

The Wesleyan Star

West Grove United Methodist Church

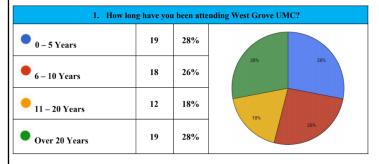
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June 2019

Last month, I shared the good news that hope is springing up around us like wild flowers. This month, I want to share with you some of the good news close to home, here in our own faith community!

From our feasibility survey, we found that our congregation is continuing to grow! We have over half of our congregation that has been attending West Grove for ten years or less. From these new voices of faith, we receive energy and new ideas. This also means that almost half of our congregation has planted solidly in our community for over 10 years. Wisdom and experience come from these persons. We give thanks to God for the balance between those who have a generational history in the church and those who come more recently. This balance allows our congregation to have multiple strengths.



This growth comes from you! You shared how much you love West Grove United Methodist Church and our community. Richie Musser, from Kirby Smith Associates, shared with us the theme from your stories of love and welcome, family and friends. It was the welcoming atmosphere that led you to chose the church and our ministries, especially those become part of the church within the last five years.

We know that 40 percent of guests make up their mind about a church before they even see the pastor, according to Barna Research. Within two minutes of the beginning of a service, guests have formed an opinion about whether the congregation is friendly. We give thanks to God for when people feel welcomed and cared for; while recognizing, it is easy to forget to be intentional about welcoming guests. As we head into blended worship for July and August, consider that summer is often a time when people feel free to shop around for churches.



What can you do to increase this welcome for others?

Adopt the "rule of three," which says members will not talk to other members in the first three minutes following the service — typically how long it takes guests to exit.

- You can even say, "I don't think we've met before. ..." if
 you are not sure if the person next to you is a member or
 a guest.
- Greet someone you don't know first during the passing of the peace.

Help make our guests feel welcome!

In our study, we heard you share that you would like to hear the needs for maintaining the current facilities. Care for your building and grounds as a way of honoring your attendees and honoring God. A well-cared-for building demonstrates a commitment to excellence and communicates that what the church does is important. Trustees have diligently been developing rolling strategic planning on the building and will communicate needs in a way that each of us can articulate.

We also learned in our feasibility study that our congregation is deeply trusting of our leadership and God's way for West Grove. They would like to be able to share that plan in strategic ways. You shared that West Grove United Methodist Church's strategic plan needs to be measurable, written, and in an implementable form. We heard YOU! The strategic planning team has been formed and tasked to develop a plan by the end of the summer.

What can you do to prepare for the future?

- Pray for our strategic planning team as they work together.
- Share with the team your discernment. Your voice matters.
- Be prepared to be able to share our plan with others!

Thank you for being a part of our feasibility study. Your open and honest sharing gave our leadership patterns from which we can not only consider fiscal growth, but also discipleship and missional growth.

God of hope,

We praise your name for the hope we see in your promises. Let us live as beacons of hospitality opening ourselves to your presence always. May others see you in us.

Holy Spirit, guide the strategic planning team to see the

values and strengths of who you have called West Grove United Methodist Church to be, so that this community of faith may open, grow and serve in your name.

Through Jesus Christ, we pray, Amen.

In God's Love, Pastor Monica





Jung Worship at West Grove UMC

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

Services at 8:30 a.m. (Contemporary) and 11:00 a.m. (Traditional)

Sunday, June 2, 2019 Ascension Sunday All Worship Sunday Communion Sunday, *Emergency Aid Report of Sustainability Campaign

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

Scripture: Luke 24:44-53; Acts 1:1-11 **Sermon:** Nowhere to Go but UP!

As Jesus ascended to heaven, the disciples both kept their eyes on heavenly matters and serving others. How does Mary Poppins give us inspiration to do the same?

Sunday, June 9, 2019 **Pentecost** Confirmation

Scripture: Acts 2:1-21, Psalm 104:24-34 Sermon: Upon our Sons and Daughters

Our confirmands will give leadership to worship, share mediations and be confirmed at the 11:00 service. Come share in their professions of faith!

NEW SERIES Share A Story of Faith

Everyday we see God working in our lives. How can we share this with our neighbors and friends?

Sunday, June 16, 2019 Father's Day **New Members Reception Trinity Sunday**

Scripture: Romans 5:1-5, John 16:12-15 **Sermon:** Share a Story of Hope

The stories and testimonies of others bring us hope. Come hear the hope of others!

Sunday, June 23, 2019 We welcome Pastor Jim to the pulpit.

Scripture: Galatians 3:23-29, Luke 8:26-39 **Sermon:** Share A Story of Faith

When we find faith, it becomes known to others. How can you share your story with those you already know?

Sunday, June 30, 2019 5th Sunday Coin Collection-Les Family

Scripture: Galatians 5:1, 22-25, Luke 9:51-62 **Sermon:** Share a Story of Freedom

If you have found freedom in Christ, you want it for others. How can you help others to break out of their chains of oppression and sin to see and know wholeness and healing in Christ?



