



# The Wesleyan Star

**West Grove**  
**United Methodist Church**  
 300 North Guernsey Road,  
 West Grove, Pa. 19390  
 Phone: 610-869-9334,  
 Fax: 610-869-0110  
 E:mail: [office@westgroveumc.org](mailto:office@westgroveumc.org)  
 Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)



## August 2015



*"Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.  
 Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek  
 the Lord rejoice." Psalm 105:2-3*



Have you ever noticed how a good song can take you back to a memory in a heart beat?

Close your eyes just a moment and take a walk down memory lane:

- \*Your wedding song
- \*Song on the radio when you were first driving
- \*Summer songs on the beach
- \*Songs you danced to in high school
- \*Your parents' favorite songs
- \*Hymns that make you tear up

Music is an incubator of memory. Recent studies have shown a strong link between memory and music with language learning, recuperating after brain Injuries, and full brain activation through music. I would add music is our first touch point for our theology. It is from music that we remember that Jesus Loves Me, and He walks with me and He talks with me, and Our God is an Awesome God!



The book of Psalms is a collection of poetry set to music. Israelites used the Psalms to capture and expression different emotions. Psalms of joy and happiness when the presence of God seems near by and favorable. Psalms of lament when all was wrong with the world. There are Song of **Ascents**, a title given to fifteen of the **Psalms**, 120-134, when going up the Temple. And Psalms of descent to sing upon returning from the Temple.

As you think about the music you listen to, consider what theology you are teaching yourself. What is the music that plays over and over again in your mind teaching you? Are the words in the songs that you singing along with ones that you want your grandchildren to sing back to you? Are the words stuck on replay in your mind uplifting and illustrative?

This month, our sermon series will look at the songbook of ancient Israel alongside some of the summer favorites across generations. What will the psalms and our modern songs teach us about God and about ourselves? Join us to find out!

*In God's Love, Pastor Monica*



# August Worship at West Grove UMC



Please join us in our worship service to be blessed by the Word of God.

## **Sermon Series: Summer's Soundtrack: Psalms and Popular Summer Songs that keep the character of God before us**

**Tenth Sunday After Pentecost ~  
August 2**

**Communion and Emergency Food  
Shelf Sunday**

**Scripture:** Psalm 84 and 2 Samuel  
6:14-19

**Sermon:** "Dancing in the Streets"  
Praise God who is worthy to be  
praised!



**Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost ~  
August 9**

**Jamie Lindtner Preaching**

**Scripture:** Psalm 34: 1-8, 15-22 and Exodus 14:5-14

**Sermon:** "I'll Stand By You"  
God is our firm foundation and He stands strong for  
his people.

**Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost ~  
August 16**

**Scripture:** Psalm 51 and 2 Samuel  
12:1-7

**Sermon:** "Wipeout!"  
Knowing God as a God of Mercy

**Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost ~  
August 23**

**Scripture:** Psalm 130 and 2 Samuel  
22:1-7

**Sermon:** "Cruel Summer"  
God is always present, even in disappointment.

**Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost ~ August 30**

**Scripture:** Psalm 111 and 2 Samuel 22:17-20, 44-51

**Sermon:** "Walking on Sunshine!"  
Experience the joy of walking with God!

### **Fifth Sunday Coin Collection on August 30 to benefit the Les Family, our sponsored family in Ukraine.**



West Grove UMC has sponsored the Les family for many years. Sergie and Galina are the parents; Mary and Vira are their daughters. Sergie works as a church pastor, serves an outreach to prisons, and leads his congregants in rallies to declare God's love. He does not get paid for this position, as the congregants are too poor. The Les Family says that they are blessed to have God connect them with "their church family across the waters." This month, please consider making an additional monetary donation to help meet the needs of the Les Family through the winter months. Thank you for your continued generous support of this very grateful family.



**Coffee Fellowship  
this month is host-  
ed by our Youth  
Team**

Due to the increase in food allergies among the general population as well as our own congregants, we request that any items brought for the fellowship hour have a note attached if there are nuts in them (including coconuts). Thank you.

