



The Wesleyan Star

West Grove United Methodist Church

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November



"As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving."

Colossians 2: 6-7

Dear Grandma, thank you for the sweater. I will wear it in the cold. Love, Your Grandchild.

I wonder if you ever had to write notes like that after receiving gifts. Even if you did not like the sweater or socks, you HAD to write the note. For some of us, it has been drilled into that thank you notes are as much about manners as they are about gratitude. When a gift is given, many were taught, a note is written to thank the giver.

Like so many of the traditions passed onto us from generations before, science is beginning to back up the best practices and habits of our ancestors. Two psychologists, Dr. Robert A. Emmons of the University of California, Davis, and Dr. Michael E. McCullough of the University of Miami, created a study on gratitude and health. The crux of the study that began in 2002 and has expanded since then is that they asked all participants to write a few sentences each week, focusing on particular topics. One group wrote about things they were grateful for that had occurred during the week. A second group wrote about daily irritations or things that had displeased them, and the third wrote about events that had affected them (with no emphasis on them being positive or negative). After 10 weeks, those who wrote about gratitude were more optimistic and felt better about their lives. Surprisingly, they also exercised more and had fewer visits to physicians than those who focused on sources of aggravation.¹

This is more than a good health or social practice; it is also at the very heart of our faith. According to Mark T. Mitchell, professor of political science at Patrick Henry College in Virginia: "Gratitude is born of humility, for it acknowledges the giftedness of the creation and the benevolence of the Creator. This recognition gives birth to acts marked by attention and responsibility. Ingratitude, on the other hand, is marked by hubris, which denies the gift, and this always leads to inattention, irresponsibility, and abuse."² Our faith is rooted in gratitude to God for the gift of Jesus, which we can never repay. We seek to live lives that reflect the glory of who God is and how Jesus lived. It is almost as if our lives are long thank you notes to God.

For the thirty days of November, I challenge you to write a thank you to someone different every day! Yes, I am challenging you to write the note. The act of writing changes our experience as the one thanking as well as deepens the experience of the receiver. While spoken thank yous are important, they tend not to be as long held or deeply offered. Yes, I am challenging you to write to someone different every day. From your family to your friends, from co-workers to neighbors, from the pharmacist to our troops serving here and around the world, from teachers to doctors, from government officials to bus drivers, they are many people for whom you can give thanks to God.

And don't forget to offer gratitude to God for who God is and what God has done and will do! I am writing thank you notes alongside of you. I am giving thanks to God for each of you, today. Maybe you'll even find a thank you note!

In God's Love, Pastor Monica

¹http://www.health.harvard.edu/newsletter_article/in-praise-of-gratitude

²http://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/what_stops_gratitude



November Worship at West Grove UMC

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



Rooted in Gratitude, Growing in Christ: Through November 20th
Advent: Christmas through Luke's Carols and Ours



Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

November 6, 2016

All Saints Sunday

Scripture: Ephesians 1: 11-23,
Luke 6: 20-31

Sermon: Sainted Roots

Let us join together giving thanks to God for all the saints who have gone before.

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

Twenty-Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

November 13, 2016

Consecration Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 7: 16-20

Sermon: Fruitful Growth

The life of a disciple evidences growth. Where are you showing fruitful growth?



Christ the King Sunday

November 20, 2016

Scripture: Colossians 1: 11-20,
John 15: 1-6

Sermon: Christ the King, Gardener of our Lives

A good gardener is regularly involved and nurtures as well as prunes. Listen for our good gardener.

Christmas through Luke's Carols and Ours: Singing our Faith

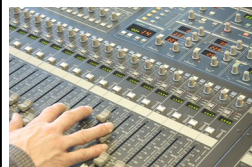
First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016

Scripture: Luke 1: 5-24, Psalm 13
All the Earth is Waiting (UMH 209)

Sermon: "Countdown to Christmas"

As the Christmas music begins, how are you counting down and preparing not just for presents and celebrations, but the coming of OUR KING?



We Need YOU!

Our Soundbooth is a vital part of our Sunday morning worship. They run visuals from the computer and balance audio from the Soundboard. Please let us know how you can serve in one of these ways. Contact the church office for more information!



Gluten Free Communion

Our Communion bread is now gluten free, so that all can receive from the same loaf. In our church, we have at least 10% of the congregation who have Celiac's disease or gluten intolerance or sensitivity. This radical hospitality allows us to live our theology that ALL are welcome at the Communion table.



**Hosted by the
Staff Parish Relations
Committee**

On Sunday, November 20

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.



Turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday, November 5th and join us for worship the next morning, Sunday, November 6th!

Teaching our Children about Tithing



Teaching children to tithe is an important part of their faith education that we often overlook. Giving to God is a core value of our faith that should be taught early and reinforced often. The most common way that I see tithing taught to children is simply by grownups giving children a quarter to put in the offering plate. This is all right for very young children because it gives them an opportunity to participate. But this may not send the right message to elementary school children.

First, the money wasn't theirs to begin with, so they do not feel the satisfaction of it being a personal gift to God.

Second, it does not teach proportionality in

giving or the idea of putting God first in our finances. We want to teach children to be intentional about their giving. But our adult understanding of tithing can be too complex for children. For example, children are not generally taught to figure percentages until their middle-elementary-school years. So teaching younger children to calculate a percentage tithe is not age appropriate.

When our son was five, we started to teach him about giving using "money jars." We have three jars sitting on his dresser that are labeled "Money for God," "Money to Save," and "Money to Spend." He gets a two-dollars-per-week allowance. We give it to him as a dollar bill and 4 quarters; that way one quarter can be given to the God jar, one to the savings jar, and the rest in the spend jar. On Sunday, he takes the quarter from God's jar, and takes it to church. He fills out the offering envelope and proudly makes his offering at church.

