



# The Wesleyan Star

## West Grove United Methodist Church

300 North Guernsey Road  
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Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)

March  
2024

### WGUMC Appointed and Interim Pastor

As you may know, in the Methodist Church Pastors for local churches are appointed by the bishop on an annual basis. Terms are fixed and run from July 1 of one year to June 30<sup>th</sup> of the next. The fact that Pastor Tim retired as of January 17<sup>th</sup>, means his replacement will not be appointed until July 1 of this year. In cases like ours, where there is an extended gap between the time the former pastor leaves and the new pastor comes on board, the bishop appoints an interim. This process requires the advice and consent of the local Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), which in our case is Cindy Haley, Cindy Hoover, Susan Paisley, Judy Gambil, Priscilla Barkman, Andrew Herman, Dan Elliott and myself as chair.

Finding and appointing an interim pastor to take us through to July 1<sup>st</sup> has taken somewhat longer than anticipated. West Grove however, has been especially blessed in that we have two uniquely qualified men who have stepped up to fill the gap, Jim Mundell and Mel Leaman. Jim, Mel - thank you for your faithfulness, dedication, sacrifice and plain hard work in keeping us together during this time. That being said, I am pleased to announce that as of this past week, an interim has been appointed who will fill in until our new pastor comes on board July 1. I am even more pleased to announce that she is no stranger to West Grove - Pastor Janice Bowers. Janice will serve as our lead pastor, albeit on an interim basis. Her first day on the job will be Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> and her first Sunday in the pulpit will be St Patrick's Day, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Due to the mandatory requirement that all leaving pastors must exit 2 Sundays before the new pastor takes over, her last Sunday will be June 16<sup>th</sup>.

While this is welcome news, I must also tell you that Janice currently serves part time as pastor for New London UMC and will continue in that capacity while serving as our interim. New London's Sunday morning worship service is at 9:00, which means she can only be available to preside and preach at our 11:00 service. Ad Council met this past Wednesday night, where, in recognition of Pastor Janice's commitment to New London, we reluctantly had to agree that it was in the best interest of the church and Janice as lead pastor to put our 8:30 service on pause during the time she is our interim. This wasn't an easy decision and I know some of you will be inconvenienced and disappointed. Looking to the future, please let us, the members of Ad Council and SPRC, know your thoughts on having two services especially those of you who have been regular attendees of the 8:30 service. In the meantime, we ask for your prayers and support as we welcome Janice and continue through this interim period. Dick Stuheke / SPRC Chair

## A NOTE FROM OUR NEW INTERIM PASTOR JANICE BOWERS

### *Hello West Grove UMC!*

*It is an honor and a privilege that I get to join you as your lead pastor for the next few months. I hold you close in my heart as my home church and as the place I was able to have endless opportunities for service to our Lord. My love and dedication to you has continued as I have been filling in as Financial Secretary over the last couple of years until another rises up from the congregation.*

*If you are new to West Grove since the pandemic, I look forward to meeting you. If you have been around for a while, I look forward to renewing acquaintances. For the last four years I have been serving in my first appointment as lead pastor at New London UMC in Lincoln University, just a few miles from WGUMC. We have been blessed with a strong community and growth during this time.*

*While I was at West Grove I wore many hats: Christ Servant Minister, Missions Chair, Annual Conference Lay Delegate, Lay Leader Board, Finance Secretary, Alpha Director, VBS volunteer, member of Vision Team, and other assorted roles. I am excited to see what God has in store for us during these coming months.*

*I would be glad to speak with anyone informally or through a scheduled time. Just tap me on the shoulder or reach out to me at [pastorjaniceb@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjaniceb@gmail.com) or 484-888-6821 to schedule a time. I plan on having office hours on Tuesdays – Fridays, but we can schedule outside of those as well. In the event of an emergency or crisis, please do not hesitate to call me at anytime.*

*For my time at West Grove during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter and I am doing a series titled “Depths of Love.” Following are the highlights for the services during this time.*

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **March 3 —Third Sunday in Lent.—Rev. James Mundell**

Sermon topic is: **“From Seder to Holy Communion.”** The scriptures to be used are Mark 14:12-26, dealing with the Last Supper of Jesus with His disciples, and Exodus 12:3, 5-8, 11-14, 21-23, 29-30, which deals with the Jewish “Passover.” These two passages combined, speak of Holy Communion and how Jesus gave us this sacrament. The sermon will speak of the transition from the Jewish Seder to our Holy Communion.

