



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

Website: www.westgroveumc.org



October 2017



*"He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury;
he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins.
Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them;
for all of them have contributed out of their abundance,
but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.'" Luke 22: 1-4*

This month, Steve and I attended the wedding of one my cousins. Who could have imagined this great conversation that we overheard coming out of a beautiful, old, Roman Catholic church? Two young professionals behind us chose that moment to reflect on their understandings of stewardship and giving in the church. They said: "You would be stupid to give to the church. You get nothing for it. Even a big, beautiful church like this. I know people who give thousands of dollars a year and they don't get anything different than people who don't give. Why would you do that?" I wonder how many people have conversations like this all across the globe as they try to untangle church practices, biblical understanding, and stewardship. Perhaps, you have as well. Let's try to unpack a bit together.

The good news is they are absolutely correct. God's grace is available to all. So, regardless of whether they tithed their six-figure income or put a five-dollar bill in the plate when they come when the kids sing, God's grace is not dependent on giving. God is available to all.

The good news is stewardship is not fund-raising. Increasing the bottom line is not the primary objective of any sermon, teaching, or conversation about stewardship. However, here is what my well-dressed wedding friends missed out on. **Tithing to the church is less about what we get, and much more about who God is.** We are a people called to live as disciples of Jesus. Stewardship is part of a lifestyle of giving your entire life to the way of Jesus.

Jesus, who calls us to pray for our enemies, feed the hungry, regardless of their gratitude, and work for justice, also has a lot to say about how it is we earn, spend, save, and give our money. The parable of the widow's mite is not intended to encourage us just to give our pennies or to romanticize those who have very little among us. Rather, like all parables, the widow's mite teaches us about God. The widow was able to give all she had, because she trusted that she would still have dinner that night. It is a bold proclamation that God provides! Because of that bold proclamation, she could live out loud trusting God.

Now, many of us have some questions then about planning and taking care of ourselves first, and what social safety nets were in place for the widow. I think those are conversations that we ought to be having. Let us start from a default position that God provides for us what we need. Then begin to care for others, our families, and ourselves to see how God does that. As we walk this stewardship series together in the month of October, let us remember that we are "Blessed to be a Blessing." We are called to name our blessings, thank God for our blessings, and share our blessings.

Perhaps, my fancy money-savvy friends at the wedding, might be right, you do not get anything for giving to the church. We follow the Savior who gave it all away, even his life. Perhaps, they missed God's abundance and providence for all people!

We certainly get much and share, much more than we give!

In God's Love,
Pastor Monica



October Worship at West Grove UMC



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

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 1

World Communion Sunday

Emergency Aid Sunday

Blessing of the Intentional Presence

Genesis 26-27

Job 2: 12-13

Showing up matters. Join us in worship as we see how we can support one another.

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 8

Blessings of Witness

Genesis 28

Matthew 23: 24-43

Invite a friend to join us in worship!

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Baptism of Brianna Stewart

Sunday, October 15

Blessing of Purpose

Genesis 29-30

Philippians 4: 10-19

Who has God called you to be?

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 22

Blessing of Relationships

Genesis 31

Matthew 23:14-21

God gives us relationship. How do we steward this gift?

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 29

Consecration Sunday

Fifth Sunday of the Month Collection

Blessed to be a Blessing

Genesis 32

Luke 12: 42-48

How will your blessings bless others?



Worship is on
Sunday

October 8th
at 11 am in the

Allison Theater

led by Pastor Jim.

Sermon Talk back

On the **fourth Sunday of the month, at 9:45 a.m.**, join

Pastor Monica in Room 3 to talk

about the sermon. Maybe you resonate and want to share a story. Maybe you are curious and have questions. Maybe you are puzzled and want to ask questions. Maybe you know there is always more research that goes into creating and birthing a sermon and want to hear more.

Come, join Pastor Monica!



FIRST SUNDAYS: Our Emergency Food Pantry serves our community and provides much needed food and supplies to families in our area. Your donations are appreciated. An Emergency Aid donation envelope can be found in your bulletin on First Sundays as well. The funds collected help others in need with rent, utility bills, etc. Thank you for your generosity.

First Sunday

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

October's Coffee Fellowship is brought to you by :

Finance 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.

PRAYER BEAD GARDEN

With the ground consecrated, we continue the work of bidding the project. Initially, we were led to believe the cost of Phase 1 would be \$10,000. From our initial bids, we believe that estimate is low. We affirm our commitment to beginning

the project when it is funded. We ask our congregation to prayerfully consider giving to help this vision of our prayer bead garden for the community, come to fruition.

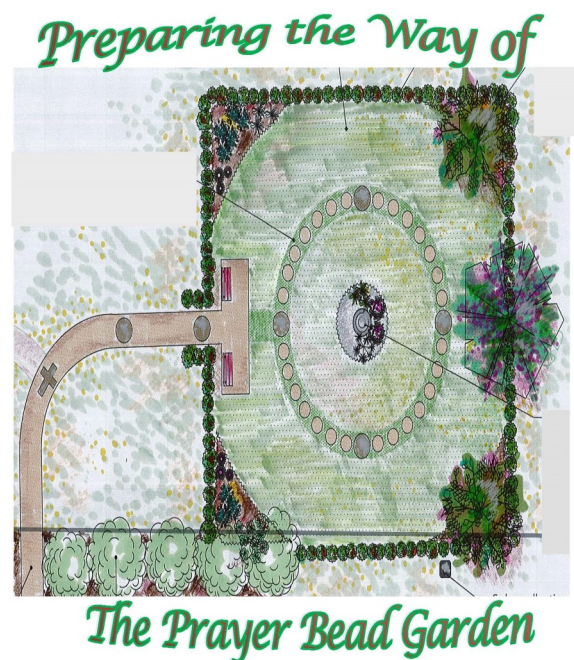


Many have asked what are the phases.