Jenner's Pond Residents: Join us for worship is on June 9 at 11:00 a.m. in the Alison Theater. Led by Pastor Jim

Join us or tune in on the Closed Circuit TV at Jenner's Pond.



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 June 2.



JUNE COFFEE FELLOWSHIP—Hosted by: Christian Ed 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.

Pastor's Desk

TRINITY SUNDAY

We will celebrate Trinity Sunday on June 16th. As we contemplate the mystery of the trinity, consider meditating on this prayer.

O God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in whose name we are baptized, we cling in faith to the one true God. We celebrate your fullness and relationship in whom we have come to know you. O God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, in whose image we are known, we seek to live more fully as children of your way. We pray that you who loved us into being, carried us through redemption, and lead us on towards perfection, give us faith. May we known more of you each and every moment. Triune God, three in one, and one in three. Let your wholeness, inspire our living, dying, and life beyond death, we pray,



Amen.

FATHER'S DAY PRAYER

Good and Gracious father of life,

We thank you that you are the father of all, and grant us an example of perfection. As we give you thanks, we think of men in our lives and pray for them. We today pray for fathers near and far as well as fathers living and in the more immediate presence of Jesus. We pray for fathers who were

present with their children and those who were absent. We pray for new fathers and long term father. We pray for those who loved well and those who did not love as well.

For each and every season of life, we pray for fathers. For those fathers who play and those who don't. For those who live in the calling for fatherhood and those who live through having children. We pray for biological dads and dads who raised us. We pray for those who are godfathers and uncles. Fathering is not limited by biology, but created by care and love.

In the tasks of parenting, let our hearts lift up those fathers who are separated from their children by service in the military as well as jobs that require travel and distance. We pray for fathers who are trapped by addictions. We pray for fathers who are serving in prison away from their children. We pray for fathers who may be caught up in this recession and lost their jobs.

We pray for our fathers. We pray for them to have strength, wisdom and courage. We pray for them to raise their children in the way that they should go. We pray for them to love, laugh, play and live. We pray for forgiveness for our fathers, for their shortcomings, their weaknesses, and their abuses. And God we pray that we may then be able to pray to you Abba Daddy.

Amen

BLESSINGS FOR MERRY WILLS

We give thanks to God for Merry Wills who served as our Church Sexton. Her cheerfulness, kindness, and commitment to bring joy to her work. Her last day was May 31st. We offer her blessing as she settles into full-time work!

BLESSINGS FOR KIM NUZZACI

We give thanks to God for Kim Nuzzaci who served as our Administrative Assistant. Her expertise, creativity, and efficiency will be missed. Her last day was 31st. We offer her blessings as she explores her gifts in graphic design.

BOOKS & MOVIES MENTIONED IN SERMONS

- Shenandoah, 1965
- *The Rule of Saint Benedict* by Benedict
- Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other thing the Bible Doesn't Say, by Adam Hamilton
- Everything Happened for a Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved by Kate Bowler
- The Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible by A.J. Jacobs
- A Year of Biblical Womanhood: How a Liberated Woman Found Herself Sitting on Her Roof, Covering Her Head, and Calling Her Husband Master by Rachel Held Evans
- A Translation for the 21st Century): Letters 211-270 (Vol. II/4) by Saint Augustine (Bishop of Hippo)





GROW





Vacation Bible School 2019 To Mars and Beyond! July 15-19 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work in us!" Ephesians 3:20

Vacation Bible School is coming fast! We are so thrilled to be going To Mars and Beyond!

At To Mars and Beyond VBS, children will enjoy a week of interactive, energizing, activities that will explore the lengths of where God's power can take them. Through activities such as science, art, music, missions and stories, we will learn together how to serve God and God's mission for their lives. Our program is open to children Pre K through Grade 6.

Registration is available online at the church website, <u>www.westgroveumc.org</u>. For information and questions, contact Melanie Hartley or Joan Leaman. We can't wait to see you there!



DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY

Disciple Bible Study is 34-week course in which participants read and study the Bible in committed groups for the purpose of learning and

transformation. The studies are for adults of all ages and experience levels and provide an excellent way to build or to build upon a biblical foundation for your faith.

The first class in the Disciple series, Becoming Disciples through Bible Study, surveys both the Old and New Testaments. In this course, participants deepen their awareness of the whole biblical story and have the opportunity to discuss and learn more about how God calls us to respond to that story today.

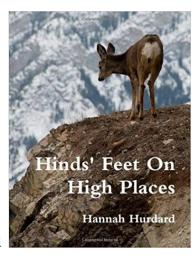
Other Disciple classes focus on smaller sections of the Bible over the course of the year and may be taken in any order. Each group is led by a trained facilitator who has not only the knowledge and experience to lead Disciple, but the heart to share in a journey of growth with others who want to know more about the Bible and its applications to life.