#### **March 10 —Fourth Sunday in Lent.—Rev. Dr. Melvin Leaman**

Sermon topic is: **“How Heaven Handles Hell: The Loving ‘Wrath’ of God”.** First Scripture Lesson: Psalm 22 (selected verses) Second Scripture Lesson: Romans 1:14-23; 28 God’s wrath may give us up to the consequences of our choices, but God’s eternal love can never let us go or forsake us. God’s anger is that look of love that laments all the ways we miss the mark of God’s best intent for relationships with each other and all of creation. The goodness of God is always at work within the bad we bring upon ourselves to offer restoration, not retribution. The wrath of God is not directed at the sinner, but at the destructive powers that sin brings to human experience. Heaven and hell are as close as your next choice. Ultimately, the gates of hell cannot shut out the kingdom of heaven come to earth. What thoughts do you bring to this topic?



## Worship in March 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.



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

***Join us for worship this month as we journey in ministry together during Lent, preparing our hearts for Easter's celebration of promise.***

***. . . Schedule continued from page 2. . .***

### **March 17 –11:00 am Fifth Sunday in Lent—Rev. Janice Bowers**

Sermon Title: **“Whoever Serves”** Focus scripture: John 12:25 “Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life In this world will keep it for eternal life.” When we serve God utilizing our spiritual gifts, we experience joy as a result. Losing our lives to God, does not mean doing everything and anything we are asked to do. Losing our lives to God means trusting God in fulfilling what we are uniquely called to do through utilizing our spiritual gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit.

### **March 24 –11:00 am Passion-Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week— Rev. Janice Bowers**

To have the fullest experience of this week and Easter, I encourage everyone to attend our Maundy Thursday Service at West Grove UMC and our Good Friday Service at New London UMC.

Sermon Title: **“Blessed is the One”** Focus Scripture: Mark 11:7-9 “ 7 Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. 8 Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. 9 Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” The shouts of Hosanna were originally used as a prayer for God's saving action. While those yelling it were not aware that the time had actually arrived, they yelled it in hopes of a coming Messiah – unaware that it was in Jesus himself.

### **March 28, 7:00 pm –Maundy Thursday— Rev. Janice Bowers**

Sermon Title: **“By This Everyone Will Know”** Maundy Thursday is a monumental day in Holy Week. We recognize Jesus' love for us and our love for all in the washing of the feet. This leads into the institution of the Lord's Supper. Let us join in this Holy time together as we prepare our hearts for the passion on Good Friday and the resurrection of Easter Sunday.

### **March 29, 6:00 pm (New London)–Good Friday—Rev. Janice Bowers**

We will be holding a Service of Tenebrae, or “Shadows,” with our brothers and sisters at New London UMC. Please come together as we experience the Passion of Christ as he answers to Pilate in John 18:36 “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom Is not from here.” Let us see Jesus not just as a our personal king, but as king for our community and for all of creation.

### **March 31, 6:45 am. (New London UMC) Easter Sunrise Service– Rev. Janice Bowers**

We will gather outside the hall and cemetery of New London UMC around a bonfire. The first known Easter sunrise service was held in Herrnhut, Germany in 1732 where a small group of Moravians went to a local cemetery for a special time of worship. As Mary Magdelene went to the tomb on the first Easter Sunday, these followers celebrated at the graves of the faithful. This tradition continues today as we prepare for the resurrected Christ and the coming of a great light.

**A breakfast, prepared in the newly remodeled kitchen, will follow in the hall.**

### **March 31, 11:00 am –Easter Sunday—Rev. Janice Bowers**

Sermon title: **“You Are Looking for Jesus”** Arrive this morning to the beauty of the altar being covered in daffodils, lilies, and tulips! Let us look together for Jesus. Let us find him in our prayers, our neighbors, our fellow congregants, and the songs we sing. Let us surround ourselves in the Love that saves us.