At this time, here is the scope:

- Phase 1: excavation, concrete, and installation of stones
- Phase 2: landscaping, hedging, and planting
- Phase 3: water feature

Help us make this vision a reality.





The semi-annual Rummage Sale is the primary fund-raiser for the United Methodist Women. Each October and May our congregation donates gently used household goods and clothing so we may offer it for sale to our community at greatly reduced prices. The money we make is used to help finance many mission projects, local and global. The sale itself offers goods at affordable prices for those in need as well as the bargain-hunter/collector.



We Need You!

While the set up and tear down are hard work, we've been blessed with many willing hands donating as much time as they are able. "Many hands make little work" and we often have some laughs along the way. Thank you to all who come by with donations of goods and labor. This year we will set up on Thursday, Oct. 5. Moving chairs and tables requires some muscle. Help is especially needed Thursday morning (Maybe Wed. evening) and again Saturday, Oct. 7 around 12:30.

After set up is complete, we get busy getting ready for the sale. This is where the many hands come in "handy." Join us and help unload a bag or two. Sale days are Friday from 9 to 2. We need people to help total purchases, bag and collect money. We're busiest at the start. Usually there are spurts of activity after that. Friday is \$2 a bag day. This one is easier, but we need more hands around 12 when clean-up begins.

Cars, vans or trucks need to be loaded with the left-overs which go to the mission in Avondale or books to the Lions. Any other items have been going to Goodwill. Then the muscle is required again to put away tables and set chairs up for Sunday services. This sale has been going on for as long as I can remember. With your help it will continue to successfully help those in need. Thank you for your support.



West Grove United Methodist Church Semi~Annual Rummage Sale



Friday, October 6th, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Saturday, October 7th, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Please think of us as you sort through your closets and drawers, attics and garages.

**Donations accepted at the church from
Sunday, Oct. 1st—Wednesday, Oct. 4th.**

Left-over items are donated to various mission organizations. The United Methodist Women who sponsor this sale, use the proceeds to fund various missions in the church and the wider community.

Join your neighbors walking in the

John H. Ware IV Memorial



because Hunger Exists in Local Places

OCTOBER 15, 2017

Benefits:

Avon Grove Bridge Foodpantry

Church of God Divine Sent Food Cupboard

Lighthouse Youth Center

Neighborhood Services Center

Starts at Lighthouse Youth Center

Registration: 1:00 p.m.

Walk starts: 1:30 p.m.

For more information contact

Buzz D. Tyson at 484-880-2018 or buzz@oxfordlighthouse.org

Tara Eggers at 610-842-2393 or Tara.Eggers@dansko.com

Sponsored by the Oxford Area Civic Association and the Oxford Area Ministerium

**See Roger Bates for more information here, at West Grove.
610-724-0477 and rojobates@gmail.com**



West Grove United Methodist Church
Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, October 1, 2017
1:00 p.m.

At the Gazebo in Harmony Park
(Harmony Road & N. Guernsey Road)

The animals in our lives, from the smallest fish to the largest horse, bring us great joy, comfort, laughter and purpose. They are a part of our families and our hearts and deserve God's special blessings. Bring your pets, large and small for a time of prayer and blessing just for them.

Dogs must be on leashes; smaller animals need to be in crates or cages. Horses, sheep, and goats are welcome as well, under the attentive eyes of their owners. Invite your fellow animal lovers to receive pet treats and God's blessings for their man's (and woman's!) best friends!

Mel Leaman in Concert:

Sunday, November 19th
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Since his retirement Mel has taken to song writing. A few of those songs have been shared in our worship services. There are many more to hear and you can catch his debut



concert at our church on November 19. The repertoire will include an eclectic collection of religious and love songs as well as those that speak to personal and social issues of life. His son Toby, his brother-in-law, Mark and some of our church Praise Band members will accompany him. Cheryl Haley and Sara White will play the piano and cello, respectively. Mel is asking for a \$5-10 donation with the stipulation that 100% of those gifts will go to support our local, community youth ministry, The Garage.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

When: Friday, October 27th 6:30 PM

What: It's movie time!