Disciple is one of the strongest in-depth group Bible studies available and includes daily preparation of about 30-45 minutes, and a weekly group study session of about two hours. Consider a Disciple Bible Study class this year as part of your spiritual growth. Step forward to be informed, transformed, and heart-warmed on your own journey as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Step out in faith! Register to begin this journey. Sign up in the Lobby.

LADIES SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Ladies Sunday School class that meets in the library began rather spontaneously in May. Women who meet for JULIET were reminiscing about previous Sunday School Classes and how much they enjoyed gathering together for prayer, support and studying God's word. I too said I missed gathering each week, so I said we should start one! So, we did!



We are currently reading Hannah Hurnard – Hinds' Feet in High Places. Although the book was written in the 1960's it is profoundly relevant to our walk with Christ today. One of the most interesting aspects of the book is that the names of the characters reflect their personality. The main character is named Much-Afraid and her clan is named Fearing. Along the way she encounters Pride, Resentment, Self-Pity and Bitterness. God does not promise our walk to be without challenges, but He does promise to always to be with us. Much-Afraid is learning that lesson daily.

Please join us in the library – book or no book for lively conversation and to be surrounded by Christian fellowship.

PENTECOST & CONFIRMATION SUNDAY!

June 9th is Pentecost!

We will be welcoming our confirmands into full membership and celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit!

Consider wearing red, orange, or yellow as you celebrate the presence and power of the Holy Spirit!



PENTECOST PRAYER

Holy Spirit,

Come, descend upon us, we pray.
Blow the cobwebs from our dusty places.
Unsettle our static situations.
Loosen our stuck thoughts and unearth all of the mud

that compacted, so that we might be planted afresh in you.

Free us from fear and anxiety.

Equip and empower us with strengthen and courage to carry into your preferred future

to share your witness to all the world. Give us hope sufficient for this day.

Impart power to be the church abundant in diverse gifts and united in mission.

Renew our lives together, that we might be for one another visions of the coming kingdom, both here and now, as well as then and there, we pray, Amen.

SUMMER WORSHIPIS COMING SOON!

Summer worship in July and August at 9:30 a.m. with movies and music.



In July, join us as we explore the gospel in film. In August, you wouldn't want to miss our songs of faith! Come for worship with all of your church family!

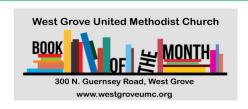


UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Men will not be meeting during the summer months. Meetings will resume in September.



Stay tuned for updates on the 2019-2010 dates!



New Location and Time!

Are you interested in reading and discussing what others are reading? Join us at **Jenner's Pond on the 4th Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m.** to discuss a recently published book.

This month we are reading "Workin' Our Way Home: The Incredible True Story of a Homeless Ex-Con and a Grieving Millionaire Thrown Together to Save Each Other" by Ron Hall. Our lives often change quickly. How will God use you in the lives of others?

We will meet on **June 27 at 11:00 a.m.** to discuss it. Join us! See Pastor Monica for more information.



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!

WOMEN'S RETREAT "BE BRAVE"

60 women participated in the women's retreat on May 4th. We had mothers, daughters, grandmothers, friends of our church and friends from the surrounding community.

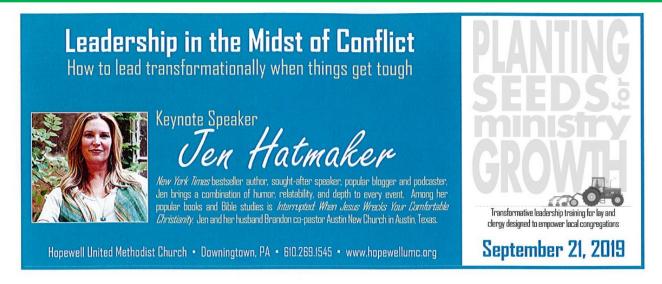
The women's chorus, voices from the PraiseWorks band and Chancel Choir led by Betsy provided gathering music and led the group in musical praise and thanksgiving to get us started.

Our speaker, Laura Acuna challenged us to Be Brave. To get past the lies we tell ourselves and step out in faith. Some of those attending have spoken to various members of prayer ministry as to how this has emboldened them to speak up and walk beside friends facing challenges.

Margee Micheals, received the Big Girl Award, a well deserved crocheted, well oversized big girl under garment.

As a result, there has been renewed energy from those who were able to attend and a renewed sisterhood in the church.





2019 EPA Laity Academy

August 2 – 4 at Eastern University

AST YOUR NET

Gathers Grow

2019 EPA CONFERENCE LAITY ACADEMY

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch...."Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." –Luke 5:4,10b

Are you prepared to navigate the deep waters? Our lives and ministries are constantly bombarded by the waves that distract us from our commitment to Christ. When you are asked to cast your net and fish for disciples, do you know where to start? Do you know what to say?

Come join us at the 2019 EPA Conference Laity Academy, August 2-4, on the scenic campus of Eastern University in St. Davids, PA., for an exciting weekend of classes, fellowship, worship, entertainment, food and service. Learn how you can Gather Disciples and Grow your Ministries. There are many more new classes this year including topics in Ministering to an Aging Congregation, Working With Conflict: Making the Most of Diversity, and more to be announced.