**Sunday,  
August 30th**

**Attention Students  
and Teachers! Brin**

backpacks and school bags to worship for a special time of blessing at the 9:30 a.m. service on Sunday, August 30th. A small token of our love will be given to each teacher and child.





**Vision Retreat  
Saturday, September  
12th**

**At Camp Innabah,  
near Pottstown**

**All leadership and persons interested  
in how mission and ministry in our  
congregation and community is lived  
out, should plan to join us for the  
day.**

**"The Majesty of God"  
Bible Study**

**Led by Pastor Jim Mundell**

**Mondays,  
7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.**

**September 14- October 19**

Beginning on September 14 and running for at least six-weeks, Pastor Jim will conduct a Bible Study on passages from the Old Testament. It is entitled **THE MAJESTY OF GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**. God's unsurpassed majesty and greatness is an aspect of biblical truth that is often lacking in our Christian life. The objective of our study is to learn about the magnificence and the majesty, the awesomeness and greatness of our God. I trust you will want to take part in this study of Old Testament passages about of our God.

The weekly topics and passages to be studied are listed below.

**"THE MAJESTY OF GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT"**

- 1.) Magnifying the Incomparability of our God.  
Isaiah 40:9-31
- 2.) Magnifying the Greatness of our God.  
Daniel 4:1-37
- 3.) Magnifying the Awesome Character of our God.  
Psalm 139:1-18
- 4.) Magnifying the Holy Spirit from our God  
Zechariah 4:1-14
- 5.) Magnifying the Holiness of our God  
Isaiah 6:1-13
- 6.) Magnifying God's Help in Time of Need  
2 Chronicles 20:1-30

Pastor Jim



**BISHOP'S DAY ON  
SOUTHEAST DISTRICT**

**October 8, 2015**

Clergy in morning.

Laity in evening.

Details & registration to be announced.

Pastor Monica will be out of the office August 9th-15th with her family. This is the first of four weeks she is allotted. If you need pastoral care during that time, please call Pastor Jim Mundell at 610-869-8397.

**Back-To-School**

**Sunday,  
September 13!**

We will kick off the return to **two services and Christian Education on September 13.**



**Sunday School  
CELEBRATION**

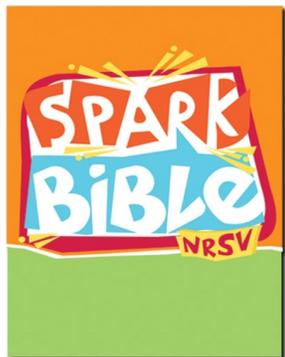
The children will meet their teachers and break off into their classrooms, while the adults will have an opportunity to view the different studies available to them and ask questions of the leaders. In addition, refreshments will be available for everyone! So, come check out what is new in Sunday School!

**Regular Worship Schedule Resumes**

**Sunday, September 6: We will return to our regular schedule of 8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service, 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages, and 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service.**

**Commissioning of our Sunday School Teachers and Sunday Morning Servants will be on September 6.**

Please be sure to mark your calendar. We are so blessed by the men and women who teach. Let us offer them our blessings and receive their promises as they prepare to shape hearts and minds for the next year.



**Bible Sunday for**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Graders**  
**Sunday, September 13th**

On **Sunday, September 13th**, 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 them!

**CALLING ALL  
 THIRD AND  
 FOURTH  
 GRADERS!**

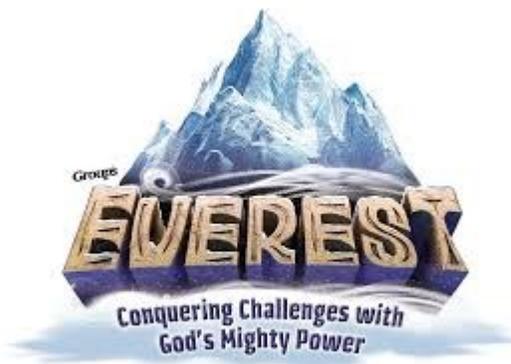


We are looking for new Acolytes. What is an Acolyte you ask? An

Acolyte is the person who enters the church at the beginning of the service and lights the candles on the altar and extinguishes the candles at the end of the service. You would serve approximately once a month depending on the number of Acolytes. No experience is necessary, we will train. If you are interested, please call

**Thank you to all who have spent time on Sunday mornings volunteering in the nursery!** We continue to be blessed with wonderful little ones to spend time

with on Sundays and watch them grow! We could use additional volunteers, especially during the 11am service. If you are interested in helping in the nursery (about once a month), please contact Amy Castaldi at [ahass17@hotmail.com](mailto:ahass17@hotmail.com) or 610-468-4321.



