

Meditations For Your Week
Sunday, August 28~ Saturday, September 3

Sunday: *“Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?” Romans 8:35. When do you know God’s presence nearest?*

Monday: *“As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.’” Romans 8:36. Where are you struggling and need God?*

Tuesday: *“No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.” Romans 8:37. In the end, God is victorious. Where is God calling you to be a conqueror through God’s love?*

Wednesday: *“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38. Nothing separates us from God. Prayerfully contemplate the joy of this mystery.*

Thursday: *“Don’t panic. I’m with you. There’s no need to fear for I’m your God. I’ll give you strength. I’ll help you. I’ll hold you steady, keep a firm grip on you.” Isaiah 41: 10, Message. With a new chapter or beginning, we might be tempted to respond in fear and anxiety, God calls us lean on God’s generous gifts of strength, help, and steadfastness.*

Friday: *“When you go out looking for your old adversaries you won’t find them— Not a trace of your old enemies, not even a memory.” Isaiah 41: 12. How are you leaning on God’s promises?*

Saturday: *“That’s right. Because I, your God, have a firm grip on you and I’m not letting go. I’m telling you, ‘Don’t panic. I’m right here to help you.’” Isaiah 41: 13. God has never left you. Turn to God in the midst of your struggles.*

RETIRED ACTIVE PEOPLE

RAP’s first meeting of the 2016-2017 Season will be a **Covered Dish Luncheon on Friday, September 9th, at noon.** The **Sunday Breakfast Mission Singers** will be entertaining us. They were here several years ago and are returning by popular demand! The group consists of about twenty men with outstanding voices. They will, again, be our guests for lunch, and are looking forward to being here. So, use a favorite recipe to complete your covered dish, and plan to join us for an afternoon of **fun, food, and fellowship!**

RAP and friends will be traveling to **Sight and Sound** to see **SAMSON** on **Wednesday, October 26th, at 11 a.m.** Tickets are available for **\$51.** After the show, those interested will be enjoying a meal together at **Miller’s Smorgasbord.** **\$28** includes the smorgasbord, hot/cold beverage, all taxes and gratuities. We are carpooling. Contact Sara Ann Ramberger at 610-869-3863 or sar57ver@verizon.net for reservations and additional information.



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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



Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Blessing of the Backpacks
August 28, 2016

9:30 a.m. Blended Worship

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!

*Welcoming Music

"I Need You Every Hour"

PraiseWorks Band

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Susan Paisley

One: God has led us through our wildernesses.

Many: God leads us into a plentiful land. God is the fountain of living water. Come to the Water! Come to God!

One: "O that my people would listen to me, O that they would walk in my ways!"

Many: God is our strength. God is our helper. Enter the sanctuary. Come and listen.

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Susan Paisley

**God of our days,
when our hunger for hope had so weakened us that we could barely speak;
you fed us with the Bread of life,
spread with the sweet honey of your grace.**

We need you every hour.

**We need to know you and to live as you have called us to live.
Spirit of Service, when we are scrambling for the seats of honor,
you will be in the kitchen cooking dinner for the prisoners;
making up the guest room for the immigrants;
singing lullabies of love to the lost children of our world.
Call us again to take your hand and be your hand for others.
In the name of the Living God, we pray, Amen.**

*Passing of the Peace

Susan Paisley

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

GROW

Moment for All Ages

Karen Hruz

Blessing of the Backpacks

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Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 41:10-14

Susan Paisley

New Testament Lesson

Romans 8: 35-39

Susan Paisley

Response to the Lessons

Susan Paisley

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

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

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 weekends, 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 August: Ad Council

Mission Prayer Focus in August: Children's Morning Out Preschool

Wayne Achuff

Peter Ballard (Kr. Boyd)

Cory Beattie (Shaub)

Kylee Brown (Wiwel)

Fran Bryan

Dee Crawford

Esther and Ed Culbertson

Bill Davis (Mullen)

Dorothy Dean (Bratton/Farr)

Colin Delaney (McGinley)

Family of Barbara Donahoe

(Mundell)

Tom Fagan

Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)

Family of Sandy Fuffy (Phillips)

Richard Heacock

Anne Horn (Mullen)

Jimmy Hunt (Kr. Boyd)

Muff Hurst

Sue Hutton

Lynn Jackson

Laura Shiplet James

Karen Kirby (Bushnell)

Bill Lilley

Family of Neva Luttmann (Miller)



Rosemary MacCoun

Dave McClain

Margee Michaels

Lynn Morgan (McClain)

Bill Mowery (Shiplet)

Tim Mullen

Lola Nadolny (Hruz)

Ed O'Brien

Warren Payton (Mullen)

James Pollard (Yarbrough)

Rick Renzulli (McGinley)

Ruth Richards (Delaney)

Ron Ritter (Chalmers)

