



West Grove United Methodist Church

OPEN • GROW • SERVE

The Reverend Monica B. Guepet, Lead Pastor
300 North Guernsey Road
West Grove, PA 19390

Bethlehem =



House of
Bread

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 27, 2017

9:30 a.m. Blended Worship

Prelude

OPEN

Welcome and Ministry Opportunities

Pastor Monica

*Please fill out the Friendship Register on the clipboard located on a chair in your row.
First-time guest or member? Let us know you were here!*

*Call to Worship (Responsive)

Mark Simonds

One: The God of our ancestors calls to us today;

Many: May we have the faith of our ancestors to go where God leads us.

One: The God of our children calls to us today;

Many: May we work for justice and peace to build up the reign of God on earth.

One: Our God calls to us today.

Many: May we sing praises and hear God's word.

*Opening Song

"Praise My Soul The King Of Heaven"

UMH 66, Vv. 1-3

*Opening Prayer (Unison)

Mark Simond

God of us all, with praises on our lips, we turn to you.

Giving thanks for your steadfast love

and ever present way of being known to us.

Open us today to the freshness of your Spirit.

Guide us today to the inspiration of your presence.

May we be changed by our time with you, today.

In the name of the God who loves us as we are

and invites us to grow in our relationship with God, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Mark Simonds

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

GROW

Moment for All Ages

Eileen Bushnell

Blessing of the Backpacks and Teachers

Pastor Monica

Old Testament Lesson *Genesis 18: 16-21; 19:1-7, 12-13,27-28*

Mark Simonds

New Testament Lesson	<i>Hebrews 13: 1-9</i>	Mark Simonds
*Gospel Lesson	<i>Luke 17:28-30</i>	Mark Simonds
*Response to the Lessons		Mark Simonds

One: This is the Word of God for the people of God,
Many: Thanks be to God, Amen.

*Song of Preparation Band	“More Love More Power”	PraiseWorks
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(Children 4-10 years meet in room #9 for Children’s Worship. Parents, please pick up your children immediately following the worship service in room #9.)

Sermon	“ <i>Worst Sin: It’s Not What You Think</i> ”	Pastor Monica
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SERVE

Offering

***Offertory Response** “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH, No. 95
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. AMEN.

***Offertory Prayer (Unison)** Pastor Monica
O Lord, our God, you graciously welcome all who seek you. You teach us to welcome even the stranger, for it maybe an angel in disguise. We are grateful that you have taught us your commandments so that we may live as people who belong to you. Guide us by your Spirit so that our attitudes toward others, and our daily actions will honor you. Let the ministries of our church reach out to show and tell our neighbors of your faithful love. Receive our gifts and offerings for the sake of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism	<i>Maximiliano Cruz Herrera</i>
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Baptism Song	“For Everyone Born”	PraiseWorks Band
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Gathered Prayer		Pastor Monica
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The Lord’s Prayer		Pastor Monica
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*Closing Song	“Love the Lord”	PraiseWorks Band
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***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Blessing of the Backpacks and Teachers

Pastor: Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with your mind, and with all your soul. And love your neighbor as yourself. Jesus said, "You are the beloved children of God." Each of you are beloved. AND each of them are, too. Each one we imagine to be different than us is also beloved of God. As we prepare to go to school for the first time or return to school, we go with blessings. Bless each backpack and lunchbox.

Congregation: May backpacks and lunchboxes carry what is needed and remind all of us that God provides what we need.

Students: Bless our teachers and bus drivers. Bless our classrooms and helpers.

Congregation: May our teachers be strengthened with the knowledge that they are brave, loving, kind, and true. May our teachers be equipped for every situation of joy and challenge this year. May our teachers abound in compassion, experience grace, and be grounded in love.

Teachers: Bless our students. May each student coming with anxiety, know peace. May each student coming with trepidation, know bravery. May each student coming with concerns, know comfort. Bless the families of our students. May each family rise to the challenges of education and know the blessings of knowledge and wisdom.

Congregation: You are loved. And so are they.





SAFE SANCTUARIES

As many of you know, our conference has developed a policy called "**Safe Sanctuaries**",

in an effort to keep children, youth and vulnerable adults who participate in programs in our church, safe. Volunteers who work within these programs are required to have background checks every three years. These include a Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearance. With Sunday School and many other programs beginning after a summer break, please take time to

check if your clearances are up-to-date. Look for more information in the September newsletter. If you have any questions, see (Fran Miller), or email her at jmille8698@verizon.net or call [610-869-8935](tel:610-869-8935).