**"ON MY FATHER'S SIDE"**

Jesus amongst the teachers of the Law

**March 2024**

As I was listening to a Christian radio station, I heard a song that I want to share with you. It is a song about Jesus when He was twelve years old. Jesus and His family were in Jerusalem for Passover to celebrate "The Feast of Unleavened Bread." After the feast, Mary and Joseph left to return home. Believing that Jesus was among friends and relatives, they could not find Jesus at the end of the day's journey. When they returned to the city, "they found him in the temple" amid the teachers, both hearing them and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. (Luke 2:45-49).

The song is entitled "**ON MY FATHER'S SIDE**," written by Felecia Shifflett and sung by The Village Singers. The lyrics to the song are questions the teachers of the law may have asked Jesus and the answers Jesus may have provided from His mother's mother's side and from His Father's side. These are the lyrics:



*"Just a young boy in the temple one day, shared with the doctors they were so amazed, never had they seem one so young speak so swift, they asked him many questions the conversation went like this.*

**What is your name?** *On my mother's side, it is Jesus. On my Father's side, Emmanuel.*

**Where are you from?** *On my mother's side, I was born in Bethlehem. On my Father's side, I came from the portals of glory.*

**How old are you?** *On my mother's side, I am twelve years old. On my Father's side, I am from everlasting to everlasting.*

**What religion are you?** *On my mother's side, I am a Jew from the house of David. On my Father's side—before Abraham was, I am.*

**Do you think you will ever amount to anything?** *On my mother's side, I will be despised and rejected. On my Father's side, I will, throughout eternity, be worshipped and adored.*

**What are your plans?** *On my mother's side, I will go to the cross and die. On my Father's side, after three days in the tomb, I will burst forth.*

**How will we know you?** *On my mother's side, you will see the nail prints in my hands and feet. On my Father's side, I will be seen as a Lamb standing as if it had been slain and riding a white horse with many crowns upon my head."*

This song expresses to us that Jesus had two sides: His human side and His spiritual, eternal side. To read about His human side as He suffered a mock trial and His death on the cross, I recommend you read Isaiah 53. Here is the prophecy of Jesus suffering and dying for the world. As we journey through March, we will be in the season of Lent, except for the last day, which is Easter Sunday, March 31st.

Let us all prepare our hearts to celebrate Resurrection Day on Easter Day. Pastor Jim





## Easter Flowers

*Order your Easter Lilies, tulips and daffodils to adorn the sanctuary during our Easter Services. Take them home to beautify your house after our Easter Sunday Service.*

*Lillies are \$10.50, Tulips and Daffodils are \$6.95.*

*Drop your check in the offering plate marked "flowers" choice of flower and number you wish to order.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## Easter Services

Maundy Thursday service: 7pm @ West Grove

Good Friday service: 6 pm @ New London

Palm Sunday and Easter services: 11am @ West Grove

Easter Sunrise Service: 6:45 am followed by a breakfast in the hall @ New London

\* \* \* \* \*

### PRAYER CHAIN:

Do you have a prayer request that you would like the WGUMC Prayer Chain to be praying about? Would you like to pray with us? Susan Paisley is our contact for the WGUMC Prayer Chain. You can call or email the church office at 610-869-9334 or office@westgroveumc.org. You can also email or call Susan directly @ [sbrintonpais1@verizon.net](mailto:sbrintonpais1@verizon.net), 610-529-8699.



\* \* \* \* \*



West Grove UMC and the SPRC is pleased to welcome Lavenia Civitella as Memory Bells Director. For many years, Lavenia has rung handbells with the Quarter Ringers at Oxford UMC and, over the past 13 years, has directed several community handbell choirs. Not only does Lavenia bring ringing and directing experience to our church, she also brings her contagious joy and exuberant passion for ministry and worship through handbell music. Welcome to West Grove UMC, Lavenia! May your leadership and ministry be bell-essed! -Peggy Watkins-

