



The Wesleyan Star

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

March 2017

Pray Like Jesus

"Pay for Book-ie" I heard yesterday afternoon as Peter looked at my phone and caught a picture of his almost one year old cousin, Brooke. We stopped to say God bless Brooke, and pray an ear infection was gone. I smiled as we did hoping that we are instilling in our children a natural connection between thinking of others and praying for them. I wonder if you do the same things in your home. We pray when we hear sirens (fire engine, police, ambulance, or others) with blessings for both those rushing towards the emergency and those affected by it. We pray when we see a beautiful sunset, as well as a cool worm on the driveway. We pray before meals, as well as when we are worried. But, like so many who have gone before, we pray most regularly and dependably at bedtime.

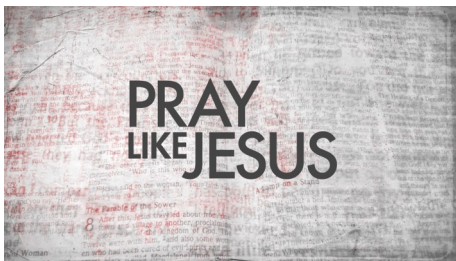
I love our bedtime prayers that Steve began on the first day Alisabeth was born, even though I was still recovering from the work of birth. Intentionally, we marry the best of customs from multiple traditions to form our familial tradition for 'night-night prayers.' We begin with the Lord's Prayer together, and then we pray through a list of family of close friends with God Blesses (as in 'God Bless Mommy and Daddy, Alisabeth, Felicity, and Peter, and so on.'). We close our prayer time with the question of what else would you like to pray for? Theologically, we mix prayers of scripture (Lord's prayer), tradition (God Blesses) with reason and experience (prayers for those you are thinking of, as well as questions). It is just as likely that we are praying for an individual whom we know, as well as those without homes or those who are tired.



Traditionally, the Church has tended to embrace one part or another of Jesus' way of praying. Our Roman Catholic and Orthodox brothers and sisters have tended towards prayers from tradition. Our Protestant brothers and sisters have tended towards prayers from their own experience. Both traditions are missing something if they only pray in one tradition or the other. We look towards Jesus for how Jesus prayed.

Jesus prayed everywhere and anywhere. He did not hesitate to address God when others were present (Matthew 19:13) or withdraw to a private place for the solitude of listening to God (Luke 5:16). There were no prescriptions only praying with the presence of others or only praying in private. We continue to learn that our God is not an 'either-or' God, but rather a 'both-and' God.

Jesus used scripture as a cornerstone for prayer (Luke 4: 1-11). When Jesus was tempted by the devil, it was the scriptures that he learned as a child and young man that gave him the strength and the fodder to resist. Memorized scripture meant prayers of biblical ancestors were his to use. We often imagine that our prayers need to be completely composed of our own original thoughts and inspirations. There is nothing less ingenious about leaning on the inspired words of others to express our thoughts and feelings.

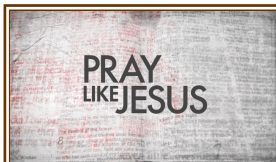
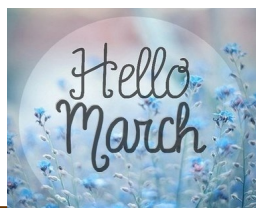


Jesus set scripture in his prayers (Matthew 26: 39). When Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, he both prayed for his own specific circumstance of the pain approaching a painful death as well as gave us an example for approaching the painful. "Thy Will be Done" is at once an acknowledgement of God's wisdom and sovereignty and of our acquiescence to it. We do not need to wish for the struggles and the challenges in order to be able to walk through the path where we find ourselves. Jesus provided this prayer as an accompaniment to lean on in those times.

This Lent, pray like Jesus. Pray by yourself and with others. Pray with scripture. Pray your own words. Most importantly, Pray.

In God's Love,

Pastor Monica



Prayer is a great gift to be in constant communication with God.
How should we pray?
Turn to Jesus!

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Ash Wednesday

Scripture: Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21
Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

Sermon: "Pray in the Closet"

What does it mean that Jesus instructs us to pray in private?

Sunday, March 5, 2017

Communion Sunday

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

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11,
Psalm 32

Sermon: "Pray with Scripture"

Throughout the scripture, there are prayers. How should we use them?

prayer

Sunday, March 12, 2017

Scripture: Matthew 21: 18-22
Romans 15: 5-7

Sermon: "Pray with color"

How can we use color and doodles to pray?

Sunday, March 19, 2017

Scripture: Mark 4: 35-41, Romans 8:18-27

Sermon: "Pray without words"

If praying is talking, how do we pray without words?

Sunday, March 26, 2017

Scripture: Psalm 103: 1-17, Jeremiah 29:12

Sermon: "Pray for our Children"

Pastor Shirley preaching
How should we pray for our children?



Books mentioned in sermons:

Speaking Christian by Marcus Borg

Exposing a Secret Sin: Envy by Mary Louise Bringle

Collaborative Intelligence: Thinking with People who think Differ-
ently by Angie McArthur and Dawna Markova

Vainglory: the Forgotten Vice by Rebecca DeYoung

FIRST SUNDAYS: *Our Emergency Food Pantry serves our community and provides much needed food and supplies to families in our area. Your donations are appreciated. An Emergency Aid donation envelope can be found in your bulletin on First Sundays as well. The funds collected help others in need with rent, utility bills, etc.*

First
Sunday



COFFEE HOUR

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

March 19

Hosted by the Board of Trustees

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.



