



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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

***Is the
Grinch
Coming
to Your
House?***



The First Sunday of Advent
November 30, 2014

First Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

GATHERING

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 visitor or member, let us know you were here!*

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Wanda Kreutzfeldt

One: We gather in preparation

Many: for good news is about to be proclaimed.

One: We gather in expectation

Many: for joy is about to break forth our midst.

One: We gather in celebration

Many: for we are those people who have said yes to the manager, yes to the one incarnate for others, yes to the wholeness of God.

ALL: In preparation and with expectation, let us celebrate.

*Processional Hymn "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Hymnal No. 196

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Wanda Kreutzfeldt

**Coming God,
we confess that we do not live
as though we seriously expect your coming into our lives.
We do not believe that salvation is near;
we do not act uprightly, loving you and our neighbors;
we do not bend our swords and our spears.
Forgive us, we pray, that we may again walk in your light,
choosing Christ's way over our own.
In the name of the coming Christ, we pray, Amen.**

*Words of Assurance

Pastor Monica

*Passing of the peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

LISTENING AND RECEIVING

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Advent Wreath Litany

Reader 1: "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness -- on them light has shined... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:2, 6)

Reader 2: Today we remember the prophets of old, who demanded to be heard, who dared to speak of a child to come, unexpected liberator of the people, vulnerable incarnation of the Holiest of Holies, a new name for God.

People: Today we give thanks for the prophets among us, who bring to us surprising new visions of hope, who challenge us to think outside the box, who show us a future we never anticipated.

Reader (Child): On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of the prophets who renew our faith and remind us of what may be.

Advent Song “Advent Song (Light the Advent Candle” TFWS No. 2090, Vs. 1

Moments for All Ages Karen Hruz

5th Sunday Coin Collection Benefits the West Grove Garage

Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 64:1-9* Wanda Kreutzfeldt

***Gospel Lesson** *Mark 13:24-37* Wanda Kreutzfeldt

***Response to the Lessons**

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

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem “O Come to Us, Emmanuel” 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 *Is the Grinch Coming to Your House?* Pastor Monica

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response “I Want to Walk as a Child of Light” Hymnal No. 206

Offering

***Offertory Response** “In the Bleak Midwinter” Hymnal, No. 221, Vs. 4

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Gathered Prayers of the People Rev. Jim Mundell

The Lord’s Prayer Hymnal No. 895

***Hymn of Sending Forth** “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” Hymnal No. 218

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction** “Christmas Peace” Chancel Choir

***Postlude**

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

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Gospel Lesson: *Mark 13:24-37*

"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

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.

Happy New Year — a new church year! Welcome to worship on the first Sunday of Advent, as we start afresh to hear about and celebrate Jesus' life. We invite you to inquire about our church's activities and ministries. 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.***

**ADVENT DREAMS:** Advent Dreams is a four-week long Bible study series exploring the four dream sequences in Matthew 1:18 to 2:23 that comprise the entirety of Jesus' infancy in Matthew's Gospel. Join us on **Wednesday mornings from 9:30—11:00 am., December 3, 10, 17 and January 7.**

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC CELEBRATION, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH ~ 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, J.A.M. Singers, special musical numbers 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!

**CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE** will be up in the Narthex On November 30th. On the tree, there will be gift tags for families and individuals in need. Please prayerfully consider taking a tag and helping someone in need over this Christmas season. Details will follow.

**MOVIE-ING THROUGH ADVENT: WEDNESDAYS, 6-8 P.M. Join us for Potluck dinner and the full movie** that the upcoming Sunday's sermon will be based on. If you are able, you are invited to bring a dish to share. If you can't, no worries, come anyway! It is a potluck and there is always plenty to be shared! We will provide plates, utensils, drinks, and desserts. **Come one week, come all of the weeks!** Bring the family, bring the kids, invite your friends and neighbors! Pajamas for the kids are great, along with a comfy blanket and pillow! A short meditation will follow the movie. Join us as we prepare for Christ's birth and second coming with movies! **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Home Alone; **December 10<sup>th</sup>** – Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street; **December 17<sup>th</sup>** – It's a Wonderful Life! Invite your friends and neighbors!

