



The Wesleyan Star

West Grove United Methodist Church

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West Grove, Pa. 19390

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February 2016



"Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5: 13-16

Sometimes we pray because our hearts are moved by the joy surrounding our lives. We can not help but give thanks for the birth of a baby, safely arriving after treacherous journey, relationships that thrive. Sometimes we pray because our souls are overwhelmed with need. We walk with those who have physical, mental, and emotional pain and suffering, injustice is all around us. Sometimes we pray out of frustration with lots of words to say; some of them we hope our children will not repeat. Sometimes we pray out of desperation with no words left.

Prayer is the language of our souls. Even when we might be convinced that prayer has no purpose or impact, we still find ourselves lifting our voices, hands and hearts to God. Marjorie Hewitt Suchocki in her book, In God's Presence writes "God works with the world as it is in order to bring it to where it can be. Prayer changes the way the world is, and therefore changes what the world can be. Prayer opens the world to its own transformation." Throughout the Bible, God has called people to prayer. God has called the people to pray in good times and in challenging times.

In this Lenten season, I am calling the church to prayer. In worship, we will talk about different kinds of prayer and have opportunities to experience different kinds of prayer. Watch for the growing of a prayer tree in the Narthex where you can place your prayer requests and note the requests of others. Let us together be a church of prayer changing the world around us and asking God to change us!

In God's Love, Pastor Monica



February Worship at West Grove UMC

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



*Prayer is the language of change.
Prayer changes us; and prayer changes the world.*

Transfiguration Sunday

February 7, 2016

Communion Sunday

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

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15,
Acts 28:24-31, Deuteronomy. 6:1-9

Sermon: "Called to Give and be Faithful"
What legacy are you leaving with your faith?

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Services at 12 noon and 7 p.m.

Scripture: Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21, Psalm 51

Sermon: "Ooops! Pray to Confess"

First Sunday in Lent

February 14, 2016

Scripture: Luke 4: 1-13, Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16,
Romans 10: 8b-13, 1 Corinthians
10:13

Sermon: "Help! Prayers when tempted"

Second Sunday in Lent

Scout Sunday, Baptism Sunday

February 21, 2016

Scripture: Genesis 15: 1-2, 17-18. Psalm 27,
Philippians 3: 17-4: 1

Sermon: "Why Pray?"

Third Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2016

Scripture: Luke 18:1-8, Psalm 61: 1-8

Sermon: "Please!! Prayers to Intercede"



The
Church
Office



Will Be
Closed:

The Church office will be
closed on Monday, February
15 in honor of Presidents
Day.

SNOW CANCELLATIONS:

Winter is upon us! The
church will post any cancella-
tions of worship services on
our website,

www.westgroveumc.org,

through our constant contact email, our Facebook
page, and our phone message by 7:00 a.m. on day
of cancellation.



**COFFEE HOUR
COFFEE**

FELLOWSHIP

**Hosted by the United
Methodist Women
On Sunday, February 21
after both services**

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

One Generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.

~ Chinese proverb



Please remember West Grove in your will

THE WEST GROVE UMC ENDOWMENT FUND

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

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

SCRIP Scripts

In 2015, WGUMC kicked off the SCRIP gift card program in an effort to provide individuals and families with an additional stewardship opportunity and no added expense. Six families consistently support the SCRIP program in 2015 and WGUMC received an additional \$1,221.76 in donations.

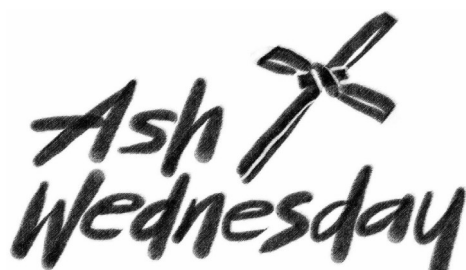


In 2016, we want to enhance our efforts and get 100% of our congregation participating. In the monthly newsletter we will provide you with tips on how SCRIP can work within your budget, help you manage your money, prepare for lean months, and get a head start on the holidays financially.



This month tip:

Purchase a gift card each month for the grocery store or frequented stores like Walmart or Target, etc in \$10 or \$25 denomination. This need be only one card per month. Keep a collection on



Wednesday, February 10th

Please join us at 12 noon or 7pm for
our Ash Wednesday Service.

Both service will feature the imposition of ashes and the reception of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Please note the addition of the noon service. We hope that some of our folks who prefer not to drive at night or who might have conflicts in the evening can join us as we offer additional opportunities to worship.



