



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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



The Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 21, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

GATHERING

Prelude

“Christmas Fantasy”

Memory Bells Choir
Arranged by Kiyo Watanabe

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)

Janis Schrader

One: Come to worship as God’s people.

Many: God flings wide the doors and invites us all.

One: In the midst of our worries and wonderings, God is with us.

Many: Nothing is impossible with God.

One: Possibility and love are in the air.

Many: Songs of Christ’s coming and love are in the air. Let us sing!

*Proclamation Hymn

“There’s A Song In The Air”

Hymnal No. 249

*Opening Prayer (Unison) (based on a prayer by Ruth C. Duck)

Janis Schrader

**Emmanuel, as Christmas trees are lit,
as people rush to shop and send greetings,
as we hear the strains of Christmas music,
keep us close to you.
You are the one whose coming we celebrate;
may Christ be honored by all we do.
May your love shine through us.
May Christ’s life be seen in us.
May hope be known by us.
In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.**

*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

The Reischke Family

Advent Wreath Litany

See Page 7

Advent Song

“Advent Song (Light the Advent Candle)”

TFWS No. 2090, Vs. 4

Children's Choir "Hush, There's a Baby" Directed by Joan Leaman
Moments for All Ages Pastor Monica
Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 61:1-11* Janis Schrader
***Gospel Lesson** *Luke 1:26-38* Janis Schrader

***Response to the Lessons**

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

Many: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem "Make My Life a Bethlehem" 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 *Expecting Hope!* Pastor Monica

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Hymnal No. 230

Offering "Little Lord Jesus" Memory Bells Choir
Arranged by Ron Mallory

***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

The Lord's Prayer Hymnal No. 895

***Hymn of Sending Forth** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Hymnal No. 240

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction** "Christmas Peace" Chancel Choir

***Postlude**

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



Altar Flowers

The flowers gracing our altar space today are
In Memory of
Randy and Rachel Hampton
With love from Sandi, Jeremy and Josh



Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. Strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, foreigners shall till your land and dress your vines; but you shall be called priests of the Lord, you shall be named ministers of our God; you shall enjoy the wealth of the nations, and in their riches you shall glory. Because their shame was double, and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot, therefore they shall possess a double portion; everlasting joy shall be theirs. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Gospel Lesson: *Luke 1:26-38*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

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.

We gladly welcome all worshipers on this third Sunday of Advent. May we all prepare for the joyous celebration of the coming of our Lord, Jesus the Christ. 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.***

**GIVING ENVELOPES:** The process of assigning and distributing numbered giving envelopes for 2015 is underway. If you **use** your giving envelopes regularly, you will be issued another packet for 2015. If you did not have envelopes in 2014 and **need envelopes** for 2015, or if you **don't use** envelopes and just would like to be assigned a giving number for your checks or online payments, please notify Sara Ann Ramberger, Financial Secretary **ASAP**. If you are interested in **Online Giving**, pamphlets can be found in the literature rack in the lobby, or you can contact Donna Fackler, our Church Administrator.

**CHRISTMAS GIFT TREE:** Our congregation has been extremely generous this Christmas with the gifts provided from our Mission Tree. Nine families and ten residents at Twin Pine Nursing Home will be receiving gifts from our church family. Just a reminder, to those who took tags, that the gifts must be at the church **TODAY Sunday morning, Dec. 21st**. Thank you so much for sharing your resources and love this Christmas!

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The 11:00 Worship Service is experiencing a shortage of nursery workers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Amy Castaldi at 484-371-8121 or email her at [ahass17@hotmail.com](mailto:ahass17@hotmail.com).

**NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY:** Updated directories are available in the lobby just in time for your holiday cards! You can find copies in the literature rack or in the basket on the counter. **Our Picture Directories** have been proofed and are currently at the printer. We will notify you when they are available.

**LOST AND FOUND:** **1)** Black ladies jacket. On the coat rack in the Admin. Wing. **2)** Cell phone lost in parking lot on 12/15.

**J.U.L.I.E.T....Just Us Ladies Interested in Eating Together.** Start the New Year out right and join us for breakfast on Saturday, January 10, 2015! There's no agenda, just a bunch of ladies (all ages, too!) having fun on winter's morning. **We meet at Sunrise Café, 127 E. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348** They have free parking in the parking garage on Saturdays. Questions? Call Margee Michaels or Chris Curtiss.

## *Advent Wreath Litany*



Reader 1: “‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel’, which means, ‘God is with us.’ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife.” (Matthew 1: 20b-24)

Reader 2: Today, we remember Joseph, who could have quietly dismissed Mary as culturally acceptable practice, but instead followed God’s quiet dream whispers to step out in faith following God’s way instead of the way of the world.

