



The Wesleyan Star

**West Grove
United Methodist Church**

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November 2023



Regarding life together and getting along with each other...just love one another!"

(I Thessalonians 4:9 The Message)

There are times when I read Paul's words and totally agree with him, and then there are times when I think, if only it were that easy! Truth is, it is easy and at the same time a great life challenge, when we are keeping close and disciplined with Jesus Christ. God loves us all, and God will provide the empowerment we need. In his book *Travelling Light*, Eugene Peterson tells us there are two dynamics we need to remember: "there is no even distribution of strengths, the blessings and difficulties, as challenges are unevenly distributed." The second dynamic to remember is some people have heavier loads placed on them than others – burdens of illness, work, family, emotional trauma. And not all of us get equal strengths. Some are born with strong bodies and fragile emotions, others with robust emotions and weak bodies.

Once we understand these aspects of life, "we will not arrogantly separate ourselves from others when we find ourselves strong, nor will we withdraw in graveling self-pity when we find ourselves weak." We don't call others, "strange," or say they are "stranger than us as strangers;" we are all God's children. As Christians living in God's grace, we are free to share both weakness and strengths, burdens and abilities. We all face so many overwhelming challenges today with so much division over a variety of issues. God is with us in the midst of it all. Our church fellowship needs to embody God's grace and be a source of hope in life for all. Thank you for your participation, and we pray we might all come to perceive how we are blessed when we relate with each other in God's grace to appreciate the variety of journeys we have experienced. We can learn from each other and help each other grow in understanding when God leads us.

Leadership In Faith

Wrapping up our worship insights through the summer into fall, we learned that Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses all learned to live life more fully by personally engaging, even wrestling with God every day. After he came down the mountain, Moses found the people worshipping an idol, instead of patiently waiting on God. He became very angry, and through his experience, Moses learned many lessons. He was very candid with God, trusting God to respond in real ways. Moses asked God, who would be with him in his efforts in leadership? Moses pressed God to be in partnership with him. He knew he could never provide leadership on his own, and then he also realized that all of the people needed to get closer to God, and take the covenant into their hearts and weave it into the ways they (& we) live life every day. For us as disciples of Jesus Christ, it is essential, vital that we too seek to understand the heart of God as much as we can, and are called to allow God to lead our efforts in leadership.

FROM TIM

Quarterly Thank You

Our quarterly offering report and thank you letter has been sent. Please contact the office if you did not receive it. As 2023 comes to a close, and we begin the year ahead, our fellowship faces several challenges that we can only respond to by seeking to live more closely, deeply with God. God wants us to overcome the challenges we face and is right with us in our efforts. It is vital we do not ignore Him, and instead choose to get closer. Then we have a joy and hope that blesses. There are so many great ways for all of us to share his grace and mercy. The creativity God provides is incredible.

Consecration of Time & Talent

Please consider your service to Christ in 2024, as we will again observe this year a consecration of time and talent on Sunday, November 12th at both services. Many times, for many people, offering one's time is a most precious gift to give, and how and why we give is most blessed when we are responding to and freely sharing God's grace, not expecting a payback for our efforts. In every group there can be people who believe they are being helpful, important in offering criticism as they strive to maintain control, and "be in charge." The One who really needs to be in charge of our efforts and ministries is God. It sounds really obvious, yet so many times we start measuring our efforts by someone else's standards, and not what God in grace in Christ has taught us. And we then wonder why people get discouraged. Don't let someone else set the standards for you, may God empower us in our service to Him.

Consecration of Financial Giving

When we share an offering, we give in response to the generous ways God has blessed us all. It is a way of expressing and sharing His love, and we strive to do it in the deepest ways we can. Not with strings attached, or demands and expectations that only place us at the center. The real joy is in allowing God to be at the center of who we are and what we do. When we approach life and relationships in such ways, we are empowered to overcome the fears and anxieties many in the world want to impose on us. There are a lot of Pharaohs who want to put our nose to the grindstone, expend ourselves, to make bricks for them. Through our trust in God, Christ, and our fellowship together, we can overcome cycles of enslavement to be set free to live life fully. Sharing an offering is an exercise in trusting God. Let us be prayerful as we make our commitments.

Annual Charge Conference

Our Annual Charge Conference will be held on Saturday, November 18th from 1-2:30 PM, all are welcome as we gather with other Methodist churches in the area to care for our yearly resolutions that lead and certify our church's operations. It will be led by Rev. Tom Davis-Shappell a retired elder.