THE COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Our church's free meal ministry

Tuesday, February 23

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

New Year's Celebration Meal

The Community Café is a monthly meal ministry offered to meet the needs of our church neighbors, friends and members who are in need of or desire a time of fellowship and food. The meals offered through this ministry are **TOTALLY FREE** and everyone is welcome!

Please join us for a hot, delicious luncheon served to you by the wonderful volunteers from the church.

Our lunch is served directly to your table, restaurant style, by our gracious volunteers, so you do not have to stand in a buffet line! Reservations are suggested, but are not required, by calling the church office at 610-869-9334 or e-mailing office@westgroveumc.org.

Walk-ins are welcome. The Rover Bus Company provides local transportation for a nominal fee. You must call them at 610-594-3911 to reserve your seat. If you want to attend the lunch, but are

Scout Sunday is February 21st



Please join us for worship on Sunday, February 21 as we celebrate our Scouts!

(Boys and Girls!)

We will be celebrating our charter with Troop and Crew 12 as well as awarding My Faith Pin to some of our girl scouts.



Do you know that we charter 1 Boy Scout Troop #12, 1 Venture Crew #12, and host 2 Daisy Troops #4383, Troop #4567, 3 Brownies Troops #447, #498, #4070, 3 Girl Scout Junior Troops #41377, #453, 04317!

As we celebrate the important role that scouting plays in the life of our congregation and community, we hope that you will join us on February 21st in worship.



My Promise, My Faith

Ahead of our Scout Sunday, we are looking to offer the opportunity for our Girl Scouts at any level to earn their my promise, my faith pins. We wish to include any girls scout associated with our congregation who might be interested.

Please contact Amy Castaldi Amy Castaldi ahas17@hotmail.com or Kristin Boyd kristin.boyd.01@gmail.com if interested.

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



Did you miss a sermon? Want to check a resource? Hear it again?

On our website,
www.westgroveumc.org,
we have **three ways** you

can do this:

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

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

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

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



Join our ministry at Jenner's Pond on the second Sunday of the month. Worship this month is **February 14th at 11:00 am**

We wish Pastor Jim and Betty safe travels as they set off on a world-wide cruise. We welcome Karen Hruz, Christ Servant Minister to lead that min-

IMAGINE NO MALARIA

 The people of The United Methodist Church®

At the Adjourned Session of Annual Conference, we heard the moving testimony of the Kathrine Cammale.

At the age of 5, Katherine was moved to raise money for bed nets, 10 years later, millions of dollars have been raised and the mortality rate has been cut in half!

As we seek to fully eradicate malaria, pastors were challenged to make pledges to move towards completion. In boldness, I prayerfully offered a pledge for West Grove UMC of \$1,000.

I was a bit nervous about such a bold pledge.

I am delighted to share with you that at current, we have received \$1,578.60 towards this pledge! We have exceeded our initial pledge by 57%.

I give thanks to God for the generous souls here who have given both that which jingles and that which folds to reach and exceed our goal! If you are still interested in giving towards the eradication of malaria, you may still offer your gifts in the offering plate marked for Imagine No Malaria!

\$248.30 was paid to EPAUMC on 12/11/15

\$1015.45 was paid to EPAUMC on 1/6/16 from ½ of the Christmas Offering
Collection boxes and other donations in 2016: \$314.85

Estimated total donation \$1,578.60

We are blessed by your generosity!



Christian Education Want Ad

Seeking people who love children. No prior experience or teaching background necessary. Fabulous opportunity to have an impact teaching our next generation of Christians. If you are looking for a way to serve God, this may be the job for you! Work once a week or once a year. Duties are light - rewards are great! Con-



Thank you to our Knit Wits for lovingly praying and knitting the prayer shawls that we were able to share with attenders of the Blue Christmas service.

Feel free to join the Knit Wits on Monday mornings at 9:30 am.



From the Department of Veterans Affairs:

On behalf of the patients and staff at Perry Point VA Medical Center, I wish to express my appreciation for your recent contribution to the VA Maryland Health Care System. Your donation will help enhance the everyday lives of the Veterans in our care.

Donations are utilized in many ways and in numerous areas to brighten the lives of our Veteran patients and assist them in their recovery. Your gift will be used to support the needs of the Veterans of the Perry Point VAMC.

Thank you again for your generous donation and for your interest in the welfare of our Veteran patients.