**People:** Today we give thanks for the Josephs among us, who are faithful to God’s call, even when it goes against culturally accepted practices; boldly following their discernment of God, instead of their hesitations and concerns about appearances and perceptions.

Reader: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Joseph, father of Jesus, faithful to God’s way.

**Advent Song** “Advent Song (Light the Advent Candle)” TFWS No. 2090,

Vs. 4

### **God’s Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship**

**Report for December 14, 2014**

**General Fund: Offering: \$5,827.<sup>00</sup> Offerings Received YTD: \$313,783.<sup>09</sup>**

**Offerings Estimated to meet Budget YTD: \$342,300 (-\$28,517)**

**Building Maintenance Fund: Offering: \$190.<sup>00</sup> Year-to-Date: \$10,593.<sup>97</sup>**

**Worship Attendance: 8:30-106 11:00-93 Total: 199 Sunday School: 50**

**Emergency Food Bags distributed year-to-date: 81**



# Blue Christmas

**Sunday, December 21,**

**7:00 p.m.**

Perhaps, as you prepare for Christmas, this season has not felt as joyful for you as it does for others. Perhaps, this is a season of loss and pain – loss of loved one, loss of job, loss of family, and physical, emotional, spiritual pain. As stated by Nancy Townely, "On this night , we remember those for whom the holidays are not joyful; they are lonely, in mourning, feeling alienated and cast apart from family celebrations; they are experiencing depression and sadness and yet are compelled to 'put on a happy face' for others, denying their true feelings."

The service welcomes all with trust and understanding in what can be a very painful time of the year. The service includes the lighting of candles, meditative music, prayers, comforting scriptures, and the giving of prayer shawls. It is an offering of hope, as we decorate a bare branch with shiny blue ornaments. As one after another of the ornaments decorate the barren branch it becomes a glowing, living testament to the resilience of the spirit. Join us as we offer a quiet and reflective service of light in the midst of darkness.



Worship With Us  
*Christmas Eve*



**Saturday, December 20th – Live Nativity from 6:00-8:00pm**  
**Sunday, December 21st – Blue Christmas Service at 7:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, December 24th – Christmas Eve**  
**12:00 pm Wiggly, Giggly Children's Christmas Eve Service**  
**6:30 pm Family Christmas Eve Service**  
**8:30 pm Contemporary Christmas Eve Service**  
**10:30 pm Traditional Candlelit Christmas Eve Service**  
**with Holy Communion**



West Grove United Methodist Church  
Christmas Poinsettias  
2014

In Memory

|                           |                                                                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Wayne Achuff              | In Memory of Yvonne and Alice Achuff                                               |
| Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Adams | In Memory of our son, Thomas Adams, Jr.                                            |
| Grace Bowes               | In Memory of Dr. Donald Bowes                                                      |
| Fran Bryan                | In Memory of my husband, James Bryan                                               |
| The Guepet Family         | In Memory of my daughter, Terry Lane                                               |
|                           | In Memory of our (grand) fathers: William R. Hagelin and Michael A. Guepet         |
|                           | In Memory of our (great) grandparents                                              |
| Jerry and Elizabeth Gula  | In Memory of Laura Elizabeth Reid (Grandmother)                                    |
|                           | In Memory of Harriette Reid Ward (Aunt)                                            |
| Ed Gunzel                 | In Memory of Virginia Gunzel                                                       |
|                           | In Memory of Dennis Main                                                           |
| Mike and Cindy Haley      | In Memory of our loved ones                                                        |
| Earl and Gail Hatton      | In Memory of parents Paul and Margaret Hatton and sister Hazel                     |
| Ruth Hicks                | In Memory of husband Dale Hicks, parents Paul and Margaret Hatton and sister Hazel |
| Cindy and Tom Hoover      | In Memory of Homer Hoover                                                          |
| Karen Hruz                | In loving memory of my mother, Ruth Eleanor Radcliffe                              |
|                           | In loving memory of Genevieve Offerman                                             |
| Peg Kent                  | In Memory of husband Norman and son Bill Kent                                      |
|                           | In Memory of the Brackin and Kent Families                                         |
| Ruth and Len Kuch         | In Memory of our daughter, Karen Kuch Esposito                                     |
|                           | In Memory of our parents                                                           |
| Bill and Edie Mears       | In Memory of Paul and Ione Mears                                                   |
|                           | In Memory of Earl and Mildred Thomas                                               |
| Kim and Lauren O'Neill    | In Memory of our grandparents and great grandparents                               |
| Susan Paisley             | In Memory of my parents, Richard and Olive Brinton                                 |