Register by July 29. If you have any questions contact Rick Wrisley, Laity Academy Dean, atrickwrisley@verizon.net.



SERVE





PLEASE SUPPORT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL! To Mars and Beyond! July 15-19

We are so appreciative of the congregational support for VBS, and there are 2 main ways that you can support this wonderful week for the children of West Grove UMC and the larger West Grove community:

Volunteer Your Time

If you would like to give a few hours of your time during VBS week, whether through helping shepherd groups to signing children in and out, your time means so much to us!

Contact Melanie Hartley or Joan Leaman for volunteer opportunities.

Donate Supplies for Lessons

There are a number of supplies that will be used for the week, particularly for our science and art lessons, as well as decorations for the church. If you are able to supply any of these items, you can bring them to the church office. Contact Melanie or Joan with any questions. Thank you!

- 100 Ballons
- 400 Drinking Straws
- 3 rolls invisible tape
- 3 large rolls of masking tape
- 50 fizzing antacid tablets
- Approximately 10 pairs of safety goggles
- 100 solo cups
- 15 AA Batteries
- 1 large roll of duct tape
- Bag of rubber bands (small size: fit snuggly over lengthwise over AA battery
- 1 pack of modeling clay
- 200 washed empty plastic drinking bottles with lids (i.e. used soda bottles, water bottles)
- 8 bottles of vegetable oil
- 2 large bottles of dish soap
- 100 full size marshmallows
- 2 bags of mini marshmallows
- · Pack of construction paper

- 100 small paper cups (non Dixie size, larger needed)
- 2 packs index cards
- 2 boxes of aluminum foil
- 8 wood blocks (letter block size)
- 8 ¾ quarter inch Styrofoam balls
- Large Bottle of Red Food Coloring
- Large Bottle of Blue Food Coloring
- 200 clear plastic cups
- 5 1lb boxes of Baking Soda
- 2 Gallons of vinegar
- 10 Brown table clothes (Vinyl kind from \$1 store)
- 10 Red table clothes (Vinyl kind from \$1 store)
- 4 or 5 larger containers of Glitter (possibly some space themed (stars))

URBAN PROMISE STREET LEADERS



The mission of UrbanPromise Wilmington is to equip children and young adults through Christ with the skills necessary for academic achievement, life management, personal growth and servant leadership.

StreetLeaders are youth aged 14-18 years who is employed by UrbanPromise to work as a counselor, teacher and role model to children in our after school programs and summer camps.

The StreetLeader Program offers job training,

leadership development, tutoring, mentoring, employment, and college preparation.

How can I serve? Volunteers are needed to support meals for the UrbanPromise StreetLeader Training.

We provide meals for training, which takes place at The Barn at the Vineyard Church on June 14th and 15th.

Needed for June 14th and 15th:

- Meal preparers in the kitchen the afternoon of Friday, June 14th
- Meal deliverers, servers, and clean up in the Friday, June 14th
- Pick up and deliver breakfast and lunch on Saturday, June 15th

Contact Melanie Hartley if you are able to help.

USE YOUR GIFT OF HOSPITALITY!

The Hospitality Committee is looking for volunteers to serve on:

- 4th Sunday of the month after the 8:30 service
- 2nd Sunday of the month after the 11:00 service

Please contact Dick or Caryl Stuhrke at 302.239.1743 if you are able to help.



FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED



THANK YOU to everyone for being so generous with your donations to our Emergency Food Pantry!

We have been able to supply 135 bags of food and supplies to many families.

Currently we are low on some supplies. When you donate, please check the "Expires By" date, as we are unable to distribute those.

Below is a list of items needed. We are especially in need of items that have protein and provide nutrition.

- Soups
- Canned tuna, chicken, salmon, beef
- Canned beans & chili
- Nuts
- Nut butters
- Jerky / Beef sticks
- Dish Soap
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent
- Toothpaste
- Dryer sheets
- Bath bar soap
- Deodorant
- Adult tooth brushes

GIRL SCOUTS

Many thanks to Girl Scout Troop #4567 for helping to beautify the church as they earned their Gardening Badge!





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 June 11 at 6:30 p.m. 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.





Interested? Contact West Grove UMC: (610) 869-9334 / office@westgroveumc.org.

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 a.m. 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.

FRIENDLY REMINDER

Thank you all for your ministry here at WGUMC! We are grateful that we can be a welcoming place for you to meet.

When your group, committee or troop uses the building, to please be sure that you leave it in good condition for the next group. We have noticed that rooms have been left unkempt and are hopeful that everyone would want to respect all who use this church. Please note the following:

- Empty the trash. (Fresh bags are normally in the can underneath the full bag. The trash can are located outside the back door by the administrative wing.)
- Tables should be wiped down.
- Floors and rugs should be swept or vacuumed.
- Supplies can be found in the kitchen closet or under the sink.
- Ensure all outside doors are locked, lights turned off and windows are closed.
- Bathrooms: Adults, please check the bathrooms and ensure that all toilets are flushed, trash emptied if needed, no paper scraps on the floors and sink areas are wiped down.