Sincerely,

Joyce Kuwae, Voluntary Service Specialist

Donation: Quilts, Afghans, Clothing from the United Methodist Women and the congregation of West Grove UMC.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our Church is full of people who serve in different capacities with different gifts. In this section, we want to give thanks for individuals or a group of people who are serving or have served.

Cindy Hoover served faithfully as our Staff Parish Relations Chair across multiple years and pastoral transitions. We thank God for her faithful service and look for how she will continue use her many gifts. David Delaney is our new Staff Parish Relations Chair.

Jeff Curtis has been our Treasurer for the last three years. We thank God for his reports and insights, financial knowledge and wisdom. Scott Steele is our new Treasurer.



John Boyd is a tireless advocate for our building and facilities as our Trustee Chair. He will be stepping into the roll of vice-chair of Trustees in 2016 as Gene Aucott steps into the roll of Trustee Chair.



Chapel Time With CMO

There is a day each year with our preschoolers. It often comes in the winter, after Christmas. It is a day in which collectively our preschoolers begin to feel comfortable and like they can trust me with their questions. Now, some have done it before, but on this day, it becomes a collective feeling.

It is often marked by calling out over one another as if the cork cannot hold back their questions and comments anymore. They simply must know. And so, it happened today! With the pop of the cork, in each of the chapel sessions the questions came tumbling out, pell mell.

Are God and Jesus the same person? Is God really real?

Why can you see Jesus and not God? How can Jesus help dead people?

Why does Jesus have to grow up from a baby?

How does Jesus help sick people? What does humble mean?

And out they come. Comments and observations on books and connections between the Bible and the stories I have been telling. Now, let me not mislead you. These questions have been there all along.

The comments and the wonderings did not pop up on this day.

Today, there was a collective trust that happened in which the chapel time session became an okay place to ask questions, wonder about God, and make connections. Doesn't that sound like Church? Thank you to all of our parents and caregivers for the privilege of walking with your children in the tumble bumble, pell mell, energetic and wondering journey of faith. I am honored that you share your children and their development with me.

In God's Love, Pastor Monica

Books Read and Songs Sung in Chapel Time

"The Story of the Three Wise Kings" in Joy to the World: Christmas Stories and Songs by Tomie DePaola

"Jesus is Baptized" in Children of God Storybook Bible by Archbishop Desmond Tutu

"The Man Who Helped" in Read-aloud Bible Stories Volume 2 by Ella K. Lindvall

Song: The B-I-B-L-E

Although our winter has been on the mild side, the children in our CMO

CMO PRESCHOOL

and Preschool program have been getting chilly learning all about winter and arctic animals.

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



Our CMO and Preschool registration for next school year will begin February 3rd for our currently enrolled families, Feb. 8th for preschool alumni families, and the 10th for new families. If you are looking for a preschool, please come and check out the wonderful program that our church offers. I am available most days for tour or to answer questions. I hope to hear from you.

Tracy McLaughlin, CMO Program Director

Registration February 3rd - Current Families

West Grove United Methodist Church Children's Morning Out and Preschool

Open House January 28th at 6:00

Come explore our CMO and Preschool classrooms, meet our teachers, and learn about our wonderful program.

February 8th for Alumni Families

February 10th for New Families



Learning Through Play...

*Activity centers in Math, Science, Reading, and Writing

*Dramatic Play, Art, Sensory Bins, Music, and Movement

*Indoor and Outdoor Play Areas for Gross Motor Development

We follow *The Creative Curriculum* by Diane Trister Dodge. Our curriculum offers many activities that encourage learning, self expression, independence, and discovery. Pre literacy and pre math skills are woven into the program so that children can gain a better understanding of these skills while engaging in authentic experiences.

Our Program...

*Half Day Preschool Program offering classes for children 18 months old through 5 years old

*We offer a variety of class choices, Monday through Friday.

*Classes are from 9:00-12:00

For more information contact Tracy McLaughlin
at tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org
300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA
610-869-9334



In November, Pastor Monica and Jamie Lindtner attended an event with the Constellation Network in the Afternoon for Church Leaders. Bill and Melissa Jones as well as Janice Bowers joined us in the evening. We listened and imagined with others about how our community might work together.

Just as stars create a constellation, as we connect the dots, our work in the world can help people connect the dots; to see God's kingdom as it has already come, and to see what it will be when one day He makes all things new.

The constellation we envision is a network of people and organizations that work together to illustrate God's desire for restoration in our world.

We envision a constellation of enterprises for the common good with the church as the bright star in the center. It's a vision for a movement, motivated by the gospel, spreading throughout our region, that helps people experience the shalom of God

Our Lenten Give | Serve | Restore campaign will be our first foray into working together in this way with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Look for information on page 18. of this newsletter.



