Love never gives up.
Love cares more for others than for self.
Love doesn’t want what it doesn’t have.
Love doesn’t strut,
Doesn’t have a swelled head,
Doesn’t force itself on others,
Isn’t always “me first,”
Doesn’t fly off the handle,
Doesn’t keep score of the sins of others,
Doesn’t revel when others grovel,
Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,
Puts up with anything,
Trusts God always,
Always looks for the best,
Never looks back,
But keeps going to the end.

Love never dies. Inspired speech will be over some day;
praying in tongues will end; understanding will reach its limit.

But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation:
Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly.
And the best of the three is love.

1 Corinthians 13: 4-8, 13 (The Message paraphrase)

Romal Tune, author of Love is an Inside Job: Getting Vulnerable with God, writes about his experience of being an urban outreach minister in a megachurch when he hears these fated words: “A homeless man is threatening people in the kitchen.” He describes a breakfast in a church hall with church folk and yet to be church folk, rich folk and poor folk, all together. It was awkward - but it was church.

And something was a askew that morning as a man, he calls Mr. Breakfast, was walking out of the church with 4 bags that smelled like breakfast. Romal Tune recalls that he had known Mr. Breakfast and engaged him before.

"Why are you taking food? We will give you all you need to eat. " he inquired
"To feed my family" the man said. Except Rev. Tune knew he had no family.

When Tune confronted Mr. Breakfast, it began to turn. Protective of his bacon aroma and bags of food, Mr. Breakfast was ready to go to blows.

As Tune stood there in his preaching robe, he heard around him, "What are you going to do, Rev?" as well as the threat that followed: "I’ll slap you.

He wonders how do you turn the other cheek in the midst of that encounter? His story unfolds in his book after reflection and leaning heavily on the transformative power of God. Love is in an inside job, he suggests. We love God and our neighbor when we also love ourselves well enough to, even in the midst of being threatened in a church kitchen.

Now, I do not imagine many of you find yourself face to face with interaction that give you pause to how you will use your fists. However, I do imagine we daily wonder how best to live out LOVE.

• How do you live out love when you always want to be right with your spouse?
• How do you live out love when you want to throw something across the room after a call with a co-worker?
• How do you live out love when you yell at the kids as they test boundaries you set?
• How do you live out love when you chose silence in a conversation where someone else is being belittled?
• How do you live out love when your friend suffers with depression?
• How do you live out love when your dad wants to drive and the doctor has advised against it?

Romal Tune learned he needed to acknowledge and work on his own anger response, before he could truly respond in love to others. Our love and living out love is reflective, prayer-based, and action-centered.

Join me this Lent as we take on the challenge of living out Love, Christ’s love. This love challenges and shapes us as followers of the ONE who is love. This love that pushed us beyond our comfort zone to love the those we might otherwise avoid, ignore, or reject - the very people Jesus calls us to love!

In God’s Love, Pastor Monica
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.

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! Our next collection is March 3.
We give thanks to God for Scouts. We celebrate the ministries of scouting. Each time the congregation is surveyed about the impact of scouting in their lives, the reflection is deep. Boy scouts and girl scouts alike reflect the sacrificial nature of discipleship of Jesus Christ. We are proud of our scouts, both for their accomplishments and their characteristics.

If you have not had a chance to reach out to our leaders, scouts, and programs to encourage them, please take a moment to do so!

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**UPDATE FROM PASTOR JIM**

We arrived at Los Angeles and were taken to the ship with no delay and we got ready for a peaceful relaxing cruise! The moment we left the port of Los Angeles, we experienced high seas and rough waters. Since our bodies had not adjusted to the ship’s motion it was difficult for some. Betty, who does not get seasick was laid low as she tried to gain her sea legs. I was able to adjust with no problem. There was a Bible study group meeting in the mornings from the first leg of the World Cruise, which started in Ft. Lauderdale, but it had no leader and had 4 – 6 people attending. I volunteered to lead and would begin a study on the Book of Philippians. We meet for 45 minutes each sea day and we have built our attendance to 18-22 people.

Our first port of call was Honolulu, Hawaii. Betty and I went to the North Shore to the “Bonzai Pipeline” where they surf some of the largest waves on earth. Since leaving the area of Hawaii, we have been cruising toward Tahiti which is about 2400 miles South of Hawaii.

That’s it for now till our next update.

Jim and Betty Mundell.

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**BOOKS MENTIONED IN SERMONS**

*Adam, God’s Beloved* by Henri Nouwen
UTAH CHURCH WELCOMES HOMELESS, LOVES DIVERSITY

Excerpt from story by Kathy L. Gilbert, photos by Kathleen Barry

Down the street from First United Methodist Church is the majestic Wasatch Range. Tall glass and steel office towers surround the little church just blocks away from the massive headquarters of the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints.

It is a small church with a big heart.

“I love how this church is an underdog, small but does a lot of powerful things,” said Scott Patton, a longtime member of the church. “There are no barriers to grace.”

On Sunday mornings, grace smells like coffee brewing and eggs cooking as the church opens its cozy basement kitchen and fellowship hall to homeless men and women looking for a warm breakfast and genuine welcome.

Church volunteers start cooking early for the weekly fellowship breakfast. On this chilly Sunday, people start lining up before 8 a.m. for endless cups of coffee.

