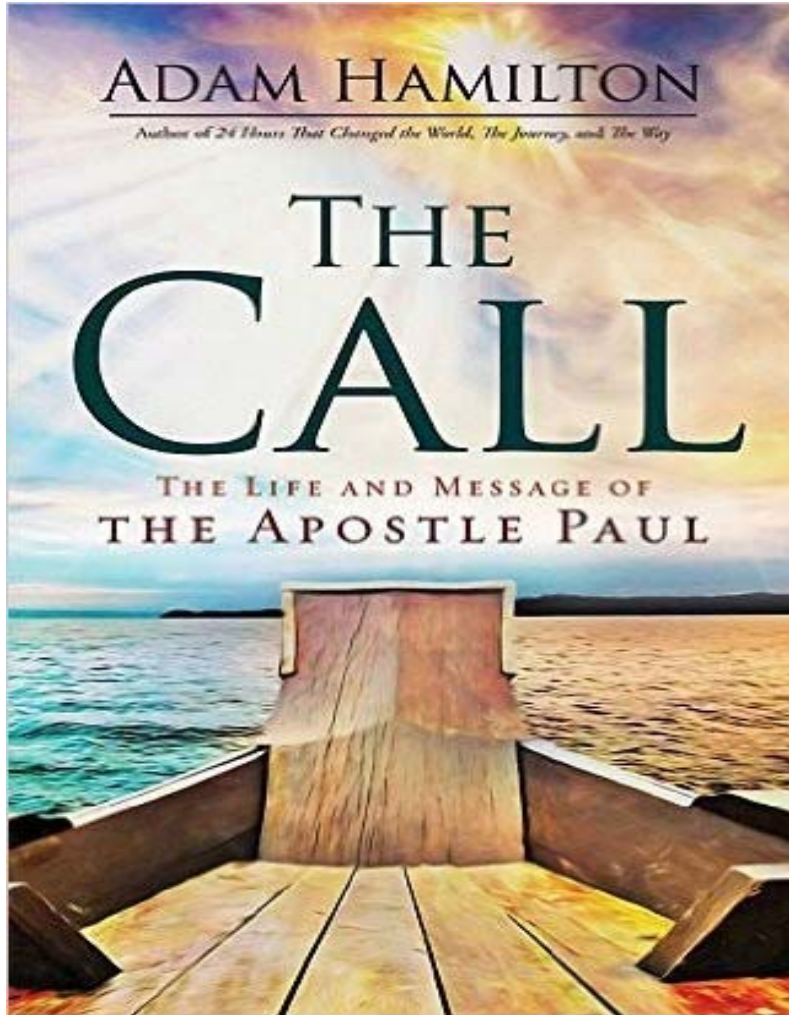




West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor
300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390



Epiphany Sunday
January 3, 2016

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Epiphany Sunday

OPEN

Prelude

Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Monica

*Please fill out the Friendship Register on the clipboard located on a chair in your row.
First-time guest or member, let us know you were here!*

*Call to Worship

Vernon Ramberger

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come.

Many: The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.

One: Come, worship the Lord of glory.

Many: Proclaim God's praise among the nations.

One: Choose this day whom you will serve

Many: We are called to choose Christ.

*Processional Hymn

"We Three Kings"

UMH, No. 254

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Vernon Ramberger

**Glorious Morning Star,
we, like the wise ones see the signs of your birth, and we gather near.
We bring gifts and adore.**

**Open our hearts and minds to choose, not only to adore the birth of a baby;
but to commit our lives by choosing Christ.
In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.**

*Passing of the peace

Vernon Ramberger

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

GROW

Moment for All Ages

Pastor Monica

New Testament Lesson

Acts 22:3-21

Vernon Ramberger

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Vernon Ramberger

*Response to the Lesson

Vernon Ramberger

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

"Gloria"

Chancel Choir

Children from Age 4 through Grade 4 are dismissed to meet in room #9 for Children's Worship. Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #9.

Sermon

"Called to Follow Christ"

Pastor Monica

SERVE

- *Hymn of Response** "The First Noel" UMH, No. 245
- Moment of Impact** **Christmas Worship** Pastor Monica
- Offering**
- *Offertory Response** "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH No. 95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. AMEN.
- *Offertory Prayer (Unison)** Pastor Monica
Glorious God, you led the wise magi to seek Jesus, your Holy Child, born of Mary. Overjoyed in the presence of his radiant light, they knelt down at the infant's crib and offered him precious gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We, too, offer our gifts in gratitude, reverence, and thanksgiving for the birth of your child, whom you called to lead the world into fullness of life. Receive and bless this offering as a joyful sign of the boundless love and abundant life we are called to share in Christ. Amen.
- *Invitation**
- *Prayer of Confession (Unison)**
Merciful God, you have given light to the world in Jesus Christ, but we have preferred to live in darkness. You have provided us with signs big and small to point us to the Christ, but we have turned and looked away. Forgive us, we pray. Open our hearts and minds to the peace that you give us, the new epiphanies that you offer, and the opportunity to return home a different way by choosing Christ.
- *Words of Assurance**
- The Great Thanksgiving in Advent**
Please wait for the Ushers to guide you to communion. All are welcome at the Communion Table.
- Communion Hymn** "There's A Song in the Air" UMH, No. 249
- Prayer After Receiving (Unison)**
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this Holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we in the strength of your spirit might give ourselves for others. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray, Amen.
- *Hymn of Sending Forth** "Angels We Have Heard on High" UMH No. 238
- *Benediction** Pastor Monica
- *Choral Benediction** "A Christmas Blessing" Chancel Choir
- *Postlude**

