

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

April 2014



EASTER STORY

When I was growing up, Easter was a very important part of our family life. I remember my parents taking me shopping for Easter clothes; a new suit, shirt and shoes. At the shopping area, there was a high slide for children during this season. Since the shopping area was built on a steep hill, you didn't have to climb many steps to the top. But when you got there – it looked so far down. You were given a sack cloth to sit on and away you went to the bottom. There you were met by the Easter Bunny who helped you up. At home, mother prepared hard-boiled eggs and we would help her decorate them. We had various bowls of colored water into which we would dunk the eggs and then lay them aside to dry. For kids, Easter morning was a day we looked forward to, for there was our Easter basket, filled with colored grasses, colored eggs and various Easter candy.

But our parents made Easter week more than just a time for new clothes, or a time of fun or a time of candy and eggs; we were taught the meaning of this holy week. On Good Friday, we were made to observe a quiet time for three hours in observance of the death of Jesus on the cross. When we were old enough, mother took us to Good Friday services which lasted for three hours. We learned about Jesus dying on the cross. He was the one we were taught to love at Sunday School, only to learn that He died for us. Good Friday was the day we mourned His death and His suffering on that cross. However, Sunday was coming and we were taught that Jesus rose from the grave and was alive and well. At Easter worship, we celebrated His resurrection.

As I look back on those early years, I am so thankful that my parents helped me gain an understanding of Easter at an early age. Easter is a time when my Lord and Savior died on the cross, taking my sins upon Himself, dying in my place for my sins. He was not guilty and did not deserve to die. Because He loved me and loved all people, He voluntarily went to the cross and died in our place to set each one of us free from the guilt of our sins.

If you have young children or grandchildren, I trust you will teach them about the true meaning of Easter. That clothes and slides, Easter candy and eggs, Easter bunnies and chicks, are things associated with this time, but Easter deals with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Jesus told us, "Because I live you also will live." (John 14:19b) This is the reason for celebrating Easter.

Pastor Jim Mundell



March Worship at West Grove UMC



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

Fifth Sunday in Lent ~ April 6
Boy Scout Sunday
Communion Sunday

Preaching: Rev. Jim Mundell Scripture: John 14:1-6, 15-21

Sermon: "Comfort, Care and Encouragement" *Emergency Food Pantry Collection Day is on the first Sunday of each month

Palm Sunday ~ April 13 Children's Choir Sings

Scripture: Luke 22:39-46
Sermon: "Jesus' Prayer"
Cantata: "Covenant of Grace"
Coffee Fellowship is hosted by
The United Methodist Women

Maundy Thursday Rev. Jim Mundell leading 7:00 p.m.

Scripture: Mark 14:12-26

Sermon: "From Seder to Eucharist"
On Holy Thursday, we will recall Jesus' last supper with his disciples and his betrayal at the hands of Judas. The service will include a celebration of Holy Communion.

Easter Sunday April 20

Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m.

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

Contemporary Celebration Service at 8:30 a.m. and

Traditional Celebration Service at 11:00 a.m.

Join us as we celebrate the Risen Christ! Christ has defeated death. Rejoice in his victorious resurrection for you!

Nursery and Children's Worship provided at all services.

Second Sunday of Easter ~ April 27

Scripture: Luke 24:36-48 **Sermon:** "Touch and See"



24 Hour Prayer Vigil

Friday, April 18, 9 a.m. through

Saturday, April 19, 9 a.m.

Sign up for a one-hour time slot to come into the church sanctuary and pray for individual needs of our church family, as well as for needs of our community. If you have never prayed for an hour,

that's okay! We have plenty of materials to guide you through. You'll be surprised how quickly the time goes by and how refreshed and energized you feel! Pink prayer request slips will be available in the weekly bulletin as well as in the lobby for you to submit a prayer request for the vigil. A sign up sheet is also available in the lobby to sign up to pray.

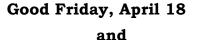


Coffee Fellowship this month is hosted by The United Methodist Women

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.

Church Office Closed For the Holiday

The church office will be closed on



Easter Monday, April 21



Holy Week Services



Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 13

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

11:00 a.m. Service features the Cantata "Covenant of Grace"

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

Celebration of the Last Supper

Thursday, April 17, 7:00 p.m.

On Holy Thursday, we will recall Jesus' last supper with his disciples and his betrayal at the hands of Judas. The service will include a celebration of Holy Communion.





