



The Wesleyan Star

West Grove United Methodist Church

300 North Guernsey Road,
West Grove, Pa. 19390

Phone: 610-869-9334,

Fax: 610-869-0110

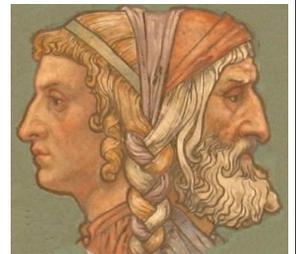
E:mail: office@westgroveumc.org

Website: www.westgroveumc.org

January 2017

“Behold! I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” Isaiah 43: 19

The tradition is that Julius Caesar began making New Year’s Resolutions as a way to honor the god, Janus (for whom January is named). The Roman god, Janus is portrayed as two faced—one looking to the past and the other looking ahead to the future. Caesar made new resolutions to remember the past and honor the hope of the future. Today, I doubt many people know or remember the Roman god, Janus; however, anywhere between 40 –60 percent of us make a New Year’s resolution.



I think we want a chance to try again, to improve, and to change. Our faith continues to invite us to do a new thing, be made again in the image of God. Each and every time, we mess up or fall short of the glory of God, we are given a chance to try again. January 1st is not the only time we can commit to following Christ, but it is a comfortable time when our culture is already reflecting on change. Prayerfully, consider these resolutions below:

As a congregation, I am encouraging us to make new years resolutions across the whole of 2017.



1. Read your Bible. A plan to read your Bible in a year is available in the newsletter. I would love to hear of your commitment and encourage you. I will be reading along the 1 year reading plan as well.

2. Love your neighbor. Commit to one new action of loving your neighbors. Our neighbors nearby or our neighbors around the globe. Consider becoming involved in Family Promise or Good Neighbors. Watch for Mission opportunities as well as justice-oriented options. Consider joining our District in racial dialogue (see page 13),



3. Invite someone to church. Invite them to join you at Faith Learning Academy, in worship, in mission. Our faith is inherently evangelistic. Invite one person to know Jesus.

Join me in these new years resolutions, steps of faith, commitments to God!

In God’s Love, Pastor Monica



January Worship at West Grove UMC



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

West Grove's Three New Year's Resolutions:

As a church, we are setting three resolutions: reading our Bibles, acting in justice, and inviting others

First Sunday after Christmas

January 1, 2017

Communion Sunday

**Emergency Food Pantry Collection Day is on the first Sunday of each month*

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-13, 16, Psalm 8: 1-9

Sermon: "Gifts Fit for a King"

Pastor Jim preaching

Epiphany Sunday

January 8, 2017

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12,

Psalm 119: 97-106

Sermon: "It's All in the Book"

Baptism of Our Lord

Human Relations Sunday

January 15, 2017

Scripture: Matthew 3:14-17, Micah 6: 6-8

Sermon: "Baptism for Action"

Third Sunday After The Epiphany

January 22, 2016

Scripture: Matthew 4: 12-23, Isaiah 6:8

Sermon: "Join Us"

Fourth Sunday After The Epiphany

January 29, 2017

Scripture: Matthew 5: 1-12, Psalm 15

Sermon: "Blessed to be a Blessing"

The
Church
Office



Will Be
Closed:

Church Office

Holiday Schedule:

Friday, December 23 ~
office closes at noon

Monday, December 26 ~
office closed all day

Friday, December 30 ~
office closes at noon

Monday, January 2 ~
office closed all day



COFFEE HOUR

COFFEE

FELLOWSHIP

Hosted by the Music
Team

On Sunday, January 15
after both services

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).

One Generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.

~ Chinese proverb



Please remember West Grove in your will

THE WEST GROVE UMC ENDOWMENT FUND

The West Grove UMC Endowment Fund is funded by bequests, memorials and gifts made to the fund. Contribute to the fund by a check made out to "West Grove UMC – Endowment Fund" and send it to the church or drop it in the offering plate. Bequests or memorials may be designated for the Endowment Fund.

Your giving allows us to continue our ministries into the future!



Worship on the second Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. in the Allison Theater led by Pastor Jim. Join us there!

