

# West Grove United Methodist Church

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E:mail: office@westgroveumc.org Website: www.westgroveumc.org

# 世紀 Heis Risen!

# isen Som March 2016





"He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you." Matthew 28:6-7

Throughout the Season of Lent, we have been spending time in intentional prayer. We have prayed prayers of OOPPs!, Help! Why? Please? WOW! Thanks! What? Noo! And ultimately, YES! While we have prayed these prayers in worship, they are the prayers we find on our lips throughout our personal lives. We whisper thank you at averted crises. We proclaim WOW with the rainbow that stretched the sky after a soaking rain. We cringe at our oopps when we know we have not done as we ought or intended to do. Our prayers come off our lips and fill our hearts with one word punctuations. The time of Lent is most fully understood as a time of intentional faith formation and focus. Our prayer times have sought our corporate and individual prayer lives in faith formation. Walk with us this Lenten season and throughout Holy Week in intentional prayer.

Easter is the Great Celebration that our prayers have been answered! Our prayers have been answered in ways that we can not have imagined or dreamed, and yet, it is the most complete answer to prayer. The resurrection of Jesus is the answer to all of our problems, challenges, and concerns, personally and globally! To questions we did not even know that we had yet—YES! Resurrection is the answer! On Easter Sunday, we give thanks and celebrate that Christ has triumphed over death and sin. We give thanks to God that restoration and wholeness, life, triumph over death, and life eternal are all God's

resounding YES!

Join us on Easter Sunday as we celebrate together!

In God's Love, Pastor Monica



# March Worship at West Grove UMC



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

Prayer: As simple as talking to God and as complex as your whole life hanging in the balance. We will take a look at one word prayers that summarize how to pray.

# Fourth Sunday in Lent March 6, 2016 Communion Sunday

\*Emergency Food Pantry Collection Day is on

the first Sunday of each month

Scripture: Psalm 32:1-2, 11;

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sermon: "WOW! Prayers of Adoration" There are true moments of adoring God,

Have you been WOWed?

## Fifth Sunday in Lent March 13, 2016

Scripture: John 12: 1-8, Psalm 126

Sermon: "Thanks!"

Thank you, thank you! Have you

thanked God recently for the many

blessings you know?

## Palm Sunday March 20, 2016

Scripture: Luke 19:28-40, 22:14-24 Sermon: "What! Prayers of Confusion" Cantata: Who is This King? At 11:00

Service

# **Maundy Thursday**

March 24, 2016 12 noon and 7 p.m.

Scripture: John 13: 1-35

Sermon: "Noo! When You Don't Want to

Pray "

Lessons from the disciples and Jesus in the

upper room and at Gethsemane.

Good Friday Community Service at Christ Community Church- 7 p.m. March 25, 2016

> Holy Saturday March 26, 2016

Wiggly Giggly Easter Vigil Service

Scripture: Luke 24:1-12

Sermon: "YES! He is ALIVE!"

#### **EASTER SUNDAY**

Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m. March 27, 2016

Scripture: John 20:1-18

Sermon: "YES! Prayers of Joy"

# 5th Sunday Coin Collection



In January, we raised \$211.50 from our 5th Sunday coin collection that was designated to support our sponsored children ministry

with Children's International and Compassion International. Thank you for your generosity!



The Church office will be closed on Monday, March 28 for Easter Monday,



Hosted by the Trustees

On Sunday, March 20

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). Thank you.

# Holy Week at West Grove UMC



Palm Sunday, Sunday, March 20 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services 11:00 a.m. Service features the Cantata "Who is this King"

We begin worship celebrating the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and end with his betrayal and death on the cross. Services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

**EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA! 3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.**—crafts, games, a giant slide, face painting, prizes, refreshments and, of course, egg hunts! Activities will occur continuously throughout the morning.

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Rain or Shine! Bring your baskets and your friends and neighbors for this fun and safe event!



Lent Wednesday Night Fun, Wednesday, March 23, 6-8 pm Join us for potluck and interactive experiences of Holy Week!

# Maundy Thursday, Thursday, March 24 Noon and 7:00 p.m.







Good Friday, FRIDAY, MARCH 25
Prayer Vigil Friday 9am—Saturday 9am
Prayer Stations hosted by our Youth Noon—3pm

# Good Friday Community Service at Christ Fellowship Church ~ 7:00 p.m.

On this evening, join residents of our community for a service of reflection and preaching by area pastors.





Holy Saturday, March 26
Wiggly Giggly Easter Vigil Service ~ 5pm



# Easter Sunday ~ MARCH 27 Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m.

On this triumphant Easter morning, join us to celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death at our Sunrise Service.

# Contemporary Celebration Service at 8:30 a.m. and Traditional Celebration Service at 11:00 a.m.

Join us as we celebrate the Risen Christ this day with Services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Christ has defeated death. Rejoice in his victorious resurrection for you!

Nursery and Children's Worship provided at all services.



# EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

It's Easter Flower time and you may order yours by placing a check or cash in the "Easter Flower" envelope and dropping it in the collection plate or the church office. Envelopes are available at the Welcome Center or from the Sunday Ushers.

We offer Tulips in 6" pots for \$5.00 each. Lilies with 4-5 blooms in 6" pots are \$9.50 each. Due to Easter falling late in the season this year, we are unable to offer Daffodils as a flower choice.

#### Last date to order flowers is Sunday, March 20

Please designate below how you wish to offer these flowers, so it can be recognized in the Easter Sunday Bulletin. Contact the church office with questions or concerns.

"In Memory of		
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"In Honor of	 	
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"In Celebration of		
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# <u>24 Hour Prayer Vigil</u> Friday, March 25, 9 a.m. through

Saturday, March 26, 9 a.m.

Sign up for a one-hour time slot to come into the church sanctuary and pray for individual needs of our church family, as well as for needs of our community.

**If you have never prayed for an hour, that's okay!** We have plenty of materials to guide you through. You'll be surprised how quickly the time goes by and how refreshed and energized you feel!

Pink prayer request slips will be available in the weekly bulletin as well as in the lobby for you to submit a prayer request for the vigil.

A sign up sheet is also available in the lobby to sign up to pray.

Let us continue our commitment to make this Lenten season, one of intentional prayer!



Thank you all for such a warm welcome back and for the time you spent in making my first day back a very special day. And also, thank you for the beautiful flowers, which I can't wait to plant in my flowerbed this spring!

It's so nice to be back at West Grove UMC and serving the Lord alongside of you. I love reminiscing with you, and meeting new faces, and seeing how much the children have grown, and trying to catch up with them!

From the time I first walked into West Grove church when the church was on Prospect Avenue, I felt God's presence and saw His plan at work in how we are all part of His Kingdom building.

I feel blessed to be re-appointed to West Grove church and look forward to being a part of your journeys. God is so good. He declares, "For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)NIV

West Grove has a hope and a future, and I am excited to be a part that future. Let's "press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil 3:14) NIV

Amen!

Grace and Peace,

Associate Pastor Shirley Daddario, Congregational Care



# Lent Wednesday Night Fun! 6:00—8:00 p.m.

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

Families can get a night off of cooking by coming to the church for a potluck dinner of whatever assortment of dishes show up. All beverages will be supplied. If you'd like to bring a dish to share, it will be appreciated, but by no means mandatory. The event is totally free.

**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 re ceive 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!

# Tools for Ministry

## Saturday, March 5, 2016

West Grove UMC, 300 N. Guernsey Road, West Grove, PA 19390

The Board of Lay Ministry will sponsor a district-wide training event on Saturday, March 5 here at West Grove UMC once again! The workshops will be led by outstanding lay persons and pastors who will share their special gifts, talents and experiences, in transforming their churches and ministering in their communities. This is a great opportunity to meet and network with other people from our district and share ideas and experiences.

# Event Schedule

- ⇒ 8:30-9:00 Check In and Light Breakfast
- ⇒ Gathering in the Sanctuary
- $\Rightarrow$  9:00-9:15 Welcome

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- ⇒ 9:20-10:40 Session One Workshops
- ⇒ 10:40–11:00 Break
- ⇒ 11:00 12:20 Session Two Workshops
- ⇒ 12:20 Lunch Available for Purchase

**WORKSHOPS:** SPRC Basics, LifeTree Café, Celebrate Recovery, Clergy Taxes, Restorative Justice, Cemetery Management, Breaking Barriers, Youth in your Community, Healing Ministry, SPRC and the Pastor, Grant Writing, CoNam, Trustees, Homelessness, Prayer, and Young Adults. Brochures available in the church lobby for details on workshops.

## Day of Event

Hoagie, Bottle of Water, chips, and a brownie or bag of cookies lunch will be sold by our Youth Group as a summer mission trip fundraiser for just \$8.00 (Hoagies are not included in registration fee.)

# Registration Fee for West Grove UMC Congregation is free. Register under "Presenters".

If registered by the February 26 Deadline is \$12.00 (includes breakfast)

The fee will be \$15 from February 27 through the Day of Event

Debit or Credit Cards may be used for registration.

Note: If you do not pre-register please have several workshop choices prepared in case your first choices are already filled.

#### GO TO THIS LINK TO REGISTER:

https://southeastdistrictepa.churchcenteronline.com/registrations/events/14446

You can register for two workshops. Please select one workshop from each Session. You will be asked for a first choice and second choice for each session. Workshops will be filled according to registration dates. Early registration is recommended.

If cancellation is necessary due to inclement weather you will be notified at the email address you registered from. Churches registering groups will be responsible for notifying individual registrants so PLEASE BE SURE TO USE AN EMAIL ADDRESS THAT YOU WILL HAVE ACCESS TO THE EVENING BEFORE AND ON THE MORNING OF THE EVENT. Online registration is requested. If you are not able to register on line please call Lin George at 610.436.4277. Please have a credit card and your workshop selections ready when you call.

