



The Wesleyan Star June * * * * 2024

**West Grove
United Methodist Church**

300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, Pa. 19390
Phone: 610-869-9334

Email: office@westgroveumc.org

Website: www.westgroveumc.org

Pastor Janice's message

Brothers and sisters of West Grove UMC - my how time flies! I am in my last month with you as your interim pastor. The time has been joy-filled and I have enjoyed serving in our church community once again. I pray that I have left you with messages that have brought you closer to our Lord and Savior and have motivated you to love bigger and better.

I am working with the Transition Team for Pastor DJ's start on July 1st and his first Sunday with you on July 7th. One of my goals during my time with you has been to build up and re-institute some of our ministry teams that will be of support to the pastor and the church as a whole.

A vital church cannot run without the commitment and service of all its diverse membership base. If you are not plugged into a ministry team, I ask you to consider serving in one of the following capacities:

- SPRC Chair – or a member to fill in for an SPRC member who rises up as Chair
- Children's and Youth Ministries – the future depends on them – please be part of these teams to ensure we have strong Sunday School, VBS, and Youth Programs
- Safe Sanctuaries Coordinator – a key role in ensuring the care and safety of our kids and vulnerable adults
- Technology Team Leader and members – if you have a background in technology and equipment, this is a team that is in crucial need of support for all the back-office work at the church.
- Audio / Visual Team for Sunday mornings and special events– this is a growing group, but having a good rotation of people helps ensure no one person carries the load. It is a great place to plug in our Youth. It's fun and easy!
- Missions Chair and members – if you enjoy supporting the needs of others, prayerfully consider this team. The team will reconvene this month.
- Finance Chair – I will fill this role until another rises up; in addition to continuing as Finance Secretary
- Any others that you feel called to!!

I ask you to prayerfully consider what capacity you will serve the church in. Let us be fully prepared and equipped to welcome Pastor DJ as he builds our church into thriving home for the kingdom of God.

Thank you to everyone who has stepped up on our teams so far. I have been living a mountain top experience in my time with you. You have all been welcoming and supportive of me as I bridged the gap between pastor appointments. I cannot express enough the gratitude and love I hold for each of you.

Janice



Worship in June at West Grove UMC

Join us as we worship together by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing in God's way, and serving God's world.



*7:30 am. & 11 am. Worship. 9:45 am. Sunday School for all ages.
Youth Group Thursday, 6 to 7 pm.*

Series for the Month "On Purpose"

June 2: "What is a 'Purpose'?" Focus Scripture: Matthew 5:13-16

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Focus Statement: We have a lot of misconceptions about what purpose is. Finding our purpose is about discovering who God has uniquely created us to be and how our own gifts can serve others in any given moment.

June 9: "Who Am I?" Focus Scriptures: Acts 9:1-19, John 21:15-19

Acts 9:1-19 ⁹ Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

John 21:15-19 ¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Focus Statement: We may feel like we are defined by our highs and lows, but first and foremost we are defined by God's love of us and God's love promises to redeem our whole stories. It allows us to look back over our lives and see how all our experiences – good, bad, and in-between -- can shape and clarify our purpose.

June 16, 2024: “Purpose is Present” Focus Scripture: Matthew 14:13-21

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Focus Statement: To discover our purpose, we must not focus only on the future, but also pay attention to the present. What do we have to offer right now, and who needs it? When we offer what we have now, we find – often to our surprise – that our purpose begins to come into focus.

June 23: “No Time Is Wasted” Focus Scripture: Proverbs 8:22-31

²² The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. ²³ Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. ²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. ²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth—²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. ²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, ²⁸ when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, ²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, ³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, ³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

Focus Statement: When we don't have the answer to where we are going, we often feel like we are wandering and “wasting time.” But with God, no time is wasted. In our wandering, God offers us an opportunity to explore new possibilities through acts of creativity, wonder, and play.

June 30: “Will Purpose Make Me Happy?” Focus Scriptures: Matthew 16:24-26, John 11:1-37

Matthew 16:24-26 ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life or my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?”