Sunday, January 8

DO YOU LIKE TO WELCOME GUESTS?

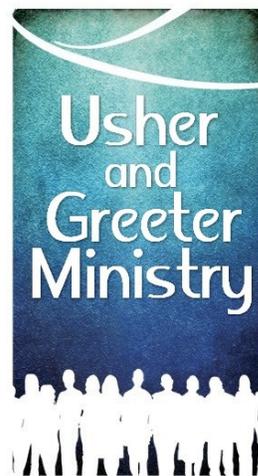
CAN YOU HELP OTHERS FEEL COMFORTABLE?

USHERS AND GREETERS ARE NEEDED FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS.

Rain Catoia is our coordinator for 8:30 am worship. Email her at rainowdy@aol.com

Joan Saller is our coordinator for 11:00 worship. Email her at ssaller@comcast.net

You can also call the office at 610-869-9334.



BISHOP'S WILL HOLD PRAYER VIGILS

Our district will hold the prayer vigil on Wednesday, January 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Lima UMC

Join us for prayer!

Sunday School Roamers Needed!

Our church uses a "roamer" to help out during the Sunday School hour. The roamer can be the second adult or helper working with the Sunday School classes. The Roamer doesn't teach, but is just available by walking in hallway or waiting in the lobby to be called if needed. If you could help by being a roamer, please contact Fran Miller. My email address is fmille8698@verizon.net and my phone number is 610-869-8935.





This prayer vigil serves as a response to the Council of Bishops initiative for Praying Our Way Forward. Together, let's be in a posture of prayer for the church. I invite You - clergy, laity, congregations, and small groups across the Eastern PA Conference to pray

for God's guidance.

Our prayer focus is twofold: We are praying that God will help us to more effectively fulfill the mission of the church **and** we are praying to be one in Christ.

During this time, I also recommend reading Dr. Elaine Heath's new book, *God Unbound: Wisdom for the Anxious Church*. Please also join me on **Wednesday, January 10, 7:00 pm at Lima UMC, 209 N. Middletown Road, Lima, PA 19037 for a conference-wide prayer service.**

CMO Preschool Donation



We give thanks to God for the generous donation of the CMO preschool to the Mission and Ministry of our church.

We give thanks for CMO as a ministry and mission of West Grove UMC and for all the ways we work together to serve God and God's people.

In God's Love, Pastor Monica



New Class on Sunday Mornings!

If you would like to enrich your prayer life plan to attend a 4 week class in the making and use of Prayer Beads. **The class begins on February 5, 2017 during the Sunday School hour.** We will be using the book, *A Bead and A Prayer*, A beginner's guide to Protestant Prayer Beads by Kristen E. Vincent

Prayer Beads!!! Now What Are They Up To?

The Prayer Team would like to introduce you to Prayer Beads. Here are the answers to a few frequently asked questions.

What Are Prayer Beads? Prayer beads are sets of beads that are designed to help you pray. The earliest use of prayer beads was in 3200 B. C. by the ancient Egyptians. Since then, all major religions have used beads to count prayers, including Christians, Buddhists, Hindus and Muslims (while Jews don't use prayer beads, they do use knotted fringe on their shawls, called Tzizits, to count their prayers.)

Why Prayer Beads? Prayer beads can help you focus while praying. They are something to hold on to-they help to ground you and give you a path to follow during your prayer. They also provide structure and comfort.

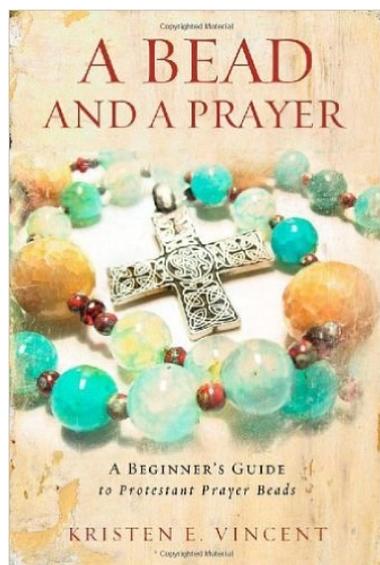
What do the Beads mean? The beads start with a cross to remind us of Christ's act of salvation for us. The cross leads to the "Invitatory Bead", which can be used as a call to worship to begin your prayer or to recite the Lords Prayer.

