



The Wesleyan Star

**West Grove
United Methodist Church**

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October 2023

The Lord is my strength & my might, and He has become my salvation!" (Exodus 15:2)
Exodus 16:9 tells us to, Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard you (heard your cries and complaining).

I see so many people, individuals and families striving so hard to keep up with life, and its challenges. I think many people feel like they are on a treadmill, and maybe can't get off. There is so much to keep up with, especially as school has restarted and work demands increasing. And all around us there is so much division, competition, when we need collaboration and fellowship in community with God. The uncertainty of our times and constant changes we face can lead us to live by fear that develops into anxiety, bitterness, or even anger and violence.

With all the change happening and coming at us every day, the in between time, between the old and new way of life, can be painful, scary, extremely challenging. It can also be an exceptionally creative time when we entrust ourselves more fully to God, for God really does love us, and can lead us. God's grace, mercy, and generosity are ever accessible when we are open to Him, and responding to the ways He reaches out to all, personally.

Then & Today

It may seem like such an ancient time to consider the Israelites coming out of Egypt and what they faced, yet today we face very similar, if not the same challenges as they did, in adjusting and making choices in the face of change, dangers, and opportunities. Hard to believe when they had been set free, they quickly lost heart and wanted to go back to Egypt living as slaves, working literally to death making bricks for Pharaoh's pyramid. Pharaoh wanted to be a god to everyone and expected loyalty. God was with them then and is with us today, striving to help us make the most of freedom and the choices in life, always leading us to see creation as a miracle to take part in. "...as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, & the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud." (Exodus 16:11)

In Exodus 16, the people are led to depend on God and trust in God's provisions. They are led to live in a new lifestyle, close and personal with Him. They collected just enough manna or food each day, not hoarding in greed; living openly, generously, in community where everyone had enough and everyone took part and shared. All heard the proclamation of assurances God had for them. There were no secret insiders, no pyramid of hierarchy, no one ignored or forgotten.

When they complained, Moses told them to take it to God directly, personally, for God heard them, the cries in Egypt, and the complaining in the wilderness. As Pastor Jim has lifted up so well in his Monday evening Bible study on prayers in the Old Testament, God wants us to be authentic, *express it all, as Abraham, Moses, and Hannah did*. Putting God In Our Lives First.

When we follow the world's ambitions, or a dictator like Pharaoh, we are led to live in fear and great anxiety. We start to hoard, compete, and fight, as our fears divide us. Many of us, like them then, are looking for the temporary solution of an exit, when God provides an Exodus, a real transformation of life and our way of life; that is likely to be scary for most people. In Exodus 16 as I listen to the passages, I hear grief in their hearts. Knowing that history could have been different, even the history of the Egyptians to the point they could have treated the Israelites better, more justly, and not treated them as slaves, animals, property, or a threat to be controlled.

When the Israelites were remembering, they engaged in selective remembering of the past and Egypt inaccurately. When writing about human nature and our minds and hearts, a leader reflected that, "Present anxiety (high emotions), distorts ours (& their) memory of recent past." Anxiety and fear among many emotions have a way of narrowing a person's outlook, understanding and memories; the anxiety and fear ends up limiting, confining (& enslaving) people, all of us. Like Esau, they (as many of us today) want and choose immediate gratification over long-term fulfillment, and deeper personal relationships – they want an Exit, God provides and offers us all an Exodus. It is a deeper, more challenging way of life. One that calls to the deepest parts of our hearts and lives, "Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard you!"

One of life's greatest treasures and blessings is to understand and perceive that we are part of a great, beloved miracle, personally known, sacred & holy. The purpose of our worship, fellowship and all the ministries of our church are to help us weave God's lifestyle into our lives fully. We surely are not property, a mere object, or chattel. Our growth in God's love never stops; God is always refining us and helping us mature to be more like Him, resonating with the DNA that we are made in his image. I pray that God's Word and the love that reaches through to us is always kept near, and may we draw near to the Lord for he has heard and knows and loves us.