# TOOLS FOR MINISTRY WORKSHOPS

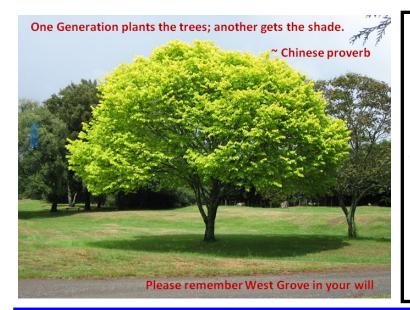
#### Session One Workshops #1 - #8

- 1. SPRC Basics: This will introduce participants to the SPRC, its function, its make-up, and how it operates. Disciplinary requirements will be reviewed, and practical suggestions for the committee's work will be shared. For those new to the SPRC or those desiring a review of SPRC basics, it may also be a helpful review for new chairpersons.
- 2. Lifetree Café and How Do I Launch One in My **Community?** The heart of Lifetree Café is a place (outside of the church) where you can have conversation about many areas of life without feeling judged or alienated. It's relaxed but focused, thanks to the facilitator who shows video clips and guides discussion. The overall program--or Café recipe--is packaged and made easy for anyone to be able to present.
- 3. Celebrate Recovery: Take the First Step. Everyone struggles with life's hurts, hang-ups, and habits. Through God's grace and power thousands of individuals, in hundreds of churches, have participated in the Christ-centered Celebrate Recovery program. Learn how to start a Celebrate Recovery program that will offer folks in your church and in your community an opportunity to participate in group fellowship where love and hope combine with God's purpose to mend their lives.
- **4. Clergy Taxes 101.** Identify information necessary to have a complete tax return prepared for you. Tips on record keeping, ways to have benefits tax free and explanation of terminology used by IRS that usually confuses the most educated individuals!! Samples of record keeping forms will be distributed at that time.
- 5. Restorative Justice- What is it & How Do We Live It? Restorative Justice involves victims, offenders, and community in effort to put things right by focusing on the needs of the victim and the offender's responsibility for repairing harm. This workshop is intended to introduce participants to this vital component of prison ministry as well as outline training opportunities and resources available for local churches interested in healing people and restoring relationships in difficult circumstances.
- 6. The Ins & Outs of Cemetery Management. Conversations related to perpetual care issues, incorporated cemeteries and their relationship to trustees of the local church, insurance issues, financial oversight issues, and potential expansion ideas. There will be time for questions and answers.
- **7. Breaking Barriers.** Discussion and learning on breaking barriers: relationships (personal and other), economic status, race, color, etc. Understanding the functioning of the Body of Christ.
- 8. How to Be in Ministry With Youth in Your Commu**nity.** The fringes – where some youth live. They may or may not attend a church event, they may attend church but attend irregularly and/or they may have friends that becoming closer to God and knowing and living His will. attend church. But the youth on the fringes are navigating life with or without a faith and if they have a faith it's made up from what they read or see or hear – not because they are fully engaged in a spiritual community and practices. During this incredibly highly interactive session learn the complexities and characteristics of youth on the fringes and how to engage them in ministry!

#### Session Two Workshops #9 - #17

- 9. Healing Ministry: How to Create a Healing Ser**vice.** This workshop will include sharing of information and resources covering the "who, what, where, why, when, and how" of initiating, planning and implementing healing worship services in churches of all sizes.
- 10. SPRC and the Pastor: Covenant and Evaluation. Review the process for creating a covenant with a local church pastor and then conducting the annual review on the basis of the covenant. We will explore both the expectations of the pastor as well as the expectations of the SPRC. Materials will be used in part from the book, Watching Over One Another In Love by Gwen Purushottam.
- 11. Grant Writing 101. Explore resources available in The United Methodist Church (boards and agencies) and in the secular world (e.g., The Foundation Center, federal government, etc.) for funding ministries. Participants will explore several keys to writing successful proposals and become familiar with commonly used terms.
- 12. Safe Sanctuaries. Review the need for Safe Sanctuaries policies and procedures and the important changes in state law that seriously affect churches and all volunteers who work with children.
- 13. CoNAM Opening Our Hearts to all of God's Chil**dren.** Become more aware of Native Americans and their stories - past and today, and be lead to greater sensitivity and an openness to embrace them as children of God, our sisters and brothers. You will get resources for planning a Native American Ministries Sunday, see what some local churches have done for their focus on Native Americans, and ask questions about what a local church representative for Native American Ministries should do.
- 14. The Ministry of Being a Local Church Trustee. Look at the Role of the Local Church Trustee both according to the Book of Discipline as well as "Biblically" The workshop will cover the Basic Responsibilities of the Local Church Trustees as well as looking at some Tools available for Trustees.
- 15. Homelessness In Southern Chester County. Family Promise of Southern Chester County, a local affiliate of a national organization was opened in November 2015 to help alleviate this problem. Working with a network of area churches, Family Promise provides shelter, meals, and social service support to children and their families who are experiencing homelessness. Learn how Family Promise is a local response to a national problem.
- 16. Learning & Experiencing the Richness of Prayer: **Lectio Divina.** Experience the richness of prayer with His Word. This spiritual discipline assists us in our receptivity as God's spoken word moves from our head, to our hearts, and then into our lives. This workshop will equip you to be able to share this model of prayer with your small groups, committees, and prayer partners,
- 17. The Joys, Concerns & Hopes of Young Adults Today. Do you ever wonder what young adults question about faith and life? Do you feel you understand all young adults or do you wonder why they hesitate to engage or why some engage and others do not? Explore through interactivity the complexities, hopes and fears of young adults from both generations and create ways to engage young adults.