Good Friday Community Service Friday, April 18 ~ 7:15 p.m.

Hosted by Christ Church at the Grove 1986 Newark Road, New London, PA 19352

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



Easter Sunday April 20

Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m.

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

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

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

Nursery and Children's Worship provided at all services.



CONGREGATIONAL WORK DAYS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, EACH EVENING AT 6:00 P.M. THROUGH SATURDAY, APRIL 5

8 A.M.-11 A.M.

What is it?

It is an invitation to everyone in the congregation to come and help clean and brighten the church inside and out. During the week day evenings, we will spruce up all the flowerbeds, plant flowers, and make the outside welcoming and beautiful. On Saturday, there will be a variety of chores to do inside and out to Spring Clean our church home!

Who sponsors the "Work Day" event?

The WGUMC Board of Trustees are charged with scheduling maintenance work inside and outside of the church that members and friends can safely perform.

When does it happen?

The Trustees want to give everyone an opportunity to help, so **Starting Wednesday, April 2 through Friday, April 4, we will meet at the church each evening at 6:00 p.m. to work on the outside grounds and gardens. Then on <u>Saturday, April 5</u>, We will meet from 8 A.M.-11:00 A.M. for an all church spring cleaning! It doesn't end there however! Some tasks can be done at your convenience, not just on those designated work days. The trustees need to know about the tasks you are willing to do at a different time, so just check with Vernon about other chores you would be willing to accomplish.**

How do I know what needs to be done and whether I or my children can accomplish some tasks?

A poster listing all the various chores that need to be addressed is posted in the lobby. You are invited to sign up for those tasks that feel comfortable for you. More than one group, family or individual can sign up for a particular tasks, so be sure to include your phone number, along with your name and chosen tasks on the signup sheet.

What should I bring?

Appropriate work gloves for the task you've chosen. All cleaning agents and most of the tools are provided by the trustees. Trustees will call you in advance if they see a need for extra tools.

The trustees will provide snacks and drinks for all the workers!



Annual Spring Rummage Sale

Set-Up on Thursday, April 24, 12:00 p.m. Sale, Friday, April 25: 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Sale, Saturday, April 26: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Household goods, adult and children's clothing, toys, and lots of other "treasures" will be for sale. On Saturday, all shoppers may fill a bag for \$2.00

How can you help?

This is a biannual event pioneered by the United Methodist Women. It offers gently used clothing and household items to the community at record low prices. Many families in our community attend this event and the bargains are very helpful to them in these hard economic times. In order for the event to be held, many hands are needed for the physical labor of setting up the sanctuary and putting the items out on tables on the Thursday before the Friday sale. Then the reverse must happen on Saturday to get the sanctuary set up for Sunday worship. It is also helpful to have a half dozen people available during the busiest sale hours to help with check out on Friday and Saturday morning. Please consider lending an hour or two. The United Methodist Women use the proceeds of this event for various missions or additions to our church.

Also needed, of course, are donations of gently used clothing and household items. These can be brought to the church during office hours the week before the sale.

Volunteer sign-up sheets are located in the lobby.

We will be setting up on Thursday, April 24 at 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 Easter Sunday, April 20 (church office is closed on Monday, April 21 for Easter holiday), through Thursday, April 24. The church office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Thank you!

Community Garden

Needs Manager-Volunteer

Kate Black is not able to be the Manager of the Community Garden this year as she will be busy with her new baby! If you would like to step up to fill this need for this wonderful ministry, please call the church office at 610-869-9334.

Kate has forms for everything already made up and they can be updated and reused. There is a garden e-mail account with a group mailing list that can also be used. Thank you.



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

JULIET...Just us Ladies Interested in Eating Together April 12 at 9:00 a.m.

<u>Please</u> join this group of ladies for a breakfast time of food, fun and fellowship. **Until further notice, we will 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.

THE COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Tuesday, April 22 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

The Community
Cafe free
meal
ministry is
offered to meet
the needs of our
church neighbors,
friends and members who

friends and members who are in need of and desire a time of fellowship and food.

Everyone is welcome!

If you would like to help, please see the sign-up sheet in the lobby. You can volunteer to donate your time to serve a meal to friends in our community, wash dishes, set up or clean up, or donate a needed food item for the day's fare.

All are invited to join us on our regular day of the **fourth Tuesday** of each month, for a healthy, delicious meal homemade by the members of our congregation.