"The Lord is my strength & my might, and He has become my salvation!" – Tim





Worship in September at West Grove UMC

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



8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Worship. Live Streaming on You Tube.

Sunday, October 1 – World Communion Sunday

Please join us for World Wide Communion Sunday as our scripture for worship is focused on Philippians 2:1-13, where Paul casts God's vision of community and personal holiness for us. God's love makes a difference in our lives, building community of the Spirit, when we have heart, the heart of Christ, we express care as deep-spirited friends. Not trying to be in charge, in front on top, we put ourselves aside to help others get ahead. God wants us to "Think of your self the way Christ thought of himself," set aside the privileges, and advantages. So many people seek, and redouble your efforts to live closely with God. We also will say thank you and offer our blessings and farewell to Melanie Jones for her five years of service here.

Sunday, October 8, 2023 - "Thy Kin-dom Come"

We are going to take a look at Exodus 20:1-7, v.17 "have no other gods before me" as well as poke around Matthew 6:5-13 to get a clearer picture of what it means to "hallow" God. What other gods are we tempted to worship? Finally, considerable thought will be provoked as we ponder apparent different understandings of God: the "warrior" God (Exodus 15:3) who the Israelites applaud after crossing of the sea and watching their pursuing enemies drown in contrast to the compassionate Christ whispering "forgive them" with breath's final draw on the cross. Amidst the divisiveness, uncertainties, and fearfulness of our times some Christians want God to be more like John Wayne than Jesus. Let's talk about that

Sunday, October 15—Laity Sunday—Prayer changes things

Scripture Exodus 32:1-14 and Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 Please join us for worship on October 15th as we look at the sermon of "Prayer Changes Things". See how the prayer of Moses changes God's intent to destroy the people of Israel for their disobedience and relents and forgives them. This is why we need to be focused on prayer in our life that we may ask forgiveness from God and find forgiveness from Him.

Sunday, October 22

Did you ever want to help partner with your father or mother when you were growing up? We'll share scripture from Exodus 33:12-23; Moses wants God to let him in on God's plans. It is a request most of us can identify with. We all are made to be at God's side, to be learning, growing as we are partnering with God. When we have a clear view from God, we are more capable in how and what we choose. Asking God, let me in on your plans leads us to collaborate and partner with God, and each other. Perhaps the reason why the world is so divisive and divided is because we are focused on God first. Wanting to help our dad with work; burning leaves. Know his voice; parakeet & owner's voice/ commands; My presence will go with you to the end. Let us see your glory; you won't see my face. We will also likely hear from passages in I Thessalonians 1:1-10, where we are taught that the Holy Spirit can put steel in our convictions, and help us determine how to live faithfully facing trouble and lead to God's joy.

Sunday, October 29—Reformation Sunday

October will fly by, and as we reach the end of the month, we will consider the death of Moses and what it meant to his people, and how God led them through a very unsettling transition. How did Moses do it? Lead his people through such times as he did? We turn to I Thessalonians 2:1-8, and hear how God has called us to seek God's point of view and approval, not human popularity. It is not an easy challenge to respond to and fulfill, yet we need to look at how it has been essential to lives of faith. When we communicate with each other, especially about faith, we don't work to butter each other up or put up smoke screen to hearts and lives, we reach out with and to God and one another's hearts.

November 5 All Saints Sunday – Communion

We will honor our members who have passed away this past year, and pray you will join us as we entrust God with their hearts and spirits, grateful of the assurance of God's eternal life and love. God will help and bless us through the grief we share, and find ways to bring us closer to Him and one another as He builds us in a community of love and faith.

