

The Wesleyan Star July

2025

West Grove
United Methodist Church
Pastor DJ Choi

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

"The self is the answerer; the responsible self is the one addressed by the other and who must reply."
H. Richard Niebuhr, the Responsible Self

What are the conditions of being human? To be human is not merely to eat, drink, and sleep, but to be conscious of one's existence and to fulfill one's responsibilities. Human identity is not isolated autonomy, but relational responsibility. We are shaped not just by our own will, but by how we respond to others, to the world, and to God.

For Christians, this responsibility is even greater: we are called by Jesus Christ to be His body by witnessing to the Good News and responding to the eternal needs of the entire human race, while the world demands answers about what to eat, drink and wear, Jesus said:

"A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

Matthew 12:39-40

What should we do for the world today? What is the church's answer for the cries of our society? Over the next four Sundays, we will journey with the prophet Jonah, who encountered God's Relentless Love while witnessing the Good News to the evil and violent people of Nineveh. I hope and pray that, through this journey, we may find our answer to the broken and hurting world we face today.

Jonah: God's Relentless Love

- July 6** - "Prayed from the belly of the Fish" Jonah 2:1-10
- July 13** - "Relented from the disaster" Jonah 3:1-10
- July 20** - "Transcended from the narrow faith" Jonah 4:1-11
- July 27** - "The Key to Our Spiritual Life" 1 Kings 3:5-15

(Pastor Jim preaching)

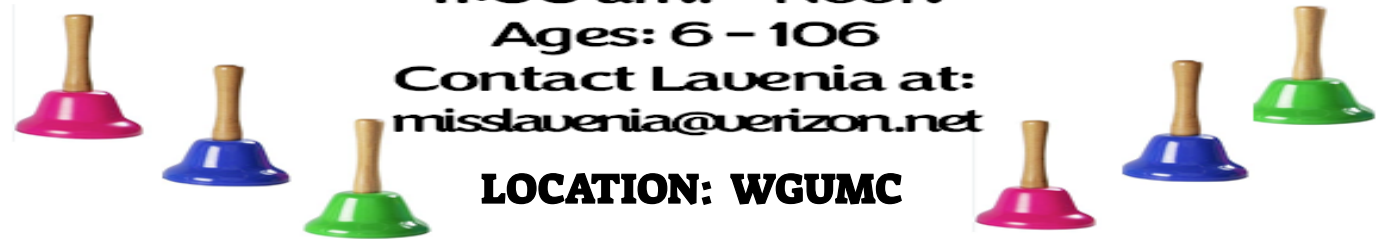
AMAZING
A B C BEGINNERS
 COLORFUL
RINGERS
HANDBELL CAMP

Every Tuesday
 July 15TH Thru August 19TH
 11:00 am. - Noon

Ages: 6 - 106

Contact Lavenia at:
misslavenia@verizon.net

LOCATION: WGUMC



Vacation Bible School at West Grove UMC



July 7th - 11th
 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM.

Volunteer Sign up sheet in the narthex - Speak with Xavier for more
details.chilyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

West Grove UMC Food Pantry
Weekly Hours:
Wednesday: 5:00 - 6:00 pm.
Thursdays: 1:00 - 2:00 pm.



***Food
Pantry***

Food Pantry Update

Volunteers help on Wednesday mornings when the truck brings our delivery from the Chester County Food Bank, pick-up rescued food from Acme, Giant and the West Chester Food Cupboard, stock shelves, break-down cardboard and assist the families when they come to shop Wednesday evenings and Thursday afternoons. If you aren't already volunteering, and would like to, please contact Joan Leaman (jmleaman@comcast.net).



POP CORN - FOOD PANTRY

During July, we will be collecting pop corn to have available to our Food Pantry families. As we are serving over 100 families a month, microwaveable bags would be perfect.
What a great snack for the entire family.

Drop your pop corn donations in the black bin with a pop corn flyer attached in the lobby.