Care Givers Group Wednesday, April 9 7 p.m.

Caregivers meet on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is April 9 at 7 p.m. in room



on

#16. Please join us if you are caring for a loved one, close or from afar. Find love and support from others in



PRAISE BAND DIRECTOR NEEDED

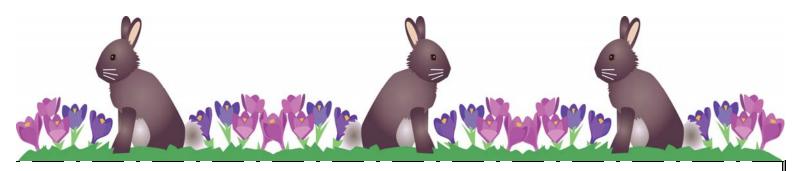
We are seeking a praise band director to lead at the 8:30 a.m. worship service on Sundays. Duties would include leading worship on Sundays plus conducting weekly rehearsals. If you, or someone you know is interested in this position.

please email your resume to: office@westgroveumc.org Feel free to share this information with your friends, neighbors, and co-workers!

The children's choir will be singing at both services on **Palm Sunday, April 13..** The last rehearsal is on April 6 at 10:45 in Room 4. Thanks so much.

Joan Leaman Children's Choir Director





West Grove UMC's EASTER "EGG"STRAVAGANZA SATURDAY, April 12 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

crafts, games, a giant slide, face painting, prizes, refreshments and, of course, egg hunts! Activities will occur continuously throughout the morning.

Rain or Shine!

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

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA DONATIONS NEEDED: Please help The Children's Ministry Team through your donations of lemonade, popcorn, and candy (for stuffing plastic eggs!) for the Annual Eggstravaganza being held for the entire community on Saturday, April 12. There is a bin in the church lobby where they can be deposited.

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Are you interested in helping out with the community-wide Easter Eggstravaganza this year? The Children's Ministry Team sure hopes so and has put a sign-up sheet in the lobby for your convenience! Please consider volunteering your time to this important outreach ministry!



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

Easter Flowers

EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

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

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

Last date to order flowers is Sunday, April 13.

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 \$	

Children's Morning Out our

that Spring has
arrived! The children
are once again enjoying
outside play on the
playground after the long
snowy winter. We have been

busy preparing for Easter and are looking forward to having Pastor BK come in to each classroom to share the story of Easter. We will also be having an Easter celebration filled with a Bunny Trail obstacle course, a yummy Easter treat, and egg hunting.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help out with our **Spring Consignment Sale**. The sale is a wonderful fundraiser for our program and it would not be successful without the help of our preschool parents and church members. Thank you for your continued support!

Tracy McLaughlin, CMO Program Director tracym@westgroveumc.org

SAVE THE
DATE FOR
VBS
JULY 14-18



C.I.A. Youth Ministry News

April News Worthy



Youth Group Dates-

Friday, April 4th - Middle School Youth Group - for students in grades 7th and

 $8^{\rm th}$. Come on out for some fellowship, games and bible study. Bring a friend and a snack! 7-8:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 6th – High School Youth Group – for students I grades 9th – 12th. Bring a friend and a snack and join in for some fellowship, games and bible study. 7 – 8:30.

UPComing Dates

Good Friday, April 18th – Youth Prayer

Stations. All youth in grades $7 - 12^{\text{th}}$ are invited to come for an evening of resting in the presence of God. We will have prayer



stations set up in the sanctuary and you'll have an opportunity to spend time at each station and draw close to God. Take time to renew your faith, share your burdens, lift up requests, raise your praises to God. 7-8:30.

Prom Night Through the Ages Fundraiser

~ April 26th – 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Buy a ticket, pull out that old prom dress or thrift shop for a fun new one! Pick an era, decade, graduation year and dress up from the 50's, 60's,

70's, 80's or 90's.. before or after.... Put on your dancing shoes and come join us for a fun night. The youth will provide some snacks, snap some photos and put on some entertainment. Tickets go on sale on Sunday, March 30th. \$8 a ticket. All proceeds go towards

offsetting the cost of the youth summer mission trip. The event will be from 6 – 8:00.



Parents Date
Night
Saturday,
May 17,
4-7 p.m.

Parents – mark the calendar and head out to dinner, a movie, shopping, a nap... while the youth group hang with your kids! We'll provide pizza for dinner, games, crafts and a movie. 4 – 7:00. Sign up Forms will be available beginning of May. A donation of \$10 per child is suggested.