Some sets of beads add an additional bead, called the "Resurrection Bead", to the format for the Anglican prayer beads. It is designed to remind us that Christ still lives and has triumphed over death, and can be used to praise God for the promise of eternal life in His kingdom.

Then there are 4 "Cruciform Beads" that form the shape of the cross, when splayed out. The number 4 reminds us of the four Gospels, the four seasons, the four parts of our day (morning, afternoon, evening, and night), and the four directions (north, south, east, and west). Between each of these beads are 7 smaller beads, "Week Beads", (the number 7 represents spiritual perfection and also reminds us of the seven days of Creation and the seven seasons of the church year, (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and Ordinary Time).

The total number of beads is 33, which is meant to remind us of the number of years Christ lived on earth, plus one to represent His Resurrection.

Adapted from *A Bead and A Prayer*, A Beginner's Guide to Protestant Prayer Beads by Kristen E. Vincent



Missed this weekend's message?
Listen to past sermons online.



Did you miss a sermon? Want to check a resource? Hear it again? On our website,

www.westgroveumc.org, we have **three ways** you can do this:

Read the manuscript of the sermon. This is complete with the weekly meditations and scriptures.

Listen to the Audio of the sermon. Listen to it through the website or download it onto your MP3 player.

Listen and Watch the sermon coordinated with the PowerPoint presentation for the fullest experience of word and image.

Don't miss a single Sunday! Catch each one online.



This is the summary of "A Thanksgiving Recipe", based on 1 Thess. 1:1-10

We first must learn to give *Gratitude* toward God then enjoy our spiritual meal

- Accept the *Grace of God* as our appetizer.
- *The Work of faith* as our salad.
- The *Labor of Love* as our vegetables.
- And the *Patience of Hope* for our meat.
- Covered by the *Word of God* as the gravy.
- Enjoying the *Peace of God* for our dessert.
- And topped off with the *Power of the Gospel* as the beverage.

I pray you will start feasting on God and his spiritual food.

May you enjoy your thanksgiving and may you not go on a diet in your spiritual life.

Pastor Jim



Pastor Jim was so kind to take large print Bibles and New Testaments to our friends at Twin Pines on Friday, Nov. 25 where he met Roberta, Activities Director.

He also gave them approximately 75 old hymnals from Jenner's Pond for their use in their worship services.

Attached are pictures of Roberta and Pastor Jim as she receives the NIV Bibles, the small New Testaments and the UMC hymnals.

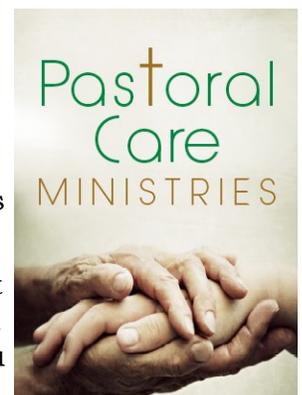
She accepted them with much gratitude.



Please let Pastor Monica, Pastor Shirley, Pastor Jim, or the church office know if you or a loved one is in the hospital. Our pastoral team shares pastoral care.

We would love to support you and your family with a visit. We depend on you to share the information of which hospital your loved one is in.

Please also let us know of any other pastoral needs. Thank you!



**CMO Chapel Time
with Pastor Monica
In December**

Who is Coming to our House? By Joseph Slate, Ashley Wolff
Room for a Little One by Martin Wadeel and Jason Cockcroft
Waiting by Kevin Henkes
How God Decorates for Christmas by Ron Mehl and Melody Carlson
The First Night by B.G. Hennessy



**CMO Preschool Registration
for 2017-2018**

Although we are only about half way through this school year, we are already looking forward to preschool year 2017-2018.

We offer preschool classes for children 18 months through 5 years old with many class choices. Our registration for next school year will begin the beginning of February. We will host an Open House on January 31st at 6:00. If you are interested in learning more about our preschool, please contact me by either by calling the church or through email, tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org. I am available for tours of the preschool most days and would love to show you around. Thanks so much!