# United Methodist Women's Spring Rummage Sale

Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

and Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>

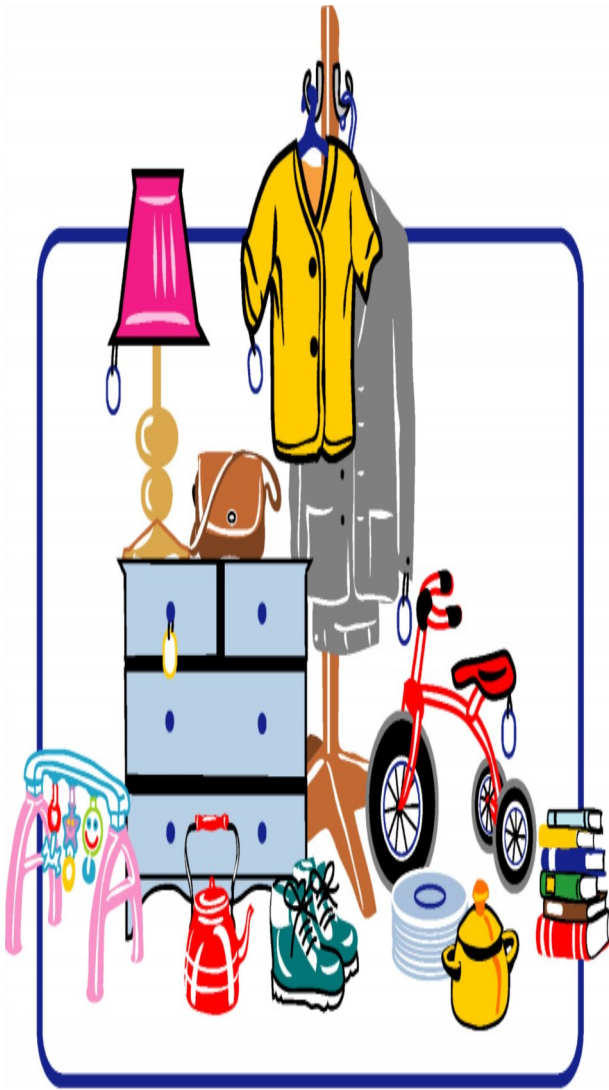
It seems so far away, but as we all know, it will be spring before we know it.

Take some time to “rummage” through those closets, cubbies, attics and basements over the winter. Get ready for a fresh start this spring by bringing all those “treasures” to the church for our annual spring rummage sale!

The donations are appreciated and the UMW uses the proceeds to support missions in our own community as well as worldwide.

Due to lack of storage space, we cannot accept donations before Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

If this is a problem, contact April in the church office to see if we can make alternative arrangements. Thank you!



## United Methodist Women

During the month of March, we will be collecting feminine hygiene products for our food pantry families. A tote will be located in the lobby for this collection. Please consider how you may help with these donations.

Save the Date, and join us on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm in the church sanctuary for an enjoyable afternoon of tea and treats to celebrate all the lovely women and young women in our lives. Following a time of refreshments and fellowship, we are excited to welcome an amazing storyteller, Diane Albertson. Diane will entertain us with a whimsical story that incorporates various Mother Goose characters along with the stories of Eve, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachael, Rahab and Mary. Be prepared to enjoy a time of laughter and fun! All women of the church (young and older) family and friends are invited.

We look forward to a busy fun spring!

Cindy and Fran, co-leaders

# HELP WOMEN, PERIOD.

***FEMININE HYGIENE DRIVE!***

***March 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>***



**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!**

***A Note of Appreciation to Dick Stuhrke***

When the families come for our weekly food pantry distributions, we give them name tags. These tags are very important as they help the volunteers to be able to call our neighbors by name and it also provides information on the family size, which is necessary for our distribution. For a number of years, we have been using name tag racks that are less than ideal, with the tags often falling over and out of the racks. Since we have over 250 name tags, having a good means of housing the tags is crucial. Knowing Dick's Stuhrke's amazing talents with wood working and his generous spirit, he was asked to build us new racks. The results were six beautiful racks that exceed expectations. Below are four of the new racks. A huge thank you to Dick for helping to make our food distribution more efficient!



**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](http://www.westgroveumc.org)**





## Healing Racism Group

The genesis of this gathering was spearheaded and facilitated by Peter Mullen and Mel Leaman in early September and continued each Saturday for twelve weeks. Peter had recruited about half of the 12 or so participants from the Honeycroft Community where he and Edel reside. This study provided a mechanism of integration between our church members and those not related to WGUMC.