Note: Full class descriptions and their presenters can be found online.



# 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 January 2016, WGUMC received an additional \$95.37 from rebates of gift card purchases. We are encouraging all our congregants to help increase this additional funding, so please consider the purchase of a gift card.

This month tip: Easter is March 27 and to make your holiday easier consider pre-planning your holiday dinner. Purchase a Honey Baked Ham gift card and order a pre-cooked Easter



ham. Pick up a Target, CVS, Walmart card to cover your candy, decorations, etc. Get one additional gift card for Giant and Acme to round out your holiday meal. While you are shopping consider picking up a food item to contribute to the Emergency Food Cupboard.

**Proverbs 13:11(NIV)** Dishonest money dwindles away, but whoever gathers money little by little makes it grow.



# SAVE THE DATE!

# **Annual Spring Rummage Sale**

Set-Up on Thursday, April 28, 9:00 a.m. Sale, Friday, April 29: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sale, Saturday, April 30: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Household goods, adult and children's clothing, toys, and lots of other "treasures" will be for sale.

On Saturday, all shoppers may fill a bag for \$2.00

Start saving your treasures! A sign-up sheet for various ways you can help will be posted in the lobby in the coming weeks.



# THE COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Our church's free meal ministry

Tuesday, March 29 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

#### Easter 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 unable to afford transportation, the driver will be met at the church doors, **and the bus fare paid.** 

# 2016 SOUTH AMERICA CRUISE



The South American country that we visited the most was Chile where we stopped eight times. Our first was Cape Horn the most Southern point of South America. Since leaving Buenos Aires the weather has turned cold with heavy overcast skies for most of the time. After Cape Horn we stopped at Punta Arenas, located on the Straits of Magellan. In the past we went to see penguins, but this time we just went into the town and walked around and had lunch. Punta Arenas is a large town of average income with many poor. After Punta Arenas we sailed to view the Amailie Glacier in Western Chile.

Our next stop was Chacabuco, Chile. This is a very small harbor town at the end of a fjiord which was established about 25 years ago after the main port to the area of Puerto Aysen was closed because of a volcanic eruption. Set against the backdrop of the Andes Mts, immense river valleys and fjiords, shows the beauty of the area called Chacobuco. Puerto Montt was our next stop, a port in the lake district of Chile. Here German villages sprunge up over 150 years ago. The area reminds one of European villages. It is here that 4 active volcanos exist. One is Osorno, known as the "Fujiyama of So. America".

Our stop at Valparaiso is the port for Santiago, located some 75 miles east. It is Chile's oldest city while Santiago is its largest. Chile has many earthquakes and is on the ring of fire. This causes tsunamis and they are prepared for them – not the sign. Our tour took us to Vina del Mar, a vacation area for the Chileans, upscale and expensive.

Our last two stops in Chile was to La Serena (Coquimbo port area) and Arica, border city with Peru. We have been in Coquimbo and used this as a day of rest. However, Arica was new to us and we took a tour that took us out in the desert. In this area it rains very little. There is a museum that houses mummies that are estimated to be 8000 years old. In fact, this area has many mummies because of the weather and the way the primitive people preserved the body. It is basically a desert environment. Chile is not a large country, but it is a long country and covers a wealth of environments. It is so difficult to show all that we have seen in a short paper.

We have a Bible study every morning at 8:45 AM for an hour and since we took on new passagers in Valparaiso our number is up to 9. We just completed our study in the Gospel of John, "Portraits of Christ in the Gospel of John" and will begin a new study in the Book of Colossians. These are powerpoint studies that I have developed. Trust you gain some insight from this short update. *Jim & Betty Mundell* 

Coming up this summer, we will be preaching on "Music and God Sightings: den in our Music." Music is often sung theology (conversations about God and We are inviting the congregation to send in recommendations for songs to be reflected on. They can be hymns, praise music, spiritual songs, or popular magestions will be considered and four will be chosen! Submit your suggestions	l God's world). preached and usic. All sug-
Song title	
Songwriter/Singer	
Question or Wondering about the Song's Theology	

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 us on the 2nd Sunday of the month for worship!