**VBS**

Vacation Bible school was a incredible success. Thanks to everyone who participated, prepared for, cleaned up, and donated to the event!

There were one hundred and thirteen children whose lives were touched by message of Jesus. Sixty-four youth and adults guided, taught, and loved them.

We were entertained by some hiking up Mt. Everest and a few wacky characters who taught us some interesting facts, as well as some fancy dance moves.

We also learned some great Bible stories, played some fun games, made some cool crafts, and watched some videos about other children and how God is working in their lives.

To top it all off, we ate some delicious snacks, and got to take home some Bible buddies to remind us of our fantastic week!

We chose to share resources with our local school districts as our mission focus for the week.

The Holy Spirit was alive and present all week, and we pray God will remain in the hearts of those who entered into our doors from the community. God is good!

Bill Jones and the VBS Team

# Fantasy Football



PLAY BALL!.....oops, wrong sport.... But anyway..... FOOTBALL SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. Last year was the sixth season of the West Grove UMC Fantasy Football League.

We are now preparing for the seventh season. No experience is necessary but some knowledge of the NFL teams/players is helpful. No fee to play; the winner's name will be engraved onto the very honorable West Grove UMC Fantasy Football trophy. Congrats to Lee Arter, last's year's Champion.

Perhaps you have a friend or neighbor that may benefit from a church community but you haven't been sure how to invite them; this could be it. Space is limited; teams will be assigned on a first come first serve basis. To join the league please contact Commissioner Tim Bushnell BEFORE Labor Day at 610-998-0916 or [agedarborist@gmail.com](mailto:agedarborist@gmail.com)



## CMO SUMMER EXCITEMENT

Happy Summer! It is hard to believe that it is already July and that we will be back in school soon. Although I enjoy the summer break, I always look forward to welcoming our children and families back. I love seeing the smiling faces of the children as they see their friends and teachers again.

"As I think ahead about the new school year, I wanted to pass along that there are many ways for you to be involved in our program. If you have a special talent you would like to share with the children, please let me know. This past year we had a church member come in to the classrooms to teach the children a fun song. We have many members help with our consignment sales, volunteering their time and consigning. You can cut Box tops and Campbells labels which will help us get items for free for our program. Last year, we had a "Giving Tree", many people supported our program by pulling an apple and donating gently used items or purchased new items for our classrooms. There are many ways to help, please share your ideas with me. I love getting to know everyone and am open to your suggestions.

"I do still have just a few openings in two of our classes. If you know someone who may be interested in a preschool program please pass the word along about our wonderful program. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Tracy McLaughlin, CMO Director





## Wednesday Faith. Food and Fun Nights

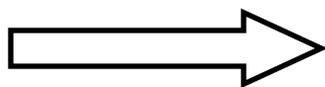
West Grove United Methodist Church has launched a new Wednesday night **“Summer Fun for Everyone”**. The weekly event started on **June 3 and will continue through the summer culminating on August 26.**

The entire community is invited to attend from **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** There are hotdogs, games, fellowship and a brief word from the Lead Pastor, Rev. Monica B. Guepet, each week. The church wants to continue building a relationship with everyone in the community and believe a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere where folks of all ages could come and enjoy themselves would fit perfectly. Pastor Monica says that it “won’t be fancy”. Families can get

a night off of cooking by coming to the church for hot dogs and whatever assortment of side dishes show up. All beverages will be supplied. If you’d like to bring a bag of chips, some cookies, or side dish, they will be appreciated, but by no means mandatory. The event is totally free.