Where: West Grove UMC in the Sanctuary

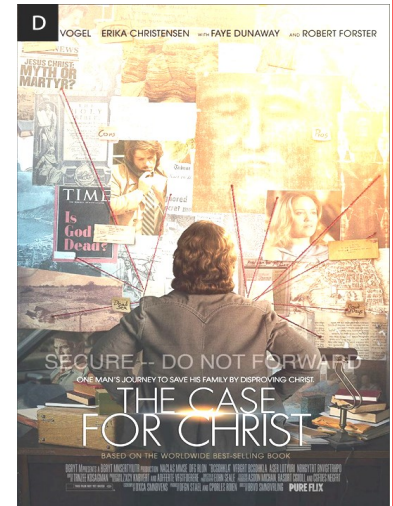
Who: The Prayer Ministry Team

This recently released movie,

THE CASE FOR CHRIST (rated PG)

is about one man's journey to solve the biggest mystery of all time. Is Jesus Christ a hoax or truth? This movie is a true story about

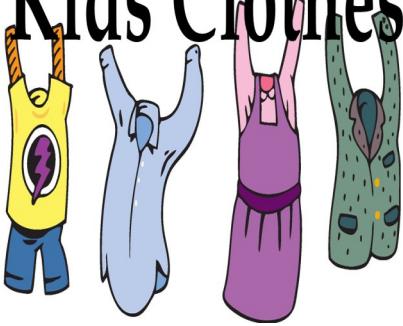
Lee Strobel working hard to disprove Christianity. In his investigation, he found the facts and truth that Jesus Christ is alive and is the son of God!



Sunday, October 1st is
World Communion Sunday.

Christians all around the world will be worshipping and partaking in Communion together. Will you join us?

Kids Clothes



CMO Children's Clothing and Equipment Consignment Sale

CONSIGN Thursday, October 12 - 3:30-6:00 p.m.

SHOP Friday, October 13 - 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
and

Saturday October 14 - 9:00 am – 12:00 p.m.

(Items half price on Saturday, except if marked with a red dot)

This is a great chance to buy quality used children's items that you need at good prices. There will be a large selection of Fall and Winter children's clothes, shoes, coats, toys, books, baby items and equipment. Shopping hours are Friday, October 13th from 9:00am-4:00pm and Saturday, October 14th from 9:00am-12 noon. Come on Friday for the best selection. On Saturday, many items will be half price. This sale benefits the early childhood and scholarship programs at the Children's Morning Out and Preschool Program of WGUMC.

Profit Sharing: Consignor will receive two-thirds of the total sales of their items. Children's Morning Out program will receive the remaining one-third.

Items to be consigned: Fall/Winter children's clothing sizes newborn to size 16, toys and baby equipment. **We are asking that you be selective and do not bring stained or worn out clothing.** All baby equipment must be clean and in good working order. Children's shoes must be new or nearly new. Operating items and games **must have all parts and be in working condition.**



Please contact the church office for a full consignment instruction packet.

ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE



Volunteers are needed! Consignors are asked to sign up to volunteer at least two hours during the sale. Setting up and cleaning up are always the jobs that need extra hands. Please see sign up sheets and sign up when you pick up your packet.

****Consignors who are signed up to volunteer at least two hours will have the opportunity to shop on Thursday evening once all items have been distributed.**

Any questions, please contact :

Tracy McLaughlin at [\(610\) 869-9334](tel:6108699334).



Sunday, October 29th

3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

West Grove UMC invites you to a festive, FREE, family event!!

You are invited to join us in this fun-filled, safe way for children ages infant through 4th grade to experience the joy of trick or treating. We will have cars, vans, and trucks lined up in our parking lot with fun, themed decorations and candy for your costumed children.

Invite your friends and family, and get ready for games, crafts, a story, a hay-ride, music, snacks and of course trunks with candy!!! **All activities are FREE.** West Grove United Methodist Church is located at 300 North Guernsey Road, West Grove, PA 19390. We'll move the trunk or treating inside if it rains, so whether it rains or shines, we will be celebrating together! For more information, call 610-869-9334 or visit www.westgroveumc.org

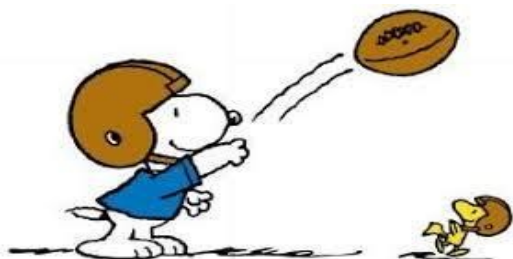
We hope to see you there!



Ready for some Chili and Football!

**Save the date:
Sunday, November 12, 2017**

**Chili cook-off (adults), brownie cook-off (kids), live
stream football games**



**FOOD, FUN,
FOOTBALL,
FELLOWSHIP!
JOIN US!**

Advent Prayer Beads

Advent prayer beads are a tool to help guide your prayers during the Advent season. The prayer ministry team invites you to create your own set of advent beads to tell the story of God's greatest gift to us, Jesus.



We will gather during Sunday school time on **November 5th** to assemble the beads. Advent bead devotions will be provided written by Faith UMC, North Canton, Ohio.

There is a \$5 donation to help with cost of materials.

In addition, we are offering 2 classes, **November 12 and 19** (during Sunday school), to discuss

the history of prayer beads and how to pray with prayer beads in different situations. Please join us



All Saints

Sunday

November 5th

8:30 & 11 a.m.

Services



One of the oldest traditions of the church is the remembrance of those who have died during the last year on All Saints' Day. This beloved tradition has been important in this congregation for many years. We remember beloved members of the church, special loved ones of our families, and those for whom we have performed funeral and memorial services. Our remembrance includes pictures, the tolling of the bell, and the lighting of the candles.