As we implemented the jar system we discussed the following things with him:

- 1) God made everything, so everything is God's. Even us. We are God's creation. We are thankful that God created everything. God has given us so much that we want to give back to God, too.
- 2) We want to think about God first. So, the first jar we put money in will be the "Money for God" jar.
- 3) We give to God because we love God. We also show God our love by going to church, praying, and doing good for others. In fact, when we give money to the church, it helps the church do the things God has asked the church to do.

It helps the church teach people about God so that other people can know that God loves them, too. The jar method seemed to teach what we think is most important for a child to know about giving to God.

This article is by Dan Pezet, a United Methodist pastor in the Alabama-West Florida Conference, and appeared in Leading Ideas February 1, 2012. It is adapted from his blog at www.churchandtea.com. Used by permission.



Advent

Join us for Wednesdays Night Fun in
Advent

(November 23rd – December 14th)

Potluck and Activity 6-8p

Wednesday, November 23rd – Join us for a Movie Night—*Polar Express*

Wednesday, November 30th – Make and Eat Gingerbread families and mulled apple cider

Wednesday, December 7th – Join us for a Movie Night—*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, 2000 version

Wednesday, December 14th – Singing Our Songs—Join us for a carol sing.

We will have pot-luck style dinner. If you are able, you are invited to bring a dish to share. If you can't, no worries, come anyway! It is a potluck and there is always plenty to be shared!

We will provide plates, utensils, drinks, and desserts.

Come one week, come all of the weeks!

Bring the family, bring the kids, invite your friends and neighbors!



Annual Christmas Music Celebration

Sunday, December 4th ~ 6:30 p.m.

Christmas brings out the best music in all of us!

Bring your family and invite your friends!

Our family-friendly time of 6:30 p.m.

allows **all ages** to join in the festivities.

Welcome the Advent Season with music by the Chancel Choir, PraiseWorks Band, Memory Bells Handbell Choir, special musical numbers and, of course, a carol sing-along.

Stay after for delicious, homemade
Christmas cookies and cider!

Invite your friends and family to get in the Christmas spirit!



2016 Operation Christmas Child

The youth group will, once again, sponsor the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox ministry this year. Dansko shoe company is generously donating all of the shoeboxes. The youth group will have a display and all necessary information in the church lobby this month. **The Shoeboxes will be available for pick-up in the lobby on November 6th and are due back by Friday, November 18th**

SHOEBOX GIFT IDEAS

- **TOYS** :small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.
- **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**: pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.
- **HYGIENE ITEMS**: toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, etc.
- **OTHER**: Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries)
- **A PERSONAL NOTE**: In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)
- **DO NOT INCLUDE**: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans .

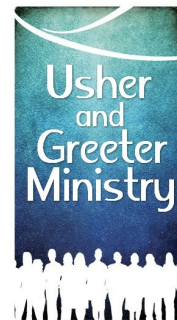
West Grove UMC Church Directory Update



Please check your family's information and update addresses, cell phone numbers, emails, birthdates, etc.

There are many children (and adults) in our church family who do not have their birthdays listed, and we would love to be able to wish them happy birthday!

Our new directory is used by all of our congregation, so please make sure to check your information. The binder with our current directory information is at the Welcome Center in Lobby. Please make your corrections directly in the book or you may email the office at: office.westgroveumc.org Thank you.



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.



**Community Thanksgiving
Worship**
at
**Christ Church in the
Grove**
on
**Sunday, November 20th
at 6:00 p.m.**

Join the churches of West Grove, Avondale, Jennersville, and the surrounding areas, as we gather to give thanks to God! Please bring a non-perishable food item for us to share with the local food pantries. Join us for great music, time of fellowship and testimony, and a inspiring message for our community brought by Pastor Dan Bergstrom.

Our own PraiseWorks band will offer music!



Twin Pines Ministry

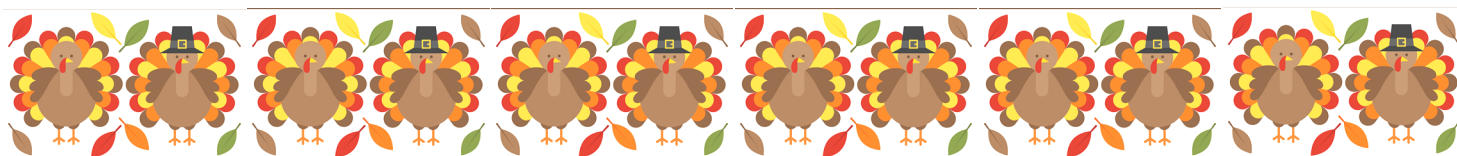
On November 6th, we will be taking a group to Twin Pines to lead worship and offer fellowship as our Memory Bell Choir enhances our worship time with our friends at Twin Pines. Join us as we sing, enjoy a message from Pastor Monica, offer communion, and enjoy time together.

**Please consider joining us on Sunday,
November 6th at 2pm!**



Our Church Office will be
Closed to celebrate
Thanksgiving on Thursday,
November 24th and
Friday, November 25th.

*We pray that our staff, our
congregation, and our
community will have days
filled with the blessings of
family, friends, food, and
God's very presence.*

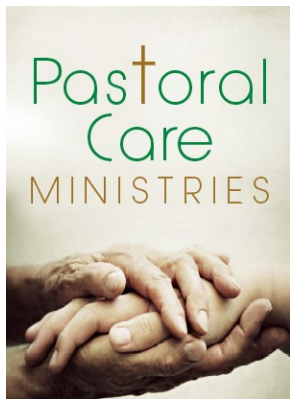




Have you checked
our website
recently?

www.westgroveumc.org

Look for newsletters, bulletins, sermons,
our calendar and much more!



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!