FLOWER GARDEN WATERING SCHEDULE

In order to keep our church flower beds lovely all summer, we need volunteers to water them.

A sign-up sheet is in the church lobby for you to offer your help.

You can sign-up for a week or two, include your phone number, and you will receive a text reminder. Please try to water the flowers every other day, unless we receive sufficient rain.

Any questions, please contact Joan Leaman (jmleaman@comcast.net).

Thanks!





You are invited

Come share and celebrate God's wonderful creation and His bounty with us. WGUMC and two 4-H groups -- SPARKS and Southern Chester Clover Club, have collaborated to reopen or community garden.

Many thanks to the willing helpers and their parents!!

Contributions are always welcome. Here are some other ways you can join the fun.

~ plant flowers, vegetables, herbs ~ water the plants ~ pull weeds ~ harvest as things ripen ~ straw for mulch

Our hope is that this community garden will open to all and we look forward to growing alongside you.

Please feel free to contact the church office at office@westgroveumc.org or by calling 610-869-9334 for more information or with any questions.

Oxford United Methodist Church

Invites the Southern Chester County Mission Link
to an

Ice Cream Social



Saturday, July 19 from 5 to 7 PM

In Oxford UMC's Fellowship Hall

18 Addison St, Oxford, PA

Each Church will be offered a time to share what you are doing this summer.

All are Welcome.

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

We meet on the

Fourth Saturday of each Month, 8:00 -9:30 am.

More information will be shared as plans are made.

All men and boys are invited to attend. Contact Michael Duvall with your questions. (mwduvall@aol.com)



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



BIRTHDAYS IN JULY

Michael Brown	08	A vibrant illustration of a birthday celebration. In the center is a round cake with blue frosting and white icing, topped with numerous lit candles. Surrounding the cake are many colorful balloons in shades of red, yellow, green, and blue. Confetti is scattered around the scene, and two small gift boxes are visible at the bottom corners.	David Black	15
Tom Eason	09		Joan Saller	15
Barb Lytle	09		Brady Castaldi	18
Jeffery Mullen	09		Jacob Rinehimer	21
Gene Aucott	11		Nate Howard	29
Janis Schrader	13		Scott Steele	29
			Mya Ditzel	31

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



July 2025



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

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

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

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

~ Encounter ~ Empower ~ Engage ~

At West Grove UMC, we love God by encouraging Our community to be followers of Christ.

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

Staff

Rev. DJ Choi, Lead Pastor,
pastor@westgroveumc.org

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

Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

Xavier Feliciano - Youth & Children's Ministry
Director

Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

April Spencer - Church Administrator

Office@westgroveumc.org

Janice L. Bowers—Financial Administrator

Financialadmin@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director
Contemporary Music Interim Director
Keyboardist

Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org

Bill Pardoe—Technical Magician

billpardoe1@gmail.com

Lavenia Civitella—Handbell Choir Director

Misslavenia@verizon.net

Abbie Gruscavage—Children's Morning Out Director

cmo@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Maira Tena—Sexton

sexton@westgroveumc.org

**Sunday Worship Service
9:27 am.**

Christ Servant Ministers

Karen Hruz, khruz@hotmail.com

Peter Mullen, psmullen@petermullen.com

Board and Committee Leadership

Val Kapp-Benner - Interim Administrative Council Chair and

Janice L. Bowers Financial Administrator

OPEN - Trustee Chair

Vicki Owens - Treasurer

Dan Elliott - SPRC Chair

Children's Ministry Team Contact

Open - Missions Chair

Dick and Caryl Stuhrke - Hospitality Committee Chair

Open - Delegate to Annual Conference

Open - Committee on Lay Leadership

Karen Hruz - Lay Leader

Shirley Daddario - U.W.F. President

Susan Paisley - Prayer Ministry Coordinator

Joan Leaman—Emergency Food Pantry Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

Cindy Hoover—CMO Advisory Board Chair

Sara Ann Ramberger—R.A.P Coordinator