A box of games will be available, the youth plan to have their new 9-In-The-Air game up and going, a gated playground is open for little ones, and the ample parking lot and grounds will provide lots of space for kids of all ages to play. Bring your lawn chair and take the night off! All are welcome! The church is located at 300 N. Guernsey Road, West Grove. For more information you may call the church at 610-869-9334, or visit their website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org).

## Overheard on a Wednesday!



This picture was featured in the Daily Local News’ Religion Notes section of the newspaper on Friday, June 19! The caption read:

**Summer Fun evenings at West Grove United Methodist Church run every Wednesday through Aug. 26.**



**This is the best part  
of my summer vacation.**



# Save the Date

**West Grove UMC's  
Annual Chicken BBQ  
Saturday, September 19**

***The trustees sponsor this annual fundraiser  
that supports many unbudgeted church projects  
and missions in the community and wider.***

It is the volunteers who make this huge project a success. There are numerous opportunities to serve: fold boxes, wrap potatoes, serve meals, or donate food items. Sign-up sheets will be available in the lobby in the coming weeks. Please be sure to look them over to find a way you can serve.

If you have any questions, call Joe Dea at 610-235-6373 or email him at [joenitelite@yahoo.com](mailto:joenitelite@yahoo.com)

# J.U.L.I.E.T.

**JULIET...Just us Ladies Interested in Eating Together**

**August 8 at 9:00 a.m.**



Please join this group of ladies for a breakfast time of food, fun and fellowship. **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.

## Care Givers Group

**August 12 @ 7 p.m.**



Caregivers meet on the **second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is on June 10 at 7 p.m. in room #16.** Please join us if you are caring for a loved one, close or from afar. Find love and support from others in your situation. **Thank you.**



## Hear the Stories!

### Luther House Bible Study

Luther Class is for men and women who

are interested in coming together to learn the stories of the Bible. All are welcome. We meet every Wednesday from 2:00-3:00 pm at Luther Building #1 in the parlor, right inside the door. Come join us! Bring your friends.

If you have any questions, contact Cindy Haley at: [chaley@zoominternet.net](mailto:chaley@zoominternet.net)



### Address Correction

Peg Kent  
124 Jenners Pond Road, Apt. #3104  
West Grove, PA 19390

# Mission Trip



# C.I.A. Youth Ministry News



## Youth News

We have had a great summer so far! Our mission trip to Union Beach NJ was a wonderful opportunity of serving, fellowship, laughter and growing in our faith together. We painted, landscaped and did some demolishing of a house. We heard stories from people who had lived through hurricane Sandy which was amazing to hear. Thanks to all who helped to send us and for all of the many prayers. We are looking forward to sharing some of our stories with the congregation!

## August Calendar



### YOUTH BIBLE STUDY

Come join together at Jamie's house on Thursday evenings, August 6 & 20, 7:30-9:00 p.m., as we study God's word together.

### YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

**Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> – Pool Party at the Wolfes' house. 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.**



**Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Slip n Slide ParTay at the Church! 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

## MOUNT GREटना LAKE

**Thursday, August 13!**

We are heading to Mt. Gretna Lake for the day on August 13<sup>th</sup>! Super fun lake with rope swings and diving boards, a snack bar and a sandy beach. Cost is \$16 to get on the lake. (bring extra money for lunch/snacks or pack a lunch) . We will meet to leave at 9:45 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m. RSVP to Jamie! Adults – we will need drivers – let me know if you can help.



**YOUTH LEADER MEETING** - Youth Leaders – we will have a meeting together at Jamie's house – **Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**.. Come for some Ice-Cream and we'll talk fall youth ministry.



**Looking Forward...  
Youth Fall Kick Off -  
September 20<sup>th</sup>! Watch for  
details.**

Any questions about the program or how you can be more involved, contact Jamie Lindtner at [Jamielindtner@gmail.com](mailto:Jamielindtner@gmail.com) or 610-937-7932

# Wesley Singers



## Giant Gift Cards

Giant Gift Cards are a simple and easy way to increase your weekly giving without costing you a cent. The cards are sold for face value, but the church purchases the cards at a 5% discount. To participate in this program, just complete the order form located in the lobby, attach your check, and drop it in the offering plate or Carol Whelan's mailbox. I usually have a supply of gift cards on hand and can give them directly to you as soon as I receive a check. If you spend \$300 a month, the church will receive \$15. In a year the church will receive \$180! If you shop at Giant, please consider purchasing a Giant Gift Card through the church. The cards come in \$25, \$50, and \$100 denominations. Questions?? Contact Carol Whelan at 610-345-0964.