Ginny Hjalmarson, known as “mom,” keeps everything flowing behind the counter. Her husband Larry is busy setting up the tables and greeting the men, women and occasional dog coming inside. Other church members are stirring eggs and frying meat for today’s offering of French toast, scrambled eggs and sausage.

When the Rev. Elizabeth McVicker, pastor of First United Methodist Church, arrives the group gathers around the diminutive woman and bow their heads as she prays: “Loving God, we are so grateful to know we are your children. Show your spirit to us this morning as we taste and touch love over this breakfast.”

The people are just as hungry for her words as for food.

The fellowship breakfast was started about three years ago, said Larry Hjalmarson, who is a member of the governing board and oversees maintenance. It was inspired by a homeless man named Gilbert, who walked to the church from the rescue mission every Sunday. He became a member of the church, sang in the choir and put a new face on who the congregation thought the homeless were.

“He wasn’t scary, he was just homeless,” Larry Hjalmarson said. Gilbert asked him and a few other church members to consider offering a breakfast for people like himself who walked several long blocks to come to church. That opened a door for the church to start a regular homeless ministry that now feeds from 50 to 70 people inside their doors on Sundays.

These days, Gilbert is no longer homeless, but the ministry continues to fill a vital need. Everyone is invited to the 10 a.m. church service but it is not a requirement. Some have joined and become regular members of the congregation. Some stay homeless, while still others like Brett Johnson become self-sufficient.

The pastor believes First Church is about love and welcome. “We don’t offer any social services, housing, they can get that somewhere else,” McVicker said. “What we can offer is community.”
Does Jesus Love Me?

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, March 6th
Noon and 7:00 p.m.

Join us!
SAVE THE DATE
West Grove UMC
“Be Brave”
May 4, 2019 ~ 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

"On the day I called to You, You answered me. You made me strong and brave.” Psalm 138:3

Let’s be honest. Many Christian women, even after years of knowing Jesus, find themselves stuck and unable to move forward. They dream of a life that is relevant and more reflective of their status as one of His precious daughters but, unfortunately, has to admit that they are simply not there. Can you relate? Using the Word of God and lessons Laura Acuna has learned along the way, she will share the brave steps you can take to grow up, move on and discover that it is never too late to be who He created you to be! Through this message, Laura will help you...

- Dare to be honest with yourself about the areas where you are stuck
- Identify the places where the Lord desires to work in your life
- See beyond your current circumstances to the plan He has for your life
- Exchange the lies you believe about yourself with the truth from God’s Word
- Position yourself to bravely tackle the obstacles that keep you from becoming the woman He created you to be

All of the women of the community (and your family and friends) are invited to a Women’s Retreat at West Grove UMC on Saturday, May 4, 2019. Our keynote speaker will be Laura Acuna, who has been acclaimed by Paulette Stamper, CEO of Ignite Women: “Laura is a truly gifted and passionate speaker. She skillfully engages her listeners through heart-felt humor and real-world life applications…”

You can read more about Laura on her website: www.Laura-Acuna.com.

The All Day Retreat will open for registration on February 3 and end on March 31, 2019. There will not be any registrations accepted at the door. There will be a sign-up sheet in the church lobby, as well as a link on our website (www.westgroveumc.org) to sign up. The cost is $25 per person and will include your continental breakfast, lunch and beverages. Checks should be made payable to WGUMC with memo line stating Women’s Retreat. Laura will lead us through three sessions. There will be small group questions for each session. Sponsored by: The Prayer Ministry Team. Questions? Please contact Susan Paisley at 610-268-3305

Name: ___________________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________________________________________________
Email: ___________________________________________________________________
Home Phone: __________________________  Cell: _____________________________

___ $25 Check enclosed, made payable to WGUMC, memo “Women’s Retreat”
SPIRITUAL GIFT DISCOVERY
Sunday, March 3rd

Join us on after 11:00 worship to discover your spiritual gifts.

Have you ever had the opportunity to discover your spiritual gifts?

Did you know that sometimes over time your gifts will shift or come into better focus? Everyone has spiritual gifts! Come for lunch and stay to discover how your gifts might bring you joy in serving in God inside or outside the church!

BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays
2:00-3:00 PM
Building #1

The Luther House Bible Study continues to meet on Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00 pm in Building #1.

Everyone is invited to join us as we delve deeper into God’s Word and share love and support for one another.

We are studying the book of Revelation. If you have any questions, please see Cindy Haley or call her at 484-702-7071.

We hope you can join us!

WEST GROVE UNITED METHODIST MEN
(That is all the men who worship at WGUMC)

We are the Host Group for the Monday, March 25, 2019 meeting of the Lan-Chester UMM. Janice Bowers has agreed to plan a menu & with the aid of several volunteers will prepare & serve the meal.

We will need our men of WGUMC to attend; WELCOME the UMM from the other seven (7) participating churches who make up the Lan-Chester United Methodist Men. We men, who worship in the United Methodist Congregations, are defacto members of the Eastern Pa. Conference.

I urge you to set aside this date. Mark it on your calendars now. Help to demonstrate the welcoming spirit of Jesus Christ by your presence as we fellowship with our fellow UMM in the area.