Children's Morning Out Preschool Blessing of the Classrooms



Tuesday, August 29

Please join us as we pray for each classroom, teacher, assistant, and all staff of our Children's Morning Out Preschool on August 29. We will meet in the church lobby at 9:30 a.m.

Anyone can attend and pray for this wonderful group of dedicated educators who share the word of God with our little ones.



Back to 2 Services!
8:30 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 Traditional
Sunday, September 3rd

Join us as we return to two services next week, Sunday, September 3rd. It has been a wonderful summer of blended services, but we are happy to return to two services.

On Sunday, September 10, we will kick off our Faith Learning Academy classes for adults and Sunday School for all ages. Plan to come and check out all that we have to offer this fall! There is something for everyone!

West Grove United Methodist Church
2nd Annual Open Market
Saturday, September 23, 2017
9:00-2:00

300 N. Guernsey Rd
West Grove, PA

Vendors and Food Trucks



**SECOND ANNUAL OPEN MARKET
AT WEST GROVE U.M.C.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2017
9 A.M. TO 2 P.M.**

To help make our Open Market a success, we need YOU!

We are so blessed to have such wonderful artists and crafters in our community: Artists, woodworkers, etched glass, embroidery, potters, wood carvers, crochet items, handmade cards, wreath makers, alpaca items, etc. The list continues as we find the talented individuals within our own community. In addition to having vendors we have FOOD: BBQ, Pizza, Tacos, Chicken Sliders and Fries, Ice Cream, Popcorn, and more!

This is a wonderful opportunity to find to start your holiday shopping and find beautiful, unique gifts for someone special. Save yourself the hassle of the malls!

See you at the Market and come fill your basket!!!!



Save the Date!
Thursday, September 14
6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Our Children's Ministry is to the fullness of our community. We at West Grove are blessed by children of all ages. Join us at 6:30 p.m. on September 14th in the Sanctuary as we discuss a way forward for this year. All leadership and parents of children, as well as anyone who cares about Children's Ministry are invited. We hope to see you there!

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 18: 16-21; 19:1-7, 12-13,27-28

Then the men set out from there, and they looked toward Sodom; and Abraham went with them to set them on their way. The Lord said, “Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, seeing that Abraham shall become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice; so that the Lord may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.” Then the Lord said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.”

The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them, and bowed down with his face to the ground. He said, “Please, my lords, turn aside to your servant’s house and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you can rise early and go on your way.” They said, “No; we will spend the night in the square.” But he urged them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate. But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house; and they called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, so that we may know them.” Lot went out of the door to the men, shut the door after him, and said, “I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly.

Then the men said to Lot, “Have you anyone else here? Sons-in-law, sons, daughters, or anyone you have in the city—bring them out of the place. For we are about to destroy this place, because the outcry against its people has become great before the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it.”

Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord; and he looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah and toward all the land of the Plain and saw the smoke of the land going up like the smoke of a furnace.

Hebrews 13:1-2

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

New Testament Lesson: Luke 17:28-30

Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot: they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, but on the day that Lot left Sodom, it rained fire and sulfur from heaven and destroyed all of them —it will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.

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.

Welcome to this gathering of God's people worshipping and praising God! May we continue to be moved by the Spirit to live as the body of Christ. If you have come as a guest, we hope that you'll leave as a friend and pray you'll be nourished in faith as you hear God's message for you today. We encourage you to join us again. Please honor us by signing the Friendship pad. Our Welcome Center, located in the lobby, is a place where guests and new attendees can seek information about our church.

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Church Office: 610-869-9334—Our Website: [www.westgroveumc.org](http://www.westgroveumc.org)

***Please remember to mute your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary for worship.***

**OPEN MARKET SEPTEMBER 23RD:** We are in need of pop-up tents for vendor use at the Open Market on September 23. Tents should have your name on them and be at the church by Friday, September 22 at noon. If anyone can loan us one for the day please Darlene Murphy at [d123murphy@aol.com](mailto:d123murphy@aol.com) so that she can obtain an accurate account.

**PRAYER CHAIN NOTICE:** It is our privilege to be in prayer. If you would like your prayer request to be on the prayer chain, please share your prayer requests with the church office, Pastor Monica, Pastor Shirley, and on the weekends to Sara Ann Ramberger. We will send it out to the prayer chain. This allows us to make sure we have the most current list of pray-ers joining us in prayer. Please do not use a previous email to send it out yourself. Thank you for helping us as we pray together for our joys and concerns.

**PRAYER ROOM:** The Prayer Room is available after each service on Sunday to pray with a member of the Prayer Ministry Team or offer your own prayer for those in need.