Tracy McLaughlin, CMO Director



CMO PRESCHOOL

December is always an exciting month at preschool. The children learned all about Christmas and especially loved participating in the Happy Birthday Jesus celebrations. During our celebrations, Pastor Monica shared the book *The First Night* with the children and families, the children sang for their parents, and had so much fun exploring all of the crafts and activities the teachers planned for this special event.

In January, many of the classes will focus on winter and arctic animals.

These are always fun themes to come back to after the break. The children will be busy making lots of fun crafts, playing in "snow", and reading lots of books. One of my favorite books is *The Mitten*, which many of our classes will share this month. In this story, many large and small animals share a little boys mitten, until a bear sneezes and they all fly out. If you have never read this story, it is a fun one to share with your children.



Tracy McLaughlin, CMO Director



WE VOLUNTEERS

The times we share are the memories we keep. Thanks be to God for the opportunity to show our appreciation to the many wonderful office volunteers at WGUMC.

The luncheon was a time of good food and good fellowship together. Thanks for your smiles!

Thank you to all the wonderful SPRC members who prepared the feast with loving hearts!



Annual Christmas Music Celebration

It was a night to remember with over 190 folks turning out to enjoy the songs and carols of the season! We had scores of musicians and singers who were enjoyed by all attending!

UMW Quilts of Love



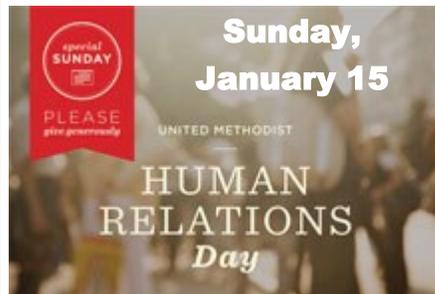
The women of the UMW Faith Circle donated handmade quilts to five families in our community for Christmas. One woman lives in her car and was incredibly thankful for the warm and thoughtful gift. It brought much joy to all five families who are assisted through our Emergency Aid pantry and Emergency Aid fund. They received groceries as well.

Blessings to you all for your generous hearts!



Thank you from our whole staff for the generous gifts received at Christmas time. We are blessed by your thoughtfulness in remembering us at Christmas.

Many blessings to you all in the new year!



In the 1700s, John and Charles Wesley visited prisoners at Oxford Castle in England, sharing food, medicine and Holy Communion. Those

founders of Methodism began a rich tradition that continues today in The United Methodist Church. During the liturgical season of Epiphany, we celebrate the manifesting of God's light to the world. Human Relations Day, an opportunity to focus on how God's light continues to shine.



SCRIP TIPS

Are you feeling the downside to the holidays? Did you manage to over-indulge not just on food, but also your finances? January is the time for resolutions, to let go of 2016 and start fresh for 2017. Establish a budget, make plans to pay off your holiday bills, and focus on getting back on track. Plan to increase your savings and minimize spend.

SCRIP can help. Start small and work your way up.

Set your monthly limit: Determine allocations on groceries, gas, essentials. Then purchase the appropriate SCRIP cards in advance and only use those throughout the month. No running to the ATM.

Plan in advance: Birthdays, celebrations, vacations, and holidays. Purchase cards each month to fit into your budget and spread throughout the year.

Look towards the future: How did you spend for Thanksgiving and Christmas this year? Make a resolution to purchase smaller denomination of cards throughout the year to cover your 2017 holidays?



WGUMC next Family Host Week: January 15-22

We need your help!!

We need volunteers in all of the following areas:

- Breakfast, lunch and dessert supplies
- Evening Hosts to set-up for dinner, greet guests, have dinner and fellowship (5:45 – 8:30 pm)
- Overnight Host to get everything wrapped up for the evening, stay overnight and set-out pack and go breakfast in the morning (8:15 pm - ~6:15 am)
- Set-up and take down of rooms
- Linen laundry

Please contact to volunteer:

the church office, janicesemail2@gmail.com or jmleaman@comcast.net

Sign-up sheets are posted in the church lobby.