They met to discuss Jemar Tisby’s book “The Color of Compromise”, which presented a historical look at American church’s complicity in racism. This group was intentional about hearing the heart of a few black brothers who also participated and the friendships developed during the study, continue. Our Scriptures were an integral aspect of our discussions and, as one could well imagine, at times the topics were challenging.

We decided we could no longer merely discuss the issues around racism, but we must do something to confront it. In that light, we initially had a speaker come to help us understand the in’s and out’s and issues around voting in our locale. She encouraged us and showed us how to be more involved in the voting process.

Several weeks later we met at Peggy and John Watkins house to hear the CEO of Southern Chester County of *United Way*, Terry Vodery share the variety of ways we can assist those in need of our area. Some individuals will bring to future gatherings issues of importance to them. A few will be participating in the Poor People’s March and Low-wage Worker’s March in Harrisburg on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Contact Mel Leaman ([melleaman50@gmail.com](mailto:melleaman50@gmail.com)) if you are interested in participating. Future opportunities to study and serve will be posted.





## Retired Active People



# RAP

(Retired Active People)

RAP met Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, for an enjoyable afternoon of fellowship. We welcomed Rev. Mark D. Moore, Retired Air Force Chaplain, who shared many interesting stories and his life as a military chaplain.

Thank you Colton for setting up our tables and chairs; and, thank you Xavier and youth for putting tables away and chairs back in place. We appreciate all the help each month that our members and church provide. Thank you Paulette for leading; and, thank you Karen, Carolyn, Paulette, Ruth and Charlotte for the delicious desserts.

Our next gathering is Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at noon in the church sanctuary. RAP member, Raymond McKay, will entertain us with "humor." How often do you laugh? What is funny to you? What are the health benefits of humor and laughter? Come, join us for a fun afternoon and find out.

Bring your bagged lunch and enjoy provided beverages and desserts. Sara Ann Ramberger is our leader for the day. You may RSVP to Sara Ann at 610-869-3863 or sar57var@verizon.net so we may set up accordingly.

There will be signup sheets on the welcome table if you would like to volunteer to bring a dessert or help with our setup and cleanup. Perhaps you would like to be a greeter to welcome our friends and members as they come; if so, please let us know.

We are also in the process of planning our programs for 2024/2025. If you have a presentation or know of a program of interest to our group, please let us know.

We look forward to seeing you in March. Don't forget to invite a few friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome!

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



# Kid's Corner

A new area in the sanctuary, has been designated for the children of our church.

The Kid's Corner provides children with activities they can do during the worship services.

As always, children are welcome to sit with their parents for the entire service. They are also invited to wander to the Kid's Corner at any time during the worship service.

There are books, coloring pages, activity sheets, quiet toys, puppets, puzzles and other activities designed to meet the needs of children.



## **VACATION BIBLE** **SCHOOL**

Round up your kids and grand kids and get ready to Dive into the fun on July 15<sup>th</sup>—19<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers are needed and donations are always welcomed and now being accepted.

Call or email Xavier for all the details.

Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org,  
610-612-7377 or call the  
church office at 610-869-9334.







## Acolytes

We are looking for children in 2nd grade and above who might like to serve by lighting the candles for the worship services. If you have children or grandchildren who are interested, please contact Joan Leaman 484-643-2181.

### **“UNTIL I AM FREE”**

by Keisha N. Blain.

#### **Book discussion:**

The women of the church are invited to participate in a discussion of the book "Until I Am Free": Fannie Lou Hamer's Enduring Message to America by Keisha M. Blain.