John 11:1-37 ¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, “This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” ⁸ The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?” ⁹ Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.” ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.” ¹² The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.” ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

Jesus the Resurrection and the Life

¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

Jesus Weeps

²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Focus Statement: In a world that prioritizes "happiness," God calls us into a more expansive vision of faith and flourishing.



THANK YOU

Let's send a big thank you out to Xavier for our new website!

It looks awesome and is easy to maneuver!

Thank you Xavier!

AND

If you came to Friday night's Movie Night, you would have enjoyed the movie on an outdoor screen engineered by.....

No other than.....Xavier.



“ENVISIONING THE BREADTH AND DEPTH OF SCRIPTURE”

June 2024

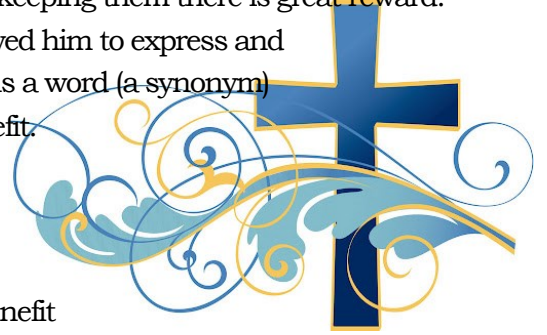
This month, we want to examine how scripture defines and speaks about itself. Psalm 19:7-11, helps us to see this.

Psalm 19:7-11 NIV ⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. ⁸The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. ⁹The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous. ¹⁰They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. ¹¹By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

David, the writer, envisioned the Word of God in various ways. God allowed him to express and show God’s Word in different forms. Each of the six parallel lines contains a word (a synonym)

for God’s Word; each describes the word with a characteristic and a benefit.

Here we see the wisdom of God expressed in various ways. David tells us that the source of scripture comes from God, for it says, it is “of the Lord”, not once, but six times.



The table below shows the Scriptural Title, its characteristics, and the benefit of God’s word to us.

<u>SCRIPTURAL TITLES</u>	<u>CHARACTERISTICS</u>	<u>BENEFITS</u>
<u>Law</u> of the LORD	Is perfect	refreshing the soul
<u>Statutes</u> of the LORD	Are trustworthy	making wise the simple
<u>Precepts</u> of the LORD	Are right	giving joy to the heart
<u>Commands</u> of the LORD	Are radiant	giving light to the eyes
<u>Fear</u> of the LORD	Is pure	enduring forever
<u>Decrees</u> of the LORD	Are firm	are righteous

David defines God’s Word with these titles: law, statutes, precepts, commands, fear (awe of God), and decrees, which are how God speaks to us in and through His Word. David uses these characteristics to help us envision His Word: God’s Word is perfect (no error), trustworthy (believable), right, radiant, pure, and firm (no changes). As we read and study it, the benefits to us are far-reaching: refreshing and reviving the soul, making wise those seeking God, giving joy and hope to the heart, and giving light to light up our lives. It endures forever and does not change, and it reflects God’s righteousness. David goes on to say it is more valuable than Gold and is sweeter than honey. God’s Word is of greater value than the most valuable objects of human desires: money and fine food. David then warns us to keep God’s Word sacred and in our hearts because it has great rewards for us now and in the future. As you look at these six titles, which one speaks to you more than the others? I would love to have you share your thoughts with me.

Pastor Jim

Jenner’s Pond Residents!

Join us for worship on June10, at 11 a.m.



2024

SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY UMC MISSION LINK

Join us as we gather as one to share
God's love with all.

Program :

BBQ

Home made
dishes

Desserts

Games

West Grove United Methodist Church
300 N Guernsey Rd, West Grove, PA
19390

Questions or concerns
Xavier Feliciano
Director of Children & Youth Ministries
610-612-7377

June 15th, 2024
4pm





**Staff/Pastor/Parish
Relations Committee**

A Moment with Dick Sturhke.