New Testament Lesson: *Acts 22:3-21*

"I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, educated strictly according to our ancestral law, being zealous for God, just as all of you are today. I persecuted this Way up to the point of death by binding both men and women and putting them in prison, as the high priest and the whole council of elders can testify about me. From them I also received letters to the brothers in Damascus, and I went there in order to bind those who were there and to bring them back to Jerusalem for punishment.

"While I was on my way and approaching Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone about me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' Then he said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth whom you are persecuting.' Now those who were with me saw the light but did not hear the voice of the one who was speaking to me. I asked, 'What am I to do, Lord?' The Lord said to me, 'Get up and go to Damascus; there you will be told everything that has been assigned to you to do.' Since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, those who were with me took my hand and led me to Damascus.

"A certain Ananias, who was a devout man according to the law and well spoken of by all the Jews living there, came to me; and standing beside me, he said, 'Brother Saul, regain your sight!' In that very hour I regained my sight and saw him. Then he said, 'The God of our ancestors has chosen you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear his own voice; for you will be his witness to all the world of what you have seen and heard. And now why do you delay? Get up, be baptized, and have your sins washed away, calling on his name.'

"After I had returned to Jerusalem and while I was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance and saw Jesus saying to me, 'Hurry and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.' And I said, 'Lord, they themselves know that in every synagogue I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. And while the blood of your witness Stephen was shed, I myself was standing by, approving and keeping the coats of those who killed him.' Then he said to me, 'Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.'"

Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 2:1-12*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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.

Welcome to church as 2016 begins. We come to worship the God of all time and eternity who is also Lord of our individual lives. If you have come as a guest, we hope that you'll leave as a friend and pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you today. We encourage you to join us again. Please honor us by signing the Friendship pad. Our Welcome Center, located in the lobby, is a place where guests and new attendees can seek information about our church.

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Church Office: 610-869-9334—Our Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)

***Please remember to mute your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary for worship.***

***Commitment cards are available in the Lobby.***

***Please offer your commitments of giving through the offering time.***

**Please pick up your Offering Envelopes for 2016.** They can be found on the table in the lobby. If you are an electronic giver or do not use envelopes, you may pick up the card which has your name and giving number on it. Please direct your requests for envelopes or giving number to Sara Ann Ramberger, Financial Secretary, at 610-869-3863 or [sar57ver@verizon.net](mailto:sar57ver@verizon.net).

**DO YOU HAVE FAITH? FAITH cards (like BINGO) are available during the service.** Mark off your spaces by coloring them in. When you get "FAITH", shout it out (making a witness!). At the end of the service, see Pastor Monica for a surprise!

**ELECTRONIC GIVING:** There are many who give electronically at West Grove UMC. An "Electronic Giving Card" is available to those who desire to have a symbolic gift for the offering plate. **If you would like to learn more about giving electronically, please take a brochure in the lobby, or see our Church Administrator, Donna Fackler.**

**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY: Classes begin Tuesdays, January 19 through March 15, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** What is Financial Peace University? We all need a plan for our money. Financial Peace University (FPU) is that plan! It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more! FPU classes meet for around an hour and a half each week for nine weeks. Please use this link to sign up: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1009967>

**USHERS and GREETERS** Serve your church family by greeting them and all guests as a greeters. Serve your church family in worship as an usher. It is a week to week commitment. Call the office to sign up or **please use the sign up sheet in the lobby.** Thank you.

**R.A.P. (RETIRED ACTIVE PEOPLE), FRIDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 12 NOON.** A special treat for the afternoon program will be the "London Grove Community Singers." Don't miss this one. It will be terrific! Bring your brown bag lunch. Drinks and desserts will be provided by the RAP group. Please contact Sara Ann Ramberger with any questions.