BOY SCOUT TROOP 12

SAWMILL GRILL

OXFORD, PA

BUFFET BREAKFAST

JANUARY 14, 2017

8:30 AM & 9:30 AM

SCRAMBLED EGGS, SAUSAGE GRAVY, BISCUITS, BACON, PANCAKES, ORANGE JUICE, MILK, COFFEE AND SODA WILL BE SERVED.

ADULT \$12.00/CHILD \$6.00

Call or Email Lisa Yaletchko

For tickets

484-368-9030

lyaletchko@zoominternet.net



Thank you for supporting our Troop!

Boy Scout Troop 12

Retired Active People



Retired Active People (R.A.P.)

**FRIDAY, January 13
12:00 Noon-3:00 p.m.**

On December 9, about 60 in attendance gathered for a covered dish Christmas Luncheon followed by entertainment provided by John Clayton and The Revelators as they led our group with Christmas music. (insert 2 pictures)

Our next gathering is Friday, January 13 at noon. Bring your bagged lunch and drinks and desserts will be provided. Following lunch, Richard Heacock will present a program of his recent travels (possibly Holland and Belgium). Please join us and invite your friends for an afternoon of great fellowship.



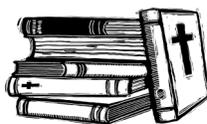
J.U.L.I.E.T.

JULIET...Just us Ladies Interested in Eating Together



January 14 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? Chris Curtiss (610-345-0374)



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

UMW FAITH CIRCLE will resume their schedule of meeting on the **2nd and 4th Friday mornings in the Youth Room as of January 6th.** Sewing skills are not necessary. If you are interested in our projects or want to confirm that we are meeting on a particular Friday, contact Chris Curtiss (610-345-0374) or Karen Boyd (443-553-4900).



R.O.M.E.O. Retired Older Men Eating Out



R.O.M.E.O.

We will meet on Thursday, January 26 If you are retired, then we would like to see you at our ROMEOLunch. 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

Youth Newsletter for January 2016



We had a great weekend away at The Philadelphia Project. Our team worked on 2 different houses, one of which was a house we had been to before. It is always exciting to be able to go back to a previous house/home owner and deepen that relationship.

Mark Simonds and Scott Steele joined us as leaders. A Huge Thanks to them for hanging out with the youth that weekend and being such an encouragement to all that we do!



Confirmation class is moving along in learning! We are currently talking about The Church and coming up with some great ways and ideas of what church could look like if led by our youth.



We have had a great turnout all fall for our Friday Night Dodge Ball with a good amount of new students and their friends turning up for that evening. The youth could use some more adults to commit to being a part of that night. We meet on the second Friday of each month. Our next dodgeball and pizza night will be on **Friday, January 13, 7:00-9:00 p.m.** Come out, bring your friends, \$2 for pizza and have fun with us!

The Youth celebrated Christmas at The Lindtner's House on the December 18th! Sloppy Joes, Snacks and Yankee Gift Exchange is always lots of fun.



Looking forward to a new year and all that 2017 will bring for the youth ministry program.

Jamie Lindtner, Youth Director

610-937-7932 or

Jamielindtner@gmail.com

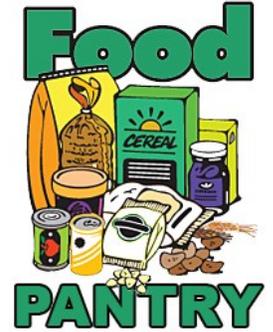


Giving Tree

Thank you, dear friends, for your generous and amazing support of families in need this Christmas season. We had many tags up on the tree and still had families asking for more when they were all gone. Your generosity made Christmas bright for families in our Children’s Morning Out program, at Penn-London Elementary School, our local community, and at Twin Pines Nursing Home. What a blessing it is to give others the gift of love at Christmas! Thank you!

Our community has deep needs with which we can help!

Thank you to everyone who responded to our calls for specific needs for our pantry.



Thank you to Karen Hruz who has begun coordinating our Emergency Food Pantry.

Thank you to Gene Aucott for the rolling shelves donation to organize our pantry.

How can you help?

There are copies of a shopping list of our current needs clipped to the shopping card in the Narthex. Pick up the list and include one, some, or all of the items with your shopping to serve those in need in our community.