You may be remembering a loved one this year. We would like to give thanks to God for their life in our **All Saints Day service on November 5th** during both services. Please make sure that the office has the **name of your loved one, a picture of your loved one, in addition to their date of birth and date of death, by October 30th**. It is our privilege to remember those who moved onto the church triumphant, even as we hold the tenderness of loss.

MISSION POSSIBLE

4TH, 5TH, 6TH GRADE FALL MISSION PROJECT

UMCOR Hygiene Kits

Hygiene kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes. Due to recent natural disasters, Hygiene Kits are essential and needed. Mission Possible will be collecting the following items for the kits throughout October. Please join us in collecting these items which we will assemble and deliver to Mission Central for distribution through UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief). Consider donating one or two items or one of each for a kit. Monetary donations are also welcomed, as UMCOR now purchases the toothpaste for the kits; funds also help defray shipping costs, and we will purchase items to complete kits. Checks may be made out to WGUMC noting Hygiene kit in the memo line or cash may be put in the envelope marked for hygiene kits; either given to Donna in the Office or put in the offering plate. Donated items may be placed in the designated tote in the lobby.



The need for these kits is critical and we hope with your help to achieve a goal of 100+ assembled kits. Thank you for your support! See Cindy Haley for more details!



TICKETS

\$6

Pancake Breakfast

*Served with all you can eat sausage, fruit cup
and beverages!*



West Grove UMC
Saturday, November 4th
7:00 - 10:00 a.m.

**Call the church at 610-869-9334 to reserve
your tickets today!**

**Look for sign up information to help!*



Seek God's will in all that you do, and He will direct your path. —Proverbs 3:6

Find your path....

The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference Board of Ordained Ministry invites adults, especially young adults, to come find their path...

at EXPLORATION 2017

Friday, October 13, from 10 AM to 2 PM

at Lancaster Theological Seminary, 555 W. James St, Lancaster, PA

***See Pastor Monica for more information!**

Come enjoy worship, prayer, fellowship and conversation to help you discern, explore and respond to **God's Call to Ordained & Licensed Ministry** in all its forms. For all adults, especially young adults.

Visit a seminary class at **Lancaster Theological Seminary** and witness the sharing of knowledge, insights, experience and community among faculty and students. **Learn** about the seminary **experience**, your options for theological education and various ministry fields available to help you answer God's call to sacred service.

Explore your gifts and passion for service as a Deacon, Elder or Local Pastor in The United Methodist Church.

Our districts will have representatives there to discuss your interests and potential avenues for entering and preparing for ordained & licensed ministry.

The **\$20 registration fee** includes lunch.

For more information contact the **Rev. Dr. Michael Roberts** at drroberts42@aol.com or the **Rev. Johnson Dodla** at johnson@olivetumc.org.

Who Should Attend? Adults, especially young adults, who sense God's call to ordained & licensed ministry, or who want to know about preparation for ministry in The United Methodist Church.

Please REGISTER NOW at



www.etches.com/exploration Don't wait, or available space may fill up!





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 are in need of 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 or at (610-468-4321).



SAFE SANCTUARIES

As many of you know, our conference has developed a

policy called

"Safe Sanctuaries"

in an effort to keep children, youth and vulnerable adults who participate in programs in our church, safe. Volunteers who work within these programs are required to have background checks every three years. These include a Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearance. With Sunday School and many other programs beginning after a summer break, please take time to check if your clearances are up-to-date.

I try to send reminders, but I may miss you, especially if you're new to the church or program. If you have clearances from another group, we only need a copy for our files. Just put the copy in my mailbox and I'll get them filed for you and update you on the list.

If you need new clearances, both can now be done on line. For a Criminal Background Check the website is epatch.state.pa.us. The form is SP4-164.

For the Child Abuse Clearance the website is compass.state.pa.us/CWIS. The form is CY113. You will be asked to create a Keystone ID for this one. If you have any questions, see me (Fran Miller), or email me at jmille8698@verizon.net or call **610-869-8935**.

We have a small group that also helps keep us in compliance with Safe Sanctuaries policy. They are the "Roamers" who are available during the Sunday School hour. We walk the hall while our Sunday School teachers are working with the children. The

policy requires two adults working with children, but with the Roamer, we have that second adult roaming and available. No teaching or preparation is needed, you are just on hand. We would love to have a couple more Roamers on our list. You would only Roam once every six weeks or so. Let me know if you'd be able to help out.

Clearances are a requirement.



United Methodist Committee On Relief

UMCOR sends their thanks for the gift of \$900 they received on 8/4 /17 to the General Board of Global Ministries through The Advance of West Grove UMC. The Advance is the designated mission giving channel of The United Methodist Church. 100% of our contribution will support the missionary community in honor of Ngoy Mulanga Kalangwa, Advance #15162Z.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the Gift Processing Unit at 404-460-7489.

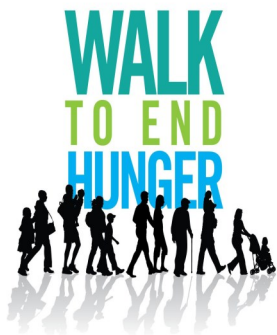




The **Hunger Help Walk** is scheduled for **Sunday, October 15th at 1:30 p.m.**

(see flyer on page 4 of this newsletter.)