*Thank you to*

*the Wesley Singers from*

*Grace United Methodist Church in Manassas, Virginia, for offering an incredible concert on June 22nd. We were indeed blessed by their music. Thank you to Eileen Bushnell for the connection!*

## Daily Meditations



We hope you have had a chance to catch the new meditations in the bulletin. They are written one for each day of the week as a short meditation and question with which you might begin your day. Don't forget to take your bulletin home and place the meditations and scripture reading in a place you can use each day. May your relationship with God be enriched. They are also available on Facebook and our website!



Dear Pastor  
Monica &  
WGUMC  
Friends and  
Family,  
  
Your  
kindness

means so much. My time at WGUMC has had such an impact on me — my love of my savior, Jesus Christ has grown and I am inspired by all of you. Thank you for your gracious acknowledgement of my time here

and for the kindness shown to my dear mother. In His love, Lisa (Reoli)



Dear Rev. Guepet and Church Family, Your prayers, support and kindness have been a great source of comfort to my family in this time of mourning. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for keeping us in your prayers. With love and gratitude, Larry and Dana (Clark)



West Grove United Methodist Church ,  
Thank you so much for allowing our Brownie Troop to use a room at the church during the school year. We were able to learn, sing, and grow together as a troop. As we have done in the past, we have filled your cart with non-perishables as a small token of our thanks. Happy Summer!  
Brown Troop 447

## Pressing on in the race to end malaria

**"**Press on toward the goal," the Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippians, "for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:14)

Indeed, the Christian life is like a race. The opportunity to do greater and greater works for God is ever before us. And we strive toward the goal of Christian perfection, fueled by our faith in Christ's promise.

The Imagine No Malaria (INM) campaign is pressing on toward a goal as well. As United Methodists we have pledged to raise \$75 million dollars to fund efforts that should effectively wipe out the disease of malaria in our lifetime! The Eastern PA Conference has given much toward this effort in the last 8 years.

In fact, you may recall that the original Nothing But Nets campaign that

launched in early 2007 was inspired by the efforts of then-6-year-old Katherine Commale of Hopewell UMC. Aided by her mother, her church and her community, she eventually raised more than \$135,000 to purchase and donate



insecticide-treated bed nets to protect children and adults in Africa from mosquitoes that spread malaria. Our conference responded by raising more than \$250,000.

United Methodists have not yet achieved our goal, but we are pressing on. So far we have raised \$66 million. We are getting close. And it seems only right that we here in the Eastern PA Conference should finish what we started.

We have done so much with the funds raised so far. According to the Imagine No Malaria office we have:

- Trained 13 Health Boards and 11,600 volunteers in Africa to oversee INM programs in 16 countries.
- Distributed 2 million insecticide-treated mosquito nets and

treated over 235,000 cases of malaria.

- Trained a new generation of leaders to advocate for global health issues.
- Slowed the mortality rate in Sub-Saharan Africa down by 54 percent.

We have made a huge difference in the lives--and the faith--of our sisters and brothers in Africa. Malaria has taken millions of precious lives, mostly children, from families, churches and communities. Can you imagine the disappearance of this dreaded disease from their lives? I believe they can imagine it, many for the first time.

At \$66 million, we're only \$9 million short of our goal. As a popular gospel song says, "Lord, I'm runnin', tryin' to make a hundred, because ninety-nine and a half won't do." Let's finish this race and see to it that the UMC completes its pledge of \$75 million dollars by the time we go to General Conference in 2016. What a beautiful triumph that would be, a powerful reminder of the great things we can do as a people

of God connected in mission together.