Worship on the second Sunday of
the month at 11 a.m. in the
Allison Theater led by
Pastor Jim. Join us there!
Sunday, November 13

Daily Meditations

They are written
one for each day of
the week with
which you might
begin your day.
Don't forget to take
your bulletin home or catch them on
the website. May your day and faith
journey be enriched!

All Saints Sunday November 6th 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Services



One of the oldest traditions of
the church is the remembrance of those who
have died during the last year on All Saints'
Day. This beloved tradition has been important
in this congregation for many years.

We remember beloved members of the church,
special loved ones of our families, and those for
whom we have performed funeral and memorial
services. Our remembrance includes pictures,
the tolling of the bell, and the lighting of the
candles.

You may be remembering a loved one this year.
We would like to give thanks to God for their life
in our **All Saints Day service on November
6th** during both services. It is our privilege to
remember those who moved onto the church
triumphant, even as we hold the tenderness of
loss. Please join me in praying for all who are
remembering loved ones.

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 serv-
ant, 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 move-
ment throughout the house.*

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



This year is the 130th anniversary of West Grove Church!



SAVE THE DATE: November 13th Consecration Brunch and Celebration. Join us for our Celebration of 130 years in ministry: Rooted in Gratitude, Growing in Christ

This fall, we have been retelling the story of 130 years in our community and looking forward to hundreds of more years serving our community.

Look for ways that you can celebrate how we have already served the community and look forward to equipping our congregation to grow into the future.



Purple Heart
stamps cost
\$0.47 for
military APO
anywhere.

Please use this information to send Christmas cards to our troops. **Also, please help the church office by putting a book of stamps in the offering plate!**



**Avon Grove
Ministerium:
Thank you!**

It was our privilege to host the Avon Grove Ministerium on October 5th. Over 20 clergy and church leaders gathered to do the work of the ministerium. We give thanks to God for those who supported this vital mission with hospitality. Thank you!

**Thank you to those who made
breakfast and act in hospitality:**

Linda Peirson, Kathy Wiwel, Sandy Carmichael, Donna Fackler, Kim Smith, Joan Saller, Karen Underwood, and Linda Shippet, hostess.

Veterans' Day November 11

The United Methodist Church has offered *Strength for Service* as a resource and comfort for soldiers and their families since 1942.



VETERANS DAY

God of compassion,
God of dignity and strength,
Watch over the veterans of the United States
In recognition of their loyal service to our nation.
Bless them with wholeness and love.
Shelter them.
Heal their wounds,
Comfort their hearts.
Grant them peace.

God of justice and truth,
Rock of our lives,
Bless our veterans,
These men and women of courage and valor,
With a deep and abiding understanding
Of our profound gratitude.
Protect them and their families from loneliness and want.
Grant them lives of joy and bounty.
May their dedication and honor
Be remembered as a blessing
From generation to generation.

Blessed are You,
Protector and Redeemer,
Our Shield and our Stronghold.

© 2011 Alden Solovy

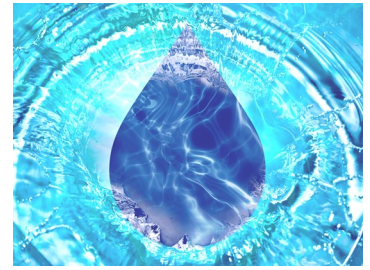
After Sept. 11, 2001, United Methodist Men took over support of the project. The devotional is for armed forces personnel and was written for use during World War II and the Korean conflict.

The book was updated and reprinted in 2002 thanks to Evan Hunsberger, an Eagle Scout, who found his grandfather's worn copy and made it his mission to get the book updated and republished.

Join me in praying for our Veterans!

Baptism

- Through baptism we are joined with the church and with Christians everywhere.
- Baptism is a symbol of new life and a sign of God's love and forgiveness of our sins.
- Persons of any age can be baptized. We baptize by sprinkling, immersion or pouring.
- A person receives the sacrament of baptism only once in his or her life.
- See One of our Pastors or the Church Office for information about Baptism for you or your children.



Planning for the Future

We plan for the future all the time. We hope to have enough milk, eggs, and bread during a snowstorm. We hope to have enough gas to get to our destination. We hope to make good life choices to achieve who God has called us to be. We might want to plan for a future beyond ourselves as we consider wills, estate planning, legacies, and even our own funeral or memorial service.



Sometimes, persons are interested in sharing their wishes and desires for funeral and memorial services with loved ones ahead of time. Other times, information is written in places to be discovered upon death. In other circumstances, families wish to respect the wishes of a loved one, but are unsure as to what best honors their loved one. Prayerfully consider, if you might want to record those thoughts with the church. The church can retain and hold those wishes for you, so that information might be shared and available when appropriate.

If you are interested in recording your hopes for your own services, please be in contact with Donna in the office for a guide or Pastor Monica to discuss your thoughts.

Thank you!



Thank you to Keith Schneider (Master AV guru), Scott Steele (local and church historian), Vinny Rucinski (production

assistant) and Mel Leaman (former pastor) for their work on the 4 videos for our 130th anniversary: **Rooted in gratitude, Growing in Christ.** Wonderful stories were told and captured of our history!

If you are interested in watching online, please go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcMskzlor4EexJqIRtPVMZw>.

If you are interested in a video of all four histories, please contact the office.



ELECTRONIC GIVING

Electronic giving makes keeping your commitment to stewardship simple.

Your tithe can be given first out of all of your banking in giving thanks to God!

You can give through electronic transfer from your bank, schedule bill pay from your account, give through pay pal and other options specific to your bank accounts.

See Donna Fackler in the office to set up.

Office Volunteers: We need you!



Can you answer phones at lunch time?

Can you help prepare a bulk mailing?

Can you file?

Can you do special projects?

Can you cut and paste on the computer?

Can you make phone calls?

Can you greet guests as they come to the church?

Can you organize?

Join our team by contacting Donna Fackler in the Office.