Our church is also responsible to offer a program for that evening. Following a suggestion from Richard Sturhke, I have arranged for a speaker/presenter from TAD (Traveling Animal Doctors.) Terry Stone will Tell us how they got started, their purpose/mission, & also show pictures of remote places they have been to treat animals. Instead of "Doctors Without Borders", it is veterinarians without borders.

I look forward to seeing you on Mon. Eve. Mar. Mar 25, 2019 @ 6:30 PM. RSVP to Vernon Ramberger (610-869-3863 / spartan57@verizon.net) as soon as possible, but no later than Sun. Morn., 3/17/19.
WORSHIP AND BEYOND

Sunday, March 24
A concert presented by
West Grove United Methodist Church PraiseWorks Band

Bring your family and invite your friends for a pot-luck dinner followed by a concert by our PraiseWorks Band!

5:30 p.m.—Pot Luck Dinner
6:30 p.m.—Concert

- Bring your favorite covered dish to share for dinner.
- Stay for an enjoyable evening of music with some favorite worship songs and music that goes BEYOND to many familiar and favorite secular songs as well!
- Fellowship with dessert after the concert!

A love offering will be taken to support the PraiseWorks Band sound equipment needs.

Invite your friends and family to enjoy the food, fellowship, and great music!

We hope to see you all here!
GSR 2019 - 30 Days of Poverty Awareness

Give|Serve|Restore is an annual project that gathers churches of Southern Chester County to collaborate for the common good of the community during the season of Lent.

GIVE BACK

Food Drive: Donate items to our Emergency Food Pantry to help feed families in our community. A list of suggested items is available on the shopping cart in the lobby.

Fund Drive: Give $3 (for Kids) and $30 (for adults) to support the Getting Ahead program, a 16-week workshop that helps families forward in their journeys out of poverty. A special GSR giving envelope is available in the lobby. Please write your checks to “WGUMC” with GSR in the memo line.

LEARN MORE

Take part in opportunities for participants to challenge their own perspectives on poverty in a meaningful way.

Bridges Out of Poverty Workshop—This introductory workshop will give you the chance to explore new ways of understanding poverty and hear about the work the SCC Opportunity Network is doing to advance this initiative in our community. Contact us to register for our upcoming training on April 6th or request one for your group!

The Poverty Simulation in SCC—During the event, participants take on the identity of someone in poverty and work together with their family unit to simulate a month in poverty over the course of an hour. The simulation is based on the stories of real people and is meant to sensitize participants to the realities of poverty. Space is limited. Contact us now to sign up.

GET INVOLVED

Become a team member with one of these initiatives for ongoing engagement:

The Southern Chester County Opportunity Network (SCCON), has work groups focused on Housing, Transportation, Community Collaboration, and Employment & Economic Opportunity. Quarterly meetings update the larger group on progress and ways to get involved.

The Kennett Kindergarten Readiness Initiative, works to advance educational equity in the Kennett area by making sure that all children have access to the resources they need to start school emotionally, socially, and academically ready to learn. This initiative includes bi-monthly meetings as well as work groups focused on specific priority areas.

We encourage you to joining us and our brother and sisters across Southern Chester County during this Lenten season as we love and serve our community!

Visit TheConstellationNetwork.com/GSR to learn more!
Children’s Clothing and Equipment Consignment Sale

**CONSIGN** Thursday, March 14th - 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

**SHOP** Friday, March 15th - 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 16th - 9:00 am - 12:00 p.m.

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

**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:** Spring/Summer 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

Annual Spring Rummage Sale

Set-Up on Thursday, March 28
Friday, March 29: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Saturday, March 30: 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Household goods, adult and children’s clothing, toys, and lots of other “treasures” will be for sale. On Saturday, all shoppers may fill a bag for $2.00

This is a biannual event is pioneered by the United Methodist Women. It offers gently used clothing and household items to the community at record low prices. Many families in our community attend this event and the bargains are very helpful to them in these hard economic times.

If you would like to donate gently used clothing and household items, they can be brought to the church during office hours the week before the sale.

Your gently used donations can be dropped off in the lobby coat closet beginning after worship services on Sunday March 24 through Thursday, March 28. The church office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Thank you!
West Grove UMC

Save the date!
April 27
(Set-up on April 26)

Volunteers needed.
Details to come.

Open Market & Craft Fair
Saturday, Sept. 14
9 a.m.~2 p.m.
Indoors & Outside

Vendors & Food Trucks Wanted!

Interested?
Contact West Grove UMC:
(610) 869-9334
office@westgroveumc.org.
**PRAYER MINISTRY MONTHLY GATHERING**

The Prayer Ministry team meets the **second Tuesday of every month** for a time of sharing, praying and mutual care. Our Focus: We pray for the needs of prayer ministry, each other, the congregation, the nation and the world.

We, the Prayer Ministry team are not a perfect people, "saints", but real people who have each been on a journey at various times in our lives. **We welcome you to join us at our next meeting on March 12 at 6:30** in the sanctuary/prayer room.

Personal requests are kept confidential and may be placed in the prayer request box in the back of the sanctuary. If you are going through a difficult time and want to stop in just to receive personal prayer during the monthly Tuesday prayer gathering timeframe (6:30-7:30) we welcome you as well.....no need to stay.