We will launch our new campaign this summer, and we ask that you and your church join us in fervent prayer. We want full participation from all our districts, churches and mission connexions. And we hope that for many it will be a community effort, not just a church effort. Generating broad awareness and participation in this campaign is more important than the amount raised.

Our conference can play a big role in helping our entire church push this effort across the finish line. Please give generously and think creatively about how you can raise the needed funds. Many thanks to all who have done, and will do, wonderful events to educate people and raise the needed support. As we strive to finish this mission effort that we started, we are truly participating in the "upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

*Peggy A. Johnson*



## Community Garden

Our community garden is home to individual beds, as well as beds grown to feed the food insecure in our community. We give thanks to God for those who are watering, pulling weeds, repairing beds, and attending to our Community Garden.

You can sign up at

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4fa8a72ca7fd0-garden> to im-

act food insecurity here in our Community.

Please contact Kate Black at  
610-869-2231 or

[kateblack@gmail.com](mailto:kateblack@gmail.com) for more information.





## Mid-Year Finance Report

We are impacting our community by being good stewards of the resources of time, talent, and finances that people share with the church.

Please consider how you can additionally support the ministry of the church to **Open, Grow, and Serve in name of Jesus**. Even giving \$5 a week (the cost of a Starbucks coffee) or \$260 a year allows us to extend our impact into the community. Remember your giving to the church as you travel.

Thank you for the ways that you have already given to the church through your time, talents, and finances.

## SAVE THE DATE

Charge Conference  
Saturday, August  
29th at 1:00 pm is  
at Avondale UMC



All members of West Grove UMC are invited to attend as we receive reports on our ministries, hear from our District Superintendent and celebrate our connection as United Methodists around the world.



*House Blessings "And now, O Lord GOD, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to your servant; now therefore may it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may continue forever before you; for you, O Lord GOD, have spoken, and with your blessing shall the house of your servant be blessed forever." 2 Samuel 7: 28-29*  
From biblical times, when someone moved into a new dwelling, words of blessing were offered over the new home. Home blessings involve prayers, scripture reading, and movement throughout the house.

*If you are interested in a home blessing, please contact Pastor Monica.*

Have you been traveling?

Away on vacation?

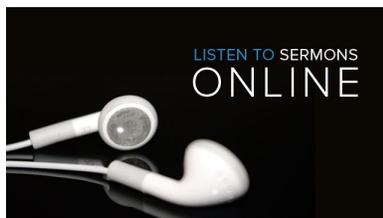
Sick on Sunday morning?

Want to remember an illustration from a sermon?

Did you know?

Sermons are now available on the website!

You can choose to read them in manuscript form or listen to them in mp3 form.



## Building To Serve

### Building Maintenance Reserve Fund

We believe that our building is not ours, but it is God's. We have the privilege of updating it and maintaining it so that all who enter find it a warm, welcoming and hospitable place to experience the spirit of Christ. Our Building Maintenance Reserve Fund is one way we ensure that we are good stewards of all that God has entrusted to us.

Please consider making donations regularly.

# MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE

Are you a 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grader?

Want to join the youth group but are not old enough yet? Well, then, there is a place for you! Join us this fall as we launch the Mission Possible Group. We will meet 1-2 times a month and do a variety of things including crafts, missions and fun activities while learning about Jesus and what it means to be a Christian. If you want to know more, please provide Melissa Jones with your email and address. More detailed information will be coming out in August.

If you are an adult that would like to help out, please let Melissa Jones know!

Melissa Jones, [melissa.jones@westgroveumc.org](mailto:melissa.jones@westgroveumc.org) or 610-869-4283



Thank you to all who have volunteered in the nursery over the spring and summer!

The little ones are blessed to have such car-

ing adults spending time with them during worship!

If you are interested or know someone who is interested in helping in the nursery, please contact Amy Castaldi at [ahass17@hotmail.com](mailto:ahass17@hotmail.com) or 610-468-4321. The volunteers generally are scheduled in a rotation once a month to join Maira, the weekly nursery attendant, as they care for the babies and toddlers during worship or Sunday School.