**CHILDREN'S MORNING OUT PRESCHOOL BLESSING OF THE CLASSROOMS:** Please join us as we pray for each classroom, teacher, assistant, and all staff of our Children's Morning Out Preschool on August 29. We will meet in the church lobby at 9:30 a.m. Anyone can attend and pray for this wonderful group of dedicated educators who share the word of God with our little ones.

**FAITH LEARNING ACADEMY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH:** Plan on joining us on September 10th as we kick off our Sunday School experiences for adults and children. More details on offerings for adults to follow. Can't wait to see you then!

**SAFE SANCTUARIES:** As many of you know, our conference has developed a policy called "Safe Sanctuaries", in an effort to keep children, youth and vulnerable adults who participate in programs in our church, safe. Volunteers who work within these programs are required to have background checks every three years. These include a Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearance. With Sunday School and many other programs beginning after a summer break, please take time to check if your clearances are up-to-date. Look for more information in the September newsletter. If you have any questions, see (Fran Miller), or email her at [jmille8698@verizon.net](mailto:jmille8698@verizon.net) or call [610-869-8935](tel:610-869-8935).

**THIS WEEK: August 27 through September 3, 2017**

**~~ Hours for the Church Office: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. ~~**

*Pastor Jim Mundell is on vacation from 8/14/17 until 9/15/17.*

**Sunday:**

**TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
Blessing of the BackPacks and Teachers Sunday  
Baptism Sunday ~ Max Herrera**

*Pastor Shirley has a quarterly Sunday off.*

8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. PraiseWorks Rehearsal  
9:30 a.m. Blended Summer Worship (last one for summer)

**Monday:**

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CMO Teachers In-Service (#8, 10)  
9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Knit Wits (#1)  
6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. SOS Ladies (#5)

**Tuesday:**

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. CMO Teachers Day (#9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)  
9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. CMO Prayer Walk

**Wednesday:**

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. CMO Teachers Day (#9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)  
2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Luther House Bible Study (Bldg. 1)  
6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. CMO Parent Orientation (#9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)

**Thursday:**

8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. CMO Meet the Teacher (#9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16)  
11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Music Practice (#6)  
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop #12 (#8, 10, 9, 11, 12, 13)

**Friday:**

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. UMW Faith Circle (#8, 10)

**Saturday:**

10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Daily Reflections Group (#8 & 10)

**Sunday:**

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
Labor Day Sunday  
Communion Sunday & Emergency Aid Sunday**

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship with the PraiseWorks Band  
11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship with the Chancel Choir

***The office will be closed on Monday, September 4 in observance of Labor Day.***

**God's Faithfulness ~ Your Stewardship  
Report August 20, 2017**

**General Offering: \$ 7,391.00  
Building Maintenance Fund: \$190.00  
Blended Worship Attendance: 131  
Emergency Groceries YTD: 98 bags  
Anniversary Giving YTD: \$7,057.95  
Prayer Bead Garden Donations: \$145.00  
Total amount received: \$3,921.00  
Goal-\$10,000**

***It is your tithes, offerings, and gifts that impact  
and change lives for Christ!***

# PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

**Would you like to add someone to the Prayer Chain?** Weekdays, please contact **Donna Fackler at the church office: office@westgroveumc.org or 610-869-9334.** After office hours and on weekends, please contact **Sara Ann Ramberger at sar57ver@verizon.net or 610-869-3863.** All prayer requests will remain in the bulletin for **four Sundays.** If you would like to have the prayer concern extended, **please update your request with Donna.** Thank you.

## ***Community Prayer Focus August: Sunday School Program Mission Prayer Focus in August: Twin Pines***

Cory Beattie (Shaub)  
Peter Bielawski  
(Howard)  
Fran Bryan



George Byrne (Yarbrough)  
Anne Cantrell (Mullen)  
Shelly Ciafre (Yates)  
Joann Coates  
Theresa Cranmer (A. Boyd)  
Dee Crawford  
Nina Dickinson (B. Ranieri)  
Fred Disk (Stryjewski)  
Tom Fagan  
Laura Featherston  
Bill Fili, Jr. (Bratton)  
Family of Jerry Frost (Frost)  
Family of Scott Hart (Saller)  
Jim Hunt (Kr. Boyd)  
Muff & Don Hurst  
Lynn Jackson  
Peg Kent  
William Kirwin  
Susan Lacy (Mullen)