Thank you to Karen Hruz for her leadership in Pastor Jim's absence.

We look forward to Pastor Jim and Betty's safe return!

# Baldwin UMC Thanks Our Congregation!

Thank you so much for your donation towards the rebuild of our church. We very much appreciate it. God Bless each and every one of you!

Your Friends at Baldwin UMC





# Emergency Aide and Food Pantry Thank You!

Dear Pastor Monica and West Grove U. M. Church,
Thank you and God Bless you all always.
Love and Prayers from Sandi and Timmy



#### **Daily Meditations**

We hope you have had a chance to catch the new meditations in the bulletin. They are written one for each day of the week as a short meditation and question with which you might begin your day.

Don't forget to take your bulletin home and place the mediations and scripture reading in a place you can use each day. May your relationship with God be enriched. They are also available on Facebook and our website!



We received \$15.43 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 31, 2015.

When you shop at Ama-

zonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to West Grove United Methodist Church. Bookmark the link <a href="http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2243445">http://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2243445</a> and support us every time you shop.

Thank you for helping us serve others!



# 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!

Contact Judy Gambill for more information: 610-593-8067;

jlq456@epix.net

Thank you to all who have spent time on Sunday mornings volunteering in the nursery! We continue to be blessed with wonderful little ones to spend time with on Sundays and watch them grow! We are in need of additional volunteers, especially during the 11am service. If you are interested in helping in the nursery (about once



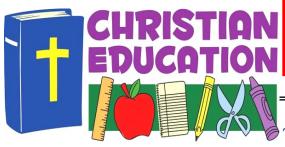
a month), please contact Amy Castaldi at <u>ahass17@hotmail.com</u> or 610-468-4321.

# MISSION: #POSSIBLE

Mission Possible ~ March 20<sup>th</sup> ~ Noon-6pm

We will not be having our regular meeting at 6 pm. Instead we will meet between Noon and 6 to help set up, clean up and volunteer with the Easter Eggstravaganza! We will still have Pizza!

You do not need to come for the whole time-just come as you can and have fun while serving others. We may also get together the week before to stuff eggs. If you are interested, please make sure Melissa Jones has your email address so we can contact you.



#### **Christian Education**

These are recent questions and responses that were recorded during Children's Worship.

|| What is faith? Hoping; Helping; Believing in someone or something; Believing in God and having hope in Him

Who has faith? God; Everybody; Parents; Jesus

Why is faith important? So we can go to heaven; Because it means we believe in God; To help somebody; You know they have trust in you/one another

How do we know we have faith? By at least trying to do the right thing; That we can help people;

"If you have many friends because they know you can be trusted

What is easy about faith? To love God; Having to be honest; Being helpful to family and friends

"What is hard about faith or when is it hard to have faith? It is hard to continue believing when you | can't see God; To do the right thing; It is hard when you are scared; When you aren't getting your way; When it is taking a long time to get what you want; Sometimes it is hard to believe in something if you don't understand it.

Wow!! What an impact our Children's Worship and Sunday School are having on our next generation of Christians.

Come join this exciting and very rewarding ministry. We are looking for people to help anywhere from once a year to once a week. No experience or training necessary!



# Chapel Time With CMO

Books Read and Songs Sung in Chapel Time This month, we talked about love. God loves us. We love God.

God's love for us is NO MATTER WHAT! Take a look at <u>Love you when you whine</u> to get a sense of that!

My Valentine for Jesus by Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton Love You When you Whine by Emily Jenkins "The Boy Who Shared His Lunch" in Read Aloud Bible Stories vol. 2

"Simon and His Boat" in Read Aloud Bible Stories vol. 2

# Song: Jesus Loves Me this I know

Jesus loves mel This I know, For the Bible tells me so; Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.

Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves mel Yes, Jesus loves mel Yes, Jesus loves mel The Bible tells me so.



# EASTER "EGGS"TRAVAGANZA Sunday, March 20 3:00 P.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

Come one, come all! All ages, all families, friends and relatives, neighbors and guests...you are all invited to our annual "Eggs"travaganza!

"Spring To Life!" is this year's theme! So many exciting things to do and see and learn! And of course, our egg hunt with more than 3000 eggs!

Children throughout the area are invited to get their Easter baskets ready and take part in the Easter Eggstravaganza at West Grove United Methodist Church at 300 N. Guernsey Road.

There will be crafts, games, a giant inflatable, face painting, prizes, toddler areas, refreshments and, of course, egg hunts! Activities will occur continuously throughout the morning, so come as time allows. All activities are for children ages toddler through grade 4. There is even an "egg pit" for the infants! Our egg hunt is well-organized and safe for everyone! It occurs all morning, so there is no rush nor trampling of one another! Come and hunt at your pace!

# Our event is "rain or shine"! We are looking forward to another wonderful community-wide Easter celebration this year!

For additional information or directions, interested readers may call the church office at 610-869-9334 or visit the church website: www.westgroveumc.org



Welcome Spring!! We look forward to the warmer weather and being able to be outside during our preschool time. The children enjoy their time on the playground with their friends. It is wonderful to see their imaginations soar while they are outside and have the space to run and play.