**LIVE NATIVITY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, 6-8 P.M.** Help Us Celebrate the Real Reason for the Season! We need YOUR help with the Living Nativity! This year's Living Nativity is scheduled for December 20<sup>TH</sup> from 6-8pm. We need lots of help to make this event successful. Sign up to bake cookies, provide hot beverages, lend a hand in set up or take down of the Nativity scene, greet people as they arrive, or even dress as one of the many Nativity characters. For more information, or to sign-up, contact Lori McClain at 610-869-7812.

# Meditations For Your Week

*November 30—December 6*

**Sunday:** “Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.” Mark 1: 27. Preparing for Christ’s coming is preparing for God’s way to come on earth. How can you live today as if God’s way was already fully known?

**Monday:** “So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates,” Mark 1: 29. As a child, waiting for Christmas is one of the biggest tests of patience. Prayerfully consider what you are waiting for this holiday season.

**Tuesday:** “It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch.” Mark 1: 34. If God has asked us to be on watch, we are called to watch for how we need to usher in models of justice and mercy, love and compassion. Where are you on the watch?

**Wednesday:** “And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake,” Mark 1: 37. When the news is hard, when world events are overwhelming, it is easy to shut ourselves off. Keeping awake might involve praying through the news, instead of fretting or living with anxiety. Ask God to help you stay awake!

**Thursday:** “O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,” Isaiah 64: 1a. Sometimes in waiting for God, we find ourselves wishing that God would come and set it all right, right now. Where is God calling you to be a part of setting it right?

**Friday:** “From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him,” Isaiah 64: 4. As you hang garland, address Christmas cards, and shop for Christmas gifts, remember that you are the way through which the world knows Christ. Consider adding this to your holiday to-do list. And then leave it on the list all year long!

**Saturday:** “Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand” Isaiah 64: 8. Find a few moments of prayer to offer yourself to God without condition or negotiation. God will use you!

**Would you like to get into the Christmas spirit?!**The Creating Spaces team could certainly use your help! **On Wednesday, December 3, beginning at 9:30 a.m.**, Barb Lytle and friends will be decorating the church in anticipation of all the wonderful activities and services we will be having over the Christmas season. There is much work to be done to make our church an inviting and welcoming place to enjoy the Advent Season and your help would be greatly appreciated!

# Parents Date Night



Sponsored by the WGUMC  
Youth Group

**Parents – Make a reservation and go to dinner without kids!** Enjoy an evening on your own! We will watch your kids for you, and you can go on a date, Christmas shopping, the grocery store or take a nap! Here's the details!

**When:** Saturday, December 13 from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** At WGUMC

**Cost:** a suggested donation of \$10 per child

*Any money that is donated towards this event  
will be used to help offset the cost of the  
2015 youth summer mission trip*

**What:** We will feed the kids pizza, do some crafts, play games and watch a movie. Your kids will be safe and have fun, and you get to enjoy time away and relax for 3 hours!

**SIGN UP** by filling out the bottom of this form and returning it to the office or giving it to Jamie Lindtner.

## Parents Date Night Sign-Up

**Child/Children's Name & Age**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Food Allergies or Concerns:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Annual Christmas Music Celebration

Sunday, December 7th ~ 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, J.A.M. Singers,  
special musical numbers 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!





Once again, we will adorn the sanctuary with poinsettias, the beautiful Christmas season flower. Each plant will be in a 6 1/2" pot and **the cost is \$6.50 each.**

# POINSETTIAS



The below order form enables you to place a flower in the sanctuary in honor, memory or in celebration of a special person or event. Simply fill out the form and drop it in the offering plate **by Sunday, December 14** or into Donna Fackler's mailbox in the copy room.