If you're curious, but not sure, feel free to visit a couple times to see if this ministry is a good fit for you. No one is expected to pray audibly.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN MANAGER**

The Trustees are looking for an interested individual(s) to manage or supervise the Community Garden Plots. Responsibilities would be keeping the Trustees informed of progress & needs, assignment of plots to individual or groups, checking to make sure "gardeners" plant in timely fashion, water, weed, & harvest their plots. You do not need to "garden a plot yourself but can if you so choose. You may use the guidelines & instructions of a former manager or create your own plan of action.

The idea behind the Community Gardens was to raise fresh produce for the community food cupboards. Persons or groups may still do that or raise fresh produce for themselves.

The raised beds are falling in disrepair from lack of use. Unless we find interested gardeners or manager, the Trustees will not replace them & they will be removed entirely. This would allow us to maintain the area more efficiently. The Trustees hearts is to see the ministry continue but without someone to take on this responsibility, we do not see any other option.

It would not have to be a member of this Church to be the "Manager". It could be a friend or acquaintance who has a passion for gardening or for this community ministry. Bring his or her contact information to Rev. Monica or to members of the Trustee Board. For more information, contact Vernon Ramberger; 610-869-863 / spartan57@verizon.net.

**UMW FAITH CIRCLE**

The Faith Circle’s mission is to make items which are distributed in our local area or through UMCOR. We have made many quilts, baby pads, book bags and other items which have been delivered to local shelters, Family Promise, and through UMW district appeals.

**Weather permitting, we will meet on Friday, March 1 and March 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the Youth Room. Our new project this spring to to make walker bags. We will also continue with quilt projects.**

New folks are welcome! Contact Chris Curtiss for more information. Sewing skills are not necessary.

**NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

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 11:00 am service.**

If you are interested in helping in the nursery (about once a month), please contact Amy Castaldi at ahass17@hotmail.com or 610-468-4321.
Winter is here, but summer will be here in the blink of an eye! Melanie and Joan are very excited about this coming year’s theme for VBS: To Mars and Beyond from Cokesbury. Each day has a new story featuring a character who by the power of God was able to do an important job and experience God in a new way. Our stories for the week feature Daniel, Esther, Jesus and the parable of the good samaritan.

The dates for VBS will be July 15-19. We are looking to have positions filled by March. We are looking for some co-leaders for groups, assistants for activities like recreation and snack, and those who would be willing to help out with set up, small tasks throughout the day and clean up at the end of the week.

Please prayerfully consider what your VBS role might be this summer. You can contact Melanie Hartley or Joan Leaman to sign up and for information. The starter kit has been ordered and we are starting to gather decorations and supplies! We will be in touch with all volunteers with information about meetings and planning. Here are the areas we are still looking to fill:

- Group leaders: Kindergarten, 1st grade; 3rd-6th grade
- Music/Opening/Closing
- Snack
- Science
- Recreation
- Missions
- Preschool
- Decorating

Looking forward to hearing from many of you as we anticipate a rich and rewarding experience for the children of our church and community, and ourselves, as well!

### CHURCH CLEAN-UP
**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019**

The Trustees need your help between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1 p.m., to spruce up our church for Easter. We want it to be an inviting place to visit and to worship. We hope you do also & will come out to help.

#### OUTSIDE:

- Trim bushes in flowerbeds and along parking lots
- Weed flowerbeds and remove dead foliage and spread mulch
- Plant annual flowers
- Remove unused garden plots (If no ‘manager is found to monitor: usage, care, & harvest)
- Cleanup dirt along parking lot curbs
- Remove weeds in drainage basin
- Wash and dry all exterior doors
- Brush and apply sealant to Harmony Road stairs (Eagle Scout Project may make this item vanish!)
- Remove weeds on bank on both sides of the Harmony Road stairs
- Move one of the canopy frames from the hay field to the front of the building for “Summer Events”
- Re-stripe the parking spaces

#### INTERIOR:

- Wash windows
- Wipe woodwork in sanctuary
- Wipe woodwork in rooms
- Wipe and wax cabinets in North Wing classrooms and administrative offices
- Wipe and wax cabinets and woodwork in the Narthex

This is an ambitious list of things to accomplish! We will need all the able bodied people to help us get the job done.

It is YOUR Church! The Trustee's are just the Stewards of care & good maintenance of church property & grounds. If you are unable to help, a donation for the purchase of flowers or cleaning supplies would be greatly appreciated.

Please pray for good weather and for many volunteers to get the jobs done so our church will continue to be an inviting & welcoming place to all people in our community.

A sign up sheet will be posted in the Narthex. It will list the specific tasks-including tools and supplies necessary to complete the job. If you prefer to do a job before April 21st, please contact Vernon Ramberger at 610-869-3863.
The children had a busy February filled with lots of lessons about love and kindness. Each class celebrated Valentine’s Day with a special snack and lots of conversations about how we can show love to our family and friends.

Preschool registration began the beginning of February and is on going. Many of our families arrived an hour early to wait in line to ensure their child would be able to return to preschool and receive their first choice in classes. I feel very blessed that our families feel so strongly about our preschool program and trust us with their precious children. If you or someone you know is looking for a preschool, please reach out to me. I would love to tell you more about our program.