For questions, see Janice Bowers.



Our next week of Family Promise is fast approaching.

We need Evening Hosts (2/night or a family) for Tuesday, October 17th through Friday, October 20th.

Please let Janice Bowers know when you would be able to serve our guests that week. If you have a specific day, please indicate. If are flexible, indicate that as well.

Thank you!

How can I help the church? POSTAGE STAMPS!

We mail bulletins, newsletters, prayer letters, birthday cards, giving letters, and other correspondence throughout the year.



Please consider giving a book of stamps to assist us with this ministry.

Your gift may connect a shut-in with the church community or a college student with a birthday card.

Your gifts empower our mission!

Our visitation ministry is busy connecting with people who become unable to fully engage in the life of our church.



The visiting team reaches out bringing comfort, joy, and His Word through visits, phone calls, and cards. Some of the volunteers bring communion on their visit. If you would like to serve on the visiting team, or you want to be visited, or know someone who would like a visit, contact Pastor Shirley.

"So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other." John 13:34



Our opportunity list gives you a chance to give beyond your regular tithe. Consider how you might impact our congregation and community.

| Item | Quantity | Approximate Cost |
|-----------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| Monitors- Sanctuary (80") | 2 | \$ 4,000 |
| Monitors- Narthex (42" - 46") | 3 | \$ 4,000 |
| Electronic Sign at the street | 2 | \$ 15,000 |
| Electronic Sign at Rt. 1 | 1 | \$ 50,000 |
| Fireproof filing cabinet | 2 | \$ 2,500 |
| 2 inch slat blinds for classrooms | 25 | \$ 500 |
| Multifunction printer | 1 | \$ 150 |



Books Mentioned In Sermons

Fear and Trembling

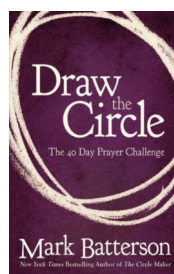
By Soren Kierkegaard

Mothers of Promise: Women in the Book of Genesis.

By Tammi J. Schneider

Do you have a heart to pray for others?
Are you drawn by His gentle kindness to
go on your knees in prayer? Join the
prayer chain and lift up in prayers the
concerns of your brothers and sisters at
WGUMC and the community. Contact
Pastor Shirley.

*"Again I say to you, that if two of you
agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for
them by My Father who is in heaven. For where two or three have
gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."*
Matthew 18:19-20.



"The size of your prayers depends on the size of your
God. If your god is small, you'll pray man-sized
prayers. But if your God knows no limits, then neither
will your prayers.

The God we pray to exists outside of the four
space-time dimensions He created, and maybe we
should pray that way!" Author, Mark Batterson,
"Draw the Circle, The 40 Day Prayer Challenge".





SCRIP Scripts

We are slowly getting more individuals and families to participate. Even one card can net additional income for the church as we count our pennies.

This month's tip(s):

October: It's time to start thinking about the holidays. With all of the parties, gifts, and donations, gift cards are a great option.



Besides Walmart, Staples and Target, remember there are gift cards for Lands End, Dick's sporting goods, American Eagle, and Barnes & Noble.



Have You Remembered To Include West Grove UMC In Your Will?

One inescapable reality in Life is that we all must pass someday...sometimes with anticipation, sometimes unexpectedly.

An important consideration for those of us who have been generous to our church throughout all our lives is, "How can I continue to support its ministry even after

my death?" Making a provision to West Grove UMC in your estate planning is as simple as a couple of lines included into your will - but don't wait to make those plans.



For assistance with this important feature of your own discipline of stewardship, talk with your financial planner or just call the church office. More elaborate gift bequests can be brokered through the church professionals at the Mid-Atlantic Foundation. Consider leaving a tithe (10%) of your estate to West Grove UMC at your death...or even a flat gift amount which you specify...and then enjoy the length of your days knowing that you have made this faithful choice!



Seasonal Affective Disorder

Some people experience a serious mood change during the winter months, when there is less natural sunlight. This condition is called seasonal affective disorder, or SAD. SAD is a type of depression. It usually lifts during spring and summer.



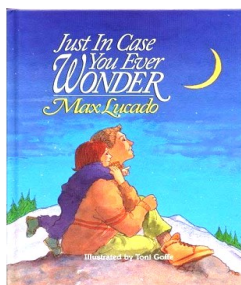
Not everyone with SAD has the same symptoms. They include:

- Sad, anxious or "empty" feelings
- Feelings of hopelessness and/or pessimism
- Feelings of guilt, worthlessness or helplessness
- Irritability, restlessness
- Loss of interest or pleasure in activities you used to enjoy
- Fatigue and decreased energy
- Difficulty concentrating, remembering details and making decisions
- Difficulty sleeping or oversleeping
 - Changes in weight
 - Thoughts of death or suicide



SAD may be effectively treated with light therapy. But nearly half of people with SAD do not respond to light therapy alone. Antidepressant medicines and talk therapy can reduce SAD symptoms, either alone or combined with light therapy.

