiring prayer after the service.\*\***

**Prayer Requests:** Please do not leave requests on the prayer chain email.  
It is not monitored.

**Email:** April Spencer at [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) or 610-869-9334.  
Your request will be shared with the prayer chain, and if you would like, it will be  
noted in the bulletin Prayer List. Requests will remain on the prayer chain for 4  
weeks unless otherwise requested or updated.

**Prayer Team Members:** Susan Paisley, Carolyn Bratton, Sandi Hampton,  
Pam Howard, Carol McGinley.



### **God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship**

*It is your tithes, offerings,  
and gifts that impact and  
change lives for Christ!*

### **Report from August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

General Offering August 24<sup>th</sup>: \$2,896.00

Building Maintenance Fund: \$80.00

Attendance: 8/24 - 9:30: 73

Food Pantry: 113 families on 8/27 & 8/28

Food donations are appreciated.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR AT WGUMC

**Hours for the Church Office:** Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

*The office may be open before and after the posted times.*

Call April with questions or concerns. ([office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) or **610-869-9334**)

### August 31<sup>st</sup> Thru September 7<sup>th</sup>

<b><u>SUNDAY:</u></b>	9:30 - 10:30 am.	Worship Service
<b><u>MONDAY:</u></b>	Office Closed	Labor Day
<b><u>TUESDAY:</u></b>	9:00 am.- 12 pm. Noon - 1:30 pm. 4:45 - 8:00 pm. 6:30 - 8:00 pm.	CMO (Rooms 9,13,14,15,16) Smart Cookies (CMO Extended Day) Funeral Service (Sanctuary, Narthex) Trustee Meeting (Conference Room)
<b><u>WEDNESDAY:</u></b>	9:00 am.- 12 pm. 12:30 - 1:30 am. 5:00 - 6:00 pm. 6:00 - 7:30 pm.	CMO (Rooms 9,13,14,15,16) Full Staff Meeting (Conference Room) Food Pantry Girl Scout Meeting (Room 8 & 10)
<b><u>THURSDAY:</u></b>	1:30 - 12:30 pm. Noon - 1:30 pm. 1:00 - 2:00 pm. 4:30 - 6:00 pm. 4:30 - 6:00 pm. 6:15 - 8:15 pm. 6:30 - 8:00 pm.	CMO (Rooms -12,13,14,15,16) CMO Smart Cookies Extended Day Food Pantry Memory Bells Rehearsal Mid-Week Ministry (Room 10) Girl Scout Trp. 4251 & 4567 (Rooms 8 & 10) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)
<b><u>FRIDAY:</u></b>	9:00 am.- 12 pm.	CMO (Rooms 9,13,14,15,16)
<b><u>SATURDAY:</u></b>	10:00 - 11:30 am.	Daily Reflections ( Rm. 8)

### September 7<sup>th</sup>

<b><u>SUNDAY:</u></b>	8:30 - 9:15 am 9:30 - 10:30 am. 9:30 - 10:30 am.	Sunday School Worship Service Victory Sunday/Sport Ministry (Outside, Room 10)
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# **SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING**

## **Sunday Morning Servants**

Sound Booth:	Bill Pardoe - Aiden Steltzer
Projection:	Bill Pardoe - Aiden Steltzer
Officiating:	Rev. DJ Choi /Rev. James Mundell
Music Director:	Betsy Smith
Memory Bells Director:	Lavenia Civitella
Youth Director:	Xavier Feliciano

### **Today: 08/31/25**

### **Next Sunday: 09/7/25**

Counters:	Janice Bowers & John Gambill	Dick & Caryl Stuhrke
Lay Reader:	Valerie Kapp-Benner	Judy Gambill
Ushers:	Amy & Mark Simonds	Joyce Lewis & Paulette Bryan
Greeter:	Caryl & Dick Stuhrke	Esther Culbertson & Priscilla Barkman

## **Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup>**

Communion Servers      Peggy & John Watkins

**Prayer Team members are always available to hear your prayer request.**

Contact any **Team Member:** Susan Paisley, Carol  
McGinley, Pam Howard and Sandi Hampton.

***Would you like to be a Sunday Morning Servant?***  
***We would welcome your participation as an usher, greeter, lay reader, or an  
Adult Sunday School teacher.***