Our Consignment Sale is quickly approaching. The sale will be Friday, March 15th and Saturday, March 16th. I hope you will come out to shop and/or consign.

This Winter we are offering a music enrichment class as we have done in previous years. It is always a joy to see the children enjoy this music time with Linda Bunting. Linda does a wonderful job of teaching the children about music and instruments while keeping the lessons age appropriate. Each week, she brings in a different and unusual instrument for the children to try along with her guitar.

**CMO CHAPEL TIME**

**with Miss Melanie & Pastor Monica**

**March Theme—Jesus’ Friends**

Our theme for Chapel Time in March is Jesus’ Friends. Our friends will meet Jesus’ friends and see themselves among them.

**Week 1—Too Little**

Book:
“The Man Who Was Too Little
Read Aloud Volume I” (younger & older)

**Week 2—Boy Shares**

Book:
“The Boy Who Shared His Lunch:
Read Aloud Volume 2” (younger & older)

**Week 3—Disciples**

Books:
“Simon and His Boat in Read Aloud Volume 2”
by Ella K. Lindvall (younger)

“These are Friends of Jesus” by Shirley Neitzel (older)

**Week 4—When We’re Unkind**

Books:
“Llama Llama and the Bully Goat” by Anna Dewdney (younger)

“The Monster Who Lost His Mean” by Tiffany Strelitz Haber (older)
CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY

For information on all children and youth activities, contact Melanie Hartley childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

MISSION TRIP 2019
June 23-29
Registration for our summer mission trip is now open! We will be heading to Clendenin, West Virginia to work with Next Step Ministries to aid in recovery from a severe flood in 2016. A $50 deposit is due by March 3. The summer mission trip is open to students entering grade 8 through graduating class of 2019. Contact Melanie Hartley for information!

YOUTH DODGEBALL
March 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m.
All youth, grades 6-12 are invited to join us for dodgeball. Students just need $3 for pizza and a signed waiver form. Invite a friend and we hope to see you on the 8th for a fun night!

YOUTH GROUP
Sunday nights
6:00-7:30 p.m.
All 7-12 grade students are invited. There’s games, snacks and great discussion!

KIDS SING
Sunday
March 24
Save the date!
The KidsSing Children’s Choir will be singing again during worship on March 24!

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY NEWS
Children & Youth Sunday School
Sunday mornings, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Children’s Sunday School
Jesus and the Children:
March 10—April 14

Our lenten unit will focus on Jesus’ encounters with children. Jesus valued children and even told his disciples that the Kingdom of God belongs to those who have faith like a child. We will explore what Jesus has to say about children and what they can teach us adults.

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP & ALL WORSHIP SUNDAYS

All Worship & Communion
Sunday - March 3

Children will have activity packets and other things to use during the worship service. Please look for details in your Children’s Ministry emails.

Not on the email list? Contact Melanie Hartley. For information on all children’s worship, activities and youth ministry, contact Melanie Hartley childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org.
**FUN & FITNESS**

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

*Saturday, March 9*
*9:00 - 10:30 AM*

Juliets meet for breakfast and fun...

Second Saturdays at 9:00!

Join us!

We meet at the Sunrise Cafe

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**RAP**

*Retroe People (R.A.P.)*

March 8
*12:00-3:00 p.m.*

RAP met on Friday, February 8 for a great afternoon of fellowship. Following our lunch we were blessed with gospel music performed by Mel Leaman and his brothers, Jim and Dave, and accompanied on guitar by his wife, Joan. Thank you for entertaining us with many favorite older hymns.

We also thank Kathryn Steele for being our February host, and many thanks to those who brought delicious desserts.

RAP’s next gathering is Friday, March 8. Our March hosts are Pat Heist and Jeanette Stryzewski. The program following lunch will be presented by Lonnie Luscavage, MD, Ophthalmologist on Eye Conditions and Concerns.

Bring your lunch and enjoy provided beverages and delicious desserts. If you are able to help with setup and/or cleanup, please let Pat or Jeanette know. And don’t forget to invite your friends to join us for a wonderful afternoon of fellowship and fun. Everyone is welcome!

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**ROMEO**

*Retired Older Men Eating Out*

March 28
*12:00-1:30 p.m.*

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 610-724-0477, if you have any questions or if you are newly retired. Bring your retired friends.

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**JULIET**

JULIET...Just us Ladies Interested in Eating Together

*Saturday, March 9*
*9:00-10:30 AM*

Juliets meet for breakfast and fun...

Second Saturdays at 9:00! Join us!

We meet at the Sunrise Cafe

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**Fundraiser Breakfast for Boy Scout Troop 12**

*March 10, 2019*
*8:30-9:30 a.m.*

*Sawmill Grill*
*Oxford, PA*

**Buffet Breakfast**
Scrambled eggs, sausage gravy, biscuits, bacon, pancakes, orange juice, milk, coffee, and soda will be served.

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Call or Email Lisa Yatchenko
For tickets
484-368-9030
lyatchenko@zoominternet.net

Thank you for supporting our Troop!
Boy Scout Troop 12
Women’s Heart Health on the Move
Turning awareness into action

February is not only National Heart Month, it also boasts the American Heart Association’s Go Red Day—a day dedicated to raising awareness about women’s cardiovascular disease and heart health.