CMO PRESCHOOL

Children's Morning Out Program

Fall is in the air and the children of the CMO and Preschool have been very busy. The teachers have been teaching about the season of Fall and planning many hands-on activities to go along with this theme. You may see our children raking pretend leaves, sampling apple turnovers they made, or painting with vibrant fall colors. We began our Chapel Time with Pastor Monica the last week of September. The children are enjoying hearing the stories that Pastor Monica is sharing with them. They also love the songs that Pastor Monica shares. This month the song is "My God is So Big", and the children sing it loud and proud. We once again offered an after school enrichment program for this fall. It is soccer shots. Soccer shots is a beginning soccer program for preschool aged children. A "soccer coach" comes each Wednesday and teaches the children about soccer. It is so much fun and the children are really enjoying it.

CMO Chapel Time with Pastor Monica

If you wander through the Sanctuary on Wednesday or Thursday mornings between 11:15 and 11:45 am, you may stumble upon Chapel with our preschool friends.

Each chapel time includes a story, a song, and a prayer. Our stories come from our special book called the Bible. Songs are sung for a full month for us to all learn them well. Prayers are echo style.

Song: My God is So Big

October 5-6 - Big Momma Created the World; Pray and Play Bible: God Created the World

October 12-13-
Noah's Ark - The
Usborne Book of
Bible Stories: Noah's
Ark ; Read Aloud



MISSION POSSIBLE KICK-OFF: JANUARY 8!!



We have prayerfully discerned the resurrection of Mission Possible as a 5th and 6th grade Sunday School class for Tweens. We plan to kick off this new class on **Sunday, January 8, 2017!**

Our hopes and goals are to enhance the worship experience and Bible knowledge of these young people, along with offering mission opportunities and fun activities to foster the spiritual growth of our Tweens.

If you are interested in helping with this endeavor or have any questions regarding the curriculum, please talk with Cindy Haley or Pastor Monica.

*****Dear Parents, please join us on January 8 along with your 5th/6th grader in order for us to introduce ourselves as we welcome your children and get to know each other.**

WAR ROOM

War Room Movie

Did you miss the War Room movie? Or did you want to see it again?

By popular demand, the Prayer Ministry Team will be showing the movie, on

Friday, November 11th at 6 pm.

Bring your boxed dinner and bring your friends and join us in room 3.

The Prayer Ministry Team

Changing the World, One Life at a Time.

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

"I want to work with children with special needs as a speech pathologist; that's what is on my heart."

Meredith Leigh Paul, United Methodist Student Day scholarship recipient and student at University of North Carolina, Greensboro, N.C.



The United Methodist Student Day is coming November 27, 2016.

The United Methodist Student Day calls the Church to support students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge. Offerings provide scholarships and loans to deserving United Methodist students.

Look for the special envelope in your giving folder and in the bulletin.



World AIDS Day, observed each year on December 1, provides an opportunity for people around the world to unite in the fight against HIV and AIDS and to show their compassion and support to those living with the disease. Get tested, raise awareness, more information at <http://www.umcmmission.org/Find->



HOW GIANT GIFT CARD PURCHASES ARE HELPING OUR CHURCH!

\$805.00 - this is the amount the church has received from Giant so far in 2016 from individuals purchasing Giant Gift Cards!

Giant Gift Cards - it is a simple and easy way to increase your weekly giving without costing you a cent.

The cards are sold for face value, but the church purchases the cards at a 5% discount. All you need to do to participate in this program is complete the order form located in the lobby, attach your check, and drop it in the offering plate or Carol Whelan's mail folder. I usually have a supply of gift cards on hand and can give them directly to you as soon as I receive a check.

If you spend \$300 a month, the church will receive \$15. In a year the church will receive \$180! If you shop at the Giant, please consider purchasing a Giant Gift Card through the



C.I.A. Youth Ministry News



November 2016 Newsletter for Youth Ministry

Hello! It's hard to believe we are halfway through fall already! October was a great month for youth. We kicked off our Confirmation Class with 11 students and have been meeting weekly on Sunday mornings. We have already dived into learning more about Creation and about Sin. Looking forward to learning more! Friday night Dodge Ball started up again as well in October and we had a great turn out of both Middle School and High School students. Our middle school youth group and our high school youth group have been meeting on Sunday evenings as well and we have been playing games together as well as discussing what it means to be a disciple of God.

November Calendar



November 6th - High School Youth - 6:00 - 7:30. Pumpkin Games/Pumpkin Carving. Bring a Pumpkin for a night of fun!

November 11th - Friday Night Dodge Ball - 7 - 9:00. Bring \$2 for pizza. Invite some friends!!



November 13 - Middle School Youth - 6:00 - 7:30 Games and Fellowship

November 20th - NO YOUTH GROUP

November 27th - Details to Come - An Evening Out!



The Philadelphia Project

Christ-Centered & Kingdom-Minded



The Philadelphia Project

We are serving with The Philadelphia Project **December 2 - 4th**. The Philly Project does home repair projects in the Germantown/Mt. Airy section of Philadelphia. The cost is \$80 which includes Lodging/Meals/Supplies.

Register with Jamie Lindtner by November 20th.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD Shoeboxes for Samaritans Purse.

--- Grab your own shoebox or the Operation Christmas Child box from the lobby and fill it up with items for a boy or a girl. Follow this link for some ideas: <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/> Bring them back to the church by November 18th at the latest.

QUESTIONS: JamieLindtner@Gmail.com

WGUMC Missions



Thanksgiving Sukkot Booth collections will begin the Sunday, 11/6. Please bring in non-perishable food items to be utilized in our Emergency Food Cupboard and in support of the Bridge.



Ronald McDonald House of DE – Dinner for families
Please plan to help prepare a meal for the families staying at the home. Contact Janice Bowers – 610-444-8470 or janicesemail2@gmail.com if you can join us!