Twin Pines Worship

It is our joy to be able to offer worship at Twin Pines rehabilitation facility a few times a year.

We will be offering worship on February 7th, May 1st, August 7th, and November 6th.

Please consider joining us.

Also, if you have a musical offering that you think would enhance worship, please consider talking to Pastor Monica about offering it at one of those services.

YOU ARE INVITED!

...to the National Christian Choir Concert on February 28 at 6 pm at Wesley Church, at 1104 Kirkwood Pike in Quarryville, PA. (3 miles south of Quarryville on Rte 472, so it is easy to get to). Come early to get a good seat; doors open one hour before the performance begins. There are no tickets required, no admission fee, only an offering for the Choir's ministry. The program includes many of the pieces from our newest recording, "Song of Hope", and we believe it is both inspiring and uplifting. The ensemble, "Second Edition," will also be a part of the program, as well as soloists and a duet. We travel throughout the country giving concerts, and sing locally at times. Take advantage of this local concert to hear us and share in the worship experience!

We hope you will join us!

In His Service with Music, John and Karen Boyd





Thank You

We wish to acknowledge the many expressions of love, concern, and compassion from friends and loved ones during this tie of bereavement. Words cannot express the strength you have given us during these most difficult of times.

Much Love, Sally and Mike

(Lillian McMahon's daughter and son-in-law)



Sunday Breakfast Mission

Dear Missional Partners,

It is sometimes difficult to explain how much your gifts are welcomed and needed. We can share numbers like 90 women and children

nightly finding warm beds and comfort knowing people care for them, and we are keeping them safe. We can share how 11 years ago we had only about 50-70 men under roof and then recently 150 overnight guest men joined our 45-50 resident men.

You can see a little bit from just a few of these "numbers" how much need there is here at the Mission. What you do is enable us to show Jesus and his love in great measure. Everything that we do, from the food that we provide to the Good News that we share, and the changed lives as a result, comes because you and others like you are God's arms reaching out to love many hungry, homeless and hurting people. Thank you.

Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Philippians 1:3

Together in His Work!

Rev. Thomas J. Laymon

President/CEO

WGUMC Donation: \$138.00



Dear Pastor Guepet and Congregation:

Thank you for your gift in support of the SE Mission Project to build a pediatric clinic in Mpassa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

The generous contribution of \$300 is greatly appreciated. Through your gift the lives children and families will be

impacted at their time of need as well as into the future.

I will continue to keep you updated on the status of this project as we continue to move forward in achieving our goal.

By God's grace, may we continue to partner together in the building of God's kingdom.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm

Southeast District Superintendent

P.S. Thank you for this generous gift that will bring healing and wholeness to God's children in the Congo. West Grove UMC is on the move—transforming lives locally and globally! Blessings, Dawn

YES!

YES Youth Retreat

April 16, 2016.

Time: 10:00 am – 4:30 PM

Location: Cedarville United Methodist Church
(1092 Laurelwood Road Pottstown, PA 1946)

God is calling youth into ministries -- lay, licensed and ordained. Are your young people tuned into God's voice? At the YES Retreat youth will be exposed to a wide range of ministry options from pastoral to chaplaincy, youth work to prison ministry, a foreign mission field to teaching in a college or seminary, yes, and even business, factory, office and farm.

We will worship together and act out some call stories in the Bible. They will have the opportunity to interact with other young people and enjoy indoor and outdoor games. Students will get to meet the Bishop, District Superintendents, members of the District Committee of Ordained Ministry and the Board of Ordained Ministry. It will be a great day with food and lots of fun.

This is for youth in grades 9-12. Individual youth or your whole senior high group or class are welcome.



INTERNSHIPS

Vocational Intern Program

College Students:

Would you like the opportunity to be on staff at a church for the summer?

Do you sense God may be calling you into a ministry occupation and would like to gain experience being

in ministry for the summer?

Did you know the EPA Conference has a Vocational Intern Program?

The Board of Ordained Ministry of the EPA conference has this incredible program for college students to experience the opportunity of working in ministry during their summer college break. The church provides half the salary and housing if needed, and the Board of Ordained ministry will provide the other half for a total salary of 3000.00 being paid to the intern. Applications due by May 1, 2016.

For more information please call Pastor Matt Heckman at 717-273-0525 or Pastor Rob Timlin at 717-665-3400. Or see Pastor Monica.