In the US alone, 1 in 4 women dies from heart disease annually, and each year over 395,000 women suffer a heart attack (about one every minute and a half). Women—our caretakers, moms, CEOs, and daughters—are largely unaware that heart disease is their number one killer (reports the American Heart Association). However, awareness is on the rise as women spread the word about the importance of preventative action.

How do we turn this awareness into action?

One of the simplest changes to make for a healthier heart is to introduce more movement and physical activity into your daily routine. However, instead of going straight from couch potato to marathoner, the good news is that even modest increases in your activity can do a world of good for your heart health! Here are some ways to make small changes for a large impact.

- **Turn to your community for support.** Do you often lack the motivation to exercise more? Reach out to a friend for a walking buddy or ask your family for encouragement and rewards for goals met along the way. This journey doesn’t have to be walked alone.

- **Modify what you’re already doing.** Are you already taking walks with a friend or avoiding the elevator to take the stairs at work? Consider simply increasing the amount that you’re already doing—like walking with a small hand weight or seeing if you can safely increase your pace while taking stairs to help get your heart rate up.

- **Find the best fit for you.** Not everyone’s exercise regime looks the same. Different bodies need distinct kinds of movement. Don’t be afraid to try new things. Movement doesn’t always mean walking or yoga. It could mean kickboxing, dancing, weight lifting, swimming, or bicycling. Know your body and habits and try to find a method of exercise that gets you excited and involved in your health.

- **Track your successes.** Don’t be afraid to be specific and set goals for your heart health. Once you reach a goal, reward yourself with whatever motivates you—whether that’s an experience with friends or a new workout outfit, share your success!

Permission to reproduce for noncommercial ministry use. 
Download at chrader.org/women’s-heart-health-on-the-move/
STEWARDSHIP

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Approx Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monitors- Sanctuary (80&quot;) (Dream in Process!)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Sign at the street</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electronic Sign at Rt. 1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 inch slat blinds for classrooms—FULFILLED!</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 laptops (1 for Director of Children and Youth Ministry, 1 for Volunteer Office with docking station)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
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Make your shopping dollars go further by shopping on Amazon Smile! Every purchase you make earns the church a donation.

And it is EASY! It doesn’t cost you anything and earns the church a donation! Type in smile.amazon.com in your Internet browser, choose West Grove United Methodist Church as your charity and then shop away! It is all the same stuff, no fees. Tell your family and friends too! It’s that easy.

**SCRIP SCRIPTS**

**Shop With Scrip is an easy way to patronize your favorite merchants and raise money for WGUMC.**

For every dollar you spend, merchants will rebate WGUMC from 1% to 20% (and sometimes even more during special promotions). Here’s how it works:

- Go to shopwithscrip.com and click on the “Shop” tab for a listing of the participating merchants.
- Select a merchant by clicking on their logo and the rebate to WGUMC will be displayed.

- Choose one of the following delivery options: Physical, Scrip Now, or Reload card

Payments for the purchases are linked to your bank account in a secure environment making this one of the fastest and most convenient methods.

Order forms are also in the Narthex. Simply place your order form and a check made payable to WGUMC in Gene Aucott’s mailbox in the mailroom.

Questions? Contact Gene Aucott.

gene.aucott@comcast.net / 610-869-7355.

**THANK YOU**

On behalf of Methodist Services, we sincerely thank you for your donation of $250. We deeply appreciate your generosity and dedication to supporting children, youth and families in Eastern, Pennsylvania. Your gift made it possible for Methodist Services to offer a joyous Christmas for the children we serve.

Sincerely,
Anne Rice-burgess, President and CEO

**FIFTH SUNDAY COIN COLLECTION**

Mark your calendars! March 31th is our next coin collection.

This month our collection will support New Life Skills, microloans and education for people surrounding the Mpasa Medical & Nutrition Center.

Search your sofa cushions and pockets for loose change and bring it to church on March 31st!
ANNOUNCEMENTS & THANK YOUS

REMINDER

Don’t forget to set your clocks forward the evening of March 10.

The Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers to serve coffee and drinks on the 1st or 2nd Sunday after the 11:00 service. Please contact Caryl or Dick at 302-239-1743, if you can help.

HEARING ASSISTIVE DEVICES

We want you to HEAR the word of God when you come to church to hear the word of God.

Hearing assistive devices are located in the sound booth in the back of the sanctuary. They can go right over your ear and amplify the sounds for you.

We give thanks to God the technology we have in the sanctuary that can help everyone hear.

LET’S GET SOCIAL!

Our Facebook page is a great resource for keeping up-to-date on what is going on here at church.

Be sure to “Like Us” on Facebook and check-in” when you are here!

PRAYER ROOM

Need prayer?

Our prayer room is open each Sunday after worship for anyone seeking prayer.

THANK YOU

Dear West Grove Methodist Church:

Thank you again for your outreach and bringing smiles to children’s faces by providing Valentines for our children.

LCH DENTAL

LCH (La Comunidad Hispana) is a diverse, bilingual team that is dedicated to helping adults, teens, and children to be healthy and stay healthy. As a nonprofit Federally Qualified Health Center, we believe in quality, integrated, Person-Centered care that supports whole-health change for all. Founded in 1973, LCH has been changing lives for over forty years.