The Color of Compromise – History Could Have been Different

Our thanks to Peter Mullen and Mel Leaman for their facilitation of this study on how Christians in America tragically engaged in starting and continuing the practice of slavery. A profound understanding that many of us have had for a long time, found within the study is that, “History could have been different.” Sadly, many people made horrible choices as they distorted God’s Word and the truth, to justify their own desires. Many others remained complacent and passive, where God calls us to stand up for what is righteous and just, and work to make changes in His transformative power of love and grace. We face many of the same challenges today, in how we interpret scripture and apply God’s Word and presence to our lives. Many people today are led to focus today on what we want, our own self gratification over God’s priorities, and could easily fall in the trap of simply using people as a means to our end, missing the opportunities to have real, caring, sacred relationships that are centered on holiness.

Many people only see other people has having ‘value’ in as much as they can be used to fulfill personal desires. Such a decision is made in politics, economics, and even romance. The real challenge is also in the ways we interpret or misinterpret scripture. God is working to make us whole, as Methodists we call it sanctification, a refinement of the heart to be more like God, like Christ in the ways we love and share life.

We are able to overcome many fears and hesitations of hearing such a study, when we trust God, allow the power of the Holy Spirit, our Advocate and Spirit of Truth that Jesus promised will be with us, to lead. If you haven’t taken part so far, I’m sure there is still room. We look forward to sharing more insights as they unfold. We are blessed to have about twenty people take part, many of whom are not members of our church, yet willing to understand the ways our faith has unfolded. Please continue to pray for all of our ministries.

Sending Forth In Blessings

I was taught many times, from a variety of sources, to pay attention to emotions and work through them, especially with Faith in God in Christ. We have grief in experiencing Melanie and Tony leaving and move on in life, and yet we are very hopeful for them being in the place where God is leading them, and give them our blessings for a great life full of grace, growing blessed and blessing others. We will celebrate Melanie’s expressions of faith and friendship on Sunday, October 1 at the 11AM service during worship and look forward to having you join us.

Grief Share

Being aware of our grief can, and often is, a painful journey to deal with. Yet it brings with it great empowerment as we face the fears and challenges of life and death. It means so much to us to be able to have a trusting fellowship where we can share openly, candidly with one another (as our Bible studies and mediations have stated). We can learn from each other’s journey in faith through life. We seek real friendships in Christ together. I’ve been blessed to be meeting with the Grief Share group, and the candid truth is, we all are grieving at some level or another about changes in life, or losses of relationships and life with loved ones. God’s heart can fill ours and empower us to live life fully.

Grief can cause us to limit our hearts and minds, to be so constrained and broken that we only focus on ourselves and our pain. The narrow approach can lead to dangerous responses. God wants us to know and receive His presence with us in the depth of our need, and we need each other in fellowship where we can grow in our trust of God and one another. It helps us embrace life, learning from the past, trusting God into the future. Grief can lead to anger, and the anger can lead to false conclusions and rage. With God’s assurance at our side, we can search for the whole truth, that empowers our best, most faithful responses.

In one of our recent modules, we examined how grief can turn to anger, and anger can turn into bitterness, hopelessness, and even violence when we don’t give ourselves to God. Knowing the expanse of God’s love for us as we consider what Jesus went through for us, we understand more of what God goes through every day with us, and the willingness God has out of love, to bear our burdens with us. And God brings healing and wholeness to us when we are open with Him. I am hopeful we will offer an additional gathering of Grief Share to build on what we have experienced. We know there will continue to be death, and losses of all types that lead to grief, and we want to be prepared and ready to respond, entrust ourselves to God in new ways, especially as the holidays approach. Thank you for your prayers for our ministries.

Our Future In Children & Youth Ministries

With changes coming in our ministry with children and youth, we always need to allow God's creativity of heart lead us. We continue to be prayerful and ask you for your prayers and personal involvement in the key components of our ministry that we need to fulfill in our love for and efforts with children, youth, and their families. We continue to search for a praise band leader and Children & Youth Director, and volunteers to help share and empower these ministries. Areas of immediate focus for us are:

- * We have openings to serve as a volunteer to teach and help on Sunday morning
- * We are planning on assembling Care Packages for College Students
- * And creating cards to send to members and friends who are less mobile
- * Adults who are willing to be with youth at youth nights and game nights
- * Adults who are willing to serve by attending special events with youth (concerts?)