Daily Meditations

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 mediations 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!

Save the date for Tools for Ministry!

Southeast District will be offering Tools for Ministry on

April 29th

At West Grove United Methodist Church.

Save the date and plan to join us for wonderful workshop and engaging learning opportunities.



2016 Offering Envelopes

Are ready for you to pick up in the lobby.

Please sign the list if your packet or number is missing--it will be available for you the following Sunday. Questions or concerns, contact Sara Ann Ramberger, Financial Secretary, at 610-869-3863 or sar57ver@verizon.net.

A brief explanation of the weekly envelope choices--

- **Missions and Ministries and Building Maintenance Fund:** Both choices are included in the general fund--our primary operating account. These contributions pay our pastoral and administrative salary/benefits, office operating supplies, conference apportionments, Christian education, mission donations, building expenses, mortgage payments, and capital spending needs. Your tithe should be designated to these accounts.
- **Endowment Fund:** A reserve fund established to save for our future major capital expenditures. Contributions to this fund should be in addition to your tithe commitment.
- **Anniversary Giving:** Extra giving to celebrate our 130th Anniversary--to be used for our general fund expenditures. Our church has run cash deficits for a number of years--our Anniversary Giving will help us get closer to balancing our church budget!
- **Other:** This specified giving should be in addition to your tithe--donations for special collections, Emergency Aid, Food Cupboard, Youth Group, etc.

If you have chosen to give electronically, please include your Giving Number and specify your contribution in the memo section. If there is no specification for your offering, it will be directed to Missions and Ministries.

If you are using Giving Envelopes, please know the envelopes are designed to assist our counters. Please do not use scotch tape, staples, stickers, or glue to seal your envelopes. It is also helpful to place your last name where indicated.

Sara Ann Ramberger, Financial Secretary



WGUMC Fantasy Football League Standings



Rank	Team	Team Manager	W-L-T	Pts For	Pts Agnst	Streak
1*	groves 3 and 2	Jeremy Moore	10-3-0	1606.47	1337.68	W-3
2*	jerry's boys	Reed Smith Sr.	9-4-0	1654.50	1382.72	L-1
3*	Ten Plagues	Tim Bushnell	9-4-0	1517.90	1469.94	W-1
4*	Duct work	Rob Catoia	8-5-0	1598.45	1525.91	W-1
5*	sulli's skins	Fred Sullivan	7-6-0	1442.42	1481.90	W-1
6*	Team Hip Hop)	Matthew Rinehimer	7-6-0	1339.52	1295.53	L-1
7*	Team	Ken Rinehimer	6-7-0	1389.74	1372.96	W-1
8*	soundcurfew	Lee Arter	4-9-0	1413.73	1500.43	L-2
9	Jim's Slam-Dunk Team	Pastor Jim Mundell	3-10-0	1286.68	1496.89	L-1
10	The Rogue	Doug Allen	2-11-0	1134.94	1520.39	L-1

Standings update: Sat

* = clinched playoff spot (playoffs)



As shared in worship in November, we are currently on track to end the year in a positive position with our finances for the first time in multiple years. It is your giving that allows us to reach into the community and the world.

Help us to Open, Grow, Serve as you give faithfully!

Southeast District Racial Dialogue:

Becoming the Beloved Community

Monday, January 16, 2017 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Church of the Open Door

210 S. Broad Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348

A time to come together for conversation.

Devotion by District Superintendent Dawn Taylor-Storm.

Refreshments provided.

Message from DS Dawn Taylor-Storm

Dear Friends,

Today, more than ever, our churches need to be places where people can come together and find space for respectful dialogue with one another. Our district will be offering intentional opportunities throughout 2017 for clergy and laity to engage these vital conversations with one another. Please mark your calendars now for a **Southeast District Night of Dialogue on Jan. 16, 2017** (Martin Luther King Day) from 7-9 pm at Church of the Open Door in Kennett Square. The evening will be an opportunity to grow in relationship with clergy and laity throughout the district. We will take time to hear each other's stories and learn from one another. We will also discern ways that we can help our communities have vital conversations with one another and how to build bridges in our communities. DS Taylor-Storm will lead the devotion for the evening; Rev. Lydia Munoz will be our lead facilitator for the dialogue. These conversations are vital to our ongoing journey to become the beloved community that God intends for us. The resources we use during the evening will be able to be reproduced for use in each local church.