Washington DC Summer Youth
Mission Trip: July 6 - 12th. For 7th
- 12th graders. See Jamie for more information.

3rd Annual West Grove Project – August 5-6

Any Questions, or to find out more information about the Youth Ministry at West Grove UMC, or to see how you can help – please contact Jamie Lindtner.... 610-937-7932 or JamieLindtner@gmail.com

A Tools for Ministry Thank you!

Dear Pastor Chung and Congregation,

The Southeast District was blessed to be recipients of your over-the-top "West-Grove-Style" Hospitality for the 2014 Tools for Ministry Training Event on January 25th.

The ministry teams did a fantastic job of turning all our hopes and plans for the event into joyful realities. We were delighted with the way everything was executed and we received highly complimentary feedback from the presenters and attendees, as well.

We are so very grateful for your willingness to serve the Southeast District with such gracious hospitality—opening up your entire facility to us and sharing your staff and volunteers to provide for every need.

Enclosed please find a reimbursement check in the amount of \$500 for the breakfast buffet. We received many compliments and exclamations of delight over the breakfast buffet—it was delicious, beautifully presented, and everyone was able to find something they liked. We are also looking forward to reimbursing the church for the purchase of a new coffee maker as a gift of gratitude for your service to the District.

> Please thank the Youth of the West Grove UMC for the hoagie sale. Many people appreciated the opportunity to buy a hoagie before leaving for home.

May God continue to bless you in your mission and ministry to be the United Methodist presence and the representative of our Lord, Jesus Christ to the community of West

Grove.

Sincerely,

Rev. H. Joe Tyson Southeast District Superintendent Rev. Lin George

Southeast District Resource Assistant



Improvements to Our Church!

Our computer system has been in dire need of updating and technical support. **John Boyd** has come to the rescue and has been tirelessly coming in to the church office, spending countless hours upgrading and supporting all the needs of the church office computer systems and network.

Thank you, John, for all of your hard work and continued support!

A big thank you goes out, as well, to **Fred Sullivan** who has been busy

installing new backstops on the choir risers to keep them safe, as well as installing a sturdy shelf over the coffee area in the kitchen to accommodate all of our supplies.

To the many volunteers, helpers, and generous souls who continually come in to our church to help in countless ways, we thank you. **Please know you are appreciated and we are so very grateful for** all you do!

The following items are needed by our Christian Education team. We appreciate your generosity if you are able to donate them!

- Single hole punches (3)
- Blue Painters tape (10 rolls)
- Regular sized scissors (for the older kids)



- Snacks (Gold Fish, Pretzels, Pirate Booty or Smart food)
 - Laptop for internet connection (to access on-line lessons) doesn't have to be fancy
 - Small Portable speakers (that can

hook up to laptop and DVD player)



Susan Paisley Parish Nurse



Tips for a Biblical Garden



Gardening is good physical exercise, but a fragrant garden can also boost vour mood. Enjoy aromatic Mediterranean flowers such as hyacinth and lavender in your garden. The quince tree not only bears fruit, but also offers a lovely,

fruity fragrance.

Many plants invite birds and butterflies into your garden making it a relaxing place to experience nature. Try planting a variety of biblical evergreen trees and shrubs such as pines, junipers and cedars. These produce edible seeds and nuts, but also provide shelter for birds. Flowers such as foxglove attract butterflies.

Herb gardening is relaxing and rewarding. Sage, thyme and rosemary supply fresh flavors for cooking and add variety to your landscape.

~ Church Health Reader



Healthy Eating

Southern Caviar

Prep time: 10 minutes; makes 14 -1/2 cup servings

Ingredients:

2 (30 oz. cans) black eyed peas, rinsed and drained

1 (15 oz. can) garbanzo beans, rinsed and drained

1 (15 oz. can) white corn, rinsed and drained

1 small red onion, chopped fine

3 cloves garlic, chopped fine

1 large tomato, seeded and chopped

1 large rib celery, chopped

1 green bell pepper, chopped

1/2 cup fresh parsley, chopped

1/4 cup olive oil

1/4 cup red wine vinegar

Dash of sea salt

1/2 tsp. ground black pepper

Directions:

1. In a medium sized bowl combine all ingredients. Stir well,

2. Cover with plastic wrap and chill until ready to serve.

This dip is great tucked inside a pita or eaten with tortilla chips. Take this to work for your lunch or use it as an afternoon snack! Beans are a nutritional powerhouse. They are loaded with nutrients, including fiber and protein. Another benefit: they are very inexpensive!