Russell Ludwick  
(Ramberger)  
Rosemary MacCoun  
Dave McClain

Donna Meyer (A. Boyd)  
Lynn Morgan (McClain)  
Peggy Mowrer  
Tim Mullen  
Lola Nadolny (Hruz)  
Rick Renzulli (McGinley)  
Sherry Russell  
Roann Schneider  
Pat Smart (A. Boyd)  
Rick Spencer (K. Smith)  
Stephen Spitko (Howard)  
Jeannie Sullivan  
Lorrie Steele  
Maureen Stickel (Fackler)  
Eric Stover (Kreutzfeldt)  
Danny Tiderman (Hughes)  
Zach Trexler (Lytle)  
Ron and Marliiss Wilson



Daniel Engberg—Iraq (Hruz)  
Tom Fagan - USA (Whelan)  
Brian Kubo - Qatar (Mullen)  
  
LTC Eric Maxwell,  
Chesapeake, VA  
(The Rambergers)  
Jimmy Strawhecker - NJ  
(Lynne Strawhecker)  
Chris Weidman - Japan (Miller)  
Ed Tolmie

## **SERVANTS IN MINISTRY ON SUNDAY MORNING**

|                             | <b><u>This Sunday, August 27th</u></b> | <b><u>Next Sunday, September 3rd</u></b> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ushers—8:30/11</b>       | Kristin Boyd                           | The Aucotts/OPEN                         |
| <b>Greeters—8:30/11</b>     | The Simonds                            | The McGinleys/OPEN                       |
| <b>Acolyte—8:30/11</b>      | Wesley Boyd                            | Anna Castaldi/Alisabeth Guepet           |
| <b>Nursery—8/9:45/11:30</b> | Joan Leaman                            | McCummings/K. Smith/K. Rinehimer         |
| <b>C. Worship—8:30/11</b>   | Amy Castaldi                           | Kristin Boyd/OPEN                        |
| <b>Lay Reader—8/11:30</b>   | Mark Simonds                           | Karen Hruz/Susan Paisley                 |
| <b>Moment All Ages</b>      | Eileen Bushnell                        | Pastor Shirley                           |
| <b>Prayer Room-8:30/11</b>  | Pam Howard                             | Pastor Shirley/OPEN                      |
| <b>Hospitality—8:30/11</b>  | Linda Peirson                          | Rain Catoia/The Stuhrkes                 |
| <b>Counters</b>             | Bowers/Beauchamp                       | Talley/Michaels                          |
| <b>Soundbooth</b>           | Keith Schneider & various              | Keith Schneider & various                |

## **Meditations For Your Week**

### **Sunday, August 27-Saturday, September 2**



**Sunday:** *“No, for I have chosen him, that he may charge his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice; so that the Lord may bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.”* Genesis 18: 19. God shared with Abraham the depravity of Sodom, so that Abraham and descendants would put the love of God ahead of the selfishness of inhospitality. As a descendant of Abraham, where are you welcoming the stranger?

**Monday:** *He said, ‘Please, my lords, turn aside to your servant’s house and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you can rise early and go on your way.’ They said, ‘No; we will spend the night in the square.’* “Genesis 19:2. Lot begged the heavenly visitors to receive hospitality in his home, because he knew that others would not offer kindness and compassion. Where are you being urged to offer compassion to someone who does not often receive it.

**Tuesday:** *“But he urged them strongly; so they turned aside to him and entered his house; and he made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate”.* Genesis 19:3 Feeding people is an essential part of God’s hospitality. It is through the meal of Communion that our souls are fed. Who are you feeding through your table fellowship?

**Wednesday:** *“and [Lot] said, ‘I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly”* Genesis 19: 7. How easy it is to get caught up in mob mentality. Acting as others do. Making assumptions and judgements without knowing the full story or first offering compassion. God calls us to be set apart for mercy and compassion, justice, and hospitality. Are you living as one set apart?

**Thursday:** *“Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot: they were eating and drinking, buying, and selling, planting and building, but on the day that Lot left Sodom, it rained fire and sulphur from heaven and destroyed all of them—it will be like that on the day that the Son of Man is revealed.”* Luke 17: 28-30. We are called radical and inclusive hospitality. We are called to be aware and engaged, generous and invitational. Without which, we miss the heart of the message of Jesus the Christ. Where are you being called back to keep the main thing the main thing?

**Friday:** *“Let mutual love continue.”* Hebrews 13:1. It is easy to imagine that our love for anyone person is accomplished. We have tried hard, and we are finished. Let mutual love continue reminds us that our work of love is ongoing.

**Saturday:** *“Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.”* Hebrews 13:2. Hospitality is not just a nicety. It is valuing others as your value yourself. How can you show hospitality to someone you do not know today?