May God bless the work of your hands this day.

Together in Ministry,

Dawn



Troop 12 Plush Animal Sale to Benefit A. I. DuPont Hospital for Children

On Thursday, December 8th, Troop 12 delivered 100 plush animals to the A. I. DuPont Hospital for Children as a result of our fall fundraising event. This is our longest running fundraising event, and we love this event because of the multiple benefits provided by this sale. Troop 12 sells an adorable plush animal from Avon

(this year it was "Annie the Owl") for the months of September and October. Lisa Yaletchko, a scout parent and the Troop 12 Fundraising Chair is an Avon representative, and offers the profit amount from the sale to the troop. Each boy that sells the owl has money deposited directly into his scout account, and the plush is donated to a child at A. I. DuPont. This helps two organizations out at one time!!!

Yours in Scouting,

Dave Wilson

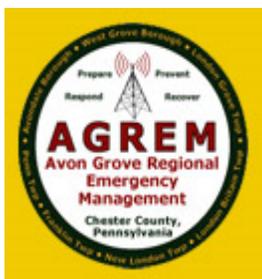
Committee Chair, Troop 12



In case of an emergency, many in our community look for a warm location with access to electrical power, warm food, and comforting conversation.

West Grove UMC has been providing this informally for many years. This month, our trustees have approved our official inclusion on a Chester County list of facilities that would be available as Comfort Care centers in case of an emergency.

At each emergency, each comfort care center sets their availability. Prayerfully consider how you might be able to help in the case of an emergency.



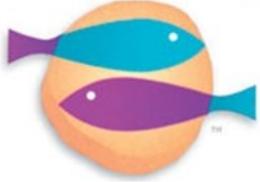
House Blessings

"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.



Sharing God's Gifts



Spotlight on Special Sunday Giving: Human Relations Day

On Sunday, January 15, 2017, we will celebrate Human Relations Day at our church. Human Relations Day is our day to support, through a special offering, those living in the margins of society.

All money collected during this special offering will go to United Methodist Community Developers (57 percent), United Methodist Voluntary Services (33 percent) and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program (10 percent).

Our offering makes a real difference.

Exodus House provides transitional housing to formerly incarcerated drug and alcohol addicts, and, with it, a new picture of the love of Christ.

This ministry is just one of many we support when we give on Human Relations Day. Human Relations Day encourages ordinary people to change the world.

Isn't that exciting?

I hope you will join me in giving generously on January 15, 2017



If you would like to help the church by donating stamps, you can put the books in the offering

plate. We use many stamps to send mail to our homebound, birthday cards and notes and for many office needs. Your generosity is appreciated!

Eternal God, thank you for bringing us once again to the threshold of a new year.



Help us dedicate each day of 2010 to following your will for our lives. Guide us, Lord, in all our decisions and actions, day by day and hour by hour. Help us accomplish all that you desire for us to do, until our mission on earth is finished. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Newsletter Newsletter



Family Promise[®]
of Southern Chester County

Building community, strengthening lives.

Save the Date!

May 20th , 2017

Bike Ride to Raise Funds to Support Family Promise

8:00 am start for 50 miles

9:00 am start for 35 miles

\$40 registration fee

Contact Lonnie Luscavage for more information

lluscavage@gmail.com





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

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

Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

The Reverend Shirley Daddario—Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries

Shirley.daddario@westgroveumc.org

Office Hours: Monday—Friday

7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Staff

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator

Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director

Contemporary Music Interim Director

Keyboardist

Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director

davsan5@comcast.net

Jamie Lindtner - Youth Director

Jamie.lindtner@westgroveumc.org

Tracy McLaughlin—Children's Morning Out Director

Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Board and Committee Leadership

Carol Whelan - Administrative Council Chair

John Boyd - Trustee Chair

Barbara Delaney - Finance Chair

Scott Steele - Treasurer

Sara Ann Ramberger - Financial Secretary

David Delaney - Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

Judy Gambill - Christian Education

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