WGUMC SPRC Chair

(Staff Parish Relations Committee)

For those of you who have served in the military, you know that the military loves their acronyms. Acronyms are used to describe practically anything and everything from a complex weapon system down to the many forms you need to fill out in order to requisition a part for one of these complex weapons systems. Acronyms are used to label and describe situations, missions, departments, departments within departments. etc. etc. They are a form of military shorthand used to ensure concise, clear and efficient communication. One of my favorites is the navy's acronym used aboard ship for the Battalion Officer of the Watch. The officer holding that position is affectionately known as the "Bow Wow."

Turns out the Methodist Church has a couple of its own acronyms, one of them being SPRC. SPRC stands for Staff Parish Relations Committee. It is a standing committee and every Methodist Church has or should have one. West Grove is no exception. Other standing committees might include Trustees, Finance, Christian Education, Worship and Missions. SPRC's specific area of responsibility is the paid staff, which in our case includes our Lead Pastor, Associate Pastor, Church secretary, Director of Children and Youth Ministries, Music Director, Organist, Praise Band Director, Bell Choir Director, Sexton, and Nursery Attendant. We serve as the human relations department or the personnel committee for the church. Our responsibilities include: hiring and firing, conducting annual reviews, keeping all job descriptions updated and current, ensuring that each staff person has the support needed to do their job, establishing salaries ranges commensurate with the position and making salary adjustments as warranted by performance, cost of living and church finances. You should know that the payroll portion of the church budget typically represents upwards of 65% of our total annual expenditures.

In short, it is SPRC's overall responsibility to ensure the smooth and efficient operation of the church in full recognition that Christ and Christ alone is the head of the church.

Like the other standing committees, SPRC is responsible to you the congregation and reports to our Administrative Council. Unlike these standing committees, SPRC has a direct dotted line relationship to the conference and our district superintendent. The Book of Church Discipline requires that once a year we sit down with the pastor to mutually set goals and objectives that both address the needs of the church and are consistent with our mission. We are further required to review these same goals and objectives quarterly, revise as necessary and submit an annual review in writing to the District Superintendent along with an updated Church Profile.

The work of the Staff Parish Relations Committee is critically important to the life and ministry of not only the local church but the Methodist Church. It seems that the work of the SPRC is never done. Although we are required to meet a minimum of 4 times a year, we have met at least once a month for as long as I can remember being on the committee and we will play an important role as we transition to our new pastor come July 1. At this point I would like to publicly recognize and thank the members of your Staff Parish Relations Committee for their diligence, faithfulness, heartfelt dedication and plain hard work in service to this church – Priscilla Barkman, Dan Elliott, Judy Gambill, Cindy Haley, Andrew Herman, Cindy Hoover, and Susan Paisley. I know each member has felt the weight and carries the burden of the actions and decisions that we as a committee have made and will be called upon to make. I think I speak for each member, or anyone who has served on SPRC, when I say that, for us, never again will SPRC be thought of as just another obscure, cleverly contrived acronym.

Richard Sturhke

Retired Active People



RAP

(Retired Active People)

RAP met for a delicious potluck luncheon on May 10th as we celebrated the end of another program year of fun and fellowship. Thank you Dick and Caryl Stuhrke for leading our May gathering. Thank you Jake and Debbie Schneider and the Providence Brass Band, along with the Kitchen Pot quartet, for entertaining us with your uplifting music and talent. We enjoyed a great and fun afternoon of sacred and secular music.

We truly thank everyone who joins us each month and especially those who are able to help with our setup and cleanup. Throughout the year we are grateful for the many delicious desserts provided each month.

After our summer break, we look forward to continuing our gatherings on the second Friday each month, September through May, at 12 noon in the church sanctuary. Mark your calendar for our return on Friday, September 13. Look for a reminder in our August newsletter with upcoming program highlights.

Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us. If you haven't yet, please, come and be a part of this long-standing group who enjoy gathering each month for a time of fellowship, food, fun and informative programs.

Every one is welcome! See you in September!