**COMMUNITY CAFÉ, Tuesday, January 26, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.** This New Year's Celebration meal will be Roast Pork and Saurkraut and other side dishes. The meal ministry is offered to meet the needs of our church neighbors, friends and members who are in need of and desire a time of fellowship and food and provide a time to have conversations with others and to feel God's love all around you! Walk-ins are welcome. **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** Sign-up sheets for **volunteering and donations** are posted in the lobby. Please see

## THIS WEEK: January 3 through January 10, 2016

~~ Hours for the Church Office: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. ~~

**Sunday:**

### EPIPHANY SUNDAY

#### Communion Sunday and Emergency Food Pantry Sunday

|                   |                             |                                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
|                   | 8:30 a.m.                   | Contemporary Worship with the PraiseWorks Band    |
|                   | 9:45 a.m.                   | Christian Education for All Ages                  |
|                   | 11:00 a.m.                  | Traditional Worship with the Chancel Choir        |
|                   | 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.         | Youth Group (8, 10)                               |
| <b>Monday:</b>    | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.      | CMO Preschool Classes (#3, 4, 5, 6)               |
|                   | 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.      | Knit Wits (#1)                                    |
|                   | 6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.        | Daisy Troop #4383 (#14)                           |
|                   | 6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.        | S.O.S. Ladies (#8, 10)                            |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.       | Memory Bells Quartet Rehearsal (Sanc.)            |
|                   | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.      | CMO Preschool Classes (#3, 4, 5, 6)               |
|                   | 11:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.       | Chapel Time with CMO Preschool (Sanc.)            |
|                   | 4:45 p.m.-6:00 p.m.         | Brownie Troop 447 (#8, 10)                        |
|                   | 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.         | Brownie Troop 498 (#8, 10)                        |
|                   | 6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.         | Jr. Girl Scout Troop #41377 (#8, 10)              |
|                   | 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.       | Trustees Meeting (#1)                             |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.      | CMO Preschool Classes (#3, 4, 5, 6)               |
|                   | 11:15 a.m.+11:30 a.m.       | Chapel Time with CMO Preschool (Sanc.)            |
|                   | 2:00 p.m.- 3:00 p.m.        | Luther House Bible Study (Bldg. 1)                |
|                   | 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.       | Missions Meeting (#1)                             |
|                   | 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.         | Venture Crew Youth Meeting (#8, 10)               |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.       | CMO Preschool Classes (#3, 4, 5, 6)               |
|                   | 6:45 p.m.-8:00 p.m.         | Choir Rehearsal (#6)                              |
|                   | 6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m.        | Daisy Troop #4567 (#8, 10)                        |
|                   | 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.         | Boy Scout Troop #12 (#8, 10)                      |
|                   | 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.       | PraiseWorks Rehearsal                             |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.      | CMO Preschool Classes (#3, 4, 5, 6)               |
|                   | <b>12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.</b> | <b>RAP (Retired Active People) Sanc., Kitchen</b> |
|                   | 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.         | Brownie Troop 4070 (#8, 10)                       |
|                   | 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.       | Youth Dodgeball (Sanctuary)                       |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  | 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.     | Daily Reflections Group (#8 & 10)                 |
| <b>Sunday:</b>    |                             | <b>SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</b>              |
|                   | 8:30 a.m.                   | Contemporary Worship with the PraiseWorks Band    |
|                   | 9:45 a.m.                   | Christian Education for All Ages                  |
|                   | 11:00 a.m.                  | Traditional Worship with the Chancel Choir        |

### God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship

Report for December 24 & 27, 2015

**General Offering: \$7,862.00**

**Building Maintenance Fund: \$270.00**

**Worship Attendance: 555**

**Emergency Groceries Bags**

**Distributed YTD: 143**

**Emergency Aid disbursed YTD: \$2,153.80**

**Christmas Offering: \$1,710.90**

**No More Malaria: \$35.00**

***It is your tithes, offerings, and gifts  
that impact  
and change lives for Christ!***

## Moment of Impact

Over the week of Christmas, we offered 5 Christmas Eve worship services and 1 Blue Christmas worship service. A total of 461 persons were engaged in preparing for the birth of Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God!

# PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

**Would you like to add someone to the Prayer Chain?** Weekdays, please contact **Donna Fackler at the church office: office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334.** After office hours and on week-ends, please contact **Sara Ann Ramberger at sar57ver@verizon.net or 610-869-3863.** All prayer requests will remain in the bulletin for **four Sundays.** If you would like to have the prayer concern extended, **please update your request with Donna.** Thank you.