Kristine Roberts (Phillips)

Garrett Rogers (Lindtner)

Roann Schneider

Lorrie Steele

Maureen Stickel (Fackler)

Fernando & Jonathan Tena

Raymond Thompson (Adams)

Zach Trexler (Lytle)

Ron and Marliiss Wilson

Megan Wittman (Lytle)



Tom Fagan - USA (Whelan)

Allan Frost - South Carolina
(Frost)

Brian Kubo - Maryland
(Edel Mullen)

LTC Eric Maxwell,
Chesapeake, VA
(The Rambergers)

Dave Springer - Fort Bragg, NC

Jimmy Strawhecker - Kuwait
(Lynne Strawhecker)

Tyler Thompson—Kandahar,
Afghanistan (Margee Michaels)

Ed Tolmie—Afghanistan

Chris Weizman - Okinawa,
Japan (Fran Miller)

SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

	<u><i>This Sunday, August 28 (9:30)</i></u>	<u><i>Next Sunday, September 4</i></u>
Ushers—8:30	Fred & Jeannie Sullivan	The Catoia Family
Greeters—8:30	John & Carol McGinley	The Lindtner Family
Ushers—11:00	N/A	Larry and Kay Yates
Greeters—11:00	N/A	OPEN
Acolyte 8:30/11	Ava Kirwin	Wesley Boyd/Madeline Jones
Nursery 8:30/9:45/11	Joan Leaman	H. McCummings/R. Catoia/J. Leaman
C. Worship—8:30/11	Judy Gambill	Amy Simonds / Jamie Lindtner
Lay Reader—8:30	Susan Paisley	Mark Simonds
Liturgist—11:00	N/A	Dave Talley
Moment All Ages	Karen Hruz	Jamie Lindtner
Hospitality 8:30/11	Steve May	Rain Catoia / Don Hurst
Counters	G. Anderson & Donna Shaub	Sara Ann and Vernon Ramberger
Sound Booth	B. Ditzel/K. Schneider	B. Ditzel/K. Schneider

THIS WEEK: August 28 through September 4, 2016

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

Sunday:	FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	
	Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday	
	8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.	PraiseWorks Rehearsal
	9:30 a.m.	Blended Summer Worship
	10:45 p.m.-11:45 a.m.	Prayer Ministry Team meeting (Vol. Office)
	* We return to 8:30 Contemporary and 11:00 Traditional worship next Sunday, September 4 *	
Monday:	9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Knit Wits (#1)
	6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	SOS Ladies (#6)
Tuesday:	1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m.	Staff Meeting (#1)
	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	SPRC (#2)
	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	VBS Debrief Meeting (#1)
Wednesday:	2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Luther House Bible Study (Bldg. 1)
	6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Wednesday Food & Fun Night
Thursday:	5:45 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	Brownie Troop 4567 (#8, 10)
	6:45 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal (#6)
	7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop #12 (#8, 10, 9, 11, 12, 13)
	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	PraiseWorks Rehearsal
Friday:	No activities	
Saturday:	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Daily Reflections Group (Sanc.)
Sunday:	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	
	8:30 a.m.	Contemporary Worship with the PraiseWorks Band
	11:00 a.m.	Traditional Worship with the Chancel Choir
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Sunday, September 11, we will have our Sunday School Re-Boot! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes for every age and interest will be highlighted! * 	



Our Assisted Listening system is available to all who could benefit from additional amplification or assistance. Please see our soundboard operators for questions or to use a unit.

God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship
Report August 21, 2016

General Offering: \$6,131.⁶³
Building Maintenance Fund: \$330.00
Native American Ministries To Date: \$192.00
Combined Worship Attendance: 150
Emergency Groceries YTD: 73 Bags
Les Family 5th Sunday Collection: \$170.00

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

Moment of Impact

Christian Aid Mission

Christian Aid Mission is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that serves as a non-denominational foreign mission board assisting more than 500 ministries overseas with tens of thousands of indigenous or native missionaries in the field. These ministries are currently engaging more than 1,000 unreached people groups in more than 100 countries around the world. We have assisted in packaging food to be distributed to places where it is needed most.

Song "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Duet by John Boyd and Betsy Smith
 (Children 4-10 years meet in room #12 for Children's Worship. Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #12.)

Sermon "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Pastor Monica

SERVE

***Song of Response** "Standing On The Promises" UMH, No. 374

Moment of Impact *Christian Aid Mission* Pastor Monica

Offering "Jesus, Lover Of My Soul" PraiseWorks Band

***Offertory Response** "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"
 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 Jim

Precious Lord, you have taken our hands and lead us on. You have blessed us abundantly with provision for today and bright hope for tomorrow. May these gifts be multiplied and applied to the holy mission of serving your people. Bless each giver as well as those who will receive these gifts. May abundant blessings bloom in each life and point to the power and movement of you, Precious Lord, who have never left us. In the name of the Faithful One, we pray, Amen.