Your RAP Committee,

Paulette Bryan, Cindy Haley, Joyce Lewis, Sara Ann Ramberger and Caryl Stuhrke





An Equitable Compensation resolution was approved reflecting a 4% increase to Pastors minimum base salaries effective July 1, 2025. In Addition, it provides for increases of 1% for each year of service up to a maximum of 20 years determined by full time years which was amended to include the years of part time pastors to be counted as full time years toward their increases.

Approval was given for the closure of eight churches in our Conference. On a lighter note, a new church start in Philadelphia will begin organizing this summer.

A Memorandum of Understanding was approved with the Greater NJ Annual Conference since we are currently sharing Bishop Schol to formalize and extend the 18 month collaborative partnership in decision-making, staffing, budgeting and ministry sharing resources with GNJ. This is a non-binding agreement since Bishop Schol is retiring and it is unknown at this time whether EPA and GNJ will continue to share a Bishop.

The EPA budget was approved with an overall decrease from the previous year.

A resolution approving a conservation easement at Camp Innabah was approved with an amendment to include wording inclusive of educational materials of the indigenous peoples who previously inhabited the land. Acknowledgment will be made that the land originally belonged to the Lenni-Lenape Native Americans. The total dollars received will be used for future funding of camp development, improvements and scholarships.

A few last items approved were the sacramental rights given to deacons, deaconess' and home missionaries who are consecrated.

A formal apology was given by Bishop Schol as required by General Conference regarding previous sexual misconduct and abuse of victims in the United Methodist Church.

The disassociation program has ceased. There are still churches seeking to disassociate from the UMC with no path forward for them at this time.

We now have a full connection with the Moravian church and pending connectional action with the Episcopal Church.

New pastoral appointments were made. A memorial service was held to remember Clergy and Lay persons now communing with our Lord.

A Service of Passage and Anointing was held to honor retirees who then passed a stole on to new appointees and on to the entire delegation present.

The Conference concluded with an address by the bishop followed by Communion and sending forth.

Respectively submitted, Cindy Haley and Susan Paisley Lay Delegates to Annual Conference



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Faith • Hope • Love in Action

WOW!

About all we can say for the awesome spring we have had is “Well Done.” Our spring rummage sale was a huge success. We made a total of \$3,118.12. This is truly a church-wide event and we are very grateful for the support and help of everyone.

Now, we are in the process of distributing these funds to various local and global ministries.

We have had a busy spring with the collection of feminine hygiene products for our food pantry families and sending goodie boxes to our college students.

We ended our spring with a wonderful tea and program. About twenty-five women joined us on May 19th for tea and an amazing storyteller, Diane Albertson, as she entertained us with whimsical tales from Mother Goose and some of the most important women in the Bible.

Please mark your calendar for our fall rummage sale scheduled for October 3 and 4, 2024. Start cleaning out your closets this summer and be ready for another profitable mission. Again, thank you to everyone who supports our missions.

Look for more information later this summer for our next meeting to plan for future programs and gatherings.

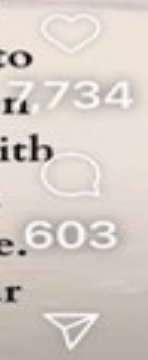
Cindy Haley and Fran Miller, Co-leaders



“I Don’t Know”

“I don’t know” Prayer

Did you know there's a prayer called the “I don't know” prayer? You just go somewhere quiet and you sit at the feet of God and you say “I don't know”. I don't know where to go from here. I don't know what is happening. I don't know how to process this. I don't know what to do with these emotions. I don't know how to handle this situation. And then with whatever little grain of faith you have, you say, “but You know.” And you leave it there. God most certainly hears your prayer. Declare Amen.



**Youth Sunday School Ends June 2nd for the summer!
We look forward to you joining us again in the fall**

Youth Conference—Ignite October 11-13

In Wildwood, NJ.

Preachers—Bands—Events

To register or for more information Please call Xavier at 610-612-7377

Or email him at Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org



Vacation Bible School

JULY 15TH - 19TH.

WE HAVE 88 CHILDREN SIGNED UP THUS FAR !