CMO CHAPEL TIME with Pastor Monica



Week of September 18th

Theme: God Loves Me

Song: My God is So Big

Younger: How Big is God? By Lisa Tawn Bergren

Older: Just in Case You Ever Wonder by Max Lucado

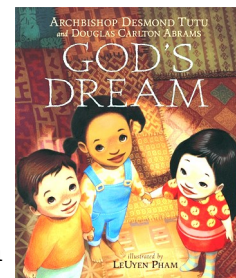
Week of September 25th

Theme: God loves Us

Song: My God is So Big

Younger: God's Dream by Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Older: Then I think of God by Martha Whitmore Hickman



Our Song for this month:

**My God is so big! So strong and so mighty.
There's nothing my God cannot do (clap-clap).
My God is so big! So strong and so mighty.
There's nothing my God cannot do (clap-clap).
The mountains are his and the valleys are his
and the trees are his handiwork too.
My God is so big! So strong and so mighty.
There's nothing my God cannot do for you.**



CMO PRESCHOOL

CMO and Preschool is off to a terrific start!!! We were so happy to welcome back all of the preschool children and families during the week of September 4th.

The children quickly became reacquainted with old friends and met lots of new friends. They spend the first few weeks of preschool getting to know one another and the teachers. We are looking forward to a terrific year!!



Our Fall/Winter Consignment Sale is quickly approaching in October. The sale dates for this year are the 13th and 14th. The consignment sales are huge fundraisers for the preschool program. The profits help us provide scholarships for children in the community as well as purchase supplies for our classrooms. There are many ways you can participate in the sale, you can consign, shop and volunteer. Consignment instructions, tags, and volunteer signup sheets are available in the hallway by the preschool and also by the church volunteer office.

We are looking forward to our upcoming field trips to Millburn Orchards at the end of October. We haven't been to Millburn in several years and we are looking forward to revisiting this local attraction. We are so fortunate to have so many fun local attractions in the area that we are able to try out different places each year.

Be sure to check out the bulletin boards in the hallway to see all of the beautiful art work !

Tracy McLaughlin, CMO Director

Retired Active People



Retired Active People (R.A.P.)

RAP's first meeting of the new season was held Friday, September 8th and was well attended as the program "Humor in Politics" was presented by Ray McKay.

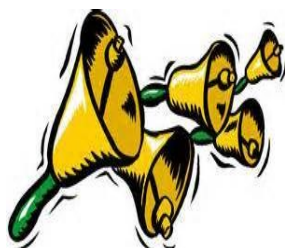
*****Mark your calendars!!! October's meeting will be held the third Friday, October 20th, (not the second Friday).**

Our October 20th meeting will be hosted by Jeannette Stryjewski and Pat Heist, beginning at 12:00 noon. Remember to bring your lunch and a friend or two. Desserts and drinks are provided.

We are truly in for a treat as we welcome the Belles and Roses Joyful Ringers from Ovations, led by their Director, Lavenia Civitella.

Lavenia also shares her talent as a member of the Oxford United Methodist Church Bell Choir.

Join us for a fun afternoon of food and fellowship, and "Joyful" music.



Interested, please let Sara Ann Ramberger at 610-869-3863 or sar57ver@verizon.net know of your interest.

We are looking forward to fun and informative gatherings as we continue to celebrate our "20th Anniversary" year. JOIN THE FUN!!!!!!!

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

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

Saturday, October 14, 2017

Juliets meet for breakfast and fun... second Saturdays at 9:00! Join us! We meet at **Sunrise Café, 127 E. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348** They have free parking in



**Luther House
Bible Study**

Hear the Stories!

Everyone is welcome to attend! We meet on Wednesdays from 2:00 - 3:00 pm at Luther Building #1. Come join us, once a month or every week! Come as you are able. We have been reading through Romans and enjoy sharing how God's Word works in our lives. If you are interested, have questions or would like to know more, please contact Cindy Haley at [484-702-7071](tel:484-702-7071) or chaley@zoominternet.net.

Due to the Rummage Sale, Friday October 20th will be the only meeting for October.

The new project for Fall 2017 will be making BOOK BAGS for MISSION CENTRAL!



Check it out!

<http://missioncentral.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/School-Kit-and-School-Bag-Instructions.pdf>

Our quilting challenge is to make quilts for Family Promise use while families are residing in our church.

We welcome anyone who would like to participate - no sewing skills are necessary!

Our meetings are usually the first and third Friday at 9:30 a.m. in the youth room.

JOIN US whenever you can. For more information check with Chris Curtiss or Karen Boyd.

R.O.M.E.O.

**Retired Older Men Eating
Out**

October 26, 2017



R.O.M.E.O.

If you are retired, then we would like to see you at our ROMEO lunch. We get together to eat at Perkins in Avondale on Rt. 41 on the last Thursday of each month at 12:00 p.m. **Call Roger Bates, at 610-869-7638**, if you have any questions or if you are newly retired. Bring your retired friends.

C.I.A. Youth Ministry News

LOOKING AHEAD!



Advent Youth Weekend Mission Trip @ The Philadelphia Project December 1-3, 2017

The Philadelphia Project is a unique and powerful service and mission

opportunity for our youth. During this weekend mission trip, we will challenge our youth to serve people in need wholeheartedly and to think critically about how God's Word speaks to social and spiritual issues. Our goal is for God to use the experiences of this weekend to make an eternal impact on our youth and those they serve.