# West Grove United Methodist Church Christmas Poinsettias 2014

## In Memory

Martha Pink  
Margaret Rubincan  
Linda Shiplet

Jobe and Connie Simcox

Ed and Becky Tolmie  
Jeff Whelan  
Mike and Kathy Wiwel

In Memory of my husband  
In Memory of my husband, Robert Rubincan  
In Memory of LeRoy and Anna Herb  
In Memory of the Reburn Family—Sandra,  
Ronnie and Danny  
In memory of our parents, Harold and Wilda  
Williams and Jobe Simcox  
In Memory of our son-in-law, Gerry Gotimer  
In Memory of Robert Evans (brother)  
In Memory of my dad, James P. Whelan  
In Memory of Joseph Wiwel, Jr., father and  
grandfather  
In Memory of Eunice Wiwel, mother and  
grandmother

## In Celebration

Ed Gunzel  
Cindy and Tom Hoover  
Karen and Keith Schneider  
Ed and Becky Tolmie  
Karen Underwood

In Celebration of God, Life and a Baby  
In Celebration of our children and  
granddaughter  
In Celebration of the Christmas Season  
In Celebration of Ed and Becky being together  
again  
In Celebration of Retirement

## In Honor

Gene Aucott  
Karen Hruz

In Honor of the Families of West Grove  
In honor of my children, Leigh-Ann, Jake,  
Kelly and Matt  
In honor of my grandchildren, Kaya, Stella  
and Mason  
In honor of Pastor Monica and my wonderful  
church family

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

**Sunday:**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Children's Choir Sings**

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 with Memory Bells  
**7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service**

**Monday:**

9:30 a.m.-11:00 p.m. Knit Wits (#1)  
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:**

**1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Advent Bible Study at Jenner's Pond**  
6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Brownie Troop 04317 (#14)  
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 41250 ( #12)



**Wednesday:**

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

*Church office is closed*

**12:00 p.m. Wiggly, Giggly Children's Christmas Eve Service**  
**6:30 p.m. Family Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**  
**8:30 p.m. Contemporary Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**  
**10:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion**

**Thursday:**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

*Church office is closed*

**Friday: Church office is closed**

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

**Sunday:**

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

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

# 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 December: West Grove and Avondale Fire Companies**  
**Mission Prayer Focus in December: Community Cafe**

Marianne Aquino

Kory Arnold

Family of Michael

Basilio (Covington)

Cory Beattie (Shaub)

Family of Olive Brinton

Maura Carroll (Bates)

Laura Deckman (Paisley)

Joe Devereaux (Keystone)

Leslie Dunn (Boyd)

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

Richard Heacock

Matt Helm (Laird)

Tonya Howell (Boyd)

Nancy Jessup (Gambill)

Deborah Kennedy (Coates)

Claire Krantz (Russell)

Kim Kurz (Ramberger)

Amy Lengel & family (May)

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

Family of Tom Rosazza

(Ramberger)

Dot Russell

Richard Saller

Roann Schneider

Family of Willard Stem

(Howard)

Elli Streibel (Mullen)

Heidi Streibel (Mullen)

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**

**Hospitality 8:30/11**

**Counters**

**Sound Booth**

### **This Sunday, December 21**

Tim and Eileen Bushnell

Ralph Curtiss and Scott Steele

Jeff and Carol Stewart

Maryanne & Lianne Covington

Wesley Boyd / Sydney Curtis

H. McCummings/A. Castaldi/K. Boyd

Amy Castaldi / Kim Weingarten

Amy Castaldi

Ken Arnold

Janis Schrader

Pastor Monica

The Byers/Scott Steele

Dave Talley and Beth Arnold

Joe Dea/B. Ditzel/K. Schneider

### **Next Sunday, December 28**

Tim and Eileen Bushnell

Ralph Curtiss and Scott Steele

Jeff and Carol Stewart

Maryanne & Lianne Covington

Joshua Robinson / Alisabeth Guepet

C. Bruno/R. Catoia/J. Leaman

OPEN

OPEN

Cindy Haley

Sandy Deckard

Karen Hruz

Rain Catoia / Scott Steele

The Rambergers

Joe Dea/B. Ditzel/K. Schneider

# **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

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

### **Opening Song**

“Lord, I Lift Your Name On High”

### **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**

“Hope Is Alive”

“What Child Is This?”

### **Passing of the Peace**

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

High School Youth Group

### **Advent Wreath Litany**

High School Youth Group

See Page 7

### **Advent Song**

“Advent Song (Light the Advent Candle)” TFWS No. 2090, Vs. 4

### **Children’s Choir**

“Hush, There’s a Baby”

Directed by Joan Leaman

### **Moment For All Ages**

Pastor Monica

### **Scripture**

*Isaiah 61:1-11 and \* Luke 1:26-38*

Ken Arnold

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**

“Expecting Hope!”

Pastor Monica

### **Offering**

“Do You Have A Room?”

### **Prayers of the People**

The Lord’s Prayer

### **Closing Song**

“Joy To The World”

### **Benediction**

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