Grief Share

A great blessing shared in our fellowship this year has been the Grief Share group that has been meeting together for the past eleven weeks. We've shared our hearts, and learned a lot together, and have a lot more to learn. I've asked the group to continue to meet in preparation for the holidays and offer our time to our church and the community. We've been very blessed to have Clara, a woman who is not a member of our church, whose husband died earlier this year, join us for our weekly meeting. We all have a workbook, and we watch a video as we share our memories and experiences and response to the material. The group is considering sharing the study again, because there is so much to take in, we need more than just one time. We would like to invite others to take part, for we can also see how grief impacts us all and is at the core of many of the tensions and the distance people are experiencing.

Color of Compromise

Special thanks to Mel Leaman and Peter Mullen for offering the study the Color of Compromise in helping us understand how our faith, fellowship in our church can be stronger and more faithful to God. We always seek the truth and entrust ourselves to God, so that we might grow and mature in His love and grace. The group continues to meet on Saturday mornings and by Zoom on other evenings. Many who are taking part are not members of our church, and are willing to grow in understanding. Our faith always faces the danger of being distorted, and our priority is to make sure we stay close to God and be open to the truth as God transforms. Please contact Mel or Peter if you have an interest in taking part or reading the book; there is also a workbook that guides participants in devotions through the study. Mel and Peter have been intentional about bringing scripture, and God's perspective to what has happened, and how God will lead us to heal the past and current prejudice that so many people are entrapped in. Please keep our ministries in your prayers.

Children and Youth Ministries

For five years we were blessed to have Melanie Jones serving here as our children and youth ministry director. We pray for God's blessings as she moves forward, continuing her work in an after school program and also joining and leading a fellowship in New Jersey, while earning a master's degree in social work and counseling. We are searching for a new person to help lead our efforts; we need more than a program director, we need to keep ministry as our first priority. I pray we make the most of this time to renew our fellowship's focus on having us all grow in faith through our efforts. We are doing more than increasing our children and youth's knowledge of God, Jesus Christ, and God's Word, we all want to help each other grow closer to God in personal ways.

Children and youth have a lot to teach us, in helping us grow in the ways we know and remember that we are loved by God, and share it in fellowship together. When I experience human nature, I find myself believing that we are all, when compared with our tech world, made with an "open-source code," not limited in the possibilities God provides. Instead, we are seeking to be open to God, living authentically, faithfully now, and preparing for the future and living creatively in God's grace. Our hope is that we also can help parents overcome the parents' fears and anxieties in the responsibilities they face in rearing their children. It takes a village. We all made a covenant together at baptism, that is confirmed when we accept Christ in joining the church.

Our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service truly matter, making a difference in the world. We've needed volunteers and people, including our youth, to make commitments that we all will follow through with. It was frustrating to experience Melanie prepare and offer times, and then few or no-one would show up. We need volunteers and participation in youth and children's activities in ministry, and also Sunday School. It is a joy for me to be with children and youth. Perhaps many people forget just how much we and they are loved by God, and what a difference it can make to share his heart, and the joy it can bring. Special thanks to Andrew Herman for stepping up in working to bring some of the efforts together. Please contact Andrew or Tim if you have an interest in serving. We look forward to the joy we can have as we grow.



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, November 5—All Saints Sunday—Communion

The first Sunday of November we will celebrate the promise of eternal life in Christ and the lives of the people who have died in the past year, while sharing communion together. Our focus in scripture will be the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12. We will also refer to passages from Revelation 7:9-17, and I John 3:1-3. There will be a reading from Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Sunday, November 12

On November 12 we will observe the consecration of our Time & Talent, prayerful about how we will serve Christ together in 2024. An updated time & talent form will be available soon. We'll focus on Matthew 25:14-30, a story about how we invest ourselves, and refer to Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25, when Joshua led the people to set God at the center of their lives and not be distracted by all the other gods so many people worship; there will also be a reading from Psalm

78:1-7

Sunday, November 19

On November 19, we will consecrate our commitment of financial giving for 2024, as this practice helps the church plan its yearly budget, envisioning the future, our priorities, and how God is leading us. Our focus in worship will be Matthew 25:1-13, a story about being prepared for opportunities and sharing blessings, with a reading of Psalm 123.

Sunday, November 26

It must seem strange for people today, especially Americans to think about celebrating Christ as our King. Yet perhaps with the disappointments so many people experience with a variety of leaders, Christ is the one we can count on and turn to for wisdom, embodying grace and mercy. We will focus on a story for our meditation that Jesus told that greatly challenges us all to be aware of the impact of our lives. It is found in Matthew 25:31-46, and we will hear a reading from Psalm 100, along with references to Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, where God promises to personally be our Shepherd and help us when we are distressed. (the true mark of a real King); and Ephesians 1:15-23, a prayer for wisdom and guidance in the presence of God through Christ.