SNOW CANCELLATIONS: Winter is upon us! The church will post any cancellations 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.

Ash

Wednesday,
March 1st, 2017



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

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

Consider joining us at 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 addi-
tional opportunities to worship.

Let us prepare our hearts for Lent.



MAY THE ROAD
rise up to meet you.
MAY THE WIND
be always at your back.
MAY THE SUN
shine warm upon your face;
MAY THE RAINS
fall soft upon your fields,
and until we meet again
MAY GOD HOLD YOU
in the palm of His hand.

TRADITIONAL GAELIC BLESSING 



Lent Wednesday Night Fun!

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 1—Ash Wednesday Service noon and 7pm - no potluck.

March 8—Lenten Prayer—Making a Chain

March 15— Game Night— bring a game to play and build our church family community.

March 22 - Baking Cookies for those who serve us!

March 29—Making Easter boxes for Shut-ins

April 5—Give Back Day—An experience of global missions—HERE!

April 12—Packing Care-Ware Boxes.

Join in us one week or all the weeks!



Give | Serve | Restore

March 1-April 16, 2017

1



1 Service Project

2



2 Pounds of Food

3



\$3 (Kids)
\$30 (Adults)

WHAT IS GSR?

Give | Serve | Restore is an annual project that gathers churches of Southern Chester County to bring hope and healing to our community during the season of Lent.

WHY DO GIVE | SERVE | RESTORE?

The goal of Give | Serve | Restore (GSR) is for people to work together to bless our community!

West Grove UMC is again participating in GSR this year as follows:

1 Service / Good Works

The wall in the lobby is set up for everyone to be encouraged to do small or large acts of kindness and service to others during Lent. Please fill-out a post it note with your kind gestures noted and place on the wall.

2 Pounds of Food

We encourage all to bring in 2 pounds of non-perishable food to help stock our Emergency Food Cupboard. We have a goal of collecting 200 pounds. You can watch our progress on the goal board in the lobby.

\$3 (Kids) / \$30 (Adults)

We encourage you to use that \$30 to help our community thrive! This year, donations will benefit Casa Youth Advocates -a local non-profit organization working for the restoration of our community. Casa Youth Advocates believes that every child needs an advocate. They aim to speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children who are involved in the family courts, and do so by mobilizing and supporting quality volunteers to serve as advocates for the children they serve. Casa serves Delaware County and is expanding their service into Chester County. Please note on your gift that it is for GSR.





Holy Week



Palm Sunday ~ Sunday, April 9

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services

11:00 worship featured the cantata: "Footprints in the Sand"



Maundy Thursday ~ Thursday, April 13

Noon and 7:00 p.m.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion



Good Friday ~ Friday, April 14

24 hour Prayer Vigil - 9:00 a.m. through Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Prayer Stations 1:00—3:00 p.m.

Worship Service 7:00 p.m.



Holy Saturday ~ Saturday, April 15

Wiggly Giggly Easter Vigil 5p.m.

Easter Sunday ~ Sunday, April 16

Sunrise Service at 7:00 a.m.

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



Easter Flowers

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 or Daffodils in 6" pots for \$5.00 each. Lilies with 4-5 blooms in 6" pots are \$9.50 each. **Last date to order flowers is Sunday, April 9.**

<u>Price each</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tulips \$5.00	_____	\$ _____
Daffodils \$5.00	_____	\$ _____
Easter Lilies \$9.50	_____	\$ _____

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 _____

In Honor of _____

In Celebration of _____

Your Name: _____

Total Amount \$ _____

One Generation plants the trees; another gets the shade.

~ Chinese proverb



Please remember West Grove in your will

THE WEST GROVE UMC ENDOWMENT FUND

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

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



Worship on the second Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. in the Allison Theater is led by Karen Hruz. In April, the service will be led by Karen Hruz while Pastor Jim and Betty are on vacation. Join us there!

**Sunday, March 12th
11:00 am**

DO YOU LIKE TO WELCOME GUESTS?

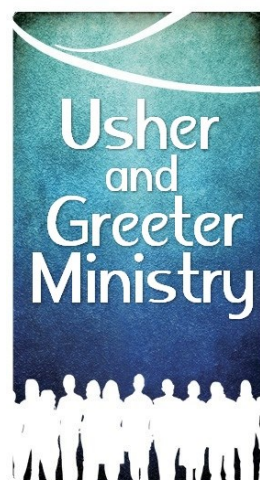
CAN YOU HELP OTHERS FEEL COMFORTABLE?

USHERS AND GREETERS ARE NEEDED FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS.

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

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

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



5th Annual Faith-Sharing Seminar

featuring **Terry Teykl**



**Saturday, March 18, 8:30 to
3:00 pm. at New Hanover UMC**

in Gilbertsville, Pa. Our guest presenter is the Rev. Terry Teykl, a leading "prayer evangelist" and popular speaker and author. If you have questions or desire additional information, please contact Pastor Shirley. There is a sign up sheet in the lobby.

Sunday School Roamers Needed!

Our church uses a "roamer" to help out during the Sunday School hour. The roamer can be the second adult or helper working with the Sunday School classes. The Roamer doesn't teach, but is just available by walking in hallway or waiting in the lobby to be called if needed.