Oxford Area

2nd Annual Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 16th

WGUMC had ten walkers on a beautiful fall afternoon.



Coat and Blanket drive
and Christmas gift
collection begins 11/27



Repairing Homes, Restoring Hope

Saturday, October 15th!

We had seven folks help with restoration of a home in Landenberg and one in West Grove.



**We give thanks to God for the ministries of
Pastor Jim.**

This photo is from Pennsylvania State Senate when I
offered the opening Prayer on September 26, 2016

L to R: Senator Andy Dinniman, Jim, Betty, Lt. Gov.
Mike Stack

Peace of Christ be with you,
Rev. Jim Mundell

Pastor, Jenner's Pond Retirement Community
West Grove United Methodist Church, Associate Pastor

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE
The United Methodist Church
Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Adjourned Session of Annual Conference

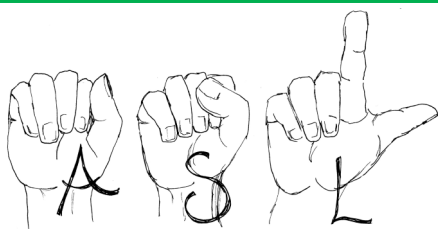
On October 1st, you were represented at the
Adjourned Session of Annual Conference by
Pastor Monica, Pastor Jim, and Cindy Haley.

At Adjourned Session, we approved the reso-
lution to redistrict our churches from 6 districts
to 4 districts. This will include the reduction of 6
district superintendents, resource assistants, dis-
trict offices, and district parsonages to four of
each. West Grove UMC remains in the new
South district with The Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm
as DS. This movement was a response to the
financial realities in which the conference is
seeking sustainable financial solutions in a chal-
lenging world.

We approved the 2017 budget for the Con-
ference. West Grove UMC has received the first
of the revised figures for our budget already.
We await health insurance costs as the Pension
Board is still working on those figures with
healthcare providers.

We revised policies on Safe Sanctuary and
Computer Network and Internet usage. All are
available at [https://www.epaumc.org/news-
events/2016-ac-adjourned-session/](https://www.epaumc.org/news-events/2016-ac-adjourned-session/)

We are thankful for all who care for our church.



Mark you calendars for Pastor Monica teaching a
course on American Sign Language and Carols on
November 27th, December 4th, 11th, and 18th
during our Faith Learning Academy at 9:45 am.

Look forward to learning signs to

*O Come, O Come Emanuel,
Hark the Herald Angels
Sing, Away in a Manger
and Joy to the World.*

Join us!



Letters were sent to families in our
congregation with opportunities to
reconnect with the spiritual discipline
of giving as well as cultivating gratitude
and generosity. This is an important
practice of discipleship for all of us.

As you consider your giving to God
out of gratitude, with your tithe, please
prayerfully listen as God calls you to
discipleship. Please also consider
commitments in prayers, presences,
service, and witness as well. Plan on
returning those commitments on
November 13th! Additional
commitment cards and leaves are
available in the Lobby!



NEWS FROM THE LES FAMILY

(Our sponsored family in the Ukraine for many years)

The day was like a fairy tale. The weather was perfect, the bride was beautiful, the groom was beaming with joy, and a dream was coming true. Vira Les and Richard King III were married on September 25, 2016. Vira and Richie are beginning their new life in Richie's home town, Spring Lake, New Jersey.

West Grove UMC has seen Vira grow up from afar since the Russian occupancy dissolved in Ukraine in the early 1990's. Our ties and connections to her and her family, across the sea, began through a Christian Ministry in California, bridging Christian families together in two different worlds.

Fast forward to 2016, God continues to bless our relationship with Vira, now just two hours away, and her family in Ukraine. God is the God of miracles. "Lord, I praise you because You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the people..." Psalm 77:14

Singing His praises,
Pastor Shirley

Elite Digital Images



Prayer Ministry



Let us be in prayer for you. When you request prayer by contacting the church, you will hear three questions:

- Would you like this on the prayer chain?
- Would you like your name in the bulletin for prayer?
- Would you like your prayer need shared at gathered prayer in worship?

We are asking these questions to clarify how we can best share your joy or need. Thanks be to God for all who pray!

Retired Active People

R.A.P.



RAP gathered on October 14th with about 50 people present to enjoy lunch and dessert followed by awesome music performed by **The**

Grateful Alive Band from the West Chester Senior Center.



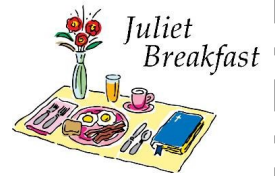
On Wednesday, October 26th, 57 people traveled with us to the **Sight and Sound** theatre to see **Samson**. Following the show about 45 joined us for lunch at Miller's Smorgasbord.

We have a special treat planned for our November 11th gathering. As always, bring your bag lunch and dessert and drinks will be provided. In addition, our very own Pastor Jim and Betty Mundell will delight us with a picture travelogue entitled: **"ALASKA ROAD TRIP"** - 1600 miles in 15 days - *Home of the wild, land of God's beauty and home of the pioneering spirit*. This presentation is a summary of a car trip they took in Alaska. They flew to Anchorage, rented a car and traveled around the state for 15 days and will share pictures of the scenery and the wildlife seen along the way. Please join us and bring your friends.

The RAP Group has also been invited by the West Grove Seniors to join them on their bus trip to the American Music Theatre Christmas Show, **"Winter Wonderland"**, on Wednesday, December 14th, followed with lunch at the Bird in Hand Restaurant. The bus will pick up at West Grove United Methodist Church at 9 a.m. The cost for the bus, the show, and the lunch is \$70. Please call Janet Gregg at 610-255-4477 as soon as possible, if you are interested, as seating is limited.