A Clean-Up check list can be found posted by the light switches in each room for your convenience.

West Grove UMC loves hosting so many wonderful groups. Please help us to keep an inviting facility for all to use!

CMO PRESCHOOL

Another preschool year has come to an end. This time of year is always both a happy and sad time. It is wonderful I to see how much our children have grown over the past months but sad to say goodbye, especially to those children and families who are headed off to Kindergarten or a new adventure. We know that the children will do wonderful things but we will miss seeing all of their smiling faces. I would like to thank everyone who has supported our program this year, our families, our teachers, and the church congregation. It is so nice to be part of such a wonderful and supportive Church.

Are you looking for a preschool program for your child? Do you want your child to meet friends, learn, and play in a loving environment? Come check out the wonderful program we have right here at our church. Our preschool offers classes for children 18 months through 5 year olds. We love to help the children grow socially, cognitively, spiritually, and emotionally all in an developmentally appropriate way. We do still have a few openings for next school year. Please email me, tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org or call the church for more information. I would love to give you a tour and tell you more about our program.

Tracy McLaughlin, Director

CMO TEACHER RECOGNITION

We give thanks to God for mission and ministry of our Children's Morning Out Preschool program. CMO concluded the 10th year of teaching and caring for children. With 67 children and 11 teachers, the Children's Morning Out Program and Preschool offers half day programs for children 18 months to 5 years. Children learn and grow in a loving and encouraging environment that supports individual development and offers opportunities for children of all abilities. We are blessed by this ministry as part of our congregation.

We thank our director, Tracy McLaughlin and our teachers:

Ducks & Turtles

Natalie Eason Maira Tena





Ladybugs

Samantha Lingenfelter
Michelle Smith



Bumblebees & Honey Bees

April Stoltzfus Gina Bechtel



Frogs

Jennifer Smith Laura Chandler



Butterflies

Heather Smalley MaryAlice Miller



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY



The school year is wrapping up and summer is around the corner. We have had a great program year, and I am so thankful to get to spend my Sundays with the children. Thank you all for your support and trust in our volunteers. There's still great programming happening this summer, so don't be a stranger!

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

LAST YOUTH GROUP OF THE YEAR Sunday, June 2 6:00-7:30 p.m.

All 7-12 grade students are invited. There's games, snacks and great discussion!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY June 9

We are so thankful for our seven confirmands who will be welcomed as full, participating members of West Grove UMC!

Students will be leading worship at 8:30 & 11:00 services, with a special fellowship time after each service. We hope to see you in worship!

MISSION TRIP 2019 June 23-39

Students and leaders are preparing for a week of service in West Virginia! We depart on June 23rd. Please be in prayer for our students and leaders this week!

YOUTH SUMMER ACTIVITIES



Youth group is taking a break this summer, but we will still meet for some fun together! Here is a list of our summer activities:

June 14- Urban Promise Street Leaders dinner July 2- Movie Night, 6:30-8:30pm July 19- Water games (time TBA) July 23- Mission Central August 22- Laser Tag (time TBA)

Wednesday Night Fun Every Wednesday, starting June 19 at 6:00 p.m.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

LAST SUNDAY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR Sunday June 2

Sunday school is available for children ages Pre-K (3's & 4's) through grade 12.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SUMMER SERIES The Lord's Prayer July 14-28; August 11-25

This summer children will be taking a deeper dive into the Lord's Prayer, learning not just to memorize the words, but beginning to understand what those words mean and why they have carried the church for over 2,000 years.



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP & ALL WORSHIP SUNDAYS

All Worship & Communion Sunday June 2

Every first Sunday of the month we have children join the larger congregation for the full worship service, so that we all may come to the table together.

Children will have engaging activities and "tools" made available to them to use during the service.





FUN & FITNESS





RETIRED ACTIVE PEOPLE (R.A.P.)

RAP met on May 10 for

our end of the program year covered dish

luncheon. Thank you Dick and Caryl Stuhrke and Mike and Cindy Haley for co-leading our May gathering. A huge thanks to everyone for the good food and desserts.

We also extend our appreciation to Keith Schneider for the wonderful program on Longwood Gardens and the history of the

fountains. Thank you Keith!

Mark your calendars for September 13 when we will reconvene for our 2019-2020 program year. Look for more details in the August newsletter for upcoming events and opportunities to help. Thanks for a great year!



Day & Overnight Programs

Providing an impactful Christian camping experience.

Registration is now open!

Campers and retreat guests come from all walks of life, denominations, and other organizations to enjoy the facilities and programs.

Gretna Glen Camp and Retreat Center, near Mt. Gretna, PA is about 15 minutes east of Hershey, PA.