Lent



Lent Wednesday Night Fun

Join us for potluck dinner and activities to prepare for Lent.

February 17th— We will be creating a chest of those prayers we wish to confess to Christ and then offering them to God.

February 24th - We will be praying for the world. There will be global interactive games and stations to pray for our world.

March 2nd - We will be creating thankfulness sculptures to give thanks to God for God's many blessings in our lives.

March 9th - We will be making Easter boxes for our shut-ins. Our shut-ins will receive a box of our love and care and some of the symbols of the celebrations in a box!

March 16th - We will be making resurrection egg sets. Supplies will be provided. You will go home with a dozen plastic eggs that tell the story of Holy Week and Easter.

March 23rd - We will create interactive experiences of Holy Week to pray together.

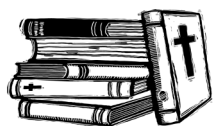
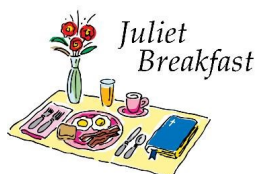
Join us one week or all the weeks!

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

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

February 13 at 9:00 a.m.

Please join this group of ladies for a breakfast time of food, fun and fellowship. **We meet at Sunrise Café, 127 E. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348** They have free parking in the parking garage on Saturdays. Questions? Call Margee Michaels or Chris Curtiss.



**Luther House
Bible Study**

Hear the Stories!

Luther Class is for men and women who are interested in coming together to learn the stories of the Bible. All are welcome. We meet every Wednesday from 2:00-3:00 pm at Luther Building #1 in the parlor, right inside the door. Come join us! Bring your friends. If you have any questions, contact Cindy Haley at: chaley@zoominternet.net

Care Givers and Grief Support Group "Dinner Out" Tuesday, February 9 @ 6:30 p.m.



We meet to address the needs of those who do not want to eat alone and suffer from loneliness. This month, we will meet at Aurora Pizza in the Jennersville Shopping Center. By meeting for a dinner out, we continue to share our support with one another. All are welcome to join us! Questions? Contact Susan Paisley.

Note: The date was changed to Tuesday, Feb. 9 as Ash Wednesday is on Feb. 10.



R.O.M.E.O.

**Retired Older Men
Eating Out**

**We will meet on
Thursday, February 25** If

R.O.M.E.O.

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

Retired Active People



Retired Active People (R.A.P.)

**FRIDAY,
February 12**

12:00 Noon-3:00 p.m.

RAP enjoyed an afternoon of music at our January meeting by the London Grove Community Choir. There were over 60 in attendance!

Our program this month will feature Wayne Achuff, WGUMC's own chef. His presentation will be

"The 30 Minute Meal". Our church family and our community friends are always invited to join us for fun, food, and fellowship!

Please join us on February 12 at noon for lunch (bring your own sandwich/salad), dessert (provided along with drinks) and enjoy a presentation by our very own Master Chef Wayne Achuff. **We meet on the second FRIDAY of every month September through May. See you on Friday, February 12 at Noon!**





C.I.A. Youth Ministry News

Youth Newsletter for February 2016

January Review..... So, January may go down as the biggest snow storm ever, but the youth did excitedly find out where the next mission trip is AND went away and spent a weekend at Gretna Glen and had a blast! Read on to find out more of what is coming up.

Mission Trip 2016: We are teaming up with TeamEffort again and heading to *Mount Hope West Virginia!* The area we are going to is a very depressed poor area and we will spend some time doing home repairs. We will be in a beautiful area full of adventure as well and will have some down time to have lots of fun! Watch for details and mark your calendar for June 26-July 2!



Rooted Sunday School Lenten Small

Groups: I'm challenging the YOU of our YOUTH to commit to 5 weeks, 5 Sundays.. of growing in fellowship and in your faith. We will have an ALL GIRLS bible study and an ALL GUYS bible study.

We will meet during the Sunday School hour, engage a video series and have conversation based on what we saw. Both studies will be geared towards either girls or guys and will be relevant, engaging and fun! We will start February 14th with some donuts and snacks in the youth room and split up from there. Can you commit to 5 Sundays? Your faith will grow and you won't regret it! Watch for more information about the details of each study.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP in FEBRUARY:

Fellowship will be February 7th and 21st from 6 – 7:30 in the youth room.



Dodge Ball and Glow Bowling Night O Fun on February 26th!

Come join in for some dodge ball fun and pizza at the church from 8:00 – 9:45 and then we will head to Timber Lanes in Oxford for some Glow Bowling from 10:00 – Midnight. Sign up with

Jamie if you plan on attending. Cost TBD.