We could host a Family Advent Night when we share soup or pizza and make wreaths for Advent, and, or something extravagant like gingerbread houses or other crafts. A game night, sharing board games or many games the youth enjoy playing, would also be great to offer. During Advent, our children in Sunday School could do a craft of making Christmas ornaments. There are additional ways to reach out to our primary school aged kids that can engage them and their families. There are so many possibilities for us, especially when we consider including the CMO families and their children and the families who come to Food pantry. It will take commitment and dedication from the fellowship to make it happen.

Play List of Contemporary Music

I have a play list of contemporary Christian songs that I listen to, often when I am writing or preparing a mediation or study, and also listen as part of devotions. I share them with you below, inviting you to hear them on You Tube, and make note of the ones that speak to your heart, to keep as a source of strength for your life when you hit the tough times or to celebrate the joys.

I'm hopeful that one day we will share them in worship, as I often use them for our prayers and call to worship. Keep your eyes on the bulletin for references. There's a lot more than I list here.

Help Is On the Way, & also Speak Life, both by TobyMac;

Never, by Tasha Layton; The River, by Jordan Feliz

Come as You Are; How He Loves; Forgiven; Run to the Father; All My Hope, by Crowder.

Good, Good Father, by Cody Carnes; Always, & Your Grace Is Enough, by Chris Tomlin

Another In the Fire, by Hillsong United; God Only Knows, by For King & Country

Live Like That; Keep Making Me; It's Good (Love's Not Safe); Help Me Find It

This Is Not Good Bye; Come to the Table, all by Sidewalk Prophets

There is so much incredible music available to us, along with the great old hymns that speak so deeply to faith, and God's faithfulness to us, that we are blessed, and we can embrace these blessings in worship or wherever we are.

PASTOR JIM'S CHRISTIAN LIVING COLUMN

—God Watches Over Us As We Journey in Life—

September 2023

God's Word is filled with promises from our Creator to provide and deliver. The Bible is the ultimate source for truth and God is faithful to fulfill all His promises. Few things are more comforting than knowing and believing that God is at work in our lives. This type of comfort is the result of a confidence not in our own abilities, but in a God whose promises never fail. What He says He will do. But this type of confidence comes only by faith. And faith comes by hearing God's Word (Romans 10:17).

Here are five promises of God that you can claim as your very own:

1. God Promises To Answer Your Prayers

Matthew 7:7, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

2. God Promises To Always Be With You

Romans 8:38-39, "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

3. God Promises To Work All Things For Your Good

Romans 8:28, "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

4. God Promises To Take Care Of All Your Needs

Philippians 4:19, "And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

5. God Promises Freedom from Your Sin

1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

These are only a few of the promises God has for us. Scripture is filled with His promises and it is up to us to find those that apply to us as individuals as we read and claim them from God's word





**Children's Morning Out & Preschool
Fall Craft Fair
Saturday, November 4th
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Vendor Applications now being accepted for the 1st ever Fall Craft Fair at West Grove United Methodist Church, hosted by WGUMC Preschool. Please reach out to wgumcfair@gmail.com if you are interested in applying for a booth at the Craft Fair. Applications will be accepted on a first come first served basis and will need to be submitted by Oct. 22nd.

Not looking to be a vendor? Just come and shop!
So, save the date to get some Christmas shopping done early!

Food Pantry



West Grove UMC Food Pantry

Weekly Hours:

Wednesdays: 5:00—6:30 p.m.

Thursdays: 1:00—2:00 p.m.

Our Church Food Bank

Depends on You!

FOOD PANTRY NEWS:

The church food pantry provides assistance every week to families in our community dealing with food insecurity. The bulk of the food we distribute comes from the Chester County Food Bank. We also receive food from the West Chester Food Cupboard, the Acme in Avondale and the Jennersville and New Garden Giants. Mighty Writers continues to partner with us as we share those donations listed above, receive diapers and feminine products from one of their sources and donate our leftover food to them on Thursday afternoons for their distributions at the end of each week. If you would like to support this outreach, we welcome monetary donations and food and household products. The most needed food items include corn tortillas, cooking oil and dry pinto beans. Household and personal items such as detergent, baby wipes, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo and conditioner are also greatly appreciated. We thank you for your on-going support!