Gathered Prayers Pastor Shirley

The Lord's Prayer

***Song of Sending Forth** "It Is Well With My Soul" UMH, No. 377

***Benediction** Pastor Monica

Postlude

• = Please stand as you are able **Bold Print = Say in unison**

Confirmation Interest Meeting for Students & Parents

Sunday, September 18 at 9:45 - Come and hear about the Confirmation Program for our 7th and 8th graders! Confirmation is an opportunity for our students to learn more about their faith and the church. It's a time for them to ask questions and learn that it is okay to not have all the answers! At the end of this confirmation process (in May) students will be given the opportunity to become members of the West Grove UMC! Come with your questions and hear about this opportunity. Confirmation class will meet on Sunday mornings from 9:45 - 10:45 in the youth room.

Old Testament Lessons: *Isaiah 41:10-14*

Do not fear, for I am with you,
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.
Yes, all who are incensed against you
shall be ashamed and disgraced;
those who strive against you
shall be as nothing and shall perish.
You shall seek those who contend with you,
but you shall not find them;
those who war against you
shall be as nothing at all.
For I, the Lord your God,
hold your right hand;
it is I who say to you, "Do not fear,
I will help you."
Do not fear, you worm Jacob,
you insect Israel!
I will help you, says the Lord;
your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel.

New Testament Lessons: *Romans 8:35-39*

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

UNDERSTANDING ISLAM: BEGINS SEPTEMBER 11, 9:45 A.M.-11:00 A.M.- (Rm. TBA) -Mel Leaman, retired professor of Religion at Lincoln University will lead this study. The shared and contrasting beliefs of Islam and Christianity will be discussed. The first Sunday together will be an introduction to the topic. All are welcome each Sunday, however, participants will get the most out of this class by following the selected readings from Dr. David W. Shenk's book *Journeys of the Muslim Nation and the Christian Church: Exploring the Mission of Two Communities*. We will read two chapters each week. David Shenk has travelled the globe speaking to leading Muslim clerics and Presidents of Muslim nations. His books can be viewed on Amazon. He will join us for an evening session on Sunday, October 16 from 6:30-8:00. The theme for that evening will be "The Peace of the Gospel in Dynamic Encounter with the Peace of Islam."



**Crisfield Maryland
Hands on Service Weekend!
September 9—11**

Who: Anyone 16 years and older can join in on this service weekend.

Where: Basic bunk house with kitchen and showers. We provide our own meals in the kitchen.

What: We will be doing home repair work on houses that were damaged during hurricane Sandy several years ago. We will work all day Saturday and Sunday morning for a few hours. If you have a skill -that is great, If you don't—that is great too! No need to have any skills in order to come. We can always learn.

When: We will meet to carpool down to Crisfield, Friday, Sept 9 @ 5:30. If you can't leave that early—feel free to meet us there! We will return Sunday afternoon, Sept 11.

Cost: The cost is \$40 which will cover the cost of our meals as well as provide a donation for where we are staying.

SIGN UP

Name: _____

EMAIL: _____

Phone #: _____

Any Particular Skill? _____

Questions—contact Jamie Lindtner
610-937-7932/jamielindtner@gmail.com



YOU ARE INVITED TO THE MOVIES!

WAR ROOM is playing at West Grove United Methodist Church **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 at 6:30 pm Admission is FREE!** Invite your friends and family. War Room (rated PG) is a movie which has been seen in 76 countries, and in 40 languages, directed by award-winning creators of Fireproof and Courageous. This is a compelling drama with humor and heart that explores the power that prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and every other area in one's life. This story is an amazing reminder that prayer is a powerful weapon. Child Care will be provided. Please call the church office at 610-869-9334 by September 2, if you are in need of child care. We hope to see you there!

The Prayer Ministry Team

Rev. Monica Guepet, Rev. Shirley Daddario, Cindy Haley, Pam Howard, Carol McGinley MA Spiritual, Director, Susan Paisley, Faith Community Nurse, Joan Saller, SPRC member, CMO Advisory Board

YOU ARE INVITED TO A WAR ROOM BIBLE STUDY!

Starting **Sunday, September 11**, at 9:45 a.m. sharp, in room #3. We will meet for 5 weeks through Sunday, October 9. This class is offered, as well, on **Mondays**, starting on **September 12** at 7 p.m. in room #3 through Monday, October 10. The directors of the movie, War Room are the designers of the study. The study calls believers to trust in our God and to find their relationship with our Savior. This five week study reminds us that prayer is powerful. You don't have to see the movie to attend the class.