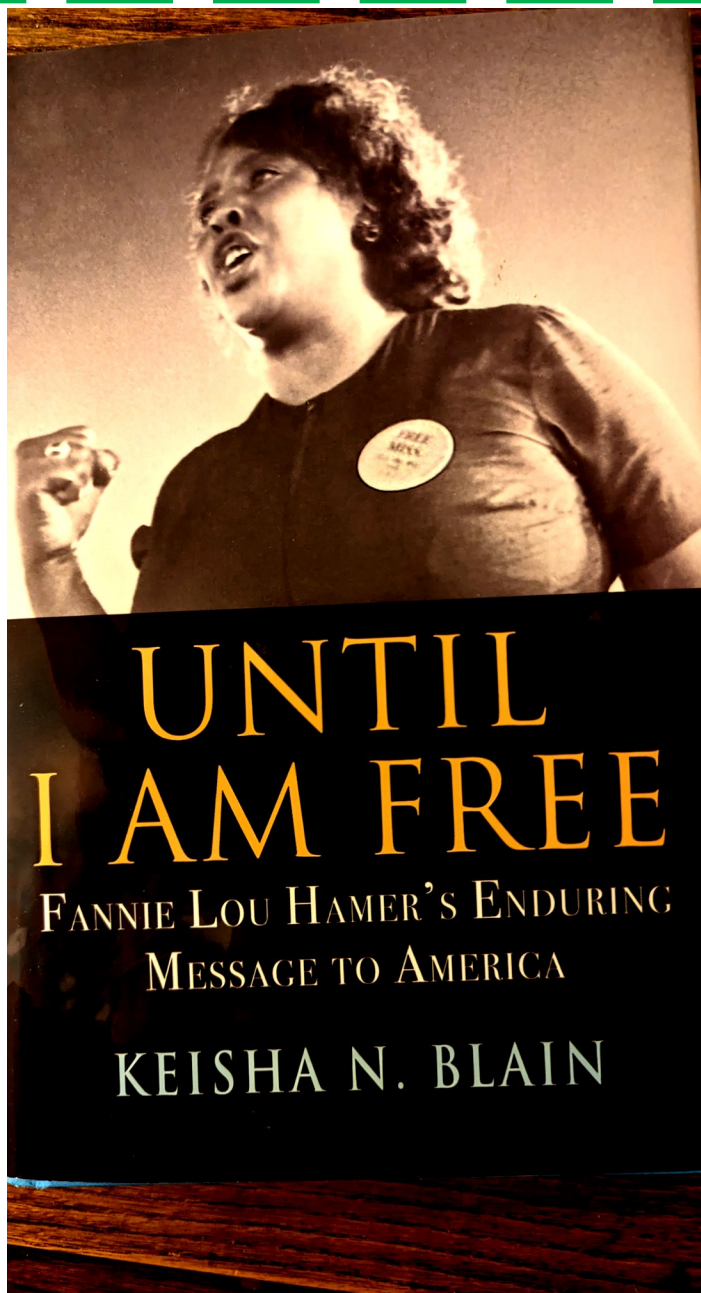
Fannie Lou Hamer was a trail blazing activist and organizer who spoke truth to power and dedicated her life to the fight for Black voting rights, women's empowerment, economic rights, and human rights.

We will meet in the church youth room on Monday, March 25th from 1:00 to 3:00.

The book can be purchased from Amazon and there is a buy one, get the second one at half price deal.

Perhaps you and a friend would be interested in buying the books and joining our discussion.

Contact Joan Leaman at 484-643-2181 if you have any questions or would like more information.





# C M O

The month of February was spent learning all about a special groundhog, love, friendship, and family in Preschool.

The month kicked off with Punxsutawney Phil letting us know that we are in for an early spring. I'm not quite sure how accurate he is in his prediction, but the children had fun making their own predictions and comparing what they thought to what Phil and his shadow told us.

Our children also enjoyed celebrating Valentine's Day with special snacks and participated in Valentine-themed activities throughout their days. They especially loved trading valentine's with their friends!

We also started Chapel Time with Mr. Xavier this month, and the children absolutely loved learning about trust, God's compassion and love for us. February was a great month for sure!

Enrollment kicked off at the beginning of February and we are very excited with the many students who will be returning to us for next year! We also had many former families come back to enroll their young children as well as a great turnout from the community. It looks like we are going to be able to open a third PreK class with all of the children we had register! We still do have some room in our 2 day 3 year old class, as well as our 2 year old classes, so if you know anyone looking for a preschool, please send them our way!

As always, it is both sad and exciting to know we will be sending our PreK students off to kindergarten next year, but know that they are going very well prepared thanks to our amazing teachers here at Preschool.

Until next month,

Abbie



## Global Missionaries Ngoy & Umba Kalangwas

*"Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."* – Colossians 3:17

### Dear Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! As I reflect on the incredible journey of itineration, Ngoy and I wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to each church that warmly welcomed us during our itineration.