For more information, visit www.gretnaglen.org



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

June 27 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.

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

JULIET...Just us Ladies
Interested
in Eating Together



The Juliets will not meet this month due to the closing of the Café.

Look for updates in the bulletin and on our website as they search for new place to meet!



Registration is now open!

Innabah is excited to celebrate our 90th year of camping ministry this year! Located in beautiful Chester County on 179

acres, Innabah Camp and Retreat Center offers a wide range of camping and retreat opportunities.

At Innabah, our mission is to provide experiences that last a lifetime in an environment where campers and guests can make new friends, challenge themselves, and explore and grow in their faith. In addition to continuing our long standing camp traditions, we are excited to offer many new summer camp sessions and activities for the 2019 camping season.

For more information, visit www.innabah.org

WEDNESDAY NITE FUN! June 19-August 28 6:00-8:00 p.m.



West Grove United Methodist Church celebrates summer for the 5th year with Wednesday night "Summer Fun for Everyone". The weekly event starts on June 19 and will continue through the summer culminating

on August 28. The ENTIRE COMMUNITY is invited to attend from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There will be hotdogs, games, fellowship and a brief word from Pastor Monica, each week.

The church wants to continue building a relationship with everyone in the community and believes a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere where folks of all ages could come and enjoy themselves fits perfectly. Pastor Monica says that it "won't be fancy". Families can get a night off of cooking by coming to the church for hot dogs and whatever assortment of side dishes show up. All beverages will be supplied. If you'd like to bring a bag of

chips, some cookies, or side dish, they will be appreciated, but by no means mandatory. The event is totally free.

An assortment of games will be available, the youth plan to have their 9-In-The-Air game up and going, a gated playground (newly updated with new equipment) is open for little ones, and the ample parking lot and grounds will provide lots of space for kids of all ages to play. So bring your bikes, trikes, skateboards, scooters or rollerblades!

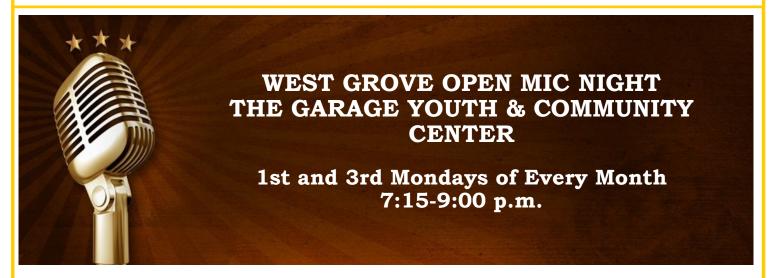
It is a Rain or Shine event! Weather permitting, we will have a slip-n-slide for all to enjoy as well! We encourage you to invite your friends and neighbors, too!

In July, we will enjoy all the fun of grilling out and eating, but then we will go to the sanctuary (Air Conditioned!!) to enjoy the MOVIE OF THE WEEK,

which will also coincide that coming Sunday's sermon. One of the first movies will be the newly released "Dumbo".

Bring your lawn chair and take the night off! All are welcome!





Calling all musicians and poets who are looking for an opportunity to perform:

We have started West Grove Open Mic at the Garage Youth and Community Center in West Grove. On the first and 3rd Mondays of every month, we are providing a healthy and supportive environment for musicians and poets of any age, style and skill level to perform. There is no cover charge, and no alcohol.

Family-friendly! All ages and levels of ability welcome.

STEWARDSHIP

REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION: HOW CAN I SERVE?

If you have heard about required minimum distribution from your individual retirement account, and wondered how that might work, consider serving the church through this gift. The criteria is:

- You must be 70 ½ or older when the transfer is made.
- The transfer must go directly from your IRA administrator to your church.
- Rollover gifts are limited to \$100,000 per taxpayer per year. If married, and each spouse has an IRA, then each may gift up to \$100,000.
- The gift counts toward your IRA required minimum distribution.
- The distribution is not reported as income, so there is no adverse income tax effect.
- Gifts must be outright: not to donor advised funds, charitable remainder trusts, or for charitable gift annuities. Gifts can fulfill your local church pledge.

FIFTH SUNDAY COIN COLLECTION

Mark your calendars! June 30th is our next coin collection.

This month our collection will support the Les family. For twenty-five years, we have supported the Les family as they have shared the gospel in the Ukraine. Pastor Sergie pastors two congregations without compensation. Our support provides him salary to continue leading congregations and connecting with youth and those in prison. Galina, his wife, is a homemaker; Mary, a daughter, is in college. Vira, a daughter, is married and lives in the United States. Through the witness of the Les family, Jesus Christ is shared!



Search your sofa cushions and pockets for loose change and bring it to church on June 30th!



Our opportunity list gives you a chance to give beyond your regular tithe.