Those who ordered flowers, and for whom they are ordered, will be **listed in the Sunday, December 21 bulletin**. All flowers will adorn the sanctuary until after Christmas. You may pick up your flowers during the week after Christmas or Sunday, December 28. Any flowers remaining after Sunday will be delivered to our homebound and nursing home residents. Thank you.

## Christmas Poinsettias Order Form

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Plants \_\_\_\_\_ x \$6.50 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total

(Please make checks payable to WGUMC with memo for "Poinsettias")

**Check One:**  In Honor of:  In Memory of:  In Celebration of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THIS WEEK: November 30 through December 6, 2014**

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

**Sunday:**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Fifth Sunday Coin Collection to Benefit The Garage Youth Center**

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship with PraiseWorks Band  
9:45 a.m. J.A.M. and Christian Education classes  
10:45 a.m. Children's Choir rehearsal (#6)  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship with Chancel Choir

**Monday:**

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CMO Preschool (#3, 4, 5, 6)  
9:30 a.m.-11:00 p.m. Knit Wits (#1)  
6:00 p.m.- 7:15 p.m. Daisy Troop 4383 (#9)  
6:15 p.m.-7:45 p.m. CMO Advisory Team meeting  
6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Memory Bells Rehearsal (Sanc.)  
6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. S.O.S. Ladies (#8, 10)

**Tuesday:**

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CMO Preschool (#3, 4, 5, 6)  
**1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Advent Bible Study at Jenner's Pond**  
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Brownie Troop 447 (#8, 10)  
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Yoga-Sanc.  
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Brownie Troop 41377 (#8, 10)  
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting (#1)

**Wednesday:**

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CMO Preschool (#3, 4, 5, 6)  
**9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Advent Dreams Bible Study (#8, 10)**  
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Luther House Bible Study (Bldg. 1)  
**6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Movie-ing Through Advent (Kit., Sanc.)**  
6:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Girl Scout Leaders Meeting (#8 & 10)  
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Brownie Troop 453(#9)  
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Boy Scout Committee Troop meeting (#1)  
7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Venture Crew Meeting (#12)

**Thursday:**

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CMO Preschool (#3, 4, 5, 6)  
4:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. All Staff Meeting (#1)  
6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. Daisy Troop 4567 (#9)  
6:45 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (#6)  
8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. PraiseWorks Rehearsal

**Friday:**

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CMO Preschool (#3, 4, 5, 6)  
**Afternoon RAP Outing to Christmas Show "Joy to the World"**

**Saturday:**

10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Daily Reflections (#8, 10)

**Sunday:**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Fifth Sunday Coin Collection to Benefit The Garage Youth Center**

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship with PraiseWorks Band  
9:45 a.m. J.A.M. and Christian Education classes  
10:45 a.m. Children's Choir rehearsal (#6)  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship with Chancel Choir  
**6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. CHRISTMAS MUSIC CELEBRATION (Sanc.)**

**God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship**

**Report for November 23, 2014**

**General Fund: Offering: \$5,791.<sup>00</sup> Offerings Received YTD: \$294,645.<sup>09</sup>**

**Offerings Estimated to meet Budget YTD: \$321,762 (-\$27,117)**

**Building Maintenance Fund: Offering: \$185.<sup>00</sup> Year-to-Date: \$10,228.<sup>97</sup>**

**Worship Attendance: 186 Sunday School Attendance: 72**

**Emergency Food Bags distributed year-to-date: 72**

# 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 in November: The Emergency Food Shelf and The Bridge Mission Prayer Focus in November: Stop Hunger Now**

Marianne Aquino

Kory Arnold

Grace Baker (Mears)

Michael Basilio  
(Covington)

Cory Beattie (Shaub)

Family of Olive Brinton

Maura Carroll (Bates)

Dee Crawford

Laura Deckman (Paisley)

Joe Devereaux (Keystone)

Olivia Eason

Family of Judy Elvin (Bryan)

Family of Steve Engle  
(Ramberger)

Lil and Bill Fili (Bratton)

Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)

Family of Charles Fisher

John Gambill

Richard Heacock

Matt Helm (Laird)

Tonya Howell (Boyd)

Nancy Jessup (Gambill)

Deborah Kennedy (Coates)

Peg Kent



Bill Lilley

Neva Luttmann (Miller)

John McGinley

Family of Phil Miller  
(Ramberger)

Lynn Morgan (McClain)

Edel Mullen

Tim Mullen

Liz Powell (Schrader)

Tammy Ramberger

Lisa Reoli

Tom Rosazza (Ramberger)

Dot Russell

Roann Schneider

Elli Streibel (Mullen)

Heidi Streibel (Mullen)

Jeanette Stryjewski

Jeannie Sullivan

Fernando Tena

Jonathan Tena

Dorothy Tolmie (Tolmie)

Zach Trexler (Lytle)

Joseph White (Tolmie)

Megan Wittman (Lytle)



Tom Fagan - USA (Whelan)

Allan Frost - Guam (Frost)

Brian Kubo - Qatar (Edel Mullen)

LTC Eric Maxwell, U.S. Embassy,  
Mexico City (The Rambergers)

Tom Peirson & Troop - Afghanistan  
(Simonds)

Dave Springer - Fort Bragg, NC

Jimmy Strawhecker - Glen Burnie, MD  
(Lynne Strawhecker)

Chris Weidman - Nellis Air Force  
Base,  
Las Vegas, NV (Fran Miller)

## SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING

**Ushers—8:30**

**Ushers—11**

**Greeters—8:30**

**Greeters—11**

**Acolyte 8:30/11**

**Nursery 8:30/9:45/11**

**C. Worship—8:30/11**

**S. S. Roamers**

**Lay Reader—8:30**

**Liturgist—11:00**

**Moment All Ages**

**Counters**

**Sound Booth**

### **This Sunday, November 30**

Mike Chalmers & Luke Chalmers

Tom and Charlotte Adams

The Simonds Family

Ruth Wells and Kay Yates

Matt Simonds / Alisabeth Guepet

M. Rubincan/R. Catoia/J. Leaman

Eileen Bushnell / OPEN

Cindy Haley

Joan Leaman

Wanda Kruezfheldt

Karen Hruz

Bill Jones and Tim Shaub

Joe Dea/B. Ditzel/K. Schneider

### **Next Sunday, December 6**

Mike Chalmers & Luke Chalmers

Tom and Charlotte Adams

The Simonds Family

Ruth Wells and Kay Yates

Wesley Boyd / Sydney Curtis

K. Reischke/C. Bratton/L. McClain

Amy Simonds / OPEN

Fran Miller

Karen Hruz

Karen Boyd

Jamie Lindtner

George Anderson / Donna Shaub

Joe Dea/B. Ditzel/K. Schneider

# **First Sunday of Advent**

## **8:30 Contemporary Worship Service**

### **Opening Song**

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel ”

### **Welcome and Ministry Opportunities and Opening Prayer**

Pastor Monica

*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**

“Open Up the Heavens”

“Show Me Your Ways”

### **Passing of the Peace**

### **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

The Catoia Family

### **Advent Wreath Litany**

See Page 2-3

### **Moment For All Ages**

Karen Hruz

### **5th Sunday Coin Offering**

Benefits the West Grove Garage

### **Scripture**

*Isaiah 64:1-9 and \* Mark 13:24-37*

Joan Leaman

Children from Age 4 through Grade 4 are dismissed to meet in room #9 for Children's Worship. At 9:30, the children staying for JAM will be taken to the youth room (#8 & 10) and those who are not staying will be brought back to the Sanctuary.

### **Sermon**

“Is The Grinch Coming to Your House?”

Pastor Monica

### **Offering**

“Jesus, Messiah”

United Methodist Student Day Video

### **Prayers of the People**

The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Jim Mundell

### **Closing Song**

“Lord, Reign Me In”

### **Benediction**

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