Thank you! Amy Castaldi, Nursery



## SCRIP PROGRAM

Savings for Church through Rebate and Incentive Program The SCRIP program allows for the congregation of WGUMC to participate in a savings program which benefits our church.

By purchasing prepaid cards for use at business establishments you frequent on a weekly basis, WGUMC will receive a percentage from the businesses. Buy your groceries, pay for your gas, buy gift cards for friends and family, etc. It is a great way to budget your money, too! The possibilities are limitless, and every dollar provides another avenue of stewardship for our church.

We look forward to the whole congregation participating in the program. There is a table in the lobby with Order Forms. Just choose the cards you wish to purchase, attach your check made payable to "WGUMC" with memo "SCRIP" and put them in the bin below the forms.

Envelopes for your privacy and convenience are there as well. This is an on-going program, so you can order at any time!

If you have any questions, please see John Boyd or e-mail him at [jwb389@zoominternet.net](mailto:jwb389@zoominternet.net). Thank you.

## Beloved Delaware Conference celebrated 50 years later By John W. Coleman



Nearly 200 people gathered at historic Tindley Temple UMC in Philadelphia on Saturday, May 30, to celebrate "A Century of Commitment, A Legacy of Love." With that theme, they fondly remembered the old Delaware Annual Conference, which from 1864 to 1965

nurtured the faith, fellowship and fortitude of African Americans in the former Methodist and Methodist Episcopal churches. This was a special occasion--both joyful and poignant--that recalled struggles to overcome racism, heroic leaders, faithful disciples and the relentless arc of social transformation that by God's grace, "bends toward justice. Rich oratory, rousing anthems and gospel classics, radical choreography and keen remembrances all reverberated through the lengthy worship celebration.

Bishop Ernest Lyght came from New Jersey and the Rev. David Briddell, a former Philadelphia pastor, journeyed from Berlin, Md., both to share compelling historical insights about the old Delaware Conference. Then Bishop Gregory Palmer, a Philadelphia native who heads the West Ohio Conference, preached powerfully, offering profound insights in his sonorous voice. Introduced by his beloved father, the Rev. Herbert Palmer, he challenged church leaders, including descendants of the old Delaware Conference, to be boldly authentic and affirmed in the expression of their Christian faith and racial identity.

Along with all the prose and poetry there were indeed, expressions of faith and racial identity that enriched a dynamic, intergenerational program of music and dance. Three choirs--the Sounds of Joy, Faith in Action and Mother African Zoar's Youth Choir--also filled the room with melodious songs of faith. And Grace-in-Motion, Grace UMC's exciting young liturgical dance troupe, wearing painted faces, energized the crowd with their explosive music and choreography.

# 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL



PLANTING  
SEEDS FOR  
MINISTRY  
growth

**Bookmark the Date!**  
**Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 2<sup>pm</sup>**

**Hopewell United Methodist Church**

presents

**Mike Slaughter**

lead pastor of Ginghamburg Church

- ◆ Mike uses his "gift of irritation" to equip ministry leaders to maximize mission to fully deploy the mission of Jesus into the world.
- ◆ Author of numerous books for church leaders, including *RENEGADE GOSPEL—The Rebel Jesus*.
- ◆ Mike's call to afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted will challenge every attendee at Planting Seeds for Ministry Growth.



**With Special Workshop Presenters**

**Warren Cooper** ◆ Trend-setting musical pioneer within the genre of sacred jazz

**Rhonda Burnette-Bletsch, Ph.D.** ◆ Professor of Biblical Studies at Eastern University

Hopewell United Methodist Church  
852 Hopewell Road · Downingtown, PA 19335  
610.269.1545

Event Registration will open in September  
[www.hopewellumc.org](http://www.hopewellumc.org)  
Email Inquiries: [boyd@hopewellumc.org](mailto:boyd@hopewellumc.org)



## Mission Central, Mechanicsburg, PA

**Tuesday, August 18.**

Mission Central is the mission warehouse of the Susquehanna Conference of the United Methodist Church. Along with twenty-one satellite operations, called "HUBs", they supply humanitarian goods and logistical services to hundreds of different ministry and social service agencies.