Throughout our itineration, we have had the privilege of sharing about the incredible work that God is doing in Tanzania and the lives being Transformed by His grace. Your prayers and Financial contributions have been instrumental in sustaining the ministry and supporting the local communities we serve.

To those churches we were unable to visit during our itineration, we carry you in our hearts and wanted to take a moment to express our gratitude and appreciation for your ongoing support of our missionary work.

We have returned safely to Tanzania and mission work continues. We are delighted to provide you with an update on the ongoing construction of the maternity ward and women's and men's wards. Your prayers and generous support have been instrumental in making this project a reality, and we are excited to share the progress we have made so far.

The construction of women, men, and maternity wards continue to progress. The need for accessible and quality healthcare for men, women, expectant mothers and newborns is evident, and we are committed to addressing this crucial need. Through your partnership and God's provision, the construction is progressing so well.

Once the maternity is completed, we will provide a safe and caring environment for mothers to receive prenatal care, give birth, and receive post-natal care.

### PRAYER REQUEST

We invite you to join us in prayer for the successful completion of the maternity ward. Pray for the safety of the construction workers, for wisdom and guidance in making key decisions, and for God's provision to meet the financial needs of the project. Together, let us pray for the mothers and babies who will benefit from this facility, that they may receive the care and support they deserve.

To support our missions and salaries, please make a check payable to ADVANCE GCFA. Write Ngoy or Umba or the project name and the Advance number on the memo line of your check. Then mail your check to: Advance GCFA P.O. Box 9068 New York, NY 10087.

You can also give online by going to:  
<https://umcmision.org/about-the-advance/>

Ngoy – Advance# 15162Z

Umba - Advance # 14211Z

Morogoro Pastors Training School – Advance# 3022261

Wesley Primary School – Advance# 3020704

Susannah Wesley Education and Health Center – Advance # 3020705

OUR CONTACTS: UMBAKALANGWA@GMAIL.COM OR NKALANGWA@UMCMISION.ORG

OR UKALANGWA@UMCMISION.ORG. WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAYERS,

YOUR MISSIONARIES UMB AND NGOY

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.**

More information will be shared as plans are made. All men and boys are invited to attend. Contact Michael Duvall with your questions.



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)?



## BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH



3/01 Edel Mullen

3/02 Kay Warfel

3/07 Donna Shaub

3/07 Jade Barrett

3/08 Kaya Krohn

3/09 Madelyn  
Chandler

3/09 Kylie Chandler

3/09 Jay Schoff

3/10 Linda Shiplet

3/10 Mike Wiwel

3/11 Colton  
McCummings

3/13 Duane Bruno

3/13 Dick Stuhrke



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

3/14 Sonny Dunn

3/14 Kristin Boyd

3/14 Erik Hendrickson

3/15 Nathan Robinson

3/19 Stella Krohn

3/21 Michael Duvall

3/21 Maira Tena

3/23 Pam Howard

3/23 Caryl Sturke

3/24 Zachary McMinn

3/26 Betsy Smith

3/27 Carolyn Bratton

3/27 Shannon Murphy





**West Grove United Methodist Church**  
OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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## March 2024

# ~ Open, Grow, Serve ~

[pastor@westgroveumc.org](mailto: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](mailto:Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org)

Xavier Feliciano - Youth & Children's Ministry  
Director

[Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org)

April Spencer - Church Administrator

[Office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Office@westgroveumc.org)

Donna Fackler—Financial Administrator

[Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org)

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director  
Contemporary Music Interim Director  
Keyboardist

[Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org)

Lavenia Civitella—Handbell Choir Director  
Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Maira Tena—Sexton

[sexton@westgroveumc.org](mailto:sexton@westgroveumc.org)

Abbie Gruscavage—Children's Morning Out Director

[cmo@westgroveumc.org](mailto:cmo@westgroveumc.org)

### Christ Servant Ministers

Karen Hruz, [khruz@hotmail.com](mailto:khruz@hotmail.com)

Peter Mullen, [psmullen@petermullen.com](mailto: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

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

Susan Paisley—Prayer Ministry Coordinator

Joan Leaman— Emergency Food Pantry Coordinator

Amy Castaldi-Nursery Coordinator

Betty Mundell-Ad Council Member at Large