"But you, when you pray, go into your inner room. Close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you." Matthew 6:6

Blessing of the Backpacks

Leader: Lord, you have brought us to the start of a new school year. And so we bring these backpacks and bags, and their owners to your altar.

Congregation: Just as you instructed your disciples to carry your Word and love to the nations, Bless these students and teachers as they carry these backpacks on the journey, filled with the tools they need to learn more about your world and work.

Leader: Just as you were God's gift of immense love to bring salvation to fill the world, May the contents of these backpacks fill and nourish the minds of these faithful disciples so they may be an abundant blessing of your love to others.

Congregation: Just as these backpacks will be carried with these students whenever they go to school, Go with them when they head to classes each day, O God, and be with them in the classroom, the hallways, the cafeteria and the playground that they may know that they are your hands of love wherever they go. May the teachers know your presence in each encounter.

Leader: When these backpacks are opened at the start of each day, open these students' intellects to the many things you have to teach them and give them an eye for the blessings you have lovingly placed across the day which you have made. Open the hearts of teachers with compassion for their students.

Congregation: When these backpacks are closed, help these students to retain the information that they have been given in school and apply it to their daily lives, so that they may let it frame their experiences. Give teachers peace as they care well for their students and families.

Leader: In all these things, Lord, let these backpacks and those who carry them be beacons of your eternal love, Called by you to share your love and your good Word to classmates, teachers, friends and family.

Congregation: Help these teachers and students to see that they are bathed in your love and surrounded by your care, and that you guide and direct them lovingly as they journey through life.

Leader: Help these teachers and students to utilize the many talents and skills with which you have gifted them, And to use them to your glory. In this hope, therefore, I bless these backpacks and their owners in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Go in peace, children of God, with your backpacks, and remember to love the Lord with all your hearts and love one another.

All: Amen.

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 this gathering of God's people worshipping and praising God! May we continue to be moved by the Spirit to live as the body of Christ. 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.**

**SONG DISPLAY:** Please post your reflections on today's songs with the notes provided in your bulletin on the wall in the lobby! All of the songs we are featuring during worship were requested by members of the congregation!

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT FUN Grand Finale! Wednesday, August 31.** It's our final night this summer to come for food, a short devotion, fun, and fellowship. We provide the beverages and the hot dogs. Folks are invited to bring sides, desserts, and other items as they are able. Games are available for children and adults. Rain or Shine! Can't wait to see you there!

**THIRD GRADER BIBLE SUNDAY: On Sunday, September 11th,** we will present each of our third graders with Bibles. To ensure we do not miss anyone, please call Donna in the church office, 610-869-9334, or email her at [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org) with the spelling of your child's name so a Bible can be presented to your child. We can't wait to share the Word of God with them!

**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY is back!** 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. For information, go to the following web address: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/home>  
This 9 week course starts Sunday morning **September 25th at 9:45 a.m.** Contact David or Barbara Delaney at 484-37-8332 if you have specific questions. Go the following link to sign up for the class: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/class/1024371>

**EMERGENCY BACKPACKS:** West Grove UMC, in conjunction with the Southern Chester County UM Mission ConneXion, is gathering items to go into 20 Emergency Backpacks. These backpacks will be provided to drop-off locations in Southern Chester County that assist our prison population in re-entry. Many people who leave prison have no place to go or to live. The items in these backpacks will make for a more comfortable transition in a difficult time. **We are providing one part of the contents: Personal Hygiene Packs. These packs include the following: Socks, Shampoo and conditioner (travel size), Lotion (travel size), Body Wash or Soap (travel size), Hand Sanitizers (travel size), Wash Clothes and Body Scrubbers, Toothpaste (small) and toothbrush.** If your last name ends in A-L, we ask that you provide the first four items. If your last name ends in M-Z, we ask that you provide the last three items. Please place these in the Mission bin in the lobby **by Sunday, September 11.** Thank you! WGUMC Mission Team



**West Grove United Methodist Church  
Inaugural Open Market  
Saturday, September 17, 2016**

**Pancake Breakfast 7:00-10:00  
(tickets \$6.00 in advance)**

**Open Market  
10:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Eat, Shop, Socialize  
Vendors, Artists, Food Trucks**

**300 N. Guernsey Road  
West Grove, PA 19390**

*For additional information or vendor inquiries please call  
(610) 869-9334 or email  
[office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org)*



**Pancake Breakfast.** Linda Shiplet and Kim Smith are organizing the Pancake Breakfast portion of the Open Market. Lots of help in the kitchen, volunteers to help serve breakfast, set up the tables and chairs, break down the tables and chairs after breakfast for Sunday worship and many other opportunities to be of service are available. It takes our entire congregation's participation to make this event a success! Buying tickets is also a way to help! Donations of food items are appreciated as well, and a list for signing up can be found in the church lobby. Please see if you can donate an item or two!