West Grove Youth Ministry Stock Purchase:

Would you like to support the Youth



Ministry program at WGUMC? Would you like to contribute financial support to help offset the summer mission trip to West Virginia? Maybe you'd like to help fund the 'rent a van' budget to help get us to West Virginia?! Then purchase some 'stock' in the WGUMC Youth Ministry Program! Stock is now available for purchase for the 2016 program year and as a 2016 Stock Share Holder, you will be invited to a Dessert Night on August 21st to see a special presentation about how the youth have been involved in serving locally and in West Virginia. Fill out the STOCK PURCHASE form and return to the office. Shortly afterwards, you'll receive a stock certificate. Thank you for your support!

UPCOMING MARCH DATES:

- * March 5th – Tools for Ministry Hoagie Sale! 10:00 – 12:00 Help.
- * March 25th – Good Friday Prayer Stations.

Interested in getting involved in helping with the youth – contact Jamie Lindtner to find out more information.

Jamie Lindtner//Youth Director//
Jamielindtner@gmail.com//610-937-7932



Purchase Stock in the West Grove UMC Youth Ministry

Would you like to invest in something worthwhile? Do you believe in the youth of our church? Then buy stock in the WGUMC Youth Ministry Program!

Your investment will go towards helping students be a part of a summer mission trip to Mt Hope West Virginia. One of our greatest needs at the moment for our mission trip is renting vans to transport our team to Mt Hope.

Your stock purchases will go towards our budget of rental vans as well as helping to offset the cost of the trip.

Fill out the form below and return to the office or to Jamie with your check and you will receive a certificate of Stock.

(all proceeds go towards the WGUMC Youth Ministry)

This summer after our mission trip, the youth ministry team of students will host a dessert of **August 21st** for all stock holders where we will share about our trip and offer our thanks for your support and investment in the youth ministry at WGUMC.

Request for purchase of Stock in WGUMC Youth Ministry

Name: _____

Address: _____

Number of Shares of Stock @ \$5 a Share.....

___ 1 ___ 2 ___ 3 ___ 4 ___ 5 ___ 6 ___ 7 ___ 8 ___ 9 ___ 10

or more... _____ (fill in the number)

Total \$ Due _____ Paid by Cash _____ or Check _____

Please make checks out to WGUMC and put in the memo line—Youth Stock Shares. If paying by cash—place in an envelope with this form and write on the envelope—youth stock shares.

*Once your request and payment as been received—
you will be mailed a certificate of Stock!*



Valentines
for Our
Penn London
Students

Valentine's Day is Coming!

This is our Tenth year of donating boxed valentines to the children of Penn London Elementary who do not have Valentines to give to their classmates.

Please consider buying a box of valentines and dropping it off in the collection box provided in the church lobby.

The deadline for cards is Monday, February 8th. Thank you.

Garage
community + youth center



Dear West Grove United Methodist Church,
Thank you so much for the generous donation of \$500 to support The Garage Community and Youth Center. Supporting the Garage helps students like Erica to not only stay in school and graduate on time, but also to avoid risky behaviors, increase self-

esteem and to pursue post-secondary education.

Erica was among our graduating seniors in 2015. Erica started coming to the Garage as a 9th grader when the West Grove Garage first opened. She was extremely shy, but eagerly participated in all of the Garage's activities. She joined the Student Advisory Council as a freshman and was voted President by her junior year. Erica's parents never graduated from high school and do not speak any English, so Erica relied heavily on the Garage staff and volunteers to assist her academically. During her senior year, we paired her with a mentor to assist her as she explored careers, visited, researched and applied for colleges, and pursued financial scholarships. Soon after finalizing her decision to attend Eastern University, Erica's father unexpectedly passed away. The death of her father generated several financial obstacles that Erica had not anticipated as she was planning for college. The Garage staff worked vigorously to help advocate for her to receive a competitive financial aid package and was also able to help her apply for several scholarships. (She received 1 from the Garage, 2 through Avon Grove School District and 2 through Eastern University.) Erica is now enrolled at Eastern University where she studies International Business.

If you have any questions or want to learn more about students like Erica and how you can get more involved at the Garage, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Daniels at 610-444-6464, sarah.daniels@garageyouthcenter.org or visit our website at www.garageyouthcenter.org.

Best Regards,

Sarah Daniels

Development Director

Please bring in your clean egg cartoons. We are in need of them for a project with Lenten Wednesday Night Fun.