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**What work will be done?** Volunteers work on a variety of tasks: Assemble, verify, and pack UMCOR Relief Kits; sort donated materials; warehouse labor— stack, move, wrap, etc.; maintain the facility—Sweep, vacuum, mop, wipe, etc.; lawn & yard maintenance; truck loading and unloading; and inventory & data entry.

**If you, as an individual, a family, or a small group, are interested** in visiting and volunteering at Mission Central with the Mission Team this year, **please see Janice Bowers** for more information. A signup sheet will be posted in the lobby.



**West Grove United Methodist Church  
will be partnering with**

**Good Works, a Christian nonprofit  
based in Coatesville,**

**on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>.**

This full day service opportunity will focus on home repair for one low-income homeowner in the greater Coatesville area. Good Works' vision is to eliminate substandard housing and replace hopeless with hope as people experience warmer, safer and drier homes. They provide a framework for those who wish to serve community members in the Coatesville, West Chester and Phoenixville areas. Good Works is the largest nonprofit in Chester County whose sole focus is to utilize volunteers to perform extensive repairs at no cost to the homeowners. Contact Melissa Jones at [melissa.jones@westgroveumc.org](mailto:melissa.jones@westgroveumc.org) to sign up!

## Chester County Gleaning Program



**Wednesday, August  
19 — Picking Corn  
for the Chester  
County Food Bank**

Please consider joining us on August 19th as we travel to the **Gibbs Farm**

**in Cochranville** to pick corn for the Chester County Food Bank. This will be the fifth year we send a gleaning team to the farm at Route 10 and Gum Tree Road! **We will start picking at 5:30 p.m.**, but feel free to come later, if necessary. We generally pick for about 2 - 2 1/2 hours. As the time gets closer you will have access to a Chester County Food Bank link where you can go to sign-up to volunteer. In the meantime, please sign the sheet in the church lobby if you plan on going. Please contact Joan Leaman ([jmleaman@comcast.net](mailto:jmleaman@comcast.net) or 484-643-2181) with questions about this mission opportunity



*The Academy for Laity*

CSM –  
CHRIST  
SERVANT  
MINISTRY

**Basic Course**

**Training**

**(All are welcome)**

**August 14 -16, 2015** – There will be a Basic Course at the Reading Motor Inn as part of the Laity Academy. A Registration form and additional information is expected to be available by the end of May.

For more information about the 2015 Laity



**West Grove United Methodist Church**  
OPEN • GROW • SERVE

300 North Guernsey Road, West Grove, Pa. 19390

Phone: 610-869-9334, Fax: 610-869-0110

E:mail address: office@westgroveumc.org

Website: www.westgroveumc.org



**2015**

*~ 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.*

**The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor**

**pastor@westgroveumc.org**

**Rev. Jim Mundell - Associate Pastor, Chaplain at Jenner's Pond**

**jimm@westgroveumc.org**

**Office Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**Staff**

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator  
donna@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director  
Contemporary Music Interim Director  
betsys@westgroveumc.org

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director

Jamie Lindtner - Youth Director  
jamiel@westgroveumc.org

Melissa Jones - Member Connection and Small  
Groups Coordinator: melissaj@westgroveumc.org

Tracy McLaughlin—Children's Morning Out Director  
tracym@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Helen Carlin-Sunday Morning Coordinator & Office  
Volunteer

**Board and Committee Leadership**

Carol Whelan - Interim Administrative Council Chair

John Boyd - Trustee Chair

TBA - Finance Chair

Jeff Curtis - Treasurer

Sara Ann Ramberger - Financial Secretary

Cindy Hoover - Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

Judy Gambill - Children's Worship

Bill Jones - Children's Ministry Team Contact

Susan Paisley - Faith Community Nurse

Janice Bowers - Missions Team Chair

Don Hurst - Hospitality Committee Chair

Cindy Haley - Delegate to Annual Conference

Luke Chalmers- Delegate to Annual Conference

TBA - Lay Leader

Cindy Haley - U.M.W. President

**Open-** Prayer Chain Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

John Gambill, Betty Mundell and Denise Byers

Ad Council Member at Large