**WE WILL NEED LOTS OF VOLUNTEERS TO GIVE THEM THE EXPERIENCE WE
HAVE IN STORE FOR THEM.**

BE IT YOUR CHILD OR YOU AS A VOLUNTEER:

**IF YOU HAVEN'T SIGNED UP FOR THIS EXTREMELY WORTH WHILE EVENT,
THERE IS STILL TIME.**

CALL XAVIER FOR ALL THE DETAILS AT 610-612-7377,

OR EMAIL HIM AT CHILDYOUTHDIRECTOR@WESTGROVEUMC.ORG,

OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 610-869-9334,

OR EMAIL US AT OFFICE@WESTGROVEUMC.ORG.



West Grove UMC Food Pantry

Weekly Hours:

Wednesdays: 5:00—6:00 pm.

Thursdays: 1:00—2:00 pm.

Our Church Food Bank Depends on You!

As we head into the month of June we have seen an uptick in the number of families that our food pantry is serving. The average number is 105-110 families per week. Volunteers are crucial to being able to serve the families and if you are not presently volunteering but have an interest, please let Joan Leaman (jmleaman@comcast.net) know of that desire. We also appreciate any monetary donations for the food pantry.

Since the bulk of the food that we distribute comes from the Chester County Food Bank, we will not have a distribution on Wednesday, June 19th as the food bank will be closed in celebration of Juneteenth and we will not receive a delivery that week. We will, however, be open on June 20th from 1:00 to 2:00 pm. to distribute rescued food from Acme and Giant and will allow the families to shop from our dry goods shelves.



WGUMC TRANSITION TEAM

WGUMC has put together a team to help our new pastor, DJ Choi, transition into his new leadership role as pastor here at WGUMC.

The team will be meeting as a group and on an individual basis with Pastor Choi during his first year with us.

Team members are: Dick Stuhrke, Pastor Janice Bowers, Pastor Jim Mundell, Betsy Smith, April Spencer, Kim O'Neill, Andrew Herman, Susan Paisley and Judy Gambill.

West Grove UMC Calendar of Events

Be sure to check out the church calendar on our website. There are many activities, groups, events, studies and more going on every week.

Sunday School has classes for adults and children of all ages. Your church calendar is reviewed daily and updated with the latest events and meetings. Please refer to our website to get information, updates, calendar events, etc.

www.westgroveumc.org





We made it!

Another year of Preschool has come and gone, and we could not be more grateful for all of the kind, loving, and supportive families that attend WGUMC Preschool. Throughout the children's years here, they, and their families, really do become like family to all of us. While we wish them all the best as they continue their school journey, we also miss them deeply when they move on. We wish our PreK graduates the best of luck, and we look forward to welcoming the rest of our students back to school in September.

May was full of FUN, FUN, FUN! The Preschool held its second ever Trike-a-Thon. This is a fundraiser for the school. The children raise donations as they ride their trikes, scooters, or even just walk, around the "track." A special thank you to Xavier who played the part of the DJ and also offered the children popsicles when they were finished with their laps around the track.

The preschool classes also held a "Donuts with Grownups" day, a field day, and the children all sang their loved ones a few of the songs they learned through out the year to wrap up the end of the school year.

Our PreK children had a lovely graduation ceremony on May 22nd. They looked like professionals up their singing and performing for their families. They were rewarded with a Graduation Certificate as well as a Bible to conclude their time here at Preschool. We are all so very proud of them all!

A special THANK YOU to all of the wonderful teachers we have here at Preschool. It is because of them and their warm and nurturing presence, that our school is thriving!

Have a Happy Summer!

Abbie Grusgavage





Girl Scout Troop 427
 is collecting donations for The
 Domestic Violence Center of
 Chester County.
dvcccpa.org

*Care packages will be made for the victims
 of domestic violence and delivered directly
 to the center.*

Donations Needed!

Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Lotion
Tissue Packets
Makeup Wipes
Gum/Mints
Feminine Products



*Any Questions please reach out via
 email to Junior Troop leader, Melissa
daisyleader2019@gmail.com*

LOOK FOR THE COLLECTION BIN IN THE NARTHEX



The United Methodist Men hold a monthly breakfast at the church. There is time for scripture, sharing, some speakers and lots of fellowship.