Bring them into the hamper in the Lobby. Thank you in advance.

In God's Love, Pastor Monica



Tools for Ministry Workshops

Our community has deep needs with which we can help!

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



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

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

How can you help?

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

Daily Meditations

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

Save the date for Tools for Ministry!

Southeast District will be offering Tools for Ministry on

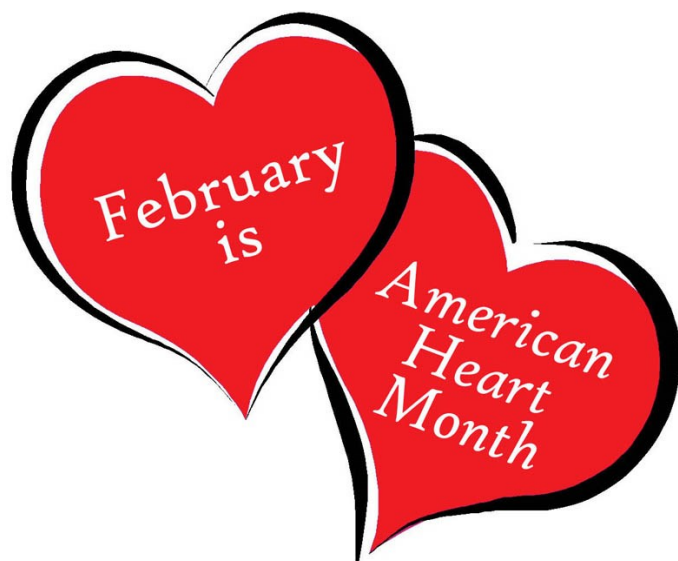
March 7th

At West Grove United Methodist Church.

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



Touch



It's February, Heart Health Month, however there is another important organ that goes along with candy and flowers, that we don't often think about.

The skin is our largest sensory interface with the world. And it's always on. We can close our eyes or plug our ears to imagine losing sight or hearing, but it's hard to imagine losing the ability to feel. It's thought to be the first sense that we develop in the womb. Depriving newborns of touch is a disaster-growth is slowed, and serious cognitive and behavioral disorders emerge that can persist into adulthood. Touch is crucial for forging that first emotional bond with a parent and for creating the unique human experience. "Seeing's

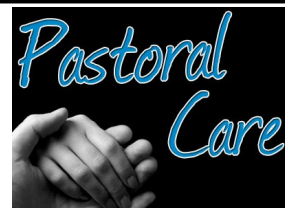
Believing," wrote the 18th century English physician Thomas Fuller, "but Feeling's the Truth."

When we grow older, our sense of touch degrades. At about age 20, we start to lose nerve endings in skin at rate of about 1 present each year. On average, an 80 year -old has just one -quarter of the touch receptors of a 20 year old. The loss is so gradual that we might not even notice, but the muting of our sense of touch over time can take a corresponding toll on quality of life. The cruel irony, of course, is that as sensitivity fades, the more we need to be touched-but the opportunity to experience touch often diminishes as well. " Aging people get touched less," says Tiffany Field, author of the book *Touch* and the founder and director of the Touch Research Institute at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. "Their grandchildren aren't nearby; their spouses die. It's very unfortunate."

What exactly if going on or under the skin when we are touched? The cascade of physical effects is surprisingly complex: The sense of touch is formed by an array of sensors embedded in the nerve endings of our skin, each a beautiful specialized micromachine that extracts information about the tactile world. There's one sensor for texture, another for vibration, yet another for pressure. Therapeutic touch lowers levels of the stress hormone cortisol and increases the amount of oxytocin, the so-called love hormone, which is credited with mother and child bonding, among other things. When we put our hands on each other, we're tapping into deep associations between touch and emotion that are kindled at the dawn of life.

The good news is that there are all kinds of ways to harness this power. Touch stimulates the vagus nerve, that offers benefits throughout the body, from improved digestion to a jolt of the mood-boosting transmitter, serotonin, the body's natural anti-depressant. Go dancing, get a dog or a cat (petting for a few moments floods your brain with healthy, mood-boosting hormones). Get a massage. Give and receive hugs. Your skin and your mood will be glad you did.

Adapted from *The Power of Touch* by David Linden and Martha Thomas, AARP magazine December 2015/January 2016



Please let Pastor Monica, Pastor Jim, or the church office know if you or a loved one is in the hospital. We would love to support you and your family with a visit. We depend on you to share the information of which hospital your loved one is in. Please also let us know of any other pastoral needs. We are also interested in gathering a visitation team. Please let us know if you are interested in supporting our homebound members in this way. Thank you!