March involves learning about Spring and Easter. The children have been busy welcoming Spring with lots of fun crafts. During Chapel Time with Pastor Monica, the children have been learning about Easter as well. The children celebrated Easter in their classrooms with special activities.

We also had a visit from our West Grove Fire Department to help the children learn about fire safety. We always enjoy our visit with Fire-

fighter Lisa and her crew. Lisa gets dressed in her fire gear and the children get to see and sit in the trucks. This is always a fun event.

This month, we brought back our Soccer Shots program for our preschool families. Soccer Shots was a huge success in the Fall, so I decided to offer it to our families again. This is a great program!

Tracy McLaughlin, Director





# Children's Clothing and Equipment Consignment Sale

CONSIGN: Thursday, March 17th 3:30-6:00 p.m.

SHOP: Friday, March 18-9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and

Saturday, March 19 - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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

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

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



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

## **ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE**

We Need Your Help!!!. We can always use additional volunteers, to make this sale a success. Our most needed time is Saturday beginning at 12:00. Please think about volunteering during this time. All items need to be sorted, the church needs to be reset for Sunday services and consigners tags need to be added up. We really could use many volunteers to make clean up a much quicker process. If you have any questions, please contact Tracy McLaughlin at tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org or (610) 869-9334.

Once again, it's time for our annual participation in Operation Hope Tote. Look for Operation Hope Tote envelopes in the lobby .They will be collected during March and all items should be returned to the church by Sunday, March 20,2016

This project is part of the Sunday Breakfast Mission's Christian outreach program that helps struggling, homeless men in the Wilmington, DE, area. For many years, the Sunday Breakfast Mission has been distributing these totes during Easter week. West Grove United Methodist Church has been part of this Easter project for several years.

Hope Totes are small plastic bags that are provided by the Sun-

day Breakfast Mission, and our congregation has been filling them with new, unopened products, including: toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, shaving cream, shampoo and conditioner, deodorant, lip balm, socks, brush and comb, tissues, shoelaces, hand or body lotion, disposable razors, mouthwash, etc. The filled bags are then delivered to the Sunday Breakfast Mission and distributed as needed.

These basic supplies can make a big difference in the way people who are homeless live and feel about themselves. Please take as many as you like and return the filled Totes to the church by March 20.

Operation Hope Tote is a simple but powerful way to help homeless people and to express Christ's love and the spirit of renewal that is such an important part of Easter. Thank you for your help in this very worthwhile project.

The Mission Committee



**BEING A CHRISTIAN** 

WHEN SOCIETY THINKS YOU'RE IRRELEVANT

AND EXTREME

DAVID KINNAMAN & GABE LYONS

#### YOU ARE INVITED!

ANNUAL SISTAS' TEA ABOUT HIV PRESENTS

SISTAS' DREAM FOR '16: DANCING IN HOPE



#### Women and Girls 14 Years and Older Invited

Saturday, March 12, 2016

Table dressing 1:00pm-2:00pm \* Program 2:00pm-4:00pm Free rapid HIV Testing 1:00pm - 3:30pm with Chester County Health Department

> Milestone Events 600 E Market Street West Chester, Pa 19382

\$8.75 per individual \$70.00 for table of 8

Checks payable to: Church of the Open Door (place Sistas' Tea 2016 in the check memo)

Send to: Church of the Open Door 210 S. Broad Street Kennett Square, PA 19348 tn: Rev. Dr. Deborah Tanksley-Bro \*Guest Speaker \*Herstories \*Light Meal \*Tea Table Prizes \*Line Dancing \*Decorate your table with friends



For early registration or information contact:

H.U.B. of Hope HIV/AIDS Multi-faith Ministry

610-444-2400

hub-of-hope@umcod.org

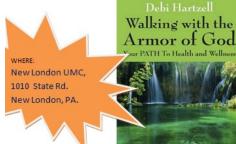
#### JOIN US AND MEET AUTHOR

Debi Hartzell (The Practical Health Nut)

SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH 10 am - noon

For a FREE Faith & Nutrition Workshop

#### Bursting With Energy Through Faith & Proper Nutrition .





Learn how to improve your health and increase your energy while

Walking with God daily and living life to its fullest potential.

Are you struggling with health, weight or fatigue issues?

Are looking to grow in your relationship with Christ?

Discover health and wellness and love the skin you're in!

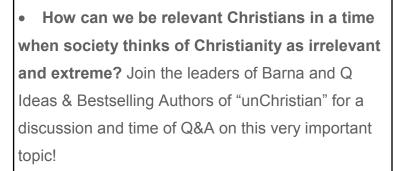
Contact New London UMC & let us know you are coming! 610-869-8129 or Email: newlondonumc@verizon.net

# Upcoming in Our Area

# New Event from our Church Channel:

An Evening with David Kinnaman & Gabe Lyons

- March 6, 2016
- 7-8:30 PM, Willowdale
   Chapel, Kennett Campus



#### Sign up for this free event:

http://theconstellationnetwork.com/good-faith/

**YESI** 

#### 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.

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

JULIET...Just us Ladies Interested in Eating Together



Saturday, March 12 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.