All Middle School through High School students (6th through 12th grades) are welcome to participate as well as adult leaders with current clearances. Registration for the Advent Weekend Mission Trip will start on Sunday, October 1, 2017 and Pastor Kevin will be available all morning to answer questions and sign-ups. The all-inclusive registration fee is \$75 per participant and if the cost is an issue for you please just speak to Pastor Kevin.

Youth Dodgeball and Pizza Night Friday, October 20, 2017 7pm-9pm



This event may, or may not, include glow in the dark dodgeball, but it will definitely include pizza.

It might also include cider and pumpkin donuts as well. Come on out and find out!



YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

Join us as we explore the bible, engage in rich and timely discussions, and enjoy a time of fellowship.



Pastor Kevin, Eileen Bushnell, Kristin Boyd, and others, hope to see you there!

Pastor Kevin Babcock

Youth Pastor

215-900-1240

pastorkevin@westgroveumc.org

Peace in our Mission ConneXion

Mission Connexion are 11 local UMC churches working together.

Courtesy of The Reverend Lydia Muñoz, pastor of United Methodist Church of the Open Door, (courtesy of Narberth UMC), we have a stained glass window depicting a dove of peace that we want to send on a tour of our churches this fall. Narbeth UMC commissioned this window to inspire the church and community for the Spirit of peacemaking.

As the window comes to each church for a week, that church will focus on a justice issue in worship that Sunday.

Join us on September 24th in worship as we focus on the issue of addiction in our community.



Let us work together with our brothers and sisters to serve God and God's people.



We are going to see about offering the basic course for Christ Servant Ministers at one of our local United Methodist churches. We will need a minimum of 12 students. It will probably be on a Saturday for 3-4 hours.

A Christ Servant Minister is...

An active, supportive member of a United Methodist congregation;

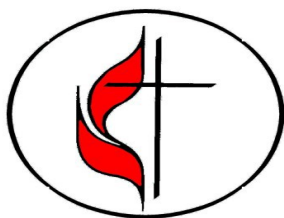
Eager to serve through the church

Well-informed on Scripture, and on the doctrine, heritage, and the life of the United Methodist Church

Committed to witnessing through church and community leadership, caregiving ministries, and spoken communication

Willing to improve his or her skills by training for service

Talk to Pastor Monica if you would like to know more.

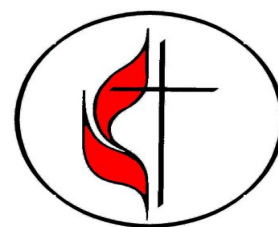


SAVE THE DATE

CHARGE CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 7, 2017

9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Oxford United Methodist Church



Join our congregation and other local United Methodist Churches as we look towards the future of our churches. Our District Superintendent will bring words of inspiration and lead us.



West Grove United Methodist Church was issued a donation of \$22.80 from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between April 1 and June 30, 2017. So friends, keep using Amazon Smile when you shop doesn't cost you anything and earns the church a donation!

From Vision to Action

We give thanks to God for the faithful folks who have been praying and discerning our vision and ministry strategies into the future. At this point, Administrative Council has endorsed this vision across multiple years. We have been sharing these goals for each portion of our Mission statement as well as the specific strategies in the last three newsletters. Please refer back to the June newsletter for OPEN goals and strategies, July newsletter for GROW goals and strategies, and August for SERVE goals and strategies and updates each month on how we are following our vision and living out our strategic plan. You can always refer to the website for previous newsletters. Pray about where God is leading us. Pray about where God is calling you to take a step of faith as our church takes a leap of faith! Thanks be to God for Vision and Action!

Prayers for our Church

Join us as we pray specifically:

God will give us specific hearts for our community.

God will open us to move beyond comfortable to growing in our faith.

God will rise up leaders and servants to serve those in need and lead.



At West Grove, we love God by opening our hearts to Jesus, growing our faith, and serving our community and world in His name.

Open~ Grow ~ Serve
How are you meeting our
congregation's three resolutions for
2017?

- Read Bible in a year
- Attend one spiritual growth opportunity
- Invite one person to church

One of our goals under
 Growing our faith was:

- Develop clear Children's Ministry Leader

On September 14th, we held a Children's Ministry Forum with 15 people present in person as well as live streaming through Facebook. We had 93 views and multiple interactive conversations virtually.

Out of that forum, we identified specific needs, dreamed about a Children's Ministry Coordinator, and brought a recommendation to the full church to hire a part-time Children's Ministry Coordinator in the coming year. We give thanks to God for all who serve our children!

Look forward next month to more ways that we are living into our vision shared in this space.

"Where there is no vision, the people perish, but happy are those who follow God's way."
Proverbs 29:18



Healthy Snacks at School and How You Can Help!

Avon Grove School District, along with other Pennsylvania districts, have moved to a "smart snack" initiative. Healthy snacks are great for our kids. However, the cost is often higher at the grocery store.



Packaged Snacks:

-100 calorie packs are great options for certain foods. Try low-fat, whole grain crackers and whole grain pretzels. Sweets, even in 100 calorie packs, often have more than 35% of their weight as just sugar, while fried foods, like potato chips, have way more fat than is allowed. To be under 35% calories from fat a food cannot have more than 35 calories of fat per 100 calories.