Advent Celebrations

We look forward to preparing the Way for Christ to come into our lives, building on trustworthy practices that have helped faithful people for generations know that God is coming into our lives in creative ways. There are complexities to the dynamics of our lives, especially in many of the challenges we face, yet there is also great depth of strength and complexity to the Living God we worship and seek to live with that can do more than overcome; God brings forth new life in Joy, peace, wholeness, as Christ is our Way and hope. We look forward to celebrating God's blessings as we prepare for Christmas.

PASTOR JIM'S CHRISTIAN LIVING COLUMN

—God Watches Over Us As We Journey in Life—

November 2023

With all that is happening in Israel we should look at this land. The land of Israel is the most important place on earth. The most important city is not Washington or Moscow, but Jerusalem. The most important land, believe it or not, is not America but tiny Israel, about the size of New Jersey.

What does the Bible have to say about Israel? Israel: the geographic center. “See, I have set thee in the midst of the nations (Ezekiel 5:5). Israel, called “the navel of the earth,” is strategically located at the hub of three continents.

Israel: the revelation center. From this land, the land of Moses, the prophets and the apostles, came the Word of God. It was here that the Word of God speaks of, tells history of, and is the center of all that is to come.

Israel: the spiritual center. In Bethlehem Jesus was born. In Nazareth He grew to maturity. In Galilee He walked and taught on the mountainsides and beside the Sea. In Jerusalem our Lord was crucified, buried, and rose from the dead. From the

Mount of Olives He ascended. And to the Mount of Olives He will return; His feet will first touch down upon the Mount of Olives On that day his feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south. (Zechariah 14:4).

Israel: the prophecy center. Prophecy is “prewritten history.” The land of Israel is the only land belonging to God’s people. The details of their future are minutely recorded in the Bible. If you want to know what God is doing, study Israel and her people.

Israel: the storm center. The Middle East, specifically Israel, is the world’s greatest trouble spot. The Bible says “Jerusalem will be a burdensome stone for all people” of the world - (Zechariah 12:3), and indeed we see in the daily news the gathering storm clouds of Armageddon. On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

Israel: the peace center. We’re told to “pray for the peace of Jerusalem” (Psalm 122:6). There will never be peace on earth until there’s peace in Jerusalem, until Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, rules, and reigns from Jerusalem. When we are praying for the peace of Jerusalem, we are praying, “Even so, come Lord Jesus.” We want our Lord to reign from Zion, to sit upon the throne of his father David.

Israel: one day will be the glory center. When our Lord returns, Jerusalem will be the capital city not only of Israel but of the entire world, and the Word of the Lord shall go forth from Zion (Isaiah 2:3). Jesus will reign from Jerusalem (Luke 1:32). Israel is at the center of God’s plan. Excerpted and modified from CrossWalk.com. Pastor Jim



Jenner's Pond Residents!

Join us for worship on October 8, at 11 a.m.

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 meditation 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.

Vendor & Craft Fair



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

Come and shop! And get some Christmas shopping done early!

PIZZA AND MOVIE NIGHT

**Saturday, November 11th from
6 to 9 pm.**

WGUMC is scheduling monthly Activities for our Jr. High and High School youth groups.

November's activity is Pizza and a Movie night (both age groups invited).

Come enjoy homemade Pizza!

Crust supplied by the church along with sauce, cheese and pepperoni. You can bring any topping you desire. Pizza made in our kitchen, followed by a movie with a short message afterwards.

Bring all your friends, parental help would be greatly appreciated.

Movie & Pizza Time



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!

LAY LEADERSHIP MEETING:

Are you able to serve Christ by helping with the lay leadership at WGUMC?

If you are interested, we are having a lay leadership meeting on Wednesday November 1, at 6:30 pm. All who are willing to serve are invited.

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WGUMC WORK DAY:

Mark your calendars! Saturday, November 11th WGUMC is having a church work day.

Anyone willing and able to volunteer their services would be greatly appreciated. We will be doing grounds work, repairing our cross and flame on the church front, among other tasks. Give an afternoon, or an hour, you decide.



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



Join us for our next gathering on November 10, 2023 at noon in the sanctuary. Bring your bagged lunch and enjoy the delicious desserts and beverages provided by our members. Caryl and Dick Stuhrke will be our group leaders. RAP member, **Dick Stuhrke, will present a program entitled, "Iconic Boats/Ships from History."** He will also bring along some models he has put together.

We thank Dr. Adam P. Solty of Neff Therapy for providing our October program. We learned some interesting facts about a healthy spine and good posture. Thank you, Paulette Bryan, for leading our group last month.