# Hear the Stories!

Luther House Bible Study

Luther Class is for men and women who are interested in

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



Retired Active
People (R.A.P.)
FRIDAY,
March 11
12:00 Noon-3:00 p.m.

Care Givers and Grief Support Group "Dinner Out" Wedmesday, March 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, 610-268-3305



# R.O.M.E.O. Retired Older Men

etired Older Men Eating Out

We will meet on Thursday, March 31 If you are retired, then we would like to see you at

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

**RAP** meets on **Friday, March 11th, at noon**. Please bring your lunch. Coffee, tea, lemonade, and desserts will be provided. **Jimi Lee Weber will tell us "How to Stay Young Doing Arts and Crafts"!** Be sure to join us for fun, food, and fellowship. Our church family and our community friends are always welcome!

In February, we were delighted by the talents of Brian Combs, Mel Leaman and invited guest, The Chaplain from Lincoln University, Rev. Frederick T. Faison.









# C.I.A. Youth Ministry News



## February Flashback

- \* GSR Update We had some students participate in the NIGHT TO SHINE for special needs friends that was held at Willowdale Chapel and we had 1 adult and 8 students participate in a work day with Good Neighbors as they worked on lots of projects at a house in Landenberg!
- \* Lenten Small Groups began for Sunday School. The guys are doing a series called "Killing Lions" and the girls a study called "Brave girls". We are enjoying the discussion and the time together!
- \* A Night of Dodgeball and Bowling! We had students out for a dodge ball night that ended at Timber Lanes with some night time bowling. Good time had by all.

#### MARCH UPDATES

\* Lenten Small Group Study – will continue through



until March 20th. Girls and Guys small groups, talking about faith and life and God and being a teenager. Come join us on Sunday mornings at 9:45 – guys in the youth room, girls in the children's worship room.

\* Youth Fellowship – All youth in grades 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades are welcome to join us on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month for fellowship. We play games, talk, fellowship, eat snacks and have a bible study. \*\*

March 6th & 20th. 6 - 7:30. \*\*



\* Friday Night Dodge Ball – March 11 from 7 – 9:00. Bring \$2 for pizza and some friends.

#### **FUNDRAISING HELP:**

1. Tools for Ministry Hoagie Sale – We are selling



hoagies on March 5th at the Tools for Ministry district event. I need some youth volunteers to help with this. 10:00 - 12:30 on that Saturday. Please let

Jamie know if you can help.

### 2. West Grove UMC Youth

Ministry Stock for Sale! Want to support the youth on their mission trip this summer? We need some funds to help rent our vans! Fill out



a stock purchase form and buy stock in the youth. We will honor our stock holders in a brunch on August 21st!



#### **GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER**

**STATIONS:** March 25; 12:00 – 3:00.

\* We will have prayer stations set up throughout the sanctuary on Good Friday.

There will be stations for all ages. Consider coming as a family to spend time in creative prayer reflecting on faith, the cross and the way of discipleship.

#### \*PARENTS NITE OUT!

Saturday, April  $9^{th}$ . 4:30 – 7:30.



\$10 per child as a suggested donation.

Parents – make plans to go out

without your kids! The youth will watch them, feed them and entertain them! All money raised goes towards the summer mission trip. We will eat pizza, play games, do crafts and watch a movie!

Sign up with Jamie Lindtner by April 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **Summer Mission Trip: June 26 – July 2.**

We will be heading to Mt. Hope West Virginia to work with



Team Effort again! The mission trip is open for all students who have completed 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Information and Registration Forms are being sent out soon. Sign up

with Jamie to reserve your spot!

Jamie Lindtner; Director of Youth Ministry. 610-937-7932 Jamielindtner@gmail.com



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.

Please make checks out to WGUMC and put in the memo line—Youth Stock Shares. If paying by cash—p lace 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!

# Possible changes ahead in our districts and conference

Among the many duties of the office of the bishop is that of forming districts. Paragraph 416.4 of the 2012 Book of Discipline states that bishops are "to form the districts after consultation with the district superintendents and after the number of the same has been determined by vote of the annual conference." Three years ago we considered the possibility of decreasing our number of districts from six to four. At that time the rationale was to save up more money for the unfunded Pre-1982 clergy pension liability and to order our supervision in a different way. However, at our 2013 annual conference session we voted to maintain the six districts. Recently the Rev. Gary Nicholson has asked to be reappointed as pastor of a local church. With the vacancy of the Northwest District Superintendent I wish to use this year to consider once again the possibility of decreasing the number of districts. To that end I have appointed an interim superintendent, the Rev. Joe Tyson, to serve the Northwest District during the 2016-2017 conference year (beginning in July). I extend my appreciation to Rev. Nicholson for his excellence in leadership and ministry as the Northwest DS for the past 5 years.