If you could help by being a roamer, please contact Fran Miller.





Annual Spring Rummage Sale

Set-Up on Thursday, May 4, 12:00 p.m.

Sale, Friday, May 5: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Sale, Saturday, May 6: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

So, start cleaning and sorting and we will see you at the sale!

Your gently used donations can be dropped off in the lobby coat closet beginning Sunday, April 30 through Thursday,

May 4. The church office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Thank you!



The United Methodist Women are looking for someone to

lead our UMW Unit. If you feel led or would like information on what is required or information on helping with future events and programs, please see Cindy Haley.



Looking for someone to coordinate our Community Garden!

Great ministry to feed yourself and others as well

as be out in God's creation!

See Pastor Monica for more information.

Opportunity List

The list below comes from the dreams and visions of various teams in the church. We encourage all giving to be above and beyond your regular tithe and offering.

Item	Quantity	Approximate Cost
Monitors- Sanctuary (80")	2	\$ 4,000
Monitors- Narthex (42" - 46")	3	\$ 4,000
Electronic Sign at the street	2	\$ 15,000
Electronic Sign at Rt. 1	1	\$ 50,000
Fireproff filing cabinet	2	\$ 2500
2 inch slat blinds for classrooms	25	\$ 500
Postage stamps (one full mailing)	250	\$ 120

Please see Pastor Monica with questions, interest, or ideas.

If your team has ideas or contributions to the opportunity list, please submit them for review to the Administrative Council chair, Carol Whelan.



Memory Bells Expansion

The Memory Bells are excited to let you all know that we are expanding to four octaves. We began the transition process this month and we could use one more permanent player. We have rehearsals every Monday night at 6:30 and play in church the third Sunday of every month during the traditional service from September to June. We'll also be playing at Twin Pines at the end of April, and in the annual community concert the first weekend in May. As you can tell, it's a big commitment, but we have a sub list available, and if you can't attend a rehearsal or ring during church or in

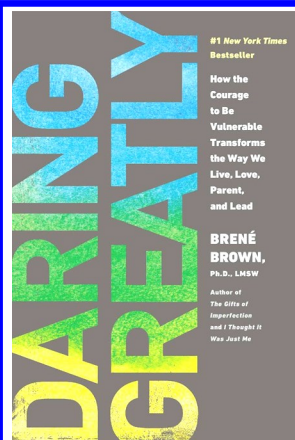
one of our events, you would be expected to find a substitute.

We have added three large bells (G, A, and B) and four small bells (D, E, F, and G) along with their accidentals, as well as the corresponding chimes. We have had to add some other equipment, including two new folding tables, foam table pads, and mallets. We thank Fred Sullivan for making two more music stands. We really appreciate all the help he has given the bell choir, as he also designed and made the music stands we have used since the choir began.

If you're interested in ringing bells, either as a permanent member or a sub, could you please let me know -- either in church or by phone. Home phone is 484-887-0003; cell phone is 610-563-9500.

Many thanks!

Sandy Deckard, Memory Bells Director



NEW BIBLE STUDY - "DARING ABUNDANTLY"

STARTING SUNDAY, APRIL 23RD AND SATURDAY, MAY 6TH

We are told by the Bible that adversity brings with it great blessings. The book Daring Greatly, by Brené Brown, explains to us how we can use our emotional vulnerability to "lean into discomfort" and begin to understand the tensions which sometimes occur between ourselves and others –often based on shame, guilt, or blame, which often cause us to be afraid to live a wholehearted life. Brené encourages us to "show up, and be seen".

With proper practice, we can build the courage to live fuller lives in connected -ness with others. Jesus taught us how to experience love, compassion, and belonging which can occur when we can be our authentic, unique selves. This can only be found when we are able to be vulnerable, resilient, and compassionate toward others.

We will be reading and exploring this in a 6 week Sunday School Class beginning April 23rd at 9:45 a.m. and Saturday mornings beginning on May 6th at 9:00 a.m.

Please join us. Inquire or sign up at the table in the Narthex after services, or Call Peter Mullen at 610-299-8899.

Take a look at a Youtube of Brené: <https://youtu.be/qQiFfA7KfF0>

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.

Pastor Monica challenged us to read the Bible in a year.



If you have taken this challenge, you have already read almost 1/6 of the Bible – GREAT JOB! You have read some heart-warming stories and some familiar passages, as well as some usual passages and things you had no idea were in the Bible.

Some people reading through the Bible would like to get together and discuss.

We are considering getting together on Tuesday or Thursday evening. Let us know what would work for you.

Questions? Comments? Please see Karen Hruz or Pastor Monica for more information.

THE WORLD
IS MY PARISH
- JOHN WESLEY



In our United Methodist connection, we believe our clergy and lay people should be connected in ministry in the church, in the community and beyond the walls.

What's been going on recently?

Pastor Shirley is serving on the Minsiterium's efforts to enliven the National Day of Prayer.

Pastor Monica serves on the Board of Ordained Ministry, who evaluate candidates for ordained ministry. She is the chair of the District Committee on Ministry, supervising licensed pastors. Pastor Monica is also co-coordinator of Annual Conference Worship.

Pastor Jim is offering worship and Bible Study on ship as he and Betty cruise around the world.