~ Church Health Reader

Retired Active People



Retired Active People (R.A.P.)Tuesday, April 8 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Hello All! Our next RAP meeting is April 8 and spring is in the air!!!! Charles from Wild birds unlimited wrote: My wife Kathy and I own the Wild Birds Unlimited store in Hockessin. We believe that by helping people enjoy birds they'll develop a greater

appreciation for not only nature but life itself. When this world seems weary we need the color and song of birds to lift our spirits. They take the gloom from any room. Birds can't do it on their own the require habitat for food and places to raise their young safely. My talk will be on the upcoming nesting season and what people can do with plantings and nest boxes to help the birds.

We certainly are looking forward to his presentation. Please bring your brown bag lunch and a friend and enjoy the afternoon with your friends. We provide desserts, hot and cold beverages...see you there!!!

Blessings,

Lisa Reoli, RAP Coordinator

Look at the BIRDS of the air; they neither SOW nor REAP ... your heavenly FATHER feeds them. Are YOU not of more value than they?





Something Borrowed

When a Sunday school teacher told her class that Jesus was buried in a borrowed tomb, one girl raised her hand to share an insight. "I know why," the girl said. "It's because Jesus only used it for three days."



NewsletterNewsletter, April 2014



R.O.M.E.O.

Retired Older Men Eating Out

Thursday, April 24

Retired Older Men Eating Out, will meet, April 24, 2014. If you

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



Hear the **Stories!**

Luther House Bible Study for men and women

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



THE WEST GROVE UMC ENDOWMENT FUND

The West Grove UMC Endowment Fund is funded by bequests, memorials and gifts made to the fund. Contributions can be made to the fund by your check made out to <u>"West Grove UMC - Endowment Fund"</u> and sending it to the church or dropping it in the offering plate. You can also direct any bequests or memorials be put into the endowment. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Jim Mundell.



Prom Night Through the Ages Fundraiser ~ April 26th -6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. \$8.00 per ticket

Buy a ticket, pull out that old prom dress or thrift shop for a fun new one! Pick an era, decade, graduation year and dress up from

the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's or 90's.. before or after.... Put on your dancing shoes and come join us for a fun night. The youth will provide some snacks, snap some photos and put on some entertainment. **Tickets go on sale on Sunday, March 30**th. \$8 a ticket. All proceeds go towards offsetting the cost of the youth summer mission trip. The event will be from 6 – 8:00.





- Adult help
- Box of cake mix (any flavor)
- Tub of brown frosting
- Shredded coconut
- Green food coloring
- Chocolate Hostess Ding Dong cupcake
- Donut hole
- Pretzel sticks
- M&M's candies

What you do:

- 1. Bake cake in rectangular pan. When cool, frost it.
- 2. Pour coconut into bowl. Add drops of green food coloring. Mix until coconut resembles grass.
- 3. In one corner of cake, set Ding Dong upright to resemble a tomb. Place donut hole in front of it, to one side.
- 4. Make three crosses with six pretzel sticks and some frosting. Arrange on opposite corner from tomb.
- 5. Use brown M&M's to make a path from the crosses to the tomb.
- 6. Use other colors of M&M's to spell out "Jesus lives!"



Christian Aide Ministries of Ephrata has set a date of Tuesday, **April 22** for food packing. Volunteers are invited to come and help in this ministry which packs various foods for distribution into the mission field. We will meet at the WGUMC parking lot at 7:45 a.m. and return by approximately 4:00 p.m. If you are only able to give a half-day's work, that is also appreciated. A sign-up sheet is located on the table in the Lobby. The dress code requires no shorts or tank tops and women need to be in dresses or long skirts.

Contact Roger Bates (rojobates@gmail.com or 610-869-7638) if you are interested in participating in this rewarding ministry.