**Community Prayer Focus in December: Emergency Food Pantry**  
**Mission Prayer Focus in December: UMCOR**

Kory Arnold  
 Cory Beattie (Shaub)  
 Fran Bryan  
 Family of Helen Chreiman (Hoover)  
 Jeanette Christman (Deckard)  
 Colin Delaney (McGinley)  
 Bradley Dunn  
 Tom Fagan  
 Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)  
 Marcus Forst (Howard)  
 Family of Lee Hunt (Curtiss)  
 Family of Marie Kent (Bratton)  
 Family of Richard Kreutzfeldt  
 Family of Amy Langel (B. Smith)  
 Bill Lilley  
 Richard Lukesh (Mullen)  
 Pam McClain  
 Family of Lillian McMahon  
 Margee Michaels  
 Lynn Morgan (McClain)  
 Tim Mullen  
 Kylie Myer (Hughes)



Kathie Myhre (Miller)  
 Ed O'Brien  
 Family of Mabel Owsley (Bratton)  
 James Pollard (Yarbrough)  
 Tammy Ramberger  
 Grace Reisinger  
 Ron Ritter (Chalmers)  
 Dot Russell  
 Roann Schneider  
 Doug and Joan Smead (Wolff)  
 Lorrie Steele  
 Glenn Stern (Heist)  
 Reinhard Streibel (Mullen)  
 Family of Doris Stuhrke  
 Fernando & Jonathan Tena  
 Zach Trexler (Lytle)  
 Dot Weeks  
 Megan Wittman (Lytle)  
 Diana Wygent (Fackler)



Tom Fagan - USA (Whelan)  
 Allan Frost - South Korea (Frost)  
 Brian Kubo - Maryland (Edel Mullen)  
 LTC Eric Maxwell, Colorado Springs, CO (The Rambergers)  
 Tom Peirson & Troop - Afghanistan (Simonds)  
 Dave Springer - Fort Bragg, NC  
 Jimmy Strawhecker - Glen Burnie, MD (Lynne Strawhecker)  
 Tyler Thompson—Kandahar, Afghanistan (Margee Michaels)  
 Chris Weidman - Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, NV (Fran Miller)

## SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

|                             | <u><b>This Sunday, January 3</b></u> | <u><b>Next Sunday, January 10</b></u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Ushers—8:30</b>          | <b>OPEN</b>                          | <b>TBA</b>                            |
| <b>Ushers—11</b>            | <b>Edel Mullen</b>                   | <b>TBA</b>                            |
| <b>Greeters—8:30</b>        | <b>OPEN</b>                          | <b>TBA</b>                            |
| <b>Greeters—11</b>          | <b>Joan Saller</b>                   | <b>TBA</b>                            |
| <b>Acolyte 8:30/11</b>      | Matt Simonds / Joshua Robinson       | Cecelia Figueroa / Sydney Curtis      |
| <b>Nursery 8:30/9:45/11</b> | J. Lindtner/C. Bratton/J. Williamson | H. McCummings/K. Smith/OPEN           |
| <b>C. Worship—8:30/11</b>   | Open / Open                          | Jessi Timm / Heather Ditzel           |
| <b>Lay Reader—8:30</b>      | Karen Hruz                           | Mike Chalmers                         |
| <b>Liturgist—11:00</b>      | Vernon Ramberger                     | Chris Curtiss                         |
| <b>Moment All Ages</b>      | Pastor Monica                        | Jamie Lindtner                        |
| <b>Hospitality 8:30/11</b>  | Rain Catoia/ Wanda Kreutzfeldt       | Steve May/ The Stuhrkes               |
| <b>Counters</b>             | Sara Ann & Vernon Ramberger          | Sara Ann and Vernon Ramberger         |
| <b>Sound Booth</b>          | B. Ditzel/K. Schneider               | B. Ditzel/K. Schneider                |

# 8:30 Contemporary Worship Service

## Epiphany Sunday

### Open

**\*Opening Song** "I Will Follow" PraiseWorks Band

**Welcome and Ministry Opportunities** Pastor Jim

*Please fill out the Friendship Register on the clipboard located on a chair in your row.  
First-time visitor or member, let us know you were here!*

**\*Celebration Set** "Angels, We Have Heard On High" PraiseWorks Band  
"Show Me Your Ways"

**\*Passing of the Peace**

### Grow

**Moment For All Ages** Pastor Monica

**New Testament Lesson** Acts 22:3-21 Karen Hruz

**\*Gospel Lesson** Matthew 2:1-12 Karen Hruz

Children from Age 4 through Grade 4 are dismissed to meet in room #9 for Children's Worship.  
Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #9.

**Sermon** "Called to Follow Christ" Pastor Monica

### Serve

**Moment of Impact** **Christmas Worship** Pastor Monica

**Offering** "We Three Kings" PraiseWorks Band

**Offertory Prayer (Unison)** Pastor Monica

**\*Invitation** Pastor Monica

**\*Prayer of Confession (Unison)** Pastor Monica

**\*Words of Assurance** Pastor Monica

**Great Thanksgiving in Advent** ~ *Please wait for the Ushers to guide you to communion.*  
"All Who Are Thirsty"

**Prayer After Receiving (Unison)** Pastor Monica

**\*Closing Song** "Be Glorified" PraiseWorks Band

**\*Benediction** Pastor Monica

**\*Postlude**

**\* Please stand as you are able**