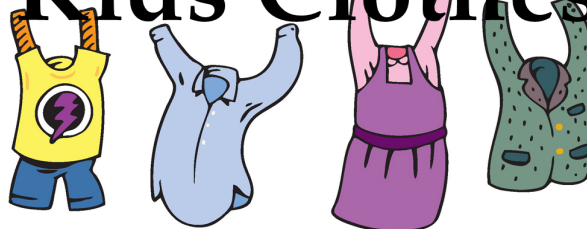
Please let Pastor Monica, Pastor Shirley, Pastor Jim, or the church office know if you or a loved one is in the hospital. Our pastoral team shares pastoral care.

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

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



Kids Clothes



CMO Children's Clothing and Equipment Consignment Sale

CONSIGN Thursday, March 16-4:30-6:30 p.m.

SHOP Friday, March 17 - 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. and

Saturday March 18- 9:00 am – 12:00 p.m.

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

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

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



Operating items and games **must have all parts and be in working condition.**

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

ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

Volunteers are needed! Consignors are asked to sign up to volunteer at least two hours during the sale. Setting up and cleaning up are always the jobs that need extra hands. Please see sign up sheets and sign up when you pick up your packet.

****Consignors who are signed up to volunteer at least two hours will have the opportunity to shop on Thursday evening once all items have been distributed.**

Any questions, please contact Tracy McLaughlin at [\(610\) 869-9334](tel:6108699334).

EASTER "EGGS"TRAVAGANZA

Sunday, April 9

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!

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, 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 afternoon, so there is no rush nor trampling of one another! Come and hunt at your pace!

Our event is "rain or shine"!



A true friend
knows your
weaknesses
but shows you
your
strengths; feels
your fears but
fortifies your
faith; sees
your anxieties
but frees your
spirit;
recognizes
your
disabilities but
emphasizes
your
possibilities.

—William
Arthur Ward

Save the Dates: HERO CENTRAL VBS

July 10-14, 9 a.m. -12 p.m.



Get ready for an action-packed 5-day super hero training camp where kids discover their strength in God! *Hero Central 2017 VBS* from Cokesbury prepares kids to *Do good! Seek peace and go after it!* Ps. 31:14B (CEB). Kids at **VBS Hero Central** learn God's heroes have Heart (Samuel Anoints David), Courage (Abigail), Wisdom (Jesus Goes to the Temple), Hope (Beatitudes), and Power (Pentecost). Grab your cape and get ready to fly with epic music, spectacular science, crafty crafts, heroic recreation, and fantastic Bible stories!



CMO PRESCHOOL

The children had a busy February filled with lots of lessons about love and kindness. Each class celebrated Valentine's Day with a special snack and lots of conversations about how we can show love to our family and friends. We also were lucky enough to once again

have a visit from Dr. Gregory, a local dentist. He always does a great job teaching the children about the importance of keeping their teeth clean. The highlight of his visit though is his bear friend who comes along. This huge stuffed bear has teeth that the children can brush for practice.

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

Preschool registration began the beginning of February and is on going. If you or someone you know is looking for a preschool, please reach out to me. I would love to tell you more about our program.

Our Consignment Sale is quickly approaching. The sale will be Friday, March 17th and Saturday, March 18th. I hope you will come out to shop and/or consign.

Thank you for supporting our CMO and Preschool program.

Tracy McLaughlin, CMO Director

CMO Chapel Time with Pastor Monica In February

Our Song: *Jesus Loves Me*

Our books:

January 30/ February 1 - God's Dream/ Am I Making God Smile?

February 8/9 - My Valentine for Jesus

February 15/16 - Love You When you Whine / A Special Kind of Love

February 23/24 - The Little Lost Sheep in Pray and Play Bible

Be sure to ask the children about the motions to *Jesus Loves Me!*





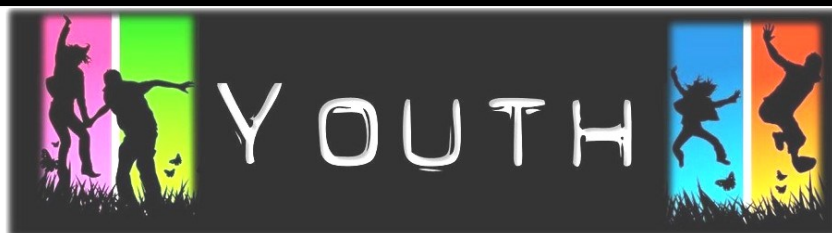
As Pastor Jim and Betty are traveling, short update:

This world cruise did not start out on the right foot. A day before we left, Jan. 19th, we received notice that because of three weather systems in the Pacific Ocean which would affect Los Angeles, the ship would not sail on Friday, Jan. 20th but would stay in port and leave early Sunday morning, Jan. 22nd. Because of these storms in the Pacific, Princess changed our itinerary. We would now head Southwest and cancel our ports of call to Hawaii, American Samoa (Pago Pago) and Tonga, replacing them with Bora Bora and Tahiti. Betty and I were okay.

On Sunday Jan. 22nd, the day we left LA I had the privilege of conducting the Interdenominational Church Service. With rough seas and a service time of 8:30 AM, I didn't expect many to attend, but there were 65 people present. Since we were at sea the next week, the 29th, I had them make 75 bulletins for the service and again we ran out with and estimated 85 in worship. I showed a Christian film called "WAR ROOM" which I broke into four 30 minutes segments as our gathering time is 50 minutes. I'm offering another study which I designed a powerpoint program called "The Majesty of God in the Old Testament". More updates next month!