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

JULIET...Just us Ladies
Interested in
Eating Together



Saturday, November 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



UMW FAITH CIRCLE will resume their schedule of meeting on the **2nd and 4th Friday mornings in the Youth Room**. 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



Romeos will not meet
in November due to the
Thanksgiving Holiday!



Heart Attack Signs in Women

- Uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain in the center of your chest. It lasts more than a few minutes, or goes away and comes back.
- Pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.
- Shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort.
- Other signs such as breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.



As with men, women's most common heart attack symptom is chest pain or discomfort. But women are somewhat more likely than men to experience some of the other common symptoms, particularly shortness of breath, nausea /vomiting and back or jaw pain.

If you have any of these signs, call 9-1-1 and get to a hospital right away.

We've all seen the movie scenes where a man gasps, clutches his chest and falls to the ground. In reality, a heart attack victim could easily be a woman, and the scene may not be that dramatic.

"Although men and women can experience chest pressure that feels like an elephant sitting across the chest, women can experience a heart attack without chest pressure," said Nieca Goldberg, M.D., medical director for the Joan H. Tisch Center for Women's Health at NYU's Langone Medical Center and an American Heart Association volunteer. "Instead they may experience shortness of breath, pressure or pain in the lower chest or upper abdomen, dizziness, lightheadedness or fainting, upper back pressure or extreme fatigue."

Even when the signs are subtle, the consequences can be deadly, especially if the victim doesn't get help right away.

I thought I had the flu'

Even though heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women in the United States, women often chalk up the symptoms to less life-threatening conditions like acid reflux, the flu or normal aging.

"They do this because they are scared and because they put their families first," Goldberg said. "There are still many women who are shocked that they could be having a heart attack."

A heart attack strikes someone about every 43 seconds. It occurs when the blood flow that brings oxygen to the heart muscle is severely reduced or cut off completely. This happens because the arteries that supply the heart with blood can slowly narrow from a buildup of fat, cholesterol and other substances (plaque).

Many women think the signs of a heart attack are unmistakable — the image of the elephant comes to mind — but in fact they can be subtler and sometimes confusing.

You could feel so short of breath, "as though you ran a marathon, but you haven't made a move," Goldberg said.

Some women experiencing a heart attack describe upper back pressure that feels like squeezing or a rope being tied around them, Goldberg said. Dizziness, lightheadedness or actually fainting are other symptoms to look for.

"Many women I see take an aspirin if they think they are having a heart attack and never call 9-1-1," Goldberg said. "But if they think about taking an aspirin for their heart attack, they should also call 9-1-1."

Take care of yourself

Heart disease is preventable. Here are Goldberg's top tips:

- Schedule an appointment with your healthcare provider to learn your personal risk for heart disease. You can also learn your risk with our Heart Attack Risk Calculator.
- Quit smoking. Did you know that just one year after you quit, you'll cut your risk of coronary heart disease by 50 percent?
- Start an exercise program. Just walking 30 minutes a day can lower your risk for heart attack and stroke.
- Modify your family's diet if needed. Check out these healthy cooking tips. You'll learn smart substitutions, healthy snacking ideas and better prep methods. For example, with poultry, use the leaner light meat (breasts) instead of the fattier dark meat (legs and thighs), and be sure to remove the skin.

Information from the American Heart Association Website

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.



We give thanks to all who have already given to fulfill our dreams!

Item	Quantity	Approximate Total 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
Wireless microphones	2	\$ 900
2 inch slat blinds for classrooms	25	\$ 500
Postage stamps (one full mailing)	250	\$ 120
Carpet cleaning rental for Sanctuary	1	\$100



West Grove UMC Celebrates 130th Anniversary!

We will be celebrating our 130th anniversary starting this fall. As we celebrate the faithfulness of the people called Methodists in West Grove, we recommit ourselves to a vision of knowing God and sharing God with our community.

You are a part of that living history of those who are continuing in growth from our rootedness in gratitude and growing in Christ. Thank you for being a part of this congregation and the larger body of Christ. We are inviting all our congregation to give from gratitude to our roots. You may have received a letter and leaf. This leaf represents an opportunity to make a commitment to the roots and growth of West Grove UMC as a church in the community.

We are inviting our congregation to join together in making a commitment to give \$25/month for 12 months above and beyond any regular giving. This gift allows us to serve our community with worship and education, food pantry and Family Promise, youth programming and children's events.

We celebrate all of the ways God has blessed us through your generosity.

Generosity exemplifies the best parts of who we are as God's people and as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.



SCRIP Scripts



It's the perfect time to start using SCRIP!!! Take the time to talk with fellow congregant currently using the program or reach out to John Boyd or a Trustee.

NOVEMBER'S TIP(S):

The holiday season is about to make its entrance with many additional activities, family gatherings, and extra expenses. By taking a few minutes to plan ahead and budget over the course of a few weeks you can enjoy the holidays without added financial stress.

Begin preparing for Thanksgiving: Pick up a Giant, Acme card for meal planning and preparation. Start thinking for future ham dinners and purchase a Honey Baked Ham card either as a gift or to use for family gatherings. Perhaps a Marshall, Target, Kohls, or Walmart card can be planned out in increments of \$10 or \$25 to purchase decorations, pick up small gifts, or additional paper products. By having cards on hand, taking full advantage of sales, and with coupon stacking, you can maximize your savings and maintain your budget. Planning to travel this season, then don't forget to pick up gas and Wawa cards for essentials.

Proverbs 13:16 A wise man thinks ahead; a fool doesn't, and even brags about it!



Have You Remembered To Include West Grove UMC In Your Will?