Thank you to everyone who helps make our monthly gatherings possible. We welcome help with setup and cleanup. Each month, volunteers offer desserts, and we thank each of you.

Everyone is welcome! Invite a friend or two and enjoy an afternoon of good fellowship and interesting programs

Hope to see you in November!

Please RSVP to Sara Ann Ramberger at sar57@verizon.net or 610-869-3863 to let us know if you plan to attend so we may setup and plan accordingly.

The RAP Committee: Paulette Bryan, Cindy Haley, Joyce Lewis, Sara Ann Ramberger and Caryl Stuhrke.



THANKS TO ALL FOR A SUCCESSFUL RUMMAGE SALE



We wish to thank everyone who donated to our Fall Rummage Sale, and everyone who came out to help and support our sale. We had a very successful sale which netted \$3,230. These funds go directly to support various local and global missions. We are not able to provide this event to the public without the help and support of many volunteers.

UMW has been very busy supporting several ministries: We have recently **sent six care packages of favorite snacks to our college students.**

Priscilla Barkman and Paulette Bryan are in the process of **assembling and distributing the Advent Bags.** If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Priscilla and Paulette.

We are also **collecting personal care items**, such as, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioners, to be distributed to our food pantry clients during the holidays. If you would like to help us collect these items, please bring them to the church anytime in November and place them in the black bin in the lobby marked for this collection. Nancy Howard will see that these items are distributed.

Again, thank you to everyone who supports the United Methodist Women and our many missions. Cindy Haley and Fran Miller

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. ~ November 25.**

(There will be no meeting in December.)

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.

From the earliest days in the church, community has gathered to remember those who have gone onto the glory. On All Saints' Day, the church remembers those who have died in the previous year. This cherished tradition has been important in this congregation for many years.

We remember beloved members of the church, special loved ones of our families, and those for whom we have performed funeral and memorial services. Our remembrance includes pictures, the tolling of the bell, and the lighting of the candles.

You may be remembering a loved one this year. We would like to give thanks to God for their life in our All Saints Day service on November 7th .

Please make sure that the office has the name of your loved one, a picture of your loved one, in addition to their date of birth and date of death, by October 31st. It is our privilege to remember those who moved onto the church triumphant, even as we hold the tenderness of loss.



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 financials will be emailed to: **office@westgroveumc.org**.

All billing, payroll and any other financials should be emailed to: **donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org**

This takes effect immediately.

Annual Christmas Music Celebration

Sunday, December 3th ~ 6:30 p.m.

Christmas brings out the best music in all of us! Bring your family and invite your friends! Our family-friendly time of 6:30 p.m. allows all ages to join in the festivities.

Welcome the Advent Season with music by the Chancel Choir, Memory Bells Handbell Choir, PraiseWorks Band, special musical numbers by our talented friends and, of course, a carol sing-along.

Stay after for delicious, homemade Christmas cookies and cider. Invite your friends and family to get in the Christmas spirit!

If you would like to perform in this special event with a solo, duet, small group, instrumental, dance, etc., please let Betsy Smith know by Sunday, November 26th. musicmomva@aol.com

CMO UPATE:

Happy Autumn ! Fall is in the air at Preschool.

We are busy learning about leaves, apples, pumpkins and the most fun of all, Halloween!

October has been a very fun and busy month for us, starting with a field trip to Milburn Orchards

where we went on a fun hayride, learned about Johnny Appleseed, got to see farm animals, and even picked our own apples!

And we are capping off the month with even more fun with our Halloween celebrations and parade! There is lots of great artwork displayed as you make your way into the preschool wing, be sure to check it out.

Looking ahead, Preschool is hosting a fall Craft Fair on Saturday, November 4th from 9-3 here at the church. Please stop by to visit that day and kick start your holiday shopping!

We will be having a bake sale during the craft fair,

and I know that the church has many exceptional bakers!

If you would like to donate a baked good to the bake sale, please let Abbie know.

Individually wrapped goods are best ☐ Thank you in advance.





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

Chuck Dunn 03
 Jim Mundell 06
 Jamie Hocking 07
 Heather Wolfe 09
 Chris Bruno 09
 Abby Herman 10
 Jacob McMinn 11
 Carol Sweet 11
 Brian Barrett 13
 David Covington 14
 Jayna Bruno 16



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

Bonnie Wolff 17
 Mel Leaman 18
 Holly Stewart 18
 Lynne Strawhecker 21
 Tom Warfel 22
 Betty Mundell 22
 Justin Lytle 24
 Alyssa Lytle 24
 Emily Lytle 24
 Kelly Hendrickson 24
 Megan Gula 26
 Linda Brown 29



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
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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