Classes starting.
See David and Barbara Delaney for more information:
delaneysd@comcast.net



Mission Possible

there are currently 5 young people attending our 5th/6th grade Sunday School class pretty regularly. We just finished our 1st unit of study from Creation through the Scattering of the People.

Before beginning the next unit of Jesus' Final Week, we will have two weeks to talk about prayer.

On March 5, we will be making prayer beads with the entire group of Sunday School children. The following is a list of opportunities we have lined up for Mission Possible this spring:

March 19, 2017 - 5:30 - 7:00 PM - Pizza and Game Night at church with Middle School Youth Group

March 25, 2017 - 10 AM - Stop Hunger Now at West Grove UMC to pack food

April 9, 2017 - 2 PM - Easter Eggstravaganza at WGUMC to help hide eggs and assist with games and activities

April 29, 2017 - 8:30 AM - Tools for Ministry Event hosted at WGUMC to help with greeting, directions, and serving

May 20, 2017 - 10:00 AM - Bike Ride for Family Promise fundraiser hosted by WGUMC to help with handing out water and serving lunch

JOIN US!

C.I.A. Youth Ministry News

March Newsletter for Youth Ministry - 2017

Hello March! Catch up on some youth news!

Mission Trip Reveal – Virginia Beach, Virginia!



We will be teaming up with Team Effort again in Virginia Beach, VA. We will be doing home repair for low income families and elderly people as well as spending a little time enjoying the beach! We will stay at Regent University Village in Apartment style dorms. Dining, meeting areas and recreational facilities are all located on site there. The cost for the week is \$325 which will cover lodging, transportation, some meals and all supplies for the week. The trip is open to students who are currently in grades 7th – 12th. If you are interested in signing up – please contact Jamie Lindtner (Jamielindtner@gmail.com)



March Dates:

- **March 5th** – Middle School Youth Group @ Church/6 – 7:30
- **March 10th** – Friday Night Dodge Ball/\$2 for Pizza/7 – 9:00
- **March 12th** – High School Youth Group @ Church/6 – 7:30
- **March 19th** – Middle School Fun Night With Mission Possible Group (5th/6th grades) – 9 In the Air/Dodge Ball/Pizza. 5 – 6:30
- **March 26th** – High School Youth – Out to Dinner – TBD



Middle School & Mission Possible FUN NIGHT - March 19th!!



All 5th – 8th graders are invited to join in for some FUN! We will have pizza for dinner, play some dodge ball and 9 in the air. Invite some friends, bring a snack or a drink and \$2 for pizza. RSVP to jamielindtner@gmail.com or chaley@zoominternet.net

YES Youth Retreat

Save the Date: April 16, 2017

Time: 10:00 am - 4:30 PM

Location: Cedarville UMC

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.

Our 2017 annual Faith-Sharing Training Event will happen **March 18, from 8:30 AM to 2 PM, at New Hanover UMC.** Our guest presenter is the **Rev. Terry Teykel, a**



leading "prayer evangelist" and popular speaker and author. He travels the world encouraging churches to develop and strengthen prayer ministries as a means of revival and transformation. Teykel, the founder of [Renewal Ministries](#) and [Prayer Point Press](#), has authored several books, including *The Presence-Based Church*, *My Most Wanted: 40 Days to Pray for the Lost*, and *Pray the Price: United Methodists United in Prayer*. He has spent his life teaching churches how to develop a heartfelt, meaningful relationship with the Lord. His warm, humorous style makes him a much-sought after speaker and seminar leader.

We believe that when prayer and evangelism are reunited the Church will emerge as a powerful force for reclaiming the land and setting the captives free." - Terry Teykl.

amazonsmile
You Shop. Amazon Gives.

West Grove United Methodist Church was issued a \$33.53

donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 31, 2016. So friends, keep using Amazon Smile when you shop—doesn't cost you anything and earns the church a donation!



Save the Date!

May 20th , 2017

Bike Ride to Raise Funds to Support Family Promise So. Chester County

Sponsored by West Grove UMC

8:00 am start for 50 miles

9:00 am start for 35 miles

\$40 Entry Fee

Contact Lonnie Lusavage for more information: llusavage@gmail.com

This event begins and ends at WGUMC. If you are interested in riding, visit our registration site at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bike-southern-chester-county-tickets-32002680880>

We need volunteers for assistance at the church and two rest stops. Contact Janice Bowers, Lonnie Lusavage or the church office if you would like to help out!

Retired Active People



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

Thank you **Linda Peirson** for bringing us a very interesting program and overview of Delaware **Light Houses**. Everyone enjoyed Linda's informative presentation. Don't miss out on wonderful programs presented each month at RAP. Join us for our next gathering on March 10th at noon for an afternoon of good friends and fellowship.



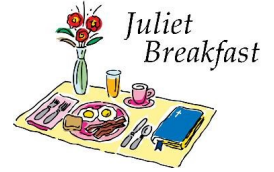
Bring your bagged lunch; desserts and beverages are provided; and enjoy a trip down the Nile presented by **Jeanette Stryjewski**. During the trip we will be stopping off at a few ancient sites. At each of the "stops" we will learn about the

famous people who lived there and why Jeanette thinks they were fun. She says, "consider it like "People" magazine for Ancient Egypt." Jeanette has taught history from the point of view that we should enjoy it, not suffer through it. So, she adds, "if there were characters who were like rock stars or whom the paparazzi would want to photograph, that's my kind of presentation!" Invite your friends and join us for a wonderful afternoon!