-Baked tortilla chips with 100 calorie packs of guacamole dip can be fun treats.

-Baked potato chips will meet the guidelines at 120 calories and 3 grams of fat.

-Baked whole grain pita chips are a handy option.

-Fill pita pockets with veggies and a little nonfat Italian dressing for a fun snack.

-Prepared veggie and fruit trays with low-fat dips are speedy, fuss-free options.

-For a calcium-rich option, try single-serving, sugar-free pudding cups.

-Light, low-fat yogurt comes in cups and squeeze tubes. As long as it meets the sugar requirements, it is good to go.



-Whole grain cereals like shredded wheat, oatmeal "O's", and Chex are great snack options without added sugar.

-Brown rice cakes are great options. Kids can top them with nut butter and fruit.

-Boxed raisins and other dried fruits are great.

-Whole grain fig cookies like Fig Newtons will work.

-Fruit cups and individual fruit serving cans packed in juice are great packaged snacks, too.



Our Emergency Food Bank Depends on You!

We are blessed to be able support others in difficult times with our emergency food pantry. It is your generous donations that allow us to do that.

Providing a family with food also allows a family the flexibility to put those funds towards paying rent or utility: to eat and keep on the lights. Don't forget the food pantry as we head towards fall.



The most needed items currently are:

Laundry soap, bath soap, hand soap, dish soap

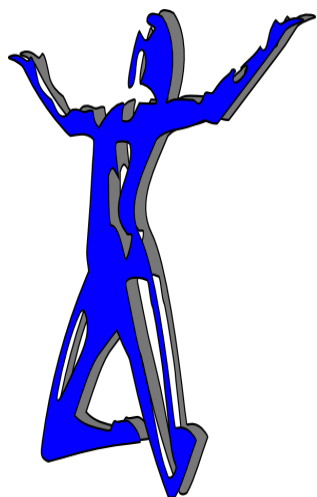
Shampoo, Conditioner

Toilet paper and paper towels

Cleaning products



Who are the ones that pray with you in the Prayer Room?



The people who want to pray with you, and for you, are the people gifted with intercessory prayer, praying for others. They are members of the Prayer Ministry. They gather to plan ways to equip and support others in knowing the power of prayer. Some of the ways have been offering classes, prayer beads, movies, and awareness of the prayer room.



We have an upcoming project that will require toilet paper rolls! There is a basket next to the volunteer office.

Please feel free to drop off at your convenience!



The Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers to make and serve coffee after the 8:30am service, and someone to serve after the 11am service, on the second Sunday of each month.



Please contact Caryl or Dick Stuhrke at [\(302\)239-1743](tel:3022391743).

Attention College Student Pray-ers!



11 of our college students have a partner in prayer but, regrettably, there are a few folks who chose a student but did not

note it on the sign-up sheet.

We want to be able to send you your college student's address, so please advise the office if you signed up and have not yet received your student's information. Thank you!



Planning for the Future

We plan for the future all the time. We hope to have enough milk, eggs, and bread during a snowstorm. We hope to have enough gas to get to our destination. We hope to make good life choices to achieve who God has called us to be. We might want to plan for a future beyond ourselves as we consider wills, estate planning, legacies, and even our own funeral or memorial service. Sometimes, persons are interested in sharing their wishes and desires for funeral and memorial services with loved ones ahead of time. Other times, information is written in places to be discovered upon death. In other circumstances, families wish to respect the wishes of a loved one, but are unsure as to what best honors their loved one. Prayerfully consider, if you might want to record those thoughts with the church. The church can retain and hold those wishes for you, so that information might be shared and available when appropriate. If you are interested in recording your hopes for your own services, please be in contact with Donna in the office for a guide or Pastor Monica to discuss your thoughts.





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



~ 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

Office Hours: Monday—Friday

7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Staff

The Reverend Shirley Daddario—Associate Pastor for
Caring Ministries

Shirley.daddario@westgroveumc.org

The Reverend Jim Mundell - Associate Pastor,
Chaplain at Jenner's Pond

Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

The Reverend Kevin Babcock-Youth Pastor

Pastorkevin@westgroveumc.org

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator

Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org

Kristin Boyd - Administrative Assistant

Kristin.boyd@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director

Contemporary Music Interim Director

Keyboardist

Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director

davan5@comcast.net

Tracy McLaughlin—Children's Morning Out Director

Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Board and Committee Leadership

Carol Whelan - Administrative Council Chair

Gene Aucott - Trustee Chair

Barbara Delaney - Finance Chair

Scott Steele - Treasurer

Janice Bowers - Financial Secretary

Kristin Reisinger - Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

Judy Gambill - Christian Education

Joan Leaman - Children's Ministry Team Contact

Susan Paisley - Faith Community Nurse

Janice Bowers - Missions Team Chair

Dick and Caryl Stuhrike - Hospitality Committee Chair

Cindy Haley - Delegate to Annual Conference

Cindy Haley - Lay Leader

OPEN - U.M.W. President

Prayer Team - Prayer Chain Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

John Gambill, Betty Mundell

—Ad Council Member at Large