A VISIT FROM OUR FRIENDS IN TANZANIA

The Mission team is happy to announce that we will be receiving a visit from Umba and Ngoy Kalangwa from Tanzania on the 15th of October.

Those of you that have been at WCUMC for a long time will recall that we have supported their mission in the past.

We are planning to have fellowship time with them after the 11am service that will include viewing their slides and having some refreshments.

Offerings supporting their mission will be welcome.

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

Retired Active People



RAP kicked off its 26th year of monthly gatherings and programs on Friday, September 8th. We are grateful to Ray McKay, one of our longtime members, for presenting his program on "Civil War trivia and interesting facts."

Thank you Sara Ann for leading us into another year of fellowship and fun.

Join us on October 13, 2023 at noon in the church sanctuary for our next gathering. We will welcome Adam P. Solty from Neff Therapy who will present helpful physical therapy tips on safety and balance.

Bring your bagged lunch and enjoy provided hot and cold beverages and desserts. We appreciate everyone's help each month and the delicious

desserts provided by our members.

Invite your friends and join us for an enjoyable afternoon with friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome!

Please RSVP to Sara Ann Ramberger at sar57ver@verizon.net or call her at 610-869-3863 so we may setup and plan accordingly.

The RAP Committee:

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



Donna came to work at West Grove UMC, almost 20 years ago and she and I became friends very quickly. She proved to be a wonderful co-worker who grew into a terrific, dedicated, compassionate, hard working, forward thinking, and innovative one woman church office.

It has always been a challenge in the working world to find good employees. But in Donna, we not only found a great employee, but we found someone who held the wants and needs of the people at WGUMC in high regard. She has always been highly committed to taking on new duties, for the betterment of all.

If you are connected in anyway with the workings of the WGUMC office, you have seen for yourself how much this woman does. Its rather mind boggling. If you have not, I'm here to tell you, this woman is a dynamo.

Donna and I have remained friends all these years. It was her idea to bring your old church administrator (ME) back, train her and split the job. (Donna will still be doing the financials from home) It is a joy to be working together again. However, 20 years is a long time, and I am blown away at how the job has changed and at how much she actually does. To say I am replacing her is a fallacy! This woman is virtually irreplaceable.

I just feel it's so important that all of you know this. She has given her heart and soul to WGUMC and served you above and beyond the call of duty, time after time. I know God knows this and



I'm sure he is saying: "Well done my good and faithful servant". It is a very tall order, but I will try my very best to fill her shoes! I think I speak for everyone when I say: **THANK YOU DONNA.**