One inescapable reality in life is that we all must pass someday...sometimes with anticipation, sometimes unexpectedly. An important consideration for those of us who have been generous to our church throughout all our lives is, "How can I continue to support its ministry even after my death?" Making a provision to West Grove UMC in your estate planning is as simple as a couple of lines included into your will - but don't wait to make those plans. For assistance with this important feature of your own discipline of stewardship, talk with your financial planner or just call the church office. More elaborate gift bequests can be brokered through the church professionals at the Mid-Atlantic Foundation. Consider leaving a tithe (10%) of your estate to West Grove UMC at your death...or even a flat gift amount which you specify...and then enjoy the length of your days knowing that you have made this faithful choice!



Be a Good Steward

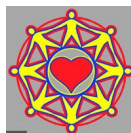
Various committees are writing the church budget for the coming year. They're placing their trust in God and believing in our members and friends to support the church's ministry. Let us all show our faithfulness with good stewardship through our time, talents and treasures.



Planting Seeds for Ministry Growth

Pastor Monica and Cindy Haley attended on October 22nd at Hopewell UMC. Dr. Reggie McNeil, the speaker, was thought provoking and inspiring. Cindy also attended a workshop on prayer and labyrinths.

Ask them about their experiences. There is lots to share!



Connectional Contributions: Did you know?

Pastor Monica is the chair of the Southeast District Committee on Ministry. She serves on the Board of Ordained Ministry. She serves on Annual Conference Sessions for worship planning. She is the co-convenor of Women in Professional Ministry and the Peace with Justice Coordinator for the Conference.

Pastor Shirley serves on our District Resource Team.

Pastor Jim serves on Conference Communications as a photographer and recently preached at New London UMC, Avondale UMC, and Booth's Corner UMC.

Thanks be to God for our clergy connecting beyond our walls!

Mission Opportunities



EMERGENCY BACKPACKS ASSEMBLY

What: Package meals to be shipped throughout the world to support school feeding programs, orphanages, and crisis relief. Assemble backpacks with hygienic supplies for individuals being released from the county prison system.

Date: Saturday, Dec. 3, 2016

Time: 10:00 a.m. to Noon

Where: West Grove UMC

Sign-up to volunteer in the church lobby



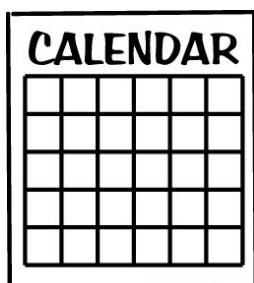
Stop Hunger Now packages and ships meals to feed people in need. They have engaged over 500,000 corporate, student, civic and faith-based volunteers to package meals.

They educate thousands of people each year about hunger and inspire them to help end it. This year, they will package 45 million meals, and ship over \$9 million in donated aid, mainly vitamins and medical supplies. On the day, you package meals with preset foods and in a preset process. All you need to raise is 29 cents for each meal you package.

Stop Hunger Now meals are nutritiously sound. Every dehydrated rice/soy meal is fortified with 23 essential vitamins and nutrients. Research has shown that one in three people in developing countries are adversely affected by vitamin and mineral deficiencies. Join us!

If you can not join us, you can help by covering the cost of a meal. At 29cents a meal, consider giving \$6 and covering the cost of 20 meals.

Donate Calendars!



Missions ConneXion is also asking for donations of calendars that can be used by inmates or homeless folks trying to get back on their feet. These are small and should be able to fit in a small bag and be designed so that appointments can be added and a section with an address book. The dollar store carries perfect ones. These will be added to the next set of emergency backpacks with extras going to shelters.



**The West Grove
United Methodist
Church Hunger Walk
2016 Team!!!**

**Thank you all,
walkers and sponsors!**



You shop. Amazon gives.

Dear Friend

Amazon will now donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **West Grove United Methodist Church** when you shop at AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com).

- ☒ Select a charitable organization to support **Done!**
- ☐ Get the [Amazon 1Button App](#)
The easiest way to start your shopping at smile.amazon.com.
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Show your friends how they can support their favorite charitable organization.

Available for

Sign up today!

Remember: Your charitable organization only benefits when you start at:

 <http://smile.amazon.com>



Update on District Mission Project

We give thanks to God for West Grove UMC as one of the churches in the Southeast District who have given \$109,000 in the 2 years to fund and furnish the new Mpsa Pediatric Clinic. On our Bishop's day on the district, we received this update:

Ground was broke on October 17th for the Pediatric Clinic. As much as possible, the equipment purchases will take place either with Congolese businesses or with business willing to work with Congolese manufacturers. This will be the only ultrasound

and incubator in area!

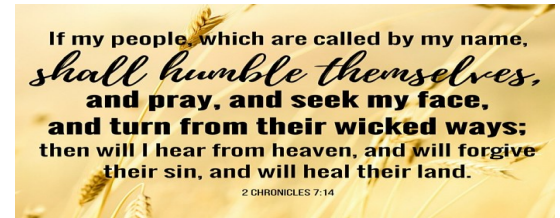
Missionaries, Rev. Jonathan and Donna (nurse) Baker told this story.

While they were in Congo, a leader described the partnership between Mpsa and the churches in the USA as a two headed man. This was based on an experience of seeing what he thought was a two headed man. As the man came closer, it became clear there were two individuals. One was carrying the other on his back. The man walking was strong to carry, but had no sight. The one on the back was clear sighted, but had no legs. They needed other another to walk and see. Much like we need each other in this partnership.

Thanks be to God when God's people work together!

Pray for Our Nation

Maybe you have some concerns about our nation, maybe you want to pause to pray for going to polls, join us as we live out our faith on this important day.



Election Day - Tuesday, November 8th:

7:00 a.m.—Prayer service (approximately 20 minutes)

Stop in for guided prayer to prepare yourself before voting.

1:00 p.m.—Prayer Service—(approximately 20 minutes)

Interactive and planned with children in mind. Help your children pray for our nation.

5:30 p.m. —Prayer service (approximately 20 minutes)

Stop in for guided prayer to prepare yourself before voting.

What should we do on the day after? How do we live together?