We are still looking for a couple more folks to join the team for future programming, so plans for next year's programs may be finalized. RAP is still in need of a leader. If you feel led to lead this group and/or are interested in helping plan the meetings, events, and programs for the 2017-2018 year and to help plan our 20th Anniversary RAP celebration, look for the sign-up sheet at our next meeting. Many thanks to all who gather each month to enjoy this time together and to those who help make the afternoon enjoyable.

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

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



Saturday, March 11, 2017

Please join this group of ladies for a breakfast time of food, fun and fellowship. **We meet at Sunrise Café, 127 E. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348** They have free parking in the parking garage on Saturdays. Questions? Chris Curtiss (610-345-0374)



**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. **We will be starting a Lenten Study entitled "Walking Toward Glory" by John Birch.** If you have any questions, contact Cindy Haley at: chaley@zoominternet.net

UMW FAITH CIRCLE will resume their schedule of meeting on the **1st and 3rd Friday mornings in the Youth Room as of**. Sewing skills are not necessary. If you are interested in our projects or want to confirm that we are meeting on a particular Friday, contact Chris Curtiss (610-345-0374) or Karen Boyd (443-553-4900).



R.O.M.E.O.

**Retired Older Men
Eating Out**

March 23, 2017



R.O.M.E.O.

We will meet on If you are retired, then we would like to see you at our ROMEIO 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.



We provide a worship experience for the tenants at Twin Pines Nursing home on the following Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

April 30

August 6

November 5

If you would like to be a part of the group that goes to Twin Pines to provide worship, please see Pastor Monica!

Thank You

To everyone at West Grove UMC ~

Thank you so much for your love, prayers, and support. From my prayer shawl to the meal train, to the calls and emails, it has meant a lot to our family to know help is always there.

Thank you

WGUMC Church Family,
Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered by the

family of Mary Lou Smith.

With love, Tracy, Brian, Matthew and Riley McLaughlin

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.

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 focus on needs such as

- Personal care items; Toilet paper; Paper towels
- Soups; Canned meats



INVITATION FOR RAP AND FRIENDS



The Avon Grove Seniors will be traveling by Duvall's bus to the Rainbow Comedy Dinner Theatre on Wednesday, April 26th, for their buffet and show RUNNING MATES. The bus will load at WGUMC at 10 a.m. The total cost for bus travel, buffet, and show (including the bus driver tip and all taxes and gratuities) is \$68 payable to the Avon Grove Seniors. Please contact Sara Ann Ramberger at 610-869-3863 or sar57ver@verizon.net for questions and reservations.

Daily Meditations



They are written one for each day of the week as a short meditation and question to begin your day. Take your bulletin home and read each day. May your relationship with God be enriched. They are also available on Facebook and our website!

A Big THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who gave to the Advent Bag. That was so nice of all of you. I could use the gifts I received daily.

**Thank you all so much,
Fran Bryan**



Susan Paisley, RN
Parish Nurse



ADDICTIONS and RECOVERY.org

Addiction and Recovery Information for Individuals, Families and Professionals

I Want to Change My Life Network

These are some of the common opioids and their generic names. They are listed in order of increasing strength.

Codeine, Vicodin, Hycodan (hydrocodone), MS Contin Kadian (morphine), Oxycontin, Percoset (oxycodone) Dilaudid (hydromorphone), Duragesic (fentanyl)

What are Opioids?

Opioids are a group of drugs that are used for treating pain. They are derived from opium which comes from the poppy plant. Opioids go by a variety of names including opiates, opioids, and narcotics. The term opiates is sometimes used for close relatives of opium such as codeine, morphine and heroin, while the term opioids is used for the entire class of drugs including synthetic opiates such as Oxycontin.

Opioids Addiction

Opioids produce a sense of wellbeing or euphoria that can be addictive to some people. Opioids are legitimately used for treating pain. When used for pain relief, many people develop tolerance, meaning they need more and more to get the same effect. Some people go on to develop an addiction to opioids. They begin to obsessively think about getting more opiates and in some cases engage in illegal activities such as double doctoring.

A high dose of opioids can cause death from cardiac or respiratory arrest. Tolerance to the euphoric effect of opioids develops faster than tolerance to the dangerous effects. Therefore people often overdose by mistake because they are trying to get a higher high and take too much.

Opioid overdose can be reversed in hospital with intravenous naltrexone. Please contact emergency services if you feel you are in danger of an overdose.

Opioid Withdrawal

Opioid withdrawal can be extremely uncomfortable. The important thing to remember is that opioid withdrawal is not life threatening if you are withdrawing only from opioids and not a combination of drugs. (Withdrawal from alcohol and some drugs

such as benzodiazepines is potentially dangerous)

Opioid withdrawal symptoms include:

Low energy, Irritability, Anxiety, Agitation, Insomnia, Runny nose, Teary eyes, Hot and cold sweats, Goose bumps, Yawning, Muscle aches and pains, Abdominal cramping, Nausea, Vomiting, Diarrhea.