Consider how you might impact our congregation and community.

ltem	Oty	Approx Cost
Monitors- Sanctuary (80") (Dream in Process!)	2	\$4,000
Electronic Sign at the street	2	\$15,000
Electronic Sign at Rt. 1	1	\$50,000
2 inch slat blinds for classrooms— FULFILLED!	25	\$500
2 laptops (1 for Director of Children and Youth Ministry, 1 for Volunteer Office with docking station) FULFILLED!	2	\$1,500

THANK YOUS



Thank you to West Grove UMC for your generous gift of \$207.00 to the Africa University Direct Scholarship Fund. The General Board of Global Ministries forwarded your contribution to our office.

Africa University relies on your commitment and generosity. You help the university to provide students with expert faculty, first-rate learning resources and facilities, and programs that equip them to transform Africa's potential into opportunity.

Thanks to your support, Africa University is providing students with an excellent education and a good quality of life. Your gift and others like it support access for financially disadvantaged students who are striving to become the first college graduates in their families. With your investment in scholarships, their dreams of transforming their families and communities can become reality.

Thank you for being a part of a ministry that is making a difference. Together, we are changing Africa.

THANK YOU!

The Trustees would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets to support our recent Pancake Breakfast and our Barbecue take-out. In addition, we would like to thank the volunteers who supported both of these events to help make them a success. Thank you for supporting West Grove United Methodist Church.

Thank you! Connections and Care Matter.

When Judi, Chip Smedley's daughter, called to share with us that he has passed into the more immediate presence of Jesus, she thanked me and the whole church for our care.

Thank you for newsletters.
Thank you for sermons.
Thank you for Advent bags.
Thank you for prayers.

Thank you for how you connect and serve one another!



We give thanks to God for the ministry of Pastor Jim! The world is my parish. He offered leadership to the West Grove Memorial Day Parade on Saturday and the Kennett Square Remembrance on Monday.

We give thanks to God for the prayers for our children and those who lead them.



Thank you to Dave Talley who has hung our Pentecost flame from the ceiling in the sanctuary for multiple years. He has brought in an extra long ladder, positioned the flame, and returned all to their places.

Thank you, Dave for caring for the flame!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GRADUATES

Congratulations!

If you are celebrating the graduation of a high school, college, technical school, masters, or other educational milestone, we want to celebrate with you and offer blessing! In worship on June 16th, we will be celebrating our graduates at both services. Please share with Melanie Hartley by June 12th, so we can

HEARING ASSISTIVE DEVICES

plan appropriately.

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



INTERESTED IN ORDERING ALTAR FLOWERS?

The church is happy to order altar flowers in memory, honor or in celebration of someone special for you and acknowledge them in the weekly bulletin. Sweet Peas of Jennersville or Linda Shiplet are happy to supply the flowers.

The fee for altar flowers is \$25 and your check should be made payable to "WGUMC", or if ordering from Linda, you may pay her directly if you wish. If your flowers are donated, you will want to pay through the



church as it is tax deductible. You have the option to take your flowers home after the service or donate them to the church to be delivered to the sick or homebound.

To order, use the **Flower Chart** in the administrative wing or email your order to the church office at **office@westgroveumc.org**. Be sure to indicate who you are honoring, who the flowers are from, and if you would like to order from Sweet Peas or Linda Shiplet.

WE ARE HIRING!

We are looking for a Church Sexton (Custodian). This 12 hour week position has some flexibility during the week in fulfilling the basic duties of caring for the church. To submit your interest and resume, please email staffing@westgroveumc.org. Please share with your friends. Resumes will be considered upon receipt.

Job Responsibilities

The sexton is responsible for keeping our church building clean and welcoming on a regular basis. S/he will coordinate with trustees and ministry teams on maintaining the building for the purposes of the cleanliness, community outreach, and hospitality.

Prerequisites

- Successful completion of Child Abuse and Criminal Background clearances
- Attention to care of the facility
- Motivated and able to manage his or her own time
- Supply Own Transportation
- Work Independently
- Mechanical Aptitude
- Works well with others and within a team

General Hours

- Up to 12 hours/week
- 3 day schedule: Monday 1-5, Wednesday 1-5, and Fri 2-6; OR 2 day schedule: Monday 11-5 and Fri 12-6

For more information, visit http://bit.ly/WGUMC_Sexton.



We are actively recruiting enthusiastic volunteers to make this amazing event the very best it can

be. We will be hosting a volunteer training on Wednesday, July 24 from 6-8pm at the Oxford Area High School. Volunteers receive a free t-shirt, a free ticket to the festival and a day of fun!

Visit www.connectivefestival.org/volunteer to learn more and to sign up for a shift.

PRAYER ROOM

Need prayer?

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



EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE NEWS

As we gathered at our District Conference on May 5th, we gave thanks to God for the ways in the which God is moving.

Our District Superintendent, The Reverend Dawn Taylor-Storm shared with us that in the last 5 years that **our south** district has raised \$230,126.61 dollars for the Democratic Republic of Congo, specifically for Mpasa!



It is her vision that at the end of her term and our ministry together that they will be self-sustaining. They are are well on their way with training and medical clinics!