Into All the World: Living the Great Co-Mission

A celebration of missions hosted by The Eastern Pennsylvania Conference

> Saturday, April 5, 2014 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Olivet United Methodist Church

310 E. Chestnut Street Coatesville, PA 19320 610-384-5828

Featuring: The Rev. Patrick Friday

Director of In Mission Together, United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries

Also featured will be a keynote message from EPA's Bishop Peggy Johnson plus informative, inspiring, interactive workshops on caring and connecting locally and globally through missions

> Also, worship, fellowship, witnessing by missionaries about their life-changing experiences, and hands-on assembling of health kits

Registration Deadline: March 27, 2014

Registration online @ www.epaumc.org/events Registration in advance: \$10 Registration at the door: \$12 (This will help us defray costs for lunch and refreshments)

You may also mail your registration to Event Registrar Barbara E. Drake at 15 Yale Road Havertown, PA 19083. For questions, contact her at 610-446-1394 or bedrake15@aol.com.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWA



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY **CLEAN UP SET FOR** SATURDAY, APRIL 26 10:00 a.m.

Each year, volunteers from our church scour Guernsey Road for trash and other debris to keep it clean, inviting and safe for all who travel it. If you would like to take part in this ministry, please meet at the church on Saturday morning at 10 a.m.. Trash bags and other supplies will be provided. Your work gloves are suggested if you have them. If not, a pair will be supplied for you.

Special birthdays this month! Our Sponsored child, Hasan, and Covenant Missionary, Ngoy



Hasan is from Indonesia and his birthday is April 7. He will be 13 years old. Mrs. Kalangwa's birthday is April 14. If you feel led to wish them a happy day and to send encouraging words to them, you may do so at the address and/or email listed below.

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, P. O. Box 5428 MOROGORO TANZANIA

Ngoy M. Kalangwa, Missionary number 15162Z,

Email: <u>nkalangwa@umcmission.org</u>



Hasan c/o Compassion International, P.O. Box 65000, Colorado Springs, CO 80962, Attn: Hasan, #10-414-0152, Sponsors #US-1467453-1.



WHITE TOWEL COLLECTION FOR CHILDREN IN GHANA

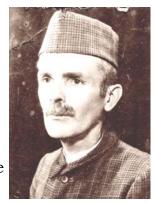
Throughout March, the Missions team has been collecting WHITE

bath towels to be sent to the Rafiki Village in Ghana, Africa. The current condition of their towels is thin and ragged. It is difficult to locally acquire quality linens. The goal is for each child at the orphanage to receive one new, durable towel. We are happy to report that we have exceeded our goal of 120 bath towels! To date, we have collected over 140 towels. Now, through your generosity, we can distribute towels to the mamas and missionaries in need as well! The mamas are the women (generally widows) who live in the cottages with the children and help care for them. Each mama has 7-10 children living in a cottage with her. They are amazing!

A labeled bin is located in the lobby and we will continue to accept donations **through the end of March**. Please take this opportunity to support these amazing children and their caregivers!!

Passing the Test

Samuel Stokes, a missionary who worked with lepers in India in the early 1900s, walked through the Punjab region with only a water bottle and a blanket. He depended wholly on the hospitality of the region's residents.



In one village, Stokes received a particularly hostile reception. Village leaders sat in chairs in a circle, leaving Stokes sitting on the floor the entire evening. When he asked if he might teach them and nurse their sick, they hurled insults at him. Stokes offered no reply.

Finally, the men gave the missionary some stale bread crusts in a dirty bowl. Stokes thanked them and ate. This scene repeated itself for two days. But then on the third day, the top village official laid his turban at Stokes' feet as a sign of respect. "We'd heard that Jesus' disciples were commanded to love their enemies," the man said, "and we decided to put you to the test."

Having seen Jesus' love in action through Stokes, the amazed villagers found him credible. They served him a rich feast and listened eagerly to his teachings. Newsletter, Newsletter



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~ 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.

Rev. Bumkoo Chung, Pastor pastorbk@westgroveumc.org

Rev. Jim Mundell - Associate Pastor, Chaplain at Jenner's Pond jimm@westgroveumc.org

Office Hours: M-F, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Staff

Donna Fackler - Church Administrator donnaf@westgroveumc.org

Betsy Smith - Traditional Music Director Contemporary Music Interim Director betsys@westgroveumc.org

Sandy Deckard—Handbell Choir Director

Jamie Lindtner - Youth Director jamiel@westgroveumc.org

Melissa Jones - Member Connection and Small Groups Coordinator: melissaj@westgroveumc.org

Tracy McLaughlin—Children's Morning Out Director tracym@westgroveumc.org

Maira Tena - Nursery Attendant

Helen Carlin-Sunday Coordinator & Office Volunteer

Board and Committee Leadership

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