Opioid withdrawal symptoms can last anywhere from one week to one month. Especially the emotional symptoms such as low energy, anxiety and insomnia can last for a few months after stopping high doses of opioids.

Once the early stage withdrawal symptoms are over, you will still experience post-acute withdrawal symptoms. These are less severe but last longer.

Do You Have an Opioid Addiction?

Has your use of opioids increased over time? Do you experience withdrawal symptoms when you stop using? Do you use more than you would like, or more than is prescribed? Have you experienced negative consequences to your using? Have you put off doing things because of your drug use? Do you find yourself thinking obsessively about getting or using your drug? Have you made unsuccessful attempts at cutting down your drug use?

If you answered yes to at least three of those questions, then you are addicted to opioids.

A Recovery Plan

Break the cycle of guilt and shame. Do your recovery with other people who are going through the same thing. This is the benefit of going to 12-step meetings such as Narcotics Anonymous NA or Alcoholics Anonymous AA. (More resources.)

Ask for help. Have a strong support system. Be honest, and practice sharing how you feel. Avoid high risk situations. Learn relapse prevention strategies. Do your recovery one day at a time.

Medications Used to Treat Opioid Addiction

Suboxone, Subutex (buprenorphine), Revia (naltrexone), Methadone

April Fool's Day
Saturday - April 1st
Spring Cleanup Day for our
Church!!



April 1st is the thirteenth day of Spring! We want to have our church looking its best for Palm Sunday, April 9th, and Easter, April 16th! Our Trustees ask for and need your help with our spring spruce up! Please set aside a few hours on April 1st to provide a welcoming atmosphere to our church for our members and visitors. We are in need of many volunteers to accomplish the tasks quickly. We will begin at 8 a.m. and finish by 1 p.m. The more help we have, the quicker we will be finished!

OUTSIDE:

Remove weeds and dead plants from all flower beds.

Level and reseed all ruts and divots along the driveway.

Clean up/remove dirt along parking lot curbing.

Remove weeds from drainage basin.

Wash all exterior doors of the church.

Power wash all inside and outside entrance rugs.

Scrub the playground fence.

Clean stairs to recreation park. Remove weeds on side banks of the stairs.

Weed eat bank along Harmony Road.

Weed eat area surrounding the route 1 bypass sign.

INSIDE:

Vacuum upholstery and polish wood on sanctuary chairs.

Polish sanctuary stage furniture.

Wash windows--frames, sills, panes, and blinds.

Clean and polish cabinets in the copy room, men's classroom, and library.

Clean air grills in all rooms.

Please bring with you the tools and supplies necessary to do your job. Please let the Trustees know asap which job you are willing to help with--the signup list is available in the church foyer! The Trustees will be glad to answer your questions and provide direction.

Gene Aucott, Chairperson

John Boyd

Tom Hoover

John Lindtner

Steve May

Darlene Murphy

Vernon Ramberger

Linda Shiplet

Kim Smith

Fred Sullivan



Free for WGUMC!

Sign-Up in the Office Lobby!

Save the Date!

**Keynote Workshop +
14 Workshops You Won't Want to Miss!
SOUTHEAST DISTRICT TOOLS FOR MINISTRY
Saturday, April 29, 2017**

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

8:30 A.M. Registration & Breakfast; Gathering Music

9:00 A.M. Welcome/Opening Devotion, DS Taylor-Storm

9:20 A.M. **Keynote Address - Dr. Rod: What is Beloved Community?**

9:45 A.M. Session I for all participants:

"Steps to Becoming the Beloved Community"

11:00-11:15 A.M. Break

11:15-12:45 P.M. Session II - Workshops

Watch for Registration Announcement



Rev. Dr. Rodney Thomas Smothers serves as the Pastor of Liberty Grove UMC in Burtonsville, Maryland.

During the past 36 years he has founded new congregations, served as the lead pastor of multicultural, urban and suburban congregations. He

has served as the Director of Evangelism at the General Board of Discipleship, a Path 1 New Church Development Coach, and Conference Director of Congregational Development for the Baltimore-Washington Conference of the United Methodist Church. Dr. Smothers has also served as an adjunct seminary professor; he taught courses in Church Administration, Evangelism, UM History, Preaching and Worship. As a church leadership coach and training facilitator, he resources local churches and denominational leaders in the areas of congregational health, and ministry effectiveness.



Coming to West Grove UMC!!

Wednesday, April 5 – join us as a family, couple, friends or individuals at our Lenten Evening celebration

Give Back Day

A cross-cultural, intergenerational, service Learning experience that invites families to see the world from a different perspective, without leaving home.

Give Back Day has three sections:

1: First, we'll visit the African nation of Uganda.

Pastor Tom, his wife Nancy and their 12 children will be our host family. We'll learn about their family and community from their perspective and how they

share from their enough.

2: Second, we'll imagine ourselves as members of a village similar to Pastor Tom's and engage in activities and discussions together as we visit an African marketplace.

3: Finally, we will spend some time in Scripture and prayer, inviting God to show us where we might have enough to share and how we could take a next

Be on the look out for our touring display of Sponsored Children in your Sunday School classes and our monthly Coffee Fellowships. We will be asking for donations when you see this to aid the children we support with Compassion International in Indonesia and with Children International in Columbia.