We give thanks to God for your generosity and faithfulness to this ministry.

SAVE THE DATE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 13-15 Oaks, PA





UMC: GENERAL CHURCH NEWS

FOLLOW-UP FROM GENERAL CONFERENCE

After the special called session of General Conference, many groups have been meeting around the connection to study and organize next steps for the United Methodist church.

The UMCNext gathering drew together at least 10 representatives from each of the denomination's 54 U.S. conferences — many of whom applied to go.More than 600 U.S. United Methodists spent three days grappling with possible options for forging what they hope will be a more just and inclusive church future. What united those at UMCNext, which met May 20-22 behind closed doors, was their opposition to the Traditional Plan.

Mainstream UMC, an advocacy group formed to support the One Church Plan, announced it will continue its work for another year through June 2020. "We believe that The United Methodist Church is at a generational crossroads and there is a sense of urgency to thoughtfully shape the future," said a statement that announced the group was launching an online forum on Facebook for input on what a new Methodism will look like.

Among traditionalist United Methodists, Keith Boyette, president of the Wesley Covenant Association said they have seen a 20 percent increase in congregations to the Wesley Covenant Association since General Conference. "The WCA represents 1800 churches and 140,000 United Methodists," he said.

Reconciling Ministries Network, an organization advocating for LGBTQ persons in The United Methodist Church, has had 47 new churches or communities affiliate since the 2019 General Conference. "We have had 5,073 new Reconciling United Methodists add their names to our movement," said Jan Lawrence, executive director of Reconciling Ministries Network. "I don't know the exact number of churches and communities in the process, but it is over 100."

Annual Conferences will be considering legislation to be sent to the 2020 General Conference as well as clergy and lay delegates to discern a way forward.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY- JUNE 16TH

By Cindy Solomon

The murders of nine people attending a Wednesday night Bible study at AME Emanuel Church in Charleston, South Carolina, in June 2015, was a wake-up call to Vinings United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. Looking outside their own doors convinced them they had to become involved in ministry to local crime victims. When they hosted a memorial/healing service in 2016, more than 250 people impacted by homicide attended.

Vinings Church applied for and received a grant from the United Methodist General Board of Church and Society to support the work of the Crime Victims Advocacy Council (CVAC), a ministry of the North Georgia Conference.

Each year on the first Sunday after Pentecost, thousands of United Methodist congregations worldwide collect a special offering for peace with Justice Sunday. Their gifts enable United Methodists to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice throughout the world.

The funds given allow grants to be awarded to churches,

annual and central conferences advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of ministries and programs.

The Vinings church used its grant to help fund the 2016 memorial/healing service. Church members lead prayers with surviving family members. The grant helped defray costs for program bulletins, candles and candle holders, a memorial wall listing the names of 300 murder victims, and booths containing information about crime victims' rights, legal help for civil justice and preparing victim claims.

One of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist church, Peace with Justice Sunday enables The United Methodist Church to have a voice in advocating for peace and justice through a broad spectrum of global programs. The special offering benefits peace with justice ministries in the annual conference and through the General Board of Church and Society.

When you give generously on Peace with Justice Sunday, you give The United Methodist Church a voice in advocating for global peace and justice.

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 All Worship Communion & Emergency Aid Sunday	3 Knit Wits SOS Ladies	4 Tech Team Meeting Trustees Meeting	5 Bi-Monthly Staff Meeting Luther House Bible Study	6	7 Confirmation Rehearsal	1 Daily Reflections 8 Daily Reflections
9 Pentecost Confirmation Sunday Jenner's Pond Worship	10 Knit Wits SOS Ladies	11 Prayer Gathering	12 Full Staff Meeting Luther House Bible Study	13 Annual Conference	Annual Conference Urban Promise Street Leaders Meals	Annual Conference Daily Reflections Urban Promise Street Leaders Meals 22
Father's Day Graduate Sunday Coffee Fellowship New Members	Knit Wits SOS Ladies	Finance Meeting Ad Council Meeting	Bi-Monthly Staff Meeting Luther House Bible Study			Daily Reflections
23 Youth Mission Trip	24 Youth Mission Trip Knit Wits SOS Ladies	25 Youth Mission Trip Missions Meeting	Youth Mission Trip Luther House Bible Study	27 Youth Mission Trip ROMEOs Book of the Month	28 Youth Mission Trip	29 Youth Mission Trip Daily Reflections
30 5th Sunday Coin Collection						



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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

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

Melanie Hartley—Youth & Children's Ministry Director Childyouthdirector@westgoveumc.org

> Donna Fackler - Church Administrator <u>Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org</u>

> > OPEN - Sexton

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

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director davsan5@comcast.net

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

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Christ Servant Ministers

Janice Bowers Cindy Haley Karen Hruz Peter Mullen

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 Stuhrke - SPRC Interim Chair Steve May—Tech Team Leader Dick Stuhrke—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 Stuhrke - Hospitality Committee Chair Susan Paisley & Janice Bowers -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