The LCH Dental Team officially has moved in to their new home in the same suite as our Women’s Health Center at 105 Vineyard Way West Grove, PA 19390. We are excited to serve more community members than ever before with our expanded practice in a more central location.

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

On behalf of the family of Fran Bryan, we want to thank you for your assistance in having her service in the church.

Sharon, Linda & Jim

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your assistance in having her service in the church. 

Sharon, Linda & Jim
Emergency evacuation plan diagrams are posted at each exit in the building. Please familiarize yourself with the nearest location

**SANCTUARY:**

Two exits in the rear of the Sanctuary and two exits into the Narthex. Please proceed to the nearest exit, unless directed otherwise by a Safety Marshall.

**Meeting Point**
Proceed to the parking lot area immediately in front of the Prayer Bead Garden

**EDUCATION WING:**

One exit nearest Harmony Park and the hallway into the Narthex. Please proceed to the nearest exit, unless directed otherwise by a Safety Marshall.

**Meeting Point**
If exiting into Narthex, proceed to the parking lot immediately in front of the Prayer Bead Garden

If exiting the emergency door near Harmony Park, meet in front of the stairs leading to Harmony Park.

**ADMINISTRATIVE WING:**

Please proceed to the nearest exit, unless directed otherwise by a Safety Marshall.

**Meeting Point**
Proceed to the parking lot area immediately in front of the Prayer Bead Garden
There will be a post-General Conference report on legislation adopted and outcomes of the Way Forward proposals on **Saturday, March 16 from 10 AM** to noon at West Lawn UMC, 15 Woodside Ave, Reading, PA. In the interest of immediacy, this report, offered “for whoever wants to come,” will precede the Bishop’s District Town Hall meetings scheduled for March 25-28.

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**2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE TO EXPLORE MINISTRY OF GENERATIONS**

**WORSHIP TO CELEBRATE AGELESS WISDOM OF PSALMS**

*We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.* —Psalm 78:4

“Tell to the Coming Generation,” from Psalm 78:4, is the theme Bishop Peggy Johnson has chosen for the 2019 Annual Conference, which returns to the Expo Center in Oaks, Pa, June 13-15. But the session’s program may be more about listening to the voices of that generation that is both coming and already arrived.

Much of the focus, inspired by wisdom from the Psalms, will be on evangelism, including teaching and being taught by the millennial generation and by all generations.

**Hearing young adult voices**

Diverse voices of young adults from across the conference will share how previous generations have lauded God’s works to them and how the millennial generation can praise and interpret God’s mighty acts among generations to come. The assembly will once again celebrate Holy Communion in groups around tables, serving one another.

Preaching at the Service of Ordination and Commissioning, June 14, will be the Rev. Nathalie Nelson Parker, National Program Coordinator for Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century, or SBC21, an agency of United Methodist Discipleship Ministries in Nashville.

Bishop Susan Hassinger, retired, will preach the Memorial Service to honor deceased clergy and clergy spouses who entered the Church Triumphant in the past conference year. She will preach from Psalm 90:1-4, which begins, “Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.”

**State of the Church & Conference**

Bishop Peggy Johnson will deliver a timely State of the Church & Conference Report Thursday evening, June 13, her first in her episcopacy. She will review our connectional mission and ministry and begin to cast a vision for the future. The report may chart the consequential way forward for both the conference and the denomination in the interim between the landmark Called General Conference of February 2019 and the next General Conference in 2020.

Campus minister Derrick Luruth Scott III (left), 37, will deliver a talk about reaching and responding to the needs, gifts and concerns of young adults during the Friday morning Teaching Session, June 14. The Director of College & Young Adult Ministries at CrossRoad UMC in Jacksonville, Florida.

Finally, the annual celebration of new clergy retirees, as they pass the mantle to new clergy to be ordained, will lift up Psalm 71:18:

*So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to all the generations to come.*

Also celebrated will be the conference’s commitment to Connectional Ministries and also 200 years of Methodist missions in a video produced by the UMC’s Global Ministries agency. Moreover, there will be reports on Native American ministries and concerns, and inclusiveness monitoring of the session. In addition, members will engage in debate and legislation over proposed resolutions, which must be submitted to the conference secretary by March 15.

But the annual session’s most dramatic moments will likely come during nomination and election of delegates to the 2020 General Conference in May 2020. March 1 is the deadline to submit advance nominations for the four clergy and four laity slots, although lay and clergy members may also be nominated on the conference floor.

The Revs. Monica Guepet and Candy LaBar chair the Annual Conference Worship Team. David Bryant, Music Director at First UMC Phoenixville, will return to direct music for the Annual Conference. The Conference Commission on Sessions, chaired by the Rev. James Anderman, plans and evaluates Annual Conference sessions.

*(Excerpt from an article by John W. Coleman.)*
A NEW $140,000 SURGERY WING AT IN BO, SIERRA LEONE

With the addition of a new surgical center, pregnant women who come to United Methodist Mercy Hospital to deliver their babies will no longer have to fear losing their lives, said the hospital's administrator.

“Mercy Hospital now has all it takes for safe delivery for both mother and child,” Jinah Lahai said.