METHODIST SERVICES 2023 HOLIDAY TOY, GIFT AND CARD DRIVE

Ways To Participate

- **ONLINE:** Make a secure online donation via methodistservices.org & click “Donate Now” and Choose Holiday Gift in the drop-down menu.
- **BY MAIL:** Make a cash donation via check, payable to Methodist Services. Mail to: Methodist Services, 4300 Monument Road, Philadelphia, PA 19131 ATTN: Holiday Gift
- **DROP OFF & PICK UP – BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**
- If you’d like to donate new, unwrapped toys or gifts, gift cards, or arts & crafts, contact Carole Boughter at cboughter@methodistservices.org or 215.877.1925 ext.104.
- **THANK YOU FOR DONATING ONLY NEW & UNWRAPPED GIFTS!**
- We are moving up our in-hand submission date to the Week of December 11
- **Young Children: Infants & Toddlers:** Board Books, Toddler Toys, Mr. Potato Head, Peg Puzzles, Push & Ride-on Toys, Bibs, Diapers & Wipes
- **Pre-School: Ages 3-5 Years:** Age-Appropriate Books, Mr/Ms Potato Head, Age-Appropriate Toys, Safe Blocks, Art Supplies (Paints, Finger Paints, Markers), Playdough, Fun Foam, Kinetic Sand, Craft Supplies (Ribbon, Yarn, Fabric, etc), Trucks, Cars, Active Toys, Dolls (African American, Latino, Other), Wooden Puzzles, Dress Up Clothing & Accessories, Learning Games
- **Elementary School: Ages 6-10 Years:** Action Figures, Legos, 30 to 50 Piece Puzzles, Age-Appropriate Books, Sports Equipment, Team Apparel, Arts & Crafts Supplies, Trucks, Train & Car Sets, Dolls (African American, Latino, etc.)
- **Middle School: Ages 11-14 Years:** Age-Appropriate Books, Bi-Lingual Books & Games, Arts & Crafts Supplies, Science Kits, Robotic Sets, Beauty & Grooming Items, Sports Equipment, Team Apparel, Jewelry, Video Games, Gaming Systems
- **High School: Ages 15-18 Years:** Age-Appropriate Books, Gift Cards, Arts & Crafts Supplies, Sports Equipment, Beauty & Grooming Items, Jewelry, Video Games, Gaming Systems
- **Young Adult: Ages 18-24 Years:** Pillows & Twin Comforters, Twin Bed Sheets & Mattress Protectors, Towel Sets & Washcloths, Shower Curtains & Liners, Dish Cloths, Board Games, Journals, Small Room Trash Cans, Dish Sets, Pots/Pans
- **Adults in Our Programs:** Books, Jewelry, Beauty & Grooming Items, Personal Care Baskets, Hats, Scarves, Watches
- Our families treasure Gift Cards of any value from Target, Kohl’s, Walmart, Best Buy & Old Navy. Please mark the amount of the Gift Card on the envelope. Many of our programs serve young children and families who would also benefit from the donation of NEW car seats, bouncy seats, high chairs, boxes of disposable diapers (all sizes) and other baby care items. We also appreciate receiving

Christmas
Blessing



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 a.m.-9:30 a.m. ~ October 22nd.**

More information will be shared as plans are made. All men and boys are invited to attend.

Contact Pastor Jim or Michael Duvall with your questions.

A THANK YOU FROM THE WGUMC DECORATING COMMITTEE

We would like to thank the United Methodist Women for donating the funds to buy the two new banners that will be adorning the sanctuary. One is for Pentecost and the other for Epiphany. We are so looking forward to hanging them up in the sanctuary for all to enjoy.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CHANCEL CHOIR OR PRAISEWORKS



Catch Betsy Smith after the service
or Contact her at
musicmomva@aol.com

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Do you like music? Do you think you'd like to try ringing bells? The Memory Bells will start rehearsing this month. The schedule is still in the works and will be announced soon. Playing bells is a large commitment since the first requirement is that you be present for rehearsals or find a substitute to fill in (we provide a sub list). We play in church the third Sunday of every month, plus a few extra events such as Advent Music Night, Christmas Eve, Easter, and one performance at the Twin Pines Nursing Home. But we can guarantee that it is a very rewarding commitment, in addition to a lot of fellowship and friendship.

Sound interesting? Please contact Peggy Watkins or any handbell member to find out more! Many bell-essings to you!



WGUMC OFFICE EMAIL

Donna Fackler, our office administrator, has officially retired. (Thank you, and well done Donna). However, she will be working from home on the church's billing, payroll and financials. All other church related matters will be handled by the new church administrator, April Spencer, in the church office.

Accordingly, we have separated our email addresses as follows:

Anything other than billing, payroll and financial matters will be emailed to:

office@westgroveumc.org.

All billing, payroll and any other financial matters should be emailed to:

donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org

This takes effect immediately.



United Methodist Women's Fall Rummage Sale

Friday, October 6th, 9 a.m.-2
p.m.