WGUMC Fantasy Football League Standings



Rank	Team	Team Manager	W-L-T	Points For	Points Against	Streak
1	Team Knucklehead	Ken Rinehimer	8-5-0	1568.47	1401.05	L-1
2	groves 3 and 2	Jeremy Moore	8-5-0	1495.87	1499.96	L-1
3	sulli's skins	Fred Sullivan	8-5-0	1443.74	1388.58	L-1
4	doop	Luke Chalmers	8-5-0	1395.83	1434.74	W-5
5	soundcurfew	Lee Arter	6-7-0	1487.67	1378.77	W-1
6	jerry's boys	Reed Smith Sr.	6-7-0	1486.58	1515.47	W-1
7	Duct work	Rob Catoia	6-7-0	1413.89	1461.61	W-1
8	Ten Plagues	Tim Bushnell	6-7-0	1387.02	1340.78	L-2
9	The Rogue Elephants	Doug Alan	6-7-0	1357.67	1347.89	L-1
10	Even up*	Pastor Jim Mundell	3-10-0	1203.53	1471.42	W-1
	*became team manager after season started					

Quarterfinal

Knucklehead (1) 135.57
 Ten Plagues (8) 101.86

Semifinal

doop(4) 124.59
 Soundcurfew (5) 81.28

Knucklehead (1) 122.85
 doop (4) 114.57

Final

Knucklehead (1) 129.93
 jerry's boys (6) 113.09

sulli's skins (3) 115.94
 jerry's boys (6) 139.16

jerry's boys (6) 131.37
 groves 3 and 2 (2) 111.82

groves 3 and 2 (2) 101.64

Duct work (7) 93.36

LEAGUE CHAMPION

Knucklehead



Thank you to all who served





West Grove United Methodist Church
OPEN • GROW • SERVE

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

E:mail address: office@westgroveumc.org

Website: www.westgroveumc.org



~ Open, Grow, Serve ~

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

The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor

pastor@westgroveumc.org

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

Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

The Reverend Shirley Daddario—Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries

Shirley.daddario@westgroveumc.org

Office Hours: Monday—Friday

7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Staff

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator

Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director

Contemporary Music Interim Director

Keyboardist

Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director

davsan5@comcast.net

Jamie Lindtner - Youth Director

Jamie.lindtner@westgroveumc.org

Tracy McLaughlin—Children's Morning Out Director

Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Board and Committee Leadership

Carol Whelan - Administrative Council Chair

Gene Aucott - Trustee Chair

Barbara Delaney - Finance Chair

Scott Steele - Treasurer

Sara Ann Ramberger - Financial Secretary

David Delaney - Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

Judy Gambill - Christian Education

Bill Jones - Children's Ministry Team Contact

Susan Paisley - Faith Community Nurse

Janice Bowers - Missions Team Chair

Karen Hruz—Emergency Food Coordinator

Don Hurst - Hospitality Committee Chair

Cindy Haley - Delegate to Annual Conference

Luke Chalmers— Delegate to Annual Conference

TBA - Lay Leader

Cindy Haley - U.M.W. President

Open- Prayer Chain Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

John Gambill, Betty Mundell and Denise Byers

Ad Council Member at Large

We believe that God has a plan for restoration in our world and that we can take part in the restoration process in our neighborhoods and communities.

Give | Serve | Restore is a collaborative way to show love to Southern Chester County through churches in our communities during the Lenten season [February 10th-March 27th, 2016]. The project consists of 3 easy ways to get involved:

- Do one service project! It can be coordinated from a church participating in GSR, or, by taking action on your own to serve (such as making a meal for someone in need or helping a neighbor with a house project).
- Donate two pounds of food to our local food cupboards (participating GSR churches will have collection bins in their lobby for donations).
- Give three dollars (for Kids) and thirty dollars (for adults) to our two partner organizations-Good Neighbors and Young Moms. Good Neighbors is an organization committed to making homes warmer, safer, drier and healthier for qualified homeowners as an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ. YoungMoms is an organization committed to equipping teen moms with the resources and support they need to reach their potential as women and mothers.

Last year, we partnered with three churches and were overwhelmed with the response of those congregations. This year, we're working together with 14 churches (and counting!). Consider joining us during Lent as we love and serve our community!

Visit [The Constellation Network.com/GSR](http://TheConstellationNetwork.com/GSR) to learn more!