The $140,000 surgery wing will allow doctors to perform complex medical procedures, including cesarean sections. Lahai said it was a challenge to provide medical services before the surgery center. Women in labor needing a cesarean section had to be referred to other hospitals because Mercy did not have the facilities to handle the surgeries.

“In such circumstances, we would make referrals, and delays along the line had once in a while led to fatalities. I want to say all of that is now over, because women in labor visiting our facilities will not have the fear of losing their lives,” she said.

The hospital is now equipped with two operating rooms and male and female surgery wards with trained surgical staff. It can accommodate 50 patients, up from 25 previously, Lahai said.

Resident Bishop John K. Yambasu led the dedication of the new wing on Jan. 18, describing the process of getting a surgical unit for Mercy Hospital as “a very, very long dream come true.”

“I'm the happiest person in this country today. ... This is one of those times in the life of the church when everybody needs to raise our voices of praise and thanksgiving to God for all that he continues to do in our lives,” Yambasu said. The bishop said he appreciated Helping Children Worldwide, a partner of Mercy Hospital, which raised the funds for construction and equipment. He praised members of the organization for their passion, dedication and commitment.

Melody Curtiss, Helping Children Worldwide executive director, said the nonprofit is grateful to have been able to come alongside the bishop and Bo District superintendent, the Rev. Francis Charley, in shared Christian ministry and a desire to attend to the healthcare needs in Bo.

“It seemed a long road, but, with God’s help, we have arrived,” she said.

Curtiss noted that it takes more than money to do what Mercy Hospital has done. She said the hospital’s leadership and dedication has showed “in every miracle they manifested.”

Helping Children Worldwide has a medical advisory group of doctors, Curtiss said, who work with Mercy’s medical team — in relationship with the Medical University of South Carolina — to support their dedication to operating under the highest medical standards.

Dr. Dennis Marke, chairman of the Sierra Leone Conference health board, said approximately 2 billion people worldwide lack access to emergency and essential surgical care. Most of the need is in rural and marginalized populations living in low and middle-income countries where the poorest one-third of the world’s population receive only 3.5 percent of all surgical procedures.

The lack of surgical care takes a serious human and economic toll and can lead to acute, life-threatening complications, he said.

“Despite such a surgical imbalance around the world, surgery is still the neglected stepchild of global health. No global funding organization focuses specifically on the provision of surgical care, and none of the major donors are willing to support and acknowledge surgery as an imperative part of global public health,” Marke said.

“This is where (The United Methodist Church) in Sierra Leone stands out ... by prioritizing the provision of surgical care as an integral part of its healthcare service delivery.

“This surgical suite project, which started three years ago, could not have come at a better time when the ministry of health together with its health development partners, including ... faith-based organizations and private practices and hospitals, are working hard to improve the health indicators, including neonatal, infant, under-5 and maternal mortality in the country,” he said.

The United Methodist Board of Global Ministries also helps support the hospital through its Advance program. The mission agency’s “Abundant Health” campaign aims to reach 1 million children with lifesaving interventions by 2020. The focus is on communities, primarily in Africa, with high child mortality rates from preventable causes.

Dr. Roland Carshon-Marsh, Bo District medical officer, said surgery has proven to be highly beneficial in reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and reducing the incidence of many health complications.”I am happy that today, the dream of a functional surgical building has come true. With this building, Mercy Hospital has now been empowered to provide the needed health care, not only to the people of Bo, but the entire district and even beyond,” Norman said.
# MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

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~ 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](mailto:pastor@westgroveumc.org)

**Office Hours:** Monday—Friday 7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

**Staff**
The Reverend Jim Mundell - Associate Pastor, Chaplain at Jenner’s Pond
[Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org)
Melanie Hartley—Youth & Children’s Ministry Director
[Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Childyouthdirector@westgroveumc.org)
Donna Fackler - Church Administrator
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Kim Nuzzaci - Administrative Assistant
[adminasst@westgroveumc.org](mailto:adminasst@westgroveumc.org)
Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director
Contemporary Music Interim Director
Keyboardist
[Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org)
Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director
[davsan5@comcast.net](mailto:davsan5@comcast.net)
Tracy McLaughlin—Children’s Morning Out Director
[Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org](mailto:Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org)
Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

**Board and Committee Leadership**
Carol Whelan - Administrative Council Chair
Gene Aucott - Trustee Chair
Marc Simmons - Finance Chair
Scott Steele - Treasurer
Janice Bowers - Financial Secretary
Dick Stuhlke - SPRC Interim Chair
Steve May—Tech Team Leader
Dick Stuhlke—Scouting Coordinator
Melanie Hartley - Christian Education
Joan Leaman - Children’s Ministry Team Contact
Susan Paisley, RN - Faith Community Nurse
Janice Bowers - Missions Team Chair
Dick and Caryl Stuhlke - Hospitality Committee Chair
Susan Paisley, Mike Chalmers – Delegates to Annual Conference
Pastor Monica - Committee on Lay Leadership
OPEN - U.M.W. President
Susan Paisley - Prayer Ministry Coordinator
Karen Hruz—Emergency Food Pantry Coordinator
Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator
John Gambill, Betty Mundell
—Ad Council Member at Large
Carol Whelan—CMO Advisory Board Chair
Sara Ann Ramberger—R.A.P Coordinator