Saturday, October 7th, 9
a.m.-Noon

Bring your donations from Sunday, October 1st through Thursday, October 5th. Saturday special: Fill a Bag for only \$5.00!! Left-over items are donated to Mission Santa Maria.

Our United Methodist Women, who sponsor this sale, fund ministries and missions within the church and throughout community with the proceeds from the Rummage Sale. Thank you!

CMO UPATE:

Hello!

Fall is in the air and it's been a busy month at Preschool! The children are all settled into their new school routines, new friendships have been made and memories are being formed! Our first month just flew by and we had fun learning about families, friends, transportation, and farms. Speaking of farms, our fall field trip to Milburn Orchards is taking place on October 3rd and 4th. We can't wait to learn all about apples, take a hayride, and see all of the animals and other attractions the farm has to offer!

Our Preschool is hosting a Fall Craft Fair at the Church on Saturday, November 4th from 9-3. If you are a crafter please contact WGUMCfair@gmail.com if you are interested in applying for a booth. If you are just looking for a way to help the preschool raise money, please consider donating a baked good for our bake sale that will be held during the craft fair. Individually wrapped items are helpful! If you would just like to come shop, we would love to see you! Please stop by, the children from CMO will have some very special Christmas items for sale!

Starting on Wednesday, October 18th, Pizza Kits will be back! For \$15 you will receive a kit with dough, sauce and cheese to make two 14" pizzas. What a deal! This year we are partnering with the Stottsville Inn for our pizza kits. The Quinn Family owns the Inn and is a Preschool Family. If you haven't had the opportunity to try their pizza (or any of their delicious food) yet, you NEED to! There will be a sign up sheet hanging in the pre-school hallway for pizza kits. Sign up and money (cash or check made out to WGUMC CMO) will need to be paid by the Monday the kit will be delivered. Thanks in advance!



As always, thanks for your support! Abbie

PASTOR VISIT



Is there someone who would like a visit? A joy of ministry is offering communion and times for fellowship and prayer, and I look forward to offering it as I have throughout the time I have shared in ministry. Please give me a call if you or someone you know would like me to visit. 484.720.8626 pastor@westgroveumc.org

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)?

ASK THE UMC!

Your questions, answered.
Explore the online library, live chat or email us.

[← LEARN MORE](#)

BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER

Jonathan LeSturgeon	04
Grace Bowes	08
Jake Schneider	08
Bob Hocking	11
Harper Lingenfeler	11
Joanna Stephenson	13
Valerie Kapp-Benner	16
Pam Carmichael	17
Madeline Smith	17
Lois Hocking	18
Susan Paisley	18
Christian Schneider	18
Amy Aucott	19
Gina Bechtel	19
Janice Bowers	20
Simonds, Amy	21
Kyle Aucott	23
Jill Croft	23
Jill Hocking	24
Jackson May	26

Fernando Tena	26
Jonathan Tena	26
Matthew McLaughlin	28
Donald Anderson	29
Jessi Timm	29
Austin McCummings	29
Jessica Timm	29



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



West Grove United Methodist Church
OPEN • GROW • SERVE

300 North Guernsey Road, West Grove, Pa. 19390

610-869-9334 office@westgroveumc.org

www.westgroveumc.org

~ 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.

The Reverend Timothy Carl Anderman, Lead Pastor

pastor@westgroveumc.org

Office Hours: Monday—Friday

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Staff

The Reverend Jim Mundell - Associate Pastor,
Chaplain at Jenner's Pond

Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

Youth & Children's Ministry Director

Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

April Spencer - Church Administrator

Office@westgroveumc.org

Donna Fackler—Financial Administrator

Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director

Contemporary Music Interim Director

Keyboardist

Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org

OPEN—Handbell Choir Director

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

Michael Duvall—Tech Team Leader

Christian Education

Children's Ministry Team Contact

Valerie Kapp-Benner - Missions Chair

Dick and Caryl Stuhrke - Hospitality Committee Chair

Susan Paisley -Delegate to Annual Conference

Pastor Tim - 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