OPERATION CARE-WARE

GIFTS OF NEW UNDERWEAR TO SHOW YOU CARE

We need **YOU** to help us provide lots of **CARE!**

YOU can provide dignity and care for each man, woman, boy, and girl this Easter season by providing gifts of underwear, T-shirts, bras, and shower shoes.

It's time to **MOBILIZE**, and bring lots of care this Easter Season!

**DROP OFF
YOUR**

SIZES:

INFANT - XXXL

**GIFTS OF CARE
BY** _____



ALL DONATIONS ACCEPTED AT
SUNDAY BREAKFAST MISSION
110 N. POPLAR ST.
WILMINGTON, DE 19801
(302) 652-8314

www.sundaybreakfastmission.org



SAVE THE DATE!!

CHICKEN BBQ Take-Out

Saturday, April 22

Pick up time: 3:00-5:00 p.m.

(No eat-in diners will be served)

Board of Trustees



Save the dates:
We are hosting our next
week:

April 16th—23rd

Mark your calendar to
help out!



Sponsored by the
Oxford Mission ConneXion

What: Package meals to be shipped
throughout the world to support school
feeding programs, orphanages, and
crisis relief.

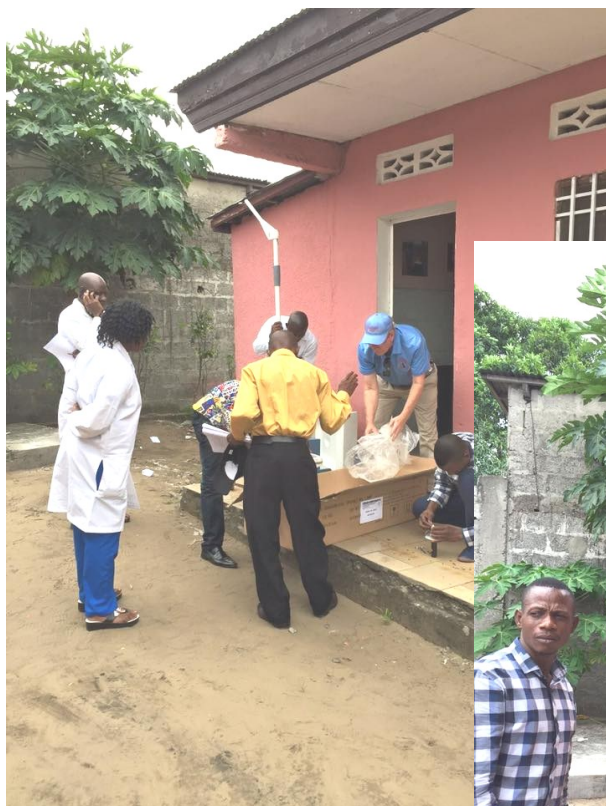
Date: Saturday, Mar. 25, 2017

Time: 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Where: West Grove UMC

Who: Volunteers of all ages

Our giving to the Mpasa Clinic in the Democratic Republic of Congo in action. Medical equipment is arriving at the pediatric clinic. Thank you for being HOPE in the most needed places.





See our new home!
Hear about how we are alleviating family homelessness in Southern Chester County!

You are invited to visit our new Resource Center for an Open House. Sue Minarchi, our Executive Director, will share some exciting stories about how Family Promise is helping families experiencing homelessness transition into stable housing. We want to thank McGovern, Inc. for supporting us in alleviating family homelessness in Southern Chester County. Come and celebrate a new chapter for our organization, in *our* new home!

Thursday, March 2, 2017

6 pm - 8 pm

1156 W. Baltimore Pike, Kennett Square, PA 19348

610-444-0400

Light refreshments served.



SCRIP is a great way to help our congregation.

Do you order books from Barnes and Noble for school or pleasure?

Buy a gift card from SCRIP through the church. If you buy a \$100 gift card, SCRIP sends \$9.00 to the church!

See John Boyd for more details!



House Blessings

"And now, O Lord GOD, you are God, and your words are true, and you have promised this good thing to

your servant; now therefore may it please you to bless the house of your servant, so that it may continue forever before you; for you, O Lord GOD, have spoken, and with your blessing shall the house of your servant be blessed forever." 2 Samuel 7: 28-29

From biblical times, when someone moved into a new dwelling, words of blessing were offered over the new home. Home blessings involve prayers, scripture reading, and movement throughout the house.

If you are interested in a home blessing, please contact Pastor Monica.



UMCOR – Mission Central

Ten folks from our church volunteered at the Mission Central HUB at Christiana UMC on Saturday, February 11. We loaded layette, personal hygiene and school kits as well as flood buckets. These will be distributed both nationally and internationally.



West Grove United Methodist Church
OPEN • GROW • SERVE

300 North Guernsey Road, West Grove, Pa. 19390

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

E:mail address: office@westgroveumc.org

Website: www.westgroveumc.org



2017

~ 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

dvasan5@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

Joan Leaman - Children's Ministry Team Contact

Susan Paisley - Faith Community Nurse

Janice Bowers - Missions Team Chair

Dick and Caryl Stuhrke - Hospitality Committee Chair

Cindy Haley - Delegate to Annual Conference

Luke Chalmers- Delegate to Annual Conference

Cindy Haley - Lay Leader

OPEN - U.M.W. President

Prayer Team - Prayer Chain Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

John Gambill, Betty Mundell and Denise Byers

Ad Council Member at Large