The rationale for downsizing the number of districts is financial. We continue to receive less money from our churches in Connectional Ministry Fund apportionment giving; and fewer churches are paying in full their billed funds for clergy pension and health benefits and for property and liability insurance. Conference Treasurer Jim Cruickshank is preparing a report that shows these shortcomings, which he will disseminate to the conference this week. In addition, many churches have not fulfilled their pledges toward the capital campaign to fund Pre-1982 pensions, and the recent revision of the mortality tables, weak financial market conditions, and lower interest rate assumptions will increase our unfunded liability. Meanwhile, more churches have closed, more churches are going part-time, and less money is coming in each year. We simply have to consider ways to live within our means so that we are able to pay our bills, fulfill our obligations to our retirees and not continue to raise apportionments.

To have four districts means that superintending needs to be done in new ways. Each superintendent in this new configuration of four would have approximately 100 churches. This is more or less the average number of churches per superintendent in other conferences in the U.S. With the development of our "Mission Connexions," many of our churches are now configured in clusters that can provide a source of local resourcing and handling charge conferences and other kinds of administration. We are also considering assisting each district with stipend funds to hire retirees to assist with various non-supervisory meetings. And we will consider expanding the role of the District Resource Assistants. Videoconferencing and live-streaming technology will be explored in order to facilitate district meetings. These developments could save on driving times and expenses. The

possibilities are endless.

The cabinet is currently working on a model for reconfiguring the conference into four districts. This will not be the same model as presented in 2013. Some of what we learned from the last plan to downsize is helping us to formulate a better plan this time. The conference treasurer, the district superintendents and I will be visiting every district during the month of April to show the map of the proposed plan and to get suggestions and answer questions. We will also celebrate some of the good work that our apportionments and our districts are doing in the life of our conference and the denomination. The dates and district locations are as follows: **Mon. April 4, 2016 – 7:00 pm – Elam UMC (Southeast)** 

It is important to take note that in July 2016 we may experience a reconfiguration of episcopal areas in our Northeastern Jurisdiction. The jurisdiction's overall membership has dropped below the prescribed number needed to maintain nine episcopal areas. An appeal to postpone this downsizing until 2020 is being made to the Interiurisdictional Episcopacy Committee, which will meet at General Conference May 15, 2016. If the appeal is not granted the Eastern PA and Peninsula Delaware conferences that make up the Philadelphia Episcopal Area will be split and each become part of two other episcopal areas with different partner conferences. Nothing has been decided officially at this time because we are waiting for the appeal decision and also for a ruling from the Judicial Council as to who determines the configuration. The Book of Discipline is unclear and the Judicial Council will give us guidance during its regularly scheduled meeting in May. That said, there may be another episcopal leader assigned to the Eastern PA Conference during the NEJ meeting in Lancaster (July 11-15, 2016). It is possible I may be assigned as bishop again to this area if we don't downsize until 2020. However we simply have no way of knowing. We trust God for the leading of the Holy Spirit in all things. If there is a new bishop assigned to this conference in 2016, waiting to vote on the number and configuration of districts would give your new episcopal leader a chance to look over the plans that have been drawn up and give leadership An Adjourned Session in October also gives us a more timely picture of what our financial situation may be in 2017 and allows us to consider and vote on a more realistic 2017 budget on that day as well.

Please join me in ardent prayer for this time of discernment around the ordering of our conference life together for the future, a future that will be challenging but full of hope, I believe. May all that we decide advance the work of our continuing mission: Making Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Thank you for your faithfulness always, Bishop Peggy Johnson





# Give Serve Restore 2016

One of the awesome things about the Give | Serve | Restore season of service is the fact that churches of all shapes and sizes in our community get to be a part of this unified effort. For many churches, the reason they decided to join GSR is because we know that the impact we can have together is so much greater than the individual parts.

## Here's a snapshot of the diversity represented in our $\underline{14~GSR~churches}$ this year:

- Locations that span the county- from Chaddsford to Oxford and Kirkwood, PA!
- Various denominations-Baptist, United Methodist, Presbyterian, Mennonite, and non-denominational (to name a few!)
- Both English and Spanish language-based churches represented
- Varying church congregation sizes and demographics



All of these factors are what make our church community unique. With GSR 2016, we're coming together despite these differences to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the community. What a great reason to join!

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.





Please let Pastor Monica, Pastor Shirley. 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!



300 North Guernsey Road, West Grove, Pa. 19390 Phone: 610-869-9334, Fax: 610-869-0110 E:mail address: office@westgroveumc.org Website: www.westgroveumc.org



# 2016

# ~ 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 <u>Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org</u>

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 <u>Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org</u>

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 <u>Jamie.lindtner@westgroveumc.org</u>

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