We meet on the **Fourth Saturday of each Month, 8:00 -9:30 am.**

More information will be shared as plans are made.

All men and boys are invited to attend.

Contact Michael Duvall with your questions. (mwduvall@aol.com)



Have a question about the UMC, it's worship (what is Pentecost?), beliefs (what is repentance?), the sacraments (what do I need to know about baptism?), or the UMC in general (are all Methodist churches part of UMC)?
<https://www.umc.org/en/who-we-are/ask-the-umc-faqs>



BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

06/02 Logan Crowder

06/03 Dave Talley

06/04 Natalie Eason

06/05 David Lytle

06/07 Max Gula

06/07 Jordan Howard

06/09 Vera Erickson

06/10 Michelle Jane

LeSturgeon

06/12 Chip Lesturgeon

06/13 Shelby Dawson



Your church family wishes all of you a very happy birthday and a year filled with happiness and blessings!!

06/16 Laura Herrera

06/18 Jeff Curtis

06/18 Melanie Jones

06/20 Ralph Curtiss

06/22 Nancy Simmons

06/23 Alison Aucott

06/25 Maryanne Covington

06/25 Keira O'Neil

06/26 Eric Dunn

06/27 Heather McCummings



West Grove United Methodist Church
OPEN • GROW • SERVE

June 2024



DO YOU RECEIVE OUR WEEKLY (WGUMC) CONSTANT CONTACT EMAILS?

We publish a Weekly West Grove Wednesday edition which features upcoming events or events that have popped up unexpectedly. Also a Sunday Sneak-a-Peek about the sermon on Sunday and other information, including our newsletter, and a link to the week's bulletin.

If you are not receiving these two emails, perhaps you elected to unsubscribe or they are being treated as spam and are going directly to trash.

If you are missing out and would like to be on the list, email April Spencer, our Church Administrator, at office@westgroveumc.org or call the office at 610-869-9334. She will be happy to add you to the list!

~ Open, Grow, Serve ~

At West Grove UMC, we love God by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing our faith and serving our community and world in His name.

Office Hours: Monday—Friday
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Staff

Janice L Bowers, Interim Pastor
pastorjaniceb@gmail.com

The Reverend Jim Mundell - Associate Pastor,
Chaplain at Jenner's Pond
Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

Xavier Feliciano - Youth & Children's Ministry
Director
Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

April Spencer - Church Administrator
Office@westgroveumc.org

Valerie Kapp-Benner—Financial Administrator
Financialadmin@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director
Contemporary Music Interim Director
Keyboardist
Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org

Lavenia Civitella—Handbell Choir Director
Misslavenia@verizon.net

Abbie Gruscavage—Children's Morning Out Director
cmo@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant
Maira Tena—Sexton
sexton@westgroveumc.org

Christ Servant Ministers

Karen Hruz, khruz@hotmail.com
Peter Mullen, psmullen@petermullen.com

Board and Committee Leadership

Val Kapp-Benner - Interim Administrative Council Chair

Kim O'Neil - Trustee Chair

OPEN - Finance Chair

Valerie Kapp-Benner - Treasurer

Janice Bowers - Interim Financial Secretary

Dick Stuhrke - SPRC Chair

Children's Ministry Team Contact

Valerie Kapp-Benner - Missions Chair

Dick and Caryl Stuhrke - Hospitality Committee Chair

Susan Paisley & Cindy Haley -Delegate to Annual Conference

Open - Committee on Lay Leadership

Karen Hruz and Cindy Haley—Co-Lay Leader

Cindy Haley & Fran Miller - U.M.W. Co-Presidents

Susan Paisley - Prayer Ministry Coordinator

Joan Leaman—Emergency Food Pantry Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

Betty Mundell—Ad Council Member at Large

Cindy Hoover—CMO Advisory Board Chair

Cindy Haley and Sara Ann Ramberger—R.A.P Coordinators