Wednesday, November 9th: 6:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Join us for a short service of Holy Communion and prayer for our Nation.

Praying for our Presidential Election

By Bishop Peggy A. Johnson

It seems that I can't remember a time when we as a nation were not talking about the 2016 U.S. Presidential election. Almost the minute the 2012 election ended, the speculation about the next President began. One by one, people came forward announcing their candidacy. Then there were the endless debates, rallies, primaries, conventions, and now more debates. The relentless stream of repetitive news, survey polls and opinions about our major nominees crowd the full media spectrum. And there's more than enough scandal, mud-slinging and speculation, much of it fueled by leaked, once-secret e-mail messages and videos. Campaign fatigue set in for me a long time ago. But I have not given up my concern for our nation, nor my hopes for the best and my prayers for God's grace as we choose our next POTUS and Commander in Chief.

As followers of Jesus Christ we are called to be the salt and light of the world, not just the church. The next President of our country can cast a vision and offer an agenda for the future of this nation like few people on earth. We are called to work for good in this world, along with our governmental leaders, and to call our nation to seek righteousness and pursue justice for all. I ask you to pray every day for this election.

I Timothy 2:1-2 says "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers and intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people, for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." Please pray for the next president every Sunday at worship and also in your personal times of prayer. Also I remind you that United Methodist pastors and leaders should not advocate for any particular candidate, publically or privately. Everyone should vote as they feel led to vote. Our constitution's principle of "separation of church and state" forbids us from promoting one party or candidate over another.

That said, responsible Christians are called to study carefully the platforms and policies of the candidates, so they can prayerfully make careful decisions on Election Day.



Finally, be sure that you do cast a vote. Voting is an incredible right that our form of government affords us. Many people on this globe have no such option. Find no excuse to stay home on November 8; and if you cannot physically be present, cast an absentee ballot now.



AVONDALE Presbyterian Church

420 Pennsylvania Ave. (Rt. 41), Avondale, PA 19311



 A portion of the proceeds will benefit local food banks. 

For more information:
Vendors contact Barbie Needham - 610.869.9667
Chairperson - Sue Hanson - 610.268.7437



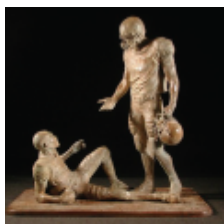
UMCOR, churches respond to Hurricane Matthew's destruction

Hurricane Matthew, one of the fiercest hurricanes in nearly a decade, left a trail of destruction including nearly 1,000 dead in [Haiti](#) and up to [90 percent of some areas](#) there destroyed, plus nearly 40 dead in the Southeast United States— from North Carolina to Florida.

The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) acted quickly in response to the death and destruction in the Caribbean, most notably in Haiti, our hemisphere's poorest nation. UMCOR's provision of emergency supplies, food, health kits, and other assistance builds on its sustained presence in Haiti since a disastrous earthquake struck there in January 2010. The relief agency will also assist Bahamas Methodist Habitat in response to Matthew's damage.

The United Methodist [Florida Conference](#) reported 29 church damage claims as of Oct. 11; but none are uninhabitable. Six of the 12 districts in the [South Carolina Conference](#) have seen damage from the storm, several with massive flooding. Disaster relief teams in these states, [North Carolina](#) and also South Georgia are still assessing damage.

Cleaning buckets are needed in all affected areas. The United Methodist Committee on Relief has directions on their web site for [assembling the buckets](#). Donations can be given online at [Disaster Response, International #982450](#) and [United States Disaster Response Fund, North Carolina, South Carolina, and South Georgia](#) are also asking for donations.



WGUMC Fantasy Football League Standings



Rank	Team	Team Manager	W-L-T	Pts For	Pts Agnst	Streak
1	jerry's boys	Reed Smith Sr.	5-1-0	777.67	639.06	W-1
2	Ten Plagues	Tim Bushnell	5-1-0	740.18	686.41	W-3
3	Team Knucklehead	Ken Rinehimer	5-1-0	672.92	535.03	L-1
4	groves 3 and 2	Jeremy Moore	4-2-0	757.25	646.15	W-3
5	Duct work	Rob Catoia	3-3-0	780.99	770.28	W-1
6	sulli's skins	Fred Sullivan	2-4-0	657.87	723.34	L-3
7	soundcurfew	Lee Arter	2-4-0	636.60	715.14	L-1
8	Team Hip Hop)	Matthew Rinehimer	2-4-0	599.68	639.60	W-1
9	Jim's Slam-Dunk Team	Pastor Jim Mundell	1-5-0	556.16	646.48	L-1
10	The Rogue Elephants	Doug Allen	1-5-0	496.56	674.39	L-4



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



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

Jim.mundell@westgroveumc.org

The Reverend Shirley Daddario—Associate Pastor for Caring Ministries

Shirley.daddario@westgroveumc.org

Office Hours: Monday—Friday

7:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Staff

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator

Donna.fackler@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director

Contemporary Music Interim Director

Keyboardist

Betsy.smith@westgroveumc.org

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director

davsan5@comcast.net

Jamie Lindtner - Youth Director

Jamie.lindtner@westgroveumc.org

Tracy McLaughlin—Children's Morning Out Director

Tracy.mclaughlin@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Board and Committee Leadership

Carol Whelan - Administrative Council Chair

Gene Aucott - Trustee Chair

Barbara Delaney - Finance Chair

Scott Steele - Treasurer

Sara Ann Ramberger - Financial Secretary

David Delaney - Staff-Parish Relations Committee Chair

Judy Gambill - Christian Education

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

Cindy Haley - Lay Leader

Cindy Haley - U.M.W. President

Pastor Shirley Daddario - Prayer Chain Coordinator

Amy Castaldi - Nursery Coordinator

John Gambill, Betty Mundell and Denise Byers

Ad Council Member at Large